

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

AFGHANISTAN: EARTHQUAKE AND FLOODS

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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 over 185 countries.

In Brief

This Bulletin (no. 02/2006) is being issued for information only, and reflects the status of the situation and information available at this time. The Federation is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation at this time.

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The Situation

Two earthquakes struck the northern region of Afghanistan in July: a 4.2 Richter scale quake rattled Rostaq district of Takhar province on the 11th, while a 5.4 Richter scale quake shook Emam Sahib district, Kunduz province on the 29th. In the days following the quakes, both districts experienced aftershocks; only one casualty however has been reported in Kunduz province.

Joint surveys conducted by Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners confirmed earthquake damage statistics as follows:

Provinces affected by quakes	No. of completely destroyed houses	No. of partially destroyed houses
Kunduz	50	59
Takhar	76	88
Total	126	147

According to the Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS), new floods have occurred in the central region of Afghanistan across four provinces: Ghazni, Paktika, Panjshir and Zabul. Communities from three of these provinces – Ghazni, Panjshir and Zabul – experienced destruction to their homes: a grand total of 732 houses were completely wrecked, while 513 houses were partially damaged. Ghazni province was hardest hit, suffering the highest amount of damage and three deaths. Floods have also occurred in Paktika province; however, due to the current security situation as well as poor communication systems in the area, ARCS has yet to receive an initial damage report.

Flooding period	Provinces	Affected districts/villages	No. of completely destroyed houses	No. of partially destroyed houses
30 July	Zabul	Sha Juee and Dawari villages	28	33
30 July	Panjshir	district number 2	13	-
4 – 6 August	Ghazni	Andar, Jaghatoo, and Jaghoori districts	691	480
Total			732	513

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Following the earthquake and aftershocks in Takhar and Kunduz provinces, the ARCS, with support from the Federation and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), responded by providing relief items to the affected families.

In Takhar province, 164 families received food and non-food items. Non-food items were provided by the Federation and ARCS, whereas food items were distributed by ICRC and the World Food Programme (WFP) as shown in the table below:

Status	Assessed Needs				Total Food & Non-Food Distributed	Owner of Commodity			
	Commodity	Quantity / family	Houses completely destroyed	Houses partially destroyed		ICRC	Federation	ARCS	WFP (donation to ARCS)
Food	Rice (kg)	126	9,576	11,088	20,740	20,740	0	0	0
	Bean (kg)	42	3,192	3,696	6,976	6,976	0	0	0
	Oil (kg)	21	1,596	1,848	3,482	705	0	0	2,777
	Salt (kg)	3	228	264	554	554	0	0	0
Non-food	Tent (unit)	1	76	88	164	0	15	149	0
	Blanket (unit)	4	304	0	304	244	60	0	0
	Pressure cooker (unit)	1	76	0	76	61	15	0	0
	Plastic sheeting (unit)	1	76	88	164	149	15	0	0
	Jerry can (unit)	2	152	0	152	122	30	0	0

In Kunduz province, a total of 109 families were provided with food and non-food items. All non-food items were provided by the Federation and ARCS and the food items were provided by ICRC. The items distributed are shown in the table below:

Status	Assessed Needs				Total Food & Non-Food Distributed	Owner of Commodity			
	Commodity	Quantity / family	Houses completely destroyed	Houses partially destroyed		ICRC	Federation	ARCS	Government (donation to ARCS)
			50 families	59 families					
Food	Rice (kg)	126	6,300	7,434	13,750	13,750	0	0	0
	Bean (kg)	42	2,100	2,478	4,600	4,600	0	0	0
	Oil (kg)	21	1,050	1,239	2,300	2,300	0	0	0
	Salt (kg)	3	150	177	330	330	0	0	0
Non-food	Tent (unit)	1	50	59	109	25	35	29	20
	Blanket (unit)	4	200	236	436	236	120	80	0
	Pressure cooker (unit)	1	50	59	109	59	30	20	0
	Plastic sheeting (unit)	1	50	59	109	59	50	0	0
	Jerry can (unit)	2	100	118	218	0	50	168	0

The ARCS disaster response unit (DRU) was deployed to Ghazni province on 7 August to evacuate the people most affected by floods and to assist the ARCS Ghazni branch in conducting assessments and relief distributions. The ARCS expects that the number of flood-affected families will considerably increase once the assessments have been completed. In order to assist the flood victims, ARCS has dispatched non-food items to the affected areas. These items include 170 tents, 5,000 blankets, 400 tarpaulins, 550 kitchen sets, 450 jerry cans, and 3,200 pieces of second hand clothes.

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The International Federation undertakes activities that are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to achieve 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.*

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>