

NRRC FLAGSHIP 3

Flood Risk Management in the Kosi River Basin

Understanding flood risks and protecting communities from flood impacts



ABOUT

Floods and landslides cause an average of 300 deaths per year in Nepal and economic damage exceeding US \$10 million. As the largest river basin in Nepal, the Kosi is one of the most important and flood prone rivers in Nepal, impacting communities in the Terai low-lying plains across Nepal and Bihar in India. The NRRC Flagship 3, led by the Ministry of Irrigation and coordinated by the World Bank/GFDRR, will reduce the vulnerability of communities to a flood in the Kosi. This will save lives and protect development gains.

TARGET

- To reduce the vulnerability of communities to floods from the Kosi River while contributing to regional flood risk reduction and serving as a model for flood risk mitigation in other river systems in Nepal.

WHO'S INVOLVED

Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery, Department of Water Induced Disaster Prevention, Department of Hydrology and Meteorology, the Government of India and more!

OBJECTIVES

- Conduct a detailed flood risk assessment to understand the dynamics of risk posed by the Kosi River.
- Implement structural and non structural measures for flood mitigation, such as strengthening embankments and reinforcement of natural retention.
- Develop comprehensive and advanced forecasting and early warning systems to reduce the vulnerability of communities to floods.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- An assessment on the status of the Chatara and Chakarghatti stretch on the Kosi River has been completed, which includes recommendations on strengthening the embankment. This strengthening work will be undertaken by the Government of India.
- A probabilistic flood risk assessment of the Kosi River is currently being developed.

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