



TAJIKISTAN: FLOODS AND MUDFLOWS

DREF Bulletin
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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 185 countries.

In Brief

This DREF Bulletin is being issued based on the situation described below reflecting the information available at this time. CHF 85,115 (USD 69,996 or EUR 52,540) was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to respond to the needs in this operation, or to replenish disaster preparedness stocks distributed to the affected population. This operation is expected to be implemented over one month, and will be completed by 19 May 2007; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 19 August 2007). Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

This operation is aligned with the International Federation's Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity."

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

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All International Federation 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 is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Background and current situation

During the night of 16 to 17 April, torrential rainfall caused flash floods and landslides in the eastern regions of Tajikistan. The affected districts were Rudaky, Tursun-zade, Varzob and Vahdat.



One of the clay houses in the Rudaki district that were destroyed by the mudflow

Infrastructure in the regions was already poor, and many residential buildings have been severely damaged. Agricultural land has also been affected. The population from a number of villages have had to be relocated due to fears for their safety. Most families whose houses were damaged or destroyed have found temporary shelter with relatives, friends or neighbours. Transport infrastructure, electricity and water supply systems have been heavily damaged. Bridges and roads have been washed away isolating some villages.

A Rapid Emergency Assessment and Coordination Team (REACT) consisting of international agencies and a governmental emergency commission made an assessment showing that, up to 18 April, some 2,375 households (11,857 people) had been affected and eight people hospitalized. A six year old girl is still missing. Of the

families affected, the needs of 300 were further assessed; schools, health centres, a filling station and administrative buildings also suffered damage.

The table below shows the assessment results dated until 18 April 2007

| Affected districts | No. of affected Jamoats (communities) | No. of completely destroyed houses | No. of partially damaged houses | No. of affected people |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| Tursunzade district | 2 | 150 | 41 | 955 |
| Rudaky district | 5 | 921 | 777 | 8,490 |
| Panjakent district | 2 | 44 | 40 | 420 |
| Vahdat district | 2 | 214 | 181 | 1,975 |
| Varzob district | 1 | 1 | 0 | 17 |
| Total | 12 | 1,330 | 1,039 | 11,857 |

According to the assessment conducted by the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST) and government reports the number of affected people is increasing day by day.

Tajikistan is prone to disasters, lying in one of the world's most active seismic zones. However, the risk of disaster is high not only because of the high seismic activity, but also from mudslides, rock falls, floods and avalanches, often caused by heavy rainfall and related to the poor condition of the majority of the water canals, irrigation systems and water filters. Both urban and rural areas are vulnerable to these kinds of small and medium scale disasters, which hit hardest at community level. However, these communities are not protected or prepared to cope with disasters when they strike.

Statistics from the RCST, the Committee of Emergency Situations and the Civil Defense of Tajikistan show that there were 36 natural disasters in different forms during 2006. Totally 24,787 people were directly affected, there were 45 casualties, 75 people were injured, 1,212 houses totally destroyed and 2,078 houses partly destroyed as a result of these disasters.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

RCST immediately responded to the disaster. The National Society branches' staff and volunteers from the affected areas (Rudaky and Tursunzade districts) and Disaster Response Teams (DRT) of Panjakent district were deployed to carry out the situation assessment and collect information on the scale of damage, identify urgent needs, render first aid to injured people and initiate an appropriate response. The situation assessment was conducted in all affected regions and preliminary information was prepared. The injured population received first aid from RCST staff, volunteers and DRT members.

The following non-food items were transported and distributed to the affected populations in Tursunzade, Varzob, Rudaky and Panjakent districts:

- 10 bales of second hand clothes
- 91 kitchen sets
- 8 mattresses
- 50 bedding
- 39 hygiene kits
- 617 blankets
- 80 shovels
- 1 family tent
- 160 plastic buckets
- 275 water cans

Immediate needs

Families left homeless are seeking temporary shelter with relatives or are living outside in makeshift shelters in the backyard of their homes, thereby increasing the demand for emergency relief items such as plastic sheeting, bed linen, mattresses, pillows, hygiene kits, cooking sets, quilts, plastic buckets, water cans and water purification tablets. Priorities for health are related to the water and sanitation conditions in order to prevent and control outbreaks of water-borne diseases.

The proposed operation

The Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) request for CHF 85,115 will support 300 families (1,500 people) from affected villages by providing non-food items (plastic sheeting, bed linen, mattresses, pillows, hygiene kits, cooking sets, quilts, plastic buckets and 10 litre water cans). RCST has already provided 50 affected people with non-food items like those described. For this reason some of the DREF allocation will be used to replenish the RCST disaster preparedness (DP) stock, but the largest part will be used to provide non-food items to a further 250 families.

Planned activities

- Continue to conduct detailed situation assessment and identify the most vulnerable beneficiaries through criteria agreed upon between the National Society and the local communities;
- Immediate release of available non-food items from RCST DP stock centres;
- Procurement of 600 plastic sheeting, 900 sets of bed linen, 900 mattresses, 900 pillows, 300 hygiene kits, 300 cooking sets, 900 quilts, 1,500 plastic buckets, 1,500 water cans (10 litres);
- 30 volunteers will be provided with bibs bearing the RCST logo;
- Each family will receive two plastic sheeting, three sets of bed linen, three mattresses, three pillows, one hygiene kit, one cooking set, three quilts, three buckets and three water cans;
- An additional 600 water cans and buckets will be distributed to other affected people who are not covered by responding agencies;
- Each concerned National Society branch will be responsible for transportation and distribution;
- All items will be distributed and properly recorded.

Capacity of the National Society

The RCST has developed a rapid response mechanism - DRT - at the regional level, which is expanded further with the community level Local Disaster Committee (LDC). DRT has been developed as part of the RCST/Federation's

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strategy to improve the rapid response capacity of the National Society and to ensure its active participation in disaster response activities. The team comprises a trained group of RCST staff and volunteers together with their equipment and are based in nine regional disaster response centres ready to be deployed within 2/3 hours of receiving notice. The DRT provide first aid services and distribute, if necessary, pre-positioned emergency items, conduct a rapid needs assessment, design an action plan for an emergency relief operation together with RCST concerned branches and other actors in the area. DRT will mobilise more volunteers and available materials for the operation.

Capacity of the International Federation

The Federation delegation in Dushanbe will be the focal point for this operation providing support to the RCST and be the interface with the Geneva-based Federation Secretariat, donors and international agencies. In-country representatives will participate in monitoring of the relief activities. If the number of affected people increases, depending on coordination meetings in the framework of REACT, the Federation/RCST will consider launching an Emergency Appeal.

Government response

The Government has, as is the norm in Tajikistan, taken the main responsibility for responding to the disaster both during the emergency phase and for the longer term reconstruction. The Government Emergency Commission, RCST, World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Disaster Risk Management Project (UNDRMP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) deployed teams to prepare a detailed assessment of the affected villages.

The Committee of Emergency Situations of Tajikistan is rehabilitating the electricity system, rebuilding the destroyed roads and bridges to villages and organising transport so that drinking water can get to the affected districts. The Government has also mobilized soldiers to help the affected people clean mud from their houses and other rehabilitation activities.

The local government of Vahdat district allocated 300 bags of wheat flour, 300 litres of vegetable oil, and shoes for 25 affected families. The capacity of the local governments to meet the full needs of disaster affected communities is weak. The authorities are looking for partners to support in financing the reconstruction programme.

Representatives of the local government appreciated the assistance provided by the Red Crescent Society, both in relief and rehabilitation work, and look forward to further support from the Federation.

International agencies and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) response

UNICEF is responding to the floods in Tursunzade district by providing 50 water cans, 15,000 water purification tablets, 50 sets of bed linen for adults and 50 sets of bed linen for children. WFP is planning to provide food for the affected families.

Coordination

The RCST works closely with various partners through the Disaster Management Partnership in Tajikistan. REACT, which was established by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 2001 to promote sharing of information, logistics and other resources between partners active in the disaster management sector, includes the Committee of Emergency Situations and the Government of Tajikistan. Assessments are made jointly or results are shared with other members. Support is also coordinated in order to avoid duplications; situation updates issued are continuously shared.

Monitoring and evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation will be conducted on an ongoing basis through RCST/Federation's normal accountability and reporting systems.

Annexes

Please see the budget and map below.

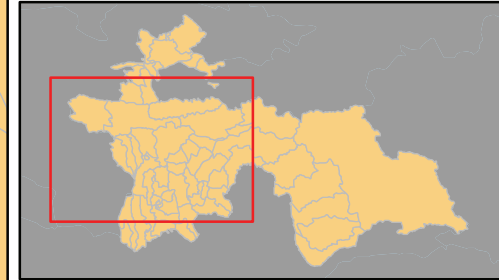
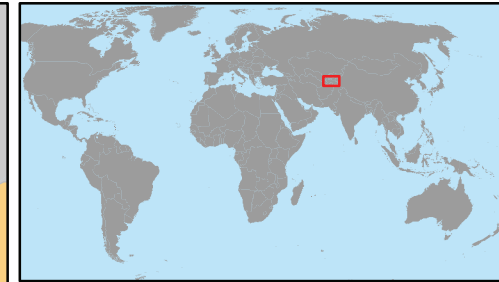
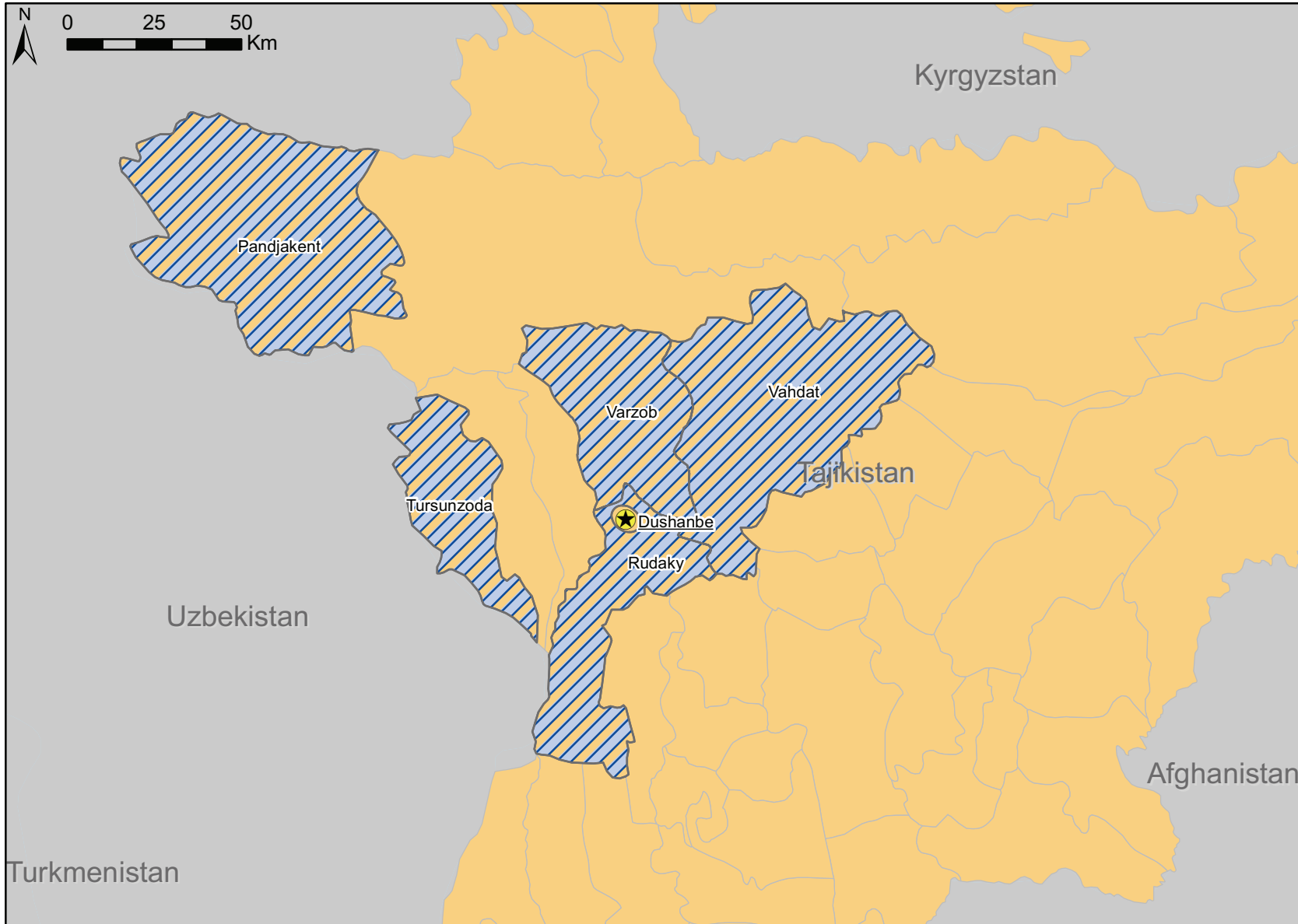
[*Click here to return to the title page or contact information*](#)

Budget Summary : Tajikistan Floods and Mudflows (MDRTJ002)

| ITEM | QUANTITY | UNIT PRICE (CHF) | TOTAL COST (CHF) |
|--|----------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Supplies | | | 74,660 |
| Plastic sheeting | 600 | 12.00 | 7,200 |
| Bed Linen | 900 | 9.50 | 8,550 |
| Mattresses | 900 | 12.00 | 10,800 |
| Pillows | 900 | 7.16 | 6,444 |
| Hygiene kits | 300 | 14.00 | 4,200 |
| Cooking sets | 300 | 31.00 | 9,300 |
| Quilts | 900 | 8.00 | 7,200 |
| Plastic buckets | 1,500 | 6.00 | 9,000 |
| Bibs with RC logo for volunteers (30 pers) | 30 | 3.87 | 116 |
| Water cans (10 ltr) | 1,500 | 7.90 | 11,850 |
| Programme Support | | | 5,532 |
| Programme Management Support (6.5%) | | | 5,532 |
| Transport | | | 2,662 |
| Transportation DP stock | | | 2,000 |
| Transport cost during monitoring | | | 662 |
| Personnel | | | 2,260 |
| Accommodation & per diem | | | 1,000 |
| Volunteers Support (21 day *2 CHF per day) | 30 | 42.00 | 1,260 |
| Total CHF | | | 85,115 |



Tajikistan: Flash floods



On night 16 to 17 April 2007 torrential and heavy rainfall, resulted a flash floods and debris flows in the eastern part of Tajikistan regions, in Rudaky, Tursun-zade, Varzob and Vahdat districts (RRS). Already poor infrastructure, residential buildings and agriculture has been severely damaged.

Populations from a number of villages have been heavily affected and relocated due to fears for their safety. Families from damaged or destroyed houses have mostly found temporary shelter with relatives, friends, or neighbours.

Transport infrastructure, electricity and water supply systems also have been heavily damaged. Bridges and kilometres of roads have been washed away isolating some of the villages.

★ Capitals

 Affected districts