

Earthquake in Vanj District, GBAO Tajikistan

Situation report № 4 14 January 2010

Situation Overview

Regular tremors continue in Vanj district. The average tremor magnitude is 3 on the Richter scale. Though small in magnitude, the frequency of these tremors and associated noise cause considerable concern by the local population. Due to the continued tremors people are not sure that it is safe to sleep inside. A 4 Richter scale tremor happened on 9 January 2010 close to the epicenter of an earthquake occurred on 2 January 2010 and resulted in an increased the number of totally destroyed houses.

The tremor also caused another rock-fall and blocked 3 km of road at kilometer 481 of Dushanbe-Khorog road. Roads are being cleaned every day but the risk of rock fall remains high and the stretch of the road between Jamoat Vanj and Jamoat Yazgulom is hazardous.



Damage Information

On 8 January 2010 the LDMC team was divided into two groups consisting of representatives from Tajik Geology, Institute of Seismology, State Agency for Construction, CoES (National, regional and district), Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST), District Hukumat and respective Jamoats. The two groups are assessing the damage levels of households in all villages of Vanj and Yazgulom Jamoats and reporting at the daily emergency coordination meeting at the District Hukumat. The final report on damages and number of totally and partly destroyed houses was completed on 13 January 2010 and is being prepared for distribution.

To date, local authorities report 184 houses destroyed with over 1,100 people and near 1,000 houses damaged with 6,900 people. An additional 30 administrative buildings, including one polyclinic and 5 schools have been damaged or destroyed.

People from the destroyed or severely damaged houses are living with neighbors and relatives or in schools and other public buildings. Tents for these families were provided by RCST and UNDP. However, installation of all winter tents has not been completed. Some tents are summer tents and used by households for storage of good from damaged buildings. An additional 105 winterized tents from the OCHA Brindisi stockpile and funded by the Government of Norway have arrived in Vanj and are in the process of being distributed.



In Gishkhun village 52 households with 286 people were moved to school building due to serious damage to their houses. Water supply and sanitation facilities are available and functioning at the school. Classrooms are used as living space and heating is provided using wood and coal. There are ten pregnant women among the displaced population, and one delivered a baby in the maternity department of the central district hospital, which is fully functional. The village nurse, whose house was completely damaged, is also living in the school and takes care of the children and adults. So far, there are no outbreaks of serious disease among the displaced people, except some cases of acute respiratory infection and stress.

Needs Information

Immediate humanitarian needs are largely met, although considerable more relief work needs to be done to move displaced families from schools and mosques and from host families to tents which will provide basic shelter until housing can be rebuilt or repaired. One significant outstanding immediate need which remains is for stoves and appropriate fuel to heat the tents. Wood is locally scarce and many stoves provided are not appropriate for the use of coal.

The Government has requested construction materials to allow families to begin rebuilding as soon as possible and is making plans for the movement of households from areas designated as unsafe. The DNA currently being completed and will provide the basis for more details planning of the immediate and long term recovery process.

Response provided and committed

Assistance has been provided by the Government of Tajikistan through the Committee of Emergency Situations, and from RCST, UNDP, UNOCHA, UNICEF, GTZ and Global Partners, as indicated below.

Items	Total Assistance Provided (QTY)	Unit	Assisting Agency				
			RCST/ IFRC	Gov-t institutions	UNICEF	UNDP (OCHA funds)	GTZ
FOOD AID							
High protein biscuits	200	box			200		
Macaroni	5,000	kg		5,000			
Oil	5,000	liter		5,000			
Plumpy nut	50	box			50		
Rice	5,000	kg		5,000			
Sugar	5,000	kg		5,000			
Wheat Flour	5,000	kg		5,000			
NFI/SHELTER							
Bed linen	1,140	set	640		500		
Blankets	1,770	pcs	640		500		630
First aid kits	22	pcs	20		2		
Clothes	150	bags	150				
Hoes	98	pcs	98				
Shovels	98	pcs	98				
Kitchen sets	98	set	98				
Mattresses	640	pcs	640				
Pillows	640	pcs	640				
Socks	2,000	pcs					2,000
Candles	500	pcs	500				
Wood stoves	291	pcs	133			158	
Thermos	98	pcs	98				
Construction tools	98	sets	98				
Tarpaulin pieces	500	pcs					500
Tents (winterized)	205	pcs	47			158	
Tents (summer for	7	pcs	7				

storage)							
WASH							
Buckets	73	pcs	73				
Hygiene sets	73	box	73				
Jerry cans - 10L	73	pcs	73				
Soap	980	pcs	500		480		
Water purification tablets	10,000	pcs			10,000		

Global Partners has provided 20 MT of coal.

For more information please contact:

1. Colonel Sultonnazar Kholiknazarov, Deputy Chief of Staff, CoES: (992 37) 223 0183, 221 1331.
2. REACT Secretariat in Dushanbe: 37/1 Bokhtar Street, VEFA Business Center, 6th Floor, 604, Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Tel: (+992 47) 441 07 37

E-mail: react.dushanbe@undp.org