



MERCY MALAYSIA DEPLOYS HUMANITARIAN TEAM TO NEPAL FOLLOWING CATASTROPHIC FLASH FLOODS

Kuala Lumpur, 2 September – MERCY Malaysia has deployed a humanitarian team to Nepal to assess the situation on the ground, engage with affected communities and local partners, and identify the most urgent humanitarian needs following the catastrophic flash flood that struck the Bhote Koshi river system on 26 August 2026.

The disaster followed an ice-and-rock avalanche and glacial collapse in the Himalayan region, triggering a powerful surge of water, mud and debris through the Bhote Koshi and downstream river systems. The resulting destruction has severely affected communities and critical infrastructure across Rasuwa, Nuwakot, Dhading, Chitwan and other downstream districts.

Roads and bridges have been destroyed or blocked by massive quantities of debris, making access to affected communities increasingly difficult. Hydropower facilities, settlements and border infrastructure have also sustained extensive damage, disrupting essential services and livelihoods.

The scale of destruction is significant. A preliminary assessment by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) estimates approximately 2.2 million tonnes of debris across the analysed flood-affected areas. At least 11 hydropower stations and one solar plant, representing approximately 431 MW of generating capacity, have ceased operations.

Search and rescue operations remain ongoing, particularly in remote and difficult-to-access areas. Authorities and responders are working to clear roads, relocate communities from high-risk areas and provide emergency assistance to those affected.

Assessing the Most Urgent Needs

MERCY Malaysia's humanitarian team will conduct an initial assessment to identify where assistance is most urgently needed. Key priorities include emergency shelter, food, clean water and sanitation, healthcare, protection, and mental health and psychosocial support.

With many communities still isolated by damaged roads, bridges and extensive debris, restoring access will be critical to ensuring humanitarian assistance reaches those most in need. Particular attention will be given to displaced families, vulnerable groups and families searching for missing loved ones.

MERCY Malaysia will work closely with local authorities, humanitarian partners and affected communities to ensure that any intervention is needs-based, coordinated and responsive to the evolving situation.

Dato' Dr Ahmad Faizal Mohd Perdaus, President of MERCY Malaysia, said:

“The scale of this disaster is deeply concerning, particularly for communities that remain isolated and families who are still searching for their loved ones. Our immediate priority is to understand the needs on the ground and ensure that our response reaches those who need it most.

In situations like this, timely humanitarian action can make a critical difference. MERCY Malaysia is committed to working alongside local authorities, partners and communities in Nepal to provide appropriate assistance and support recovery efforts as the situation develops.”

MERCY Malaysia recognises that the humanitarian situation remains fluid and that needs may evolve as access improves and further assessments are conducted. The organisation will continue to monitor developments closely and determine the next phase of its response based on the assessment findings and coordination with relevant authorities and humanitarian partners.

MERCY Malaysia also calls for sustained collective action and solidarity to support communities affected by the floods and extreme weather conditions. Every contribution can help deliver life-saving assistance, restore dignity and support affected families on their path to recovery. Continued support remains vital as humanitarian needs evolve and recovery efforts begin.

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