

## Flash Floods in Afghanistan



Flash floods in the past two weeks have killed at least 20 people and destroyed hundreds of homes, according to the Afghanistan National Disasters Management Authority (ANDMA), which has declared a nationwide state of emergency.

“Without the state of emergency we will not be able to save lives and keep the situation under control,” Abdul Matin Edrak, director of ANDMA, told IRIN in Kabul, adding that the

aim was to “mitigate the impacts of severe floods”.

ANDMA said it had held an emergency meeting with representatives of key aid agencies to assess the humanitarian response.

At least 10 people were killed and 300 houses and 100 shops washed away by floods in Baghlan Province, northern Afghanistan, ANDMA reported. Six people were killed in Balkh Province (northern Afghanistan) and at least four deaths were reported in Badakhshan Province (northeastern Afghanistan), according to ANDMA. Deaths have also been reported in Badghis and Herat provinces, but not confirmed by ANDMA.

In Herat Province in the west and Balkh Province thousands of families were affected by floods according to ANDMA.

At least 10 of the country’s 34 provinces have been affected by floods, landslides and avalanches in the past six weeks, ANDMA said. The floods had reportedly killed hundreds of livestock and damaged agricultural land; thousands of families were in urgent need of life-saving assistance, aid agencies said.