



# LEADING CHANGE THROUGH HEAT ACTION



**INITIATIVE TO PREPARE FOR,  
RESPOND TO AND REDUCE  
HEAT RISKS**



# Journey<sub>of</sub> Red Cross in Heat Action in Nepal



## 2021

**Catalyst**  
Research study  
inception in  
Nepalgunj

- Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) Asia to fill the knowledge gap on heat impacts
- UK Meteorological Organization supported the initiative

📍 **Nepalgunj**



## 2022

**Growth**

- Continued the momentum by identifying **Heat Thresholds and Hotspots**
- Research then expanded to a more comprehensive study with a **policy brief**
- Included informed recommendations for planning and policymaking

📍 **Nepalgunj**



## 2022-2023

**Action**

- NRCS with the technical support of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Climate Center secured new partnerships
- Propelled the initiative into its next phase with the Norwegian Red Cross and Finnish Red Cross
- Executed Heat Awareness Campaign throughout June and July 2022
- Stakeholder Engagement and Capacity Building Workshops
- Enhance capacity, define aspirations, and collaboratively design the Heat Action Plan (HAP)

📍 **Nepalgunj**



## 2023-2024

**Expansion**

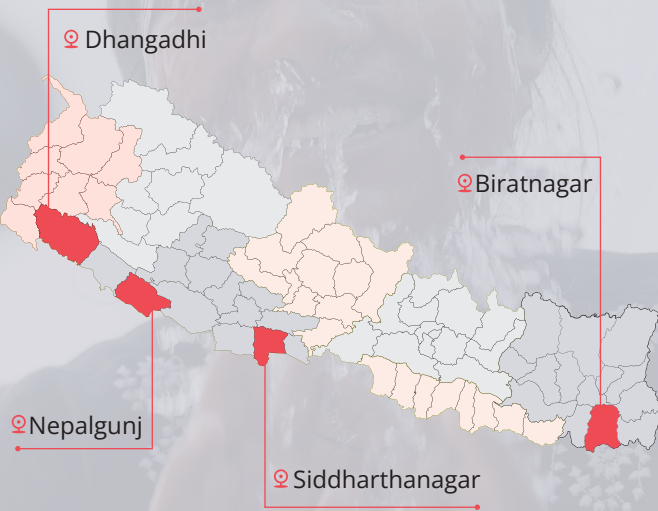
- NRCS secured new and steady partnerships with the American Red Cross, the British Red Cross, and the Finish Red Cross
- Accelerate the heat action in Nepalgunj and replicate the same model in other Terai cities
- Is expanding heat action through Heat Perception Study, Knowledge Materials Development, and continuous Capacity Building Programs for the stakeholders.

📍 **Nepalgunj, Siddharthanagar, Biratnagar, Dhangadhi**



## Heat Action Initiatives by the Red Cross in Nepal

Nepal Red Cross Society, in partnership with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and memberships, particularly, the American Red Cross, the British Red Cross, and the Finnish Red Cross are working in Nepal's 4 most heat-impacted cities of the country – Nepalgunj, Siddharthanagar, Biratnagar and Dhangadhi to respond to and prepare for risk reduction.



IFRC Country Delegation, Nepal is supporting the overall coordination and humanitarian diplomacy, especially with the Government of Nepal (GoN).

The specific objective of this initiative is to – accelerate the implementation of the Heat Action Plan in Nepalgunj and develop the Heat Action Plans for Siddharthanagar, Dhangadhi and the goal of the Red Cross on heat is to reduce the impact of heat risks among households and the most vulnerable populations of exposed cities through risk reduction measures. This will further enhance heat resilience while contributing to replicable and sustainable solutions for other locations in the country and beyond.

## Heat Action Achievements

### 882,724+ People Reach

**Public Awareness Campaign** to understand the risk of extreme heat and adaptation measures

- Brochures, posters and pamphlets
- Audio Visual medium – radio, miking, TV, and social media
- Kiosks on event days
- LED display board in strategic city locations

### 4,443+ Reach

Prepare and activate **Anticipatory Actions (AA)**

- Household (HH) visits to provide health checkups
- Support Nepalgunj in setting up a cooling center
- Communicate heat warning information
- Establish safe drinking water stations at schools

### 637 People Reach

**Pilot demonstration of cool roof initiatives**

- Cool roofing of 14 HHs and 2 schools

### 287 People Reach

**Capacity building of local government, and stakeholders** on heat action

- Workshops on preventive measures for occupationally exposed groups
- Heat awareness workshops for teacher sponsors at school

### 204+ People Reach

**Heat Action Plan** in

Siddharthanagar, Biratnagar and Dhangadhi

- Consultation meetings and workshops
- Data/Information collection and analysis
- Threshold and trigger setup
- Heat Action Plan validation workshop

### 208+ People Reach

**Documentation** of learnings and case stories

- Review of heat action plan and implementation
- Development of Heat Action Video
- Marking of Heat Action Day

## Greater Accomplishments and Beyond

- **Collaboration** with **local governments** inspired **citywide expansion** from Nepalgunj to other cities, leveraging funds and future commitments.
- IFRC's expanded approach engaged the **federal government** and stakeholders, leading to **policy changes** and **program developments**.
- GoN hosted the **first policy dialogue** on heat risks with support from the Red Cross, launching the **"National Heat Risk Reduction and Response Action Plan"** for the 22 most at-risk districts.
- **NRCS's pivotal role** in national and local initiatives solidifies its position as a **leader** continuing the momentum by developing heat as one of the themes in Community of Practice.
- Red Cross initiates **internal collaboration** to develop a **simplified Early Action Protocol** (sEAP), one of the modalities of three pillars of the Disaster Response Emergency Fund.

