

PRESS RELEASE



Welthungerhilfe: Massive earthquake strikes Hindu Kush

Bonn, October 26, 2015. Today, a powerful earthquake of 7.7 has shaken Afghanistan and the neighbouring countries Tajikistan, Pakistan and India. Until now, only little information is available from the affected regions. The epicentre was located in a sparsely populated mountainous area of the Northeastern province Badakhshan, difficult to access. "Our staff has been trying for hours to get detailed information about casualties and damages. Our local colleagues are permanently on the phone, trying to get any news from their families and friends about the situation in the affected area. Here in Afghanistan, it will be night soon and we will only know by tomorrow's daylight what the people really need", says Katja Richter, Welthungerhilfe Country Director in Kabul.

Welthungerhilfe is getting prepared to help the affected people in the region. In particular, the cold temperatures to minus 10 degrees at night will be a big challenge to the people.

The Welthungerhilfe Country Director is available for interviews. If required, we are pleased to establish direct contact.

Further information on our website: <http://www.welthungerhilfe.de/en/home-en.html>

Welthungerhilfe in Afghanistan:

Since 1993, Welthungerhilfe has been working in the border region of Afghanistan and Pakistan. The country office established in 1999 in Kabul took over the coordination of the programme. Methods and focal points have shifted since the start of the cooperation – from and original focus on pure emergency aid, towards the strengthening of rural population groups in their efforts towards restoration and promotion of their basic livelihoods. Welthungerhilfe supports project activities on nutrition security, on rural development with a focus on water and hygiene activities. Furthermore, Welthungerhilfe supports internally displaced people around Kabul. The project areas are in the Northwest (Faryab/Jawzjan), in the Northeast (Balkh/Sa-mangan) as well as in Kabul. At present, 250 staff members are responsible for nine ongoing projects. Welthungerhilfe cooperates with three local partner organisations to support and strengthen the civil society.

Welthungerhilfe is one of the biggest private aid organisations in Germany. It provides aid from a single source: from fast disaster relief and reconstruction to long-term development cooperation projects with local partner organisations, according to the principle of help for self-help. Since its foundation in 1962, more than 7,733 projects in 70 countries have been supported with 2.84 billion Euro – for a world without hunger and poverty.

Herausgeber:

Deutsche Welthungerhilfe e. V.

Contact person:
Simone Pott
Press spokesperson
Phone 0228 / 22 88 – 114
Mobile 0172 – 2525962
Simone.pott@welthungerhilfe.de

Assistance: Jessica Kühnle
Telefon 0228 / 22 88 – 454

presse@welthungerhilfe.de

www.welthungerhilfe.de

