

www.ifrc.org  
Saving lives,  
changing minds.

# Information bulletin

## Viet Nam: Typhoon Haiyan

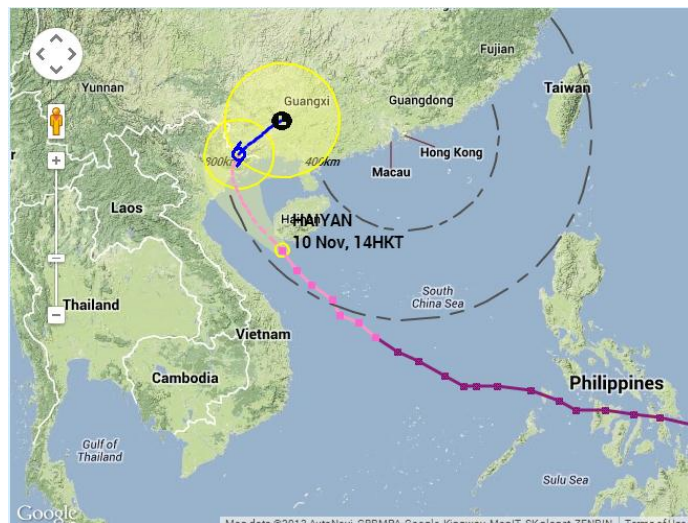
 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Information bulletin n° 2  
GLIDE n° [TC-2013-000139-VNM](#)  
10 November 2013

This bulletin is being issued for information only and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation. The Viet Nam Red Cross will, however, accept direct assistance to provide support to the affected population.

[<click to view contact information>](#)

**Summary:** Super Typhoon Haiyan, locally named storm number 14, initially expected to hit Central Viet Nam on Sunday, 10 November, is now expected to hit Northern coastal provinces early morning Monday, 11 November 2013. Haiyan hit the Philippines on Friday as a category-5 storm with wind strength of over 230 kilometres per hour causing massive destruction and killing many. The typhoon, said to be one of the strongest storms ever recorded, is now expected to make landfall in Viet Nam as a tropical storm.



**Typhoon track forecast by Hong Kong Observatory, as of  
14:00 hrs Hong Kong time on 10 November 2013  
Source: Viet Nam Meteorological Forecast Center**

## The situation

Within the first two weeks of October 2013, Central Viet Nam was hit by two category-1 storms - Typhoon Wutip (storm number 10) on 30 September and Nari (storm number 11) on 15 October - leaving behind significant damage in the nine provinces of Thanh Hoa, Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thua Thien-Hue, Da Nang, Quang Nam and Quang Ngai. Among these, Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang Tri and Thua Thien-Hue are suffering from the dual impacts of both storms. The total economic loss due to Nari is estimated to be VND 1.5 trillion (USD 71 million), in addition to the VND 13.5 trillion (USD 663.23 million) economic loss earlier caused by Wutip.

While Viet Nam was still recovering from these two storms, the country experienced two other storms during the first week of November, and is now bracing for the potentially greatest storm of the year thus far, Typhoon Haiyan. Initially, the "super typhoon" was expected to hit central provinces on 10 November as a category-2 typhoon. Viet Nam Red Cross has been assisting the local committees for flood and storm control and other agencies in the evacuation of some 600,000 residents in the central provinces of Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Da Nang, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai and Thua Thien-Hue.

While the above provinces have suffered from strong winds, heavy rains and potential flooding, especially considering the compounding impact of the recent storms and flooding, they have been spared the direct impact as the typhoon has changed its course to move north-eastward. It is now predicted to directly affect the northern provinces of Thanh Hoa, Ninh Binh, Nam Dinh, Hai Phong, Quang Ninh, Thai Binh and the

capital of Hanoi from the morning of 11 November, resulting in heavy rains and flooding in these areas. Quang Ninh is likely to be the hardest-hit province.

On the morning of 10 November, VNRC headquarters instructed its branches and volunteers in the northern provinces expected to be hit by Haiyan to prepare and to be ready to respond to the storm by assisting in the evacuation of residents to safer areas, strengthening houses and public buildings, pre-positioning relief stocks ready for distribution.

#### **Actions taken by the government:**

The Central Committee for Flood and Storm Control (CCFSC) has held daily meetings to update the track of the typhoon and sent requests to the neighbouring countries of China, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines to assist Vietnamese fishermen in case they need to seek shelter due to the typhoon in an urgent manner. The government sent alerts to 85,249 boats and ships, or 395,392 fishermen, in order to move to safer areas to avoid the impact of the typhoon.

Northern provinces which are predicted to be hit by Haiyan have been instructed to prepare for the storm, with the CCFSC in these provinces leading the evacuation of families to safer places and strengthening houses and public buildings to withstand the storm. In places like Hanoi, residents have also been instructed to stay indoors on 11 November.

## **Red Cross and Red Crescent action**



**9 November 2013: Ngo Thi Diem Phuong, Da Nang Red Cross volunteer, assisting in the evacuation of orphans at the Orphan Nurturing Centre in Da Nang city, prior to Haiyan making landfall. The centre is home to 25 disabled orphans.**

**Photo: Tran Quang Tuan/VNRC**

Within the past few weeks, with IFRC support, VNRC has been carrying out relief activities in provinces affected by the recent storms.

In response to the pending arrival of Typhoon Haiyan, on Friday 8 November, VNRC headquarters called for a meeting with the IFRC country office to ensure a coordinated approach to support the national society in responding to the typhoon. During this meeting, VNRC confirmed their provincial and national disaster response teams (PDRT / NDRT) were on stand-by for quick deployment after the storm makes landfall.

Throughout Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 November, provincial Red Cross chapters temporarily ceased operations in the affected provinces of Thanh Hoa, Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang

Tri, Thua Thien-Hue, Da Nang, Quang Nam and Quang Ngai to enable their Provincial Disaster Response Teams (PDRT) to assist in evacuation of residents to safer areas, especially the elderly and other vulnerable populations like children and orphans.

A total of 5,000 household kits were prepositioned for emergency distribution, along with two Rubb halls of 100 square meters each. The VNRC's emergency fund to support relief goods was also made ready to be accessed on the arrival of the typhoon. Red Cross branches in these provinces have also prepared relief stocks of essential household items and distributed food supplies, including 9,000 boxes of instant noodles.

Red Cross branches in these provinces are now assisting residents in returning to their homes. So far, there have been two deaths and one injury in Hue. In Quang Ngai, there have been two deaths and 13 injuries reported.

In the northern provinces predicted to be hit by the storm, Red Cross chapters are also pre-positioning stocks to be ready for distribution, including instant noodles, clothes, water filters, mosquito nets and blankets. The Red Cross chapters have also mobilized volunteers and staff to assist CCFSC to evacuate

residents to safer areas and conduct house strengthening activities. Among these provinces, only Thanh Hoa has an established and trained PDRT.

Communication staff of VNRC headquarters and IFRC staff in the field, as well as chapter staff have been active in sharing photos and information from the field in order to profile the preparedness activities by VNRC.

---

## Contact information

- **Viet Nam Red Cross**
  - Mr. Doan Van Thai, vice president and secretary general; phone: +84 913 216549 email: [doanvanthai62@gmail.com](mailto:doanvanthai62@gmail.com)
- **IFRC country office, Viet Nam**
  - Michael Annear, country representative; phone +84 4 3942 2980, email: [michael.annear@ifrc.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:al.panico@ifrc.org)
  - Christine Strater, operations coordinator; mobile: +6012 2130 149; email: [christine.strater@ifrc.org](mailto:christine.strater@ifrc.org)
  - Florent Chane, zone logistics coordinator; email: [florent.chane@ifrc.org](mailto:florent.chane@ifrc.org)
  - Peter Ophoff, head of planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER); email: [peter.ophoff@ifrc.org](mailto:peter.ophoff@ifrc.org)

Please send all pledges of funding to [zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org](mailto:zonerm.asiapacific@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 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.

[www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)  
Saving lives, changing minds.



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.
-