

# 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

## DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA: FLOODS

Appeal no. MDRKP001

20 August 2007

[Glide no FL-2007-000126-PRK](#)

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 and its millions of volunteers are active in over 185 countries.

### In Brief

**THIS EMERGENCY APPEAL SEEKS CHF 6,619,166 (USD 5,481,948 OR EUR 4,074,586) IN CASH, KIND, OR SERVICES TO ASSIST 3.7 MILLION BENEFICIARIES FOR SIX MONTHS.**

#### Appeal history:

- Information Bulletins released on the 12 and 14 August 2007.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated on 17 August 2007 for CHF 250,000 (USD 205,572 or EUR 153,355).

[<Click here to link directly to the appeal budget, and here to view the map of the affected areas>](#)

**Operational summary:** Record high torrential rains have flooded many regions of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), severely damaging or destroying infrastructure and agriculture. The floods have left at least 89,000 people completely homeless, 221 dead and tens of thousands living in temporary shelters.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea's Red Cross Society has been responding to the disaster with relief supplies and the mobilization of volunteers. It has now requested further international support from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. Risks of consequent health emergencies are high and serious damage to the health service infrastructure, and lack of medical supplies, leaves millions vulnerable to diseases. A priority of the national society is to immediately distribute emergency health kits to primary and secondary health care facilities in order



DPRK Red Cross volunteers work to recover what is left of a home and the family's possessions in Kuchang Ri, Jongpyong County, South Hamgyong. [The Federation/Muhammad Khalid]

to meet the most basic needs of the affected populations. Furthermore, as the national society continues to care for those left vulnerable by these floods, it is critical that the emergency disaster preparedness stock are replenished to allow the national society to rapidly respond to the continuation of this operation as well as new emergencies. This emergency appeal seeks to provide the national society, and thus vulnerable populations, with essential medical supplies and non-food relief items, as well as provide hygiene promotion and health education to prevent the further spread of disease in the aftermath of these floods.

## The Situation

From 7-14 August, torrential rains of 600- 850 mm, the highest record in the past 40 years, fell upon large areas of the country. Associated with high winds, the heavy rain triggered massive flooding along with land and mudslides. This barrage of rain caused unprecedented damage and destruction to infrastructure and public buildings including health facilities (approximately 30-40 percent partially or totally damaged). The agriculture sector has also suffered significant damage, severely affecting seven out of ten provinces, including Pyongyang. A number of rivers and reservoirs have overflowed, and hundreds of kilometres of dams have burst, sweeping away or damaging more than ten percent of both paddy and non-paddy fields with this years crops. As of 14 August, 221 people were killed and scores injured while 82 are still reported missing. It is feared that the number of casualties will increase. [<click here for map>](#)

Public water supply systems were destroyed and water sources and wells were submerged in flood waters rendering them severely contaminated. Together with many public buildings, 59,881 houses were completely/partially damaged or submerged, leaving 89,000 people homeless. Tens of thousands of people are now living in evacuation centres like tents, schools and public buildings, or in the houses of their relatives, friends and neighbours. Amid the continuing rains, heat and humidity, the threat of disease is growing and hundreds of thousands of people are exposed to poor hygiene and poor living conditions.

Much of the emergency relief needs like shelter and food are now being addressed by the government, except for essential medicines and safe drinking water.

Many health institutions, (approximately 30-40 percent) and local medical warehouses in the flooded areas were submerged or ravaged, resulting in the loss and damage of drugs. The essential medicines that are regularly distributed by the DPRK Red Cross Society have been nearly depleted in the health institutions. Large populations have little access to appropriate basic health care, which has been hard-hit with the loss of medical stock leading to a serious shortage of essential drugs and basic medical instruments. This situation exposes the flood-affected population to the outbreak of communicable diseases such as waterborne diseases, acute respiratory infections (ARI), malaria and skin diseases.



A family receives a family kit as their house lay buried under the destruction of the floods in Koksan County, North Hwanghae Province. [The Federation/Muhammad Khalid]



A young girl stands in front of her desolated home in Kuchang Ri, Jongpyong County, South Hamgyong Province. [The Federation/Muhammad Khalid]

Figure 1. Statistics as of 18 August

Description	Provinces							Totals
	Kangwon	N. Hwanghae	S. Hwanghae	S. Phyongan	S. Hamgyong	N. Phyongan	Pyongyang	
<b>Casualties</b>								
<i>Deaths</i>	181	14		15	11			<b>221</b>
<i>Missing</i>	65	5		8	4			<b>82</b>
<i>Wounded</i>	445			73				<b>518</b>
<b>Houses</b>								
<i>Completely destroyed</i>	5,541	3,035	584	1,837	2,374	78	194	<b>13,643</b>
<i>Partly damaged</i>	3,666	5,879	1,357	2,949	30	21	85	<b>13,987</b>
<i>Submerged</i>	4,986	14,522	1,413	7,268	1,597	217	2,248	<b>32,251</b>
<b>Homeless people</b>	<b>35,619</b>	<b>15,681</b>	<b>4,912</b>	<b>11,035</b>	<b>20,071</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>1,520</b>	<b>89,290</b>

## Red Cross Red Crescent response to date

The DPRK Red Cross Society (DPRKRCS) rapidly intervened in the relief operations. The DPRK Red Cross was able to mobilize 14,293 Red Cross volunteers for early warning, monitoring the hazards, evacuation, rescue and first aid services in the affected areas. Altogether 112 mobile first aid posts were immediately set up in the disaster stricken areas in addition to the existing 368 first aid posts, and thousands of Red Cross first aid volunteers were active, providing timely services and hygiene education to the disaster victims. On 7 August, the disaster management department of the national society's headquarters was alerted and on the 9 August, a taskforce was organized with the disaster management, health and other departments to run the emergency operations room around the clock. The taskforce also keeps close contact with the government and external partners to coordinate the relief operation. Assessment teams were soon dispatched to five affected provinces and two Red Cross emergency rescue teams were in place.



Volunteers distribute Federation supported relief items in Kangwon Province. [The Federation/Muhammad Khalid]

Based on the assessment, the DPRK Red Cross Society, with support from the Federation, has so far distributed family kits to 15,952 families (64,622 people) and will distribute another 5,086 in the coming days.

Figure 2. Allocation of Family Kits

Description	Provinces							Totals
	Kangwon	North Hwanghae	South Hwanghae	South Phyongan	South Hamgyong	North Phyongan	Pyongyang	
Distribution of Family Kits*	8,779	3,000	964	2,707	5,099	108	381	21,038

**Notes:**

\* 'Family Kit' contents: Four blankets, one water container (20 litres), one plastic sheet (4x6m), 300 water purification tablets, one set basic kitchen equipment

Family kits are distributed from the national society's nearest strategic warehouses in Pyongyang, Wonsan, Chongjin, Huichon, Kaesong and Sinuiju.

**Needs****Immediate needs:****Health**

Assessments carried out in two counties of South Hamgyong confirms the initial reports that 30-40 percent of health facilities are completely or partially damaged with total loss of medicines and supplies. Cholera is not an endemic disease in the DPRK but due to the breakdown of water systems, there is a need to prevent the further spread of waterborne illnesses. There is a reported 20 percent increase in diarrhoea and other diarrhoeal diseases and acute respiratory infections among displaced people in general and among children in particular. There are families (50 percent of the displaced families) with intact houses, but a lack of potable water supplies as a result of a break down in the water distribution system, renders them exposed to the danger of disease outbreaks. Other health concerns include an increase in dehydration, skin diseases and eye infections. The government clinics and household doctors are working with these affected people with emergency supplies but soon these health facilities will run short of emergency supplies. There is an immediate need to provide emergency supplies of essential medicines and cholera kits to the health facilities in the 22 affected areas of three provinces (South Hamgyong, South Phyongan and Kaesong Municipality in North Hwanghae) with emergency health kits for 3.7 million people to meet the basic health care needs and prevent the outbreak communicable diseases.

**Water and Sanitation**

The flooding had an adverse impact on the existing drinking water supply and sanitation systems in affected areas. Water supply and distribution networks, wells, springs and electric water pumps were either submerged or washed away. As a result of the destruction of the water supply systems, the affected populations are left without access to clean drinking water. In some areas, women and children have to walk long distances to get water. A 20 percent increase in diarrhoea has been reported.

Household latrines and other water and sanitation infrastructure in schools, health facilities and other public buildings have suffered considerable damage. The sanitation system has been choked with debris and destroyed crops. This leads to an unhealthy living environment. There is high risk of contamination of water sources with human excreta. Recognising this immediate need, the national society is going to provide 99 metric tons of chlorine in 22 counties for water purification at county and *Ri* (village) water storage facilities. In addition, the national society also provides water purification tablets in individual family kits for the beneficiaries' personal usage.

An important component to ensure the health of these communities includes health and hygiene education, which the DPRK Red Cross implements as a regular activity in its water and sanitation programme. These activities will be sped up in the affected areas as relief items are being distributed. As many of the water systems have been

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damaged, future rehabilitation of the systems and structures will be implemented as a part of the regular water and sanitation programme supported through the annual national society support plan 2008-2009. Contributions to these annual activities are encouraged and welcome.

**Non-food items**

Together with many public buildings, more than 59,000 houses in the flood affected areas have been completely or partially damaged, leaving at least 89,000 people completely homeless. These homeless people have been accommodated in schools, and other public buildings which survived this disaster in and around their villages. These people have lost all their belongings and are in immediate need of household items such as blankets, kitchen sets, cooking stoves, water containers and water purification tablets to survive.

The DPRK Red Cross is continuing its distribution of family kits to vulnerable populations from their six warehouses, and there is an urgent need to replenish that supply to meet the continuing needs of the people and be well positioned for the next emergency.

**Mid-term needs:**

This emergency operation is primarily focused on the immediate needs of the affected community, but there is an important need to build and sustain the national society's capacity of epidemic preparedness, response and disease control. Thus, mid-term needs identified by the national society are the replenishment of relief items already distributed, and emergency health kits to be kept in stock for future disasters. The procurement and positioning of 20 emergency health kits, at least 20 cholera kits and 150 first aid kits alongside the trainings of Red Cross volunteers in community-based first aid and communicable disease prevention will be required to meet this need.

**Objectives and activities****Health**

**Objective 1: The capacity of primary and secondary health care facilities to provide curative and preventive services for 3.7 million people living in affected areas is improved and the capacity to respond to the outbreak of waterborne diseases and manage minor injuries in selected hospitals in the country is strengthened.**

Expected Results	Activities
Improved access to basic healthcare services in 22 counties/cities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procure and distribute 130 emergency health kits to 22 flood- affected counties and cities in identified provinces.</li> <li>• Distribute positioned 20 cholera kits<sup>1</sup> and 500 cartons of dressing materials in coordination with the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).</li> <li>• Distribute 150 first aid kits to first aid posts in the targeted provinces.</li> <li>• Replenishment and maintenance of stock with an additional 20 emergency health kits, 20 cholera kits, 500 cartons of dressing materials and 150 first aid kits.</li> <li>• Monitor and evaluate the drug distribution and utilization.</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Cholera is not an endemic disease in the DPRK but due to the breakdown of water systems there is a need to prevent further spread of water borne illnesses.

Figure 3. Distribution plan of emergency health kits and drums of chlorine

No	Province	Affected City/County	No of emergency health kits	No of drums of chlorine
1	South Phyongan	Pyongsong	9	180
2		Pyongwon	6	20
3		Anju	8	150
4		Kaechon	11	20
5		Sinyang	2	150
6		Yangdok	2	150
7		Sunchon	9	100
8		Eunsan	7	130
9		Pukchang	6	130
10		Maengsan	2	150
11		Tokchon	8	150
12		Nyongwon	1	20
13		Provincial Hospital	2	
14	N.Hwanghae	Kaesong	11	150
15	South Hamgyong	Provincial Hospital	2	
16		Hamju	5	60
17		Yonggwang	3	40
18		Sinheung	3	40
19		Jongpyong	6	100
20		Keumya	6	100
21		Rakwon	2	60
22		Kowon	3	100
23		Yodok	9	100
24		Sudong	7	100
<b>Total</b>			<b>130</b>	<b>*2,200</b>

\* One drum contains 45 kg of Chlorine = Total of 99 MT

## Water and Sanitation

**Objective 2: The risk of waterborne and water related diseases has been reduced through provision of improved access to safe drinking water, adequate sanitation as well as hygiene promotion and education to 3.7 million flood affected population in 22 flood affected counties and cities (South Hamgyong, South Phyongan provinces and Kaesong Municipality in North Hwanghae)**

Expected Results	Activities
Access to sustainable safe water and hygiene awareness among the affected populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procure and distribute 99 metric tons of chlorine to county/Ri water storage facilities.</li> <li>• Hygiene promotion and health education by the Red Cross volunteers in communities and at first aid posts.</li> <li>• Training of Red Cross volunteers in communicable disease prevention and control, including CBFA.</li> </ul>

## Non-food items

**Objective 3: The capacity of 21,000 flood affected families to cope with the disaster is improved through provision of non-food relief items for three months. (Kangwan, North Hwanghae, South Hwanghae, South Phyongan, South Hamgyong provinces and Kaesong Municipality)**

Expected Results	Activities
Targeted/Identified flood affected families have received essential non-food items and have mechanisms to cope with their situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification, registration and verification of beneficiaries.</li> <li>• Mobilize Red Cross volunteers to register beneficiaries and to distribute family kits.</li> <li>• Distribute 21,038 family kits (four blankets, one 20-liter water container, one 4x6m plastic sheet, 300 water purification tablets and one set of basic kitchen equipment) to 21,038 affected families in identified areas.</li> <li>• Monitor the distribution and carry-out ongoing assessment to establish further non-food item needs.</li> <li>• Purchase 21,000 family kits as replenishment of distributed stock.</li> </ul>

## Communications – Advocacy and Public information

Communications have been hampered by disrupted telephone lines and inaccessible roads. The DPRK Red Cross Society is a part of the national disaster coordination committee that is headed by the government and meets on a regular basis throughout disaster relief operations. The national society is thus privy to the timely dissemination of information and direct communications with government authorities. Close relations with the media will be maintained to have the Red Cross relief operation and message seen, heard and supported by the vast audience. Relief operations will be coordinated among all the key local and international players through information sharing while the national society will play an important role in addressing the immediate needs of the most vulnerable. Red Cross branches are sending pictures taken in disaster stricken areas, relaying first-hand data through public channels and dispatching correspondents. Regular information communications such as monthly reports, information bulletins, programme updates, will keep all partners updated on their input and impact.

## Capacity of the National Society

The DPRK Red Cross Society has more than one million members and nearly 102,000 volunteers with a network of 14 permanent provincial branches (also referred to as chapters) and 200 city/county branches with volunteer bases. Fifty community-based disaster preparedness committees were also set up in these past years to complement the national society's role in the field of disaster management.

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A total of more than 35,000 volunteers have been trained in community-based disaster management and first aid. Based on the past experiences of disaster management activities, the national society has provided 25,000 volunteers with general disaster management trainings while 10,000 first aid volunteers receive refreshment training each year. Together with these trained volunteers, Red Cross relief items have been positioned in six warehouses to meet the urgent needs of 21,000 families and 2,500 Red Cross first aid posts.

**Capacity of the Federation**

The Federation's DPRK country delegation in Pyongyang and the East Asia regional delegation in Beijing have a head and specialist delegates in disaster management, health and care, reporting, finance and information, backed by a committed team of zone and disaster management staff in Kuala Lumpur<sup>2</sup> and relevant regional and technical departments at the Geneva secretariat.

The Federation focal point for this operation will be the programme coordinator in Pyongyang, whose key function will be to provide support as necessary to the DPRK Red Cross Society in successfully implementing the operation. An additional relief delegate will be recruited to strengthen the country delegation during this relief operation. The regional disaster management delegate will continue to provide full technical support and the secretariat at the zone level and in Geneva will maintain donor communications and further technical support.

**Coordination**

An interagency coordination group at the national level has been established and the Federation delegation in Pyongyang is fully participating in this coordination mechanism along with other partners including the World Food Programme, UNICEF, WHO and other organizations. The DPRK Red Cross maintains daily communications with the ministry of public health, the national disaster coordination committee as well as other relevant departments.

**Monitoring and evaluation**

Following nine years of operations partnering with the DPRK Red Cross, the Federation has developed a standard system for monitoring and evaluating all programmes and activities. These systems will be used for tracking the distribution and timely arrival of relief supplies. Field monitors of the DPRK Red Cross will follow up by monitoring the implementation and results of the activities planned.

The DPRK Red Cross and the Federation will work closely together to assess quality of activities and analyze the results. The Federation plays an important role in quality assurance of the operation. Furthermore, in order to strengthen the Federations existing capacity, an additional delegate will be recruited for a period of three months.

**Budget summary**

See Annex 1 for details.

Thomas Gürtner  
Acting Director  
Coordination and Programmes Division

Markku Niskala  
Secretary General

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<sup>2</sup> In addition to other technical units, the Asia Pacific logistics unit, in coordination with the DPRK country delegation will update the mobilization table in DMIS; provide support in the mobilization of relief goods according to Federation procurement standards; and coordinate logistics arrangements, including commodity tracking number (CTN) and shipping instructions for in-kind donations (if accepted by delegation).

[Appeal budget below; click here to return to the title page](#)

## 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:

- The DPRK Red Cross Society: Kim Un Chol (acting secretary general); phone: +85.02.381.4350, fax: +85.02.381.3490
- Federation DPRK country delegation: Mr. Jaap Timmer (head of delegation); [jaap.timmer@ifrc.org](mailto:jaap.timmer@ifrc.org); phone: +85.02.3814350, fax: +85.02.3813490
- Federation regional representation in China: Mr. Carl Naucler (acting head of regional representation); [carl.naucler@ifrc.org](mailto:carl.naucler@ifrc.org); phone: +86.10.65327162, fax: +86.10.65327166; Mr. Qinghui Gu (regional disaster management coordinator), email; [qinghui.gu@ifrc.org](mailto:qinghui.gu@ifrc.org); phone +86 1391 0959 834, fax+86-10-6532-7166.
- Federation Asia Pacific zone in Malaysia: Mr. Flemming Nielsen (acting head of disaster management unit), [flemming.nielsen@ifrc.org](mailto:flemming.nielsen@ifrc.org), phone: + 60 3 2161 0892, fax: +60 3 2161 1210, mobile +60 12 3 751635
- Federation secretariat in Geneva: Ms Ewa Eriksson (regional officer for East Asia), email: [ewa.eriksson@ifrc.org](mailto:ewa.eriksson@ifrc.org), phone: + 41 22 730 4252, mobile: + 41 7 9217 3392, fax: +41 22 730 0395

**APPEAL BUDGET SUMMARY**  
**DPR OF KOREA: FLOODS**

Annex 1  
MDRKP001

**ORIGINAL**

**RELIEF NEEDS**

Shelter	420,000
Clothing & Textiles	840,000
Water & Sanitation	475,600
Medical & First Aid	2,332,000
Utensils & Tools	630,000
<b>Total Relief Needs</b>	<b>4,697,600</b>

**CAPITAL EQUIPMENT**

Computers & Telecom Equipment	2,500
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**TRANSPORT, STORAGE & VEHICLES**

Storage - Warehouse	37,000
Distribution & Monitoring	1,355,420
Transport & Vehicles Costs	6,000

**PERSONNEL**

International Staff	30,000
National Staff	5,000
National Society Staff	9,900
Consultants	15,000

**WORKSHOPS & TRAINING**

Workshops & Training	14,000
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**GENERAL EXPENSES**

Travel	5,000
Information & Public Relations	6,000
Communication Costs	5,000
Financial Charges	500

**PROGRAMME SUPPORT**

Programme Support - PSR	430,246
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<b>Total Operational Needs</b>	<b>1,921,566</b>
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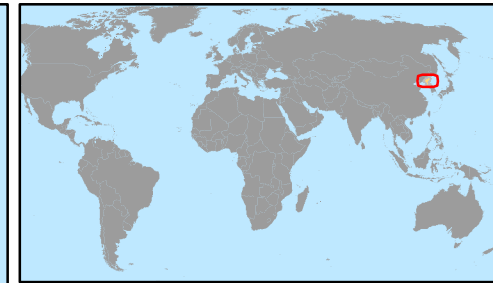
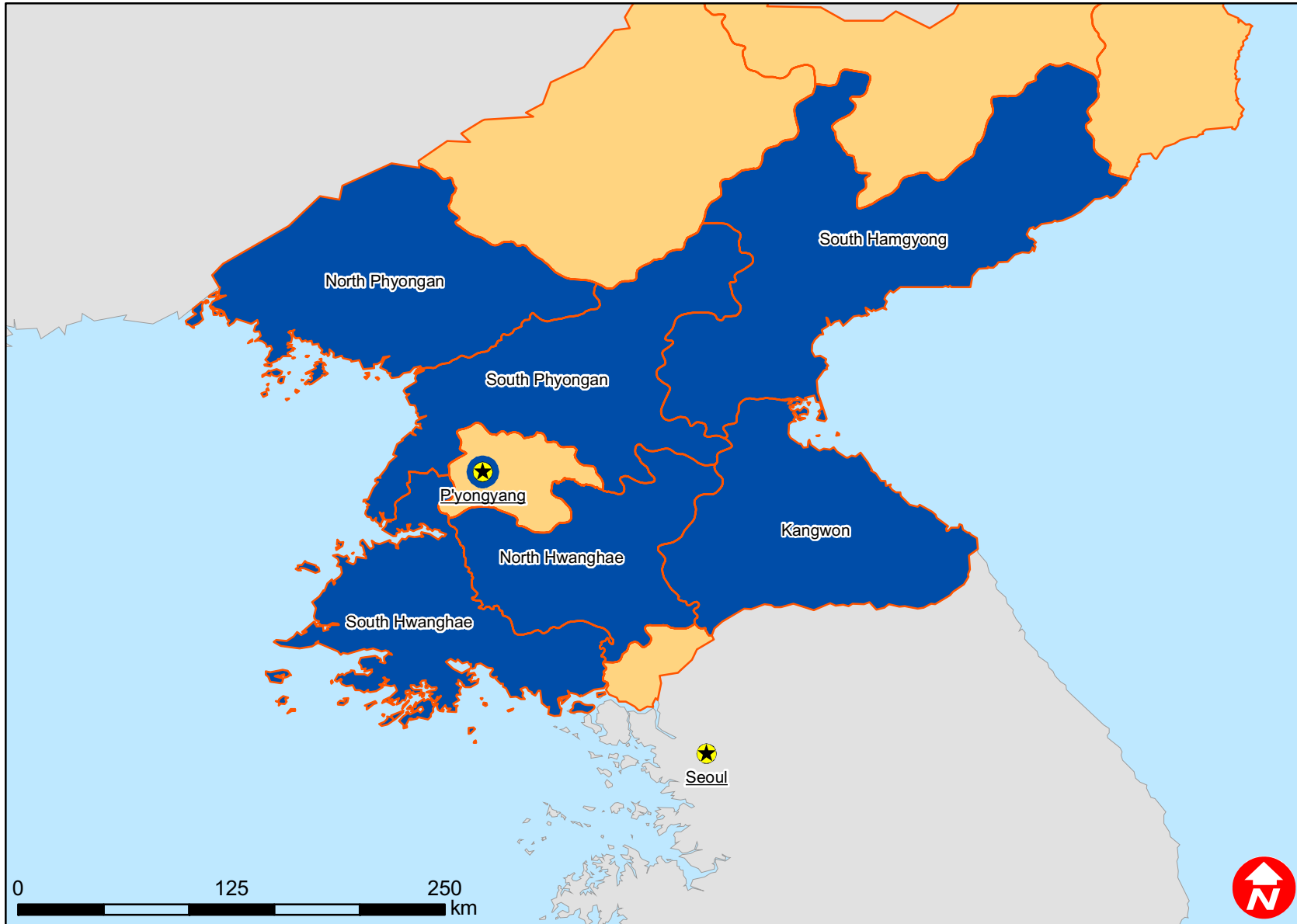
<b>Total Appeal Budget (Cash &amp; Kind)</b>	<b>6,619,166</b>
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

**(Less): Available Ressources**

<b>Net Request</b>	<b>6,619,166</b>
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# DPRK: Floods



-  Provinces
-  Provinces affected
-  Capitals

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.