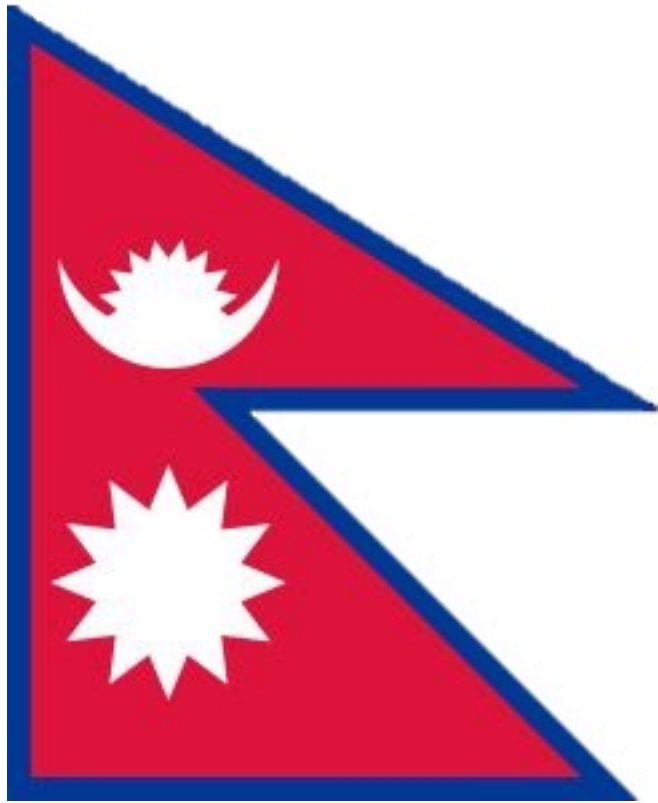


RCC member countries

Nepal



Country Information

Region: South Asia

Population: Approximately 29 million

Capital: Kathmandu

GDP (US\$): \$24.472 billion

Geography: Nepal is characterized by a rugged terrain and a complex geological structure with frequent seismic activity. The country's elevation increases from 70m in Terai to 8848m on Mount Everest. Nepal is divided into three geographical regions- Himalayan, Mountain Hill and Plain Terai.

General climate: Nepal has five climates, ranging from subtropical to arctic, depending on the altitude. It also has four major seasons (winter, spring, summer, autumn) and periods of monsoon rain (June to mid-September).

INFORM Risk Rating: 5

Risk Summary

- Nepal is vulnerable to a wide range of hazards, including floods, Glacier Lake Outburst Floods (GLOF), landslides, earthquakes, fires, storms, drought, avalanches and epidemics.
- The country's vertical landscape increases its vulnerability to water-induced hazards such as floods, GLOF, landslides, slope failure, soil erosion and debris flow.
- Floods have caused severe loss of life and damage to property and infrastructure, impacting the social and economic development of many parts of the country.
- Nepal's location at the boundary between the Indian and Tibetan tectonic plates renders it highly vulnerable to severe earthquakes. For instance, the 2015 Earthquake (magnitude 7.8) affected approximately 8 million people, destroyed more than 800,000 homes and caused about 9,000 deaths.
- Nepal's rapid urbanization over the last ten years, coupled with high-risk infrastructure, contributes the country's vulnerability to earthquakes.

Disaster Management System

National Level

- **Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA)**

MoHA is the national Focal Agency on Disaster Management. It is responsible for rescue and relief work, data collection and dissemination, as well as collection and distribution of funds and resources.

- **Central Natural Disaster Relief Committee (CNDRC)**

The CNDRC is chaired by the Home Minister and includes related ministries and security agencies and voluntary organizations. It is responsible for preparing national policies on preparedness, response and recovery and ensuring their implementation; stockpiling relief and rescue materials; collecting and disseminating relief materials and funds during emergencies; and directing the relief efforts of district and local committees.

Sub-National Level

- **Regional Disaster Relief Committees (RDRCs)**

RDRCs is chaired by the Regional Administrator. It consists of related government agencies, security agencies and voluntary organizations. It is responsible for supporting and monitoring the activities implemented by DDRCs and formulates regional- and district-level disaster management plans.

- **District Disaster Relief Committees (DDRCs)**

DDRCs are chaired by the Chief District Officer (CDO) and consists of various line agencies such as law and order, emergency response (police and armed police), district chapters of Nepal Red Cross Society and critical facilities, such as irrigation, roads, livestock, health, etc. DDRCs are mandated to coordinate with local committees, formulate district disaster management plans, coordinate and operate emergency relief work, and provide information to RDRCs and the CNDRC.

- **Local Disaster Relief Committees (LDRCs)**

LDRCs are responsible for disaster management at the local level, such as the disbursement of funds during emergencies and evacuations to hospitals.

Helpful Links and Sources

Nepal country profile:

<https://data.worldbank.org/country/nepal>

Government of Nepal, Nepal Disaster Risk Reduction Portal:

<http://drrportal.gov.np/home>

Government of Nepal, National Seismological Centre:

<http://seismonepal.gov.np/earthquakes/2015>

INFORM country risk profile:

<http://www.inform-index.org/countries/country-profiles>

Disaster Risk Management policies and practices:

http://www.adrc.asia/countryreport/NPL/2011/FY2011B_NPL_CR.pdf

Nepal 2015 Earthquake data:

<https://www.mercycorps.org/articles/nepal/quick-facts-what-you-need-know-about-nepal-earthquake>