

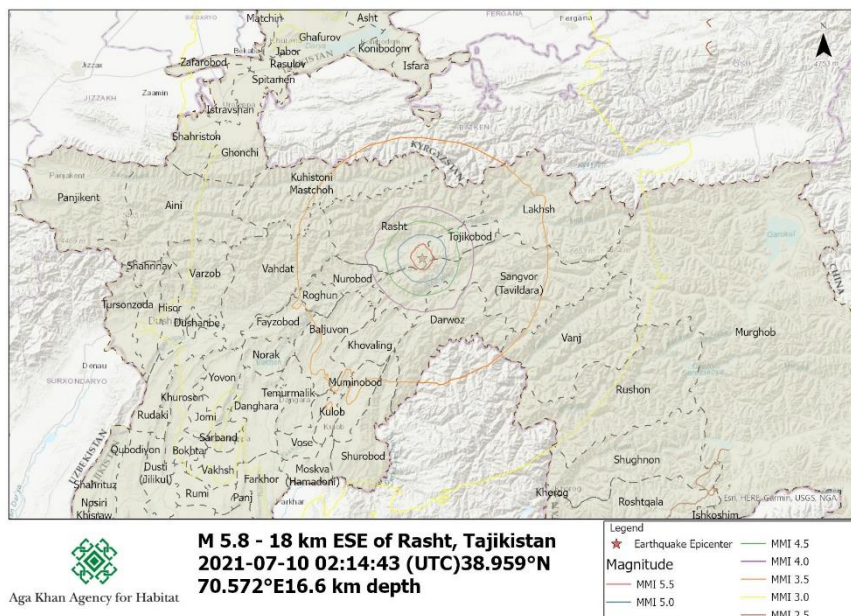
RAPID EMERGENCY ASSESSMENT AND COORDINATION TEAM (REACT)

Rasht Valley, Tajikistan: 5.8 Magnitude Earthquake

Situation Update No. 1 (as of 12 July 2021, 17:00)

Highlights

- Five people reported to be killed, while another 22 people hospitalized with injuries.
- As ongoing Government assessment results unfold, State Commission on Emergencies confirms destruction of at least 66 houses up to date.
- Around 16 villages of Tajikabad, Rasht and Sangvor districts are affected.
- Very initial estimates provided by Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan, indicate that over 500 households have been affected directly by the earthquake.
- Detailed damage and needs assessment are ongoing by State Commission of Emergencies led by the Prime Minister.
- Geographic complexities of the area may impede accessing the affected communities and delivery of the humanitarian assistance.



Situation Overview

An **earthquake of M 5.8 M** occurred in Rasht Valley at 07:14 local time, on 10 July 2021. Up to date, several aftershocks of below 5 Magnitude have been recorded in the valley. Field reports indicate that earthquake affected around 16 villages in Tajikabad, Rasht and Sangvor districts.

Committee of Emergency Situations confirmed the death of five people (four children under 16 years and one elderly woman), inhabitants of Jamoat Langari Shoh of Tajikabad district. Healthcare services report that first aid has been provided to over 200 earthquake affected people, out of which 22 people have been hospitalized.

Search and rescue operations organized by the CoES were completed on the same day, as most of the destroyed and damaged buildings were one-story clay buildings.

Preliminary estimates provided by the local branches of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan, indicate that 507 houses are damaged and unstable for further use across Tajikabad, Rasht and Sangvor districts. As of 12 July 2021 (17:00) State Commission on Emergencies confirmed full destruction of 49 houses in Tajikabad district, 16 in Rasht district and one house in Sangvor district. As the assessments are still on-going, damage data is expected to increase further.



Affected children, Buston village, Tajikabad district
Photo credit: AKAH

While, there are no final figures on displaced population, it is reported that most of the affected population is living in the yards of their houses out of fear of further aftershocks and doubts regarding infrastructural stability of damaged living quarters. Government supported by REACT partners have installed family tents in the yards, which will temporarily host those families.

Population continue using the same pre-disaster drinking water supply systems. However, electricity is supplied in scheduled manner to enable safe search and rescue operations, as well as debris removal.

Up to date, all the roadblocks caused by the earthquake have been cleaned. Nonetheless, the geographic complexities of the area coupled by weather conditions (eg: raining of 12 July) impede access to the affected communities and complicates the delivery of the humanitarian assistance.

Below table provides a very rough estimations of affected households based on the reports provided by RCST local branches (as of 12 July 2021). Number of affected populations, as well as people in need will be regularly updated, considering the results of Government field assessments.

Districts	Village/community	# of partially damaged houses	# of destroyed houses	total # of affected households	# of affected population
Tajikabad	Sari Chashma Buston Kuli Kalon Sumandar Darai mazori bolo Darai Mazori poyon Langari Shoh Anvarobod	270	180	450	2700
Rasht	Askalon Sari Shukhon Sharho va Zuhbed Hijborak Hazorchashma Yarkhab Yarkhati Chuqurak	22	30	52	312
Sangvor	Darai Hahyron	4	1	5	32
Total		296	211	507	3044

The REACT Secretariat is in close communication with Government, local authorities and humanitarian partners operating in Rasht Valley to obtain information. Depending on confirmed information on the severity of damage and humanitarian needs, REACT may organize a rapid and initial assessment of the situation, through involvement of field staff of partner organizations operational in the affected areas.

Humanitarian Response

In the immediate aftermath of the disaster, Government has activated State Commission on Emergencies under the leadership of the Prime Minister of Tajikistan and deployed a mission composed of management/senior representatives of relevant state services to undertake damage and needs assessment and coordinate the response operation. As of 12 July 2021, Commission assessed over 300 houses reported to be damaged.

Supported by the Communal Emergency Response Team volunteers of the Aga Khan Agency for Habitat (AKAH) CoES has installed over 130 family tents in the yards of the destroyed and damaged houses of Tajikabad district.

RCST staff and volunteers rendered First Aid to 12 affected people and psycho-social support to another 82 affected people in Tajikabad district and to 42 people in Rasht district.

Food packages (incl. wheat flour, rice, vegetable oil, macaroni, bottled drinking water) and some basic PPE (masks and antiseptics) have been provided by the Government to some 137 affected families in Tajikabad district.

Humanitarian Needs

Sector-specific information on needs, damages, gaps and constraints will be updated in due time as more information is available. REACT Secretariat is in close contact with the Government and partners operational in the affected areas to obtain this information. As of 12 July, below information on needs has been made available by the Committee of Emergency Situations and Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan:

Immediate humanitarian needs	Longer-term recovery needs
Tents and sets of non-food items, including clothing, kitchen utensils and tarpalium	Construction materials <i>CoES prioritizes construction materials over other needs, to ensure soonest recovery process.</i>
Fuels and lubricants	Multipurpose cash assistance
Hygiene items and PPE	Social infrastructure reconstruction
Mental health and psychosocial support	
Food assistance	

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