

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- Heavy rains caused flash flooding on 27, 28 and 29 March in six provinces - Faryab, Balkh, Jawzjan, and Sar-e-Pul province in the Northern Region, and Hirat and Badghis in the Western Region. While assessments are ongoing, an estimated 17,000 people have been affected with Balkh and Hirat suffering the worst impacts. These are the first major floods in the Northern Region in the season.
- In Balkh, unconfirmed reports suggest several fatalities in Chemtal district, with up to 645 families (4,515 people) affected throughout the Province.
- In Hirat Province, assessments are ongoing, however the Ministry of Health has reported that eight people died and nine were injured in six districts following flash flooding, while more than 1,000 families may have been affected.
- This new flooding adds to the impact of the overall flood emergency, with Farah and Kandahar the most effected to date. Since the beginning of 2019, more than 163,000 people have now been affected by floods, including those in the past week. A total of more than 42,000 people have been displaced.
- Due to the above-average snow and rainfall throughout the winter, the conditions for more flooding through the spring remain a concern and humanitarian organizations are planning to ensure they have enough supplies for the remainder of the season.



Map Sources: UNCS, ESRI, The Times Atlas of the World.
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.

HUMANITARIAN NEEDS AND RESPONSE

Northern Region

Balkh

Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS) assessment teams have so far identified 187 families in need (49 houses completely destroyed & 138 severely damaged) in Mazar-e-Sharif, while 161 families in Solara and 297 families in Chemtal districts have been assessed as affected. Assessments in other districts are ongoing.

An initial distribution of relief assistance was done on 31 March with IOM distributing household items, blankets, emergency shelter kits, solar lanterns and family tents, while Save the Children International (SCI), UNICEF and WFP distributed children's clothing, hygiene kits and food items.

Faryab

Reports indicate several people have died in Almar and Khawja Sabz Posh, while a number of people also remain missing in Khawja Sabz Posh and Pashtunkot Districts.

Assessment teams have so far identified 396 families in Khawaja Sabz Posh and Maimana districts as affected by the floods, however assessments are ongoing. IOM is distributing household items, blankets and family tents to 51 families in Maimana, while ANDMA and SCI will distribute food items and emergency shelter repair kits.

According to initial reports, up to 450 families were affected in Dawlatabad district and there also reports of damage in Shirin Tagab district. In Qaysar district, 1,200 livestock have reportedly been killed and 10 jeribs (2 hectares) of agricultural land affected by floods.

Jawzjan

Joint assessment teams have assessed flood-affected areas and have so far verified 190 families in need in Sheberghan. The assessment is ongoing and distributions were begun on 1 April. There are also reports of damage in Darzab and Qoshtepa districts, which are inaccessible due to security concerns

Sari-e-Pul

A joint assessment has so far identified 155 families however road closures have limited access to other villages in the affected areas and numbers may change.

Western Region

Hirat

According to ANDMA, eight people died and nine were injured in six districts of Hirat, while more than 1,000 flood-affected families have been found in need of humanitarian aid in Hirat city and other districts in the province.

IOM distributed household items, blankets and emergency shelter kits to 279 families in Qala Khwaja, Bagh Dasht and Shadi Bagh in Injil district. The remaining families will be assisted by IRC and IOM with the provision of cash-for-NFIs. ANDMA and WFP have committed to covering food needs. Additional assessments are ongoing in Injil district and Hirat city.

Badghis

Early reports indicate that over 200 families are affected in Qala-e-Naw, Jawand, Balamurghab, Abkamari, Mugur districts, including IDP sites. Joint Government and humanitarian assessment teams have been deployed.

GAPS & CONSTRAINTS

In Hirat, the Department of Public Health has noted that they are facing a shortage of medicine in their response and has requested support from the international community. While WHO has provided some medicines, additional requirements remain. There are also requirements for cholera kits and to mobilize mobile health teams in affected areas.

The next situation update will be issued once new information becomes available or warranted by the situation on the ground.

Data on the impact of natural disasters is updated weekly (Sunday) in an interactive dashboard - <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/afghanistan/natural-disasters-0>

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