

# RAPID EMERGENCY ASSESSMENT AND COORDINATION TEAM (REACT)

## Floods in Khatlon: 7 – 13 May 2021

Situation Report # 1 (as of 14 May 2021)

### Highlights

- Over 12 mudflows and landslides have been reported during the period of 7 – 13 May 2021.
- Mudflows caused the death of 9 people.
- Over 70 households are left homeless.
- Large number of cattle has been lost and agricultural crops destroyed.
- Mudflows caused disruptions to the livelihoods of around 22,000 people

### Situation Overview

The torrential rains of 7 – 12 May 2021 triggered floods, landslides and mudflows in many of the country's districts. The largest number of losses and destructions are faced by districts and cities of Khatlon province. Disasters affected following cities and districts: Kulob city and districts of Shamsiddini Shohin, Qushoniyon, Dangara, Yovon, Khuroson, Dusti, Vaksh, Muminobod and Jomi (*please refer to Map below*).

CoES reports that disasters caused the death 9 people. Very preliminary estimates indicate that 74 households were left homeless and houses of another 270 households were damaged to different extent.

Very modest estimations indicate damages caused by disasters to private and social infrastructure caused disruptions to the livelihoods of around 22,000 people.

Government of Tajikistan activated an Inter-Agency Commission on Emergency Situations (Commission) in each disaster affected district, which fully facilitates the response operations. Furthermore, Emergency Operations Centers (Shtab) have been set up in each disaster affected district, which collects and analyzes relevant information and coordinates the response activities.

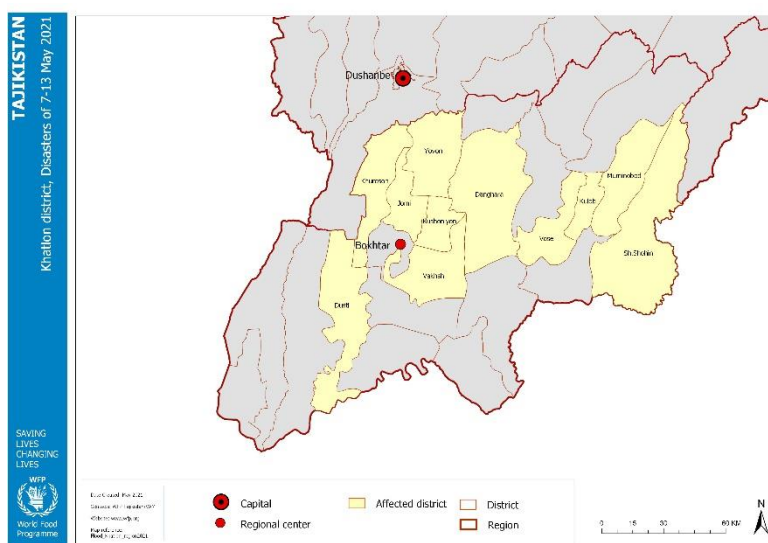
Up to date, general response actions in every district include: search and rescue, evacuation of population from risk zones, constant disinfection of the affected territories, debris removal, assessment of damages and needs, registration of affected population, restoration of communal services, collection and distribution of immediate relief assistance, as well as recovery planning.

Co-Chairs of REACT, the Chairman of the Committee of Emergency Situations (CoES) and UN Resident Coordinator in Tajikistan called an extraordinary field REACT meeting, on 14 May 2021 in Kulob city. The meeting was attended by the Mayor of Kulob city. Meeting discussed the situation, damages, and humanitarian needs of the population. Among different operational aspects discussed and agreed, meeting agreed that partners should consider releasing available stocks of relief items to cover the most urgent needs and trigger available emergency response mechanisms, with consideration of early recovery interventions.

### Summary information by district

Reported disasters affected districts to different extent, causing different levels of damage. Below is the summarized information listed by districts and solicited from different sources:

**[Kulob city - 11 May 2021]** Kulob city appeared to be the worst affected area, facing the death of 3 people and having around 15 streets covered by mud. Up to date, Government Assessment Teams identified 586 households whose houses suffered different level of damage, of those 37 have lost their houses and other 75 households suffered damages of their living quarters.



While, there are no figures on displaced population, it is confirmed that displaced people are hosted by their relatives and neighbors and there are no plans on establishment of the collective shelters. Furthermore, there are no plans on relocation of affected households to different locations. Therefore, it is foreseen that once the debris is removed, family tents will be established in the yards to temporarily accommodate the members of the family.

Most of the affected population have lost their assets and food stocks, as well as access to clean drinking water, as water supply system has been damaged by the mudflow. Sanitation conditions are severely worsened, as latrines are damaged and flooded.

Severe damages have been reported to bridges, roads, and mudflow diversion channels, as well as to agricultural lands and cattle.

Learning process has been disrupted in 3 schools affected by mudflow for a couple of days, but it is expected that schools will be re-opened by 17 May, provided that all cleaning and disinfection interventions are completed on time.

Response operation in Kulob city is facilitated by the Republican Commission led by the Prime Minister.



Damaged house in Kulob city, 12 May 2021  
Photo credit: OCHA

REACT deployed its Rapid Response Team to the site on 13 May to conduct rapid situation analysis. While full report of the assessment (complemented by Government assessment data) is expected early next week, the initial findings and recommendations are provided in Annex 1.

**[Jomi district - 8 May 2021]** Earth motion in the village Navobod of Jamoat Iftikhor is still continuing, expanding the sinkhole that occurred on 8 May, ie prior to the mudflows in other districts. One additional house has collapsed since the last report on 11 May, and around 10 residential houses remain under the high risk of collapsing.

Those left homeless and residents of highest risk zones, still reside in a small tent-camp established by authorities in the back yard of a local school. Reports from the field indicate that tents are mainly occupied by male adult family members, while women, children and elderly family members are mainly hosted by their relatives.

Relevant authorities continue monitoring of the geological processes, while CoES ensures safety of the population and supports affected people in recovering their belongings and assets from risk zones.

Commission led by Deputy Prime Minister D. Gulmahmadzod has allocated new land plots in safe locations, to those left homeless. Government has committed to provide necessary materials for construction of new houses.

**[Vakhsh district - 11 May 2021]** Mudflow caused the death of one elderly women and destroyed over 20 houses in three villages of Vaksh district. Another 45 houses and other infrastructure, such as roads and canals suffered significant damages. The worst affected village is reported to be village Ittifoq of Jamoat 20 Solagii Istiqloiyat.

The roads are being cleaned ensuring access to the affected streets and electricity supply restored, however stable supply of drinking water to the population of the affected villages is not yet restored.

As of today, CoES has delivered and erected around 20 tents in a safe area to host the victims of the mudflow, while Commission is considering the possibility of relocation of the affected households to safe locations.

**[Dusti district - 11 May 2021]** Mudflow in village Umed of Jamoat Navzamin, mainly destroyed kitchen garden crops (180 houses) and cotton crops (145 ha) and caused loss of cattle. Inter-farm roads and flood diversion channels were also damaged. It is reported that 3500 people of the same village do not have access to drinking and irrigation water.

**[Shamseddini Shohin district - 11 May 2021]** Mudflow caused the death of three people (drowned in the car) and damages to the infrastructure in 3 villages of the district. . Mudflow damaged over 20 houses and caused the loss of over 180 heads of cattle. Over 150 meters of riverbank reinforcement facilities have been washed away, imposing increasing the risk of repeated flood.

**[Muminobod district - 11 and 13 May 2021]** Mudflows mainly damaged inter-farm bridges (over 10 pcs), roads and riverbank reinforcement facilities. Around 40 houses suffered different damages.

Below table provides a very rough estimations of affected households based on the reports provided by RCST branches (as of 14 May 2021). Number of affected populations, as well as people in need will be regularly updated, considering the results of Government and sectoral assessments.

District/City	Jamoat\ Community	# of HHs	total # of population	# of affected HHs	# of affected people	# of partially damaged houses	# of destroyed houses
<b>A.Jomi</b>	Iftikhor Jamoat, Navobod-4 village Navobod -5 village	376	1946	187	1496	5	15
<b>Vakhsh</b>	20-Istiqloliyat Jamoat, Vahdat Jamoat Mashal Jamoat Ittifoq village Senakos village Shahdez 1 Shahdez 2	400	1370	52	416	33	19
<b>Yovon</b>	Obshoron Jamoat, Sanjatak village	222	1788	52	288	3	3
<b>Kulob</b>	Zavod street Sodikov street Sections 3,4,5, Fayzobodi bolo street Pervamay street Bogi Habib street Vokzal street Oftobruya street Rahimzoda street Pashadara street	867	6936	504	6936	75	37
<b>Sh.Shohin</b>	Dastijum Jamoat Dashtijum village Hojidar village N.Mahmudov Jamoat Porvor village	427	3289	26	208	0	0
<b>Vose</b>	Guliston Jamoat Guliston village	874	7 561	27	880	110	0
<b>Muminobod</b>	Balkhobi Jamoat Shululu village Tebalay village Bobpoi Habib village Shohin Jamoat			120	960	3	0
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>3 166</b>	<b>22 890</b>	<b>907</b>	<b>11 184</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>74</b>

## Humanitarian needs

Below is the summary of humanitarian needs, reported from the disaster affected areas by the local Commissions, Red Crescent Society staff, Rapid Response Team and affected population. Given that immediate consequences of the disasters are very similar, needs are generalized and applicable to all the affected areas.

Immediate humanitarian needs	Longer-term recovery needs
Chlorine and appropriate tools for manual disinfection	Livelihood recovery assistance
Fuels and lubricants	Multipurpose cash assistance
Tents and sets of non-food items, including clothing, kitchen utensils and tarpaulin	Construction materials

Hygiene items	Social infrastructure reconstruction
Access to clean drinking water	Legal advice on restoration of lost documents and property rights
Food assistance and complementary food to children under five	Infrastructure reconstruction (roads, drinking water canals, sewage systems)
Mental health and psychosocial support	Cleaning and reinforcement of river beds
Basic construction tools	

## Response

As reported above, general response actions undertaken by the Government in every district include: search and rescue, evacuation of population from risk zones, constant disinfection of the affected territories, debris removal, assessment of damages and needs, registration of affected population, restoration of communal services, collection and distribution of immediate relief assistance, as well as recovery planning.

Up to date, REACT partners (UNICEF, RCST, AKAH, WFP and UNDP) have delivered some relief items, including fuel, hygiene and dignity kits, sets of household items and food aid to the affected population in Jomi district and Kulob city. Detailed overview of provided assistance will be provided in next report.



REACT meeting in Kulob, 14 May 2021  
Photo credit: UNICEF

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