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Disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) Viet Nam: Mekong Delta floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation n° MDRVN009
GLIDE n° FL-2011-000137-VNM
18 October 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 210,710 is being allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Viet Nam Red Cross Society in delivering immediate assistance to some 10,000 families (42,000 beneficiaries) for three months.

Summary: Inhabitants of the Mekong Delta region in Viet Nam have been grappling with serious flooding since late September, a disaster that has caused loss of life and significant damage to homes and property, and poses an ongoing threat to health and livelihoods in seven provinces in the region.

As of 16 October, 46 deaths have been reported. Floods have affected the lives of some 80,686 families and more than 200,000 children are at risk. Up to 1,600 houses have been destroyed and more than 27,000 hectares of paddy crop have been destroyed.

To date, VNRC has released CHF 109,000 in cash and kind for 14,890 affected families. VNRC chapters in the most affected provinces of An Giang, Dong Thap and Long An have also been supporting their communities with essential relief items and cash.

VNRC has deployed national disaster response team (NDRT) members to conduct needs assessments and have determined that the following needs are most crucial: temporary shelter and household items; livelihoods; water and sanitation; and emergency health.



VNRC distributed household kits in Vinh Truong commune, Tan Chau district, An Giang province. (Photo: Thanh Tung/VNRC)

With the possibility of more extensive flooding in the region in the coming days, it is imperative to further support VNRC in extending its relief operation. Contribution from the DREF will help facilitate this.

With DREF support, VNRC seeks to focus its relief operations in the following sectors: cash and relief items (household kits and tarpaulins); safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene promotion; emergency health; and preparedness measures for provinces at greatest risk.

Under this DREF operation, in total, 3,000 families will receive essential household items and emergency shelter materials. At least 7,000 households will have access to safe water, reducing the risk of water-borne diseases. Several activities related to epidemic control will be conducted to reduce the risk of the occurrence of infectious diseases for 14,400 households in three of the most vulnerable districts.

Together with IFRC, VNRC is closely monitoring the current floods and their projected evolution over the next two weeks. Should these projections come true and the situation become worse than it currently is, IFRC will consider launching an emergency appeal on behalf of the national society. Also, the People's Aid Coordinating Committee (PACCOM) has officially put out the call for assistance in responding to these floods.

This operation is expected to be implemented over three months, and be completed by 18 January 2012; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation by 18 April 2012.

[<click for the DREF budget; contact details; or a map of the affected areas>](#)

The situation

The Mekong Delta region of Viet Nam is currently facing its worst flooding in 11 years, engulfing some 80,686 families (over 300,000 people) in the provinces of An Giang, Dong Thap, Long An, Can Tho, Vinh Long, Hau Giang and Kien Giang. As of 16 October, the floods have taken 46 lives¹ and disrupted the lives of many others, especially young children, whose schooling is interrupted due to flooding. Up to 170 schools are currently under water, leaving 224,630 students out of school; at least 1,600 houses have been destroyed, and more 27,000 hectares of paddy and other crops have been lost. This latter situation has destroyed the economic livelihood of hundreds of thousands of people in the seven affected provinces. Landslides and broken dykes have also aggravated the situation.



Flooding in Tan Hung district, Long An province.
(Photo: Du Hai Duong/VNRC)

The Mekong Delta floods annually with water levels rising slowly from late May, remaining high during August and September, reaching its peak in early or mid-October and returning to its normal levels by end of November. Unlike the flash floods in the Central Viet Nam region, Mekong flooding is typically a slow onset disaster due to the delta's flat topography.

The *floods have come earlier this year* and have been stronger than usual, eroding more delta riverbanks than in previous years. Due to a severe weather situation between 12 and 18 September, heavy rain occurred in Viet Nam as well as in north and central Myanmar, Thailand, and northern Lao PDR during

that period. An upstream spate together with high tides resulted in water levels continuously rising in the Mekong river, reaching critical levels around 2 October and flooding the three provinces of An Giang, Dong Thap, and Long An in the Delta.

The *severe weather situation worsened* further between 27 September and 5 October, when two tropical storms/typhoons hit the north central coast, causing more heavy rain in the Mekong catchment areas in

¹ Most of them children under sixteen years

Thailand, Lao PDR and Cambodia. On 24 September, a tropical depression in the East Sea off the central coast of Viet Nam developed into Tropical Storm Haitang, but weakened into a tropical depression before making landfall in Ha Tinh and Thua Thien Hue provinces in the early morning of 27 September. Similarly, during the afternoon of 5 October, Typhoon Nalgae weakened into a tropical depression, crossing the East Sea near Quang Binh and Ha Tinh provinces.

Currently, the water levels of the Mekong remain at their peak and are spreading downstream to the provinces of Can Tho, Vinh Long, Hau Giang and Kien Giang. Flood levels are expected to remain above alert level 3 at least until the end of October. The most affected provinces currently are An Giang, Dong Thap and Long An, but damages and losses have also been reported from Can Tho, Hau Giang, Vinh Long, and Kien Giang. In many places in Long An and Dong Thap visited by the VNRC assessment team, water levels made it very difficult to visit people by road as places are submerged in some 2-4 metres of flood water. However, only some 10 per cent of the affected families have boats, thus making access to these locations an issue.

Updated report on the flood situation in Southern Viet Nam (Mekong), as of 12 October 2011													
#	Province	Population	Affected Population		Evacuated Population		Deaths		Houses damaged	Poor Households			
			Families	People	Families	People	Total	<16 yrs		Poor	%	Near Poor	%
1	An Giang	2,142,709	17,751	74,554	846	3,553	12	2	1,033	48,622	9%	28,571	5%
2	Dong Thap	1,666,467	15,952	66,998	1,453	6,103	15	14	407	65,104	16%	33,143	8%
3	Long An	1,436,066	12,052	50,618	83	349	5	5	181	25,958	7%	18,508	5%
4	Can Tho	1,188,435	1,268	5,326	0	0	6	6	0	22,975	8%	18,820	6%
5	Vinh Long	1,024,707	18,309	76,898	0	0	0	0	0	27,242	10%	16,423	6%
6	Hau Giang	757,300	1,140	4,788	0	0	0	0	0	42,992	23%	23,466	12%
7	Kien Giang	1,688,248	3,088	12,970	0	0	5	4	0	34,973	9%	24,932	6%
Total		9,903,932	69,560	292,152	2,382	10,004	43	31	1,621	267,866	12%	163,863	8%

No health facilities have been reported as submerged so far; however, the access to health services might be disrupted as a vast area of the country is under water.

In addition, Viet Nam has been facing a sudden major increase in hand, foot and mouth disease (HFMD) since May 2011, including several of the Mekong delta provinces affected by this flood. VNRC has been providing effective assistance in this sector since then, and with the support of a [DREF](#) launched in August. At the same time, the region is facing higher cases in dengue fever in comparison to that of the previous year.

The VNRC needs assessment does not highlight any increase of infection in the provinces affected by the current flood situation. However, according to the WHO assessment report, there is a serious risk of increase in communicable diseases such as dengue fever, HFMD, diarrhoea and cholera, when the waters recede.

Coordination and partnerships

The Disaster Management Working Group (DMWG) is the platform by which IFRC and VNRC coordinate response actions together with the People's Aid Co-ordinating Committee (PACCOM)², UN agencies, and

² PACCOM coordinates the foreign NGO activities in Viet Nam.

international NGOs. In addition, through its participation in the central committee for flood and storm control (CCFSC) meetings, VNRC also coordinates its efforts with the government at various levels.

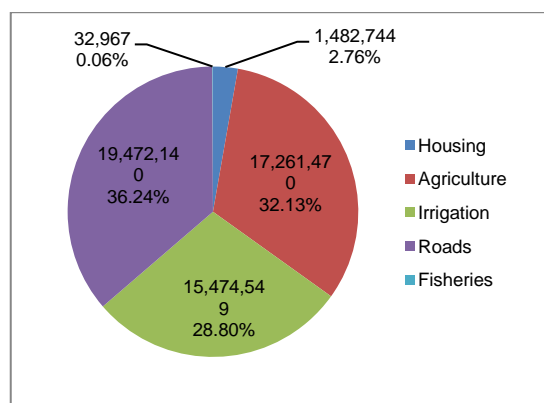
In its current role as the DMWG chair, IFRC has summoned and chaired weekly meetings focused on the coordinated response for the Mekong floods and other storms/typhoons in the last three weeks. The first meeting of the DMWG was held on 30 September to take stock of these Mekong floods and to coordinate preparedness measures for the Typhoon Nesat that hit the northern provinces of Quang Ninh and Hai Phong on 3 October. UNICEF sent its team to An Giang province for initial assessments of the Mekong flood situation in response to a request from the An Giang people's committee. Several other members of the DMWG will also send staff to complement the assessment conducted by UNICEF.

All assessment reports were presented during the DMWG meeting on 7 October. On 4 October, VNRC also alerted its national disaster response team (NDRT) and deployed it for a week to the Delta to assess needs and support its chapters and branches in their response to the emerging needs. In addition, various clusters³ such as WASH⁴, Education in Emergencies, Health and Nutrition, have also met, and some have produced their own assessments.

In order to facilitate internal coordination between VNRC, IFRC and partner national societies in-country, which include American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross, French Red Cross, German Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, the Netherlands Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross, the monthly Movement coordination meeting on 5 October focused on the Mekong floods and other severe weather events in the central and northern provinces. Upon receiving the assessment report from the NDRT deployed by VNRC to the Mekong delta, a meeting was organized on 11 October between IFRC and partner national societies in-country to discuss the findings of the assessment and exchange information received from other assessment reports. This meeting also involved deciding on further action to be taken, especially to agree on the best way to financially and technically support VNRC response to the ongoing floods in the Mekong delta. This DREF operation is part of the follow-up action to the agreements reached during that 11 October meeting.

On his visit to the Mekong Delta on 12 October, the Prime Minister requested local authorities to improve their efforts in creating sustainable living styles that can handle future floods and adverse weather. In the short term, during meetings in Long An, Dong Thap and An Giang provinces, he directed the authorities to try and minimize the effects of the floods on people by reducing the number of casualties and the amount of rice paddies lost.

Meanwhile, local governments of the affected provinces in the Mekong Delta have continued to carry out response and protection measures such as early harvesting, and repair and protection of dykes and crops. So far, about 166,983 hectares out of 611,314 hectares of rice fields have been harvested, though more than 27,000 hectares of paddy/crop fields have been flooded, with at least 7,000 hectares completely destroyed. In An Giang province, more than 46,173 people have been mobilized to assist in reinforcing 460 km of dykes and dams, an effort that is estimated to cost a total of CHF 5.7 million.



Total economic damages USD: 53,723,870
As of 12 Oct 2011, Source, CCFSC, Viet Nam

Nationally, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development has proposed to support farmers with CHF⁵ 217 per hectare of rice destroyed (i.e. 30 per cent of the total loss). The Vietnamese Fatherland Front has also transferred relief funding to eight affected provinces varying from CHF 8,660 to CHF 433,939 for each province. Also several international partners such as UNICEF and Save the Children have released CHF 344,626 in emergency support for the affected provinces.

³ The clusters in Viet Nam function more as default technical working groups for interested stakeholders; so far no formal cluster coordination mechanism has been requested by the Government of Viet Nam.

⁴ Water, sanitation and hygiene.

⁵ Unless otherwise specified, exchange rates used are: CHF 1 = USD 1.11 = VND 23,000

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Preparing to respond

Before the flood situation peaked in early October, VNRC began putting its disaster response mechanisms in place. It issued alerts in An Giang, Dong Thap, and Long An provincial chapters about the rising water level, and people at risk and in need of evacuation.

The national society released VND 50,000,000 to An Giang and Dong Thap provinces to procure life jackets and lifebuoys and 500 boxes of aqua tabs (with 100 tablets per box). VNRC procured and stocked 5,000 additional aqua tab boxes and 1,000 life-jackets ready to be distributed, based on needs on the ground. The national disaster response (NDRT) and water and sanitation teams were alerted and a 24/7 emergency focal point was created. VNRC's An Giang chapter put in place 392 first aid and rescue points with 2,112 Red Cross staff and volunteers. Thanks to this initiative, many people and hundreds of boats were rescued when floods arrived.

Also as part of the preparedness measures and to improve its visibility, VNRC has deployed some of its communication staff (such as photographers, etc.) to the affected areas to document both its preparedness and early response activities. On 4 October, VNRC also deployed its NDRT team to the south of Viet Nam to carry out needs assessment and support chapters in coordinating the response.

Emergency relief provided

At both national and local level, VNRC has shown strong capacity in assessing and responding to the situation. Its NDRT was deployed on 4 October to An Giang, Dong Thap and Long An – the three most affected provinces – from 4 to 8 October, when floods were reported as worsening.

At the headquarters level, the national society has released 11,100 boxes of aqua tabs⁶ and 1,000 household kits, and will further release 2,000 more for the affected provinces⁷. VNRC headquarters have also started the procurement of 5,000 additional household kits to both replenish and increase the stock level in the warehouse. In addition, VNRC has transferred CHF 17,391⁸ in cash to the affected provinces to be distributed as cash support for emergency needs. In total, VNRC headquarters has so far released CHF 109,000 in cash and kind for 14,890 families (62,538 beneficiaries).

In addition to VNRC headquarters support, the following activities have also been conducted at the community level by VNRC staff and volunteers:



The VNRC secretary general also played an active role in distributing relief items in Vinh Truong commune, Tan Chau district, An Giang province. (Photo: Thanh Tung/VNRC)

An Giang:

- Provincial Red Cross released 35 lifebuoys and 70 life-vests. An additional 200 lifebuoys and 250 life-vests were procured for further distribution to 40 first stations from CHF 2,173 supported by the headquarters.
- Provincial Red Cross also released 19 plastic sheets (size 4x10m) and six mosquito nets, and distributed 1,500 kg of rice to 352 households. Rice support was carried out within the communities themselves through Red Cross mobilization.
- 392 first aid stations were set up and run by Red Cross volunteers; 25 people were saved from drowning.

⁶ 1 box = 100 tabs = 1 household for one month. 1 tablet = 20 litres of water. Total value: 11,100 boxes is CHF 25,000.

⁷ CHF 62,000 in value for 3,000 household kits.

⁸ CHF 22 per household.

- 35,000 water purification tablets (aqua tabs) were allocated to Red Cross districts for distribution to affected people. The distribution of 20,000 tablets is ongoing.
- Plan to distribute 300 household kits (300 families) and CHF 4,379 (200 families) to affected people in the five worst-affected communes in four districts of Vinh Hoa commune (Tan Chau district), Phu Huu commune (An Phu district), O Long Vi and Binh My communes (Chau Phu district), and Kien An commune (Cho Moi district). Each family will receive CHF 22 as cash for food and other basic necessities.

Dong Thap:

- Maintenance of 241 first aid stations in high-risk areas supported by 1,593 volunteers.
- Rescue of 36 boats and properties and 46 people, including three children.
- Red Cross chapter distribution of 55,000 water purification tablets to Red Cross district level staff for distribution to affected people.
- Distribution plan made for 300 household kits and CHF 4,379 (200 families) in districts of Hong Ngu and Tan Hong, with distribution starting on 15 October 2011.

Long An:

- Tan Hung district Red Cross provided VND 4 million to affected families, and pre-positioned VND 40 million and 1.2 tonnes of rice.
- 62 Red Cross youth remain on duty 24/7 at 24 first aid stations in the affected areas.
- Plan for distribution of 200 household kits and 50,000 water purification tablets to the seven most affected districts of Tan Hung, Vinh Hung, Ngoc Hoa, Tan Thanh, Thach Hoa, Duc Hue, and Thu Thua. Distribution starts Monday 17 October 2011.

The needs

According to the assessment reports of the VNRC national disaster response team (NDRT) and several other agencies, the three provinces currently most affected are An Giang, Dong Thap and Long An; however, the floods are slowly spreading downstream in the provinces of Can Tho, Vinh Long, Hau Giang and Kien Giang. Overall to date, the floods have destroyed 1,621 houses and forced at least 2,382 families (10,004 people) to evacuate to safer ground.

The general assessment of needs in these reports is as follows:

- **Temporary shelter and household items**

Families who have lost houses due to landslides or floods have had to move to other places where they have constructed temporary shelters with bamboo and leaves or been evacuated to the households of relatives or friends in less and/or non-affected areas. In both cases the need for temporary shelter and emergency household items has been recorded across the assessments.

To illustrate, in Binh Thuy commune, 130 out of 134 households have sought shelter in allocated places. In this case, each family will receive CHF 696 from the government for immediate needs and further CHF 870 in loans to rebuild their lost houses. Clearly this is not enough to cover both immediate needs and rebuild



The head of the VNRC national disaster response team (NDRT) interviews the head of a family in Ha Thanh village, Tan Hung district, Long An province.

This family of four have been living in their flooded home for more than two weeks now. Their immediate needs include rice, household kits and cash to help sustain the family. (Photo: VNRC)

assets in the long term, given the loss of both income resources (destroyed paddies) and assets (house and household items). The situation of the families who evacuated by themselves to find a temporary shelter is even worse since so far, they have not received any support.

The assessments therefore recommended immediate provisions of tarpaulins and other shelter material to build safe and secure temporary shelter. The local governments in Dong Thap and An Giang have released their stock of canvas to the affected people but this support is very limited in relation to the overall need.

- **Livelihoods**

In the past ten years, the Government of Viet Nam has invested in thousands of kilometres of dykes as well as permanent housing to prevent the impact from floods, particularly on lives and livelihoods. This has resulted in a general increase in normal agricultural farming inside the areas surrounded by dykes, shifting local livelihoods from inland fishing to farming. The loss of crops is therefore a big economic shock to the local farmers, especially those living under the poverty line or very close to it (see [above table](#) for overall poverty rates).

However, the most vulnerable are the families who are both poor and landless. These families have typically no land, few savings and survive on daily wages by offering their labour or fishing locally. The floods have disrupted their sources of income, so they have already begun to borrow from family and friends, and/or advanced food and supplies from local shops on credit. It is therefore recommended to support the most vulnerable families with unconditional cash support for immediate food and non-food needs, especially until the response from the government and other stakeholders increases. The amount (CH 22 per household) has been established according to the needs (e.g. equal to 30-40 kg of rice), agreed with the relevant chapters, and following lessons from previous cash grant distributions undertaken by VNRC during two recent relief operations: Typhoon Ketsana (2009-2010) and Floods (2010-2011).

- **Water and sanitation**

All assessments and media reports clearly point out that the most pressing needs are access to clean drinking water and sanitation, and information regarding prevention of water-borne diseases such as diarrhoea and dengue fever. Latrines in emergencies are urgently needed for about 500 families who are living in collective centres, and currently have little or no access to proper latrines. Clean water provision for those who are severely flooded out and/or isolated by flooding is also needed, especially in Dong Thap province.

About 30 per cent of families whose houses have been submerged are also in urgent need of water purification tablets and training on household water treatment. It is anticipated that the population in at least the three provinces currently⁹ most affected by the floods will need improved conditions in this regard in order to cope with health-related risks during and after flooding.

- **Emergency health**

Coincidentally, at this time of year, people in southern Viet Nam face diseases directly related to hygiene, water and sanitation. In this period, dengue fever cases are customarily high in the Mekong area, as peak period is around the rain and flood season. Also this year, there has been a sudden increase of cases and deaths due to hand, foot and mouth disease (HFMD). With deteriorating water and sanitation and limited access to public health facilities due flooding, affected people in the Mekong face the threat of greater exposure to HFMD, with children the most vulnerable group.

WHO has conducted an assessment in Dong Thap province which has been badly affected by the floods. The official health system is seen as functioning; however, concerns are around access to limited water, sanitation, and food and child safety, all of which will worsen due to long weeks living with floodwaters. The local health authorities have also reported cases of conjunctivitis, and skin diseases resulting standing floodwaters, and note that diarrhoea under similar circumstances had occurred in this area in previous years. Child safety and emergency community-based first aid is also a need. However, hundreds of active first aid stations in Dong Thap, Long An and An Giang are being effective in responding to life-saving needs.

- **Gender and security/safety**

With more than 230,000 children out of school and more than 60 per cent of fatalities under 16 years old, there is a clear need for support to the families affected. Even though most families have strong coping mechanisms to deal with floods, given annual flooding, the severity and long spell experienced this year require particular attention, especially to the needs of women and children.

⁹ Though this is likely to spread to other provinces too.

As one assessment report illustrated, in many flooded communes, it was only women and children at home. Most men were out to catch fish or find some work, as is customary. In many cases, women and children of several families come together when men are away from home, improving their collective security and safety. Overall however, there have been no serious security incidents and in temporary camps, physical security has not posed a threat. However, as indicated, given the water and sanitation challenges, environmental security is slowly worsening.

The proposed operation

This operation will provide immediate humanitarian assistance to 10,000 affected households in seven affected provinces and restock household kits already issued to keep the minimum preparedness of the national society. VNRC assistance in the seven provinces will complement ongoing humanitarian actions by the government, the Fatherland Front and other organizations and focus on the following sectors:

- **Cash and relief items (household kits and tarpaulin)**
- **Drinking water and hygiene promotion**
- **Emergency health (focusing on disease prevention and health promotion)**
- **Preparedness measures for provinces downstream from the current flooding**

The operation also includes continued deployment of VNRC surge capacity (NDRT) to support better design of interventions in water-sanitation and to monitor the distributions. Selection of beneficiaries will follow the agreed principles and procedures in the standard operating procedures.

Principles for beneficiary selection:

- Give priority to the most badly affected people and most vulnerable groups
- Avoid overlaps and capitation.
- Guarantee disclosure and transparency.
- Involve the community.
- Collaborate with other stakeholders.
- Randomly check the beneficiary lists.

Procedure for beneficiary selection:

- VNRC headquarters and provincial chapters set beneficiary selection criteria.
- Develop beneficiary selection guidelines.
- Announce beneficiary selection criteria through the media and at public places.
- Hold village meetings to nominate beneficiaries.
- Prepare a list of beneficiaries.
- Post the beneficiary list in public places and on the media.
- Reach consensus of the list with commune People's Committees (PC) and obtaining the approval of the commune Red Cross committee and certification of the commune PC
- Submit the list to the district Red Cross.
- Conduct means tests (covering at least 10 per cent of the beneficiaries)

Relief distributions (cash, household kits and tarpaulins)
<p>Outcome: The immediate needs of 3,000 families are met through the distribution of essential household items and emergency shelter needs.</p>
<p>Outputs and activities planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize transport and distribution of 1,500 household kits to the local chapters. • Conduct on-the-ground assessments, selection and verification of 3,000 families (1,500 for cash and 1,500 for household kits and tarpaulins). • Locally procure household kits and tarpaulin items in line with the agreed procurement standards and quality control. • Distribute unconditional cash grants (CHF 22/household) to 1,500 of the most affected families to help them meet the most basic needs (e.g. food and essential items) and ensure no forced redistribution is made. • Distribute household kits and temporary shelter materials (tarpaulin), and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end-user. • Monitor and evaluate relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: The risks of the flood-affected people from water-borne related diseases are reduced for 7,000 households through the provision of safe water, sanitation and hygiene promotion in An Giang, Dong Thap, Can Tho, Long An, Vinh Long, Hau Giang and Kien Giang.

Outputs and activities planned:

- Assess the existing situation of water coverage with a view of ensuring availability of an adequate water supply, and plan for safe water, sanitation and hygiene promotion.
- Coordinate with local authorities and select the beneficiaries.
- Deploy VNRC water treatment units together with trained staff.
- Organize training on managing the water treatment units for key responders in affected provinces.
- Select, train staff and volunteers (180) in water treatment (aqua tabs) and hygiene promotion.
- Conduct information and training sessions for 5,000 households (21,000 beneficiaries) on water treatment by using aqua tabs.
- Distribute the household water treatment manual and other information, education and communication (IEC) material in Vietnamese.
- Distribute and demonstrate use of aqua tabs and jerry cans to some 5,000 affected households.
- Provide safe water to 2,000 households (8,400 beneficiaries) weekly by using ScanWater units.
- Conduct monitoring for quality control and evaluate for effectiveness.

Emergency health

Outcome: At least 10,000 families in three of the most affected districts from An Giang, Dong Thap, Can Tho, Long An, Vinh Long, Hau Giang and Kien Giang are able to carry out measures to prevent the occurrence of infectious diseases including dengue fever; hand, foot and mouth disease (HFMD) and other water-borne diseases.

Outputs and activities planned:

- Mobilize and deploy key trainers on epidemic control from other provinces.
- Select and train 180 volunteers in the control of dengue fever and hand, foot and mouth disease (HFMD)
- Mobilize communities to conduct hand-washing, clean-up and other campaigns to prevent infectious diseases
- Conduct house-to-house volunteer-led education campaign on dengue fever control and hand, foot and mouth disease prevention.
- Reproduce and distribute IEC materials (leaflets, handbook for volunteers, posters).
- Coordinate with local health authorities to ensure appropriate and effective response.
- Monitor and review health activities.

Apart from this, VNRC will be supported in its capacity in communication to enhance efforts in dissemination and increasing the visibility of its actions to support further national and international fundraising efforts for its Mekong floods response.

Capacity of the national society

Even though the Mekong Delta floods each year, these floods are not severe and do not require extensive external support. As such, the chapters and branches in the Delta are used to helping their local communities in immediate disaster response. However given the possibility of more extensive flooding in the region and the threat of it overcoming local capacity of the VNRC chapters and branches, some quick investments will be also made in refresher training in managing large-scale donor-supported disaster response. The focus of such training will be on improving beneficiary management, improved record keeping and refreshing standard operating procedures (SOPs) to maintain information flow between various units and levels.

Communications – advocacy and public information

This operation will also support efforts to improve visibility and the flow of timely and accurate information from VNRC to its external partners. It will also provide a platform from which to advocate in the interest of vulnerable people and in close collaboration with the operation. Those affected by this emergency will be provided with information to support their own relief and recovery efforts. Donors and partner 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.

Contact information

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

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Click here

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

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.



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.
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DREF OPERATION

17-10-11

MDRVN009

Viet Nam : Mekong Delta Floods

Budget Group

DREF Grant Budget CHF

Shelter - Relief	43,636
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	32,682
Utensils' & Tools	30,682
Cash Disbursements	34,091
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	141,091

Distribution & Monitoring	7,273
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	7,273

National Staff	3,000
National Society Staff	5,236
Volunteers	4,909
Total PERSONNEL	13,145

Workshops & Training	23,273
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	23,273

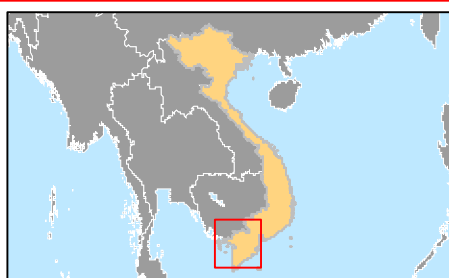
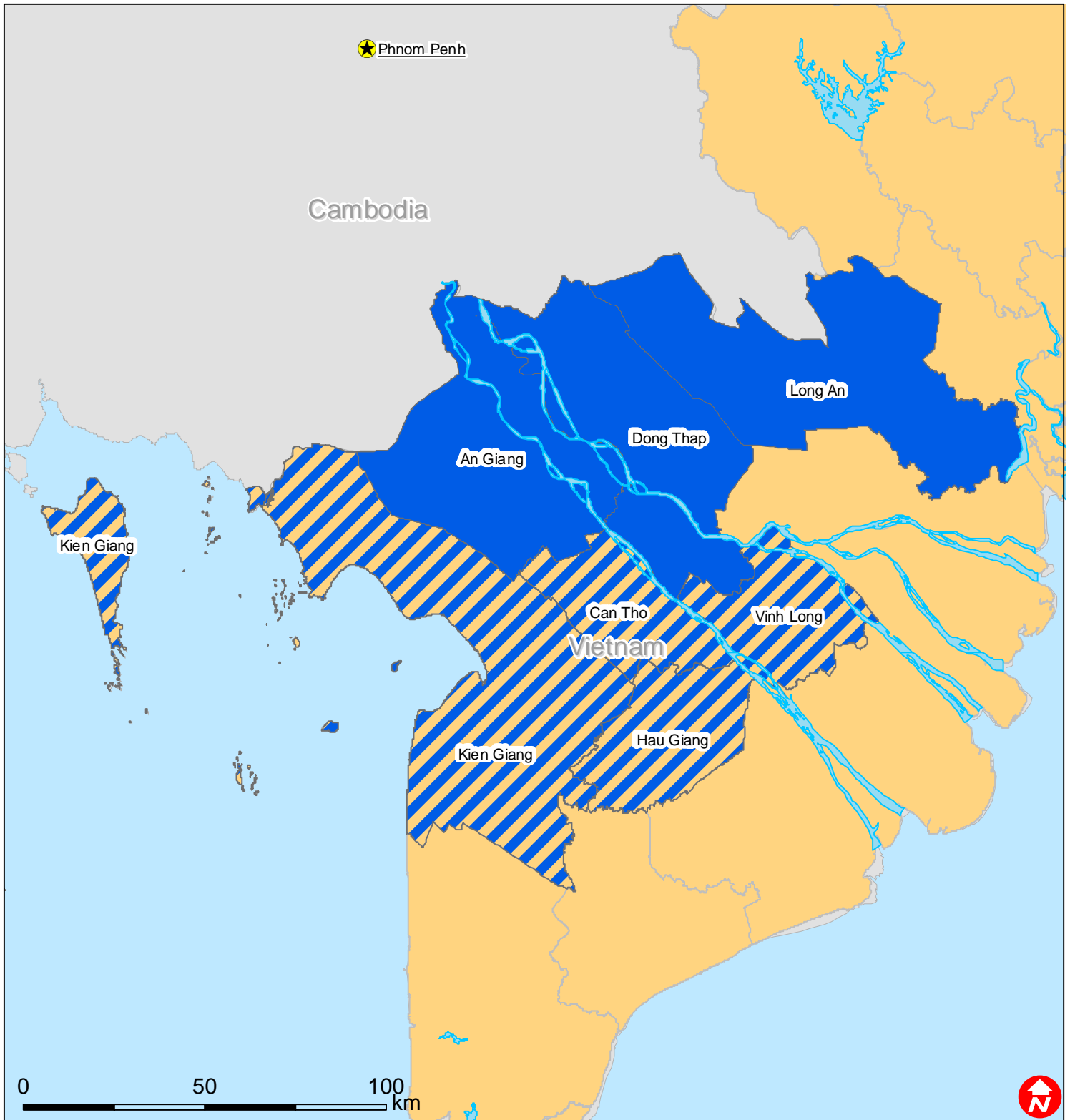
Travel	2,909
Information & Public Relations	6,818
Communications	1,636
Financial Charges	614
Other General Expenses	1,091
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	13,068



Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	12,860
Total INDIRECT COSTS	12,860

TOTAL BUDGET	210,710
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Viet Nam: Floods



-  Affected provinces
-  Most affected provinces