

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 لجمعية الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

AFGHANISTAN: SPRING 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 183 countries.

In Brief

This Bulletin (no. 03/2006) 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.

For further information:

- Afghanistan Red Crescent Society: Fatima Gailani (president); Mobile: +93.79.385.533
- Federation country delegation in Afghanistan: Nina Nobel (acting head of delegation); email: nina.nobel@ifrc.org; Mobile: +93.70.278.372 or +92.30.0850.6861
- Federation regional delegation in India: Bob McKerrow (head of regional delegation); email: bob.mckerrow@ifrc.org; Phone: +91.11.2411.1125
- Federation Secretariat in Geneva: Jagan Chapagain (regional officer, Asia Pacific department); email: jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org; Phone: +41.22.730.4316; Fax: +41.22.733.0395 or Nelly Khrabrava (regional officer, Asia Pacific department); email: nelly.khrabrava@ifrc.org; Phone: +41.22.730.4306; Fax: +41.22.733.0395

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 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>

The Situation

The melting of the snow and seasonal rains has caused the northern regions of Afghanistan to experience floods, with Faryab province being badly affected.

An independent assessment of the needs of the affected people and subsequent distribution of relief items were carried out jointly by the Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Federation between 12 and 18 May in Dara-e-Jawz, Gurziwan and Belcheragh districts of Faryab province.

In Gurziwan district (which covered five villages), the assessment and the distribution of relief goods were carried out by the ARCS Faryab branch, the ministry of rural rehabilitation and development (MRRD), the agriculture and education department and the World Food Programme (WFP). The result of the assessment in Gurziwan district indicated that 231 families were affected in Dara-e-Jawz village, 23 families in Gholbian village, 24 families in Takhara village, three families in Deh Miran village and 41 families in Ghal Namak village. A total of 322 houses

were affected in the district, of which 192 came from Category A (totally destroyed), 130 from Category B (partially destroyed) and two from Category C (not affected).

In Belcheragh district, it was discovered that 36 houses were affected: 20 houses from Category A and 16 from Category B, while in Dara-e-Jawz the joint assessment found that 25 families were in Category A, 44 in Category B and the remaining were in Category C.

During the assessment, floods occurred again in Faizabad City of Badakhshan province on 16 May and in Ferkhar district of Takhar and Chakhcharan city in Ghor province on 18 May.

From the assessment in Faizabad City, it was noted that over 50 small shops and two hotels were completely destroyed, two containers containing mechanical equipment were damaged and two bridges collapsed. At the point of reporting, there were no indications about the damages in distant districts in the province.

In Ferkhar district, the floods completely damaged 11 houses, 0.2 hectares of agricultural land was totally destroyed, 0.4 hectares of land was partially destroyed, 450 livestock perished, 8km of roads between the capital city of Takhar province and Ferkhar district was destroyed, and a total of 93 families were affected.

In Chakhcharan city, 177 houses were destroyed, 0.5 hectares of agricultural land was damaged, 150 people were injured and 13 adults and 8 children were killed.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The ARCS Faryab branch distributed 322 bags of rice, 322 jerry cans, 514 pieces of plastic sheets (384 pieces to families of Category A, who received two plastic sheets per family; 130 pieces to families of Category B, who received one plastic sheet per family), 322 pressure cookers and 886 blankets. These items were sourced from the ARCS branch stocks.

The ARCS, ICRC and Federation distributed 4,536 kg of rice, 756 kg cooking oil, 1,440 kg beans, 216 kg salt, 144 jerry cans, 72 kitchen sets, 72 pressure cookers, 144 plastic sheets, 288 blankets and 36 tents to the families of Belcheragh district. The 231 families of Dara-e-Jawz village were given 29,106 kg of rice, 4,851 kg of cooking oil, 9,240 kg of beans, 693 kg of salt, 231 kitchen sets, 231 pressure cookers, 231 tents, 462 plastic sheets, 924 blankets and 462 jerry cans.

The MRRD distributed 500 tents and 1,000 blankets, UNICEF provided 322 kitchen sets and WFP distributed 322 bags of wheat flour, 322 cans of cooking oil (5kg per family), 1,932 kg pulses (6kg per family) and 322 packets of salt (each packet weights 1kg).

The department of disaster preparedness (DDP) of the government distributed 20 tents, 100 'jerrycan' fuel containers, 280 blankets and 10 metric tonnes of wheat, cooking oil and beans to the affected people of Chakhcharan city.

The DDP is seeking assistance as the department discovered there was a need for food, water purification tablets and 400 blankets and 100 tents in Ferkhar district of Takhar province, and a need for food and non-food items for 177 flood affected families in Chakhcharan city of Ghor province.

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