

Alert

INDIA

Flooding in Madhya Pradesh

Geneva, 15 July 2016

1. Brief description of the emergency and impact

People in the state of Madhya Pradesh have been struggling with one of the worst flood situations due to heavy rainfall for past few days. Rivers are over flowing, washing away bridges, breaching embankments, marooning villages. The state capital of Bhopal city has also reported extensive water logging. The slum dwellers of the city have been the worst affected. According to media sources (*Indian Express*), 22 people have died so far due to the floods and 9 persons are reported missing. An estimated 2,360 houses have been completely damaged and 17,236 houses have been partially damaged. A total of 332,400 persons have been affected due to floods in Madhya Pradesh. The Indian Meteorological Department, in Bhopal, predicted that there will be further rain and thunder showers are likely to occur at most places over Madhya Pradesh in next 24 hours, potentially exacerbating the situation.

2. Why is an ACT response needed?

In flood affected areas people have lost lives, livelihoods and shelters and in this crisis they are in dire need of relief assistance, especially in some remote villages which were not reached by the government relief programs. The flood situation may exacerbate in coming days and potentially more people would require assistance, stretching the existing meagre resources available.

3. National and international response

The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) teams are involved with rescue and relief operation with the revenue department of the state government. 7,000 people have been rescued. The meteorological department predicted more rainfall in almost the entire state of Madhya Pradesh. Nearly 15,819 people affected by floods are living in 68 relief camps, out of those 6,710 are in 14 shelter homes in Bhopal, 2,000 in 18 camps in Harda, 2000 in eight camps in Sehore, 1,400 in seven camps in Vidisha, 1,265 in five shelter homes in Satna and the rest in other districts.

4. ACT Alliance response

ACT Alliance Member United Evangelical Lutheran Churches in India (UELCI) and its member church the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Madhya Pradesh (ELCMP) are present in the flood affected areas and distributed cooked foods to 2,000 families. ACT Alliance Member, the Church's Auxiliary for Social Action (CASA) is responding to the disaster with a Feeding Programme in the worst-affected locations in association with St. John Church and ELCMP in Bhopal, and Anupama Education Society (AES) in Satna district. The feeding commenced from 11th July and is continuing. CASA and its partners have distributed

more than 2,000 food packages along with water pouches to the people affected by floods in Bhopal and Satna.

5. Planned activities

Both CASA and UELCI would like to respond to this flood situation in Madhya Pradesh through an ACT Appeal. The primary needs include: food, non-food items and temporary shelter materials as well as WASH kits as relief assistance.

6. Constraints

The villages are filled with water and the roads and bridges are washed out, so the mobility on road to provide relief assistance would be a major constraint. Electricity lines have snapped and communication in few places is yet to be restored.

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