

## Overview of Disasters in Tajikistan

### 04-20 March 2012

#### Heavy Snowfall, Landslides and Rockfalls

Heavy snowfalls from 04 to 20 March, 2012 have resulted in numerous snow avalanches, landslides as well as rock falls in some districts of the country. The below information was provided the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense:

##### Khatlon region:

- ***Vose District, Khatlon region, March 04, 2012:***

Heavy rains and snowfall on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012 triggered a landslide in Karagoch village (Tugarak Jamoat, Vose district). at approximately 12:00 PM. 20 houses were severely damaged by the landslide and are currently in unlivable conditions. The landslide also destroyed the drinking water system in the village and killed 25 calves and 3 cows.

- ***Shuroabad District, Khatlon region, March 03 -06, 2012:***

Heavy rain and snow falls triggered a landslide in Odinaboi village of Sarichashma Jamoat on March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The landslide destroyed 2 houses of local residents and partially damaged 5 residential houses. 24 social buildings, including hospital, kindergarten and schools have been partially damaged.

##### Gorno Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast:

- ***Khorog, Shugnan, Roshtkala, Darvaz, Murghab Districts , March 15 – 16 2012:***

Heavy rain and snowfalls blocked the roads in Khorog, Shugnan and Roshtkala in March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The traffic capacity has been limited to snow cleaning machinery only. The snowfall also destroyed the electricity communication from Khorog to Shugnan and Rushan districts. The wired telephone communication has also been suspended in Darvaz, Ishkashim and Murghab districts. According to local Hydrometeorological Center the snow level in Khorog is 30 cm while it is 3 cm the ground in Ishkoshim. The snowfall continues in the region.

According to the information from FOCUS Humanitarian Assistance heavily snowfall and avalanches over the weekend of 15-18 March 2012 in Khorog killed 1 person and directly affected 85 people, destroyed 4 houses, a cow-shed and 1 fuel station. 9 houses, 2 schools and 1 medical point were partially damaged, 24 heads of cattle were lost and 2 vehicles damaged; 1 footbridge is partially damaged.

- ***Dushanbe – Khorog highway, GBAO, March 18, 2012:***

Rock falls have been observed at 436<sup>th</sup> km of Dushanbe – Khorog highway on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The rock fall has blocked the road of the Poshkharv Jamoat of Darvaz district. At 439<sup>th</sup> km of Dushanbe – Khorog highway, the rock fall has blocked 10 meters of road between Darvaz and Vanj districts. Local authorities have sent heavy vehicle to remove the rock from the roads.

Heavy snowfalls were followed by avalanches at 441 – 467 km of Dushanbe – Khorog highway which resulted in road blocks at Yazgulam district.

Several parts of road from 504 – 574 km of Dushanbe – Khorog Highway (villages Kalot, Pastkhuv, Pastbaju) were blocked by the avalanches following heavy rains and snowfall. Heavy machinery is deployed by local authorities to clean the road. The river is being cleaned by CoES rescuers, operating at the site.

- ***Khorog – Roshtkala highway, GBAO, March 18, 2012:***

Roads have been blocked following heavy snow falls which resulted in avalanches at 5 km of Khorog - Roshtkala highway, territory of Khorog Botanic Garden and 7 km of Khorog - Roshtkala highway in the village of Khabost. Shohdara River has been blocked by the avalanche and water level has been increased. Local population has been moved to a safer place by local authorities.

For more information on situation overview in GBAO, please refer to **Annex I**, provided by FOCUS Humanitarian Assistance.

**Sughd Region:**

- ***Dushanbe - Chanak Highway, Sughd region, March 13 - 15, 2012:***

An avalanche occurred following heavy rain and snowfalls at 196 – 198 km of Dushanbe – Chanak Highway on March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012. 3 heavy trucks and 6 lighter vehicles have been trapped under the snow. The roads are being cleaned by local authorities. No casualties have been reported.

Heavy rain and snowfalls triggered avalanches at 118 km of Dushanbe – Chanak highway on March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at around 06:30 AM in the village Chore of Ayni district. One local resident of the village has been trapped under the snow. CoES rescuers are searching the victim. Electricity communication has been suspended. Local authorities have deployed heavy vehicles to clean the road from the snow.

A landslide occurred on March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012 as a result of heavy rain and snow falls in Urmetan Jamoat which blocked the road at 19 km of Ayni – Penjikent highway. No casualties have been reported. Heavy vehicles have been deployed to the site to clean the road from the landslide.

- ***Dushanbe - Chanak Highway, Sughd region, March 16, 2012:***

Heavy rain and snowfalls resulted in avalanches at 79 -83 km of Dushanbe – Chanak highway on March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 04:00 AM. The avalanche killed two local residents. Local authorities and CoES are working in the area to locate the bodies. The road has been blocked. Heavy vehicles have been deployed to the site to clean the road from the snow.

**Districts of Republican Subordination (Direct Rule Districts):**

- ***Vahdat District, DRS, March 14, 2012:***

Heavy rain and snowfall triggered avalanches in Ranginov village of Romit Jamoat on March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at around 11:35 AM. The avalanche destroyed one residential building in the village and damaged to buildings surround the area. The local population, affected by the landslide has been moved to safer locations in the neighboring village.

- ***Jirgatal District, DRS, March 18, 2012:***

Heavy rain and snowfalls resulted in avalanches in Yangishar Jamoat of Jirgatal district on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at around 18:30. The avalanche destroyed two residential buildings in local village Chulterak. The avalanche killed 4 cows and 15 calves. Local authorities have deployed heavy vehicles to clean the area from the snow.

- ***Varzob District, DRS, March 18, 2012:***

Number of avalanches hit the 56 – 61 km strip of Dushanbe - Chanak highway in the villages of Mayhura on March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at around 12:10 PM. From 20 - 300 m long avalanche with the height raging from 4 – 10 meters have been observed in several spots of the highway. More than 250 heavy vehicles and 50 lighter vehicles with drivers and passengers heading Khujand were sheltered in avalanche protection archs from 34km (Hushyori village) of the Dushanbe – Chanak highway.

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**13 March:** Avalanche trapped 3 trucks and 6 light vehicles between km 196 – 198 on the Dushanbe – Chanak Highway.

**15 March:** Landslide in Urmetan Jamoat blocked km 19, Ayni – Penjikent road.

**13 March:** Avalanches km 118, Dushanbe – Chanak Highway trapped 1 person. Electric lines affected.

**16 March:** Avalanches between km 79 – 83, Dushanbe – Chanak Highway, two deaths.

**16 March:** Avalanches between km 56 – 61, Dushanbe – Chanak Highway, affecting 250 trucks and 50 light vehicles, passengers sheltering in protective galleries.

**14 March:** Avalanches in Ranginov village destroyed 1 house, surround buildings damaged.

**18 March:** Avalanches in Chulterak village destroyed 2 houses and killed 4 cows and 15 calves.

**18 March:** Avalanches and rock falls blocking Dushanbe – Khorog Highway km 436 – 439, 441 – 467 and 504 – 574<sup>th</sup>

**04 March:** Landslide in Karagoch village. 20 houses damaged, 28 livestock killed.

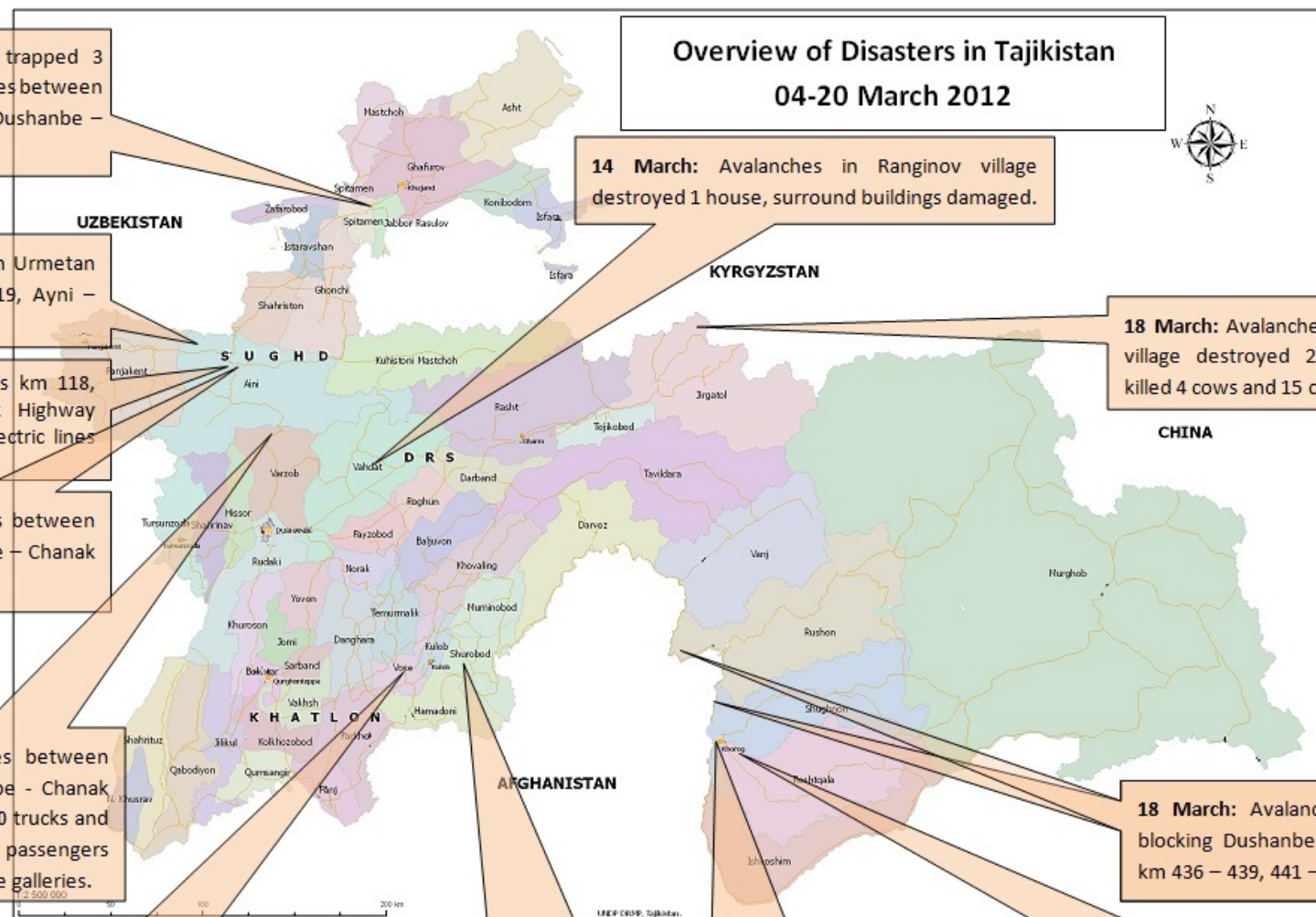
**06 March:** Landslide, Odinaboi village. 2 houses destroyed, 5 houses and 24 social buildings damaged.

**15-18 March:** Avalanches in Khorog. 1 death, 85 people affected, 4 houses destroyed, 9 houses, 2 schools and 1 medical point partially damaged, 24 cattle killed.

**18 March:** Avalanches blocked km 5- Khorog - Roshtkala highway and Shohdara river, water level is increasing.

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