

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

19 July 2004

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. 2/2004 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:

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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>

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The Situation

Torrential rains accompanied by heavy winds and landslides during 13 and 14 July resulted in localized flooding in Varzob rayon. The Varzob river swept away parts of the main road connecting Dushanbe to the northern city of Khujand, along the Dushanbe-Anzob-Istaravshan route. No casualties have been reported so far from government authorities. By 18 July, the emergency road connection between Dushanbe and Khujant was repaired and was passable. However, the road between GBAO region and Dushanbe is still unpassable. The city water system and sewerage is still unstable because of the flooding. Despite some improvements in the colour of the water, contamination levels are still suspected to be risky. An official announcement on progress is awaited. Tonight (19 July) the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST), Federation, UN Agencies, ECHO and other agencies will meet authorities at the mayor's office to clarify the situation and plan future action.

Red Crescent action

So far, the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST) has handed out 150,000 purification tablets to the health authorities to be distributed through their channels. Apart from this, the RCST has distributed another 150,000 purification tablets along with information leaflets to Dushanbe residents in Frunzi and Railway Rayons. This has been done in close cooperation with UN Agencies and other NGOs. The RCST is producing additional community awareness leaflets.