

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Democratic People's Republic of Korea: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRKP003
GLIDE n° [FL-2011-000096-PRK](#)
2 August 2011

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) 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 emergency response. 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 453,413 has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) Red Cross in delivering immediate assistance to some 15,380 beneficiaries. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: From 23 June to 16 July 2011, the provinces of south Hamgyong as well as north and south Hwanghae in the DPRK were hit by torrential rains which resulted in extensive flooding. The Korean Central News Agency reported damage to 15,000 hectares of farmland, buildings, bridges, and other infrastructure.

Initial information on damage collected by the Red Cross county and provincial branches, was confirmed by two DPRK Red Cross headquarters assessment teams and joint DPRK Red Cross/IFRC teams during two subsequent visits. A total of 3,076 houses were partially or totally damaged by the floods, with two clinics completely destroyed and seven partially damaged. Reports of polluted wells, boreholes, and submerged pump stations are raising serious health concerns. A total of 96 people were injured, and there were no casualties reported.



Totally collapsed house in Sinyang-ri, Yonan county, south Hwanghae province. The accumulated effect of years of poor maintenance, aggravated by strong winds during a typhoon at the end of June, as well as extended heavy rainfall have taken its toll on over 3,000 houses so far. **Photo: Kamal Niraula/IFRC**

This operation is expected to be implemented over six months, and will therefore be completed by 1 February 2012; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation, by May 2012).

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

The situation

Torrential downpour from 23 June – 16 July resulted in extensive floods in the provinces of south Hamyong, north Hwanghae and south Hwanghae. To date, information available indicate that a confirmed total of 3,076 houses have been partially or totally damaged by the floods, leaving the affected population living under plastic sheeting or in the remnants of dwellings which are at risk of imminent collapse. Two clinics were found completely destroyed, and seven were partially damaged. Reports of polluted wells, boreholes, and submerged pump stations have raised serious health concerns.

Local government authorities immediately responded to the floods, which included providing emergency food to the disaster-affected communities. Other response activities include:

- Rehabilitation and recovery of infrastructure: roads, bridge and communication facilities
- Rehabilitation of public services;
- Cleaning mud which overflowed onto the paddy and corn fields
- Repair of dams, embankment and reservoirs
- Distribution of emergency medicines to the hospitals and clinics
- Repair of destroyed houses and basic facilities

Coordination and partnerships

At the request of the government, the inter-agency contingency planning group was activated. DPRK Red Cross and IFRC were a part of the joint inter-agency team which visited a limited number of affected areas on 25 July. A more in-depth visit and assessment by in-country UN agencies and Save the Children International, together with the government, will follow, to determine the support from different UN agencies to flood-affected communities.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Before the start of the rainy season, the DPRK Red Cross activated its emergency task force at headquarters and branch levels in close coordination with the national flood damage response committee.

On 18 July, after receiving notification from the county and provincial Red Cross branches, two rapid assessment teams were mobilized to north and south Hwanghae provinces on 19 - 21 July. Each team comprised of three national disaster response team members from the health, water and sanitation and disaster management departments. The rapid assessment teams confirmed the findings collected by the branches.

Follow-up visits from two joint DPRK Red Cross/IFRC teams to north and south Hwanghae provinces on 25-27 July corroborate the gravity of the situation.

Reports from the affected areas show that all Red Cross county branches activated their early warning systems, alerting the population of the upcoming rains, based on data provided by the county meteorological bureaus. Thanks to the raised awareness about the flood risks, no casualties were reported, as all people managed to leave their houses in time.

During the floods on 12 - 17 July, a total of 1,521 Red Cross volunteers were mobilized to help the affected families evacuate to the nearest community evacuation centre and to deliver rescue and first aid services,



With the rainy season continuing at full strength, some people are living under plastic sheeting, as their houses were totally destroyed or at risk of collapse due to severe damage. **Photo: Yu Ju Yong/DPRK Red Cross**

relief items as well as hygiene messages to the families, in close cooperation with the local authorities and other public organizations. DPRK Red Cross also supported the transportation of seriously injured individuals (reportedly 14) to referral hospitals.

Based on the assessments, the following relief items were released from DPRK Red Cross's disaster preparedness warehouses to the flood-affected population:

Province	Quilts with cover	Cooking set	Plastic sheeting	Water container (jerry can)	Water purification tablet	Family hygiene kit *	Evacuation tent
South Hwanghae	10796	2460	2460	2460	647760	2460	30
North Hwanghae	336	102	102	336	20160	102	2
South Hamgyong	1273	293	293	921	76380	293	8
Kaesong city	757	221	221	757	45420	221	4
Total	13162	3076	3076	4474	789720	3076	44

* One family hygiene kits contains body soap, laundry soap, sanitary pads, hand towel, mirror, toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrush, razor, and a comb.

Two inter-agency emergency health kits were pre-positioned to south Hwanghae province previously. The release of the kits, which provides basic medicines for 10,000 people for three months, will be decided jointly with the ministry of public health in the coming days.

Emergency relief kits, family hygiene kits, and water purification tablets were quickly dispatched to the affected areas. Delivery to south Hwanghae was temporarily delayed due to more flooding on 26 - 27 July.

Follow-up visits from two joint DPRK Red Cross/IFRC teams to north and south Hwanghae provinces on 25-27 July confirm the gravity of the situation, observing up to 90 per cent partial damage and an estimated 50 per cent total damage to all dwellings in some communities. The accumulated effect of years of poor maintenance, aggravated by strong winds during a typhoon at the end of June as well as extended heavy rainfall are now taking their toll.



Flood-affected families received relief items from DPRK Red Cross's disaster preparedness stocks which include tarpaulins, blankets, kitchen set, jerry can, water purification tablets, and family hygiene kit.

Photo: Kim Kwang II/DPRK Red Cross

One DPRK Red Cross/IFRC team witnessed extensive flooding in Chongdan county, south Hwanghae province. As the nearby water reservoir had reached peak levels, 700 community volunteers were mobilized to ensure the smooth evacuation of over 6,000 people, including the DPRK Red Cross/IFRC team, in the evening of 26 July. One co-operative farm reported 100 per cent of all its farmland flooded.

While the rainy season has yet to reach its peak, information on more damage is reported every day. Initial assessment data collected by county and provincial Red Cross branches from the latest torrential rains on 26 - 27 July show an estimated number as high as 6,000 damaged houses in total. In-depth assessment to collect accurate data is ongoing.

DPRK Red Cross and IFRC are expecting an even higher number of affected households throughout the entire rainy season.

The needs

Shelter

A total of 3,076 houses have been partially or totally damaged to date. Some people moved in with relatives and neighbours, others are living under plastic sheeting, while most are staying in the damaged dwellings, at great risk of collapse.

Food security and nutrition

Damaged crops due to flooding of arable land is expected to threaten the already fragile food security situation in the affected counties. Most affected families reported sudden loss of food stocks due to the floods, severely affecting their households and belongings.

Water and sanitation

Flooding of water sources has reduced the quality of the water available in the affected areas. Pump stations were also submerged and pipelines damaged, further hampering the supply of safe drinking water.

Health

Clinics in the affected areas have reported an increase in gastrointestinal and respiratory infection cases. Malaria is endemic in the flood-affected areas.

Data on the two completely destroyed and seven partially damaged *ri* clinics has been shared with the ministry of public health (MoPH). The clinics and hospitals in the affected areas had recently received their quarterly essential drug distribution from UNICEF, as a part of regular essential medicine programme.

The proposed operation

The operation targets over 15,000 people (3,076 families) affected by the recent floods occurring from 23 June to 16 July 2011, who have become homeless and/or displaced in 10 counties¹ in north Hwanghae, south Hwanghae, and south Hamgyong provinces. The affected population has already received one emergency relief kit and one family hygiene kit per family, including water purification tablets.

Each emergency relief kit contains one tarpaulin, four blankets, a cooking set and a jerry can. Besides water purification tablets, each family also received a hygiene kit which consists of body soap, laundry soap, sanitary pads, hand towel, mirror, toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrush, razor, and comb. The kits for north Hwanghae and south Hamgyong have already been delivered to the flood affected population at time of reporting. Delivery of the kits for south Hwanghae was temporarily delayed due to severe flooding occurring on 26 - 27 July.

The distributed emergency kits were dispatched from the central disaster preparedness warehouse in Pyongyang, and are part of the available prepositioned stocks in country, for 23,000 families total.

In combination with the distribution of water purification tablets, trained Red Cross volunteers are conducting hygiene promotion activities.

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Outcome: To provide 3,076 affected and displaced families (approximately 15,380 individuals) in ten counties in north Hwanghae, south Hwanghae, and south Hamgyong provinces, with essential non-food items to meet their immediate needs.

Expected results

3,076 flood-affected and displaced families (15,380 people) have received non-food assistance.

Activities carried out and/or planned

- Identification and registering of affected and displaced families based on agreed criteria;
- Distribution of non-food items from existing stocks to identified beneficiaries;
- Continuously monitor relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions;
- Conduct ongoing assessment of the impact of the flood and review support strategies;
- Replenishment of stocks based on approved budgets and IFRC procurement requirement

¹ Hamhung city, Hongwon county and Sinpho city in South Hamgyong province, Kaesong city and Kumchon county in North Hwanghae province, Chongdan county, Haeju city, Paechon county, Pongchon county, and Yonan county in South Hwanghae provinces

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: Provision of water purification tablets and hygiene promotion activities to 3,076 families (approximately 15,380 flood-affected people) in ten counties in north Hwanghae, south Hwanghae, and south Hamgyong provinces

Expected results

Provision of water purification tablets and hygiene promotion activities to 3,076 families (approximately 15,380 flood-affected people) short of clean and safe water for one month

Activities carried out and/or planned:

- Provision of water purification tablets, appropriate sanitation and hygiene promotion for 3,076 families in ten counties in north Hwanghae, south Hwanghae, and south Hamgyong provinces
- Conduct training/information programmes for Red Cross volunteers and beneficiaries on hygiene promotion and the safe use of water purification tablets.

How we work

All 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 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.

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.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this report, please contact:

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Please send pledges of funding to zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org

[<DREF budget and map below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

DREF OPERATION

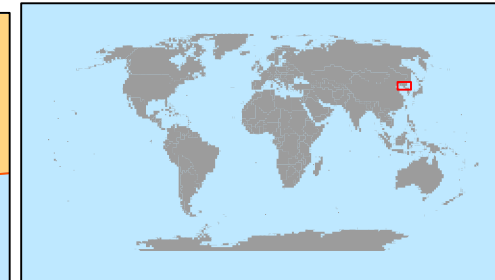
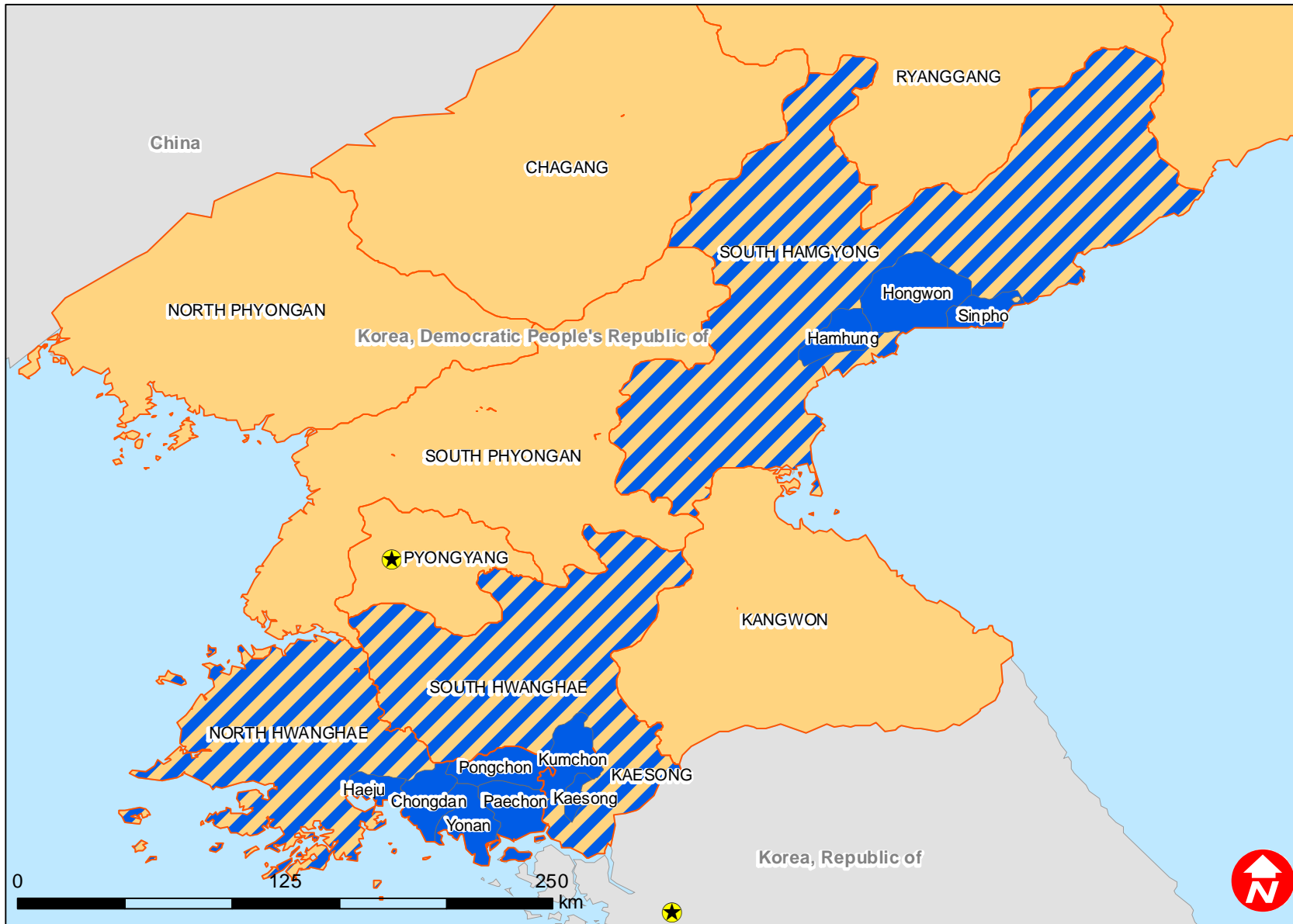
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MDRKP003 DPR Korea : Floods

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	77,400
Clothing & Textiles	174,240
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	59,200
Ustensils & Tools	74,400
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	385,240
Storage, Warehousing	5,000
Distribution & Monitoring	10,000
Transport & Vehicle Costs	2,000
Logistics Services	9,500
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	26,500
National Staff	400
National Society Staff	600
Total PERSONNEL	1,000
Workshops & Training	12,000
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	12,000
Information & Public Relations	200
Communications	800
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	1,000
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	27,673
Total INDIRECT COSTS	27,673
TOTAL BUDGET	453,413



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-  Affected counties
-  Affected provinces