The situation

Flash floods occurred in several parts of Mongolia due to prolonged heavy rainfall which started since 17 June 2020 and is expected to continue until the end of July as officials stated. The rainfall is averaged to be 33-39 millimeters across the country and highest sum of precipitation was recorded to be 69 millimeters in Dzuunmod city in Tuv province on 21 June 2020 and 85 millimeters in Khutagt soum in Bulgan province on 8 July 2020. From 17 June to until now the following damages and loss were caused by the flash floods:

- Three gers¹ in three neighboring households in Khutag-Undur soum² of Bulgan province were washed away due to flash floods on 17 June. The gers were damaged beyond repair and no casualties reported.
- Seven homes and two streets in Murun city of Khuvsgul province submerged in water due to break in the dam wall of drainage ditch caused by flash floods.
- The road between Tuv province and Govisumber province were highly affected by the flash floods and Dzuunmod city in Tuv province was completely washed by severe flash flood on 21 June 2020. The below table show the loss caused by flash floods in Tuv province.

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¹ Ger (Mongolian) is a portable, round tent covered with skins or felt and used as a dwelling by several distinct nomadic groups in the steppes of Central Asia.
² Soum (Mongolian) is an administrative unit under province. There are about 320 soums in Mongolia.
The prolonged rain across the country is affecting both urban and rural areas in Mongolia. In Ulaanbaatar the capital of Mongolia, certain areas have been severely damaged and immersed by heavy rain and causing massive stress among the citizens. There are a few old bridges, roads and avenues in Ulaanbaatar which were built without sewage system and these bridges, roads and avenues are most severely affected. Water and sewerage authority is taking timely actions to recover the rain damage and drain the water. In rural areas, currently, the road from Murun city in Khuvsgul province to Bulgan city in Bulgan province, Ulaanbaatar city to Lun soum in Tuv province have been partially damaged and movement has been partially prohibited. Naadam is the Mongolian national holiday which falls between 11 to 14 July 2020 and these two main roads are mostly used by local tourists. Traffic police is warning the public to be extremely careful as the main roads for local travelers are severely damaged to prevent from traffic accident. Joint press conference was held on 9 July by the National Agency for Environmental monitoring and Meteorology and National Emergency Management Agency. The agencies have announced possibility of the high precipitation from 10 to 15 July 2020 and warned the public to prevent from potential natural hazard and travel safely during the holiday.

Capital emergency commission organized a meeting on 2 July and discussed what actions to taken to recover the rain-damaged areas and structures in Ulaanbaatar. City governor has formally announced that recovery activities will be implemented in intensified manner. Search and rescue activities are being done by the local emergency management agencies in different locations and works are being done to repair the damages to the road and infrastructures. Emergency warning is being distributed by both National Agency for Meteorology, Environment Monitoring and National Emergency Management Agency.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Action

Timely information is being collected from branches with support from the headquarters and being analyzed. NDRT and BDRT members have been alerted and are on-standby. Red Cross mid-level branch in Tuv province gathered its branch disaster response team on 21 June have been mobilized to affected areas for data collection.

On 24 June, Chingis city in Khentii province was severely affected by the floods where 1,971 households were somewhat affected and 11 gers are completely destroyed. Validated information was provided by Khentii Red Cross branch on 29 June to MRCS headquarters. Based on the needs assessment; kitchen sets, hygiene kits, mattresses, blankets and warm clothes have been provided to 11 households whose homes were completely destroyed. MRCS also provided three gers to families who lost everything in the flooding.

The Mongolian Red Cross Society (MRCS), with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), will seek funding through DREF activation to provide support to the affected population.
Contact information

For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:

In the Mongolian Red Cross Society
- Bolormaa Nordov, secretary general; phone: +976 9911 9353; email: bolormaa.n@redcross.mn.
- Munguntuya Sharavnyambuu, disaster management team leader; phone: +976 8009 1909; email: munguntuya.sh@redcross.mn

In the IFRC Country Cluster Support Team, Beijing
- Gwendolyn Pang, head of CCST; mobile: +86 135 110 6515; email: gwendolyn.pang@ifrc.org

In the IFRC
- Necephor Mghendi, head of disaster and crises unit: necephor.mghendi@ifrc.org
- Johanna Arvo, operations coordinator; email: johanna.arvo@ifrc.org
- Antony Balmain, communications manager; email: antony.balmain@ifrc.org

In IFRC Geneva
- Nelson Castano, manager operations coordination, nelson.castano@ifrc.org

For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support:
- Alice Ho, coordinator, partnership in emergencies; email: PartnershipsEA.AP@ifrc.org

For Performance and Accountability support (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)
- Liew Siew Hui, PMER manager; email: siewhui.liew@ifrc.org

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 (NGO’s) 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.

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.