

**AFGHANISTAN FLOOD RESPONSE 2014**  
FARYAB, SAR-I-PUL, JAWZJAN, BALKH PROVINCES  
SITUATION REPORT #2 2<sup>nd</sup> MAY 2014



*Children of Chobash Turkmania in northern Afghanistan use blankets provided by Save the Children on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2014. Save the Children estimate that at least 25,000 children are affected in the flash floods, that struck on the evening of 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> April 2014. (Credit: Save the Children)*

## **OVERVIEW**

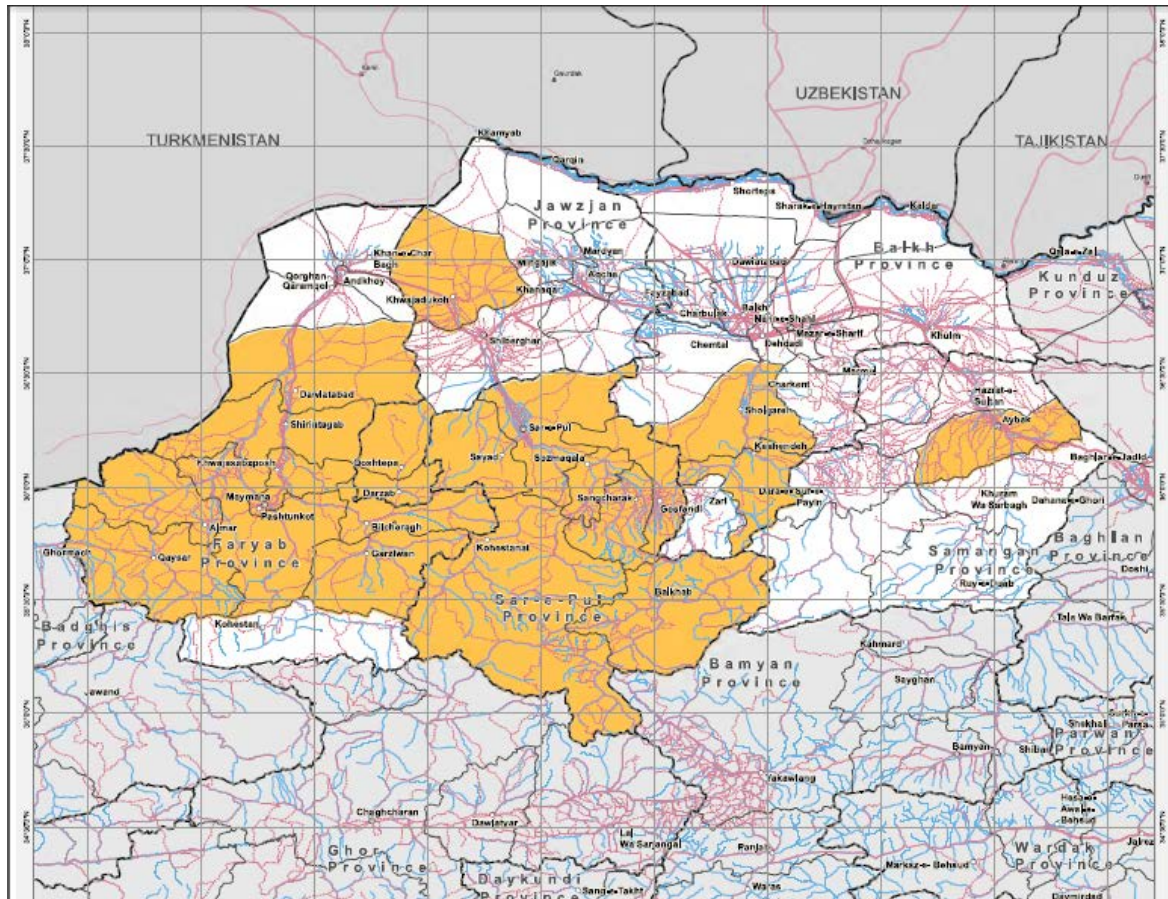
On the evening of 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> April 2014, flash floods triggered by heavy rains and melting ice in northern Afghanistan killed at least 123 people [Faryab province: 33 persons; Jawzjan province: 80 persons Sari Pul province: 10 persons], many of them children. The provincial disaster management agencies and government provincial offices report that 23 districts have been affected, in provinces of Faryab, Sar I Pul, Jawzjan, Balkh, Samangan and Badghis (9 in Faryab, 7 in Sar I Pul, 3 in Jouzjan, 1 in Balkh, 1 in Samangan and 2 in Badghis).

Initial information (not yet confirmed) shows over 7000 or 49,000 individuals have been affected by flood, 1000 houses are completely destroyed and at least 200 people still missing. Additionally, 1,000 animals were reported killed, and around 20,000 hectares of agriculture/horticulture, 22 mills, 25 water storage, 34 shops, 130 wells, 194 canals and 3 bridges were destroyed as a result of the floods.

Reports indicate that the flood will have significant impact on access to basic services, such as clinics, schools and markets. Many children in these areas are already live in poverty and are vulnerable. The impact of this flood could significantly worsen their situation. With losses in food stores, crops and livestock, it could lead to a spike in malnutrition in an area with already

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high malnutrition rates. This could have a permanent impact on a child's mental and physical development, further decreasing their chances of breaking the poverty cycle.



As April and May is the rainy season in Afghanistan, many other provinces have suffered flooding in recent days including Badakhshan, Takhar, Baghlan, and Samangan provinces in the northern areas, with possible more floods in central provinces of Afghanistan. Hundreds of families are reported to be affected in the new floods, with 6 people reported killed and 8 missing.

**SAVE THE CHILDREN'S INITIAL FINDINGS AND RESPONSE**

Save the Children has been working on a multi-agency rapid assessment that identifies the major needs of families that have been affected or displaced by the disaster. From initial results, most of affected families displaced are living in open areas, community structures such as schools or with host communities. They are in need of tents, household and hygiene items and blankets; and damaged schools in affected areas will require rehabilitation and repairs too.

Overall, Save the Children estimates that 8,510 households in Faryab, Jawzjan, Balkh and Sar-I-Pul have been affected (or 59,570 people), of which 3,784 families have been displaced. (Jawzjan: 3884 HHs; Faryab: 1994 HHs; Sar-I-Pul: 2218 HHs; Balkh: 414 HHs)

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Due to the close proximity of warehouses from the affected areas, Save the Children were one of the first aid agencies on the ground, delivering bread, drinking water and blankets within the first 24 hours of the disaster. Following that, other life-saving essential items were also provided to families in the provinces of Faryab, Sar-i-Pul, Jawzjan and Balkh; these include tarpaulin, household items, hygiene kits and Patoos (light blankets). Overall, more than 28,000 people have been reached since 25<sup>th</sup> April 2014.

In the next phase of the response, Save the Children plans to deliver a multi-sectoral package to affected children and families that includes (as needed):

- Non-Food Items: Distribution of blankets, tarps, shelter tools, household kits, clothes (shoes and socks)
- Food: Bread
- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene: Water trucking, hygiene education and distribution of hygiene kits
- Livelihoods: Cash-for-work programs for most vulnerable to clean affected houses, clear agricultural lands and roads, which are crucial for families to regain access to basic services such as school and health clinics, and local markets.
- Education: Distribution of school kits and where possible set up temporary learning spaces (TLS).

Within a four-month period, Save the Children aims to reach 28,574 people, including 17,000 children. This has been adjusted from the previous target based on the increased number of people affected and the progress made by Save the Children teams, in collaboration with other actors, in reaching those who needed immediate assistance. The table on the next page shows a breakdown of activities and the people reached.

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Table with activities and people reached

Indicator	Unit of measurement	Achievements
# of people receiving shelter and NFIs	# of people receiving blankets	<b>2,119</b>
	# of people receiving Shelter Tools kit	<b>5,915</b>
	# of people receiving Household kit	<b>9,541</b>
	# of people receiving Tarpaulin (Plastic Sheeting)	<b>3,976</b>
	# of people receiving Patoos	<b>1,089</b>
	# of people receiving Hygiene kit	<b>8,771</b>
	# of people receiving Shoes and Pants+ Jacket	<b>92</b> (184 clothes sets @ 2 sets per child ) <b>184</b> (184 pairs of shoes @ one pair per person)
# of people receiving bread and drinking water	# of people receiving Bread loaves	<b>3,400</b>
	# of people receiving drinking water	<b>10325</b> (total 59,500 litres distributed to 1475 families)

**KEY ADVOCACY MESSAGES**

- About 25,000 children have been affected in the flash floods that hit northern Afghanistan, destroying homes, agricultural land, markets, schools and other infrastructure.
- Children and families living in these areas are already poor and extremely vulnerable. The level of damage and destruction means children could be without a roof over their heads, hot food from their homes and a blanket at night to make them feel warm and safe.
- Affected children families need urgent support. Without functioning homes, latrines and clean drinking water, the level of hygiene in these areas can deteriorate causing the spread of diseases. Without sufficient nutritious food, it could result in a spike in the number of malnourished children in an area where malnutrition rates are already higher than the national average.

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**SAVE THE CHILDREN IN AFGHANISTAN**

Save the Children has been working in Afghanistan since 1976. The children's aid agency responds to all major humanitarian crises in the country, natural or man-made. In 2013 alone, Save the Children responded to 36 small-scale disasters that affected Afghanistan, reaching over 1.13 million beneficiaries within that time. We currently implement programs in 15 of 34 provinces, either directly or through partners, reaching more than five million children in 2013.

**Contact details**

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