

INFORMATION BULLETIN



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

CHINA: FLOODS

01 July 2003

Information Bulletin N° 02/2003

This Information Bulletin is for information only. The Federation is not seeking any funding or other assistance from donors for this operation at this time.

The Situation

According to the local media, floods in China's eight central eastern provinces and regions have left 148 people dead this year. Hubei, Jiangxi, Guizhou, Sichuan, and Guangxi Provinces have suffered the most negative impact from the floods. The other regions affected are Zhejiang and Hunan Provinces and Chongqing municipality.

Local governments along the Yangtze River have issued emergency notices in several counties, ordering officials to be vigilant and to implement flood controls. Preliminary statistics for Hunan Province during the period of 23 June to 26 June 2003 (according to local authorities) indicate the following:

- Five prefectures (Xianxi, Zhangjiajie, Changde, Yueyang, Huaihua), 70 counties, 280 townships and 3,500 villages affected.
- Approximately 3.2 million people affected.
- Two people missing.
- 424 people injured.
- 3,633 people made homeless
- 57,224 rooms damaged and 6,189 rooms destroyed (based on five units per house).
- 2,355,000 Mu (350,000 acres) of crop lands damaged. (the next harvest period is September)
- Estimated direct economic loss is RMB 700,000,000 (Euro 80,000,000).

Red Cross and Red Crescent Action

A Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) medical team of 15 travelled to the affected area in Hunan Province. They have treated 766 people suffering from flood related injuries.

The local branch of the RCSC is presently distributing clothing and quilts to the victims from their disaster preparedness warehouse. Local fund-raising activities are also being organised.

The local authorities have provided rice, clothing and tents to the needy families. The flood victims have been relocated into public buildings.

Further information on the situation will be provided in the coming days following an assessment by the International Federation Program coordinator based in Hunan who will be travelling to Guangxi later this week.

For a full description of the National Society profile, see **www.ifrc.org**

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All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

*For support to or for further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at **<http://www.ifrc.org>**.*

For longer-term programmes, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal.