

ALERT**FLOODS****actalliance****Bangkok**

17 July 2018

SITUATION

On the morning of Saturday the 14 July 2018, the state of Kerala in India, was affected by heavy downpour. The monsoon has unsettled the normal living of people in Kerala, it is very urgent to provide humanitarian response to this crisis. The second spell of monsoon has greatly affected the central and southern part of Kerala, consequently, the authorities declared disaster alert in 8 districts. Due to the southwest monsoon, flood situation continues to be in grim in many parts of the Allapuzha, and Kuttanad. Over flowing rivers and canals have submerged low-lying areas of the Kuttanad and upper Kuttanad, Ernakulam district, Idukki, Kottayam, Wayanad and Pathanamthitta district. According to the recent report from the government, 14 persons have been killed since 9th July 2018, over 6,065 families have been evacuated, 36 houses were destroyed, 1,214 houses were partially damaged, and 1,800 hectare of paddy crop submerged in flood water. Roads are cut off, so people cannot travel as normal to the mainland for accessing humanitarian assistance and aid. In addition the threat of water borne diseases due to accumulation of sewage waste is on the rise.

NEEDS

The floods have put Kerala in a state of crisis. The flood affected persons find themselves in a desperate situation, with many unmet vital humanitarian needs such as access to: sufficient food, safe shelter and basic non-food items, basic health services and facilities, safe drinking water as well as sanitation and hygiene infrastructure, and protection service. The dire situation is further compounded for the flood affected people with vulnerabilities. There is a pressing necessity to provide immediate assistance to minimize loss of life and to ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable are covered first.

STAKEHOLDERS

The following national and international entities are present and doing their best to respond to the crisis:

- Government of Kerala has set up relief camps, declared the alert, and coordinated with the relevant stakeholders to provide the complementary humanitarian response
- INGOs are monitoring the situation closely and discuss on the possibility of the humanitarian response in the affected communities
- Christian Agency for Rural Development (CARD) is helping the local government and local NGOs to set up relief camps, and providing basic assistance, as well as participating in the rapid needs assessment
- Local churches are providing shelter and food to the affected communities as well as a safe space for those affected by the flood.

The emergency response is currently being coordinated by Local authorities to ensure that the humanitarian response is well coordinated and complementary, the ACT India forum will take part in meetings with all relevant sector stakeholders (NGOs, Local government) and establish an open line of communication with crisis affected persons and communities to ensure a humanitarian response based on participation and feedback.

ACT Alliance

ACT Alliance has been working in India since 2010, now planning to help people affected by the floods. ACT Alliance works in areas affected by the floods, and is assessing the impact of the disaster to better understand the needs and vulnerabilities. ACT Alliance is currently monitoring the situation and is preparing a rapid needs assessment to have an in-depth context analysis and better understanding of existing vulnerabilities. ACT Alliance is monitoring the situation and emergency teams are preparing to respond according to the results of a contextual analysis and rapid needs assessment. In collaboration with relevant stakeholders, ACT India forum has identified a gap in meeting the urgent basic needs of the remote affected areas and has resolved that if funded, it will have the capacity to properly bridge

the identified gap. ACT India forum is planning on submitting a funding proposal to provide basic necessities to ensure that the floods affected persons' basic needs are met. ACT Alliance is ready to respond, providing provision kit, , warm clothing , and basic health requirements to affected persons in Alappuzha district, Upper kuttanad in Pathanamthitta distict, Pooyamkutty, Kuttampuzha in Ernakulam district, Tribal hamlets in Wayanad and Idukki district. Furthermore, ACT Alliance will engage in advocacy on the national and international level to ensure that the voices of those affected by the floods are amplified.

Any funding indication or pledge should be communicated to the Head of Finance and Administration, Line Hempel (Line.Hempel@actalliance.org)

For further information please contact:

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