

# ALERT FLOODS



actalliance

## Floods in Kerala, India

Bangkok 11/8/2018

### SITUATION

In the evening of Thursday the 9 August 2018, the state of Kerala in India, was witnessing severe flooding due to continuing rains which have been ongoing for a few days. Vigorous southwest monsoon has left a trail of destruction across Kerala, killing at least 26 people over last 48 hours. This vigorous monsoon eventually has led to the increase in level of water in many dams / reservoirs in Kerala. The incessant rains caused havoc by flooding many districts in Northern districts of Kerala namely Idukki, Ernakulam, Malapuram, Kozhikode, Palakkad and Wyanad. The flooding has damaged infrastructure, agricultural lands and houses. The release of water from dams has further exacerbated the flooding particularly around Idukki and Ernakulam Districts. Incessant rains in the other parts has led to severe flooding in Wyanad, Kozhikode, Palakadd and Malapuram Districts. Idukki and Wayand being hilly have witnessed landslides. In the two districts where 26 lives were lost, 11 were because of the landslides. Many roads in Wyanad and Idukki have been blocked because of the landslides. Around 9000 people have shifted to 64 camps in Ernakulam, 3521 people in Idukki. Army and the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) have been deployed in all the affected districts. Many roads have been cutoff and many districts are witnessing power shutdowns. The power shutdown may also trigger a drinking water crisis in some of the affected areas. As of now 241 relief camps have been set up and 15,700 people from the low lying areas have been shifted in those camps. This flood is the second wave of Flood in Kerala in this Monsoon Period. The first wave of Flood affected Wayanad district and the Kuttanad Area of Kerala which is part of Pathanamthitta, Allapuzha and Kottayam.

### NEEDS

The floods have put the districts 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, livelihood activities, protection services and adequate nutrition

The dire situation is further compounded for the flood affected people with vulnerabilities. more specifically for women and girls. Further in Kerala many of the houses have agriculture / horticulture plantations within their house premises which have been damaged. The government is evacuating people from low lying area and shifting them Relief Camps and providing shelter and food. As of now around 15,700 people are in 241 relief camps. Given this scenario the impacts are felt with women, children and elderly people .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:

National government:

Army and NDRF have been deployed for rescue and evacuation. State Government is providing food to the shelters

National NGOs:

CASA has been in operation in some of Flood affected area in the first wave of Floods namely Kottayam, Allapuzha, Pathanamthitta and Wyanad districts through its local partners.

The district of Wyanad has been affected in the second wave of Flood also.

Civil society groups

CARD is intervening in Kottayam, Allapuzha and Pathanamthitta with support from CASA

The emergency response is currently being coordinated by Kerala Government. To ensure that the humanitarian response is well coordinated and complementary, the ACT forum will take part in meetings with all relevant sector stakeholders particularly the district and panchayat officials 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 its inception in the year 1995, and is now helping 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 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, the ACT India forum has identified a gap in Food, Security, Non-Food, Shelter, WASH, Livelihood, Health and Nutrition and has resolved that if funded, it will have the capacity to properly bridge the identified gap.

The ACT forum is planning on submitting a funding proposal to provide Food, Non-Food Items, Shelter, WASH and Livelihood to ensure that the floods affected persons' basic needs are met with regards to access to food, non-food items, safe shelter, access to safe drinking water, hygiene and proper sanitation, alternative livelihood with cash transfer.

ACT Alliance is ready to respond, providing basic food, temporary shelter, non-food items, hygiene/dignity kits, water storage container, water purifiers, agricultural seeds and allied services, cash transfer to 4000 affected households in the coming months.

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](mailto:Line.Hempel@actalliance.org))**

For further information please contact:

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**Core Humanitarian STANDARD** The ACT Alliance Secretariat's continuous improvement in the application of the Core Humanitarian Standard is independently verified by HQAI

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