High temperatures and melting snow have resulted in mudslides in GBAO and Rasht Regions of Tajikistan, and further communities are being affected as the situation evolves;

- 16 July 2015 mudflow affected several villages, some 25 km east of Khorog, GBAO, with more than 55 households and local infrastructure suffering significant damage;

- On 20 July 2015, approximately 60 households and local infrastructure have been significantly damaged in Garm, Rasht;

- State Commission for Emergencies led by Prime Minister and REACT partners, including UNICEF, on the ground are conducting rapid assessments and providing immediate assistance;

- As the heatwave is expected to continue, the situation is subject to rapid degradation, with multiple locations being affected throughout the country simultaneously, mainly in hard to reach areas with communities who are already facing multiple deprivations;

- Children are carrying the brunt of this emergency, facing multiple vulnerabilities;

- The Government of Tajikistan has declared a State of Emergency and has officially called upon the International Community for support and assistance;

- The World Humanitarian Summit Regional Consultation for Central and South Asia is taking place in Dushanbe, Tajikistan from 28 – 30 July 2015. This will be an opportunity to review the situation and call to action with regard to the broader and pressing issue of Disaster Risk Reduction and the need to address the effects of climate change.

Date: 23 July 2015

14,000 people directly affected, ½ of whom are children;

$33,000.00 of emergency supplies have been released in the first few days by UNICEF to support the response;

5,550 households will benefit from dispatched UNICEF supplies, including:

- 500 infants and 300 adults with blankets;
- 500 households with 20L water containers;
- 27,500 people with water purification tablets for 3 months;

20 water distribution sites Supplied with 1,000L water tanks

2 Medical facilities reached with basic medical equipment.
Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

High temperatures and rapid snow and glacier melting from 1 – 15 July 2015 triggered mudflows in GBAO Region, Tajikistan as of 16 July 2015. The mudflow that occurred on 16 July 2015 caused significant damage to infrastructure and households in the affected villages, approximately 25 kilometers from Khorog, the main administrative centre of GBAO Region.

The mudslide blocked the current of Gund River and created an artificial lake, approximately 16 km from Khorog – with approximately 30,000 inhabitants, along with nearby communities.

Local Government and FOCUS/Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) carried out two helicopter monitoring mission to the affected site to assess the condition of glaciers and identify further response needs and strategies. According to the assessment conducted by the specialists, there are two more glaciers above the village that could melt if temperature in the region remains high.

If the pool of water breeches the dam, it could conceivably flood into parts of Khorog, or at the very least damage the hydroelectric power scheme on the outskirts of Khorog. The major concern is how to discharge the massive pool of water in a safe and controlled manner.

In addition, the high temperatures and melting snows have triggered a mudslide in Rasht Region of Tajikistan. Some 60 houses have been significantly damaged, in addition to other infrastructure damage. It is still raining and mud mass is still flowing to the affected area. Situation is still under assessment but appears to be grave and highly volatile.

Estimated Affected Population

Preliminary figures of the affected population are as follows:

**GBAO:**
Reports suggest more 56 houses in nearby communities destroyed with about 10,000 persons evacuated to safer sites. Some families are residing with family members or other local households. Specific demographic data is not yet available on the total affected population.
Two camps have been established for displaced households, without other options for residence:

### Manem Camp, GBAO, Tajikistan

**Start of humanitarian response:** 16 July 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Affected Population</td>
<td>461¹</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>203*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Affected (Under 12)</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Under Five</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children 6 to 23 months</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnant women</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People with Disabilities</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elderly</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
* 47 unregistered individuals.

### Manem School Camp, GBAO, Tajikistan

**Start of humanitarian response:** 16 July 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Affected Population</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Affected (Under 12)</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Under Five</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnant women</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People with Disabilities</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elderly</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Rasht Region

**Rasht, Tajikistan *Bedak and Halqarf Villages**

**Start of humanitarian response:** 21 July 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Affected Population</td>
<td>4713</td>
<td>2420</td>
<td>2293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Affected (Under 16)</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>1053</td>
<td>953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Under Five</td>
<td>873</td>
<td>449</td>
<td>424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children 6 to 23 months</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnant women</td>
<td>15 (85 lactating)</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children with Disabilities</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Humanitarian leadership and coordination

The Humanitarian Response is being coordinated through the Rapid Emergency Assessment and Coordination Team (REACT). The structure is composed of the Government of Tajikistan (represented by the Committee on Emergency Situations and Civil Defense (CoES) and other governmental agencies where appropriate), donors, the United Nations, including UNICEF, and other international organizations, as well as local and international NGOs involved in early warning, mitigation and risk reduction, preparedness, response and recovery.

The first REACT meeting was held on 21 July 2015 to coordinate efforts amongst Government and donor partners.

State Commission for Emergencies led by Prime Minister and REACT partners on the ground are conducting rapid assessment and providing immediate assistance. It is expected that sectors will undertake more thorough rapid assessments within the upcoming week. This two-stage approach is as per the REACT framework for Emergency Response within Tajikistan for small to mid-scale emergencies.

Initial emergency response has been led by FOCUS / Aga Khan Development Network, in GBAO Region, and the Government of Tajikistan and the Red Crescent Society in both GBAO and Rasht Regions.

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¹ The total number male and female does not add up, because 47 people in the camp remain unknown.
Humanitarian Strategy

International humanitarian assistance to small and medium-scale emergencies in Tajikistan is provided through the Rapid Emergency Assessment and Coordination Team - REACT. REACT is co-chaired by CoES at the national level together with the UN Resident Coordinator as Co-chair, and by the Committee on Emergency Situations at sub-national level.

REACT operates through sector coordination groups and regionally based REACTs. The sector coordination groups are supposed to coordinate relevant response and preparedness activities (with focus in development in pre-crisis) within their sectors. Three Sector Coordination Groups, led by the following agencies, are functioning at the moment:

1. **Education** (lead agency UNICEF)
2. **Food Security and Nutrition** (lead agency WFP)
3. **WASH** (lead agency UNICEF)

*Child Protection* is coordinated through a sub-group under the Protection Section (lead agency UNICEF)

As per the REACT framework, after initial assessments are completed, it is expected that more thorough sector assessments be undertaken. This is expected to commence no later than one week after the onslaught of the emergency.

To date, the emergency has not yet triggered the appointment of a Humanitarian Coordinator or the Cluster-approach in coordinating the emergency response.

Summary Analysis of Programme response

**Child Protection**

UNICEF is currently mobilizing resource persons who will be able to provide counselling to affected children who are in need of such assistance. Five staff members from two local NGOs based in Khorog city, one based in Vanj district (GBAO) and one in Rasht district were trained in Psycho-Social Support (PSS) in Emergencies in January 2015. One of these NGOs in Khorog, Lojvar, is currently providing counselling to children in Manem camp in Barsem village. Once the findings of the ongoing needs assessment are available, UNICEF will provide support to Lojvar in the form of transport, stationary and toys to expand their PSS work with children in the camp and beyond.

UNICEF also contacted the ICRC Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Delegate in Dushanbe to get an update on their current response in PSS on the ground and to explore collaboration in this area. For the time being, there is no information available on PSS needs of affected children in GBAO and Rasht district.

**Education**

UNICEF has been liaising with the Ministry of Education and Science to establish short-term response in terms of child-friendly spaces and early childhood education centres in both GBAO and Rasht Regions. Supplies to establish early-childhood centres have been pre-positioned in the five districts of Rasht Region. Training will be conducted for ECE facilitators by the Republican Institute for Teacher Training, supported by UNICEF.

In addition, UNICEF has committed to ensuring long-term support to minimize the impact of the emergency situation on the sector and the commencement of the school year in September 2015. Preliminary reports indicate that one school has been completely destroyed and two others sustained damaged in GBAO Region.

**Health and Nutrition**

UNICEF responded to the urgent request from the Ministry of Health and Social Protection to provide emergency supplies, including WASH items (see below), blankets, household emergency assistance package, and emergency health kits. Supplies are being transported for distribution and pre-positioning in GBAO region. Furthermore, in light of the low stock level of Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS) in the high diarrhea season in the country, UNICEF, in consultation with the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, is currently estimating the needs of the emergency procurement of ORS. UNICEF-procured therapeutic food items for treatment of severe malnutrition under the routine programme have just arrived the country. They can be redirected to emergency response if child malnutrition rate increases among the affected population. UNICEF is also in close contact with its partner, Aga Khan Health Services, who has strong presence and close partnership with local health authorities in GBAO, to monitor the situation on the ground and to identify any emerging health and nutrition needs.
WASH

In coordination with the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, water tanks, household water containers, and water purification tables, have been released and are being transported for distribution and pre-positioning in GBAO Region.

The impact of the humanitarian situation on the WASH sector is of critical importance. There is a lack of adequate water supply to the affected communities and, given the temperatures, the resultant impact on the Health sector is expected shortly. There is a need to assess viable water sources; ensure sound sanitation and hygiene options for the affected communities; and mitigate the impact of water-borne diseases on the population.

Communication for Development

Communication for Development (C4D), in emergency situation, material has been developed by the Tajikistan Country Office with a C4D Specialist in 2015. This material aligns with the Core Commitments for Children (CCC) in Humanitarian Situations and has been field-tested in Tajikistan.

Plans are underway to disseminate C4D material to the affected populations.

Supply and Logistics

In Rasht Region minimal supplies are prepositioned with the Ministry of Education and Science to establish Early Childhood Education Centres / Child-Friendly Spaces. Otherwise, all supplies for emergency response will need to be transported from Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

No UNICEF supplies are pre-positioned in GBAO. The major tunnel leading to the north is currently closed for repairs and all transportation is being routed through a mountainous pass. UNDSS has implemented convoy travel only through this area. At present, UNICEF is cooperating with other partners for transportation of supplies. Initial supplies are being sent with the Ministry of Health and Social Protection and there is an informal arrangement with WFP to send additional supplies with their trucks. Otherwise, transportation may pose a problem to reach affected areas.

Other options to get emergency supplies to the affected population may include relying on stock in the Osh Field Office, Kyrgyzstan.

Media and External Communication

No media or external communication has commenced, to date.

Security

All UNICEF staff including those who were on mission are accounted for and safe, however people in the region are becoming increasingly isolated due to road closures. UNDSS has advised staff to use all precautions when travelling, to use only MOSS compliant vehicles, to maintain fully charged satellite phones and to contact UNECC in advance for the latest information.

One UNICEF consultant, a field monitor, is based in Khorog, GBAO. UNICEF is in regular contact with him to ensure safety and security.

One UNICEF UNV is on annual leave and as of 23 July 2015 is travelling from the affected area (Khorog, GBAO) to Dushanbe, Tajikistan. The Staff Member is in regular contact with UNICEF Country Office and UNDSS.

Funding

The Country office is developing plans for Human Resources, Supply, and funding requirements in response to the situation, which will be available to inform the next SitRep.

At present, up to $150,000 of Regular Resources are being reprogrammed to respond to the emergency. UNICEF Country Office is estimating a need of an additional $500,000.00 to respond to the humanitarian situation.
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Next SitRep: 30/07/2015