

# EMERGENCY APPEAL



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies  
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge  
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja  
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

## VIET NAM: TYPHOONS

**Revised Appeal no. MDRVN001**  
**Xangsane: TC-2006-000144-VNM**  
**Durian: TC-2006-000175-VNM**  
**23 May 2007**

*The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization its millions of volunteers are active in over 185 countries.*

### In Brief

**THIS REVISED EMERGENCY APPEAL SEEKS CHF 1,579,262 (USD 1,277,000 OR EUR 956,800) IN CASH OR SERVICES TO SUPPORT THE VIET NAM RED CROSS IN ASSISTING 60,750 BENEFICIARIES FOR SIX MONTHS.**

#### Appeal history:

- Preliminary emergency appeal for Typhoon Xangsane launched on 5 Oct 2006 to seek CHF 1.01 million (USD 0.81 million or EUR 0.64 million) for 61,000 beneficiaries for 12 months.
- The appeal was revised on 13 October 2006 to CHF 1.67 million (USD 1.4 million or EUR 1.05 million) for 60,400 beneficiaries to reflect operational realities.
- The appeal was re-launched on 7 December 2006 as Viet Nam Typhoons to incorporate Typhoon Durian for CHF 2,977,458 (USD 2.47 million or EUR 1.87 million) in cash, kind or services to support 98,000 beneficiaries for 12 months.
- Appeal revised on 22 December 2006 for CHF 4,210,045 (3.49 million or EUR 2.64 million) in cash, kind or services to support 99,500 beneficiaries for 12 months.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) allocated: for Xangsane and Durian at CHF 100,000 each. Unearmarked funds will be needed to repay DREF.

Viet Nam experienced the destructive effects of typhoons Xangsane and Durian in 2006 which caused widespread damage across the south and central areas of the country. In total 22 provinces and two major cities were affected. The impact of the two typhoons stretched local and national resources causing Viet Nam Red Cross to request the Federation to facilitate international assistance to support the impressive local resource mobilization. The Viet Nam Red Cross, supported by the Federation, has responded to the two disasters effectively.

However, as a result of the limited international funds received to the current response (37.5 percent) by donors in supporting the proposed operation, a decision was made to revise the appeal. The revision takes into account the activities being undertaken by other organizations and contributions made directly to the VNRC and to ensure the most appropriate needs of the beneficiaries are being met. As such, the appeal budget has decreased from CHF 4,210,045 (USD 3.49 million or EUR 2.64 million) to CHF 1, 579,262 (USD 1,277,077 OR EUR 956,000) to support 60,750 (reduced from 99,500) beneficiaries for six months until October 2007.

## The Situation

In 2006, Viet Nam was severely affected by two typhoons within three months of each other. Strong winds and heavy rains caused flooding and landslides in 22 provinces and two major cities, killing and injuring people, destroying homes, community infrastructure and disrupting communications and electrical systems. A summary of their impact is below.

	<b>Xangsane</b>	<b>Durian</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Human impact</b>			
Total population affected (million)	1.3	1.2	<b>2.5</b>
Number injured	525	1,360	<b>1,885</b>
Number of deaths	69	85	<b>154</b>
Number missing	2	10	<b>12</b>
<b>Infrastructure impact</b>			
Number of houses damaged	293,480	195,117	<b>488,597</b>
Number of houses destroyed	15,119	49,787	<b>64,906</b>
Number of school rooms damaged	2,059	2,921	<b>4,980</b>
Volume of dykes (m3) damaged	8,000	703	<b>8,703</b>
Number of electricity poles damaged	11,621	3,228	<b>14,849</b>
<b>Socioeconomic impact</b>			
Area of agricultural land farming (hectares)	8,916	6,978	<b>15,894</b>
Area of agricultural land aquaculture (hectares)	2,310	2	<b>2,312</b>
Number of floating ponds		95	<b>95</b>
Number of livestock (single animal)	506,170	-	<b>506,170</b>
Number of fisheries – large boats, off shore	887	808	<b>1,695</b>
Number of fisheries – small boats	-	21,447	<b>21,447</b>

Viet Nam Red Cross (VNRC) is supporting risk mitigation measures such as the mangrove disaster preparedness (DP) reforestation project in affected areas. Although typhoons are common, the scale and frequency of these storms greatly affect and make it difficult for communities to recover. According to an official report from the central committee for flood and storm control (CCFSC), more than 2.5 million people were affected by the storms which killed 154 people (12 are still regarded as missing). Hundreds of thousands of houses were destroyed or damaged while the impact on livelihoods is vast with approximately 15,894 hectares of agricultural land damaged and more than 506,000 livestock lost.

The affected communities have begun to recover their livelihoods, and are expecting a good harvest growing rice. However, recent monitoring visits revealed thousands of families, whose homes had collapsed or were badly damaged, had only received VND five million or less from the government and are still living in unsafe and poor temporary shelters in Da Nang, Quang Nam and Hue provinces. These shelters will not provide protection against the rains, cold weather and these families will be at high risk during the coming typhoon season.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

In responding to the typhoon appeal, USAID, Japanese Red Cross, American Red Cross, Canadian government, Hong Kong Red Cross branch of the Red Cross Society of China, German Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, Singapore government, Swedish government and private donors have supported affected people to overcome the typhoons.

Immediately after the typhoons struck, VNRC provided emergency food and household kits through its own funds, the DREF released from the Federation, and contributions from donors. Some 5,700 household kits were distributed containing cooking and kitchen utensils, a mosquito net, two blankets, a 40-litre water plastic container (for water storage) and a ten-litre water plastic container (for water collection).

In addition, a remarkable achievement has seen Viet Nam Red Cross and its chapters mobilize contributions from individuals and agencies. The local contributions (detailed below) have enabled VNRC to continue working towards the overall objective of the planned operation. This has enabled VNRC to revise the operational plan under

this appeal, required primarily because of a lack of external support, while still meeting the intention of the overall operation and the needs of the affected communities.

The local contributions include: Ben Tre chapter raised VND 3.1 billion (CHF 237,600); Tien Giang chapter raised up more than VND 1.5 billion (CHF 112,000) to provide 8,341 gift parcels and construct 43 houses and one kindergarten class- room; Quang Nam chapter used its own funding and local contributions to construct 100 houses and repair 1,524 houses valued at VND 1.5 billion (CHF 112,000); Quang Binh chapter raised VND 993 million (CHF 71,500); Danang chapter mobilized more than VND 1 billion (CHF 76,600) to support for 74 families; Ba Ria- Vung Tau chapter received VND 906 million (CHF 70,9000). Tra Vinh chapter raised VND 127 million (CHF 9,700) and VND 570 million (CHF 44,000) for the centre of Viet Nam. Hue Red Cross chapter raised VND 484 million (CHF 37,000).

During the Tet holiday (Vietnamese New Year) in February 2007, VNRC and its 64 chapters provided gifts and cash to 692,979 people with total support of VND 137 billion (CHF 10.5 million). Of which, 151,685 people received 13,172 sets of clothes, 401 tons of rice, 1,004 health insurance, 149 houses and 62,457 medicine tablets.

## **The Operation**

This revised plan reflects the commitment of VNRC and the Federation to support 60,750 people across the 18 central and southern provinces that were affected by typhoons Xangsane and Durian. It outlines the activities already conducted such as the provision of food to the most vulnerable requiring additional support beyond that provided by the government; other relief including water storage and hygiene items; and the ongoing support for the medium to long-term repair and/or rebuilding of homes including water and sanitation facilities.

## **Food and Nutrition**

**Objective:** Provision of food comprised of a 15 kg ration of rice person per month for 27,000 people for one month in the worst affected areas by March 2007.

A total of 453 tons of rice has been distributed to 29,000 beneficiaries in accordance with the VNRC/Federation procurement standards. The increase in beneficiary numbers was a result of 2,000 more people being identified due to the actual needs of the beneficiaries.

The increase in the number of beneficiaries receiving assistance has not affected the overall budget for this activity due to the success of open and competitive procurement which resulted in high quality rice being bought at a price below market value.

In addition to the activities completed under this objective, VNRC, through its branches, also provided 700 boxes of noodles to support the initial emergency needs of the affected communities in the days and weeks after both typhoons. Affected families also received cash from VNRC, supported by local contribution, to buy nutrition.

Additional support for the food and nutrition needs of the affected population is being managed by VNRC through a bilateral commitment from the Spanish government. This commitment, will provide an additional 345 tons of rice for the affected population, is currently in process as a result of the delayed transfer of funds.

## **Non-food items**

**Objective:** Replenishment and distribution of 10,000 household kits distributed from emergency stocks. The basic household kits are composed of: cooking and kitchen utensils, one mosquito net, two blankets, a 40-litre water plastic container (for water storage) and a 10-litre water plastic container (for water collection).

The number of household kits replenished under the operation has decreased from 10,000 to 5,700 due to the low contribution for the appeal. The distribution of the 5,700 household kits was accomplished by VNRC and its chapters by February 2007 in time for the upcoming rainy season in the southern regions of Viet Nam. In addition to the 5,700 household kits distributed under this appeal, an additional 3,150 household kits funded through direct contributions to VNRC are currently being procured and distributed to the affected families.

With their local contributions received by VNRC branches, additional non-food items including blankets, water-containers, clothes and cooking utensils have been procured by local Red Cross chapters such as Vinh Long and Ho

Chi Minh to provide immediate support for those affected during emergency and recovery period. Furthermore, Tien Giang Red Cross chapter procured 8,341 gift parcels before Tet for those affected by the typhoons.

### **Shelter**

**Objective:** By September 2007, 2,000 families with no available means to rebuild their homes are living in typhoon-resistant houses with appropriate water and sanitation facilities.

The low response to the appeal has required VNRC to revise its operational plan to ensure effective and targeted support is achieved. This has required a reduction in the total number of families initially identified to receive assistance in rebuilding their homes. The total number of families that will receive support from VNRC will be 650. The selection of these families is based on VNRC guidelines and local authority instructions to the most needy as defined through community meetings.

Progress under this activity has gone smoothly with the initial assistance of locally qualified engineers who supported VNRC and the affected communities in developing suitable typhoon resistant housing designs. In addition, the local materials have been sourced based on the knowledge of the community and local authorities.



*Houses under construction in Hoa Vang District, Da Nang Province.*

A field visit by VNRC headquarters and the Federation disaster management manager in January validated reports from VNRC chapters. To date, 305 families have been supported with the provision of safe typhoon resistant shelters. The remaining 345 houses (see left) are under construction and will be completed by September 2007.

VNRC local chapters and headquarters supported by Federation representatives will continue to support the construction of the remaining 345 houses through regular field visits and ensure linkages to local authorities.

Great effort was made in mobilizing available ground resources in the construction process. Local response with contributions either in cash, labour or materials were done by local Red Cross volunteers, local authorities and communities. One of the beneficiaries is Le Thi Cuc, who lives with her husband and 11 year old daughter. Her son died of illness just before the typhoon. She has 2,000m<sup>2</sup> of land for cultivation, a new house of 4 x 11 m<sup>2</sup> which cost VND 21 million (CF 1,700). She received VND 15 million (CHF 1,100) from the Red Cross with the remainder obtained from her savings and relatives.

Local Red Cross chapters also used their own funds and local contributions to build 143 houses; to repair 1,524 houses; and to construct one kindergarten classroom. The mobilization of support for construction and reparation of the most vulnerable families is on-going. Moreover, some families have recovered through their own initiatives by using materials and resources available.

Unfortunately there are still thousands of families who require support for the reconstruction and repair of their homes. The VND 5 million (CHF 400) from the National Fatherland Front/Viet Nam government has assisted these families, however this support is insufficient to complete the repair of their houses. These families are still living in unsafe and temporary shelters made from salvaged materials from their collapsed houses.

### **Livelihoods**

**Objective:** By September 2007, 2,500 households in the typhoon-affected areas, which lost homes and/or crops, have a viable and sustainable source of income.

Due to limited funding, this objective was removed from the appeal as reported in the fourth operations update.

### **Institutional capacity building**

**Objective:** Establishment of VNRC chapter/branch response teams to cover needs assessment, monitoring, reporting, first aid and psycho-social support programme (PSP) from October 2006 to October 2007.

Learning from experience and practice, the capacity building for response has become a vital element for the national society in particular and the community in general. Through funding support from different donors for the community-based disaster management (CBDM) and disaster preparedness projects, VNRC has used its disaster preparedness trainers to support chapters to establish and train disaster response teams in first aid skills, search and rescue and assessment.

### **Activities being undertaken by others**

In addition to the activities being undertaken by the VNRC, the Vietnamese government and local organizations have also supported affected communities through the provision of emergency food, shelter and recovery assistance.

In response to the disasters, the central government has been quick in its support by releasing VND 311 billion (CHF 24.5 million) to help recovery and rehabilitation; and 1,980 metric tonnes (MT) of rice and construction materials.

Additional support from local organizations is being provided through the National Fatherland Front (NFF), a political coalition organization. It has appealed for contributions, released emergency food and other relief, and provided cash to help the affected population. The NFF is also cognizant of the need to support recovery efforts. It has pledged to provide assistance of USD 620 (CHF 750) to families whose homes have collapsed; those whose homes are partially damaged will receive between USD 200-350 (CHF 223 and 425). In addition other mass organizations and government institutions have been providing assistance.

Through Ben Tre Red Cross chapter, Oxfam has released USD 102,980 to provide cash relief to families in Binh Dai district of Ben Tre Province. The cash relief has been used to buy food (not rice as the government is providing this), clothes, kitchen materials, school education materials, well-water testing and hygiene promotional activities.

### **Coordination**

For both typhoons, VNRC has coordinated with its government counterparts through the national society's presence in the central committee for flood and storm control (CCFSC), people's aid coordinating committee. VNRC also maintains good working relations with international organizations such as United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), World Health Organization (WHO) and INGO-members of NNDMWG. All VNRC response planning is done transparently in collaboration with the Federation's Viet Nam delegation based in Hanoi and the Southeast Asia regional team based in Bangkok.

Maintaining a steady flow of timely and accurate information between the field and other major stakeholders is vital for effectiveness as well as fundraising, advocacy and maintaining the profile of the emergency operation. Thus communications between affected populations and the Red Cross, as well as with the media and donors, will be the cornerstone of greater quality, accountability, and transparency. Information and advocacy activities will be shared with in-country counterparts and are aimed at improving VNRC communications capacities to support effective operations. This is closely coordinated with the communications department of the Federation's secretariat in Geneva.

### **Capacity of the National Society**

The VNRC is established under Vietnamese law and mandated to act as the leading humanitarian organization providing relief, health and welfare assistance to the most vulnerable sector of the society. The VNRC enjoys nationwide recognition and respect, and is equipped with long experience of disaster management, e.g. lessons from the Damrey operation that ended in September 2006. The main lessons from Damrey included better mobilization of the national society's members, volunteers and staff to provide better and timelier assistance.

The national society and its provincial chapters have extensive knowledge of relief and rehabilitation programmes in the wake of natural disasters, which occur regularly in Viet Nam. VNRC is represented in all provinces and major cities with a total of 64 chapters and 1,000 sub-chapters. Each chapter has eight to 20 professional staff. The VNRC works in partnership with the government and non-government agencies. It is also in partnership with a number of sister national societies such as Japanese, Spanish, Netherlands, and Norwegian Red Cross through community-based disaster preparedness, disaster reduction projects or programmes.

## Capacity of the Federation

The Federation is represented by a head of delegation in Hanoi with a team of committed local staff supporting the VNRC in the monitoring and implementation of ongoing disaster preparedness and reduction projects, health initiatives and organizational development of the national society. The delegation has been strengthened by the deployment of a regional disaster management programme officer from the Southeast Asia regional delegation. The regional delegation comprises a head, a programme coordinator and specialist delegates in disaster management, health and care, water and sanitation, organizational development, planning, monitoring and evaluation, and information, backed by a committed team of regional and local staff and the Asia Pacific and relevant technical departments at the Geneva secretariat.

## Monitoring and evaluation

From the beginning of the operation, VNRC headquarters sent out guidelines and beneficiary selection criteria to local chapters and these have been followed by Red Cross staff and volunteers.

Since then, VNRC headquarters has conducted 16 field trips to its chapters and affected areas to do assessment and distribution of relief items. For shelter construction, VNRC headquarters' teams and chapters provided technical instructions and monitoring techniques for its volunteers and local people.

Red Cross chapters together with volunteers have been closely monitoring the distribution of food and non-food items with the cooperation of local authorities at all levels. The selection of beneficiaries was done by the local Red Cross with the participation of local authority representatives and local people.

Red Cross Chapter staff and volunteers have been working side by side with beneficiaries in monitoring the construction process. With the support from trained volunteers, beneficiaries have followed construction techniques and taken the key role in building their homes.

An external evaluation will be undertaken by the end of operation to ensure institutional learning.

The Federation's country delegation has been providing technical monitoring support and advice to the VNRC throughout the operation. Furthermore, support from the Southeast Asia regional delegation in Bangkok, and in addition the Federation's disaster management units in Kuala Lumpur and Geneva are valuable for VNRC and the country delegation. The preparation and provision of a final report will be completed according to Federation reporting standards. The Federation's country and regional delegation will also assist VNRC in its monitoring and evaluation role, as necessary.

## Revised Budget summary

See Annex 1 for details.

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Markku Niskala  
Secretary General

## 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 is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.*

## The Federation's Global Agenda

The International Federation's activities are aligned with under a Global Agenda, which sets out **four broad goals** to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

## Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

## Contact information

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

- Viet Nam Red Cross: Trinh Bang Hop (director of international relations and development department), email: [vnrchq@netnam.org.vn](mailto:vnrchq@netnam.org.vn), phone: +84.4.822.4320; Phung Van Hoan, disaster management manager, email: [vnrcdp@fpt.vn](mailto:vnrcdp@fpt.vn); phone +84.904.117.981
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## REVISED BUDGET SUMMARY

Annex 1

Vietnam : Typhoons

MDRVN001

	ORIGINAL	REVISED	VARIANCE
<b><u>RELIEF NEEDS</u></b>			
Construction Materials	2,400,000	920,047	1,479,953
Clothing & Textiles		50,751	-50,751
Food	143,423	148,724	-5,301
Utensils & Tools	275,000	134,865	140,135
Other Supplies & Services (livelihoods options)	405,000	0	405,000
<b>Total Relief Needs</b>	<b>3,223,423</b>	<b>1,254,387</b>	<b>1,969,036</b>
<b><u>TRANSPORT, STORAGE &amp; VEHICLES</u></b>			
Storage - Warehouse		3,881	-3,881
Distribution & Monitoring	130,697	51,799	78,898
Transport & Vehicles Costs	98,023	3,952	94,071
<b><u>PERSONNEL</u></b>			
International Staff	55,000	23,700	31,300
National Staff	14,889	8,584	6,305
National Society Staff	50,000	16,449	33,551
<b><u>WORKSHOPS &amp; TRAINING</u></b>			
Workshops & Training	98,000	628	97,372
<b><u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u></b>			
Travel	45,500	29,378	16,122
Information & Public Relations	22,300	18,300	4,000
Office running costs	54,500	12,000	42,500
Communication Costs	13,060	6,000	7,060
Professional Fees	46,000	22,200	23,800
Financial Charges	40,000	20,000	20,000
Other General Expenses	45,000	5,351	39,649
<b><u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u></b>			
Programme Support - PSR	273,653	102,652	171,001
<b>Total Operational Needs</b>	<b>986,622</b>	<b>324,875</b>	<b>661,747</b>
<b>Total Appeal Budget (Cash &amp; Kind)</b>	<b>4,210,045</b>	<b>1,579,262</b>	<b>2,630,783</b>
<b>Less Available Ressources</b>		<b>1,579,262</b>	
<b>Net Request</b>	<b>4,210,045</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,630,783</b>