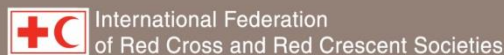


www.ifrc.org  
Saving lives,  
changing minds.

## Information bulletin

### Democratic People's Republic of Korea: Torrential Rain with High Wind



<b>Glide n°</b> <a href="#">TC-2020-000178-PRK</a>	<b>Date of issue:</b> 20/08/2020
<b>Date of disaster:</b> Ongoing	<b>Point of contact:</b> Dr. Muhammad Khalid Khadim, Acting DRM Delegate, IFRC DPRK Country Office
<b>Operation start date:</b> N/A	<b>Expected timeframe:</b> N/A
<b>Category of disaster:</b> Yellow	
<b>Host National Society(ies):</b> Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) Red Cross Society	
<b>Number of people affected:</b> TBD	<b>Number of people to be assisted:</b> TBD
<b>N° of National Societies currently involved in the operation (if available and relevant):</b> -	
<b>N° of other partner organizations involved in the operation (if available and relevant):</b> -	

This bulletin is being issued for information only and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea Red Cross Society (DPRK RCS), with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), has determined that available information points toward significant humanitarian needs that may require support from the IFRC Disaster Relief Emergency Fund to support the affected people.

[<click here for detailed contact information>](#)

## The situation

Democratic People's Republic of Korea has been hit by torrential rain caused by the seasonal rainy front under the influence of Typhoon 4 as it is named in DPRK or Typhoon Hagupit, from 1 to 6 August 2020. According to latest data from State Hydro-Meteorological Administration (SHMA) on 6 August 2020, more than 200 millimeters of heavy rain lashed on North and South Hwanghae, North Phyongan and Kangwon provinces, Kaesong City and other areas of the country from 1 to 6 August. In particular, the precipitation rate is at 851.5 millimeters in Pyonggang county, 650.1 millimeters in Jangpung county, 637.8 millimeters in Kusong city, 629 millimeters in Sepho county, 626.1 millimeters in Singye county, 619.1 millimeters in Hoeyang county, 617.7 millimeters in Pyongsan county, 565.6 millimeters and 511.2 millimeters in Unsan and Paechon counties.

In response to the situation, torrential rain warning was issued by the government's concerned departments on 4 August 2020 throughout the country. In addition to torrential rain warning, high wind and wave warning was issued in the country on 5 August 2020. Further torrential rains were forecast for the areas while the precipitation in inland Gangwon Province is predicted to be over 500 mm, according to DPRK weather forecast. Flood alerts were issued in central and southern parts of the country along Taedong river, Chongchon river and Ryesong river for Thursday and Friday, following heavy rainfall.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

DPRK RCS has immediately activated its disaster response mechanism to support the government's disaster response activities under the current situation. Alert has been sent out from headquarters to the provincial and county branches. National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) and Provincial Disaster Response Teams (PDRT) in nine provinces including Red Cross volunteers are on standby for 24 hours to ensure rapid and effective response to natural

disasters like flood and landslide. In total 43,200 Red Cross volunteers throughout the country are mobilized to disseminate early warning and early action messages (such as weather forecast information and evacuation routines) and to keep watch on the disaster risk factors like river level, landslide risk, etc. Under the current situation that the state emergency anti-epidemic system in DPRK has turned into the maximum emergency system to prevent spread of COVID-19 into the country, Red Cross volunteers are following specific anti-epidemic measures like wearing masks, keeping social distance, avoiding gatherings of more than five people and disseminating COVID-19 protection messages to the affected population during evacuation and relief item distribution. These volunteers are trained in COVID-19 protection and provided with necessary personal protective equipment.



NDRT members checking the storage of essential household items. (Photo DPRK RCS)

The extent of damage caused by the heavy rains and winds is being assessed by respective local Red Cross branches. Once more information is available, the National Society will issue second Information Bulletin.

Before the rainy season, DPRK RCS has already conducted disaster preparedness activities including the identification and elimination of disaster risks, installation of disaster risk observation posts, reconfirmation of evacuation routes and sites, reinforcement of community-based early warning and evacuation systems and disaster mitigation activities in disaster prone areas.

In addition, the storage of essential household items such as tarpaulins, kitchen sets, hygiene kits, jerry cans, water purification tablets, quilts and emergency equipment such as water treatment units has been checked on a regular basis in seven disaster preparedness warehouses. Preparation has been made to rapidly transport essential household items to the disaster affected areas during emergency under the collaboration with local authorities and Red Cross branches. The DPRK RCS WASH department has prepared and tested its six emergency water treatment units to immediately mobilize in case of any seasonal disasters.

Pre-disaster meetings were organized to strengthen the cooperation and coordination with governmental authorities including State Committee for Emergency and Disaster Management (SCEDM), State Hydro-Meteorological Administration (SHMA) and Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS). Regular contact with these organizations is being maintained and meteorological and other data are being shared.



NDRT meeting for effective and timely response to possible disasters during the rainy season. (Photo: DPRK RCS)

The IFRC DPRK country office in cooperation with APRO is supporting the DPRK RCS in obtaining updates on the weather situation. The CO is coordinating/sharing information with Partner National Societies (PNSs) and CAS partners, UN agencies and is coordinating with the relevant Working Groups (health, WASH and nutrition). The IFRC continues to closely coordinate with the DPRK RCS to determine the appropriate response and to process possible request for support from the IFRC Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the affected people.



[Click here](#)

1. Click [here](#) to return to the title page

---

## Contact information

**For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:**

### **In Democratic People's Republic of Korea Red Cross Society (DPRK RCS)**

- Kim Kwang Son, DM director; phone : +85024350; email: [dprk-rc@star-co.net.kp](mailto:dprk-rc@star-co.net.kp)

### **In IFRC DPRK country office, Pyongyang**

- Mohamed Babiker, head of country office; email: [mohamed.babiker@ifrc.org](mailto:mohamed.babiker@ifrc.org)
- Dr. Muhammad Khalid Khadim, acting DRM delegate/health & WASH manager; email: [muhammad.khalid@ifrc.org](mailto:muhammad.khalid@ifrc.org)

### **In the IFRC**

- Alka Kapoorsharma, acting deputy regional director; email: [alka.kapoorsharma@ifrc.org](mailto:alka.kapoorsharma@ifrc.org)
- Necephor Mghendi, head of disaster and crises unit: [necephor.mghendi@ifrc.org](mailto:necephor.mghendi@ifrc.org)
- Vijay Kumar Ummidi, operations coordinator; email: [OpsCoord.EastAsia@ifrc.org](mailto:OpsCoord.EastAsia@ifrc.org)
- Antony Balmain, communications manager; email: [antony.balmain@ifrc.org](mailto:antony.balmain@ifrc.org)

### **In IFRC Geneva**

- Nelson Castano, manager operations coordination, [nelson.castano@ifrc.org](mailto:nelson.castano@ifrc.org)

### **For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support:**

- Alice Ho, coordinator, partnership in emergencies; email: [PartnershipsEA.AP@ifrc.org](mailto:PartnershipsEA.AP@ifrc.org)

### **For Performance and Accountability support (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)**

- Liew Siew Hui, PMER manager; email: [siewhui.liew@ifrc.org](mailto:siewhui.liew@ifrc.org)

## 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 (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian 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:



**Save lives.**  
protect livelihoods,  
and strengthen recovery  
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**  
and **safe** living.



Promote social inclusion  
and a culture of  
**non-violence** and **peace.**

---