

INFORMATION BULLETIN



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

AFGHANISTAN: FLOODS

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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 185 countries.

In Brief

This Bulletin (no. 02/2007) is being issued for information only, and reflects the status of the situation and information available at this time. The Federation is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation at this time.

For further information specifically related to this operation please see [contact details](#) on the last page.

The Situation

The recent heavy snowfall and torrential rain across Afghanistan have stopped, though some parts of the country are still beset by heavy rainfall and floods caused by the melting of snow.

In the northern region, on 21st March flash floods hit Faryab province, damaging 36 houses (with 10 being totally destroyed and 26 partially destroyed). About 16 people are missing in the northern province of Badakhshan, where an avalanche took place on 28th March. As accessibility to the provincial capital, Faizabad city, is almost impossible, the extent of damages or the exact number of casualties caused by the avalanche is not yet known.

In the eastern region, Laghman province was hit by floods on 24th March, causing damages in remote districts. Field assessments, conducted by the Afghan Red Crescent Society's (ARCS) Laghman branch, indicated that eight children were killed, eight people injured and 225 families (1,575 individuals) affected by the floods in these districts. A total of 78 houses were completely destroyed and 147 houses were partially destroyed. Floods in three districts in Nangahar province in the eastern region affected 21 families. The ARCS's Nangarhar branch sent three assessments teams to the affected areas on 28th March. A total of 99 families (693 individuals) in Laghman and Nangahar provinces were identified as being under category A (houses almost fully destroyed) and 298 families (2,086 individuals) were identified as being under category B (houses partially destroyed).

The western provinces of Heart, Badghis and Ghor, the southern provinces of Helmand and Uruzgan and the central regions of Ghazni and Daikundi remained flooded. Field assessments by the ARCS and the government are ongoing. In addition to the estimated 10,423 families (72,961 individuals), estimated as affected in these areas according to the initial field surveys, more affected people were identified in Heart province in the west –

- (i) 612 affected families in Gulran district, making the total number of affected families in the district 1,530 (10,710 individuals). Of this figure, 788 families (5,516 individuals) were in category A and 742 families (5,194 individuals) in category B;
- (ii) 114 affected families (798 individuals) in Karta area. Of this figure, 38 families (266 individuals) were in category A.

Table 1: Casualties and damages caused by seasonal heavy rainfall, flash floods and snow slides in the northern, eastern, western and south-western parts of the country

Regions	Provinces/ districts	Type of disaster	Date	No. of affected families	Identified category (A)	Casualties			Damages
						Dead	Injured	Missing	
West	Heart city, Karta area	Flood	17 March	114	38	1	0	0	50 shops damaged
	Gulran district	Food	10 -14 March	612	379	0	0	0	
	Ghour district	Snow slide	18 March	20	20	12	13	0	100 sheep perished
	Badghis, Murghab, Jawand, Aabkamari, Mokur districts	Flood	18 March	7,248	900	8	0	0	7,500 livestock perished; 2,100 acres of land washed up; 200 kilometres road , 22 water dams and 2 mills destroyed
South West	Uruzgan district	Flood	11-12 March	680	300	3	0	0	800 livestock perished, 2,200 acres of farm land destroyed
	Helmand, Greshk districts	Flood	11-12 March	325	20	0	0	0	3,000 acres farm land washed up
North	Faryab province	Flood	21 March	36	10	0	0	0	
East	Laghman province	Flood	24 March	225	78	8	8	0	147 families lost their livestock
	Jalalabad	Flood	24 March	73	21	0	0	0	
Total				9,333	1,766	32	21	0	

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

On 20th March, the ARCS, along with the Federation and United Nations (UN) agencies – World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) – distributed food and non-food items to the 918 affected families in Gulran district of Heart province. More such items will be distributed shortly to the 612 newly-affected families in the district. The 38 families in Karta area of Heart province, identified as belonging to category A, received winter clothes from the ARCS, 76 blankets and 38 plastic sheets from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 38 kitchen sets from UNICEF and emergency food from WFP.

Details of the food and non-food items provided and distributed by various aid agencies to flood and snow slide affected families identified as falling under category A, in different parts of Afghanistan, are provided in [table 2 \(annexe\)](#).

Coordination

With the support of the Federation, the ARCS branches in all affected provinces are continuing to have regular coordination meetings with other organizations involved in the operation, including the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), UN agencies, governmental authorities (department of disaster preparedness and ministry

of rural rehabilitation and development) and the Federation field officers from the sub-offices. As both Helmand and Uruzgan are situated in the conflict-hit southern region of the country, ICRC has taken the lead in distributing the food and non-food items to the affected people in these areas.

The ARCS and Federation disaster management departments have been in close contact with the provincial branches during the dispatching and distribution of food and non-food items. The Federation sub-offices are also in close contact with their counterparts in the field.

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

The Federation's Global Agenda

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.

Contact information

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ANNEXE

Table 2: Details of food and non-food items provided and distributed by various aid agencies to flood and snow slide affected families, identified as falling under category A, in different parts of Afghanistan

Provinces/Districts and no. of affected families/individuals	Organizations	Types of food and non-food items assisted																	
		Tents	Blankets	Medicine	Tarpaulin (plastic)	Kitchen sets	Jerry cans	Pressure cookers	Shoes and socks (pairs)	Winter clothes	Food rations	Rice/ kg	Beans /kg	Oil/ kg	Salt/kg	Peas/kg	Sugar/kg	Tea/kg	Soap/pieces
Heart, Karta area 38 families = 266	UNHCR	0	76	0	38	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	WFP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	38	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ARCS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	38	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	UNICEF	0	0	0	0	38	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ghor 20 families = 140	Ghor Emergency Committee	21	400	½ metric tonne	0	0	0	0	71*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Badghis**, Murghab,Jawand, Mokur , Abkamari districts 900 families = 6300	WFP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	900	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	UNHCR	0	500	0	0	0	400	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	IFRC	0	430	0	0	0	400	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ARCS	100	300	0	0	100	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	UNICEF	0	0	0	800	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Uruzgan 300 families =2100	ARCS	140	600	0	100	0	100	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ICRC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10000	2500	400	200	0	0	0	0	0
Helmand, 20 families =140	ARCS	20	300	0	0	0	300	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jalaabad 21 families = 140 Laghman 78 families = 546	ICRC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16875	0	3375	225	5625	1125	225	546	
	IFRC	0	386	0	99	0	99	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Faryab 36 families = 252	ARCS	0	136	0	36	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	UNHCR	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total		291	3128	½ metric tonne	1073	174	1399	100	71	38	938	26875	2500	3775	425	5625	1125	225	546

Note:

* 50 pairs of shoes and 21 pairs are socks (in Ghor district).

** In Badghis district, the ICRC and ARCS's Heart branch provided 800 kitchen sets and the government's department of disaster preparedness is providing five trucks to transport the items from Heart to Badghis.