



Cash & Voucher Assistance (CVA) Newsletter

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Cash Support in Emergencies

Cash Support in Karnali Earthquake Response Operation

The devastating earthquake with a magnitude of 6.4 struck Jajarkot on November 3, 2023, at 11:47 PM local time. The epicenter was located in Ramidanda in the Jajarkot district. The disaster resulted the deaths of 154 people (101 in Jajarkot and 53 in Rukum West) and injured 366 due to collapsed houses. Due to the earthquake, 17,860 houses were fully destroyed and 37,094 were partially destroyed. Altogether 61,083 families were affected in 11 districts of three provinces Karnali, Sudurpashchim, and Lumbini provinces.

Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS), in technical and financial support of International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), British Red Cross, American Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross and Canadian Red Cross implemented **Earthquake Response Operation** in Jajarkot, Rukum West and Salyan districts from November 2023 to May 2024. The core areas of operation are for transitional Shelter, WASH, Health, PGI and CEA sectors. NRCS has provided cash support to construct temporary shelter, toilet construction, buying water tank and multi-purpose cash grant to the affected families following the government procedure and in coordination with the government at all levels.



Newly constructed transitional shelter through CVA modality in Bheri Municipality, Jajarkot district

According to the government's transitional shelter construction guideline, NPR 50,000 was allocated per transitional shelter construction. First instalment cash NPR 25,000 per household was provided to 600 households in 2023. In this period, second instalment cash NPR 25,000 per household was provided to these 600 transitional shelters. Likewise, NPR 15,000 per household was provided for toilet construction and NPR 7,000 for purchasing water tank. Furthermore, NPR 15,000 per household was provided to fully collapsed households, persons living with disability, elderly persons with chronic disease and families in urgent need of multiple things. All the cash was provided via beneficiaries' bank accounts. Cash support in various sectors is listed in table below.

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Upcoming Events of CVA Program

- CVA training
- CTWG meeting
- CVA Emergency Fund Management Guideline endorsement
- CVA meeting with stakeholders

Table : Cash Support Details to Beneficiaries

S. N.	Cash Supported	District			Cash Support Per Household in NPR	Total Cash Support in NPR
		Rukum West	Jajarkot	Salyan		
1.	Transition Shelter Construction	250	350	-	25,000	15,000,000
2.	Multi-Purpose Cash Grant	1,442	1,573	558	15,000	53,595,000
3.	Toilet Construction	-	18	-	15,000	270,000
4.	Water Tank	-	18	-	7,000	126,000
	Total cash support					68,991,000

Cash Support in Jajarkot and Rukum West

NRCS has provided unconditional multi-purpose cash to 214 pregnant women (Jajarkot- 144 and Rukum West- 70) in Jajarkot and Rukum West earthquake-affected areas with financial support of United Nation Population Fund (UNFPA).

The provided cash grant was NPR 8,000 (eight thousand only) per woman. In total NPR 1,712,000 (seventeen lakh twelve thousand only) cash was supported. Most of the cash was provided via bank account and only for those who have not their account, cash was provided in hand. The objectives of the cash support were to fulfil basic needs, to provide transport facility for delivery and to reduce delays in care related to obstetric complications of pregnant women. NRCS coordinated with the local government and health unit to select beneficiaries for cash support.



Cash support to pregnant woman in Rukum West district

Cash Support in Development Programs

SUPER Project

Jumla, a neighboring district of Jajarkot, was also partially affected by the Jajarkot earthquake on November 23, 2023. **Strengthen Urban Preparedness and Emergency Response (SUPER) Project** is being implemented in coordination and financial support of Swiss Red Cross in Rupanadehi and Jumla districts from July 2023 to June 2026. The project aims to support disaster preparedness, response, climate change adaptation and institutional capacity development.

Under this project, unconditional multi-purpose cash NPR 10,000 (ten thousand only) per family was provided to seven earthquake-affected families in Jumla district in March 2024. In total, NPR 70, 000 (seventy thousand only) cash was supported to the affected families. The cash support was supported via beneficiaries' bank accounts.

IRER Program

Integrated Recovery and Emergency Response (IRER) Program is being implemented in Tilagufa Municipality of Kalikot district through a collaboration between the NRCS and Luxembourg Red Cross, running from September 15, 2023, to September 14, 2024. The program addresses the damages caused by the 2022 floods and landslides, focusing on alleviating economic strain, renovating water schemes, schools, health posts, and irrigation systems by providing short-term employment in the communities.



Constructed stone water tap in Tilagufa Municipality ward no. 1, Kalikot district

By this program, damaged two water schemes were renovated by 141 community people. They received NPR 956 per person (total NPR 134,796) through cash for work modality. This initiative provided immediate financial assistance as well as also improved access to clean water for 108 households, benefiting the entire community.

Inclusive and Resilient Community with Empowered and Engaged People (ICE) Project

NRCS has been implementing **Inclusive and Resilient Community with Empowered and Engaged People (ICE) Project** in Lamjung district with financial support from the Danish Red Cross. With the objectives to support youth livelihood and make them sustainable, conditional cash grant NPR 637,000 (six lakh thirty seven thousand only) was provided to nine schools and one youth group in June 2024. Cash was supported via their bank accounts.

If you are interested in cash and voucher assistance program you can learn more from:

<https://www.ifrc.org/cash-and-voucher-assistance>

<https://cash-hub.org/>

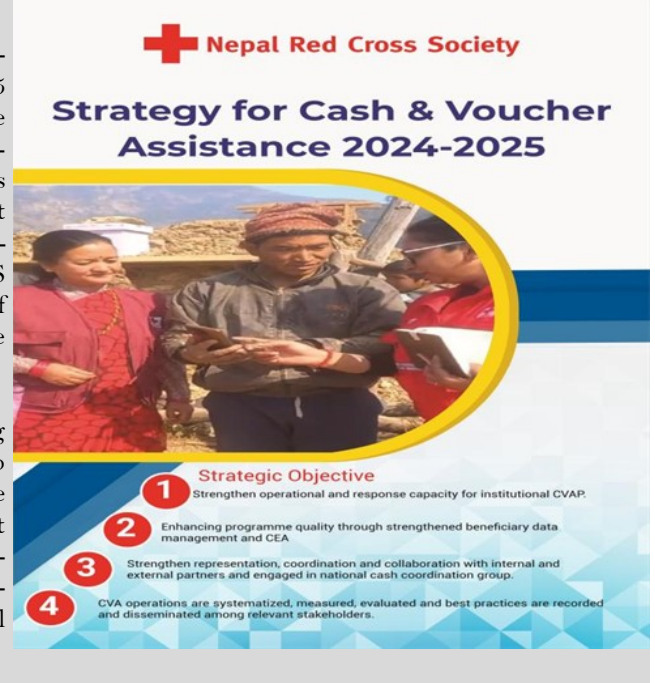
<https://www.calpnetwork.org/>

Cash for Capacity Building

NRCS Cash & Voucher Assistance Strategy

After long experience and lessons learned of NRCS humanitarian action, NRCS Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) Strategy 2024-2025 has been prepared and endorsed. Mainly, four strategic objectives have taken for appropriate cash intervention. The main purpose of this strategy is to provide an overview of how NRCS uses CVA as part of its humanitarian response as well as contribute to long-term development and building resilience. It also sets a forward-looking plan with concrete actions required for effective use of this modality within NRCS programming. This strategy also shows a common understanding of what CVA mean, and where, why and when to use them, to ensure higher level of efficiency and effectiveness.

This strategy is also complemented by the CVA Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) template, which aims to equip program managers to better understand when and how to design, implement and monitor the impact of cash-based programs and guidance on how to prepare context specific SOP and the required support documentation for CVA programming. The NRCS strategy aims to integrate CVA more systematically, ensuring it complements in-kind assistance and enhances overall humanitarian response and development efforts.



Cash for Support Service Training



Group photo of Cash for Support Service Training

NRCS, with financial support of British Red Cross, organized a four-day course on Cash for Support Service from February 5-8, 2024, at NRCS Training Centre Banepa. The course was facilitated by Global Logistic Advisor, Asia Pacific Cash Advisor and Senior Finance and Admin Officer of British Red Cross. 24 participants (7 females) from NRCS and Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, related to support services were participated in the training.

Before the course, all the participants had already completed **Rapid Assessment for Market and Cash and Voucher Assistance - The Fundamentals** from IFRC learning platform and Cash Learning Partnership (CALP) network. The course aimed to equip Red Cross movement staff with the knowledge and skills required to implement Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) effectively and efficiently. The course was delivered based on the standardized course module of IFRC.

Cash and Voucher Assistance Information Management (CVA IM) Training



Group photo of CVA IM Training

To enhance the technical competency of staff in survey design, data analysis, visualization and management a four-day CVA IM training was organized from May 14-17, 2024, in Lalitpur district, with financial support from the British Red Cross. The training was facilitated by CVA IM experts from the British Red Cross and the IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office. A total of 25 participants (8 females) from NRCS, IFRC Nepal, Partner National Societies Nepal, Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, and the British Red Cross attended the training.

Participants were selected based on specific criteria, particularly whose roles in planning, reporting, data collection, monitoring and evaluation. Participants were introduced to the latest tools and techniques for tracking and reporting on cash and voucher distributions, ensuring transparency and accountability. The training emphasized the importance of accurate data collection and analysis in making informed decisions and improving the effectiveness of humanitarian assistance.

CVA Training

NRCS, Disaster Management Department organized a three-day CVA training from May 20-22, 2024, in Mahottari district. A total of 24 participants (including 1 female) from eight districts of Madhesh province attended the training. The objectives of the training were to enhance the capacity of already trained NRCS Ward Response Team (WRT), District Disaster Response Team (DDRT), National Disaster Response Team (NDRT), and Emergency Response Team (ERT) staff and volunteers in CVA at the provincial and district levels for immediate disaster response in humanitarian contexts. NRCS Cash Technical Working Group members facilitated the training.

The main strategy of the training was to promote the knowledge and skills of the participants through both theoretical and practical exercises, which were integral components of each session. The training course was developed by adopting the IFRC standardized course module by incorporating local context. Practical knowledge and skills were delivered through case studies to broaden participants' understanding of CVA. The training used participatory approaches, including group discussions, demonstrations, question and answer sessions, brainstorming, and simulation exercises.



Group photo of CVA Training

Total Cash Distributed Amount **NPR 71, 544,796**



Beneficiary's Voice-Motivation in my life

My name is Khim Bahadur Oli. I live in Sanibheri Rural Municipality Ward No. 11 in Rukum West. My house was completely damaged by 2023 Jajarkot earthquake. I was completely helpless at the beginning. NRCS has provided some non-food relief items as well as I have received multi-purpose cash (MPC) NPR 15,000 through my bank account. Received amount was useful to me because I am a heart patient and under treatment. The provided cash was used in my regular follow up as well as I have used for my basic needs. Thank you, Red Cross.



Khim Bahadur Oli MPC beneficiary

Delivery Mechanism

Most of the cash was provided through banking system



Cash Distribution in 20

3, 925
Households



15, 586
People



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