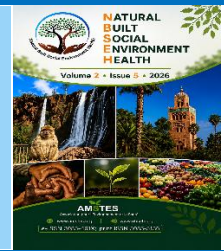
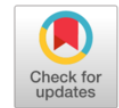


**Natural Built Social Environment Health**

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www.nbseh.org**LETTER TO THE EDITOR****Nepal Catastrophe: Some Implications**

Sir,

Nepal has experienced catastrophic flooding and is bravely struggling with the consequences. Although Nepal contributes much less than 0.1% of global emissions compared to developing countries, such as China and India, Nepal's trivial addition to emissions does not exempt her from disproportionate devastation [1]. Nepal's natural and human resources are vulnerable to global heating through erratic rainfall, floods, landslides, and glacial lake outburst risks. All these have disrupted rural livelihoods, water availability, and agriculture across the country [2].

Nepal – and everyone else – had received ample warnings of this catastrophe. The April 2024 Birendra Lake outburst in Manaslu region, was started by a small ice-avalanche. This showed that the melting Himalaya can threaten downstream settlements and infrastructure [3]. The August 2024 Glacier Lake Outburst Flooding (GLOF) devastated Thame village in Khumbu region [4]. The unprecedented September 2024 disasters, when immense late-monsoon rainfall breached high-altitude glacial basins, caused widespread flooding and slope failure across Nepal [5].

The catastrophe of August 2026, after a massive glacier detachment, unleashed a vast debris torrent through the Trishuli river system. At least 1200 lives have been lost with more than 4000 still missing as of early September 2026. Vital infrastructure is now under millions of tonnes of pulverized rocks and mud [6]. Climate breakdown in Nepal is not just an abstract idea but a current reality with costly and painful effects. These are asymmetric: falling hardest on mountain communities, subsistence farmers, women, and all who have the least adaptability [7, 8].

This indicates a moral and practical imperative. The authors believe that the rest of the world should join forces to help our country, and thus prepare for the worst for their own countries. This is not simply a plea for humanitarian aid. The Polluter Pays principle and the Common but

Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR) principle argue where we cannot argue, being now crushed and terrified [9].

The urgent help Nepal seeks is deeply embarrassing to our nation [10]. Without rapid, accessible, non-debt financial lifelines from developed nations, countries like Nepal will endure economic and non-economic losses that can reverse development gains and deepen vulnerability [11]. But with international support, Nepal can establish sustainable resilience —by investing in real-time early warning systems, climate-resilient infrastructure, vulnerable watershed management, climate-smart agriculture, and community-based disaster preparedness. Nepal's sufferings and her own courageous rescue efforts provide examples for others, opportunities for learning. The real world applies what is learned in principle and tests it so that the next endeavours by emergency workers can be even more robust and successful.

Supporting Nepal's survival is an investment in regional security, ecological integrity, and genuine global climate solidarity. Direct climate compensation should now become the central pillar of the international community's climate response and shared responsibility. The principle of thinking globally, acting locally, can transform global concerns into collective action.

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Yours sincerely,

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