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, 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.

Torrential rain and subsequent floods and landslides hit various provinces in southern China including Fujian, Jiangxi, Hunan, Guangdong, Sichuan, Guizhou and Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region.

Government figures as of 22 June indicate that more than 29 million people are affected, with up to 2.37 million evacuated and 195,000 homes destroyed.

As of June 22, RCSC headquarters mobilized relief goods for the six provinces totalling CNY 4.38 million (approximately CHF 729,500 or EUR 523,000) in value, which include quilts, tents, family packs, warm clothes and drinking water disinfectant. Additional funds were also mobilized for relief goods procurement by local RCSC branches and to mitigate the impact of the disaster on survivors’ lives and livelihoods.

The situation

Since early May, torrential rain and subsequent floods and landslides hit various provinces in southern China, with the worst hit provinces being Fujian, Jiangxi, Hunan, Guangdong, Sichuan, Guizhou and Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region. Strong storms have collapsed water reservoirs, overflowed rivers, caused landslides and power outages and damaged highways.

As of 22 June, according to government statistics, the latest round of floods which began early in the month of June has affected more than 29 million people and 1.6 million hectares of crops in the areas of Zhejiang, Fujian, Jiangxi, Hubei, Hunan, Guangdong, Guangxi, Chongqing, Sichuan and Guizhou. The downpours triggered flash floods, inundated crops, destroyed reservoirs and irrigation facilities, and disrupted traffic and telecommunications. Latest figures indicate that up to 199 people have perished, 123 people are missing, 2.37 million people were evacuated, and 195,000 houses collapsed, with direct economic losses amounting to approximately CNY 42.1 billion (CHF 7.01 billion or EUR 5.03 billion)

This flooding season follows one of the worst drought in a century that have affected the southern regions of Yunnan, Guizhou and Guangxi.
Red Cross Red Crescent action

Since 7 May, the Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) has been carrying out relief work in affected provinces including Hunan, Guangdong, Jiangxi, Guangxi, Hubei and Fujian. Additional assessments are being conducted in Jiangxi and Hunan provinces. The National Society launched a national appeal to help those affected by the floods in the country’s southern provinces. RCSC is appealing for cash, temporary shelter and relief goods for survivors. The most pressing needs in the disaster area currently are for tents, quilts, instant meals, drinking water, medicines, environmental disinfectant and water purifying disinfectant.

As of 22 June, RCSC headquarters mobilized relief goods for the six provinces totaling CNY 4.38 million (approximately CHF 729,500 or EUR 523,000) in value. These included 950 tents, 21,500 quilts, 2,000 padded coats, 4,000 jackets, 2,800 family packs, 7,000 mosquito nets, 3,000 packages of environmental disinfectant and 1,000 packages of drinking water disinfectant.

On 23 June, RCSC headquarters held an emergency meeting and decided to mobilize additional CNY 6 million (CHF 1 million or EUR 713,000) for Jiangxi, Hunan, Guangxi, Fujian, Guizhou, Guangdong and Hubei, including CNY 1 million from the Jet Li One Foundation. These funds will be used for relief goods procured locally by RCSC branches to mitigate the impact of the disaster on survivors' lives and livelihoods. RCSC will continue to respond as needed to further developments in the disaster situation. RCSC has also deployed a team to Jiangxi and Hunan to conduct assessments.

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) East Asia regional office with support from the Asia Pacific disaster management unit in Kuala Lumpur continues to closely monitoring the situation together with RCSC and providing updated information as it becomes available. It has indicated readiness to support RCSC’s relief operation as needed.

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 (NGO's) 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.

Contact information

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<map below; click here to return to the title page or contact information>
Worst affected provinces

The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.

Map data sources: ESRI, DEVINFO, International Federation, IB240610.mxd