

SITUATION UPDATE



The areas of Injil district where International Medical Corps delivered winterization packages are so rugged that pack animals are usually needed to move goods.

On October 7, a 6.3-magnitude earthquake hit northwest Afghanistan, followed by two equally strong quakes on October 10 and 15. The latter quake struck in the morning when residents of Herat had returned to their homes after spending days outdoors fearing aftershocks. According to OCHA, 1,384 people have died due to the earthquakes, while 1,853 have been injured and thousands displaced. The quakes have leveled entire villages, burying families and leaving thousands homeless as winter approaches. OCHA's Humanitarian Country Team, which coordinates relief efforts, is prioritizing outreach to 114,000 of the people most affected by the earthquakes who will need help over the winter period.

International Medical Corps Response

International Medical Corps has identified main needs in the affected districts of Herat province, including health, MHPSS, WASH, protection and non-food items, such as winterization kits, which are especially needed as winter fast approaches this region.

Our team has delivered two batches of relief items, including winterization kits, to people in Injil and Zindajan districts. The winterization kits we provided already are helping 210 families whose belongings have been lost cope with the onset of harsh winter conditions.

In collaboration with the International Organization for Migration and the World Health Organization, International Medical Corps provided psychological first aid (PFA) training for 15 member organizations of the MHPSS Technical Working Group in western Afghanistan. The training has equipped 150 participants with the skills and knowledge to provide PFA to earthquake-affected people who need psychosocial support.

FAST FACTS

- According to OCHA, more than 21,500 homes have been completely destroyed, mostly in Herat, Injil and Zindajan districts

OUR FOOTPRINT

- International Medical Corps has been operating in Afghanistan since 1984. Our main activities include providing primary and secondary healthcare, training, health education, emergency response, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), nutrition services, protection services, community empowerment, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services

OUR RESPONSE

- Our team trained 150 counselors to provide mental health and psychological first aid-related services to the most traumatized communities
- Our team delivered winterization kits to Injil and Zindajan districts, remote and rugged areas where donkeys and mules are usually needed for transportation