

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

VIETNAM FLOODS/CYCLONES

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The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilising the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organisation and its millions of volunteers are active in over 181 countries.

In Brief

This Information Bulletin (No. 01/2004) is being issued for information only. The Federation is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation at this time.

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The Situation

Typhoon Muifa passed over Southern Vietnam late last week and caused minimal damage but brought about torrential rains which triggered floods and landslides in five central provinces. After more than five days of continuous flooding, a total of 42 people are confirmed dead (Hue, nine deaths; Quang Nam, 14; Quang Tri, five; Quang Binh, three; and Quang Ngai, 11;) and seven people are also reported missing. The numbers of those affected also run into six figures. Over 11,000 households have left their homes and it is reported that over 200 houses have collapsed.

Meanwhile, railways are being repaired following the deluge and national road No. 1 is back in use. Considerable damage has been done to livelihoods with a lot of livestock killed and crops damaged. Flood levels in Hue city are reducing slowly but remain at



A collapsed house in Hue.

danger level in Quang Nam. Thousands of people in mountainous and flooded areas are in need of emergency relief. After four days of being cut off due to landslides, relief supplies were eventually airlifted on Monday by helicopters to the mountainous district of Tay Tra in Quang Ngai, according to local news reports.

The authorities have been distributing life vests while the police and military forces have been heavily involved in rescue activities. Two national level delegations, including one from the country's deputy prime minister, visited the affected area over the past weekend.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

In coordination with CCFSC, VNRC local volunteers and staff have been working relentlessly to assist the affected population. In Hue, the Red Cross chapter has provided emergency relief (mainly instant noodles), reaching those in need using boats and land vehicles provided through the previous relief operations.

In Quang Tri province, the Red Cross chapter has distributed 6,000 bags of instant noodles and 2,000 litres of potable water as well as medicines and clothes.

In Quang Ngai province, volunteers helped to evacuate 43 households and delivered first aid in three cases while in Quang Nam province, the Red Cross chapter has been active in search and rescue activities.

Vietnam Red Cross headquarters continues to monitor the situation and has released funds from its contingency reserve. The Federation has also committed USD 2,000 for the purchase of emergency food rations for those affected. The evolving situation is also being closely monitored by the Federation Southeast Asia delegation in Bangkok and the operations support department in the Geneva Secretariat.

For longer-term programmes, please refer to the Federation's [Annual Appeal](#).

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