



# expression of **Solidarity**

**Flash Floods and Landslides in Uttarakhand 2013**

## **Flood and Landslide Emergency Uttarakhand 2013**

The State of Uttarakhand has been severely affected by floods and landslides following the torrential rainfall in the region since Friday, 14 June 2013. The monsoons have arrived 20 days early in the State bringing in 60 hours of non-stop rainfall. Incidents of Cloudbursts and landslides across the state have led to the current death toll being raised to 102 in the region. Increasing levels of water in two main rivers of the State, namely Alakhnanda and Bhagirathi, have also resulted in the collapse of bridges, and damaging and washing away of property.

75,000 people remain stranded including several pilgrims to the all four Dhams especially Kedarnath and Badrinath shrines, due to landslides and roadblocks. Over 1000 animals have been lost.

The worst affected districts are Uttarkashi, Rudrapur, Chamoli, Tehri, and Pithoragarh.

While efforts in search and rescue continue the situation remains volatile with emerging needs in food, water, clothes, shelter, and medicines.



**Sphere India:** Sphere India is an all-inclusive national coalition of humanitarian agencies in India. The members include key nodal agencies from Govt. of India, UN, INGOs, NGO Networks and National NGOs.

**Sphere India URS:** The Sphere India **Unified Response Strategy (URS)** is an action-based programme to build common understanding among different stakeholders for an organized and coordinated response. The vision is to bring various stakeholders on a common platform, map the resources and capacities to identify gaps and overlaps and gradually builds a common understanding for **common joint assessments, unified response planning and programming, common monitoring and evaluation.**

**Emerging Needs:** With the thousands of people affected by these devastating floods and incessant rains, the most important needs emerging for humanitarian action are in search and rescue, food, shelter, clothes, safe drinking water, sanitation and medicines.

**Expression of Solidarity:** Sphere India expresses its solidarity with the people affected in Uttarakhand and as a coalition of humanitarian agencies in India, Sphere India will continue to explore ways in which the humanitarian sector and civil society groups can supplement the efforts of the Government and assist the affected population to fulfill their right to life with dignity and right to protection.

In solidarity with the people affected by disasters, **WE COLLABORATIVELY ADVOCATE** for:

### **The Government**

- To take adequate measures for response and recovery planning in the interests of the affected communities.
- To create a mechanism for collaboration with other humanitarian agencies prioritizing the unmet needs of most vulnerable groups.

### **Humanitarian Agencies:**

- To supplement the Government efforts to provide assistance to affected people as guided by the Sphere Minimum Standards and Red Cross/NGO code of conduct.
- To conduct humanitarian needs

assessment in different sectors and share the findings with Government agencies and coordinating agencies

### **Donors:**

- To provide resources in order to meet the emerging needs.
- Coordinating Agencies (Sphere India and IAGs)
- To establish an inclusive and efficient coordination mechanism for all stakeholders.
- To collate the assessments of different agencies and analyze the overall humanitarian needs emerging from the crisis and share it with the Government and other resource agencies.