

# 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: EARTHQUAKE

Information Bulletin  
no. 1/2006  
31 July 2006

*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 is being issued for information only, and reflects the situation and the information available at this time. The Federation is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation at this time.**

**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.**

*For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:*

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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>*

### The Situation

On 29 July 2006, at five a.m. in the morning, an earthquake of a magnitude 4.5/5.5 on Richter scale affected four cities in Qumsangir district of Khatlon oblast. Another quake (magnitude 5) was reported on the same day at the same area at around four p.m. The epicentre of the quake occurred 145 km south of the capital Dushanbe, and 55 km east of Shartuz.

According to the preliminary assessment, in total 1,617 families were affected. Three children – a 6 year old boy and a girl and a 9 year old girl – were buried under the collapsed fence. Eight injured, mainly with collarbone and leg injuries, were reported. Six of them were evacuated to hospitals of the nearby Kolhozabad district. Relatively low number of casualties can be explained by the fact that the earthquake took place during the day time.

Out of the 1,500 houses affected by the disaster, 640 were assessed and more than half of them were reported severely damaged due to the fact that most of them were constructed of clay. Some parts of the affected district are out of electricity.

The Deputy Prime Minister, Asadullo Ghulomov, and the Minister of Emergency Situations, Mirzo Ziyoev, went to the affected area on 29 July to monitor the situation. Based on the monitoring result, the preliminary information was released to the international community by the Deputy Prime Minister during his briefing held on 31 July 2006. According to the Prime Minister, the top priority is provision of accommodation to those families whose houses were destroyed.

Four teams were established in the affected villages to conduct detailed assessment. Furthermore, a joint trip of the team consisting of representatives of international agencies present in Tajikistan, together with governmental commission, is planned to be conducted to the affected sites.

### **Red Cross and Red Crescent action**

According to the information from the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST), the local NS office is completely destroyed.

The RCST, through its branch in Kurgan-Tube city, has already assisted the affected population with 41 tents and other necessities. Additional 45 tents, 20,000 purification tablets and 100 rolls of plastic sheet were dispatched from the Red Crescent's Dushanbe central warehouse.

RCST staff and volunteers are continuing to conduct the situation assessment and rendering first aid in the affected areas. There is obvious need for more tents. After finalising the assessment results, it is envisaged that need for water purification tablets and hygiene kits could occur.

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