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Information bulletin

Afghanistan: Flash Floods



Glide n° FF-2020-000191-AFG	Date of issue: 27 August 2020
Date of disaster: 26 August 2020	Point of contact: Abdulrahman Kalantary Disaster Management Director (ARCS)
Operation start date: 27 August 2020	Expected timeframe: -
Category of disaster: Yellow	
Host National Society(ies): Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS)	
Number of people affected: Approx. 22,225 people (3,175 families)	Number of people to be assisted: 7,000 people (1,000 families) in Parwan province
N° of National Societies currently involved in the operation: -	
N° of other partner organizations involved in the operation: Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA) and provincial government through Provincial Disaster Management Committees (PDMC) in 8 provinces.	

This bulletin is being issued for information only and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS), with support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), is considering requesting for a Disaster Emergency Relief Fund (DREF) allocation. As of now, no external assistance is determined yet. Only coordination and field-based assessments are ongoing.

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

The situation

Localized floods caused by heavy rainfall were reported on the early morning of 26 August 2020 in Parwan City and Mandi Village in Nooristan province, Rodat district in Nangarhar province, Mehtarlam and Alishang districts in Laghman province, and Parcha and Charikar districts of Parwan province. Although the damage is widespread, Parwan province is currently the most severely affected by the floods. Early information shared at PDMC meeting on 27 August 2020 indicates approximately 100 people have died and 100 people injured. Approximately 500 houses have been either partially damaged or destroyed that caused approximately 300 to 400 families to be displaced. Power and water systems are also reportedly damaged, while agricultural land and public infrastructure have also been impacted. Joint assessment teams have been initiated. Government authorities are currently leading search and rescue operations.



ARCS response team assessing the impact and extending search and rescue effort at Parwan province. (Photo: ARCS)

Flooding has also reportedly impacted Kapisa, Panjsher and Kabul provinces and caused casualties and destruction to the local infrastructures. ANDMA is currently collecting data and seeking potential joint assessments in these areas as well. The Afghanistan Meteorological Department has issued an additional heavy rain warning until 27 August 2020 for provinces in the north-east and east of Afghanistan, with flash flood warnings for Nangarhar, Khost, and Paktya provinces.

In Parwan province, an emergency committee is established which comprises of ARCS, ANDMA, Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees (DACAAR), CARE, IOM, WFP, and DRC. This committee is currently occupied to conduct joint rapid assessment. A few local and international NGOs have been providing emergency food and WASH assistance while respective government departments are focusing on search and rescue effort and debris cleaning activities.

According to ARCS Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) report, torrential rains since 25 August 2020 in 13 provinces (Parwan, Maidan Wardak, Nangarhar, Nooristan, Laghman, Panjshir, Kapisa, Kabul, Pakia, Logar, Khost Paktika and Ghazni) have resulted to flooding on 26 August 2020 that caused 95 deaths, 137 person injured and three others missing as well as 767 houses damaged and 147 livestock died.



The impact after the flash floods hit Parwan District early in the morning. (Photo: ARCS)

Below is detailed impact reported as per reporting date by province:

Province	Impact
Parwan	Heavy rains and floods in the district and the capital of Parwan province, which occurred at about 03:00 hours local time in the morning, destroyed more than 500 houses in three villages, including Parcel 12, Parcel 7 and Parcel 9, and killed 83 people and caused more than 110 people injured as reported to date.
Maidan Wardak	Heavy flash flood caused one death, five others injured and damage to 954 houses and two mosques.
Nangarhar	The flood occurred in Hesarak Village, Rodad district caused two deaths, three people injured and damage to one house.
Nooristan	The flood has caused damage to 15 houses, seven power base and three mills and as well as destroyed 60-acre agricultural land and killed 147 livestock.
Laghman	It was reported that floods caused damage to 21 houses as of date and no action is carried out by the ARCS until coordination meeting with PDMC is taken place.
Panjshir	According to EOC ARCS primary report on 26 August 2020, the flash floods in Panjshir province caused three deaths and a person missing. The damage is also extended to some parts of the main road, agricultural land canals, with trees knocked down and washed away.
Kapisa	Heavy rains and floods in Kuhbanda and the capital of Kapisa province caused six deaths and 10 others injured. The ARCS branch team is in the area to collect more data and information. However, due to the disruption of telecommunication, the final data will be received upon the completion of rapid assessment from the field.
Kabul	Heavy rain caused 19 deaths, 8 people injured, two missing children and as well as damage to 24 houses and three vehicles at Sorubi district.
Paktia	Heavy rain caused damage to one vehicle, 11 houses, main road, 300 meters of citation wall, 130 meters of water canal and destroyed 50 acres of agricultural land.
Logar	The impact takes place in different districts of Logar province where 80 houses and more than 100-acre agricultural land are reported damaged.
Khost	A total of 14 houses damaged in Ali Shir, Domanda and Mandozai districts in Khost province.
Ghazni	Floods affecting the livelihoods of around 700 families where inundation caused damage to their agricultural lands and harvests.
Paktika	Inundated houses in Argoon, Surobi, Mata Khan, Zerok, Yousif Khil, Yaha Khil Gumal Jani Khil Omana and Sharana districts in Paktika province have affected 855 families. Several agricultural lands and orchards are reportedly destroyed as well.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Afghan Red Crescent Society has 34 provincial branches spread across the country and a network of 20,000 volunteers, ARCS is implementing large-scale and long-term preparedness and response programmes in coordination with public authorities and across lines of conflict. The branches in targeted areas have teams of trained volunteers in disaster preparedness and response through established National and Branch Disaster Response Teams, Mobile Health Teams and community mobilizers as part of the Community-Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) programme.

ARCS remain vigilant and have been monitoring the situation since the beginning of flash floods. The emergency operations center (EOC) at headquarter level has been activated to coordinate respective branches. ARCS has mobilized trained staff and volunteers to conduct the rapid assessment in flood affected provinces and provided 30 households with household items and emergency shelters. According to the report from the field on 26 August 2020, a total of 29 people who were injured is hospitalized in ARCS clinic receiving treatment services while mobile health teams are activated and are providing basic health care to 20 affected people. ARCS regional and branch offices have deployed three response teams to three affected areas (PD 12th, PD 9th, and PD 7th) carrying out search and rescue, evacuation and assessment activities. In addition, Turkish Red Crescent Society has provided 1,000 food parcels in Parwan province on 27 August 2020.

The IFRC Afghanistan Country Office in Kabul is conducting coordination and communication with the ARCS and supporting the analysis of rapid assessment data as it comes gradually from ARCS disaster management teams to EOC. The development of the situation and its impact is shared during the coordination with in-country movement partners, IFRC and ICRC to consolidate response plan and support. The Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS), with support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), is considering activating a Disaster Emergency Relief Fund (DREF) to further assist the affected people.



[Click here](#)

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 - 2. Click [here](#) to return to the title page**
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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.

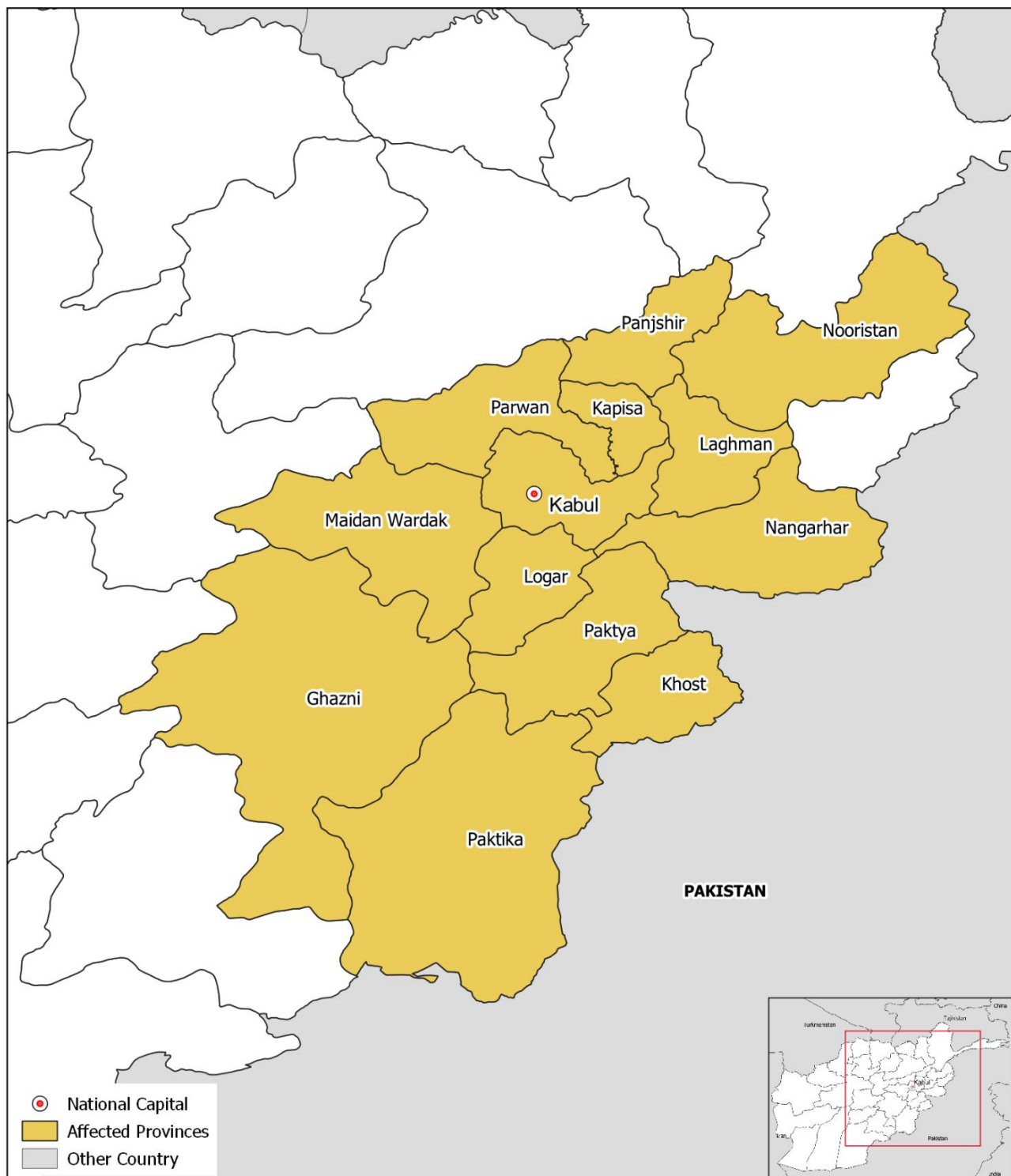
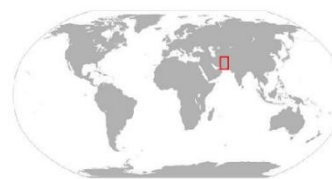


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