The untimely monsoon this year has instigated fear and uncertainty among people living in the disaster prone areas. Because of the rapidly increasing climate crisis and lack of ample infrastructures, the destruction caused by natural calamities such as floods, landslides and others has significantly escalated in recent years in Nepal. In 2021, 490 people lost their lives to monsoon disasters. The number of deaths was even higher at 591 in 2020. Last year, the settlements in Helambu and Melamchi were swept by floods causing unprecedented and enormous damage to human and animal lives and properties.

The projections of Disaster Management experts on monsoon-related damage this year are equally worrying. Rainfall is expected to be higher than average between June and September this year. The government’s Monsoon Response Plan estimates that more than 1.7 million people will be affected by natural disasters. But as the monsoon has already approached, the government is running late to design and implement effective response plans. Such delays raise questions on the government’s accountability towards the citizens who are forced to live in fear of the disasters every year. It is extremely important to ensure effective coordination between three levels of government to smoothen the timely flow of information between authorities and locals and to raise awareness on precautionary measures and relief supplies to minimize the damage of the disaster.

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Goverment Issues of the Week

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Presented by Accountability Lab Nepal