

# Emergency appeal



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Viet Nam: Floods and typhoons

Emergency appeal n° MDRVN006  
GLIDE n° [FL-2009-000207-VNM](#)  
19 October 2009



In Quang Ngai province's Binh Minh commune, Bin Son district, beneficiaries patiently waited for up to six hours for the distribution of relief goods. Quang Ngai province is one of the areas to suffer the double impact of the typhoon and flooding, but the resilience of the affected communities is highly encouraging. (Photo: Tao Vandang/ International Federation)

provinces, with the latter two hardest-hit. Rainfall up to 285mm fell in Quang Ninh. The Central Committee for Flood and Storm Control (CCFSC) reported up to 64 vessels sunk, and 80 houses have lost their roofs or sustained major damage, while more than 36,730 people have been evacuated to safer ground.

Ongoing field assessments indicate that up to 16 provinces have been affected by typhoon Ketsana and the preceding floods, ranging from Thanh Hoa in the north to Gia Lai in central Viet Nam. Almost half the country has been affected by these disasters. The effects of Typhoon Parma have exacerbated conditions in certain areas of the country that have already suffered the impact of typhoons and flooding. Based on the number of families who have lost or suffered extensive damage to their homes, approximately 1.5 million people have been seriously affected by the recent events.

This revised emergency appeal seeks CHF 5,571,176 (USD 5.47 million or EUR 3.67 million) in cash, kind, or services to support Viet Nam Red Cross to assist 60,000 families (approximately 270,000 people) for 12 months, and will be completed by 30 September 2010. A final report will be made available by 31 December 2010, three months after the end of the operation.

**Appeal coverage:** The appeal is 35 per cent covered to date, and over 50 per cent covered with pledges in the pipeline. Funds are urgently needed to enable Viet Nam Red Cross to continue providing immediate humanitarian assistance to those affected by this disaster.

### Appeal history:

- This emergency appeal was initially launched on a preliminary basis on 2 October 2009 for CHF 4,939,626 (USD 4.75 million or EUR 3.25 million) for 12 months to assist 50,000 families (approximately 210,000 people).
- Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF): CHF 314,064 (USD 324,167 or EUR 214,633) was allocated from the Federation's DREF to support the national society to respond.

**Summary:** On 29 September, Typhoon Ketsana struck Viet Nam, sweeping through 12 provinces and causing wide-spread destruction. As this appeal was being revised Typhoon Parma struck the Hung Yen, Hai Duong, Ha Nam, Thua Thien Hue, Nam Dinh, Quang Ninh and Hai Phong

The number of beneficiary families under this appeal is now estimated at 60,000 (or 270,000 people) due to the re-calculation of target beneficiary numbers under each component of the plan of action, taking into account beneficiary families who may receive more than one form of assistance.

Steps have been taken to facilitate better partnerships among all parties working in this operation. These include the establishment of an operations room bringing together all Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners including two focal points from Viet Nam Red Cross (VNRC) on-site, to work more closely and facilitate better communication; development of a tracking spreadsheet to better manage incoming and outgoing relief supplies and distribution; better exchange of information for better coordination among partners; and mutual support among all parties in the field through joint assessments and sharing of technical expertise.

Further assessments and distributions are also being carried out. In the early morning of 15 October, an assessment team comprising VNRC members and one regional disaster response team (RDRT) member began to travel across the four hard-hit provinces of Thanh Hoa, Quang Binh, Quang Tri and Ha Tinh to evaluate the situation and carry out distribution of household kits, rice, hygiene and food parcels.

A new component has been added to this revised appeal. This focuses on disaster risk reduction (DRR) training and awareness-raising for youth and children, incorporating the distribution of life-vest school bags for children who cross flood areas and rivers everyday on their way to school.

In terms of needs, rice remains the main priority under this appeal, whilst in the water and sanitation component, the emphasis on hygiene promotion and good hygiene practices has been raised to include printing and dissemination of information, education and communication (IEC) materials, training on prevention of communicable diseases and environmental awareness, and the exchange of experiences of this typhoon and flooding by youth and children with their peers.

Technical support will be enhanced for Red Cross chapters, such as in Kon Tum, which have been greatly affected by the typhoon and flooding, but have limited experience in disaster relief and response operations. Also in terms of capacity building, support will be given to the VNRC communications department to build on media and communications skills to help enhance visibility and promote the work of the Red Cross.

Partners interested in seeing a short video of the situation in Binh Duong can click [here](#) .

Since the launch of this appeal, contributions have been received from American Red Cross, British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross/Canadian government, Finnish Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross, Republic of Korea Red Cross, Monaco Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross/Netherlands government, New Zealand Red Cross/New Zealand government, Swedish Red Cross/Swedish government, and the United Arab Emirates Red Crescent. Contributions have also been received from the Italian government and USAID. Bilateral contributions have been received from: American Red Cross, French Red Cross, German Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross.

On behalf of Viet Nam Red Cross, the International Federation would like to thank all partners and donors for their quick and generous response to this appeal.

[<click to view the attached revised emergency appeal budget; a map of the affected area; or contact details>](#)

## The situation

On 29 September, Typhoon Ketsana struck central Viet Nam with wind gusts of up to 160 km/hour. The typhoon swept through 12 provinces including Binh Dinh, Da Nang, Dak Lak, Gia Lai, Kon Tum, Lam Dong, Phu Yen, Quang Binh, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Quang Tri and Thua Thien Hue. It caused wide-spread destruction, with the provinces of Quang Nam and Quang Ngai the hardest struck, resulting in the evacuation of 103,123 households (some 356,790 people).

Typhoon Ketsana was originally expected to strike Viet Nam further north but took a surprise turn southwards between 28-29 September, directly striking communities in Quang Nam and Quang Ngai. Up to 12 other provinces in central-northern Viet Nam were also affected. In total, 16 provinces have been affected by typhoon Ketsana and the preceding flooding from 24-26 September. The provinces of Thanh Hoa, Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang Tri and Hue that suffered flooding at this time were given initial relief through the DREF allocation. Based on the number of families who have lost or suffered extensive damage to their homes, approximately 1.5 million people have been seriously affected by Typhoon Ketsana.



In Quang Nam's Dai Hong commune, fast-flowing flood waters shifted tonnes of sand, leaving houses buried after water levels have receded. Families now face the mammoth task of digging their homes out from under this soil and making them fit for habitation. (Photo: Tao Vandang/International Federation)

Effective evacuation measures were led by the government and supported by the Red Cross, saving many lives. In addition, many communities also helped themselves, moving to safer ground by bamboo raft and boat. The change in the direction of the storm, however, took many by surprise. In Quang Ngai, despite being well-trained in disaster preparedness, only 500 or so of the 8,650 population managed to escape the floodwaters; the rest were forced to wade or paddle to safety in small traditional bamboo boats.

Latest figures available from the government's disaster coordinating agency, the Central Committee for Flood and Storm Control (CCFSC) are up to 6 October and indicate that 163 people have been killed, 11 are still missing and 629 injured due to the typhoon. To date, some 21,611 homes have been destroyed, 258,415 houses damaged and 294,711 flooded. The CCFSC also estimates some 5,490 classrooms have been damaged.

Kon Tum, a disadvantaged province in the central Highlands, is, for example, one of the worst hit by flash floods and landslides: 49 people are reported dead, and two are missing while 409 houses have collapsed, 903 others are without roofs, and 206 others flooded out. Agricultural damage is also high with 2,738 hectares of rice fields underwater, and 435 hectares of rice harvest washed away. Up to 112 classrooms have been damaged.

The subsequent floods in the wake of Ketsana increased water levels in major rivers in Quang Ngai, Gia Lai, Kon Tum, Hue, Quang Binh, and Quang Tri provinces up to five metres. These elevated levels forced emergency evacuation of more than 4,000 households living downstream in the Quang Tri, Hue, Da Nang, Quang Nam and Quang Ngai provinces. As many as 500 households in Thach An village, Binh My commune in Quang Ngai province were isolated by deep fast-flowing water spilling over from Tra Bong river.

Detailed information about causes of casualties is available at each level and one example from Quang Ngai province can be found [here](#).

Power lines and telecommunications stations have been severely damaged. The lack of power supply also affects water pumps while the absence of mobile phone networks have forced community members to resort to word of mouth and "motorcycle communication." In some of the more remote areas in Quang Nam province, power supply was only restored at the end of last week (9 October). Fast-flowing flood waters had carried massive amounts of sand, burying many houses in the area up to their roofs.

The typhoon and flooding also set off many other secondary disasters. Dong Hoi town in Quang Binh province was struck by ensuing whirlwinds on 1 October, un-roofing 120 houses, destroying two schools, and electricity pillars, while in Quang Ngai, landslides followed with the combination of powerful winds, heavy rain and fast-flowing flood waters. In Dai Hop commune, Quang Nam province, this is estimated the worst flooding

in the last 100 years as well as the most destructive typhoon to hit the commune in the last 50. Homes and community buildings buried under tonnes of sand in neighbouring Dai Hung commune stand as a testament to the extent of the flood's destructive force.

For people living downstream of rivers such as the Kien Giang, regaining a hold on their previous everyday lives is a struggle. These are areas that suffered the two-fold impact of both typhoon and floods and many people are disheartened, believing it will take up to ten years to rebuild their lives. Restoration of farming land is one priority. Access to potable water is difficult as flood waters and debris have contaminated many wells and water sources. Households have received water treatment chemicals from the government to clean wells, but many water systems run on electricity which is yet to be restored in some communities. The Red Cross is distributing water purification tablets with its household kits.

Food insecurity is also a major concern. Rice fields have been ruined by the floods; even harvested crops have not escaped the floods and due to spoilage are now unfit for human consumption. This shortage of food must be addressed immediately through the provision of rice while the longer-term needs will be addressed through planned livelihoods interventions and disaster risk reduction.

## Coordination and partnerships

This revised emergency appeal supports VNRC in specific areas of its response and recovery efforts. VNRC's overall plan of support to affected communities also draws on existing resources and experience in the national society as well as on domestic pledges of support and resources within the country. VNRC's overall plan is itself part of a coordinated government-led response operation. The International Federation, drawing on the expertise of its global network to support affected communities in specific and appropriate areas, is contributing to this effort.

The International Federation is supporting VNRC through coordination of international support to this operation. Communication is maintained regularly among VNRC, the International Federation and partner national societies. The head of the Viet Nam country office is also in regular contact with the VNRC secretary-general. As the operation progresses, it is anticipated that VNRC will assume the lead in coordination of Movement partners in the country.

The International Federation has established a general operations room in its building for all Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners to use, providing a meeting point to facilitate communication and information sharing. This will also help with the management of relief and response roles among bilateral and multilateral support. The VNRC has nominated two focal persons – one specializing in disaster management, and the other with experience in monitoring and evaluation – to join this office for easier and quicker communication with other partners using the operations room.

Movement partners also support each other by sharing a variety of external information. The Federation is represented at meetings with UN agencies and government authorities to help facilitate better coordination among relief and response efforts. Relevant and useful information from these meetings is shared among partners. The French Red Cross which works closely with international non-governmental organizations has also taken on the role of sharing information on Red Cross Red Crescent relief operations with the INGOs and vice versa.

The VNRC and the Federation are also developing a spreadsheet to better track and coordinate incoming and outgoing relief supplies down to commune level to avoid overlap and duplication.

On 12 October, a coordination meeting attended by VNRC, partners and the Federation in-country team, shared the findings of a joint mission to Quang Nam and Quang Ngai. This mission was led by VNRC and supported by the Federation, American Red Cross and USAID. The Federation made a presentation of these findings and encourages partner national societies to do the same upon return from the field for better information-sharing, understanding and coordination of efforts.

In the field itself, good cooperation has already been beneficial to those affected through the deployment of a water treatment unit by VNRC, contributed by Australian Red Cross to Hue district. Initial technical and training support was provided by both Australian and German Red Cross. This unit has been functioning in Quang Dien district, Thua Thien Hue province since 1 October.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

In the aftermath of Typhoon Ketsana, VNRC chapters lost no time mobilizing food and water supplies, boats, life jackets and other relief items pre-positioned at provincial Red Cross warehouses. The chapters also contributed money from their contingency funds to provide instant noodles and clean water supplies to those affected. Up to 3,900 household kits including cooking and kitchen utensils, one mosquito net, two blankets and one 40-litre plastic water container, were delivered by VNRC to communities affected in Quang Binh,

Thua Thien Hue, Da Nang, Quang Nam and Quang Tri by 1 October. This will address the needs of approximately 16,380 affected people.



Household kits supported by the International Federation and USAID the Minh Duong commune, Quang Ngai province during the joint Distribution of relief items continues in other districts hard hit by the typhoon. (Photo: Tao Vandang/International Federation)

In Quang Binh province, 65 Red Cross youth using 11 Red Cross boats provided by Netherlands Red Cross with support from the European Community, helped evacuate up to 1,200 people (some 240 families) comprising mostly elderly people and young children from the Kinh Nhuan, Xuan Mai, Lac Son, Huyen Thuy and Tan Le communes. Solidarity among chapters is also evident in the willingness of chapters to help their neighbours despite having limited resources of their own. In other communes, the flood water rose so fast so only a part of the community could be evacuated to safe areas, while many other families had to evacuate in small traditional bamboo boats.

More than 2,000 VNRC staff members and volunteers helped support preparations nationwide before the typhoon made landfall. This included assisting in mass evacuation and warning communities beforehand. These staff and volunteers will continue to be involved in this operation.

VNRC deployed their water treatment unit to Thua Thien Hue province with initial technical and training support from German and Australian Red Cross water and sanitation delegates on 1-4 October. This was followed by support from two Australian Red Cross technical water and sanitation delegates through 5-11 October on the operation and further training on the functions of this unit. The water treatment unit is now being managed by the chapter staff and volunteers,

and is able to provide drinking water for up to 5,000 people each day.

A team led by the VNRC secretary general visited Hue, Da Nang, and Quang Nam provinces from 1 to 4 October to distribute relief items including instant noodles and household kits, and to collect first-hand information on the impact of the typhoon and flooding.

Support was also forthcoming from the Federation's Southeast Asia regional office in Bangkok which sent one disaster management delegate to work with VNRC in carrying out field assessments in Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Hue, Da Nang, Quang Nam, and Quang Ngai from 30 September to 5 October. One communications delegate also worked with the country team in Hanoi from 28 September to 3 October, and continues to provide communications support from the Asia Pacific zone office in Kuala Lumpur through media coordination. The speed of a disbursement from the Federation's DREF has also helped to support the initial response efforts of the VNRC.

The Federation's head of country office was part of the joint assessment team which visited the most severely-hit provinces of Quang Nam and Quang Ngai over three days from 8 to 11 October. Federation assessment work continues with the visit of the disaster management manager to Kon Tum province, a hard-hit province, who will carry out coaching on beneficiary selection, needs assessment and help monitor distribution of relief items.

In the early morning of 15 October, VNRC sent out an assessment team accompanied by the regional disaster response team (RDRT) member from Malaysian Red Crescent. This team will carry out distributions and gather information from the field including on the health situation and first aid activities currently ongoing.

The field assessment and coordination team (FACT) operations manager from Norwegian Red Cross went into the field on 16 October with VNRC staff members and volunteers to make more evaluations and gain first-hand information on the range and areas of damage caused by Typhoon Parma. He will also review the need for any further response following this typhoon, and make subsequent recommendations to increase the scope of this appeal if necessary.

The ICRC is providing technical support and in-field training for VNRC in restoring family links, an initiative welcomed by the national society; and further discussions in this respect are ongoing.

## The needs

Based on reports from Red Cross chapters and on the outcomes from the joint assessment field visit by VNRC, the International Federation and the American Red Cross, priority needs have been confirmed as food (rice), safe drinking water, shelter, and livelihoods. Some impressions and findings from this assessment are available [here](#).

A separate joint assessment by the disaster management working group was carried out on 1-5 October in the six provinces of Quang Tri, Thua Thien Hue, Da Nang, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai and Kon Tum. This team consisted of VNRC members and representatives from UN agencies and international non-governmental organizations working in Viet Nam. Major findings from this assessment include:

- Large-scale damage of housing including collapsed houses and houses whose roofs have been blown away. Damage is found in all provinces. For example, in Quang Ngai, 4,200 houses have completely collapsed and 67,161 have been partly damaged; in Quang Nam, 15, 200 houses have collapsed and 155,000 with damaged roofs. In Kon Tum, 3,000 households need to be evacuated to avoid risks of further landslides.
- Vulnerable families will suffer food shortages for one to six months due to the loss of rice crops during Typhoon Ketsana and in floods prior to the typhoon.
- The risk of malnutrition among children is increased due to the shortage of food.
- Due to the lack of clean water and environmental pollution, the risk of communicable diseases including water-borne diseases is high.
- While many schools are beginning to re-open, schools in several communes are expected to remain closed for up to three weeks. In Kon Tum province and Dakrong district in Quang Tri province, some schools will take up to three months to re-open.

Also identified as important in the longer-term includes disaster risk reduction training for youth, including disaster preparedness training for school children in schools worst affected by the typhoon and floods. This will be conducted in conjunction with established disaster risk reduction programmes such as the coastal mangrove plantation programme supported by Japanese Red Cross; provision of disaster risk reduction training to teachers, and dissemination of information, education and communication (IEC) materials to both teachers and students.

The provision of life-vest school bags for children who cross flood-prone areas, rivers or streams to go to school, has also been identified as a long-term objective in order to help prevent further tragedies.

## The proposed operation

This International Federation appeal supports part of VNRC's call for international assistance, which totals approximately USD10 million. Bilateral relief support is also being provided by in-country partner national societies, including American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross, French Red Cross, German Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross.



In Binh Son, the VNRC, International Federation, American Red Cross and USAID joint assessment team were briefed at the district-level before proceeding into the field. This operation has provided an opportunity for national and international humanitarian aid workers to exchange information and learn from each other. (Photo: International Federation)

Based on initial chapter reports and the outcome of Red Cross joint assessments, the VNRC, supported by the International Federation, will focus on the provision of food and non-food items, the improvement of water and sanitation facilities of evacuated and returning families, and the repair and/or rebuilding of homes as well as capacity building in terms of needs assessment and distribution procedures. The outcome of recent assessments also identifies the additional component of disaster risk reduction training for youth and school children. Capacity building in planning, monitoring and reporting will also be provided for VNRC staff members and volunteers.

As monitoring and assessment continues in the field, it is possible that new information will dictate the re-shuffling of priorities and hence, changes to the present plan of action for this operation.

While early contributions to the appeal have enabled the International Federation to begin planning for rice procurement, the joint assessment by the disaster management working group and the International Federation emphasizes the need for rice as a priority area. With the widespread destruction of the harvest leading to potential food shortages, needs are emerging as far greater than initially estimated, especially for the most vulnerable communities during lean periods between February and April.

The VNRC and International Federation are committed to improving the quality of its humanitarian programmes. As a contribution to meet this commitment VNRC supported by its partners will capture lessons learnt for this programme and other operations responding to similar emergencies. It is in this context, that an external evaluation within three months of completing the operation is planned, to feed into future disaster response preparedness and risk reduction programming.

### Relief distributions (food)

<b>Objective:</b> Provision of 10kg of rice per person for 50,000 families (210,000 people) for one month in Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Kon Tum, Thua Thien Hue, Da Nang, Dak Lak, and Quang Tri by end-February 2010 <sup>1</sup> .	
<b>Expected results</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
210,000 people (50,000 families) who have lost basic income and crops during the floods have received food assistance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training on needs assessment, selection of beneficiaries, relief distribution.</li> <li>• Identification of beneficiaries through criteria agreed upon between the national society and the local communities.</li> <li>• Procurement of rice following International Federation procurement standards.</li> <li>• Organization of transport to the distribution points.</li> <li>• Organization of the various distributions by the local chapters concerned.</li> <li>• Distribution of rice with a proper recording system.</li> <li>• Monitoring, evaluation and reporting.</li> </ul>

Up to 500 families in nine communes in the Thuong Xuan district, Thanh Hoa province have received food parcels which include instant noodles, bottled water and canned food. Details on distribution of food items in these and other areas are sent to the national headquarters and reported when available.

<sup>1</sup> Subject to available funding

Provinces have made a total request to the central government for 24,000 tonnes of rice. To date, the government has pledged the distribution of 10,000 tonnes of rice and is currently implementing this. These rations will, however, not be sufficient to cover the period until the next harvest, and solutions are being sought to fill these gaps.

French Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross are supporting VNRC in addition to these appeal objectives. Further local rice procurement by VNRC will be supported by the procurement and logistics delegate.

More detailed information is currently being collated on rice distribution and will be reported in upcoming operations updates.

<b>Non-food items</b>	
<p><b>Objective:</b> By end of January 2010, 10,000 families (40,000 people) in the affected areas in the 12 provinces of Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Kon Tum, Thua Thien Hue, Da Nang, Dak Lak, Quang Tri, Quang Binh, Binh Dinh, Gia Lai, Lam Dong and Phu Yen will receive one basic household kit composed of: cooking and kitchen utensils, one mosquito net, two blankets, one 10-litre water bucket and one 40-litre water plastic container. The provision of these items aims to meet the immediate needs of the affected families to enable them to return to everyday life as quickly as possible.</p>	
<b>Expected results</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
<p>The immediate needs of non-food items for 10,000 affected families are met to enable them to return to everyday life as quickly as possible.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training on needs assessment, selection of beneficiaries, relief distribution.</li> <li>• Identification of beneficiaries using criteria agreed between the national society and the local communities.</li> <li>• Procurement of items for the basic household kits following International Federation procurement standards.</li> <li>• Training of beneficiaries on using relief items.</li> <li>• Organization of the transport and distribution system for the basic household kits by each of the local chapters concerned.</li> <li>• Distribution of basic household kits with a proper recording system.</li> <li>• Monitoring, evaluation and reporting.</li> </ul>

From 15 to 20 October, a field assessment team comprising VNRC staff members and volunteers, and a Federation regional disaster response team (RDRT) member from Malaysian Red Crescent will travel across the four hard-hit provinces of Thanh Hoa, Quang Binh, Quang Tri and Ha Tinh to further assess needs and damages, and gather relevant information. This team will also distribute household kits, water purification tablets, food parcels (including rice) and hygiene kits. A portion of the household kits, rice and hygiene kits is contributed by Save the Children Fund.

The International Federation disaster management manager is presently in Kon Tum, monitoring the distribution of 500 of the 3,280 household kits supported by USAID. Training on emergency guidelines and proper distribution, monitoring and reporting techniques is ongoing. Up to 5,000 basic household kits have been distributed in Thanh Hoa, Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Tri, Quang Binh and Thua Thien Hue provinces. More details on these distributions will be provided when reports come in from the Red Cross chapters.

Support from partner national societies in addition to the 10,000 household kits under the Federation appeal includes French Red Cross covering some districts in Quang Ngai, Binh Dinh, Kon Tum and Gia Lai provinces with 4,000 household kits (and therefore, some 16,800 people) through ECHO funding, while German Red Cross is targeting some districts in Quang Binh, Quang Tri and Thua Thien Hue with another 4,000 (a further 16,800 people).

<b>Water and sanitation</b>
<p><b>Objective:</b> By end of September 2010, support will have been provided to up to 7,500 families (31,500 people) with no or limited available means to restore or rehabilitate their water and sanitation facilities. The provision of appropriate hardware will be linked to relevant hygiene promotion campaigns and awareness-raising.</p>

Expected results	Activities planned
<p>7,500 families (31,500 people) will be provided with appropriate clean water facilities.</p> <p>15,000 people will be trained on how to treat the water at home during emergency periods.</p> <p>One water treatment unit will provide clean water for up to 5,000 people per day for 30 days.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification of beneficiaries with destroyed/damaged water and sanitation facilities, through community participation.</li> <li>• Hygiene promotion activities focusing on personal hygiene, sanitation and safe water for targeted populations.</li> <li>• Provision of potable drinking water from the national society's water treatment unit.</li> <li>• Procurement of needed materials/equipment following International Federation standards.</li> <li>• Provision of water collection containers (in household kits).</li> <li>• Provision of household water treatment equipment through the distribution of water purification tablets.</li> <li>• Production and dissemination of hygiene promotion materials on malaria, dengue and influenza.</li> <li>• Training of Red Cross staff and volunteers on monitoring and evaluation following the agreed model and standards.</li> <li>• Training of Red Cross staff and volunteers on hygiene promotion and proper hygiene practices.</li> <li>• Training beneficiary families on how to treat water during emergency periods.</li> <li>• Monitoring, evaluation and reporting.</li> </ul>

The Hue Red Cross chapter continues to operate the water treatment unit, with technical support from Australian Red Cross in Dong Luu hamlet, Loc Tri commune in Phu Loc district. This unit supplies up to 1,000 households reaching approximately 4,200 people with clean water daily, as flooding in Phu Loc's three hamlets of Dong Luu, Dong Hai and Le Thai Phien has contaminated household wells. A number of these wells are undergoing treatment to cover part of the demand for clean water. German Red Cross is also providing water and sanitation support on a bilateral basis which includes 1,000 jerry cans for drinking water, 1,000 water purification tablets/powder, 1,000 household water filters, and 100 500-litre water storage tanks in the provinces of Quang Binh, Quang Tri and Hue. On 13 October, the disaster management manager visited Hue to monitor the situation and discuss plans to continue this much needed support.

Up to 5,000 booklets on water treatment (see below) and safe water storage for households have been printed in Vietnamese and will be essential in helping families maintain their supply of safe clean water. Up to 500,000 water purification tablets, the equivalent of 5,000 sachets are also being distributed.

Procurement of 7,500 water storage tanks, each of a 500-litre capacity, will start as soon as funding is secured.

The water and sanitation component of this appeal will more explicitly link into existing health initiatives in-country, to work towards a more holistic approach to addressing vulnerability in this regard. Activities will include the dissemination of information, education and communication (IEC) materials on hygiene promotion and prevention of communicable diseases (such as H1N1 as elaborated in the H2P programme and build on the existing CBFA programme) between November 2009 and February 2010.

One such example is Quang Tri province which has been hard-struck by the typhoon. Quang Tri is also a province under the H2P programme. As such, activities under this component will be integrated with the existing programme and be linked with hygiene awareness raising and promotion of improved hygiene practices.

The wider health and sanitation needs will be covered by local authorities and the local people's committees have been mobilized to address waste disposal and promote environmental safety.



Materials on water treatment and storage such as these will play an important role in supporting work on hygiene promotion and prevention of communicable diseases.  
(Photo: Helena Loh/International Federation.)

**Livelihood support**

**Objective:** By end of January 2010, 5,000 families (21,000 people) in the areas worst affected, who have lost their homes and/or crops and other means of income, have a viable source of income.

Expected results	Activities planned
5,000 households (21,000 people) have improved means of livelihood.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct household and livelihood needs and capacity assessments.</li> <li>• Scope the capacity of VNRC and the International Federation to deliver a variety of livelihood initiatives such as cash grants, cash-for-work and other recovery initiatives for vulnerable families to reinforce economic and social security.</li> <li>• Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system with communities to deliver intended assistance.</li> <li>• Provide support to the most vulnerable groups for restoration and alternative livelihood options.</li> <li>• Distribute resources according to plans emanating from livelihoods assessments linked to shelter assistance.</li> <li>• Monitor and evaluate the activities and provide reporting on distribution.</li> </ul>

This component constitutes one of the longer-term objectives of this appeal. At present, more assessments are ongoing in order to decide how best to support the affected communities in terms of livelihood options and income generation activities. These assessments are being made in consultation with the recovery specialist from the disaster management unit based at the Asia Pacific zone office in Kuala Lumpur.

American Red Cross is working together with the International Federation and may provide bilateral support to VNRC for livelihoods rehabilitation through cash distribution under this objective of the emergency appeal. Given the experience of VNRC in livelihoods support, further discussions on how to approach the design and implementation of this component continue at this time.

## Shelter

**Objective:** By end of September 2010, 1,000 families (4,200 people) in the areas worst affected, will be supported to re-construct their homes with access to water and sanitation facilities.

Expected results	Activities planned
<p>1,000 families / households (4,200 people) are supported to repair their house structures and supported with the installation of appropriate water and sanitation facilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deployment of trained local VNRC staff and volunteers to carry out beneficiary selection, including dissemination of self help programme.</li> <li>• Identification of villages and beneficiary selection for VNRC assistance.</li> <li>• Public notification of assistance to beneficiaries to ensure community acceptance.</li> <li>• Procurement following International Federation standards and distribution of locally appropriate shelter materials, tools and guidance to improve the privacy, repair damages and collectively maintain the premises.</li> <li>• Training beneficiary families on safe and resilient shelter construction and design together with appropriate water and sanitation.</li> <li>• Reconstruction of new houses providing a 'core unit' or provision of resources and technical assistance.</li> <li>• Monitoring and evaluation and reporting of the rehabilitation of damaged houses.</li> </ul>

VNRC has vast experience in emergency shelter and reconstruction due to its disaster-prone history. A considerable number of homes built by the national society with Federation support, following previous typhoons have withstood the force of Ketsana and bear witness to the practicality and strength of traditional cultural building practices in Viet Nam combined with Federation expertise on construction techniques.

However, assessments on the typhoon resistance of houses previously constructed are still being carried out in the affected provinces. From the outcome of these assessments, there may be alterations to design and construction techniques in order to accommodate local traditions and cultural aspects of the area, the local availability of construction materials, and available hands to get the work done. Methods and criteria determining beneficiary selection are also under discussion.

To build on past experience, a shelter expert will be in Hanoi within the next few weeks to further discuss with VNRC and partners how to proceed to this end. This constitutes a longer-term objective for VNRC and may involve support from a short term shelter delegate in-country further into this operation.

The survey by the joint assessment team to Quang Nam and Quang Ngai shows damage is indeed extensive in certain areas and there are emergency shelter needs which are being met by local resources, as the double impact of typhoon winds and flooding caused extensive damage to homes and belongings as well as agriculture and the fishing industry.

Swiss Red Cross, together with the regional logistics unit in Kuala Lumpur has supported the despatch of 1,080 shelter kits (comprising two tarpaulins and tools) from the warehouse in Malaysia in a bilateral support initiative to VNRC.

### Disaster risk reduction

**Objective:** By end-June 2010, up to 30,000 youth and school children will be equipped with knowledge and materials to better prepare them in the event of typhoons and floods.

Expected results	Activities planned
<p>Up to 30,000 children at primary and secondary schools are trained in disaster risk reduction measures by June 2010.</p> <p>Up to by 1,000 school teachers are trained in disaster risk reduction measures.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selection of schools worst affected by Typhoon Ketsana and subsequent floods.</li> <li>• Printing of training and promotional materials on disaster risk reduction.</li> <li>• Training of VNRC volunteers in DRR.</li> <li>• Provision of training and materials on disaster risk reduction to teachers.</li> <li>• Provision of disaster risk reduction training and materials to children by teachers.</li> <li>• Sharing of experiences of typhoon Ketsana by children and youth with their peers.</li> <li>• Monitoring, evaluation and reporting of activities.</li> </ul>
<p>Up to 9,000 life-vest school bags<sup>2</sup> for children who go to school on a daily basis by crossing rivers/streams and flood-prone areas by June 2010.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification of beneficiaries.</li> <li>• Procurement of 9,000 life-vest school bags following International Federation standards.</li> <li>• Distribution of the life-vest school bags.</li> <li>• Demonstration and teaching of children on how to use the life-vest school bags.</li> <li>• Monitoring, evaluation and reporting of activities.</li> </ul>

This component has been added following field assessments and recommendations to enhance disaster risk reduction and preparedness especially for youth and children. It builds on the ongoing preparedness programme of VNRC, which is a key to reducing disaster risk for the annual cyclone season, particularly among young people and will contribute to building community resilience.

### Institutional capacity building

**Objective:** The operation will contribute to the ongoing organizational development and capacity building of VNRC in a manner which leaves behind a stronger set of skills and capacities at headquarters and branch levels.

Expected results	Activities planned
<p>By the end of the operation, VNRC staff and volunteers are provided with relevant on-the-job training skills to carry out assessments, programme implementation, and monitoring and evaluation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Briefing and coaching of VNRC volunteers, staff and branches on needs assessments, implementation, monitoring and reporting skills.</li> <li>• Organization of coaching and mentoring of specific volunteers and staff in project management and human resource development skills.</li> <li>• Carrying out of evaluation and documenting lessons and recommendations for further strengthening internal VNRC systems and procedures to strengthen future operations.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
<p>Systems and procedures will have been strengthened to enhance efficient financial resource mobilization,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Existing finance systems will be enhanced to enable efficient recording of rapidly scaled up donations and reporting back to local and international donors.</li> </ul>

<sup>2</sup> These life-vest school bags convert into life-jackets should a child carrying one e.g. fall into deep water on the way to school. These life-vest school bags will be procured following proper standards and procedures to ensure their quality and suitability prior to procurement.

procurement, reporting, and communications leading to public appreciation of VNRC.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procedures for procurement of relief items will be strengthened.</li> <li>• Communications capacity will be scaled up through coaching and mentoring of VNRC counterparts to increase visibility, understanding, and support to VNRC's role.</li> </ul>
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Two staff members from VNRC have been identified to work with partners in the collective operations room at the International Federation office in Hanoi. These staff members specialize in disaster management, and monitoring and evaluation respectively and will act as the VNRC focal points for this operation. This also provides an opportunity for the VNRC to work directly with the International Federation and partner national societies in the management of relief and response with bilateral and multilateral support. It will also allow better understanding of relief operations using Federation procedures. The International Federation and partners too will have the opportunity to learn from VNRC staff and better understand how to support the national society in the future.

Technical support will also be enhanced for Red Cross chapters with limited experience in relief operations working in areas that have been seriously affected by Typhoon Ketsana. One example is the Kon Tum chapter which is experiencing its first disaster of this magnitude. The Federation disaster management manager will pay particular attention to providing the chapter and community some technical training in disaster response.

Also under this component, capacity building support will be provided to the VNRC communications department and activities that will help enhance the media and communications skills and roles of related VNRC staff members.

The International Federation country office will also discuss with VNRC headquarters possible further training in contingency planning and national disaster response coordination at various levels.

**Logistics**

To date there have been no requests for the international mobilization of relief items and as such no mobilization table has been opened for this operation. Items included in the appeal are available in-country and will be procured locally following Federation international procurement standards and quality control. A logistics and procurement delegate seconded by Swedish Red Cross arrived in Hanoi on 16 October to assist in the procurement of rice and other relief supplies. This delegate will also coordinate with and support partner national societies concerned in procurement procedures upon request.

The VNRC warehouse in Hanoi continues to be extremely busy with shipping goods out to the provinces for distribution and receiving new supplies.

**Communications – advocacy and public information**

The VNRC will continue to be supported by the International Federation's Southeast Asia regional office in Bangkok and the Asia Pacific zone office in Kuala Lumpur to ensure it retains international visibility for the excellent work of its volunteers as well as its peak position in terms of nationally coordinated disaster response. Updated news stories and reports will continue to be available on the Federation [website](#).

Viet Nam will also participate in the regional production of a video on disasters in the Asia Pacific zone entitled "Early recovery after four disasters." Budget allocations will also be made for external communications support including production and distribution of media items.

The International Federation also helps support VNRC through regular reporting and operation updates on the Federation [website](#).

**Capacity of the National Society**

The VNRC is established under Vietnamese Law and its mandate is to act as the leading humanitarian organization in providing relief, health and welfare assistance to the most vulnerable sectors of society. The VNRC enjoys nationwide recognition and respect, and is equipped with strong and established experience of

disaster management, including experience and lessons learnt from the Damrey, Xangsane/Durian and Lekima typhoons and recent floods operations. The main lessons from previous operations include strengthening the mobilization of the national society's members, volunteers and staff to provide even better and more timely assistance.

The national society and its provincial chapters have extensive knowledge in conducting relief and rehabilitation programmes in the wake of natural disasters, which occur regularly in Viet Nam. It is represented in all provinces and major cities with a total of 64 chapters and 1,000 sub-chapters. It has 44 Disaster Management Centres across the country. Each chapter has human resources of six to 20 professional staff. The VNRC works in partnership with the government and non-government agencies to achieve effective networking and implementation of services. It is also in partnership with a number of partner national societies such as French Red Cross, German Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross in community-based disaster preparedness and disaster risk reduction projects and programmes.

The national society encourages the application of lessons learnt from previous operations in this present operation. Staff members from the national headquarters have been sent to chapters in order to provide much needed community support. Given the spread of this present operation, however, technical department staff members have found it challenging trying to support operations at both headquarters and chapter level.

In addition, the national society is evolving from being primarily a response based organization. Its long term involvement in the extensive disaster risk reduction initiative for coastal communities with the planting and maintenance of mangrove eco-systems is one example. Another is the stronger emphasis in this emergency appeal on the importance of supporting livelihoods recovery in an appropriate way.

#### **Capacity of the International Federation**

The International Federation is represented by an experienced head of country office who has recently arrived. The Federation Viet Nam country office comprises a team of highly experienced and committed national staff who support the VNRC in monitoring and implementation of ongoing disaster operations and disaster risk reduction/disaster preparedness programmes, health initiatives and organizational development of the national society.

To further reinforce support for this operation, a field assessment and coordination team (FACT) member from Norwegian Red Cross is in-country to help coordinate relief efforts among VNRC, the International Federation and partner national societies while a regional disaster response team officer seconded by Malaysian Red Crescent is presently working with VNRC in the field doing assessments and will stay until 4 November. A senior planning and reporting officer deployed from the Asia Pacific zone office's resource mobilization and planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting unit is also present to support the country office. An operations manager and a procurement delegate will arrive within the next few days. Further national human resource needs may be identified in the next few weeks.

The disaster management unit at the Asia Pacific zone office in Kuala Lumpur is coordinating international support for this operation. The country office is further supported by the Southeast Asia regional office in Bangkok and the Asia Pacific zone office in Kuala Lumpur in disaster management; health and care; water and sanitation; organizational development; resource mobilization; planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting; and communications.

#### **Budget summary**

See attached budget (Annex 1) for details.

**Yasemin Aysan**  
**Under Secretary General**  
**Disaster Response and Early Recovery Division**

**Bekele Geleta**  
**Secretary General**

## How we work

*All International Federation 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 is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.*

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

### Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

## Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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Please send all pledges of funding to [zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org](mailto:zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org)
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[<revised emergency appeal budget and map below>](#)  
[<click here to return to the title page>](#)

## REVISED APPEAL BUDGET SUMMARY

Annex 1

Vietnam : Flood and Typhoon

MDRVN006

	ORIGINAL	REVISED	VARIANCE
<b><u>RELIEF NEEDS</u></b>			
Construction Materials	1,400,000	1,400,000	-
Food	1,260,000	1,278,000	18,000
Seeds & Plants	187,500	275,000	87,500
Water & Sanitation	750,000	802,000	52,000
Teaching Materials	45,000	-	(45,000)
Utensils & Tools	250,000	250,000	-
Other Supplies & Services	15,000	102,000	87,000
<b>Total Relief Needs</b>	<b>3,907,500</b>	<b>4,107,000</b>	<b>199,500</b>
<b><u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u></b>			
Computers & Telecom Equipment	5,000	8,000	3,000
Other Machinery & Equipment	3,000	5,500	2,500
<b><u>TRANSPORT, STORAGE &amp; VEHICLES</u></b>			
Storage - Warehouse	9,000	9,000	-
Distribution & Monitoring	30,000	44,000	14,000
Transport & Vehicles Costs	55,000	55,000	-
<b><u>PERSONNEL</u></b>			
International Staff	200,000	216,000	16,000
Regionally Deployed Staff	39,000	33,600	(5,400)
National Staff	45,000	42,000	(3,000)
National Society Staff	55,000	55,000	-
Consultants	15,000	25,000	10,000
<b><u>WORKSHOPS &amp; TRAINING</u></b>			
Workshops & Training	65,000	399,140	334,140
<b><u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u></b>			
Travel	100,000	80,000	(20,000)
Information & Public Relations	25,000	50,000	25,000
Office running costs	35,000	50,000	15,000
Communication Costs	12,000	12,000	-
Financial Charges	6,550	6,550	-
Other General Expenses	11,500	11,260	(240)
<b><u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u></b>			
Programme Support - PSR (6.5% of total)	321,076	362,126	41,051
<b>Total Operational Needs</b>	<b>1,032,126</b>	<b>1,464,176</b>	<b>432,051</b>
<b>Total Appeal Budget (Cash &amp; Kind)</b>	<b>4,939,626</b>	<b>5,571,176</b>	<b>631,551</b>
<b>Net Request</b>	<b>4,939,626</b>	<b>5,571,176</b>	

From 8-11 October, a joint assessment team comprising VNRC, International Federation, American Red Cross and USAID staff members and volunteers visited the provinces of Quang Nam and Quang Ngai. These two provinces sustained heavy battering from both Typhoon Ketsana and subsequent flooding. Below is a short report on some findings made during the visit to Quang Ngai province

### Quang Ngai Provincial Red Cross branch

Of the 16 districts in Quang Ngai province, two have been seriously affected by Typhoon Ketsana and the subsequent flooding. These are Ly Son Island and Binh Son district where 35 people have been reported killed and more than 340 injured. An estimated 6,000 houses have been destroyed and in schools, 251 classrooms have sustained heavy damage. In Ly Son, 80 per cent of roof tops have been destroyed. Agriculture and fishing activities have also been greatly affected. In the mountainous areas of Tra Bong and Son Tay, rushing floodwaters shifted tonnes of soil, causing landslides.

Red Cross volunteers have been involved in assisting with government-led evacuations, providing initial relief support to those affected, visiting those injured in the disaster, and clearing garbage and debris. Local enterprises and organizations have extended relief through boxed noodles, vegetable oil and cash donations.



In Quang Ngai province, about 6,000 houses and 251 classrooms have been severely damaged. Farmlands and rice fields have also been razed and flooded. Food shortage throughout the province in the coming months is a very real possibility. (Tao Vandang/International Federation)

The Vietnamese government was in the process of distributing an initial 205 tonnes of rice in the flood-affected areas, and VND 80 billion (CHF 4.53 million or USD 4.49 million) has been allocated for primary needs to re-stabilize the lives of people who have lost loved ones, homes and their means of living to the fury of Ketsana. Government plans will cover:

- Restoration of schools and health clinics
- Provision of proper sanitation facilities
- Support to the families whose members have been lost or badly injured

The Viet Nam Red Cross shipped 300 household kits to Son Ly Island for immediate distribution.

The joint assessment team visited the following areas:

### Son Tinh district: Tinh Hiep commune

Tinh Hiep commune consists of some 1,900 households, about 8,300 people. Here, 36 houses were completely destroyed with 67 sustaining major damage, and 1,400 losing their roofs. Rice fields and banana plantations which were the main sources of sustenance and income for this community have been destroyed. Massive flooding also struck this small community in 2007 where the Red Cross supported the reconstruction of three houses. Using building techniques advocated by the Red Cross, these houses safely withstood the typhoon and floods this year.



This foyer of the People's Committee building where people wait for rice distribution after flood waters receded, was completely submerged. (Tao Vandang/International Federation)

### Binh Son district: Binh My, Binh Minh, Binh Chuong and Binh Duong communes

All four communes in this district were located in the path of the typhoon and suffered badly from this direct hit. While the Red Cross branch worked with communities to prepare for disaster prior to the arrival of the typhoon, people were nevertheless, taken by surprise by the double impact of the powerful typhoon winds and rain, and floods, as the

typhoon changed its direction during the night, and water levels rose at an alarming rate in the early morning of 29 September.

The communes had prepared evacuation plans and mapped out safe areas for people to go to. In Bien Duong, the safe areas listed were the primary and secondary school, and the People's Committee buildings. But the force of the winds blew the roof off the primary school, and the People's Committee building was steeped in up to two metres of water, leaving only the secondary school for people fleeing to safety. Government records, official documents, office equipment and property in the building were ruined.

This commune has 2,161 households and a total population of 8,650 people. Of these, 60 per cent are women and 2,000 range from infants to teenagers. Up to 500 people were evacuated according to formal procedures, but more than 2,000 escaped the floods by propelling themselves to safer areas in small circular bamboo boats. Families risking floods of over two metres keep these boats in their homes for such purposes. Here, 38 homes were completely collapsed and power supply was out for more than a week.

The team also visited the Quang Nam province, travelling to the more mountainous areas of Dap Lop district's Dai Hung commune; in particular, Dai My village which consists of 450 families. This village suffers flooding from seven to ten times a year, sometimes caused with the release of spillage from a dam upstream. The strike of the typhoon and floods, however, submerged the entire village, leaving buildings, property and livestock buried in over two metres of sand, four houses completely collapsed and another 12 sustaining heavy damage. The poorest families in this village live in the most exposed areas and lack financial resources that will allow them to buy land of their own on safer ground.



Measuring about 1.5 metres in diameter, these bamboo boats provide independent means of evacuation in flood situations for people in the Quang Ngai province. (Ewa Eriksson/International Federation)



In this area, children have to cross flood-prone areas, rivers and streams to reach school every day. A simple life-vest schoolbag could save their lives. (Tao Vandang/International Federation)

The request to resume disaster preparedness training for school children was made from the Provincial People's Committee in Quang Ngai in discussions with the Viet Nam Red Cross, the International Federation, American Red Cross and USAID joint assessment team.

The request for life-vest schoolbags for children arose from discussions with the People's Committee in Binh Duong commune. With the rapid rise of flood waters and the formal evacuation of only 500 or so people, despite preparations being made, more needs to be done in terms of preparedness. One step forward is to prepare the children and youth for such eventualities as the risk of children drowning is high.

In this area, children have to cross flood-prone areas, fast-flowing rivers and streams to reach school every day. The gift of a simple life-vest schoolbag may not only give these children the means of carrying books to school, but very possibly save their lives.

*An example of statistics collected by People's Committees in the affected areas*

Statistics on casualties in Binh Son district, Quang Ngai province, 8 October 2009  
(Source Binh Son district People's Committee)

<i>Communes</i>	<i>Number of casualties</i>	<i>Cause of death</i>	<i>Notes</i>
Binh Thoi	1	Taking ducks to safer places, swept away by flood waters	
Binh Phuoc	1	Washed away by flood waters while transporting food	
Binh Chau	1	Exact cause unknown	Resident of other district
Binh Tan	1	Drowning	
Binh Hai	2	Injured, could not get to hospital	
Binh Nguyen	1		Currently seeking identification
Binh Thanh	4	Washed away	One died in Tra My district, Quang Nam province
Binh Minh	5	Drowning, house collapsed, injured, but could not get to hospital	One resident in Binh Thuan province
Binh Thanh Dong	1	Injured, could not get to hospital	
Binh Chanh	2	Washed away by flood water	
Binh Thuan	1	Falling from roof while reinforcing	



# Vietnam: Floods and Typhoon

