

**Floods and Mudflow, Khatlon Province (Kurgan-Tyube Region)**  
**Tajikistan**  
**Situation Report № 1**  
**15 May 2015**

**Highlights:**

- At least 11 villages in six districts of Khatlon Province with a total of 109 households affected.
- No human losses or injuries within the affected population recorded.
- At least 23 houses in Kubodiyon district and one house in Khuroson district counted as unsafe to reside due to caused damages.
- Non-food items, food support and shelter assistance are of highest priority for the most affected population.
- Local schools, medical facility and other social infrastructure damaged in several affected areas.
- Damage and needs assessment led by local Government is on-going.



Photo credit: Red Crescent Society Tajikistan

**Situation Overview**

On 11-12 May 2015, heavy rains have resulted in floods and mudflows in six districts of Khatlon province. At least 11 villages have been affected in Hamadoni, Khuroson, Jaloliddini Rumi, Jilikul, Kubodiyon and Vakhsh districts. According to Commission for Emergency Situations formed at Kurgan-Tyube regional level, the floods and mudflows did not cause injuries or result in human losses. However, initial assessment results by the Commission, Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense and REACT partners based in Kurgan-Tyube (UN World Food Programme and Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan) indicate significant damages caused to a number of households, arable lands and local infrastructure.

Count for total number of affected population and their humanitarian needs are still to be established. Detailed assessment of the damage and consequent needs is on-going by the Commission. Indicative results of the assessment inform that the most affected by floods and mudflow village is Zarkamar village, Zarkamar Jamoat, Kubodiyon district. As of 15 May 2015, the rapid assessment states that at least 66 houses were affected in this village out of which at least 23 houses are considered as unsafe to reside anymore. Poor housing construction is expected to trigger further destruction to other 43 houses counted as partially damaged.

**Damage**

The mudflow had damaged many stored food and non-food items of at least 100 households in these villages, while more than 200 ha of arable lands and at least five educational facilities were also affected.

Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense informed REACT partners on a meeting on 14 May 2015 in Dushanbe of the initial results of rapid assessment. Below is an initial summary of the assessment conducted by CoES and relevant REACT partners on the ground:

**Hamadoni District:**

- At least 27 household premises filled in with mud in Chubek Jamoat
- At least 210 ha of arable land damaged in Chubek Jamoat
- Four irrigation channels damages in Chubek Jamoat

**Khuroson District:**

- One house fully destroyed in Kyzykala Jamoat
- At least 300 meters of Dushanbe-Kurgan-Tyube highway damaged

**Jaloliddini Rumi district:**

- Two local bridges connecting communities damaged

Jilikul district:

- 11 houses affected and premises filled in with mud in “20 Istiqloliyati Tojikiston” Jamoat
- Four local high school premises filled in with mud in “20 Istiqloliyati Tojikiston” Jamoat

Kubodiyon district (Zarkamar Jamoat):

- At least 66 houses affected: 43 partially damaged/filled in with mud and 23 unsafe to reside
- One local medical point and two high school premises filled in with mud
- Around 40 km of irrigation channel damaged
- At least ten ha of arable land damaged

Vakhsh district:

- Five household premises filled in with mud in Kirov Jamoat

As of 14 May 2015, loss and damage to livestock has not been accounted for in any of the affected villages. However, as the results of the government assessment unfold, there is a probability that the damage information provided above will change.

**Response**

Photo credit: Red Crescent Society Tajikistan

The local authorities are supporting the affected population with removal of belongings from damaged households and evacuation of population to safer sites. Many affected families have moved in either to their neighbors or to relatives' houses in near proximity. According to Head of CoES in Kurgan-Tyube, regional CoES has distributed around 45 tents to families whose houses are damaged and are unsafe to reside. Also, CoES released more than 50 bed clothing to affected population in Zarkamar village, Kubodiyon District.

Rescue personnel of CoES are mobilized in most affected villages (namely Zarkamar village, Kubodiyon district) to support removal of livestock and cleaning of debris and other family belongings. Local authorities of

Kubodiyon District (the most affected) are planning to mobilize heavy machinery to remove mud and debris. Local labor force is also mobilized by local authorities consisting of men from neighboring communities to support debris cleaning.

Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan has immediately released stocks of non-food items of 20 sets to be distributed to the most vulnerable disaster affected population. These items include bed clothing, mattresses, cooking sets, hygiene kits and other basic supplies. The items will reach affected population of Zarkamar village by end of 15 May 2015 in close coordination with local authorities and regional CoES.

Individual families from neighboring communities are providing in-kind food assistance (including limited hot meal) to affected population.

**Humanitarian needs**

The total number of affected population and immediate and long term humanitarian needs are still to be finalized. However, according to information received from CoES and local authorities as of 14 May 2015 at least 385 people or 66 families, whose households are damaged and some 23 are unsafe to reside in Kubodiyon district are in need of immediate assistance in food and non-food items.

While no exact counts of total amount of damage to family food stocks are made as of 15 May 2015, the CoES informs that food assistance is needed to support the affected families whose resources are stretched and whose breadwinners are involved in cleaning of debris and other issues of immediate concern.

Many of the belongings of the severely affected households are damaged, such as non-food items, kitchen utensils and bed clothing. Although, not officially stated as a need, CoES expects a rise in need for NFI in the coming days as recovering the damaged NFI will be difficult.

In addition, diesel is stated as a need by local authorities to enable scale-up cleaning of debris from households, community roads and irrigation channels.

As noted above, other needs will also rise as the assessment results unfold. It is expected that assistance will be required in shelter/NFI, food and health, WASH sectors with longer term infrastructure and livelihoods recovery needs arising at a later stage.

Upon availability of more information from Commission for Emergency Situations and local partners on the ground elaborated and sector-specific humanitarian needs will be shared with partners in due course.

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# TAJIKISTAN: Affected settlements by flash floods in Khatlon province, May 2015 (as of 15 May 2015)

