



**INTER AGENCY  
COMMON FEEDBACK  
PROJECT**

**FLOOD  
PERCEPTION SURVEY**

**FEBRUARY  
2018**

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**Round- II**

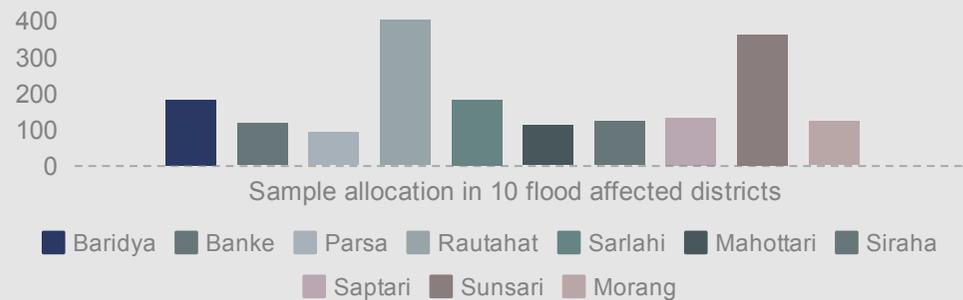
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## Survey Methodology and Demographics

To carry out the Flood Perception Survey, 30 trained enumerators are deployed throughout the ten most heavily flood affected districts to collect data over the course of 10 days from a total of 1800 respondents using a probability proportionate to size (PPS) methodology. All data collection is completed with mobile tablets using KoBo Toolbox.

The top ten districts were selected based on damage data released by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) on 31 August 2017. The total affected population of each district was used to proportionally distribute the sample of 1800 among the affected districts.

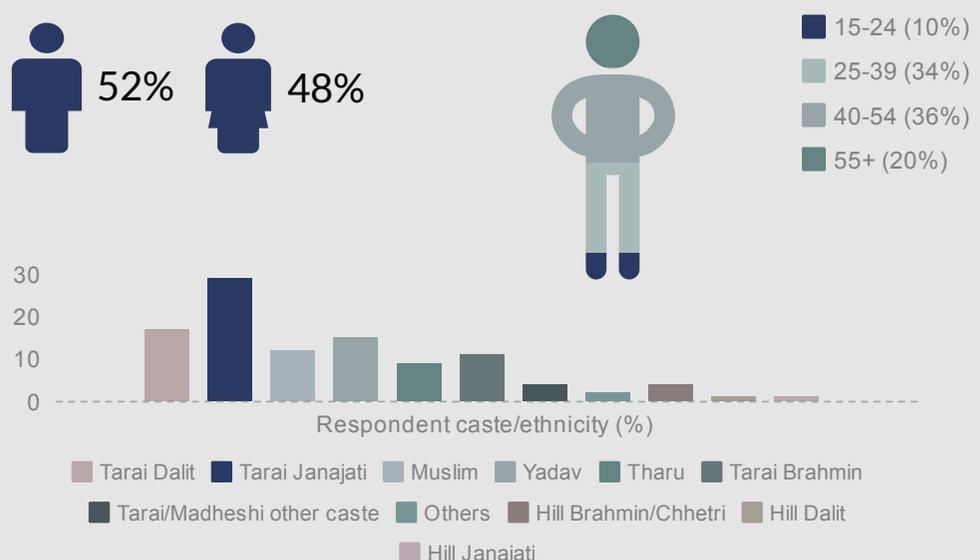


Because not all VDCs within affected districts were flood affected, Nepal Food Security Monitoring System (NeKSAP) post-flood data was used to identify VDCs which were classified as highly food insecure, as a proxy for flood affectedness. VDCs from NeKSAP Phase 3 or 4 post-flood were then randomly selected, using an online list randomizer.

The number of VDCs selected in each district was determined based on the sample size and CFP's regular methodology of sampling two wards per VDC, with ten samples per ward. Wards are also randomly selected within VDCs.

Once wards are selected enumerators identify an entry point to initiate the individual interview process. They will then spin a bottle, and walk in the direction the bottle points until a home is found to take the first interview. The first house will form a basis to select the next house, as enumerators will exit, turn right and skip two houses, completing the next interview at the third house. This process continues until the required 10 samples are collected.

After entering the household, enumerators interview an individual about 15 years of age. The enumerators select respondents of different genders and age groups in each household in order to ensure the sample is demographically diverse and reflective of the population from the survey area. In addition, Resident Coordinator Office (RCO) staff were deployed to Provinces 2 and 5 to oversee the initial surveys.



## Key Findings

In December 2017, the Inter-Agency Common Feedback Project completed 1800 Community Perception Surveys at the household level with community members randomly selected throughout 10 priority flood affected districts. This was the second round of data collected in flood affected districts.

Among the 1800 respondents, 69 percent said they were affected by the floods, and an additional 25 percent were minorly impacted by the floods. The five percent who claimed not to be affected by the floods at all were excluded from further analysis. Among those who were affected, the most significant impacts were in livestock shelter damage (57 percent), household asset loss (43 percent), food/grain storage loss (42 percent) and household damage (42 percent). This clearly illustrates that the main impacts of the floods were not necessarily in the housing sector. Therefore, categorizing flood affected people, and their entitlements, based on house status, as was done in the approach to earthquake recovery, may not be the most appropriate strategy.

Respondents were also asked what they felt they needed in order to be safe from floods in the future. The top answers included: changing house structure (59 percent), taking DRR related training (32 percent), expanding livelihood opportunities (35 percent), early warning systems (31 percent) and resettlement (25 percent). It would be a mistake to not pay very close attention to the priorities of communities for their own recovery, and ensure that flood recovery planning is aligned with those priorities.

When asked if support was reaching those most in need in their communities, a total of 39 percent of respondents said it was not. Those who were being left out were identified by respondents as women (42 percent), caste/ethnic minorities (30 percent), female headed households (29 percent) and senior citizens (27 percent). Those districts in which the greatest perception of exclusion was recorded include Mahottari, Sarlahi (50 percent each), and Saptari (51 percent). This reporting of exclusion should not be overlooked, as it is widespread and cuts across all social groups. The percentage of respondents reporting that they see exclusion is consistent across all Tarai caste/ethnic groups, including Brahmins, Dalits, Rajputs, Muslims, Yadavs and Janajatis.

Another important variable to pay attention to as the recovery planning process moves forward is the means by which flood affected communities receive information, and the groups of people that information is reaching out to. Interpersonal communications have the overwhelming majority for source of information about the flood response. Seventy percent of people get information from community members, and 40 from family members. Radio and mobile phones follow distantly at 29 and 14 percent respectively.

Additionally, 37 percent of people feel that information is not accessible to all who need it. In particular, women (48 percent), senior citizens (33 percent), female headed households (35 percent) and caste/ethnic minorities (29 percent) were highlighted. These are the same groups that are perceived to be excluded from support. Information is a critical need of flood affected communities in order to make decisions about their own recovery plans and strategies. This information needs to be equally accessible to all affected people. Ensuring this happens should be a key priority for the flood recovery effort.

## Recommendation

Humanitarian partners are currently developing their flood recovery strategies and plans. These strategies and plans need to consider the priorities of affected communities as absolutely central. This includes the prioritization of livelihood recovery, which has not had as central a role as housing recovery, as well as the resettlement needs of a select few communities. These actions must be initiated before the next monsoon.

Inter-Agency Common Feedback  
Project funded by:



Flood Perception Surveys  
conducted with:



**NDRI**



## Were you affected by flood in August 2017

Across 10 districts and 1805 respondents, 69 percent were affected by the flood in August 2017. Those from Banke (82%), Morang (84%), Siraha (82%), Sarlahi (81%), Parsa (76%) and Saptari (76%) reported being most affected.

Those who reported that the main impact of the flood was household damage were asked what type of house they would like to rebuild, to protect against future floods. Cement houses were most popular in Bardiya (82 percent), Mahottari (75 percent) and Siraha (71 percent), while those in Rautahat and Sunsari showed a preference for bamboo (19 and 11 percent respectively).

The remaining questions were only asked to respondents who reported having been affected by the August 2017 floods.

### What type of house do you want to build to ensure safety?



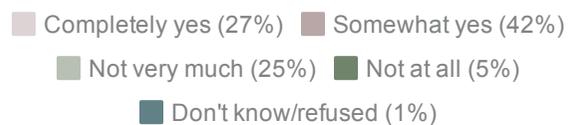
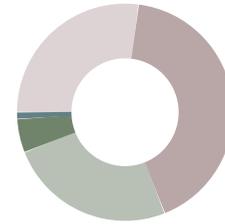
Cement house (52%)



Brick house (36%)



Bamboo house (5%)



### How were you impacted by flood?



Livestock shelter damage (57%)



Household asset loss (43%)



Food/grain/seed storage loss (42%)



Household damage (42%)



Death/injury of family member (18%)



Farmland damage (15%)



## What do you think needs to be done to solve the flood problem in the future?

Across 10 districts, 60 percent of 1804 respondents said a change in housing structure is the best solution to the flood problem. This was followed by livelihood opportunities (32 percent), DRR related training (31 percent) and early warning detection (31 percent) with the most responses.

47 percent of respondents from Saptari think construction of a dam on either side of the river needs to be completed, likely due to geographical proximity. Respondents from Siraha and Sarlahi overwhelmingly think changes in housing structure need to be done to solve the flood problem, with 91 and 83 percent respectively. Parsa and Morang had the highest response rates for DRR related training, with 60 percent and 57 percent each, at least 12 percent more than the third highest response.

87 percent of respondents live on land that they own, however, only 68 percent of respondents own the land they farm. This could be why livelihood opportunities is particularly high on average.



Change in housing structure (59%)



DRR related training (32%)



Livelihood opportunities (35%)



Early warning system (31%)



Resettlement (25%)

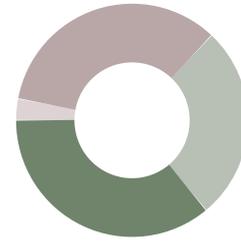


## Are your main problems being addressed?

Sixty-three percent of respondents across 10 districts said their main problems are not being addressed. Those in Parsa and Mahottari were the least satisfied, with 97 percent of respondents from these districts saying their main problems are not being addressed.

Those respondents in the 15-24 and 55+ age categories are the least likely to feel their main problems are being addressed, at 66 and 67 percent respectively.

Respondents were also asked if they had any specific winter related needs. Those needs were identified as warm clothing (61 percent), winterization kits (50 percent) blankets (44 percent) and fire wood (28 percent).



Completely yes (3%) Somewhat yes (34%)  
Not very much (27%) Not at all (36%)

### What are your two biggest problems?



Crop damage  
(51%)



Short term shelter  
(30%)

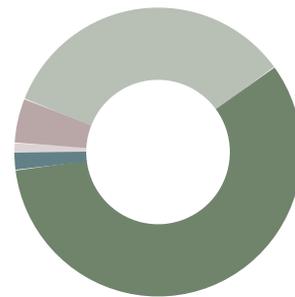


## Have you received any kind of support after the flood?

Only 39 percent of respondents reported having received some form of support after the August 2017 floods. In line with the hardest hit areas, Saptari (53 percent), Siraha (48 percent), Banke (69 percent) and Bardiya (48 percent) reported the highest rates of receipt of support. Female and male respondents had the exact same response rate, and age groups remained fairly consistent.

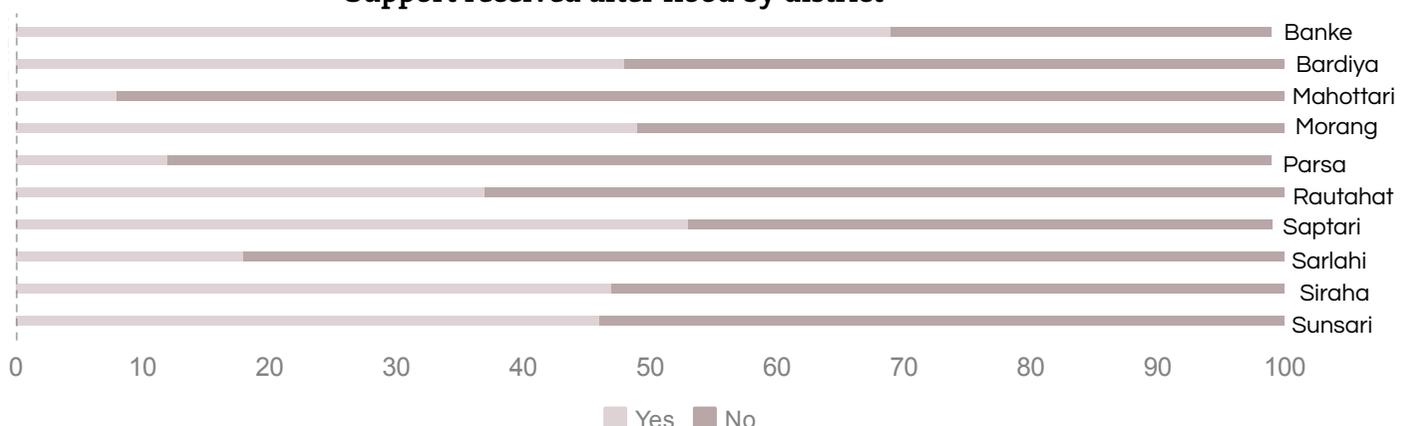
Six percent of respondents have been asked to do or give something in exchange for support. The most common request in exchange for relief was a vote, or political support, which accounted for 82 percent of the requests.

Men were more likely than women to have experienced this. Additionally, Terai Janajati, Terai Dalit and Muslims were the most likely to have been asked to do or give something in exchange for support.



Completely yes (1%) Somewhat yes (5%)  
Not very much (34%) Not at all (58%)  
Don't know/refused (2%)

### Support received after flood by district



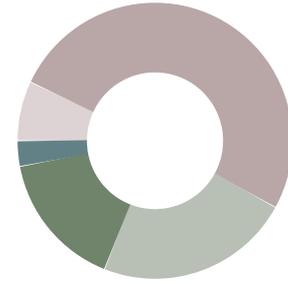
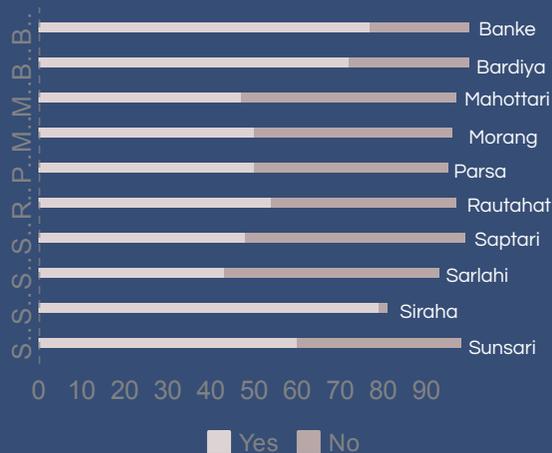


## Do you feel support is reaching those most in need in your community?

Across 10 districts only 58 percent of respondents felt that support is reaching those most in need in their community. Banke, Bardiya and Siraha had the highest percentage of respondents say completely yes or somewhat yes, with 76 percent, 72 percent and 79 percent respectively.

Of those being excluded, the most common answer was women with 42 percent, followed by single women or female headed households (30%) and ethnic caste/based minority groups (30%). Unsurprisingly, this parallels the same groups believed to be excluded from information access as well.

### Perception of exclusion by district



### If no who is been left out



Women (42%)



Caste/ethnic minorities (30%)



Female headed households (29%)



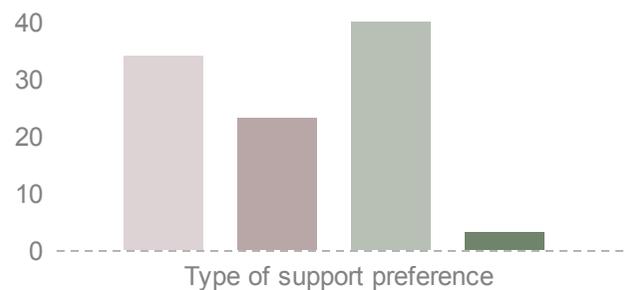
Senior citizens (27%)



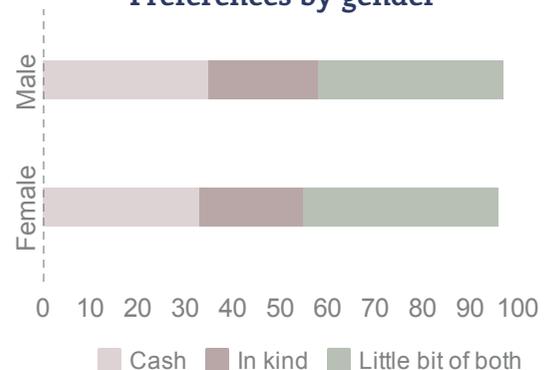
## If you were to receive support, what would your preference be?

Of 1805 respondents across 10 districts, 40 percent said they would prefer a little of both in kind and cash support, compared to 23 percent who would prefer just in-kind and 34 percent who said cash only. Certain districts were overwhelmingly in favour of one over the other. For example, 60 percent of participants from Bardiya preferred cash only, while Sunsari respondents were the most likely to preferred in kind only with 39 percent. One outlier was Rautahat, where 12 percent of respondents said they didn't know, compared to the average of 3 percent.

When asked why each choice was their preference, respondents provided a variety of answers. Those who answered cash only were likely to use it to buy daily necessities, food, build or repair the house and noted that they could do anything if they had cash. Some respondents even stated they would use the money to buy land for farming. For those who preferred in-kind only, they said it would remain with them for longer periods of time, it is less likely to be misused than money, there is no market to buy items and cash is not useful during disasters.



### Preferences by gender



## Do you have the information you need to get relief and support?

Across 10 districts and 1720 respondents, just 56 percent of participants feel they have the information they need to get relief and support. Additionally, only nine percent responded 'completely yes' to their information needs being met. This indicates there is still quite a large gap in information sharing and dissemination.

Male respondents are nine percent more likely than female respondents to have the information they need. A trend that has been observed in every CFP survey, including earthquake, flood and development contexts.

Terai Janajati are the least likely to feel informed, at 51 percent, followed by Hill Janajati at 48 percent and Terai Dalit at 47 percent. This indicates that social-cultural patterns of exclusion are playing out in relation to the flow of information about flood relief and recovery.

### What are your top information needs?



How to register (56%)



Information of government decision (42%)



Livelihood (32%)



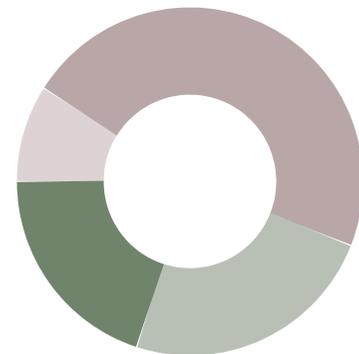
Food support (27%)



Agriculture (19%)



Shelter materials (13%)



Completely yes (9%) Somewhat yes (47%)  
Not very much (24%) Not at all (20%)

### Main source of information



Community members (70%)



Family member (40%)



Radio (29%)

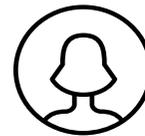


Mobile phone (14%)

### Who is unable to equally access information?



Women (48%)



Female headed household (35%)



Senior citizens (33%)



Caste/ethnic minorities (29%)

## Are there any problem particularly affecting children in your community?

Across 10 districts and 1805 respondents, 72 percent of respondents felt there are problems particularly affecting children in their community.

Muslim respondents were most likely to feel there are problems affecting children at 84 percent followed by Terai Janajati and Terai Dalit with 76 percent each.

### Biggest problem affecting children?



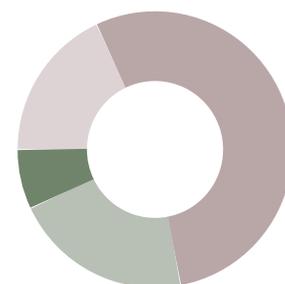
Health care (60%)



Child protection (32%)



Clean Water (32%)



Completely yes (18%) Somewhat yes (54%)  
Not very much (21%) Not at all (7%)

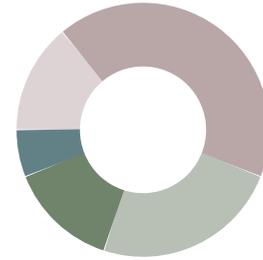


## Do you feel respected by aid providers, including government and I/NGOs?

Across 1805 respondents from 10 districts, 56 percent feel they are respected by aid providers. A total of 38 percent of respondents feel they are not respected by aid provider. This answer had a surprisingly high don't know/refusal rate, with 6 percent of respondents, however, this went as high as 27 percent in Mahottari and 24 percent in Sarlahi.

Terai Janajati respondents had a particularly low rate, with only 47 percent saying yes, followed by Muslim respondents with 53 percent. This is extremely low compared to Tharu, Hill Janajati and Hill Brahmin who responded with much higher than average rates that they felt respected (82, 81 and 72 percent respectively). Even when taking into account regional ethnic disparities, it is worth noting these significant differences.

Only eight percent of respondents reported having been approached for recovery support. Among those 62 percent were approached by a Government Organization, while 36 percent were approached by I/NGOs and 17 percent by community leaders. Those who were approached were offered cash/food items (58 percent) and housing support (17 percent) as the top most offered items. Ninety-five percent of those who received support said it was useful to them.



### Why do you not feel respected?



Not enough assistance (65%)



Not fairly distributed (44%)



Lack of information (30%)



Based on caste system (23%)



## Are there any problem particularly affecting women in your community ?

A staggering 75 percent of respondents across 10 districts felt there were problems particularly affecting women in their community. This was most prominent in Saptari, Siraha (94 percent each) and Parsa (91 percent). Female respondents were five percent more likely to say somewhat yes than male respondents.

According to those who answered, the biggest problems were healthcare, food aid, clean water and toilets/sanitation. Three percent of respondents replied that gender-based violence or risk thereof, signaling that a significant amount of women are threatened by this.

84 percent of Muslim respondents, 72 percent of Terai Janajati and 71 percent of Terai Dalit said there were problems particularly affecting women in their community.

### Biggest problem affecting women?



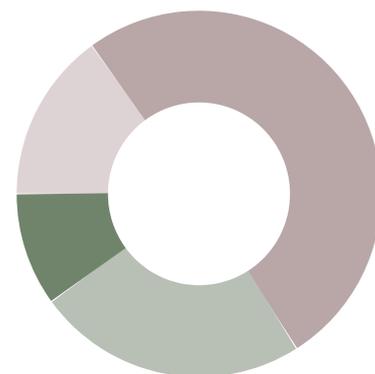
Health care (57%)



Food aid (32%)



Clean water (30%)





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