

UNITED FOR TPS NEPAL

NEPAL AFTER THE AUGUST 26 DISASTER

Scale of the crisis, the recovery ahead, and the role of diaspora economic support

A quick-reference brief on the August 26 disaster, Nepal's recovery needs, remittances, and the relevance of these new conditions to consideration of a new TPS designation.

THE NUMBERS TO KNOW

1,411 CONFIRMED DEATHS	5,875+ MISSING <i>figures remain fluid</i>	\$1.8B DIRECT DAMAGE
\$883M ECONOMIC LOSSES	\$4.78B RECOVERY & RECONSTRUCTION NEEDS	~20,000 HOUSES MAY NEED REBUILDING OR RELOCATION <i>estimate</i>

ONGOING RESPONSE AND RECOVERY CONDITIONS

Search and recovery remain active, with more than 5,875 people still missing. Casualty and missing-person figures remain fluid.

Road, electricity and telecommunications restoration remains underway, including temporary bridge installation and continued road clearance.

Homes, roads, bridges, hydropower facilities and other critical infrastructure were damaged across Rasuwa, Nuwakot, Dhading and other affected districts.

Nepal halted power exports after hydropower losses and turned to emergency imports. India approved imports of up to 654 MW for 18 hours daily through December 31, 2026.

THE HUMAN IMPACT

The humanitarian consequences extend well beyond the immediate loss of life, particularly for children, displaced families, and women with urgent protection and nutrition needs.

541 UNACCOMPANIED & SEPARATED CHILDREN REQUIRING PROTECTION	230 CHILDREN REPORTED MISSING OR SWEPT AWAY IN THE EDUCATION-SECTOR SNAPSHOT <i>as of September 4</i>	2,600 CHILDREN UNDER 5 EXPECTED TO NEED TREATMENT FOR SEVERE WASTING
10,500 PREGNANT & BREASTFEEDING WOMEN NEEDING NUTRITION ASSISTANCE	43,000 WOMEN & GIRLS NEEDING IMMEDIATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE	32,963 PEOPLE DIRECTLY AFFECTED <i>8,317 households</i>

The assessment records 7,570 private houses affected. A broader government-approved estimate places the affected population at 84,270 people across 17 municipalities in six districts.

PHYSICAL AND INFRASTRUCTURE DAMAGE

69 km ROADS DAMAGED	33 + 4 MOTORABLE BRIDGES <i>33 destroyed; 4 partially damaged</i>	53 of 64 SUSPENSION BRIDGES DAMAGED
18 SCHOOLS PHYSICALLY DAMAGED <i>11 destroyed</i>	18,916 STUDENTS ENROLLED IN 69 SCHOOLS WITHIN 500 METERS OF AFFECTED RIVERBANKS	23 of 69 SCHOOLS IN THAT ZONE ASSESSED AS EXTREMELY RISKY

Destroyed transport links restrict movement of people, relief supplies, fuel and construction materials, slowing the restoration of housing, schools, power and livelihoods.

RECOVERY AND RECONSTRUCTION WILL TAKE YEARS

Nepal's 2015 earthquake provides a domestic benchmark for the time and resources required after a major disaster. It is historical evidence of Nepal's reconstruction trajectory—not the basis for the current request for a new TPS designation.

THE 2015 RECONSTRUCTION EXPERIENCE

\$3.27B HOUSING RECONSTRUCTION NEED <i>almost half of total 2015 reconstruction need</i>	\$700M WORLD BANK HOUSING FINANCING <i>across 2015, 2017 and 2020</i>	300,000+ HOUSES BUILT THROUGH THE WORLD BANK-SUPPORTED PROGRAM <i>documented by 2021</i>
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The 2015 reconstruction effort required repeated rounds of financing over several years. Housing alone represented nearly half of estimated reconstruction needs.

THE 2026 RECOVERY BURDEN

\$1.8B DIRECT DAMAGE	\$883M ECONOMIC LOSSES	\$4.78B ESTIMATED RECOVERY & RECONSTRUCTION NEEDS
13 HYDROPOWER PROJECTS AFFECTED	4,800 BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS AFFECTED	1,806 ha CROP AREA AFFECTED

The August 26 disaster has created a new multibillion-dollar reconstruction burden. Nepal's own experience shows that rebuilding housing, infrastructure and livelihoods can extend for years.

REMITTANCES AND HOUSEHOLD RECOVERY

\$16.19B REMITTANCES RECEIVED BY NEPAL <i>FY2025/26</i>	35.8% WORKERS' REMITTANCES AS SHARE OF GDP <i>FY2025/26</i>	+28.1% GROWTH IN REMITTANCES IN USD <i>FY2025/26</i>
\$1.28B ESTIMATED U.S. → NEPAL REMITTANCES <i>2023 estimate</i>	11.6% ESTIMATED SHARE OF NEPAL'S REMITTANCES FROM U.S.-BASED NEPALIS <i>2023 estimate</i>	>50% SHARE OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME AMONG REMITTANCE-RECEIVING HOUSEHOLDS

Remittances are not a substitute for public reconstruction or international assistance. They are, however, a major source of private household income in Nepal.

WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THE 2015 EARTHQUAKE

~16% MORE REMITTANCES RECEIVED BY EARTHQUAKE-AFFECTED HOUSEHOLDS <i>one year after the disaster</i>	~10% MORE REMITTANCES RECEIVED BY EARTHQUAKE-AFFECTED HOUSEHOLDS <i>two years after the disaster</i>	\$1.28B ESTIMATED REMITTANCES FROM NEPALIS IN THE UNITED STATES <i>2023</i>
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After controlling for other factors, earthquake-affected households received approximately 16% more in remittances one year after the 2015 earthquake and approximately 10% more two years later.

The U.S. connection is significant: Nepalis in the United States were estimated to have sent \$1.28 billion to Nepal in 2023, through formal and informal channels.

WHERE A NEW TPS DESIGNATION FITS

This brief concerns a new TPS designation based on the August 26 disaster and the new conditions it created—not continuation or reinstatement of Nepal's prior TPS designation.

\$4.78B RECOVERY & RECONSTRUCTION NEEDS	\$16.19B REMITTANCES RECEIVED FY2025/26	\$1.28B ESTIMATED U.S. → NEPAL REMITTANCES 2023 estimate
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THE CONNECTION

Nepal is managing a major recovery while restoring housing, transport, energy, schools and livelihoods.

A new TPS designation can preserve lawful earning capacity for eligible Nepali nationals already in the United States during Nepal's recovery period.

That support is complementary—not a substitute for government spending or international assistance. Nepal-specific evidence shows that remittances increased to disaster-affected households after the 2015 earthquake, while U.S.-based Nepalis already provide a substantial remittance flow to Nepal.

SOURCES & REFERENCES

Primary and high-quality sources are prioritized. URLs are provided for verification and forwarding.

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