

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

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AFGHANISTAN: FLOODS

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. 01/2007) 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

Unusual flash floods and a landslide have caused the death of 63 civilians, mostly women and children, in several provinces of Afghanistan, since 24 June 2007.

According to an assessment report from the Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS), a landslide caused by heavy rain on 24th June, killed six children in Kunduz province in northern Afghanistan.

As a result of a surge of floods in Kunar province in the eastern part of the country on 25th June, seven people died and three people are still missing. The floods also destroyed houses, agricultural land and orchards, bridges, roads, dams and power supply in the area. In the neighbouring Nangarhar province, 69 houses were destroyed in some areas, particularly in Sorkhrod district. In Kama district, 40 people were evacuated by Ministry of Defence helicopters.



Flooding, caused by heavy rain, in Kabul city

Three children and two women were killed by flash floods that hit in Kabul province (Qarabagh and Farza districts). The floods also damaged houses and killed a number of farm animals in the area. In Nijrab district, in Kapisa province to the north of Kabul, three people were killed and one person went missing due to flooding. In the adjoining Parwan province, floods killed five people and injured eight persons in Surkhparsa district.

On 26th June, floods hit Paktya province (Zormat, Ahmad Abad and Jaji Ayob districts) in the southern part of Afghanistan, killing five people and destroying several houses and land. Floods in the neighbouring Ghazni province (Ajrestan, Khogyani and Zankham districts) killed two children, injured several people and covered hundreds of hectares of land with mud.

Floods in Panjshir province, to the north of the Kabul, on 27th June, killed 24 people and injured 40 people. On the same day, floods caused by heavy rain in the 11th district of Kabul city, killed three children, injured two people and washed away three others, who are still missing. In the central province of Wardak, flooding damaged agricultural crops, trees and livestock, which caused further hardships for many poor farmers.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The ARCS provincial branches deployed disaster response unit and emergency mobile unit teams to conduct assessments in the flood affected areas in Kabul, Panjshir, Parwan, Kapisa, Ghazni, Wardak, Paktya, Nangarhar, Kunar and Kunduz provinces. Based on the initial reports received from some of the branches, the following non-food items have been dispatched from Federation and ARCS disaster preparedness stocks, for distribution in the affected areas:

Table: Initial relief distributions in affected provinces

Provinces	Non-food items				
	Blankets	Kitchen sets	Tarpaulins	Jerry cans	Tents
Wardak	400	100	100	200	100
Ghazni	400	100	100	200	100
Panjshir	1,200	300	300	600	300
Nangarhar			50	50	7
Kunar				150	150

In addition, the International Committee of the Red Cross has provided food ration, consisting of rice (50 kilograms), oil (10 kilograms), sugar (5 kilograms), tea (2 kilograms), and salt (1 kilogram) per family, to the 60 worst affected families (out of 250 total affected families) in Kunar province.

Coordination

Government authorities in most of the flood affected provinces have called on the United Nations and international humanitarian aid organizations to assist them in effectively responding to the floods/landslide. On 28th June, a coordination meeting among all stakeholders involved in the disaster response – the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development, Ministry of Returnees, United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, and other UN agencies – was organised by the Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority.

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.

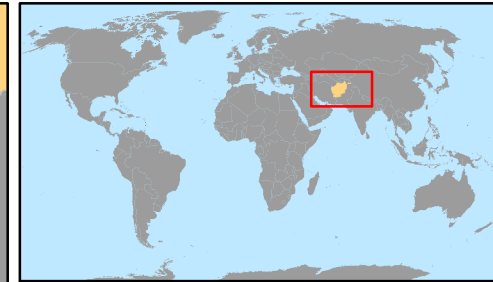
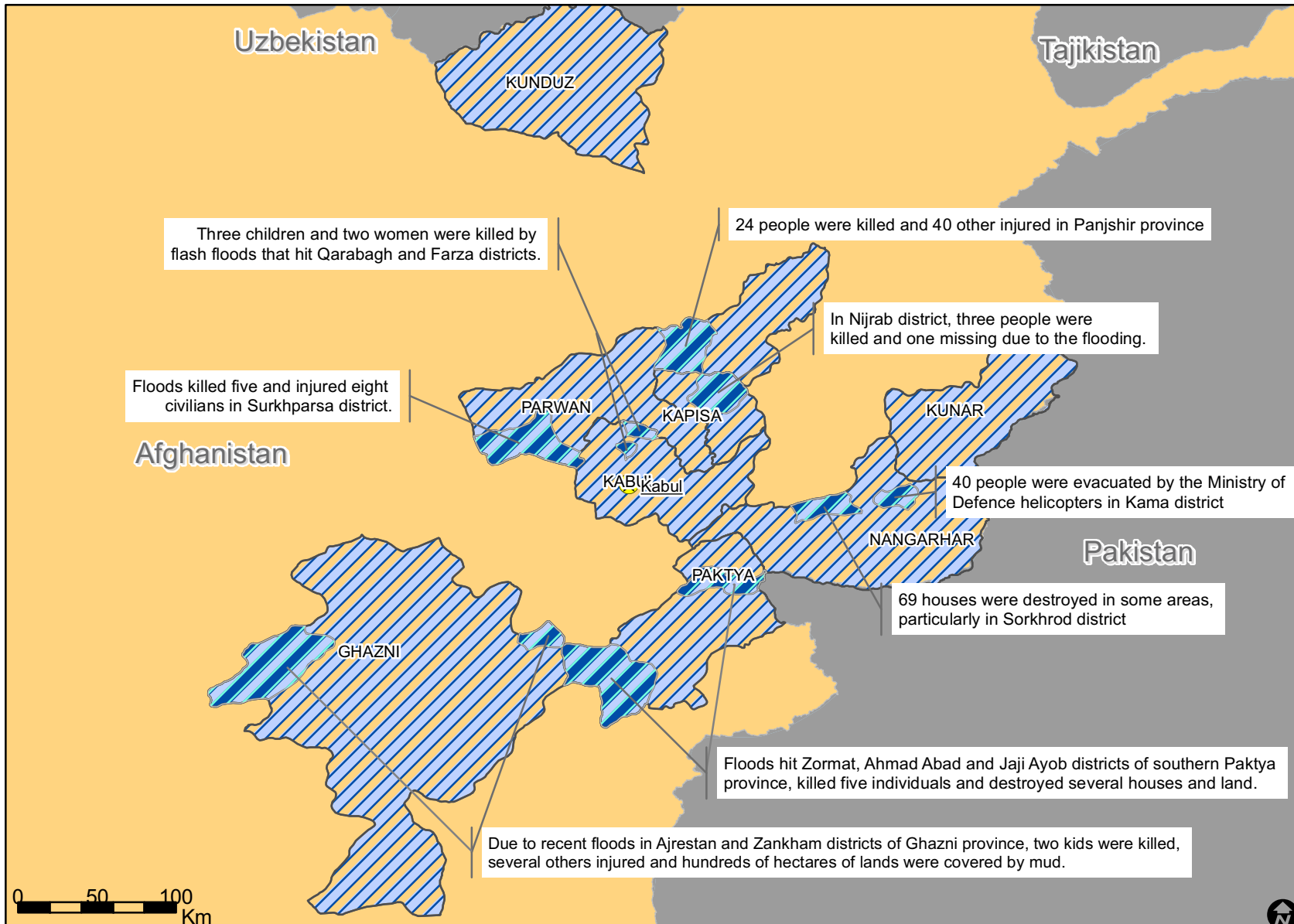
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Afghanistan: Floods



- Most affected districts
- Affected provinces

Unusual flash floods, and a landslide, caused the death of 63 civilians, mostly women and children, in several provinces of Afghanistan from 24 June up to date.