

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Vietnam: Typhoon Kammuri

DREF operation n° MDRVN003
GLIDE n° **FF-2008-000128-VNM**
26 August 2008

The International Federation's 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 response to emergencies. 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 200,000 (USD 182,335 or EUR 124,057) has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the national society in delivering immediate assistance to some 6,000 families. Un-earmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

This DREF allocation will meet emergency needs on non-food items of 6,000 affected families in eight provinces affected by flash flooding. The Vietnam Red Cross (VNRC) with technical assistance from the International Federation's Vietnam country office will immediately procure non-food items in August 2008 and distribute these to the selected affected families in September 2008. The DREF report will be drafted and submitted in October 2008.

[<click here for appeal budget summary>](#)
[or <here for contact details>](#) or [<here to view the map of the affected areas>](#)



Vietnam Red Cross staff continue to assess needs and provide emergency relief to those affected. (Vietnam Red Cross)

The situation

Typhoon Kammuri hit the north-western mountainous region of Vietnam in the night of 6 August, causing heavy rainfall in several areas. Local residents in areas surrounding major rivers were warned of rising water levels. However, on the night of 8 August, elevated water levels in rivers and streams, compounded by torrential rain, caused flash floods on a large scale, submerging thousands of homes.

Now, while water levels have receded in many areas, it has left a trail of destruction in its wake. As many as 828 houses and 11,150 hectares of rice fields have been completely destroyed, while some 17,800 houses have sustained damage and personal belongings swept away by the floods. Power supply was not restored in some areas until a week later.

Despite the disaster taking place ten days ago, its consequences remain – with the loss of an estimated VND 1,200 billion (USD 70 million or CHF 76.8 million) according to preliminary reports from Red Cross chapters. This is great economic impact on a region where 40 per cent of households live under the poverty line, and 60 per cent of their income is spent on food.

At present, those affected in the areas worst hit are in the midst of raking mud out of their homes. Mud covers the roads, rice fields, and farming areas, hindering access to affected communes and the restoration of livelihoods. Should the mud dry before it can be cleared away, health concerns will arise from air pollution from dust.

The government plans to release VND 220 billion (USD 13 million or CHF 14.26 million) from its contingency reserves to assist the most affected provinces of Lao Cai, Yen Bai, Phu Tho, Tuyen Quang and Hang Giang. These funds will focus on providing relief items, repairing and reconstructing schools, health stations, railways and roads.

At the same time, the government also plans to distribute 800 tonnes of rice from its national stocks with more emphasis on the three worst-hit provinces of Lao Cai, Yen Bai and Phu Tho. A timeframe for distribution is currently being prepared.

Those impacted by the floods will receive relief items including instant noodles and soups, and Chlorine-B for water purification purposes from military stores, health sector and other organizations. Many local people are living temporarily with their relatives. However, for many, the immediate concern is securing food for the days to come.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Vietnam Red Cross (VNRC) has released 1,200 household kits containing cooking utensils, a mosquito net, two blankets, a water bucket and collector. The first relief items reached the people affected in the worst-hit provinces of Phu Tho, Yen Bai and Lao Cai, two days after the disaster. Five thousands tonnes of rice were transported to the affected areas by VNRC. The national society has also provided cash of VND 550 million (USD 34,375 or EUR 23,000) from its disaster fund to support eight affected provinces.



VNRC members visit households who have lost family members or sustained injuries. (Vietnam Red Cross)

Thousands of Red Cross volunteers in affected areas are working together to assist affected families to mitigate the damage. The Red Cross chapters of Lao Cai, Yen Bai, and Phu Tho visited and supported hundreds of families who have lost family members or sustained injuries. Each family also received VND 2 million (USD 115 or CHF 126).

The Federation country office has taken part in all meetings with other organizations since the disaster struck. The delegation's health programme officer returned on 16 August from a

three-day rapid needs assessment in the field together with other organizational representatives of the national disaster management working group (DMWG). Findings of the needs assessment will be presented on 20 August. Initial information from joint need assessments confirmed that in Phu Tho province, only 5,609 people have received food assistance. More than 29,000 still need food and non-food items and an estimated 65,000 or so will need livelihood assistance. The Vietnam Red Cross, in partnership with the

International Federation and its disaster relief emergency response fund (DREF) will develop a Plan of Action based on the outcomes of this three-day joint rapid needs assessment.

The needs

This DREF operation will meet the emergency need for non-food items to 6,000 affected families in the eight provinces of Lao Cai, Yen Bai, Phu Tho, Ha Giang, Tuyen Quang, Bac Kan, Lai Chau and Son La.

The plan of action which will be undertaken through this DREF allocation includes:

- Undertaking of beneficiary selection and the distribution plan in each province
- Procurement of household kits
- Release of household kits from VNRC warehouses
- Distribution of household kits to affected families most in need.

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 \(NGOs\) 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 International Federation's activities are aligned with its 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:

- Vietnam Red Cross: Mr. Vu Loc, disaster management manager, phone +84 989 983 400, email: locvu54@yahoo.com.
- Vietnam Federation country office: Mr. Dang Van Tao, disaster management manager, phone +84 913.361.581, Email: tao.vandang@ifrc.org.
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[<budget summary and map below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

APPEAL BUDGET SUMMARY

VIETNAM - TYPHOON KAMMURI

Annex 1

MDRVN003

RELIEF NEEDS

Clothing & Textiles	25,200
Utensils & Tools	145,020
Other Supplies & Services	

Total Relief Needs	170,220
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TRANSPORT, STORAGE & VEHICLES

Distribution & Monitoring	5,400
Transport & Vehicles Costs	5,760

PERSONNEL

National Society Staff	1,116
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GENERAL EXPENSES

Information & Public Relations	1,080
Other General Expenses	3,424

PROGRAMME SUPPORT

Programme Support - PSR	13,000
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Total Operational Needs	29,780
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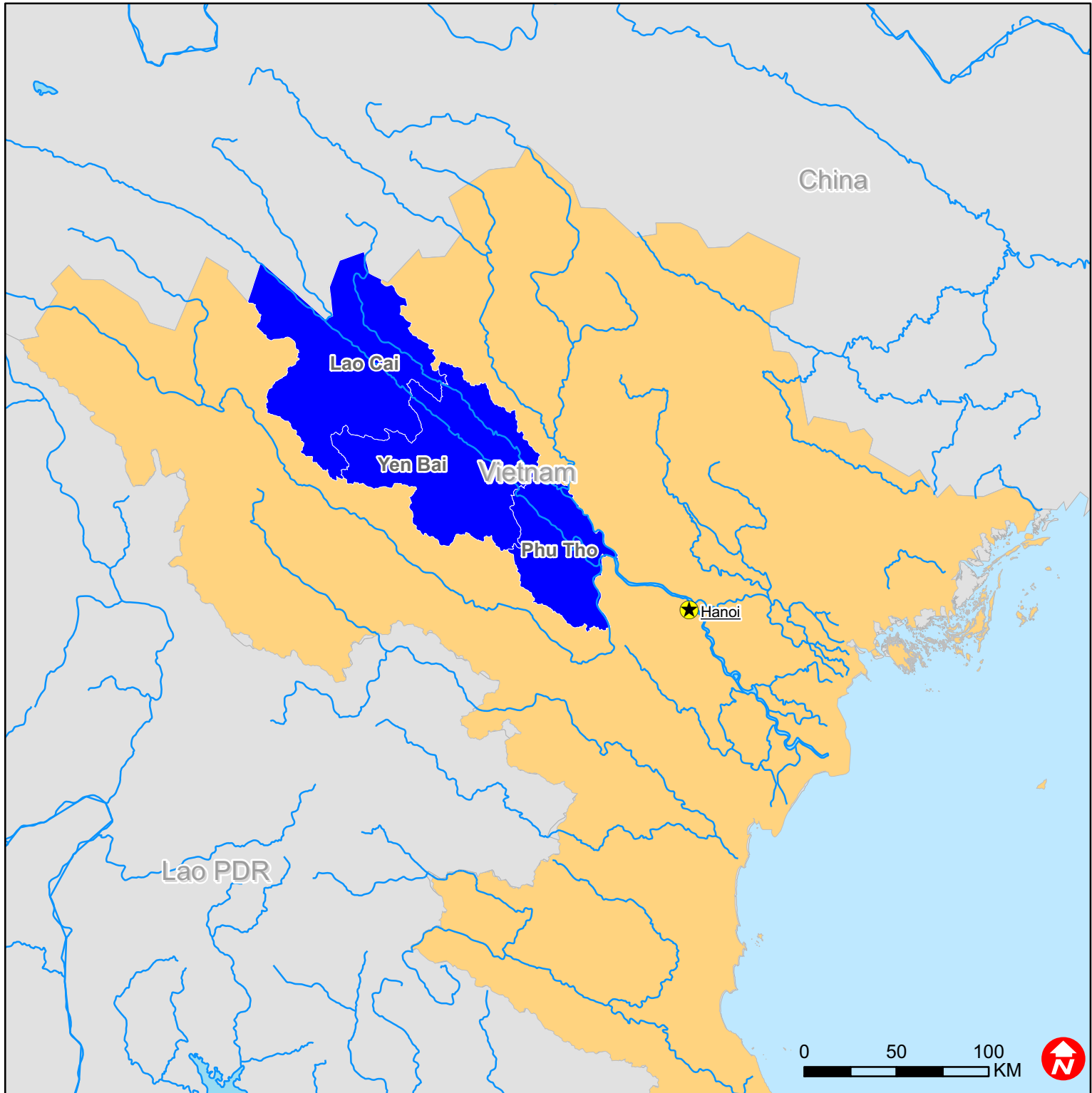
Total Appeal Budget (Cash & Kind)	200,000
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Available Ressources

Net Request in CHF	200,000
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Vietnam: Flash floods



 Affected provinces