The situation in Baghlan province remains dire due to the recent flooding there, with tens of thousands of people affected and forced to live in open areas. So far, 8,696 houses have been reported destroyed or damaged in Badakhshan, Baghlan and Takhar provinces. International Medical Corps, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA) and other humanitarian partners continue to perform needs assessments. Given that the impact of the disaster is vast, there is a likelihood that the numbers mentioned above may increase.

As needs assessments continue, certain areas such as Guzaragh Noor and Tala o Barafak remain inaccessible by road, due to the damage caused by flooding. As the only viable transportation to the mentioned areas is by air, a joint assessment team was deployed by helicopter to Burka district. The Jelga district of the province has just become accessible. However, more rainfall has been predicted in the coming days. Cases of acute respiratory infection with pneumonia, as well as acute watery diarrhea with dehydration, have been reported in flood-affected areas.

International Medical Corps Response

In addition to assessing areas in Baghlan, the emergency response team of International Medical Corps has participated in meetings held by the Operational Coordination Team (OCT), the Provincial Public Health Directorate, the Provincial Disaster Management Committee and the Directorate of Economy, focusing on coordinating joint assessment efforts and response.

International Medical Corps has distributed hygiene kits to 100 eligible families in the Baghlan Markazi district, and 159 dignity kits to affected families in Baghlan Markazi and Godam Hai Talashi. The emergency response team distributed tents to 24 flood-affected families living in remote locations of (Desalah and Tala Wa Barfak) in the Doshi and Nahrin districts through joint distribution with the IOM, ANDMA and other humanitarian partners.

The emergency response team of International Medical Corps conducted a one-day training on psychological first aid for 54 community health workers (31 females, and 23 males) in gender-specific groups.
Burka district is one of the most remote locations in Baghlan province, where humanitarian assistance is hard to provide to affected families. International Medical Corps will be deploying two female medical doctors to the district to provide medical support in response to the increased number of sicknesses in the flood-affected areas of the district.

The International Medical Corps will continue to share updates and work within the framework established during OCT meetings to provide comprehensive support to the affected communities. Through these concerted efforts, International Medical Corps will help alleviate the floods’ immediate impacts and support the region’s long-term recovery.