

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: SNOWFALL & FLOODS

15 February 2005

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 over 181 countries.

In Brief

This Bulletin No. 2/2005 is being issued for information only. The Federation is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation at this time. Any change in this will be detailed in a later bulletin.

For further information please contact:

- The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan, email: rcstj01@mail.ru, phone number: 992372 24 03 74, fax number: 992372 24 53 78
- Geneva secretariat: regional officer Sylvie Chevalley, email: Sylvie.chevalley@ifrc.org phone: 41 22 730 4276.

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct and is 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 programmes or operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

The Situation

Background

Numerous snow showers that started on 1 February 2005 are still continuing in several areas. In some mountain areas more than two metres of snow have fallen. The affected areas, which were cut off a week ago, are now passable to traffic. In the mountain areas surrounded by steep slopes, over a hundred avalanches have come down into populated areas. Thousands of people have been reportedly affected. Some schools, health facilities and private houses have been damaged because of heavy snowfalls. The following reports have been received from Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST) rayon branches:

Nurobod rayon: According to Nurobod RC branch, on 10 February 2005, the road to Mujikharf Jamoat and to the village Degdonak was only partially cleared, so assistance from the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan

(RCST), Central Asian Development Agency (CADA) and the Ministry of Emergency (MoE) has not still reached the affected population. 2,800 people were evacuated to safe areas.

Merlin has distributed drugs and medical supplies in the village. There is no need for more doctors at present as there are no outbreaks of disease. Merlin has also distributed blankets and clothes to the families in Degdonak village. UNDP has provided five tonnes of fuel to Hukumat (local authorities) of Nurobod rayon for cleaning roads. The fuel was dispatched from Dushanbe on 9 February 2005.

Tavildara rayon

On 10 February 2005, the Tavildara RC rayon branch reported that 39 houses were destroyed. The information from Childara and Sangvor Jamoats is not available because the roads are blocked and there is no communication.

Although it continues to snow, the road to Tavildara is open. MoE reports that on 7 February 2005 a building collapsed due to heavy snowfall. Almost all villages are cut off from the district centre.

Rogun city

On 8 February 2005, the RCST disaster preparedness (DP) coordinator conducted assessment in Rogun city. The results are the following:

Sangova village – two private houses collapsed, more than 2.5 metres of snow;
Obi Garm village – four private houses collapsed;
Tutak village – two private houses and one farm collapsed;
Kandak village – one school is destroyed, the height of the avalanche is 10 meters.

All roads connecting the villages are blocked, so there is no communication. Lugur village is cut off. In total 120 people were affected, who are in need of blankets.

Faizabad rayon

On 8 February 2005, the RCST disaster management (DM) department jointly with the World Food Programme (WFP) organized an assessment of needs and damage in two districts (Miskinobod and Qalai Dasht) of Fayzabad rayon. The assessment revealed that in total 2,032 people were affected, 352 houses and state structures were damaged or destroyed. For detailed information please see the following:

Miskinobod district:

Destroyed - 17 houses;
Damaged - 234 houses (roofing);
People affected - 170 persons
In addition, the roofs of school No. 26, maternity hospital, medical posts in Fathobod and Gulteppa villages, youth centre and livestock farm were damaged;

Qalai Dasht district:

Destroyed - 14 houses;
Damaged - 78 houses (roofing damaged);
People affected - 150 persons;
The roofs of health centre, school No. 57 and livestock farm were damaged.

The 31 most affected families, whose houses were destroyed by the snowfall, were evacuated to safer areas (including living with their relatives or neighbours). Current needs are food for 245 families (2,032 people); clothing; tents; bed-linen for 31 families; construction materials for destroyed roofs; and fuel for the rayon Hukumat to clear the roads.

Red Crescent action

On 10 February 2005, the RCST provided the following assistance to 320 people in Faizabad rayon:

Synthetic blankets - 186 pcs

Woollen blankets - 93 pcs

Hygiene kits – 31 pcs

Clothes - 320 pcs

The RCST continues to conduct assessments in the area together with other NGOs and the Ministry of Emergency.