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Information bulletin

Malaysia: Seasonal Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Glide n°	Date of issue: 3 December 2019
Date of disaster: 26 November 2019	Point of contact: Dato Sayed Abdul Rahman, Secretary General, MRCS
Operation start date: 3 December 2019	Expected timeframe:
Category of disaster: Yellow	
Host National Society: Malaysian Red Crescent Society	
Number of people affected: 75,000	Number of people to be assisted: 5,000
N° of National Societies currently involved in the operation (if available and relevant): N/A	
N° of other partner organizations involved in the operation (if available and relevant): N/A	

This bulletin is being issued for information only and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation. The Malaysian Red Crescent Societies (MRCS) will, however, accept direct assistance to provide support to the affected population.

<click [here](#) to view the map of the affected area, or [here](#) for detailed contact information>

The situation

Heavy rains continue in Malaysia since the seasonal rains began to make its mark in the northern states of the western peninsula from the end of November 2019. Significant heavy rains from 26 November 2019 have caused flooding in four states in Peninsular Malaysia, namely, Johor, Kelantan, Pahang and Terengganu. The floods have temporarily displaced about 15,000 families across the country. The situation following the weekend (30 November 2019) saw water level increasing in several affected districts. The Malaysian National Security Council (NSC), the National Agency for Disaster Administration and the district offices in the respective affected areas are coordinating the evacuation activities with the support of the Malaysian Fire and Rescue Department.

According to MRCS Kelantan branch, the number of evacuees in the state has now increased to 12,087 from 4,177 families as of 10.00am (local time) today. The evacuees are housed at 82 evacuation centres in eight districts specifically in Tumpat, Pasir Mas, Kota Bharu, Tanah Merah, Pasir Puteh, Machang, Bachok and Kuala Krai. In Terengganu roughly 2,970 families were evacuated from seven districts in the last one week and are being housed currently in 124 evacuation centres.



MRCS Kelantan Branch volunteers supporting local agencies evacuating affected people trapped in the flood in Kelantan. (Photo: MRCS)

Malaysian Meteorological Department is forecasting more rains in Peninsular Malaysia in the second week of December. The conditions of major rivers in Kelantan and Terengganu are still at critical level which could cause

another flooding with more rain. The government authorities, in particular the National Agency for Disaster Administration (NADMA) has taken precautionary efforts to ensure that response teams are ready for the second cycle of flooding in these areas.

NADMA, Malaysian Armed Forces, Royal Malaysia Police and other local government agencies have conducted evacuations, established emergency shelters, operationalized evacuation centers and continue to provide relief assistance to affected families. The authorities have deployed the Special Malaysia Disaster Assistance and Rescue Team (SMART) in the affected areas to carry out search and rescue operations in highly inundated areas. Furthermore, the relevant district offices are coordinating all humanitarian activities at district level working closely with NADMA, Malaysian Civil Defence Force, Malaysian Armed Forces and Royal Malaysia Police in these affected areas. In accordance with the Malaysian Policy and Mechanism of National Disaster Management and Relief set out by the National Security Council (known as Directive No. 20), the district offices are responsible in evacuating the flood victims to evacuation centers while other agencies and voluntary bodies, including the MRCS, have roles defined in relief and recovery efforts.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

MRCS volunteers in branches throughout the affected areas have been active since the beginning of the disaster. When the early warnings were received, volunteers were mobilized and prepared to respond. As of date, 150 Red Cross volunteers have been directly involved in the immediate response in Kelantan and Terengganu. The local national disaster response team (NDRT) members have been mobilized as well as emergency community volunteers. This included assisting the evacuation of affected families to temporary sites and higher ground, in conjunction with local authorities and NADMA. MRCS Kelantan branch is deploying a total of 26 Red Crescent volunteers and staff in the following areas to support the relief operations in Pasir Mas and Kuala Krai areas especially established field kitchens at the evacuation centres. An additional 10 volunteers are on duty helping out at the temporary relief centre in Sungai Embak, Kuala Krai while another five voluntary aid detachment (VAD) unit volunteers are supporting relief activities at the temporary relief centre at Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Agama (SMKA) Pasir Mas.

The MRCS national HQ is planning to send three boats and four 4WD vehicles to the affected areas to support the response in coming days. The IFRC Asia Pacific regional office (APRO) in Kuala Lumpur is monitoring the situation closely and is on standby for further emergency response support.



MRCS Kelantan branch volunteers cooking food for affected people in the evacuation centre. (Photo: MRCS)

Based on the available information that points toward significant humanitarian needs and with further information through assessments when safety conditions allow, the IFRC is working closely with MRCS to determine the appropriate scaled-up response and support from the IFRC Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF).



[Click here](#)

1. Click [here](#) to see the map of affected areas
2. Click [here](#) to return to the title page

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, **encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



Save lives,
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



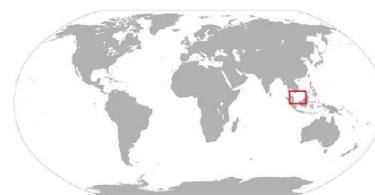
Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.



Promote social inclusion
and a culture of
non-violence and **peace.**

Malaysia, Floods: Informal Update

3 December 2019



The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of territory or its authorities. Map data sources: OCHA, OSM Contributors, GDACS, ICRC, IFRC

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