

Information bulletin

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Asia: Typhoon Morakot

Information bulletin n° 01
GLIDE n° [TC-2009-000150-CHN](#)
[TC-2009-000150-TWN](#)
[FF-2009-000152-PHL](#)
12 August 2009

This bulletin is being issued for information only and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The International Federation is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation.

A total of five provinces in the southeast mainland of China were affected by Typhoon Morakot. According to local media sources, as of 11 August, Typhoon Morakot killed eight people on the Chinese mainland, forced some 1.57 million people to be relocated, damaged over 10,000 houses, and caused direct economic losses of an estimated CNY 9.72 billion (CHF 1.5 billion).

The typhoon, estimated to be the worst to hit the region in nearly five decades, made landfall in Taiwan on 7 August 2009. Latest local media reports as of 8pm local time on 11 August indicate that at least 62 people were killed on the island. To date, more than 700 people are trapped in two southern villages engulfed by mudslides caused by the typhoon.

The customary monsoon season in the Philippines from May to September, coupled with the various tropical cyclones, has caused heavy rains in the last two months. The effects of Typhoons Jolina and Morakot, the latter which crossed into the Philippines on 4 August, have further worsened the situation in some parts of the country, causing floods, and landslides. Up to 23 people have been reported dead, three missing and 18 injured. According to the national disaster coordinating committee, as many as 18,618 families (94,211 people) from 118 villages in 11 provinces have been displaced.

[<click here for a map of the affected areas, or here for detailed contact information>](#)



Relief goods sent out for the most affected areas in Wenzhou Zhejiang by Zhejiang Red Cross. Zhejiang Red Cross

The Situation

China

More than 11 million people in Fujian, Zhejiang, Jiangxi, Anhui and Jiangsu Provinces had been affected by Morakot since its powerful landing in east China on 9 August 2009. Some 1.57 million had been relocated as of 11 August. The typhoon killed up to eight people, toppled more than 10,000 houses and inundated approximately 449,600 hectares of cropland.

Rainstorms and floods caused by Typhoon Morakot have created huge economic losses in Fujian, affecting more than 1.4 million people. The central and northern coastal regions of Fujian province have been pumelled by strong winds and heavy rain, and cities like Fuding, Xiapu and Fuan have seen floods inland. The direct economic loss has increased to an estimated CNY 1.5 billion.

As of 10 August, six cities, 46 counties and 1.4 million people in the affected provinces were dealing with Morakot's aftermath, which left one person dead and another missing. Over 527,000 people were evacuated, 1,150 houses destroyed and 66,060 hectares of crops damaged, according to the Fujian Headquarters for Flood Control and Drought Relief.

Morakot has moved out of Fujian, but rains continue at time of reporting. Relevant organizations are still investigating specific losses caused by the typhoon.

A massive landslide occurred on 10 August at night in Pengxi township, Taishun county of Wenzhou City in Zhejiang Province, causing six or seven apartment buildings to collapse. Up to two people died and four were injured in this storm-induced landslide.

Typhoon Morakot moved onto Taiwan and made landfall on 7 August 2009. Up to 62 people have been confirmed dead, with 57 people listed as missing as of 8pm local time on 11 August, not including residents in Shiao Lin, a village of approximately 1,000 in mountainous Kaohsiung county, whose fate has been unclear since Sunday's mudslide.

Another 35 people were injured after the typhoon hit much of the central-south part of the island. The casualty list does not include a crew of three on board a helicopter that crashed during a disaster-relief mission in southern Pingdong.

Powerful winds paralyzed the power supply for an estimated 1.58 million households. As of 6.30pm 11 August, power supplies have been restored to 1.51 million houses. According to local disaster relief authorities, Typhoon Morakot also damaged telecommunication facilities in central-south Taiwan. In Tainan, Kaohsiung and Pingdong, the water supply for 710,000 households was cut off by floods and it was estimated that at least 24 hours are needed to bring the system back to normal.

Statistics released by local agriculture authorities, indicate that losses in the agricultural and fishery sectors are approximately TWD 6.85 billion (approximately CHF 226 million).

Disaster relief centres have dispatched helicopters to transport villagers and air-drop goods in mountainous regions in central-south Taiwan where roads and bridges were destroyed by floods.

Local media reports say people have started to repair homes and infrastructure in parts of central-south Taiwan where waters have started to recede.

People from a wide range of social sectors including the public authority of the island, private enterprises, entertainment and TV stations donated cash and goods worth millions to support disaster relief work.

The island's Central Weather Bureau reported on 11 August that the island continues to experience high winds.

Philippines

The weather in Philippines over the last month has been very wet, due to the various typhoons. Typhoon Morakot (locally known as Kiko), the 11th tropical cyclone to strike the country this year, crossed into the Philippines on Tuesday night (4 August). The Philippines atmospheric, geophysical and astronomical services administration (Pagasa) raised public storm signal no. 1 on Thursday (6 August) over Batanes as the typhoon continued to intensify.

According to media reports on 8 August, seven people including three French tourists were killed when they were swept away by floods in Capas, Tarlac, while three boys died yesterday morning when their house was buried by a landslide in Bagio City after heavy rains spawned by Typhoon Morakot/Kiko hit



Typhoon Morakot displaced up to 18,618 families and destroyed as many as 57 homes in the Philippines. PNRC.

Luzon. Six other French tourists and three hikers from the Republic of Korea were rescued from floods which swept across the slopes of Mt. Pinatubo on the Capas side of the volcano on Thursday afternoon.

On 8 August, the office of civil defence recorded several more landslides along the major routes to Bagio City such as Kennon Road, which is closed to traffic, and other locations in the Banaue, Bifugao and Benguet provinces. In Benguet, officials suspended all school classes in the province while Baguio suspended classes at elementary and secondary levels. The mayor of La Trinidad reported floods in areas near the swollen Balili River, La Trinidad's major river system.

In Zambales, the governor placed the province's northern towns under a state of emergency after the San Juan lahar dike collapsed in Botolan, causing floods which isolated six towns. Other towns under the state of emergency include Iba, Palawang, Masinloc, Candelaria and Santa Cruz. The collapse of the San Juan lahar dike flooded 10 villages in Botolan where 1,784 residents were evacuated to safer areas. The collapse of the lahar dike further destroyed the approach to the Bucaco Bridge in Botolan and blocked off the national highway. Rescue workers reported that 30 houses were also washed away by swiftly flowing flood waters. Rescue teams in Botolan reported 10 residents missing. In some of the affected areas, flood waters have reached the five-foot level. PNRC staff and volunteers along with coast guards, the Navy and others in helicopters and rubber boats are assisting in rescue and evacuation, airlifting residents stranded by the floods. In Zambales, there are seven evacuation centres housing 585 families (some 1,112 persons).

Meanwhile, thousands of motorists and passengers have been stranded since Thursday, 6 August, after landslides blocked off the national highway linking Nueva Ecija with Central Luzon, virtually cutting off the Cagayan Valley from the rest of Luzon. Several villages in Bambang, Nueva Vizcaya were also flooded. Portions of the national highway in several villages have been temporarily closed due to landslides caused by the heavy rain. Some of the roads are now passable to traffic.

There have also been reports from the local authorities and UN of flooding in the conflict areas in Mindanao.

According to the national disaster coordinating centre (NDCC) report as of 10 August, the death toll from Typhoon Morakot/Kiko had risen to 23 (with 14 in Bagio City, Benguet due to landslides; six in Capas, Tarlac; one in Bautista, Pangasinan; one in Botolan, Zambales, and one in Mandaluyong City). Of the six who died in Capas, two were French nationals and one, Belgian. Meanwhile, 18 people were reported injured (with 12 in Bagio City, Benguet, and six French nationals in Santa Juliana, Capas, Tarlac). Three people are reported still missing due to the landslide in Kias, Bagio City. The NDCC reports a total of 57 houses damaged.

The NDCC said Morakot/Kiko had displaced 18,618 families (some 94,211 people) in 118 villages in four cities, and 19 municipalities in 11 provinces. Up to 57 houses have been destroyed.

Of these, 2,926 families or 11,218 people were moved to 16 evacuation centres. A total of 5,067 families (some 25,120 persons) affected were assisted with various forms of relief ([click here for annex detailing relief provided](#)).

The typhoon also caused damage in the provinces of Cagayan Valley, Central Luzon, Cordillera, Benguet, Tarlac, Pampanga, and Metro Manila. According to the NDCC, damage to property in Benguet, Tarlac, Zambales and Pampanga provinces are estimated between PHP 40,424,700 (CHF 919,430) and PHP 42,009,700 (CHF 955,480) in infrastructure and PHP 1,585,000 (CHF 36,000) in agriculture. Several highways and link roads have been affected either due to landslides, flooding or broken bridges. Meanwhile, police personnel have been helping the department of public works and highway to clear roads affected by landslides.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Red Cross organizations on both the Chinese mainland and Taiwan have called for people to make donations in relieving the disaster.

The Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) has offered to send help and relief to Taiwan in the wake of the massive destruction. On 10 August, on behalf of the Fujian branch of the RCSC, the Fujian branch president donated CNY 1 million (CHF 158,000) to ongoing relief efforts during a visit to Taiwan's Red Cross Organization (TRCO) in Taipei.

On 11 August, the executive vice president of the RCSC sent a letter of condolences to TRCO. On behalf of



Relief goods sent out for the most affected areas in Wenzhou Zhejiang by Zhejiang Red Cross. Zhejiang Red Cross

RCSC and RCSC staff and members, the executive vice president of the RCSC shows her great concern to the affected people in Taiwan, salutes TRCO staff and members, and expressed willingness to strengthen the cooperation in disaster relief and humanitarian work. RCSC is willing to do its best to provide any possible support and help to TRCO respond to the disaster.

In Fujian, the Fujian branch of RCSC dispatched 1,500 family kits to the most affected counties Xiapu, Tuerong, Fuding in Nide prefecture on 11 August. Each family kit consists of hygiene items, towels, flip-flops, spoons and other everyday items and could meet a three-person family's week consumption needs. Meanwhile, RCSC headquarters allocated water purification liquids, environment disinfection liquid and quilts to Fujian.

In Zhejiang, the first batch relief items including rice, cooking oil, fast noodles, bottled drinking water and quilts were sent to Taishun county of Wenzhou City, the most affected area in Zhejiang, on 10 August. The Zhejiang branch of the RCSC has launched an appeal to call for more support on fast food, drinking water, autumn clothes, quilts and other items. Before Morakot made landfall in Zhejiang, the Zhejiang branch of the RCSC donated 600 first aid boxes to fishermen in Zhoushan area, the biggest sea fishing area in Zhejiang, to help prepare the community.

Prior to the onset of the typhoon, the Philippines National Red Cross (PNRC), through its operation centre at the headquarters (which is active 24 hours a day all year) has been disseminating weather reports from the meteorological department. Alerts were also sent to the various PNRC chapters concerned several times daily. Meanwhile, the operation centres have been continuously monitoring the situation in the affected chapters and reporting to the various departments of PNRC and officials concerned.

PNRC staff and trained volunteers from the various chapters have been assisting various people affected by floods over the last months due to the monsoon rain and as a result of the various typhoons that have passed through the Philippines. Since 6 August, hundreds of volunteers have been mobilized in the various flood-affected parts of the country to assist in search-and-rescue operations, providing first aid to the injured, distributing food and non-food relief items, and assessing needs in the areas of health, water and sanitation. PNRC emergency response unit (ERU) teams have been dispatched to the various locations to assist the chapters. Food and non-food items from the PNRC central warehouse have been dispatched to areas requiring assistance. Meanwhile the PNRC chapters themselves in the affected areas are procuring food and other essential items from their local funds. These chapters are also working in coordination with the local authorities and others on the ground.



Philippine National Red Cross officials help in the distribution of relief items to communities affected by Typhoon Morakot. PNRC.

High-level officials from the PNRC have visited some of the affected areas and are helping supervise relief operations. Weather has started to improve since 10 August and roads are now passable to and within many of the affected areas. However, two assessments teams from the headquarters were dispatched today (12 August) to the two most affected provinces for a more detailed assessment. The International Federation country office in the Philippines is working very closely with the PNRC and is providing financial support for the procurement of additional relief items. ICRC has provided non-food items to PNRC for distribution to the affected people in the conflict areas.

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 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:

- Philippine National Red Cross: Gwendolyn T. Pang, secretary-general; email: gwenpang@redcross.org.ph, pnrnhq@redcross.org.ph; phone: +632 525 5654; fax: +632 527 0857
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Typhoon Morakot/Kiko and Typhoon "Jolina" Operations
Status Report as of 11 August 2009 @ 10:00 P.M.

CHAPTER	Number of families affected	Number of families assisted	Assistance Extended
Zambales	5,123 families affected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,506 persons received food assistance • 699 families received food assistance consisting of five kilos rice, three tins sardines and five packs noodles • 266 families received hygiene kits • 266 families received mats and blankets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated food supplies for three days to people in six evacuation centres, feeding 2,506 persons • Provided meals to approximately 1,000 stranded passengers last 7 Aug. • 699 received food items • 266 received non-food items and hygiene kits • Assessment team deployed to the area to conduct detailed assessment
Nueva Ecija	No families reported affected, and evacuated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter provided snacks and bottled water to 2,503 persons (stranded passengers) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snacks and bottled water • Operation was closed on the same day as the road was cleared early evening of the same day.
Benguet	16 families were affected by the landslide.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 families served • Provided mats and blankets and bath soap to 16 families or 78 persons in Itogon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bath soap and mats • Food for work to some barangays for the road clearing
Laguna	55 families Flooding occurred in Municipality of Sta Cruz affecting 109 families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local government unit serve all the 55 families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operations closed as of 11 August 2009
Baguio	<p>Landslides occurred in 3 barangays affecting 3 houses, 2 of which are totally damaged while one is partially damaged.</p> <p>* 5 people were killed as a result of the landslide</p> <p>* 23 Miners were buried in the said landslide, 9 were rescued and were brought to Baguio General</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assisted in the rescue efforts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assisted in the rescue efforts

Annex 1

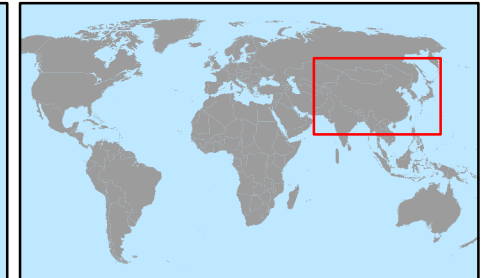
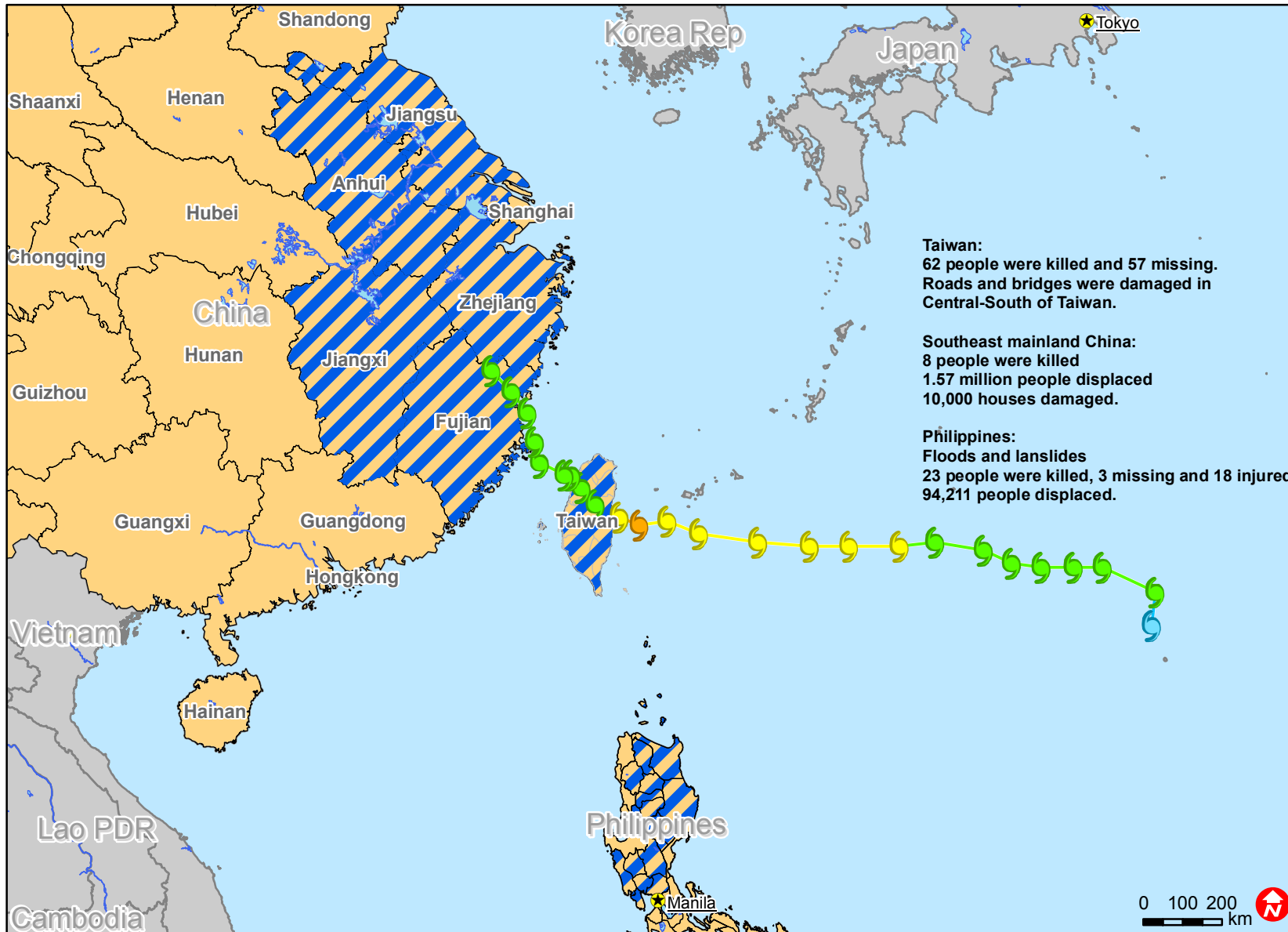
	<p>* 12 miners were killed and rescuers were able to recover their bodies. * 2 miners are still missing.</p>		
Tarlac	<p>Aug 6, the heavy rains caused flashflood and mudflow in the slope of Mt. Pinatubo, Capas Tarlac side. At that time 12 tourists were trekking the Capas side accompanied by one local guide when the flashflood and mudflow occurred.</p> <p>As a result of the mudflow, three tourists and their guide were killed. A local village official who tried to rescue the group was also killed bringing the total fatalities to 5. The remaining 9 tourist were rescued.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter deployed its search and rescue team together with the government rescue team and was part of the rescue and retrieval operation 	<p>Operations closed on the same day (Aug 6, 2009)</p>
Pangasinan-Dagupan	<p>Due to the heavy rains some areas in Pangasinan were flooded last August 8, however no evacuation centers were set up as the water immediately subsided</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring 	<p>Operations closed last August 10</p>
Valenzuela City	<p>4 families evacuated</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No assistance provided as the LGU is able to provide the needs of the affected families 	<p>Operations closed</p>
Palawan	<p>10,778 families (numbers to be verified)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 359 families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food supplies consisting of 5 kilos rice, 3 tins sardines and 5 packs noodles Assessment team consisting of NHQ personnel was deployed to conduct detailed assessment
Cotabato	<p>82,100 families affected (numbers to be verified)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2,379 families received food packs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food packs contains two kg rice, 5 tins sardines, 5 noodles

Annex 1

(Conflict area)		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1,500 families served with NFI donated by ICRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Non-food items - consist cooking pots, blanket, mats, utensils (spoon, fork) tarpaulin, jerry cans
General Santos City	3,061 families	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1,210 families	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Food items• Closed the operation on August 8, 2009



Asia: Typhoon Morakot



- Capitals
 - Affected areas
- Typhoon Morakot**
3 - 9th, August 2009
- Typhoon 2
 - Typhoon 1
 - Tropical Storm
 - Tropical Depression