

SUMMARY OF FIELD VISIT NOTE AND ACTION POINTS

Rimalgaun–Nuwakot / Temporary Holding Centres, Bidur Municipality Joint Field Visit: FIPMO, Sahaj Foundation, FRESH International and NCV Nepal Date of Field Visit : Bhadra 19, 2083

1. Background

Following the recent flash floods affecting communities in Nuwakot, many families have been displaced and are temporarily staying in holding centres while authorities and partners plan their transition to temporary settlements. A joint field visit was undertaken to Rimalgaun and selected holding centres in Bidur Municipality to understand the evolving humanitarian situation, assess priority needs, interact with affected families and local authorities, and support the distribution of immediate relief materials.

2. Objectives of the Field Visit

- Conduct a rapid situation and needs assessment among flood-affected families, with particular attention to children, women and other vulnerable groups.
- Support and observe the distribution of relief materials to 30 affected households from Rimalgaun temporarily staying at Gumbatol, Dungebazar, Bidur Municipality-01.
- Identify gaps in food, non-food items (NFI), WASH, health, protection, psychosocial support and education.
- Visit selected holding centres to assess living conditions, safety, sanitation, management and emerging public-health risks.
- Consult local authorities and community representatives on immediate priorities and the transition from holding centres to temporary settlements.
- Generate practical follow-up actions for FIPMO and partners, including medium- and longer-term recovery support.

3. Field Visit Team

Organization	Members
FIPMO	Dr. Hari Banskota; Dr. Rajendra Bohara; Ms. Sangeeta Rana Thapa; Ms. Shanti Risal Kaphle
FRESH International	Mr. Chiranjivi Karki
NCV Nepal	Mr. Nabin Shahi

4. Relief Distribution and Community Assessment

NCV Nepal facilitated the joint needs assessment and relief distribution with FRESH International and FIPMO for 30 flood-affected households from Rimalgaun, currently staying temporarily at Gumbatol, Dungebazar, Bidur Municipality-01. The distribution was successfully completed and included:

- Women's dignity kits
- Children's kits
- Blankets

Mr. Raju Lama, himself an affected survivor from the community (owner of the viral ghar), served as the local focal person and played an important role in needs assessment, community coordination and fair distribution among the 30 households.

The assessment indicated that most families had reasonable access to food items at the time of the visit. The more immediate unmet needs were mainly non-food items, particularly cooking gas and stoves, utensils,

mattresses, bedding and additional blankets. Even there was need of sanitary and cleaning items like phenyl, Harpic, broom, disinfectants, garbage collection drums etc.

There was lack of information on number of affected survivors with age and gender segregation. Information about people with disability is generally missing. Reason could be information/ documents might have washed away by the flood, or documentation of such information at present is over looked.

5. Consultation with District Coordination Committee

The team met Mr. Rajendra Singh Thakuri, Chief of District Coordination Committee (DCC) Nuwakot. He informed the team that there are 16 holding centres across the district and that the current priority is to gradually transition displaced families from holding centres into safer temporary settlements.

Education disruption emerged as a major concern. An estimated 3,500–4,000 students have been affected; some have lost homes and land, and some have also lost family members. Children who have lost one or both parents appear particularly vulnerable and may require sustained protection, psychosocial, educational and social support and placing them in parental care.

6. Observations from Holding Centres

A. Bhairabi Madhyamik Vidyalaya, Durbar

This center was comparatively well managed with support from partners like UNICEF, Save the Children and NGOs. Positive practices included separate toilets, activities and child friendly space with toys, female volunteers and Psychosocial councilor from TPO Nepal, art sessions for children, and provision of nutritious meals. A group of volunteers from Punjab, India were providing cooked meals to residents.

Key concerns observed:

- Overcrowding and limited privacy.
- Need for stronger gender-sensitive safety and security (including female police and guards), particularly after evening hours.
- Need of separate segregated sleeping places for men, women and children.
- Alcohol-related concerns within or around the temporary living environment.
- Need for improved waste management including cleaning of cooking areas and menstrual hygiene management.
- Risk of dependency if residents remain passive recipients of assistance for an extended period.
- Need for school books for children for continuation of school-based learning. Setting up of a temporary learning space is required with alternative learning and recreational materials as well as teachers.
- High risk of children and adolescents being abused or trafficked.

Where appropriate, residents could increasingly participate in cooking, cleaning, waste management and other daily activities, while essential assistance continues for persons who cannot manage independently.

B. Nuwakot District Ayurveda Healthcare Centre

Conditions at this center were more concerning because patients and displaced survivors were being accommodated within the same overall facility which is supposed to provide health services. Poor odour and sanitation were observed in one area, raising potential WASH and public-health concerns.

Immediate attention is advisable for segregation of spaces, sanitation, safe waste management, adequate hygiene supplies and routine health monitoring to reduce the risk of communicable disease outbreaks.

7. Key Findings and Emerging Priorities

Priority Areas	Key Finding
Transition to temporary settlements	Support is increasingly needed to help families move safely from holding centres to temporary shelters/settlements with basic household facilities. With proper documentation and appropriate separate provisions for women, men, families, adolescents and children.
Non-food items	Priority gaps include cooking gas/stoves, utensils, cooking oil, mattresses, bedding, bed sheets, and blankets rather than additional general food supplies in the assessed group.
WASH and public health	Water purifier, Sanitation (female, male, and other gender), waste management, hygiene and sanitary supplies, safe segregation of spaces and disease surveillance require strengthening, especially in crowded centers. Disinfectants, cleaning materials, water purifier, etc. are immediately needed.
Child protection and education	Continuity of education is an urgent priority with provision of school books, alternative learning, recreational material, with special attention to children who have lost parents, homes or livelihoods.
Psychosocial support	Children and adults affected by displacement, bereavement and loss require structured psychosocial support and counselling.
Protection and dignity	Privacy, gender-sensitive safety and security, menstrual hygiene and safeguarding should be integrated into holding-center management. Children and adolescents without parental care (who lost their parents), child headed house holds if any needs special attention.
Recovery and self-reliance	Assistance should increasingly support participation, livelihoods and self-reliance to avoid prolonged dependency.

8. Recommended Action Points for Follow-up

Timeline	Action Point	Suggested Lead/Coordination
Immediate	Share field findings with FIPMO members and partners and agree on the next phase of support based on identified gaps.	FIPMO
Immediate	Coordinate with NCV and other NGOs, FRESH International, Sahaj Foundation, DCC/municipal and ward authorities and community focal persons to avoid duplication and target the most vulnerable families, including female heads of households.	FIPMO / Partners
Immediate	Explore targeted provision of essential NFI packages: cooking gas/stoves, utensils, mattresses, bedding and blankets.	FIPMO / Partners
Immediate	Advocate for urgent WASH improvements at higher-risk holding centres, particularly sanitation, waste management, hygiene supplies and segregation of patient/displaced/deceased-body spaces. Advocate for proper and adequate documentation of survivors in holding centers, in transiting to elsewhere, and in temporary shelters.	Local authorities / Partners
Short term	Map children who have lost one or both parents, lost homes, or face interruption of schooling, and link them with protection and education support.	DCC / Municipality / Education & Child Protection Partners

Short term	Support continuity of education through temporary/community-based learning arrangements, child-friendly spaces, learning materials and return-to-school support.	FIPMO / Education Partners
Short term	Mobilize psychosocial support and counselling for affected children, caregivers and bereaved families.	FIPMO / Health & Protection Partners
Immediate and Short term	Promote gender-sensitive protection (including addressing gender-based violence), privacy, menstrual hygiene and evening security measures in holding centres.	Centre Management / Local Authorities
Medium term	Support transition to safe temporary settlements with minimum WASH, household, protection and accessibility standards.	Government / Partners
Medium term	Explore livelihood and income-generation support for affected households so that assistance contributes to recovery and self-reliance.	FIPMO / Partners
Ongoing	Establish simple monitoring and follow-up with community focal persons to track changing needs, vulnerable households and progress toward temporary settlement and recovery.	FIPMO / NCV / NGOS/ Community

9. Overall Conclusion

The field visit confirmed that the humanitarian response is entering a transition phase. While immediate relief remains necessary for selected gaps, priority attention should now move toward safe temporary settlements, WASH and public-health protection, education continuity, child protection, psychosocial support and restoration of household self-reliance. The affected communities have demonstrated resilience, and coordinated support should build on this strength while prioritizing the most vulnerable families, women and children, people with disability and elderly.

The findings and proposed action points should be reviewed by FIPMO members and discussed with FRESH International, Sahaj Foundation and relevant government and community partners to define a coordinated next phase of engagement.