

Information bulletin



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Tajikistan: Flooding

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14 April 2010

This bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan is currently undertaking needs assessment in all areas affected by flooding and will determine based on the outcomes whether external assistance is required.

As a result of heavy rains on 11 April 2010, flooding occurred and affected 18 villages throughout the country. In total 319 houses (with 1,914 inhabitants) have been damaged, out of which 5 houses totally destroyed. Two people were killed by the floods. Besides the 18 affected villages, more than 10 villages are under the risk of flooding and landslide. In addition,

4 schools, 9 bridges, and 5 kms of internal roads have been damaged and 10 heads of livestock died.



Damaged houses in Vose district. Photo: Shavkat Radjabov, Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan

People from the affected areas are being evacuated by joint efforts of the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense (CoES) search and rescue divisions, the Red Crescent national disaster response team, local population and fire services. The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan has started providing first-aid and psychosocial support through its national disaster response team.

The assessment of the situation and the needs of people affected has begun by CoES in close cooperation with the local authorities, the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan and Rapid Emergency and Coordination Team (REACT) members. Beneficiary lists are being prepared so that relief assistance could start.

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The Situation

As a result of heavy rains on 11 April 2010, rural areas of Tajikistan have been affected by flooding and landslides. Around 18 villages throughout the country have been affected. In total 319 houses (with 1,914 inhabitants) have been damaged, out of which 5 houses totally destroyed. Two people were killed by the floods. Besides the 18 affected villages, more than 10 villages are under the risk of flooding and landslide. In addition, 4 schools, 9 bridges, 5 kms of internal roads have been damaged and 10 heads of livestock died. Many villagers, who left their households because of the flooding are hosted by relatives and neighbours. No aid to the affected population has been provided as per 13 April.

The following districts have been affected:

Vose district: Increasing water level in the Yakhsu river led to the outbreak of the riverbank on 11 April 2010. As a result, part of the river stream has changed its direction and flooded Kuchabogh and Ghofilobod villages of

Pakhtakor jamoat¹ and Tugarak village of Tugarak jamoat. One person was killed by the flooding. According to the information received on 13 April from the Red Crescent national disaster response team, the water stream continues to flow through the villages restricting access to the affected areas. Preliminary information indicates that flooding has caused damage to approximately 97 households in Kuchabogh village, 28 households in Gofilobod village and 58 households in Tugarak village, including 1 school and 2 houses in Ghofilobod village that are fully destroyed. However, the figures will be revisited once access to the affected areas is restored.

Shurobod district: Preliminary information provided by CoES indicates that around 30 households have been affected, out of which 2 houses are fully destroyed in Dashti Jum and Shohinak villages of Dashti Jum jamoat. An older person was killed. School no. 21 has been partly damaged by the flooding. Local authorities are assessing the damage. The bridge located close to village Shogun has been damaged, disrupting the communication on the Dushanbe-Khorog road. Representatives of transport and road services have been mobilized to restore the communication.

Muminobod district: According to preliminary reports of district CoES, several households in Balkhobi, Tutu, Boghgai and Childukhtaron jamoats and the center of Muminobod district have been affected. Kitchen gardens, barns and other utility premises of the households as well as the roads and bridges of different villages are damaged. Damage assessment is ongoing by local authorities and district CoES representatives.

Sarband district: The flooding caused damages to the houses in Guliston and Okgaza villages. Internal roads and bridges have been damaged in Sarband town and Guliston jamoat and around 200 hectares of cultivated land (cotton and different food crops) have been destroyed in the district.

Kulob district: Preliminary information indicates that approximately 30 houses in Kulob town including school no. 44 in Dahana Jamoat have been affected.

Istaravshan district: Heavy rains in Nijoni, Nafaraj, and Communism jamoats and Istaravshan town caused damage to private houses, social infrastructure and agriculture. Preliminary information provided by CoES indicates that 75 houses are partially damaged and 1 house is completely destroyed. In addition, school no. 55 in Nijoni village, 5 kms of internal roads, 4 bridges, 21 hectares of vineyards, and 1 hectare of potato cultivations have been damaged. 10 heads of livestock were killed by flooding. The bridge connecting Ghonchi and Istaravshan district has been destroyed. Representatives of Sughd regional REACT group are planning to conduct damage and needs assessment at the disaster site on 13 April 2010.

Fayzobod district: Water level in the Elok river has increased significantly. At present, nine villages are under the risk of flooding in Fayzabad, Vashgird, Mehrobod and Buston jamoat.

Varzob district: A land crack has occurred creating a high risk of landslide in Namozgoh village of Ziddi jamoat. Possible landslide can block the stream of Varzob river and flood the village.

Coordination and partnerships

In order to respond timely and effectively to the arising needs of the affected population, an operational point was established in Pakhtakor jamoat of Vose district by CoES of Kulob district.

On 12 April 2010, a coordination meeting initiated by the CoES of Kulob district was conducted together with representatives of the Red Crescent Kulob branch, UN WFP, UNDP and INGO Oxfam, hukumat² chairman, local authorities and the head of Pakhtakor jamoat in Vose district.

Following a request of CoES in Sughd oblast and Istaravshan district authorities, the Sughd REACT team including the Red Crescent regional disaster response team in close cooperation with local authorities visited village Nijoni in Istaravshan district and conducted a damage and needs assessment on 13 April 2010.

Red Cross Red Crescent action

Red Crescent volunteers and members of the national disaster response team have been deployed within 12 hours of the disaster to conduct rapid assessment in all affected areas. Preliminary assessments are being

¹ Administrative centre.

² District government.

carried out in coordination with the government authorities and REACT partners. The Federation secretariat is supporting the assessment teams in Kulyab region.

The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan is participating in coordination meetings with the government authorities and other actors to jointly plan the response activities. The National Society has also started rendering first aid and psychosocial support to the affected people.

Based on the information being gathered through the situation and needs assessment the National Society disaster response team is preparing distribution lists together with the local authorities. The basic needs of the affected population are being identified as shelter and non-food items, such as bedding sets, blankets, quilts, hygiene kits, water storage dishes and kitchen utensils. The number of families in need of support and the concrete items needed will be determined as soon as possible.

Based on the assessment findings already available in village Nijoni of Istaravshan district, the Red Crescent Society is planning to assist 10 affected families (58 people) in the village with the following basic non-food items:

Item	Number
Mattresses	58 pcs
Blankets	58 pcs
Pillows	58 pcs
Bed-linens	58 pcs
Hygiene kits	10 pcs
Kitchen sets	10 pcs
Water cans (10 litre each)	20 pcs
Warm tent	1 (for the most affected family)
Shovels	10 pcs
Buckets	20 pcs
Torches	10 pcs
Soup	50 pcs (5 pcs per family)

Assessment in the other villages is still ongoing, and the National Society is finalizing the beneficiary lists with the local authorities so that distribution could start.

How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

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1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

Contact information

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