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Information bulletin

China: Typhoon Rammasun

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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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.

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

Typhoon Rammasun, the 9th typhoon in 2014, which is the strongest typhoon in four decades to hit the mainland China, has brought landfalls in four provinces: Hainan, Guangdong, Guangxi and Yunnan provinces, on 18 July and 19 July. As of 09:00 local time on July 21, strong winds, flash floods and landslides triggered by Typhoon Rammasun have caused 46 deaths, 25 missing, 628,000 relocated and 9.96 million people affected in Hainan, Guangdong, Guangxi and Yunnan province. The total economic loss reached CNY 26.212 billion (approx. CHF 3.82 billion).¹



RCSC is mobilizing relief items to typhoon affected people in Hainan province. Photo by RCSC.

Both the headquarters (HQs) and the branches of the RCSC were well prepared for this disaster prior to the typhoon making landfall. When the typhoon hit in Hainan on 18 July, RCSC immediately started relief operations in the area. Non-food relief items (NFRIs) including family kits, tents, clothes and quilts from local disaster preparedness warehouses were distributed to help the vulnerable people in the affected areas. Besides NFRIs distribution, the Emergency Response Teams (ERTs) from local branches were also deployed to the affected area.

¹ <http://preview.jzs.mca.gov.cn/article/zqkb/zqhz/201407/20140700671538.shtml>

The situation



The houses are severely damaged in Guangxi. Photo by Guangxi RC Branch.

Typhoon

Typhoon Rammasun has made three landfalls in Southern part of China. The first landfall was around 15:30 local time on 18 July at Wenchang, Hainan Province. The lifeline of Hainan province was devastated by typhoon which triggered heavy storms and flash floods. After making the second landfall at Xuwen, Guangdong Province at 19:30 local time on the same day with strong landing wind level of 60 meters/second, Rammasun made its third landfall at Fangchenggang, Guangxi province at around 07:10 local time on 19 July. The landing wind level decreased to 42 meters/second.

Huge amount of water brought by the typhoon has resulted in secondary disasters such as heavy rainstorms, flash floods and landslides in various area of southern part of China. According to the statistics from Ministry of Civil Affairs, as of 22 July, 9.96 million people were severely affected in four main provinces – Hainan, Guangdong, Guangxi and Yunnan. A total of 46 people were killed, 25 are still missing while 628,000 were displaced. Typhoon Rammasun has caused CNY 26.212 billion (approx. CHF 3.82 billion) direct economic loss and 468,500 hectares crops damaged.

Hainan province – A total of 19 people were killed while 5 are missing. More than 2 million people were affected, 180,000 were displaced and 25,000 in need urgent relief assistance. About 6,100 rooms collapsed. The direct economic loss is CNY 10.9 billion (approx. over CHF 1 billion). The province's power grid was severely damaged with more than five cities/prefectures suffered power cut. As of 07:19 on 21 July, Haikou (the capital city) is still suffering power outage.

Guangdong province – There is no reported death or missing. Around 157,000 people were displaced while 2.638 million were affected. More than 7,800 houses collapsed. The direct economic loss reaches CNY 13.02 billion (approx. CHF 1.85 billion).

Guangxi province – Rammasun killed 9 people and resulted in 290,000 displaced and 3.685 million affected. About 7,100 houses collapsed. The direct economic loss is CNY 9.39 billion (over CHF 1 billion).²

Yunnan province – Due to huge water brought by Typhoon Rammasun in Yunnan, a landslide occurred in Mangshi, Dehong Autonomous Prefecture of Yunnan province which has resulted in 18 deaths and 20 still missing. In Yunnan province, 448,000 people were affected and direct economic loss is estimated at CNY 3.4 million (approx. CHF 490,000).

Province	Most affected	Affected (million)	Displaced	Death	Missing	House collapsed	Eco. loss (billion RMB)
Guangdong	42,000	2.633	157,000	0	0	7,800	13.02
Guangxi	185,000	3.685	290,000	9	0	7,100	9.39
Hainan	25,000	3.6	180,000	19	5	23,000	10.9
Yunnan	100	0.448	1500	18	20	200	0.34
Total	252,100	10.366	628,500	46	25	38,100	33.65

² Affected people who are in need of emergency assistance.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

To respond to the disaster, RCSC HQs and the related branches have taken immediate actions. In order to assist local branches' relief operation to the affected population, RCSC HQs has allocated 2,500 family kits, 5,000 jackets to Hainan branch, 1,500 family kits, 3,500 quilts to Guangdong branch and 2,300 family kits, 200 tents plus CNY 50,000 emergency fund to Guangxi branch. A team from the HQs has been deployed to Hainan on 21 July to conduct further needs assessment and instruct relief operations.



RCSC is distributing relief items to affected people.
Photo by Guangxi RC Branch.

Provincial branches immediately deployed assessment and coordination teams to the most affected area after the disaster. Rescue ERT in Hainan branch and Relief ERTs in Hainan and Guangxi branches have been deployed to affected area to conduct rescue and relief activities.

Hainan branch has distributed 33 tents and 20 tons of rice which valued at CNY 91,080 to the most affected area. Guangdong branch has allocated CNY 30,000 for emergency procurement of rice and 300 family kits to assist affected people. Guangxi RC branch has allocated CNY 100,000 for relief rice procurement and distributed 1,312 T-shirts and 1,020 jackets to affected people.

Since the total damage in affected provinces is still under assessment, and the needs for affected population is changing by the days, RCSC is continuing monitoring the situation and will provide updated information as well as necessary assistance to affected people in most timely and efficient manner.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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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 (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.

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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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