

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

TAJIKISTAN: FLOODS

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This Bulletin is being issued based on the needs described below reflecting the information available at this time. Based on further updates and details from assessment reports, or should the situation deteriorate, the Federation may consider providing further support.

The Situation

Following a day of heavy rains on 23 March 2002, four villages in the Vose district of the southern region of Kulyab (Pitomnic, Chorbog, Zamburobod and Kuchabo) were affected by the flooding of the Jaksu river. The villages affected have a total population of 1,600 people living in 170 houses. Following the alert from the International Federation's field office in Kulyab, a joint Rapid Emergency Assessment and Co-ordination Team (REACT) composed of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST) representatives, the International Federation's delegation, and OCHA visited the disaster location the following day.

Initial assessments indicate a total of 40 houses were completely destroyed, and 130 houses were damaged leaving some 1,500 people homeless. No casualties were reported as all the people had adequate time to be evacuated. Some 1,274 persons were temporarily relocated to nearby schools and host families. In addition, 30 hectares of wheat crop and land planted with fruit trees, 2,000 metres of electricity lines, and 1,000 metres of drinking water supply systems were destroyed by the flooding.

The latest reports indicate that the water level is decreasing, however further developments will largely depend on weather conditions in the area in the coming days.

Red Cross/Red Crescent Action

After an initial assessment, the International Federation and the RCST responded to the immediate needs by distributing second hand clothes to 892 beneficiaries. The clothing has been allocated from the ongoing food deficit operation. Some 240 pieces of blankets, 120 sets of mattresses and pillows, 100 shovels and other tools were supplied to the affected population by the RCST. While food is provided locally, the community leaders requested additional food assistance.

The Ministry of Emergency Situations donated tents, mattresses, bed linen and two tractors to the affected population, as well as two trucks to assist in fortifying the river banks and evacuating those affected.

The International Federation and the RCST are continuously monitoring the needs and the evolving situation. Co-ordination with OCHA will be maintained, and any further need communicated shortly.

For a full description of the National Society profile, see www.ifrc.org

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All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For support to or for further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

For longer-term programmes, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal.

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