

# DREF operation



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Lao PDR: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRLA002  
GLIDE n° [FL-2011-000077-LAO](#)  
18 July 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 329,788 has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the National Society in delivering immediate assistance to some 5,000 beneficiaries. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.**

### Summary:

Floods as a result of Typhoon Haima affected up to six provinces in Lao PDR in late June, destroying crops and infrastructure and affecting over 37,000 people. Lao Red Cross branches responded accordingly in all affected areas, in cooperation with local authorities. The National Society supported evacuation efforts and provided affected families with dry food and drinking water as well as first aid services.

With support from IFRC's DREF, Lao Red Cross will assist up to 5,000 people with relief items including food and non-food items, as well as conduct hygiene promotion activities.

This operation is expected to be implemented over six months, and will therefore be completed by December 2011; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 31 March 2012).

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



Floods affected six provinces in the country, including Xayaboury province. Lao PDR Red Cross quickly responded to the disaster by deploying staff and volunteers to affected areas and provided assistance through relief distributions and first aid services. Photo: Lao PDR Red Cross

## The situation

Typhoon Haima made landfall in Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR) and caused heavy rains and subsequent floods in central and northern parts of the country on 24 - 26 June 2011, affecting Huaphanh, Xiengkhuang, Xayaboury, Vientiane, Borikhamxay and Khammuane provinces. According to national media, information available to date on affected provinces are as follows:

Province	Affected districts	No. of villages affected	No. of people affected	No. of deaths reported
Xayaboury	Xayaboury	20	11,437	2
Borikhamxay	Bolikhan, Paksan	34	25,352	-
Vientiane	Kasi, Vangvieng, Thoulakhom, Maed, Xaysomboun	18	N/A	2
Xiengkhuang	7 districts	N/A	Approx. 780	8

In Vientiane province, more than 35 roads were flooded and/or covered by soil erosion, with four bridges and two dikes damaged.

In response to the floods, the ministry of agriculture and forestry has prepared 5,000 tonnes of rice seeds, livestock vaccines and other medications for affected farmers. Meanwhile, the ministry of labour and social welfare provided assistance to the four provinces, including LAK 300 million (CHF 29,788) for Xayaboury, over LAK 300 million (CHF 29,788) for Borikhamxay, and 15 tonnes of rice for Xiengkhuang.

A rapid needs assessment was carried out by provincial disaster management committees (PDMC). In Borikhamxay province, the local Red Cross branch made the first needs assessment. Preliminary assessment results indicate that this was the worst affected province.

The Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC), consisting of ministries, UN agencies, non-governmental organizations, Lao Red Cross and IFRC, decided on 5 July that the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), health as well as the food security and nutrition clusters are responsible for the second assessment in affected provinces.

## Coordination and partnerships

Lao Red Cross branches took action immediately in all affected areas, in cooperation with local authorities. The branches maintained contact and updated headquarters about the situation. The headquarters' disaster management division informed IFRC and partners through the disaster management information services (DMIS) about the situation. Due to challenges in-country in obtaining stable communications connections, further contact outside of Lao PDR was limited for several days.

Lao Red Cross continues to participate in meetings with NDMO and IASC. The Lao PDR government officially requested the National Society in all flood-affected provinces. The National Society related this initial request to IFRC on 11 July 2011. Since then, a more detailed planning and coordination has taken place. Meanwhile, a representative from the Lao Red Cross's disaster management division and the IFRC country representative participated in the food security cluster meeting, led by World Food Programme (WFP) on 12 July. The health cluster meeting, held on 13 July, was attended by a representative from the health division of the National Society.

Partners and other organizations responding in affected areas include Save the Children in Borikhamxay province, WFP in Khammuane, and Oxfam and Save the Children in Kasi district, Vientiane province.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Staff and volunteers from Lao Red Cross branches assisted affected families with dry food and drinking water as well as first aid service for injuries. The National Society also organized hygiene promotion events in the affected areas and assisted in evacuating people to safer sites.

On 8 July, Lao Red Cross decided to further assist the most vulnerable families who have not received aid from other organizations. The National Society plans to assist affected families with up to LAK 144 million (CHF 14,298) from their own funds. Relief distributions will take place in the coming week.

Lao Red Cross branches were asked to establish committees with the ministry of labour and social welfare (MLSW) at local levels to receive the donations for government to assist affected families.

## The needs

Situation reports provided by NDMO and the province authorities differ slightly. According to reports received to date, the most affected province is Borikhamxay, where almost all crops were destroyed. A detailed assessment led by the food security and nutrition cluster is currently ongoing.

## The proposed operation

The National Society aims to support districts not covered by other organizations. Its Red Cross branches will work with local authorities to select beneficiaries among the following groups:

1. People who have lost 90 per cent of their rice fields and rice stock piles
2. Disabled people
3. Families with pregnant women
4. Children and elderly

Lao Red Cross identified food assistance as a key support to help the most vulnerable population until the next crops can be harvested. The National Society will provide rice (15kg glutinous rice/person/month), canned fish, soap and detergent powder to a target of 5,000 people in the provinces of Bolikhamxay and Vientiane over the course of three months.

Meanwhile, the government and UN agencies are focusing on assessing the detailed needs on seeds replacement.

To address the recommendations of 2008 flood operation review, branch level staff of both operational districts will receive trainings on relevant sections of relief and logistics. Trainings will include beneficiary selection (identification and targeting), registration, distribution arrangements and monitoring of the relief operation.

### Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

**Outcome: 5,000 flood-affected people receive food and sanitation assistance for three months.**

**Activities planned:**

- Conduct a needs assessment
- Develop a strategy to reach the beneficiaries and a registration system to deliver intended assistance
- Identify, select and register beneficiaries to deliver intended assistance
- Identify and prepare distribution points and plan
- Distribute relief supplies (15kg rice/month, canned fish, soap and detergent) and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user.
- Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions
- Monitor and collect beneficiary feedback
- Develop an exit strategy

### Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

**Outcome: The risk of water related diseases has been reduced through the provision of hygiene promotion to 1,000 families for three months**

**Activities planned:**

- Conduct information sessions on good hygiene behaviour and distribute information, education and communication materials together with hygiene items, such as soap and detergent
- Monitor the use of hygiene items
- Attend WASH cluster meetings

### Logistics

All relief items are available in-country and will be procured locally following Federation procurement standards and quality control. A logistics delegate from IFRC's Myanmar office will be deployed for up to two weeks to support the National Society in its procurement activities, while the regional disaster response team has been alerted for the deployment of a relief specialist to further support distribution activities.

Headquarters staff implementing logistics and relief operation will receive training in the beginning of the operation to refresh their knowledge and skills on the procedure, and more specifically, on the common relief-logistics planning.

## Communications – Advocacy and public information

The steady flow of timely and accurate information between those working in the field and other major stakeholders will support the programme objectives of this DREF as well as increase the profile, funding and other support for the National Society and IFRC. It will also provide a platform on which to advocate for the interests of the most vulnerable. In close collaboration with the operation, those affected by this emergency will be provided with information to support their relief and recovery.

Lao Red Cross headquarters and branch staff responsible for monitoring and reporting will participate a refresher workshop that focuses on process, documentation and reporting formats in all levels. This includes distribution lists, registration and monitoring phases of the operation.

Donors and National Societies will receive information and materials they can use to promote this operation and communications initiatives will help build the information and public relations capacity of the host National Society for future emergencies.

## 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.

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 operation please contact:**

- In Lao PDR : Lao Red Cross Society, Dr Keedaeng Thammalangsy, Secretary General, phone: +856 20 541 5162; email: [keedaeng.kdthammalangsy@gmail.com](mailto:keedaeng.kdthammalangsy@gmail.com)
- In Cambodia: IFRC country office for Cambodia/ Lao PDR, Leena Kämäräinen, Country representative, phone: +855 12 901 400; email: [leena.kamarainen@ifrc.org](mailto:leena.kamarainen@ifrc.org)
- In Thailand: IFRC Southeast Asia regional office, Anne LeClerc, Head of regional office, phone: +66 2661 8201; email: [anne.leclerc@ifrc.org](mailto:anne.leclerc@ifrc.org)
- In Malaysia: IFRC Asia Pacific zone office, Heikki Väättämoinen, Operations coordinator, mobile: +60 12 230 7895; email: [heikki.vaatamoinen@ifrc.org](mailto:heikki.vaatamoinen@ifrc.org)

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

# DREF OPERATION

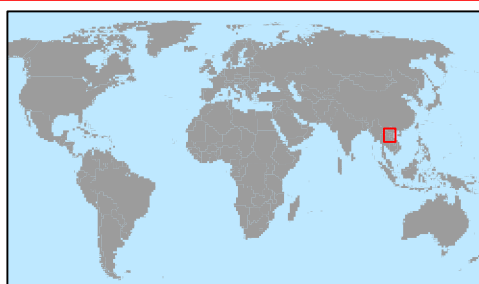
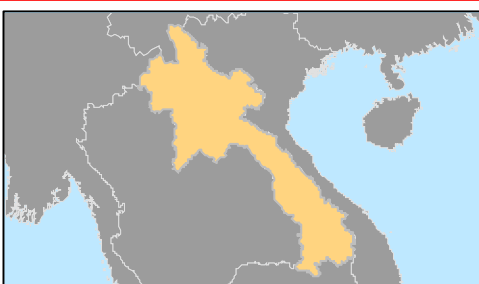
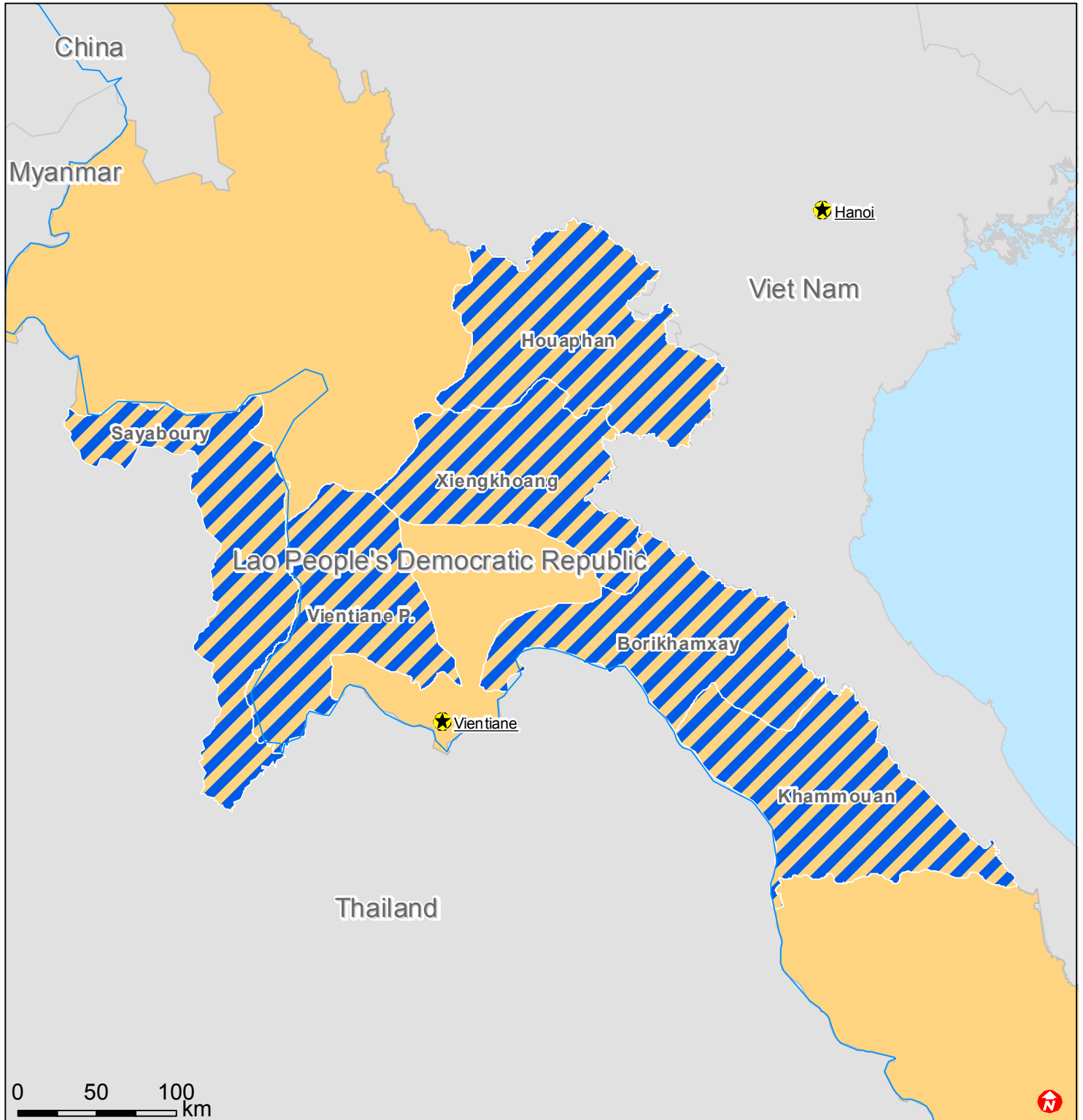
18-07-11


MDRLA002 Lao PDR : Floods

<b>Budget Group</b>	<b>DREF Grant Budget CHF</b>
Food	234,000
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	12,000
Medical & First Aid	4,500
<b>Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPF</b>	<b>250,500</b>
Computer & Telecom Equipment	4,000
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	1,000
<b>Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>5,000</b>
Storage, Warehousing	5,000
Dsitribution & Monitoring	3,000
Transport & Vehicle Costs	3,000
<b>Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE</b>	<b>11,000</b>
International Staff	15,000
Volunteers	3,660
<b>Total PERSONNEL</b>	<b>18,660</b>
Workshops & Training	7,500
<b>Total WORKSHOP &amp; TRAINING</b>	<b>7,500</b>
Travel	10,000
Information & Public Relations	2,500
Office Costs	1,000
Communications	1,500
Financial Charges	500
Other General Expenses	1,500
<b>Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>17,000</b>
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	20,128
<b>Total INDIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>20,128</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>329,788</b>



# Lao People's Democratic Republic: Floods



 Affected provinces