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Disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) Democratic People's Republic of Korea: Typhoon Bolaven

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation n° MDRKP005
GLIDE n° [TC-2012-000159-PRK](#)
14 September 2012

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent system emergency response. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of National Societies to respond to disasters.

CHF 272,817 has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) Red Cross Society in delivering immediate assistance to some 2,515 families (11,600 beneficiaries). Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Since July, most parts of DPRK were hit by consecutive floods caused by torrential rains. The impact of these floods was exacerbated when Typhoon Bolaven hit on 28 August. The high intensity rainfall within a short period of time, with strong winds, resulted in flash floods in the affected counties. Among all, Tanchon county is the most affected.



Displaced people as a result of typhoon Bolaven in Hongwon county, south Hamgyong province. Photo: DPRK Red Cross.

According to data provided by the DPRK government, as of 3 September, at least 59 persons are dead, 1 is injured and 50 are missing. A total of 5,766 dwelling houses have been partially or totally damaged and 2,192 houses have been submerged. Access to the affected areas were cut off due to the flooding, delaying the flow of information and making it difficult to verify the needs and gaps on the ground.

The damage caused by the floods was reconfirmed by international non-governmental organizations working in the country. Some communities were completely washed away by landslides.

This operation seeks to support the DPRK Red Cross Society (DPRK RCS) in providing immediate assistance to about 2,515 families with immediate relief supply as well as some on-the-ground hygiene

promotion activities to avoid outbreaks of diseases. The operation is expected to be implemented over three months, and will therefore be completed by 12 December 2012. A final report will be made available by 12 March 2013.

[<click here for the DREF budget; here for contact details; here to view the map of the affected areas>](#)

The situation

Successive torrential rains and tropical storms have caused extensive flooding at the end of August, severely damaging buildings, infrastructure and crops throughout the DPRK especially in south and north Pyongan, south and north Hwanghae, south and north Hamgyong, Jagang and Ryanggang provinces. The high intensity rainfall within a short period of time, with strong winds, resulted in flash floods in the affected areas.

On 28-30 August, Typhoon Bolaven hit the country, worsening the flood situation in DPRK, especially in south and north Hwanghae, south and north Hamgyong, Kangwon and Ryanggang provinces. Preliminary information released by the government indicates that as of 3 September, at least 59 persons are dead, 1 is injured and 50 are missing. A total of 5,766 dwelling houses have been partially or totally damaged and 2,192 houses have been submerged. Up to 52,299 hectares of crop land were submerged, buried or washed away, aggravating food situation in the country.

The following table reflects the flood damage reported by the government as of 3 September.

Casualty and dwelling house damage

Affected areas	28-29 Aug (Typhoon Bolaven)							
	Total	Dead	Injured	Missing	Total	Destroyed	Damaged	Submerged
	person	person	person	person	household	household	household	household
Total	110	59	1	50	7,958	3,493	2,273	2,192
South Phyongan	8	8			823	714	21	88
North Phyongan					13	3	10	-
South Hwanghae					119	19	100	-
North Hwanghae					386	14	185	187
South Hamgyong	93	48		45	3,952	2,405	316	1,231
Kangwon	1		1		229	25	90	114
Ryanggang	4	1		3	1,174	178	424	572
Nampo city					97	-	97	-
North Hamgyong	4	2		2	160	135	1,025	-
Rason city					5	-	5	-

Arable land damage

Affected areas	Total	Submerged (hectare)	Buried (hectare)	Washed away (hectare)	Crop fallen (hectare)
Total		4,473.8	101.7	593.9	47,131.3
South Phyongan	381		10		371
North Phyongan	23.5				23.5
South Hwanghae	23,351	1,014.6	1.7	8.4	22,326.3
North Hwanghae	6,027.3	149			5,878.3
South Hamgyong	13,876.6	2,306.3	45	303.4	11,221.9
Kangwon	2,004.4	18			1,986.4
Ryanggang	1,399.1	417.3	1	106.1	874.7

North Hamgyong	3,846.6	568.6	44	176	3,058
Pyongyang city	4.2				4.2
Nampo city	147				147
Rason city	1,240				1240

The government immediately responded to the floods mobilizing civil servants, the army and the police, which included providing emergency relief items to flood-affected people, rehabilitating the damaged infrastructure and taking measures to prevent future flooding. Other main response activities were carried out as follows:

- Early warning and evacuation.
- Search and rescue.
- Tracing services for those missing.
- Rehabilitation and recovery of infrastructure, i.e. roads, bridge and communication facilities.
- Provision of emergency food to the affected people.
- Provision of emergency relief items (clothes, shoes etc.).
- Repairing dams and embankments.
- Repairing damaged houses.

Although the government has not released any official information since the last [information bulletin](#), published on 5 September 2012, some key in-country aid agencies, including the Red Cross, Concern Worldwide (EUPS Unit 3) and Save the Children International (EUPS Unit 2) had gathered more on-the-ground information, which were shared amongst the interagency network. In Kumchon and Singhae counties in South Pyongyang province, as well as in South Hwanghae province, croplands and infrastructures were badly destroyed. The total estimated damage caused to households and institutions in nine different counties was estimated to be around 12,000 families.

According to DPRK RCS provincial branch, rains are still ongoing; therefore, some of the affected areas are still inaccessible with poor road networks due to the damage. People who lost their homes had moved in with neighbors and relatives whereas others are living under temporary shelters and public buildings. The local government is currently engaged in the reconstruction of public service facilities and rehabilitation of infrastructure and damaged houses. Pump stations have also been submerged and pipelines damaged, further hampering the supply of safe drinking water, emphasizing the need to provide immediate means for safe drinking water.

The damaged crops, due to the flooding of arable land is expected to threaten the food security situation in the affected areas. Most affected families reported sudden loss of food stocks due to the floods, severely affecting their households and belongings. The World Food Programme (WFP) is currently only providing food ration as a part of the annual food aid programme (its emergency food aid programme was completed in July). Food supply is currently insufficient despite efforts by the local government in providing additional food to the affected people.

Despite immediate support from the government and humanitarian agencies (including Red Cross) to the affected people, there are still gaps to be filled. The government has requested for in-country organizations to support these needs, and at present not called for international assistance.

Coordination and partnerships

IFRC is a participant of the inter-agency mechanisms for disaster response in DPRK. Prior to the rainy season, contingency planning and other preparedness measures have been taken by the inter-agency group including the formation of thematic clusters that could be activated in the event of big emergencies.

Provincial Red Cross branches are coordinating with local government and provincial flood damage prevention committees to constantly assess the damage and needs. They are also closely monitoring the food and nutrition status of the affected population in close coordination with local authorities.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

DPRK RCS, together with IFRC, has been responding to the rain and flooding situation since July. In close coordination with government, some 9,014 families in 16 counties of six provinces had received emergency relief items.

Before the start of the rainy season, DPRK RCS had activated its emergency task force at headquarters and branch levels in close coordination with the national disaster prevention committee. The national disaster response teams (NDRT) and provincial disaster response teams (PDRT) have been on high alert. Several workshops and trainings on damage and needs assessment, standard operation procedures for disaster response, emergency water and sanitation, and emergency health were held across the country targeting Red Cross staff and volunteers as well as officers in local authorities. A rapid assessment was conducted by some local volunteers in the aftermath of Typhoon Bolaven, together with subsequent deployment of PDRT and NDRT in affected communities, who collected necessary information to plan for further action.



Red Cross volunteers are mobilized in the distribution of relief items to typhoon-affected people in Hongwon county, South Hamgyong province. Photo: DPRK RCS.

Provincial Red Cross branches are coordinating with local government and provincial flood damage prevention committees to constantly assess the damage and needs. They are also closely monitoring the food status of the affected population in close coordination with local authorities.

Red Cross volunteers at community-level were mobilized in rescue, evacuation and first aid services to the affected people.

The proposed operation

Taking into account the assessment result (documented under the situation section) especially on the needs for immediate relief supply and the needs in safe drinking water, the operation targets to support 2,515 families affected (approximately 11,600 people) in South Hamgyong, North Hamgyong and Ryanggang¹ with essential items including quilts, cooking sets, jerry cans and water purification tablets. These items are being mobilized from the DPRK RCS disaster preparedness warehouse to the most affected families. Some hygiene promotion and household water treatment activities will be conducted to assist them in obtaining immediate safe drinking water.

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Outcome: To provide 2,515 affected and displaced families (approximately 11,600 people) with essential non-food items to meet their immediate needs in south and north Hamgyong and Ryanggang provinces

Expected results

2,515 flood-affected and displaced families (11,600 people) have received non-food assistance.

Activities carried out and/or planned

- Identification and registration of affected and displaced families based on agreed criteria
- Distribution of non-food items from existing stocks to identified beneficiaries
- Continuously monitor relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions
- Conduct ongoing assessment of the impact of the flood and review support strategies
- Replenishment of stocks based on approved budgets and IFRC procurement requirement

¹ The provinces covered in this DREF typhoon operation are different from the provinces covered in the DREF flood operation in August 2012.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: The risk of water and sanitation related diseases has been reduced through the provision of water purification tablets and hygiene promotion activities to 2,515 families (approximately 11,600 flood-affected people) in south and north Hamgyong and Ryanggang provinces over one month.

Expected results

Access to safe drinking water is provided to the targeted 2,515 families (approximately 11,600 flood-affected people) for one month.

Activities carried out and/or planned:

- Provision of water purification tablets and jerry cans for 2,515 families.
- Conduct training/information programmes for Red Cross volunteers and beneficiaries on hygiene promotion, household water treatment and storage, safe and proper use of water purification tablets.
- Monitoring the use of water purification tablets.
- Mobilization of volunteers for monitoring the evolving situation.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGOs\) in Disaster Relief](#) and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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The IFRC's work is guided by [Strategy 2020](#) which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
 2. Enable healthy and safe living.
 3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.
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DREF OPERATION

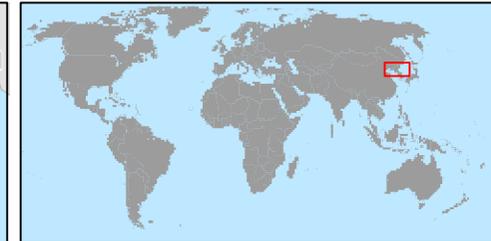
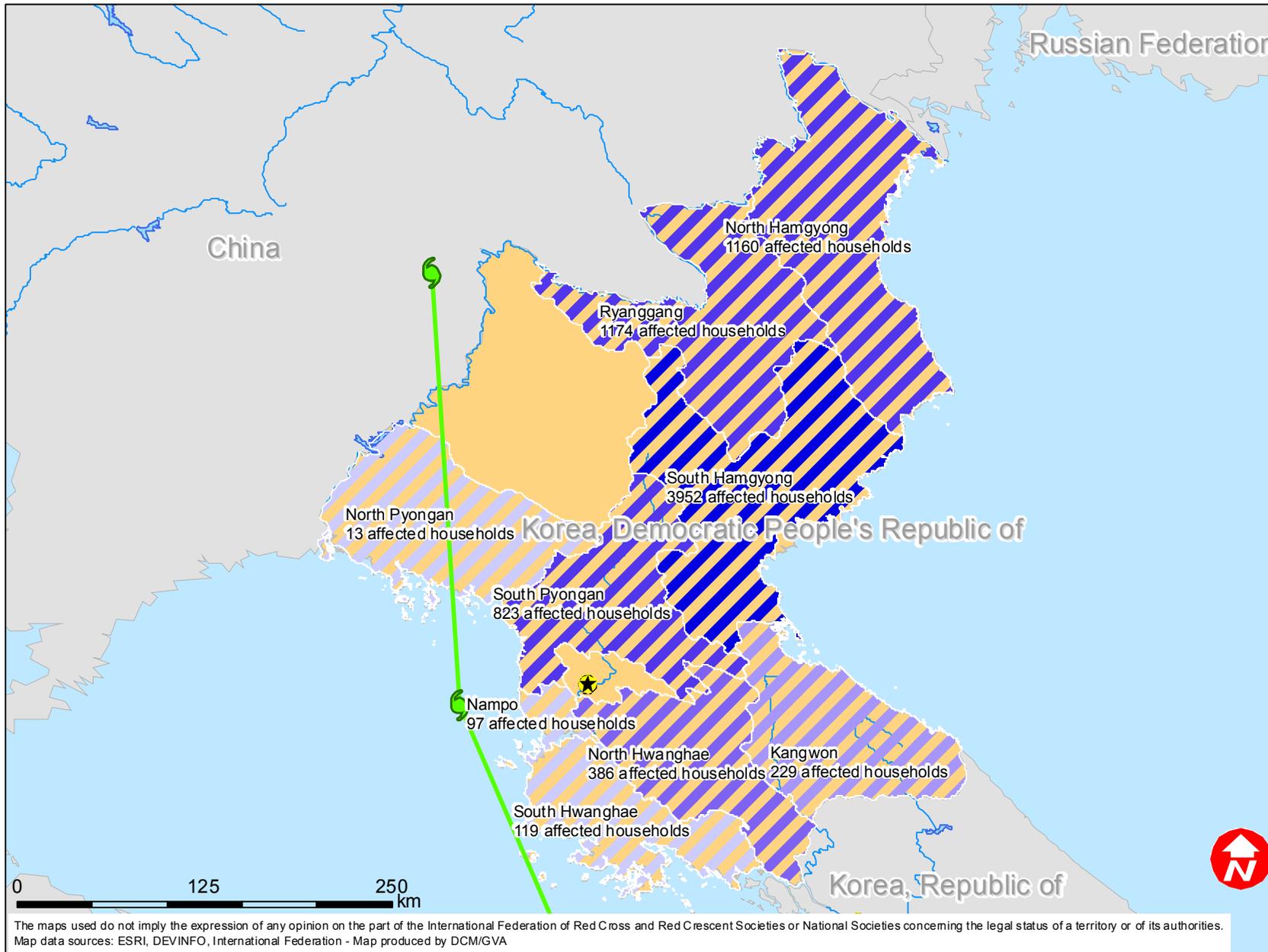
14/9/2012

MDRKP005 DPR Korea: Typhoon Bolaven

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Clothing & Textiles	162,400
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	13,926
Utensils & Tools	65,390
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	241,716
Storage, Warehousing	1,000
Distribution & Monitoring	3,000
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	4,000
National Society Staff	1,500
Volunteers	1,500
Total PERSONNEL	3,000
Workshops & Training	6,250
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	6,250
Communications	1,200
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	1,200
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	16,651
Total INDIRECT COSTS	16,651
TOTAL BUDGET	272,817



Democratic People's Republic of Korea: Typhoon Bolaven



Bolaven

- TROPICAL DEPRESSION
- TROPICAL STORM
- TYPHOON-1
- TYPHOON-2
- TYPHOON-3
- TYPHOON-4
- SUPER TYPHOON-4

Affected households

- 13 - 119
- 120 - 229
- 230 - 386
- 387 - 1'174
- 1'175 - 3'952