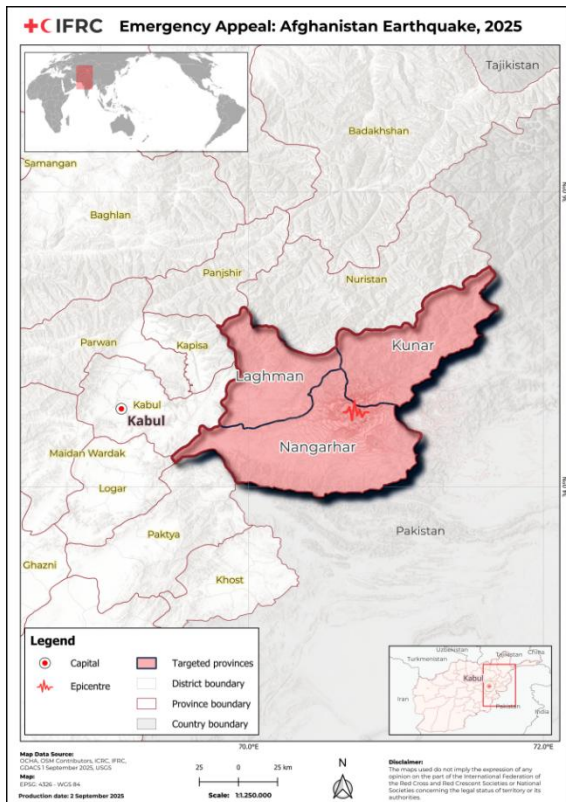




ARCS volunteers and community members carrying an injured person to a helicopter in Mazar Dara, Nurgal District, Kunar Province
(Photo: IFRC)

Appeal №: MDRAF019	IFRC Secretariat Funding requirements: CHF 22 million Federation-wide Funding requirements: CHF 25 million¹	
Glide №: EQ-2025-000153-AFG	People affected: 1,301,000 people	People to be assisted: 150,000 people
DREF Request: CHF 1,000,000	Appeal launched: 3 September 2025	Appeal ends: 31 December 2027

¹ The Federation-wide funding requirement encompasses all financial support to be directed to the Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS) in response to the emergency. It includes the ARCS's domestic fundraising requests and the fundraising appeals of supporting Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies (CHF 3 million), as well as the funding ask of the IFRC Secretariat (CHF 22 million). This comprehensive approach ensures that all available resources are mobilized to address the urgent humanitarian needs of the affected communities.



reported injured. Rescue operations are facing severe challenges due to the rugged and mountainous terrain, blocked roads and infrastructure damage caused by landslides and aftershocks. Initial figures indicate that up to 84,000 people are directly and indirectly affected with thousands displaced, as homes collapsed in Kunar and Nangarhar provinces the most impacted areas. Mountainous terrain, heavy rains, and landslides have blocked access routes to affected districts, slowing relief and medical response. Hospitals in Jalalabad and the surrounding areas are overwhelmed, struggling to cope with the influx of casualties. Similarly, health centres in three districts of Kunar reported minor structural damages. Military helicopters have conducted around 40 evacuation flights, transporting hundreds of the injured and deceased to health facilities, however, resources remain critically insufficient.

The authorities have issued an urgent appeal for international aid due to the limitations of the response capacity in the country. The earthquake strikes at a time of deep crisis in Afghanistan. A prolonged economic downturn, shrinking international assistance, and forced returns from neighbouring countries have already left millions in need of support. Women and children are disproportionately affected further restricting their access to urgent medical care.

The humanitarian needs are vast and growing rapidly with entire communities destroyed, thousands still believed to be trapped under rubble, and the threat of further landslides due to heavy rains. In the villages of Nangarhar and Kunar, the widespread collapse of mud structures has caused immediate suffering and further deepened Afghanistan's already fragile humanitarian crisis.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Late in the evening of 31 August 2025, a 6.0 magnitude earthquake struck southeastern Afghanistan, with the epicentre near Jalalabad. The epicentre was approximately 30 kilometres northeast of the Momand Dara district of Nangarhar province and Nurgal district of Kunar province. The tremors severely affected Kunar and Nangarhar provinces, with impacts extending to Laghman, Nuristan, and Panjshir. Several strong aftershocks, including quakes of magnitude 5.2 and 4.5, followed in the hours after the main shock.

The disaster has caused widespread devastation. According to the Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS)'s Eastern regional and branch office, as of 2 September 2025 at least 1,100 people have been confirmed dead, with some estimates placing fatalities above 1,200, while over 3,000 people are

TARGETING

The earthquake's impact on shelter and housing was devastating in the hardest-hit areas, particularly Kunar province, a region of steep river valleys, high mountains, and remote villages. As of 2 September 2025, this disaster has directly affected 12,000 households covering 84,000 people who have lost one of their family members or have injured people on their family and an estimated 1,301,000 people in four provinces (Laghman,

Kunar, Nangarhar and Nuristan)- across eastern Afghanistan whose shelter got completely or impartially destroyed and lost their livelihood options (agriculture land/plate and livestock). While the overall needs are vast, this operation aims to address the immediate needs and provide longer-term support for those affected by the earthquake.

The Federation-wide target is to reach 150,000 over a 24-month period. The ARCS will coordinate with authorities to develop targeting criteria that are inclusive and ensure assistance reaches the most affected and vulnerable groups within communities.

The scope of the interventions may vary depending on geographic locations, level of impact and damage as well as the support provided by other humanitarian actors.

PLANNED OPERATIONS

Through this Emergency Appeal the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) aims to support the Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS) in responding to the earthquake in Afghanistan. The IFRC's strategy will contribute to the overall response and focus on the following areas:

Integrated assistance

(Shelter, Livelihoods and Multi-purpose Cash)

Integrated assistance will be delivered through a combination of emergency relief and longer-term recovery support, ensuring that affected families receive both immediate help and sustainable pathways to recovery.

Initial support will include the distribution of essential non food items such as tarpaulins, blankets, dignity kits and kitchen set to ensure immediate protection and basic comfort. Winterisation support, including insulated shelter materials and bedding, will be provided to help families withstand falling temperatures in the coming months. For medium-term recovery, the focus will shift to transitional shelters and safe housing solutions, enabling affected families to rebuild their homes and lives with dignity. The scope for additional recovery and rehabilitation support will be subject to assessment.

Multi-purpose cash assistance will be provided to help meet urgent needs while cash-for-work opportunities will serve as an essential income stream, contributing to community rehabilitation in areas where employment is scarce.

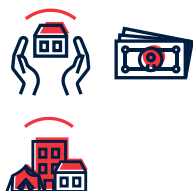
To support with long-term economic recovery skills training, vocational programmes, and income-generating activities will be provided through the Jalalabad ARCS safe shelter for vulnerable women. These efforts aim to promote social reintegration, especially for vulnerable groups, by building on existing skill sets and linking them to local markets, thereby boosting the economy and strengthening community resilience.

Health & Care including Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

(Mental Health and Psychosocial Support / Community Health)

This appeal will deliver a comprehensive, life-saving response that integrates health, psychosocial support, and basic services for the most affected communities.

Health interventions will focus on immediate life-saving needs, including first aid, trauma care, pre-hospital services (such as ambulance support), and referral transport to ensure timely access to health facilities. Particular emphasis will be



placed on vulnerable groups such as children, pregnant women, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and individuals living with non-communicable diseases (NCDs), ensuring continuity of medicines and preventing complications.

At the same time, efforts will also address the prevention of communicable diseases, including vector-borne, water-borne, and vaccine-preventable diseases, particularly among populations residing in temporary shelters and tents. Services will be delivered primarily through Mobile Health Teams (MHTs), complemented by Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) who will conduct health promotion, support psychosocial well-being, and strengthen community outreach. Coordination with the Ministry of Public Health will be maintained to ensure alignment and complementarity.

To safeguard health and dignity, the response will integrate Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) support. This will include the provision of clean water, jerry cans for safe storage, and hygiene kits, coupled with behaviour change activities to promote safe practices. The response will also support the repair of drinking water facilities to restore sustainable access. Where feasible, the construction of latrines will be linked to shelter support, ensuring affected households have access to safe living conditions and essential sanitation facilities.

Protection and Prevention

(Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI), Community Engagement and Accountability, Migration, Environmental Sustainability, Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery, Education)

Aligned with the IFRC Minimum Standards on Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) in Emergencies and the Movement's commitments to Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA), response and relief efforts for those affected by the earthquake will prioritise strengthening protection services at the community level. These efforts aim to mitigate risks such as gender-based violence, family separation, human trafficking, child labour and abuse and barriers to accessing essential services, ensuring dignity, safety, and resilience, especially for the most vulnerable. Female ARCS volunteers will be deployed to support assessments, provide essential healthcare services and address the urgent needs of their local communities. Their efforts will help ensure that the needs and voices of women, children, and vulnerable groups are considered shaping the Operational Strategy. Furthermore, female volunteers will ensure that these vulnerable groups have access to care, support, and information during this challenging time.

Identified protection concerns will be referred to case management actors through a safe referral pathway, supported by strengthened monitoring and reporting mechanisms.

Enabling approaches

The sectors outlined above will be supported and enhanced by the following enabling approaches:



Coordination and Partnerships

Considering the recent earthquake in Kunar, Laghman, Nuristan, and Nangarhar, the ARCS and IFRC are continuing to work closely with public authorities and

humanitarian partners to make sure the voices and needs of affected communities are heard and prioritised. Through regular coordination and dialogue with members of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and other key actors, the ARCS is advocating for a response that puts the most vulnerable people those who have lost homes, loved ones, and livelihoods at the center.

The ARCS is also actively engaging with the international donor community through humanitarian diplomacy to help shape policies and decisions that reflect the urgency on the ground through joint planning, partner calls and field updates to demonstrate the impact of collective action while ensuring that support reaches those who need it most.

Shelter Cluster Coordination



The IFRC will actively engage in the Afghanistan Shelter Cluster, co-led by UNHCR and the International Organization for Migration, to ensure that collective efforts focus on areas of greatest needs and adhere to the key principle of effective coordination. The ARCS and IFRC will contribute to Cluster snapshots, which provide critical data on key indicators such as mobilised resources and people supported. The IFRC will also engage in Shelter Technical Working Groups established to define technical specifications for safer construction practices.

IFRC Secretariat Services



The IFRC will continue to support the ARCS through strategic coordination, emergency communications, humanitarian diplomacy, resource mobilisation, logistics and procurement, and technical expertise across key operational sectors. All procurement required for the operation will be conducted by the IFRC Secretariat. Additionally, the IFRC Secretariat has engaged four financial service providers (FSPs) to channel cash transfers to community members. A Quality and Accountability team is in place to ensure that community participation, life-saving information, open communication, misinformation management, and established feedback mechanisms are integrated into the holistic CEA approach for this operation. The team will also contribute to closely monitoring implementation and enhancing measures to improve organisation-wide performance. Furthermore, a Compliance, Risk Management, and Safeguarding unit is in place to strengthen adherence to internal and external compliance requirements, respond to sexual exploitation and abuse, including misconduct related to child safeguarding, and ensure that all possible risks are identified and mitigated. Risks analysed and deemed outside the risk appetite will be escalated to the regional level.

Possible Rapid Response Alerts may be requested to reinforce ARCS operational capacity in the emergency response.

National Society Strengthening



The Emergency Appeal will support capacity strengthening activities in disaster preparedness, response and recovery efforts. A particular focus on providing refresher training to ARCS' National Disaster Management Teams, Branch Disaster Management Teams, and volunteers.

The planned response reflects the current situation and is based on the information available at the time of this Emergency Appeal launch. The response areas are remote and mountainous where roads are damaged or barely accessible, and getting supplies to affected families takes time, effort, and specialized logistics. In many cases,

support relies on air transport or long overland routes, significantly increasing delivery costs. Details of the operation will be updated through the Operational Strategy to be released in the upcoming days. The Operational Strategy will also provide further details on the Federation-Wide approach which includes response activities of all contributing Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies, and the Federation-wide funding requirement.

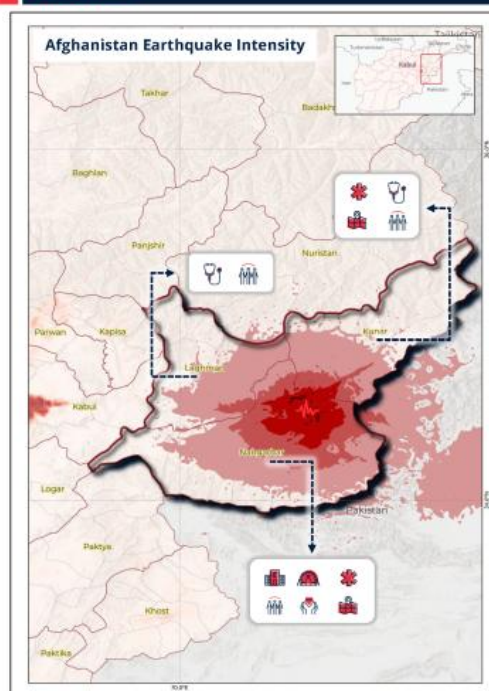
RED CROSS RED CRESCENT FOOTPRINT IN COUNTRY



Afghan Red Crescent Society

AFGHANISTAN NANGARHAR EARTHQUAKE

31 August 2025



National Society Capacity



3,909
Staff



26,488
Volunteers



34
Provincial Branches



7
Regional Offices



4
Regional Warehouses



33
BDR team



46
Health Centers



40
Health Camps



97
Mobile Health Teams



8
Marastoons

Afghanistan Red Crescent Society - Nangarhar Province



30
Staff



16
BDRs Members



1
Marastoons

This office covering Nangarhar, Nuristan, Laghman and Kunar (4 province).

IFRC Membership coordination

The ICRC, IFRC and in-country Participating National Societies (PNSs) - Danish Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Qatar Red Crescent, and Turkish Red Crescent - are supporting the ARCS, as per their area of expertise and available capacity, with technical, financial and in-kind support. In response to the devastating earthquake the IFRC is working closely with Participating National Societies (PNSs) to coordinate efforts and keep everyone aligned under the Ways of Working approach. Several Participating National Societies (PNSs) expressed initial willingness to support ARCS each contributing based on their strengths and areas of expertise.

The in-country Participating National Societies provide immediate support in primary healthcare, medicines, hygiene kits, distribution of hot meals and clean water, and financial resources. Additionally, ICRC has supported the ARCS with cash, body bags, RFL emergency kits, 3 dressing and 2 intravenous packages, in addition to supporting Nangarhar Regional Hospital and Kunar Provincial Hospital with medical supplies.

Red Cross Red Crescent Movement Coordination

A Movement Coordination Agreement (MCA) is in place in Afghanistan, with all Movement Partners supporting the ARCS in its central coordination role. The IFRC is reinforcing ARCS' response capacity and aligning support from its Membership, while the ICRC provides security analysis, guidance on emblem use, and joint messaging,

regional support on the Safer Access Framework, as well as support to RFL, WeC, H RTP and complementary programme support to the Movement response efforts.

The ARCS led Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), activated on 1 September 2025, ensures operational coordination among in-country Movement Partners. It is being strengthened to provide clear data on needs, resources received and used, and to guide the collective way forward in this sensitive context. Given the sensitivity of the affected region joint risk analysis will be undertaken.

Technical Coordination at the programmes levels will also be in place to ensure complementarity and alignment.

External coordination

ARCS, as auxiliary to the public authorities is coordinating closely and complementing the assistance provided to affected communities by the Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA). The IFRC supports external coordination on the humanitarian situation as an Observer to the Humanitarian Country Team (UN HCT). The IFRC, ARCS, and in-country PNSs collaborate with other humanitarian organisations and key agencies as members of the various Clusters. Additionally, the IFRC and ARCS closely coordinate with key ministries such as the Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development, Ministry of Education and Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority, to support ongoing response activities in the country.

After 31 December 2027, the response activities will continue under the IFRC Network [Afghanistan Country Plan](#), which provides an integrated approach to ongoing emergency response, recovery, and longer-term programming tailored to the country's needs, while also providing a Federation-wide perspective on actions in Afghanistan. This aims to streamline activities under one plan while ensuring that the needs of those affected by the disaster are met in a way that is both accountable and transparent, with timely information shared if the crisis-specific response needs to be extended beyond the above-mentioned period.

Contact information

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

At the Afghan Red Crescent Society

- **Acting Secretary General:** Molavi Ruhullah Mohmand; email: sg@arcs.af
- **International Relations Department:** email: ir@arcs.af

At the IFRC Country Delegation Afghanistan:

- **Interim Head of Delegation:** Joy Singhal, email: joy.singhal@ifrc.org
- **Interim Deputy Head of Delegation:** Homa Nader, email: homa.nader@ifrc.org

At the IFRC Asia-Pacific Regional Office in Kuala Lumpur:

- **Regional Director:** Alexander Matheou; email: alexander.matheou@ifrc.org
- **Deputy Regional Director:** Juja Kim; email: juja.kim@ifrc.org
- **Head of Health, Disaster, Climate and Crisis Unit:** Joy Singhal; email: joy.singhal@ifrc.org
- **Lead of Evolving Crises and Disasters:** Felipe Delcid; email: felipe.delcid@ifrc.org
- **Large Scale Disasters and Crises Coordinator:** Anne-Sophie Pétri; email: anne-sophie.petri@ifrc.org
- **Operations Coordinator:** Nusrat Hassan; email: opscoord.southasia@ifrc.org

- **Regional Communications Manager:** Afrhill Rances; email: afrhill.rances@ifrc.org

At IFRC Geneva:

- **Senior Officer Operations Coordination:** Christina Duschl; email: christina.duschl@ifrc.org

For IFRC Resource Mobilisation and Pledges support:

- **Senior Officer Partnerships-in-Emergencies:** Mohd Hisham Ahmad Nazri; email; PartnershipsEA.AP@ifrc.org

For In-Kind Donations and Mobilisation table support:

- **Manager Regional Logistics Unit:** Nuraiza Khairuddin; email: nuraiza.khairuddin@ifrc.org

Reference



Click here for:

- [IFRC Emergency landing page](#)