

Flood Disaster in Nepal



On 26 August 2026, Nepal was hit by a severe flood disaster. To date, approximately 1,000 people have died and around 4,000 are still missing. The mountainous regions in the north of the country, close to the border with Tibet, were particularly badly affected. The disaster began high in the Himalayas and within a very short time developed into a massive flash flood.

The event was most likely triggered by a major collapse of ice and rock in the Himalayas. Huge masses of ice, rock and debris plunged into a river valley. This partially blocked the Lhende Khola and caused water to build up behind the natural barrier. When the barrier eventually gave way, an enormous volume of water surged down the valley. The flood carried mud, rocks, trees and parts of buildings with it.

The Bhote Koshi river in the Rasuwa District was particularly badly affected. From there, the floodwaters continued into the Trishuli River and then into larger river systems flowing south towards India. The steep Himalayan valleys further accelerated the flood, leaving people in some places with very little time to reach safety.

At first, it was suspected that an earthquake might have triggered the collapse.

However, investigations indicate that the seismic signal recorded at the time was most likely caused by the massive landslide itself.

Climate change could increase the risk of such events in the long term. Rising temperatures are causing glaciers to retreat and may make rock faces and glacier slopes increasingly unstable. The exact cause of the disaster is still being investigated.

The events clearly demonstrate how closely people in Nepal live with the natural forces of their environment and how quickly a landslide can develop into a devastating flood.



Impact of the Flash Flood on Our Projects

Amthang is located approximately 12 km north-west of the first major town affected by the flood wave, Trishuli Bazar / Bidur, on the Trishuli River. Several bridges in this area connected the remote region with Kathmandu, around 65 km away. We ourselves have crossed the river at this point countless times. Here, the river flows directly past many houses.



All of these large steel and concrete bridges have now been swept away. In some places, remains of these important structures can still be seen kilometres downstream. The roads on both sides of the river have been completely destroyed over many kilometres by the enormous masses of rock and mud.



The Chinese border is only about 40 km upstream. Images of the completely destroyed border station have been shown repeatedly in television news reports.

Until now, Kimtang was also reached via this route.

It is located approximately 27 km, or around two and a half hours by narrow mountain roads, from Trishuli Bazar / Bidur. Most medicines for the health posts and materials for the schools were previously delivered directly from Kathmandu. Some food supplies and other essential everyday goods were also transported to the project villages by truck and small delivery vehicles. This is no longer possible.

According to the information currently available to us, all sponsored children supported by Little Stars, our staff in Amthang and Kimtang, teachers and many other supporters in the village communities are safe and have not suffered life-threatening injuries.

However, there are now major challenges that will change daily life in this region.

A large hydroelectric power plant that supplied the entire region with electricity was completely destroyed. Where the local grid is still intact, it has now been connected to the power grid in Dhading. However, the additional demand is causing very frequent power cuts - even in Kathmandu.

Local shops are already completely sold out after only a few days. In Amthang, there is one shop close to our health post. People are frightened and uncertain and have begun stockpiling supplies. All five shops in Kimtang are also sold out.

Together with the local authorities, we will try to identify suitable new supply routes for Amthang and Kimtang in order to provide the villagers with essential goods. Ensuring continued supplies of medicines is particularly urgent. Among other things, painkillers and dressing materials are becoming scarce, and finding a reliable way to replenish these supplies presents us with a major challenge.

Even a small donation can help bring a little normality back to the communities we support over the coming weeks.

Bodo Wernicke

**If you would like to support the Little Stars relief efforts,
we would be very grateful for your donation.**



**If you would like to donate:
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