

Disaster relief emergency fund (DREF)

Viet Nam: Typhoon Wutip

DREF operation n° MDRVN012 1 October 2013

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent emergency response. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of National Societies to respond to disasters.

CHF 10,932 has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the National Society in conducting emergency needs assessments. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Viet Nam Red Cross (VNRC), with support from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) country office, has requested a DREF allocation of CHF 10,932 in order to conduct needs assessments to determine the needs following Typhoon Wutip, which is due to make landfall in the afternoon of 30 September 2013.

This operation is expected to be implemented over one week, and will therefore be completed by 7 October 2013, and a final report will be made available three months after the end of the operation i.e. by 7 January 2014.

[< click here for the DREF budget; contact details; view map of affected area >](#)

The situation

Typhoon Wutip, the tenth tropical storm over the East Sea this year, is forecast to make landfall in central Viet Nam on Monday, 30 September 2013, bringing strong winds and heavy rains to the central highlands and mountainous areas, which may cause landslides and flash floods. It is predicted to be the strongest typhoon hitting central Viet Nam since Typhoon Xangsane in 2006. After an urgent meeting of the Central Steering Committee for Flood and Storm Prevention and Control (CCFSC) on 29 September, Thua Thien-Hue provincial leaders have evacuated over 1,500 local residents to higher areas and have planned on moving over 11,000 local residents from high-risk areas to safe grounds before the typhoon strikes. In Quang Tri, 8,000 villagers in the province's coastal areas were taken to safe ground on Sunday night. All fishing vessels operating offshore were ordered to find anchorage, and students in affected localities were instructed to stay at home on Monday, 30 September 2013.

After moving from the Hoang Sa archipelago with wind speeds reaching 134 to 149 km per hour, Wutip was expected to make landfall between the provinces of Ha Tinh and Thua Thien-Hue, and to move northwest to hit provinces from Ha Tinh to Quang Tri. Typhoon Wutip is expected to dump heavy rains of up to 400mm on central coastal provinces from Nghe An to Da Nang and cause high tidal surges of three to four metres.

Typhoon Wutip (or Storm Number Ten) is expected to cause even greater damage than Storm Number 8, which took place between 16 and 22 September impacting the central provinces of Viet Nam, killing 24

people, destroying 27 houses and damaging 9,204 houses as a result of the flooding.¹ The storm also caused significant losses in seasonal crops. VNRC also responded to Storm Number 8 by deploying six provincial disaster response teams (PDRT) in the provinces of Thanh Hoa, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Quang Nam and Quang Ngai to carry out needs assessment.

According to the National Centre for Hydro-meteorological Forecasting, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh and Quang Tri are forecasted to be the most affected provinces. Even before the typhoon made landfall, heavy rain was already widespread in these provinces and three people had been killed. Red Cross chapters in these provinces have been participating in meetings with CCFSC in their respective provinces to coordinate responses there.

Viet Nam is not the only country being affected by Typhoon Wutip, as 74 Chinese fishermen were also found missing after the typhoon sunk three fishing boats in the South China Sea on 29 September. Meanwhile, Thailand is also expecting torrential rain and flooding after the typhoon is expected to hit on Tuesday.

Viet Nam Red Cross (VNRC) has deployed their national and provincial disaster response teams (PDRT) to carry out preparedness activities in their respective provinces. Since their establishment in June, PDRT members have been trained in needs assessment and some of the teams have had the opportunity to get hands-on experience through the needs assessment in affected provinces after Storm Number 8. They will gauge the situation to facilitate decisions at VNRC headquarters. In terms of the deployment of the national disaster response team (NDRT), members including a communication officer will be deployed to severely affected provinces in support of the PDRT.

Coordination and partnerships

VNRC's emergency response activities are coordinated at multiple levels. The Disaster Management Working Group (DMWG) is the platform on which IFRC and VNRC coordinate response actions together with the People's Aid Coordinating Committee (PACCOM), UN agencies and international NGOs. In addition, VNRC also participate in meetings held by CCFSC, during which its activities are coordinated with the government at various levels.

On 27 September 2013, a meeting was held among DMWG members to discuss the damages caused by Storm Number 8 and Storm Number 9, which hit Central Viet Nam in mid-September, as well as preparedness activities for Typhoon Wutip.

VNRC, IFRC and partner national societies (PNS) have been closely monitoring and tracking the movement of Typhoon Wutip. Red Cross chapters in affected provinces of Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thua Thien-Hue and Quang Nam have also been sharing information with VNRC headquarters about the situation in their communities before and after the typhoon made landfall. Updates from the field have been consolidated by VNRC headquarters and shared with the IFRC country office and partner national societies (PNS), along with its proposed plan of action.

At the headquarters level, on Monday 30 September, VNRC headquarters called for a meeting with the IFRC country office and in-country partner national societies to ensure a coordinated approach to support the National Society in responding to the typhoon. During this meeting, VNRC established a working group consisting of representatives from VNRC, IFRC and PNS, which would facilitate frequent sharing of information to allow more timely decision-making.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

On Friday 28 September 2013, representatives from VNRC attended a meeting organized by DMWG to discuss the possibility of a joint assessment team (JAT) to be deployed in case of emergency. The JAT consists of representatives from the Red Cross, along with representatives from international NGOs. Following instructions from the government dated 28 September, on Sunday 29 September the national society sent a letter requesting Red Cross provincial chapters to be prepared for response. PDRT teams in provinces of Thanh Hoa, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Quang Nam and Quang Ngai have been supporting in the evacuation of vulnerable communities as well as providing assistance to families preparing

¹ According to damage statistics as of 8 p.m. 22 September 2013 (CCFSC)

their households for the storm. Reports by Red Cross chapters in likely-to-be-affected provinces started to come in on the morning of 30 September. VNRC's disaster management department at headquarters is working on consolidating information obtained from the field.

In the above mentioned provinces, Red Cross chapters have been preparing relief items including rice, instant noodles, water, as well as water treatment units for potential emergency relief. Through their volunteer and member networks, Red Cross chapters are providing local residents with updates about the progress of the typhoon and to prepare them for evacuation if needed. Red Cross chapter staff are conducting field trips to potentially affected districts in order to carry out needs assessment and provide timely updates.

The needs

The needs of the affected population are yet to be identified. Following the onset of the typhoon, the PDRTs with support from the NDRT will carry out needs assessment in their respective locality. Needs assessment will provide VNRC and partners with the information needed to make informed decisions on their response efforts. Nevertheless, Red Cross partners are already putting relief stocks and other essential resources in place in order to respond to the disaster efficiently and effectively.

The proposed operation

For the time being, the proposed action for this DREF operation focuses on supporting VNRC disaster response preparedness activities including the deployment of VNRC NDRT and PDRT members in the provinces projected to be most severely affected. Based on the results of the need assessment, relief stocks including household kits and food will be distributed, while further support will be provided through cash distribution, the provision of safe drinking water treatment and potential support for shelter.

Recognizing the salience of providing immediate updates of the situation during such emergencies, the operation also seeks to deploy one NDRT member, who is a media staff at the headquarters level. The purpose of this is to ensure effective communication of VNRC's disaster response preparedness activities, as well as the extent of damages and needs of affected communities, to both national and international media. This will help enhance the visibility of VNRC, further corroborates its auxiliary role to the government, and support potential fundraising activities that may be required domestically as well as internationally.

Disaster response preparedness
Outcome: VNRC has strengthened their disaster response preparedness for the impact of Typhoon Wutip.
Outputs (expected results) and activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deployment of surge capacity in the form of NDRT and PDRTs.• Pre-positioning of additional human resources on standby (i.e. NDRT) in surrounding provinces.• Conduct needs assessment and define potential disaster response strategy• Media and communications coverage on VNRC emergency response preparedness activities.

Contact information

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

- **Viet Nam Red Cross:**
 - Doan Van Thai, vice president and secretary general;
phone: +84 913 216549, email: doanvanthai62@gmail.com
- **IFRC Viet Nam country office:**
 - Michael Annear, country representative;
phone +84 4 3942 2980, email: michael.annear@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Southeast Asia regional office, Bangkok:**
 - Anne Leclerc, head of regional office;
phone: +662 661 8201; email: anne.leclerc@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Asia Pacific zone office, Kuala Lumpur; phone: +603 9207 5700, fax: +603 2161 0670)**
 - Al Panico, head of operations, email: al.panico@ifrc.org ;
 - Andreas von Weissenberg, operations coordinator; mobile: +6012 2307895;
email: andreas.weissenberg@ifrc.org
 - Peter Ophoff, head of planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER);
email: peter.ophoff@ifrc.org

Please send all pledges of funding to zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org



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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.

DREF OPERATION

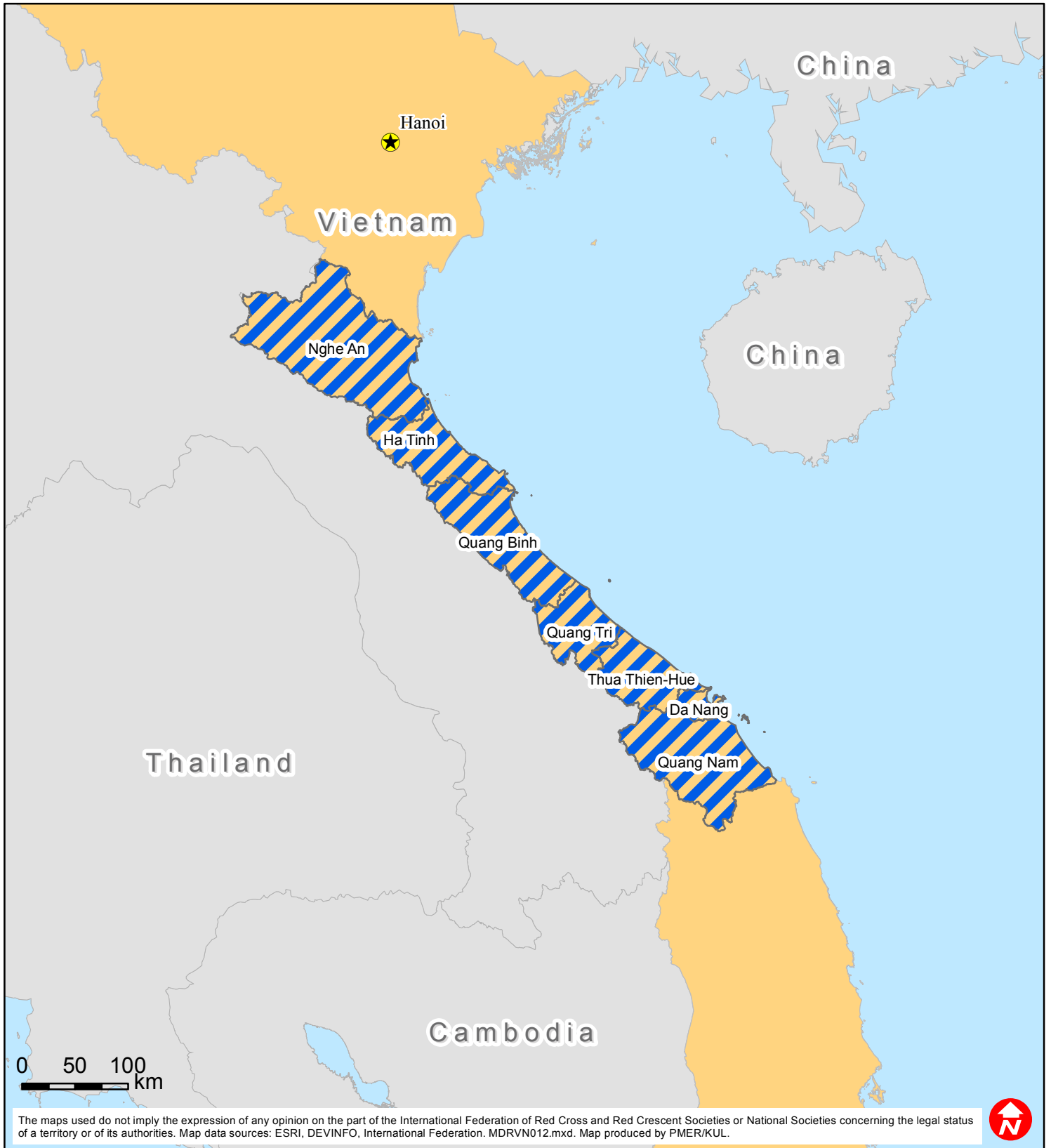
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MDRVN012 Viet Nam : Typhoon Wutip

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
National Society Staff	9,774
Volunteers	491
Total PERSONNEL	10,265
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	667
Total INDIRECT COSTS	667
TOTAL BUDGET	10,932



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 Affected areas