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## Information bulletin

# Malaysia: Seasonal Flooding

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

<b>Date of Issue:</b> 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2017	<b>Date of Disaster:</b> 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2016
<b>Host National Society:</b> Malaysia Red Crescent (MRC)	<b>Point of Contact:</b> Dato Sayed Abdul Rahman, Secretary General

This bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. [<click here to view the map of the affected area>](#)

### The situation



MRC Terengganu helping evacuees in Kampung Tadok

The seasonal heavy continuous rains in the East Coast of Malaysia from 26<sup>th</sup> December 2016 have caused flooding in two states, namely, Kelantan and Terengganu. The floods have temporarily displaced about 25,000 people and have rendered some villages inaccessible due to damaged bridges and blocked roads. Public facilities including health centres and schools were also inundated. Schools were cancelled in many of the districts as they were converted into evacuation centres.

In Kelantan, three main rivers, Sungai Golok, Sungai Galas and Sungai Kelantan, have overflowed and flooded several districts including Bachok, Gua Musang, Jeli, Kota Bahru, Machang, Pasir Mas, Pasir Puteh, Tanah Merah, Tumpat and Kuala Krai.

Meanwhile, in Terengganu, Sungai Besut, Sungai Terengganu and Sungai Setiu have reached critical level prompting the authorities to evacuate communities from the districts along these rivers.

As of yesterday, 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017, the Terengganu state flood watch online portal stated that a total of 7,752 people (2,450 families) have been moved to 101 relief centres which was an increase of 20% from the previous

week. In Kelantan, almost 11,250 (3348 families) people have been moved to 125 evacuation centre. About 68 schools in the two states were closed to accommodate the evacuees.

As of today, 5<sup>th</sup> January 2017, water levels in most of the rivers are receding as the rains in the east coast has stopped for the last 24 hours. Some of the evacuees are already leaving the evacuation centres. The authorities have closed 50 out of the 125 evacuation centres in Kelantan with 1,200 families returning to their homes in the districts of Kuala Krai, Machang and Pasir Puteh. Six schools in Terengganu and seven schools in Kelantan were reopened today.

The district of Tanah Merah in Kelantan is still in critical situation as flood waters from the Kelantan River in that part is receding at a very slow rate.

## **Action by the authorities**

National Agency for Disaster Administration (NADMA), the army, the police and other local government agencies have conducted evacuations, established emergency shelters, operationalized evacuation centres and continue to provide relief assistance to affected families. The authorities have deployed the Special Malaysia Disaster Assistance and Rescue (SMART) Team in the affected areas to carry out search and rescue operations in highly – inundated areas.

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

MRC emergency response capacity for water search and rescue, welfare services, health and disaster relief are all activated both at the national headquarter and at state levels. The Terengganu state Red Crescent have conducted search and rescue activities in two of their adopted villages, Kampung Tadok and Kampung Setiu, which helped the relocation of almost 25 families to evacuation centres.

Red Crescent members who has been trained in water rescue operations have been deployed in most of the affected areas to conduct rescue operations. Six boats were deployed in both Kelantan and Terengganu to support the authorities in relocation and evacuation activities.

MRC distributed 200 hygiene kits to evacuees in Kampung Tadok and Kampung Setiu. MRC have also distributed drinking water (bottled water) to 200 families in these two villages who are mostly still in evacuation centres.

In Kelantan, MRC provided hot meals to almost 5,000 people in six evacuation centres and distributed 500 hygiene kits in the districts of Kuala Krai and Pasir Mas.

More than 200 MRC volunteers are currently available for deployment across all districts in the affected states in Kelantan and Terengganu.

The situation is expected to get better in coming days as more evacuees are likely to return home as waters in these areas are beginning to recede. Malaysian Meteorological Department (MetMalaysia) forecasted that there will be no heavy downpours in the east coast of Malaysia in the coming weeks.

MRC and IFRC will continue monitoring the situation in the coming days.

## Contact information

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

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## How we work

All IFRC 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 the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



**Save lives,**  
protect livelihoods,  
and strengthen recovery  
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**  
and **safe** living.



Promote **social inclusion**  
and a culture of  
**non-violence** and **peace**.

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