

SITUATION UPDATE



An International Medical Corps staff member conducts nutrition screening for people affected by the flash floods in Nangarhar province.

From July 15–16, Afghanistan's eastern, northeastern and central regions were struck by intense windstorms, torrential rains and sudden flash floods. The floods profoundly affected at least 22 districts spread over eight provinces: Badakhshan, Baghlan, Ghazni, Kabul, Kapisa, Kunar, Laghman and Nangarhar.

At least 129 fatalities have been reported, while 202 people were injured. The storms also caused extensive damage to private property, civil infrastructure and agricultural lands.

According to the Department of Public Health, rescue efforts have been carried out in the affected areas, and mobile healthcare teams have been sent there. The World Health Organization (WHO) has also delivered extra medical supplies to Nangarhar Regional Hospital and Fatematul-Zahra Hospital, where all injured individuals have been transferred.

International Medical Corps Response

International Medical Corps, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and other humanitarian organizations have been collaborating on assessment efforts in areas affected by floods. Eight teams worked for five to seven days in Nangarhar, three in Kunar and two in Laghman. The Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA) and other humanitarian groups are closely coordinating the distribution of aid to these areas. The situation in flood-affected regions continues to be severe, requiring immediate additional resources to manage the growing humanitarian crisis.

The assessment shows that 811 families, totaling 4,349 people (2,144 females and 2,205 males), have been affected. Among them, 640 houses were either destroyed or damaged. More than 600 families lost their food supplies and 56% of the households surveyed lacked funds to purchase food. The storms and floods also harmed water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities, leading to poor water quality and insufficient clean water supply in some areas. Our mobile team has also reported immediate local needs, including a need to:

- deliver health and nutrition services through mobile units, to extend essential care and resources to vulnerable populations;
- ensure access to clean drinking water, due to health risks from contamination;
- ensure access to medical supplies, to address related issues such as waterborne diseases and injuries;
- repair shelters, due to widespread home damage and destruction, which leaves families vulnerable to severe conditions; and

FAST FACTS

- On July 15–16, severe windstorms, heavy rains and flash floods devastated Afghanistan's eastern, northeastern and central regions, affecting 22 districts in eight provinces: Badakhshan, Baghlan, Ghazni, Kabul, Kapisa, Kunar, Laghman and Nangarhar. The disaster, which killed at least 129 people and injured more than 200, caused extensive damage to homes, infrastructure and agricultural areas. Power outages persist in some areas due to damaged lines, according to the initial assessment led by the IOM.

OUR FOOTPRINT

- International Medical Corps has been operating in Afghanistan since our founding there in 1984, 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

- International Medical Corps' mobile health team has provided primary care, nutrition, vaccinations, MHPSS and reproductive health services to 764 people affected by the flooding. We continue to collaborate with humanitarian partners in affected areas.

- provide psychosocial support, to address and manage the impacts of displacement and trauma.

Meeting these complex needs is crucial to supporting the recovery and resilience of communities in Afghanistan's Eastern region affected by the flooding. As co-lead of the Eastern Region Health Cluster, International Medical Corps is playing a pivotal role in managing the emergency health response, working with the Health Cluster, WHO, implementers from the Health Emergency Response Project, ANDMA, IOM, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and other humanitarian partners to coordinate aid distribution in affected districts. International Medical Corps has also been involved in meetings organized by OCHA, the Provincial Public Health Directorate, the Provincial Disaster Management Committee and the Directorate of Economy, focusing on coordinating joint assessments and responses to the ongoing situation.

International Medical Corps is committed to addressing the immediate impacts of floods through active collaboration with humanitarian partners and adherence to the operational framework set by coordination team meetings. We are delivering lifesaving interventions while supporting the long-term recovery of the flood-affected regions. Our mobile health teams deliver primary and secondary healthcare services, nutrition services, reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health (RMNCH) interventions, vaccination services and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) to people affected by the flooding.

From July 17–24, working in partnership with humanitarian organizations in the affected areas, we provided services to 764 outpatients (271 males and 493 females), including trauma care for 32 people, MHPSS services for 20 people, RMNCH services for 33 women (15 antenatal care, 14 postnatal care and four family planning consultation) and nutritional screening for 201 people, identifying eight cases of severe acute malnutrition and 44 cases of moderate acute malnutrition. We also provided vaccination services to 73 people.