

Information Bulletin n° 1
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23 August 2013

This bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The Red Cross Society of China (RCSC), with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), has determined that external assistance is not required, and is therefore not seeking funding or other assistance from donors at this time.

Trami, the 12th typhoon to hit the mainland China this year, made landfall in the coastal areas of Fuqing, Fujian province, at 2:40 am on 22 August 2013. Some 189,800 residents living in work sheds or dilapidated houses in low-lying areas had moved to safer places. China's southern regions were earlier affected by [Typhoon Utor](#) which resulted in 70 people dead and another 18 missing. Guangdong province experienced the most typhoon-related casualties, with 43 reported deaths as of 9:00 am on 22 August. The storms have affected more than 8 million people.



Typhoon caused flooding affected area in Shantou, Guangdong province. **Photo:** Xinhua news.

While South China is battling the storms, Northeastern China is fighting its worst floods in the past five decades. The number of casualties rose to 63 on 21 August in Liaoning with another 101 still missing.¹ Flooding triggered by higher precipitation has plagued many parts of the country this summer. As of 21 August, at least 575 people had been killed in geological disasters triggered by floods and another 340 are missing, according to the State Flood Control and Drought Relief Headquarters.

Both the headquarters and the branches of the RCSC have sent relief items including quilts, tents, clothes, family kits from local disaster preparedness warehouses to help the vulnerable residents in the affected areas.

[<click here to view the map of the affected area, or here for detailed contact information>](#)

¹ Source: *Chinadaily* 23 August 2013 news

The situation

Typhoons

Typhoon Trami made landfall in the coastal areas of Fuqing, Fujian province, at 2:40 am on 22 August. Torrential downpours struck the cities of Fuzhou, Ningde, Putian and Sanming. This marks the 12th typhoon to hit the mainland in 2013, affecting 189,800 residents living in work sheds or dilapidated houses in low-lying areas. They had been moved to safer places prior to the typhoon making landfall. Air traffic was significantly affected, as 64 flights to and from the Fuzhou Airport had been canceled.

South China experienced two typhoons in one month, whereby last week has seen the Typhoon Utor sweeping through China's southern regions, leaving 70 people dead and another 18 missing². Meanwhile, according to the Ministry of Civil Affairs, Guangdong province had the most typhoon-related casualties, with 43 reported deaths as of 9 am 22 August. The storms have affected more than eight million people and caused direct economic losses of more than CNY 13 billion (USD 2.12 billion) in Guangdong.

Floods

Flooding triggered by higher precipitation has plagued many parts of the country this summer. As of 21 August, at least 575 people had been killed in geological disasters triggered by floods and another 340 are missing, according to the State Flood Control and Drought Relief Headquarters. Flooding has affected nearly 80 million people, causing direct economic losses of up to CNY 162 billion (USD 26 billion).

Northeast China (Heilongjiang province, Jilin province and Liaoning province) is among the hardest hit areas in this round, with thousands of homes flooded, travel disrupted and hundreds dead in the worst flooding in 50 years. Liaoning, Jilin and Heilongjiang are major grain-producing provinces in China. The latest statistics released by the Ministry of Civil Affairs showed that as of 20 August, floods have caused crop failures across 853,200 hectares of farmland in Liaoning, Jilin and Heilongjiang provinces. Qinghai province also has been affected by a rainstorm-triggered flood.

Liaoning province - Rains hit Fushun and neighboring areas. The downpours, which began on last Thursday and did not let up until Saturday, swamped rural houses, cutting off railways, roads and power supplies in the city. About 400 residents, mainly elderly people, women and children, who lost their homes on Wednesday are currently living in 64 tents around town.

By 21 August, the heavy rain had led to the deaths of 63 people, and 101 others were missing, according to the local government. About 163,000 people have been evacuated, and local authorities estimate the flood affected 436,000 in Fushun.³

Floods hit a residential community in Hongshi Township, Huadian City, **Jilin province**, last Friday, leaving 14 dead. Hundreds of affected residents are sheltered in a township primary school.⁴

Heilongjiang province reported 11 flood-related deaths. The floods have destroyed more than 2,500 houses and severely damaged at least 12,500 others, with direct economic losses estimated at CNY 7.13 billion (USD 1.15 billion).⁵ Meanwhile, 21 were killed and three others remain missing after a rainstorm-triggered flood in Northwest China's **Qinghai province**.

The State Flood Control and Drought Relief Headquarters said the central government has allocated about CNY 2.3 billion (USD 376 million or CHF 344 million) to flood-hit regions so far.

² Source: Statement by the Ministry of Civil Affairs, 22 August 2013.

³ Source: Chinadaily 22 August 2013 news

⁴ Source: Chinadaily 19 August 2013 news

⁵ Source: Chinadaily 19 August 2013 news

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The RCSC headquarters and provincial branches have both initiated emergency response. Provincial staff are working in the field for impact assessment and dispatching relief supplies to the affected areas. As of 21 August, the RCSC Headquarters has provided disaster relief funds and materials amounting to CNY 13.28 million since the start of the 2013 flooding season.

RCSC Liaoning branch acted immediately after the torrential rain and distributed from the first hours relief materials from its provincial warehouse. As of August 21, with the assistance of its Red Cross volunteers, a total of 5,500 quilts and 120 tents have been distributed. The distribution is on-going and additional relief items will be given to the affected population. At the same time, while many volunteers are transporting and handing out these relief items to the affected population, they are also carrying out continuous damage and needs assessments, which required frequent updates.

RCSC Macau branch donated CNY 200,000 to Liaoning Red Cross. Macau branch also made a donation to Guangdong and Guangxi CNY100,000 respectively. China Red Cross Foundation donated 1,000 family kits.

In Heilongjiang province, a work team from the provincial branch is working in the field to conduct an impact assessment. The RCSC headquarters has distributed 100 tents, 3,000 cotton clothes, 3,011 quilts, while the provincial branch has distributed a value of CNY 350,000 in quilts, tents, blankets, clothes as well as floatable clothing-items and shoes.



In Jilin province, the RCSC headquarters has sent out 150 tents, 2,500 quilts and 2,500 cotton clothes to the worst affected areas. The RCSC Foundation is dispatching a work team to Jilin to do an impact assessment together with provincial staff.

Liaoning provincial Red Cross is sending out relief items to the affected areas. **Photo:** Liaoning provincial Red Cross.

In Guangdong province, the RCSC headquarters and local branch has delivered 2,850 family kits, 1,910 quilts, 1,650 jackets and 160 disinfectant sprays, and medicines, with a total valued at CNY 5.5 million.

The IFRC East Asia Delegation and Asia Pacific Zone Office are keeping track on the situation and remain in close contact with the RCSC headquarters and are ready to provide international assistance as needed.



Liaoning provincial Red Cross distributes quilts and tents to people affected by the worst flooding in north eastern China in more than 5 decades. **Photo:** Liaoning provincial Red Cross.

Contact information

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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.

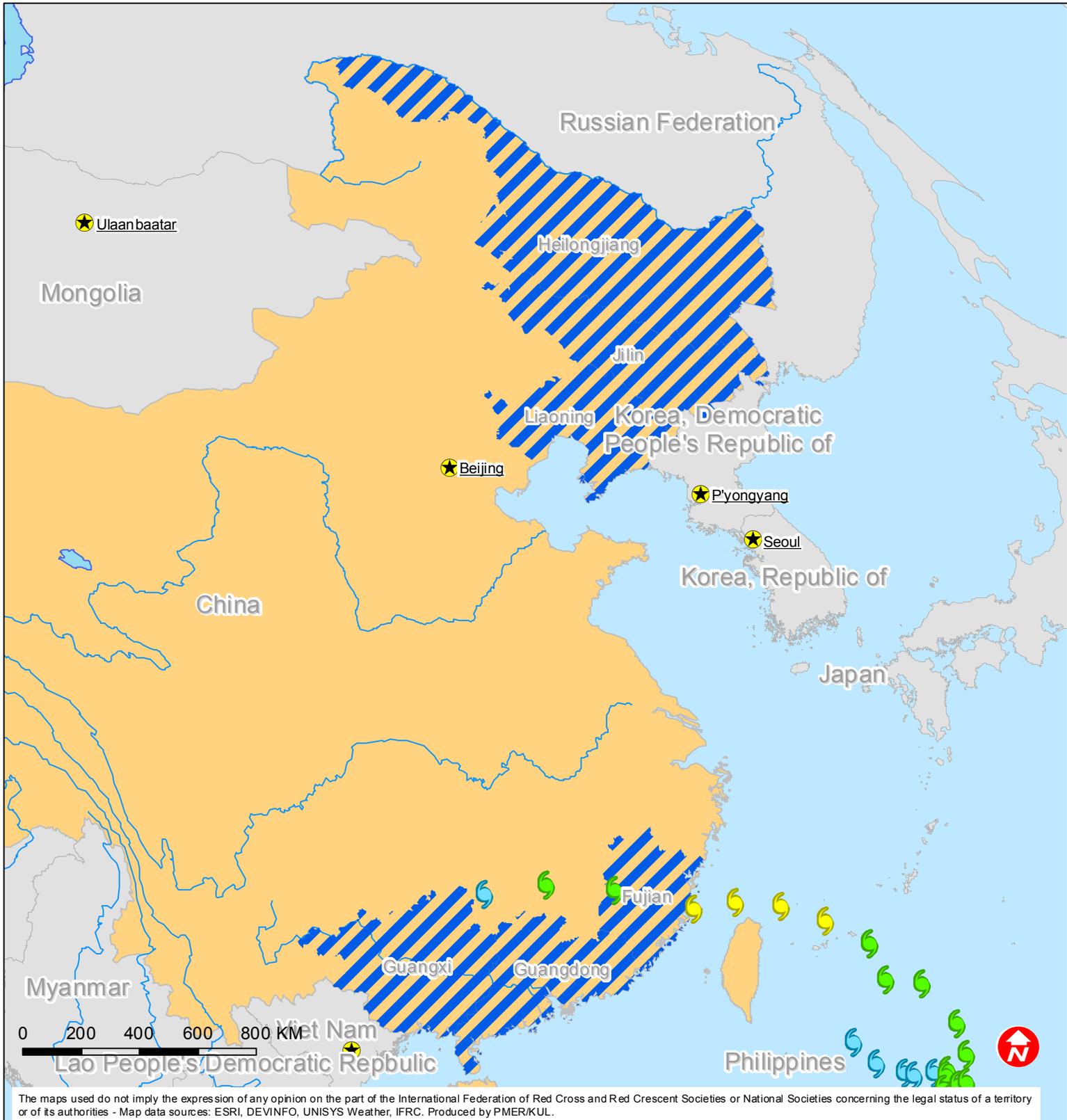


The IFRC's work is guided by [Strategy 2020](#) which puts forward three strategic aims:

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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China: Floods and typhoons



 Affected provinces