

Alert note*Uganda, Landslides & Mudslides 09th November 2025***Completed by:** Josephine Ninsiima (Church of Uganda)**Date completed:** 08th November 2025**Forum:** ACT Uganda forum**Type of emergency:** MUDSLIDES & LANDSLIDES**Date of emergency (if rapid onset):** 29th October – 01 November 2025**1. The nature of the emergency**

The Sebei Sub-region, located in Eastern Uganda, experienced multiple landslides and heavy flooding on October 30th and November 01st following prolonged heavy rainfall. The landslides have caused loss of lives, injuries, and displacement of households, as well as extensive destruction of homes, causing several families to seek shelter in schools and churches, according to [media reports](#).

2. The impact and scale of the emergency

The landslides in Sebei are of medium scale, affecting three highland districts in the Sebei region. The affected region has steep mountainous slopes and low-lying flood-prone valleys that make it highly vulnerable to such disasters, which have occurred repeatedly in previous years.

Affected areas include Kamet, Chesower, and Mutushet Sub-Counties.

According to an inter-agency situation report dated 5th November 2025, the districts of **Bukwo**, **Kween**, and **Kapchorwa** are the most affected. In Kween District, heavy rainfall triggered mudslides and flooding in several highland and low-lying areas within the district, affecting 11 sub-counties (Tuikat, Moyok, Kwosir, Benet, Kitawoi, Chepsukunya, Kiriki, Sundet, Kombobey, and Ngenge). In Kapchorwa district, heavy rainfall triggered localized landslides in Kapsomo Cell, Kapchorwa Municipality, while in Bukwo district, affected sub-counties include Kamet, Chesower, and Mutushet (Mukulei, Siit, Kowobelyo, Kapteka, and Tulel villages).

The disaster has affected over 7,460 people and over four hundred (400) Households, with more than six hundred (600) households still at risk, especially those living in the upper belt of the region. The excavation process is still ongoing to recover buried bodies, and a more detailed needs assessment will be conducted to collect more detailed information on the affected population. Continuous rainfall continues to pose an elevated risk of secondary landslides. Over thirty (30) deaths have so far been reported (Bukwo 20, Kween 6, Kapchorwa 4), and several people are still missing. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cyv8g28zd7mo>

In the short term, the floods have created an urgent humanitarian crisis, leaving over four hundred households homeless, exposed to harsh weather without adequate food, safe water, and shelter, with a likelihood of becoming food insecure.

Schools, health centres, and road networks are destroyed due to massive soil movements across steep slopes, disrupting education and health services. Major roads and bridges have been cut off, isolating communities and disrupting access to essential services, particularly affecting school-going children who were sitting for exams. And health services as reported by [government sources](#). The disaster has also disrupted farming and other livelihood activities. The displaced have lost household items and are currently camped in Benet and Chemuron primary schools, according to [media reports](#).

Reduced access to water, food, and shelter.

The disaster has destroyed two hundred water sources, putting the region at elevated risk of using unsafe water sources, leading to water contamination and increasing the likelihood of water-borne diseases such as cholera and diarrhoea, which particularly affect young children.

Food gardens have been washed away by floods, causing acute food shortages, forcing families to skip meals or rely on emergency food support. In addition, the destruction of major food stores and gardens has devastated food sources and livelihoods and worsened food insecurity.

Effect on women and children

Women and children are the most affected, as women bear the heavy burden of finding food and water for their families while sleeping in open spaces or overcrowded temporary shelters. These conditions create severe stress, and heightened protection concerns for women and children in the aftermath of the disaster.

The limited food and safe water to drink expose women to increased risk of illness and exploitation. Children face heightened risks of malnutrition, illness, and interrupted education. The floods are catastrophic for these vulnerable groups because they have limited coping mechanisms, depend heavily on local natural resources for survival, and face increased protection risks due to displacement and loss of basic services https://youtu.be/KR9tS7qR4EM?si=6LeiqDEBz_oxk6vo.

In the long term, the region will struggle to recover economically, leading to chronic poverty and dependency on aid. Women, who are often responsible for providing food and care, may resort to negative coping mechanisms such as early marriage or informal labour to sustain their families. Children, especially those who missed school due to damaged roads and schools, risk dropping out of education altogether, limiting their future opportunities. Prolonged displacement and weakened community structures also heighten exposure to gender-based violence, child exploitation, and malnutrition, leaving lasting social and psychological scars that can span generations. <https://youtu.be/PWDC0qoEoDo?si=mrqSk9p4dbVsGWLb>

3. Local and national capacity

The affected households are in temporary shelters in Schools and Churches and depending on food relief currently being provided by the Office of the Prime Minister. Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF) and community volunteers continue to try and manually excavate bodies, and this recovery has been aided by supplies (hoes, gumboots, spades) from the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM). Bennet Primary School (Upper belt), Ngenge Airfield (Lower belt), and Chemuron Primary School have been designated as holding areas, and all three districts are finalizing their response plans to guide coordinated relief and recovery.

The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) is leading the national response, working closely with district authorities, the Mbale Regional Public Health Emergency Operations Centre (REOC), and the Uganda Red Cross Society, to coordinate search, evacuation, and relief efforts. However, continuous rainfall continues to pose an elevated risk of secondary landslides, emphasizing the need for sustained multi-sectoral coordination, logistics support, and community vigilance. Radio talk shows are being conducted to create awareness and sensitization and provide timely information to the affected population. The Ministry of Works and Transport has provided an excavator to work on temporary passages for both pedestrians and vehicles.

Uganda Wildlife Authority ([UWA](#)) is also supporting by delivering humanitarian support to affected communities at Tulel Primary School in Tulel Sub-County, Bukwo district.

There has been no mention or data for any support from UN agencies or activation of UN Cluster working groups. However, locally, the Disaster District Management Committees have been activated.

4. Key needs and gaps

Shelter and NFIs: The displaced households require temporary shelter (tents or tarpaulins) and non-food items such as blankets, mats, cooking utensils, and mosquito nets. Reconstruction materials (iron sheets, poles, nails) needed for semi-permanent shelter recovery. The office of the Prime Minister and the Uganda Red Cross are currently giving support, but it is not sufficient now. The

Government sitrep still indicates this is a high priority area as there is still inadequate coverage of NFI distribution due to logistical and funding constraints.

WASH: There's a high need for sanitation facilities (emergency latrines, bathing shelters) due to destroyed boreholes and latrines leading to open defecation. There's a need for hygiene kits for women and children, like sanitary pads and baby diapers, to prevent infections that may arise due to poor hygiene. Chlorination, water trucking, Hygiene kits, and latrine slabs to reduce the risk of diseases, especially in shelter centres, are a high priority. Water purification tablets and hygiene promotion campaigns to prevent waterborne diseases are required.

Health: Emergency medical services for the displaced and injured are required, and replenishment of essential drugs, mosquito nets, and maternal health kits for pregnant mothers. Public health awareness to control disease outbreaks like malaria, diarrhoea, and cholera is needed. There's a need for Mobile clinics, trauma kits, as well as facilitating medical teams and PSS teams with fuel. The Ministry of Health and the World Health Organization are currently supporting with mobile clinics.

Food Distribution/ Livelihoods: There is a need for Food distribution, including nutrition supplements, for affected families still living in temporary shelters and those displaced, as well as children, to avoid further risks of malnutrition. Continued rains are likely to cause further losses in crops and livestock.

Education: The occurrence is taking place at the time when the Uganda National Examination Board (UNEB) is conducting national examinations for primary, O-level, and A-level. Continued rains and landslides are likely to affect accessibility to examination centres across the district. Learning materials are needed, like books, stationery, desks, and psychosocial support for affected learners and support for teachers who lost accommodation. The Government sitrep report indicates support for education has not been provided so far.

Transport & Logistics: support is critically needed to enable access to cut-off areas and ensure the timely delivery of relief supplies for humanitarian actors. The Ministry of Works and Transport was to provide an excavator to create temporary pass roads for the communities, but at the time of this report, it had not been done yet. There is a need for transportation support; vehicles transporting student exams, adequate fuel, vehicles for medical teams, ambulances, and distribution for food and NFIs. The response is hindered by flooded and impassable roads, inadequate coordination among partners in managing the supply chain, and limited local transport capacity to move bulk relief items, all of which slow the overall efficiency of aid delivery.

There has not been much media attention to the events due to the ongoing political season; however, humanitarian actors that are currently on the ground continue to share information. The government has not provided a clear response plan, and this continues to affect the coordination mechanism at the local level.

Please indicate whether you are considering:

	Indicate your intention with an X below.
Rapid Response Fund (<i>intended for small and medium-scale emergencies</i>)	X
Appeal (<i>intended for large-scale emergencies</i>)	

If you indicate an intention to launch an appeal, the secretariat will activate an Emergency Steering Committee meeting within two working days on receipt of this alert.

5. Forum Capacity and members' intention to respond

ACT Member	Geographical focus	Sectors of expertise and experience
Church of Uganda	Covers the entire Uganda	Food Distribution Livelihoods Shelter/NFI's
6. Potential responses		
The Church of Uganda has conducted a needs assessment and desires to respond and reach out to the affected populations with food, shelter, NFI's, Hygiene kits for women, girls, and children, as well as provide psychosocial support to the affected families. The Church of Uganda is already working with the district to reach out to the affected families with prayer and spiritual support. With her strong history in emergency response, the Church of Uganda has structures up to the grassroots level and a technical team to oversee the process. COU has established sub-offices in the Sebei region within the three districts affected areas. At the Provincial level, the Church of Uganda (COU) has Provincial Emergency Response teams (PERT) that will provide the technical assistance required for the effective and efficient management and implementation of the fund. This RRF will be implemented by the Church of Uganda on behalf of the forum, with oversight role from the ACT Forum Coordinator and ACT Forum Convenor.		