

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: FLOODS IN THE EAST

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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 is being issued for information only, and reflects 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.

Following flooding caused by torrential rains in Behsud and Surkh rod districts (Nangarhar province) in eastern Afghanistan on 10 November, heavy rains led to floods in Charikar district (Parwan province) on 11 November. Preliminary field reports from Charikar district indicate that 43 houses have been partially damaged or completely destroyed. No injuries or deaths have been reported in the district so far.

While the Nangarhar branch of the Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS), with support from the Federation, continues to distribute non-food relief items to the affected families in Behsud and Surkh rod districts, the ARCS's Parwan branch is in the process of assessing the damages and needs in Charikar district. The ARCS and Federation have been coordinating the disaster response with concerned local authorities.

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The Situation

Flash floods caused by torrential rains struck two villages in two districts (Behsud and Surkh rod) in the Nangarhar province (Jalalabad region) of eastern Afghanistan on 10 November. Based on early preliminary assessment reports, it was estimated that about 156 families were affected in Qasim Abad village (Behsud district), located 20 kilometres north of Jalalabad city. It was reported that five people had been killed and nine injured in the village, while 50 houses had been partially or totally destroyed. In Ziarak village (Surkh rod district), located 35 kilometres west of Jalalabad city, it was reported that the floods affected 18 families, injured one person, killed more than 100 livestock and destroyed about 247 acres of agricultural land.

Following this, on 11 November, floods due to torrential rains hit Charikar district in Parwan province, located 60 kilometres north of Kabul. Preliminary field reports indicate that 40 houses have been partially damaged and three houses have been totally destroyed. No injuries or deaths have been reported so far.

The Nangarhar branch of the Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS), with support from the Federation and the Afghanistan government's ministry of rural rehabilitation and development (MRRD) as well as department of disaster preparedness (DDP), has and will continue to conduct field assessments to evaluate the extent of the damages. The MRRD has been asked to help the affected families bury the dead livestock and provide machinery to build some means of protection to prevent existing houses from being further affected by future flooding. The local provincial government contributed AFS 200,000 (CHF 5,034 or USD 4,054) to the flood-affected families.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

On 11 November, the Nangarhar branch of the ARCS and the Federation conducted surveys in both Qasim Abad and Ziarak villages to assess the amount of damages and the number of people affected. In Qasim Abad village, the survey was conducted by a disaster management officer and 35 community-based first aid volunteers, while in Ziarak village the assessment was carried out by 20 volunteers. Based on the preliminary results, the ARCS's Nangarhar branch distributed the following relief items to the affected families in both the villages:

Table: Relief items distributed in the affected villages

Village	Items distributed	Quantity
Qasim Abad	Tents	50
	Blankets	624
	Cooking sets	100
	Plastic sheets	100
	Stoves	100
	Jerry cans	200
Ziarak	Tents	18
	Blankets	108
	Cooking sets	18
	Stoves	18
	Jerry cans	18

The Federation covered the cost of transporting the relief items to Qasim Abad and the cost of the 20 volunteers taking part in the assessment and helping to evacuate affected people, including children, in Ziarak. The Federation emergency mobile unit was deployed to the affected areas to provide medical assistance to the affected families.

The Parwan branch of the ARCS, with support from the Federation, is currently conducting a survey to assess the damage caused by the floods in the affected district. Distribution of non-food relief items will commence once more information is received.

Despite mid-autumn being a non-flooding season and early assessments indicate that a full-scale emergency operation may not be needed, the Federation is on stand-by to help the ARCS with the distribution of non-food items and replenishment of disaster preparedness stocks. Continual support, within the ARCS and Federation's capacity, for the affected areas will take place as long as needed. The current scope of the disaster is manageable for the ARCS/Federation. External support is not needed for the time being.

The ARCS and Federation have been coordinating the disaster response with concerned local authorities. The International Committee of the Red Cross office has been informed on the progress of the operation and all stakeholders are being kept up-to-date on developments.

[*Please return to the title page for contact information*](#)

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>



Afghanistan: Floods in the East



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