

DREF Bulletin Update



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

TAJIKISTAN: FLOODS AND MUDFLOWS

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The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 185 countries.

In Brief

Period covered by this update: 19 April to 27 April, 2007.

History of this Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF)-funded operation:

- CHF 85,115 (USD 69,996 or EUR 52,540) allocated from the Federations DREF on 19 April 2007 to respond to the needs of this operation and to replenish disaster preparedness stocks distributed to the affected population.
- This operation is expected to be implemented for 1 month, and will be completed by 19 May, 2007; a DREF Bulletin Final Report (narrative and financial) will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 19 August, 2007).

Summary:

During the night of 16 to 17 April, torrential and heavy rainfall resulted in flash floods and debris flows in the eastern and northern part of Tajikistan. There has been damage to the already poor infrastructure, residential buildings and agriculture. A number of villages have been heavily affected; the transport infrastructure and water supply systems, bridges and kilometres of road have been washed away isolating some of the villages.

The International Federation undertakes activities that are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

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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 is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Background and current situation

During the night of 16 to 17 April, torrential rainfall caused flash floods and landslides in the eastern regions of Tajikistan. The affected districts were Rudaky, Tursun-zade, Varzob and Vahdat (RRS) and Panjakent district of Sughd oblast in the northern part of the country.

Infrastructure in the regions was already poor, and many residential buildings have been severely damaged. Agricultural land has also been affected. The population from a number of villages have had to be relocated due to fears for their safety. Most families whose houses were damaged or destroyed have found temporary shelter with relatives, friends or neighbours. Transport infrastructure, electricity and water supply systems have been heavily damaged. Bridges and roads have been washed away isolating some villages.

The total number of affected people significantly increased as the assessments were finalized. The results of detailed assessments done by the Government Emergency Commission, the Rapid Emergency Assessment and Coordination Team (REACT) which included United Nations Disaster Risk Management Project (UNDRMP), World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), CARE International, Committee of Emergency Situation and Civil Defence, Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan, as well as local authorities showed that 1 person died and more than 2,225 households (17,184 people) were directly affected by these floods. More than 2,089 houses were damaged, out of which more than 209 were completely destroyed.

Table 1: Updated assessment results

Affected districts	No. of affected Jamoats (communities)	No. of completely destroyed houses	No. of partially damaged houses	No. of affected people
Rudaky	5	178	1,223	12,460
Vahdat	1	15	287	2,174
Panjakent	3	4	308	1,778
Varzob	1	1	0	17
Tursunzade	9	11	62	755
Total	19	209	1,880	17,184

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST) and the Federation Delegation in Tajikistan immediately responded to the disaster by assessing the situation and damage, rendering first aid to injured people and providing non-food items from the available disaster preparedness (DP) contingency stock. Two RCST Disaster Response Teams (DRT) from Dushanbe city and Panjakent districts, with more than 40 volunteers from Local Disaster Committee (LDC) members in Panjakent district (Sughd Oblast), National Society branch volunteers and staff from Rudaki, Vahdat and Tursunzade districts, were mobilized and involved in response operations.



Distribution of non-food items from the available RCST DP contingency stock to the affected population

Upon the request of the RCST/Federation to render assistance to 300 most affected families in villages of Rudaki, Tursunzade, Panjakent and Vahdat districts, an amount of CHF 85,115 was released from the Federation's DREF on 19 April 2007. The DREF funds were utilized for the procurement of 600 plastic sheeting, 900 sets of bed linen, 900 mattresses, 900 pillows, 300 hygiene kits, 300 cooking sets, 900 quilts, 1,500 plastic buckets, 1,500 water cans (10 ltr) and 30 bibs with the RCST logo. The procurement of requested items has already started, and the delivery of goods to the RCST central warehouse and their distribution is ongoing.

The detailed situation assessment is completed in Tursunzade and Panjakent districts, whereas it continues in Vahdat and Rudaky districts due to the local communities' frequent request of assistance from the RCST branches.

According to the detailed assessment results and criteria agreed between the National Society and the local community, the RCST continues to support the 300 most affected households whose houses were totally or partly destroyed and properties were lost.

By 25 April 2007, most of the targeted affected households received support from the National Society.

Table 2: Distributed non-food items to the most affected families

Affected districts	Tents	Mattresses	Quilts	Shovels	Hoes	Kitchen sets	Blankets (wool)	Bedding	Pillows	Buckets	Water cans	Hygiene kits	S/H clothes	Shoes	W/P tablets	Soap	Plastic sheets
Rudaky	0	46	400	50	0	73	117	174	46	100	363	39	150	170	32,000	78	39
Tursunzade	0	0	50	30	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0
Varzob	1	8	17	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vahdat	0	52	350	0	0	25	0	52	52	100	200	0	0	0	16,000	200	52
Panjakent	0	50	200	80	50	40	0	50	50	100	0	50	90	88	350	0	0
Total	1	156	1,017	160	50	154	117	276	148	300	563	89	250	258	48,350	278	91

Coordination

The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan is working closely with the Committee of Emergency Situation, Government Emergency Commission, and local community REACT partners in carrying out the damage and needs assessments and the distribution of the relief items, where each institution and agency complemented each other. The RCST relief items are being distributed in coordination with UNDRMP, WFP, UNICEF, CARE International, Committee of Emergency Situation and Civil Defence. The National Society has been in close contact and coordination with the Federation and received support in developing activities and responding effectively to the disaster. Furthermore, the REACT partners were informed about the actions taken by the RCST during the response. Currently, the Government and International agencies continue to provide support to the affected population.

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The Committee of the Emergency Situation of Tajikistan continues to rehabilitate the electricity system, destroyed roads and bridges. The Committee is also organising transport for provision of drinking water to the affected districts.

Local authorities of Vahdat district allocated 300 bags of wheat flour, 300 liters of vegetable oil and shoes for 25 affected families.

CARE Tajikistan is supplying the most affected households with construction tools such as 33 axes, 66 plastic buckets (10ltr), 33 buckets (12ltr), 33 water cans, 165 gloves, 33 hummers, 33 hoes, 165 nails, 33 pick axes, 33 saws, 63 shovels and 33 wheel barrows, and other required items to assist the villagers to rebuild their households.

UNICEF provided 300 water purification tablets, 50 plastic buckets, 50 bed linens (for adults), 50 bed linens (for children).

WFP distributed 8,880 kg of wheat flour, 666 litres of vegetable oil, and 111 kg of salt to the families who lost their food stock.

Monitoring

The National Society provided staff for the implementation of the described activities. The RCST, with the support of the Federation, conducted monitoring of the situation in coordination with the main actors involved in the operation.

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