
Information Bulletin n° 1
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16 July 2012

This bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The Red Cross Society of China (RCSC), with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), has determined that external assistance is not required, and is therefore not seeking funding or other assistance from donors at this time.

Torrential rains and floods continued to hit southern and northern China since the end of April. At least 147 counties in 22 provinces across the country were affected by floods, landslides and mudslides. According to a statement from the government, up to mid-May, due to continuous rains and floods at least 102 people have died, 30 missing, 13,119,000 affected, and 318,000 relocated. A total of 143,000 houses collapsed or were severely destroyed, while 949,400 hectares of farmland were damaged. Total direct economic losses had reached CHY 16,880 million¹ (approximately CHF 2.6 million).



Affected area in Sichuan province. **Photo:** Sichuan Red Cross.

A new round of rain storms starting in late June have killed at least 61 people with 11 others missing in 10 provinces affecting approximately 17.44 million people in Jiangsu, Anhui and Shandong provinces in the east; Hunan, Hubei, Jiangxi provinces in central China; Guangxi and Guangdong provinces in the south; Chongqing Municipality and Sichuan Province in southwest; and Shaanxi province and Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region in northwestern China. Latest reports state 1.17 million people have been evacuated, while about 982,400 hectares of farmland have been affected by bad weather and about 66,000 houses have collapsed.

The Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) has issued a level IV emergency response and continuously supports the affected population with emergency relief supplies.

[<click here to view the map of the affected area, or here for detailed contact information>](#)

The situation

The first round of rainstorms from April to May

Since the end of April, heavy rains across at least 147 counties of 22 provinces in southern and northern China have triggered extensive floods, landslides and mudslides. According to compiled figures of the Ministry of Civil Affairs, by May 16 the rainstorms had already caused 102 lives to be lost, 30 missing, 13,119,000 affected, 143,000 houses collapsed or were severely destroyed with 318,000 relocated, and

¹ All floods situation source is from Ministry of Civil affairs.

949,400 hectares of farmland damaged. Total direct economic losses to mid-May had reached CNY 16,880 million (approximately CHF 2.6 million). Gansu, Hunan and Jiangxi provinces had suffered the most severe impact in the early months.

The second round of rainstorms since late June

In late June, a new round of rainstorms continued to hit Jiangsu, Anhui and Shandong provinces in eastern China, Hunan, Hubei, Jiangxi provinces in central China, Guangxi and Guangdong provinces in southern China, Chongqing Municipality and Sichuan province in southwest China, and Shaanxi province and Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region in northwest China.

Estimated disaster figures from June 20 until early July for the 10 most affected provinces:

* Figures are in estimation as there are different dates of provincial government disaster report

Province/ municipality	Number of dead	Number of Missing	Number of affected	Number of displaced	Number of houses destroyed	Farmland damaged (hectare)	Direct economic losses (CNY)
Jiangxi	1	/	815,000	136,000	5,700	73,400	1,700,000,000
Hunan	3	2	1,946,000	111,000	11,200	105,600	/
Guangxi	9	1	843,500	114,700	3,121	51,860	3,890,000
Guizhou	/	/	805,000	111,000	7,933	29,200	/
Guangdong	8	3	/	30,000	3,600	27,900	7,100,000
Inner Mongolia	19	/	500,000	211,000	6,000	194,500	6,500,000
Sichuan	13	1	4,607,000	249,000	75,000	125,700	/
Chongqing	4	1	2,023,000	151,000	13,000	96,300	3,000,000
Shaanxi	2	3	856,000	139,000	56,000	60,200	/
Shandong	2		2,068,000	164,000	4,200	74,500	/

On July 11, floods in the low lying area in Dazhou city of Sichuan province had caused the evacuation of 220,000 people; an additional 3,200 houses were destroyed and 17,733 hectares of crops in the area were inundated. Mudslides had blocked the highway crossing from Sichuan into the Tibetan Autonomous Region. In neighbouring Shaanxi province, a weeklong rainstorm had disrupted the lives of 530,000 people in 33 counties in the province.

Continuous rain is forecasted to continue in the coming days, with the usual flood and typhoon season arriving in the region. There is high possibility that flooding and rain-triggered disasters will be more frequent with a more severe scale than the past year.

In response to the disasters, apart from the emergency relief from each of the provincial governments, the China Ministry of Civil affairs had started a level IV emergency response at the end of April and later raised to a level III on May 11. Immediate relief assistance was sent to these worst hit provinces.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

In the past months, in addition to the response to flooding throughout many regions in the country, the RCSC had responded to two earthquakes disaster a magnitude 5.7 earthquake in Yunnan province and a magnitude 6.6 earthquake in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. An assessment team was dispatched on June 24 to Yunnan, while 6,000 quilts, 2,000 family kits, 500 tents and CNY 100,000 (CHF 15,511) emergency funds were sent out to the two quake-hit areas.



RCSC national headquarters sent relief supplies to Sichuan province.
Photo: Sichuan Red Cross.

While resources have been continuously put towards these disasters since the flooding started, the RCSC had closely monitored the situation and immediately started a level IV emergency response plan in Guangxi, Jiangxi, Sichuan and Hunan provinces, and Inner Mongolia autonomous region where the situation deteriorated. Apart from assessments and relief efforts provided by provincial Red Cross branches, the RCSC headquarters had mobilized the support to the most severely hit provinces. Relief supplies were sent to the southern provinces, Inner Mongolia autonomous region and Shandong and Shaanxi provinces, including 19,000 quilts, 11,282 family kits, 3,000 jackets, 650 tents and CNY 250,000 (approximately CHF 39,000) emergency funds. The total value of supplies distributed by RCSC national headquarters for floods and earthquakes is CNY 7.07 million (approximately CHF 1.1 million).

The RCSC national headquarters and IFRC regional delegation are monitoring the situation closely, especially in relation to recent rains and floods in central and southern China and are ready to mobilize more assistance when needed.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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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.

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.

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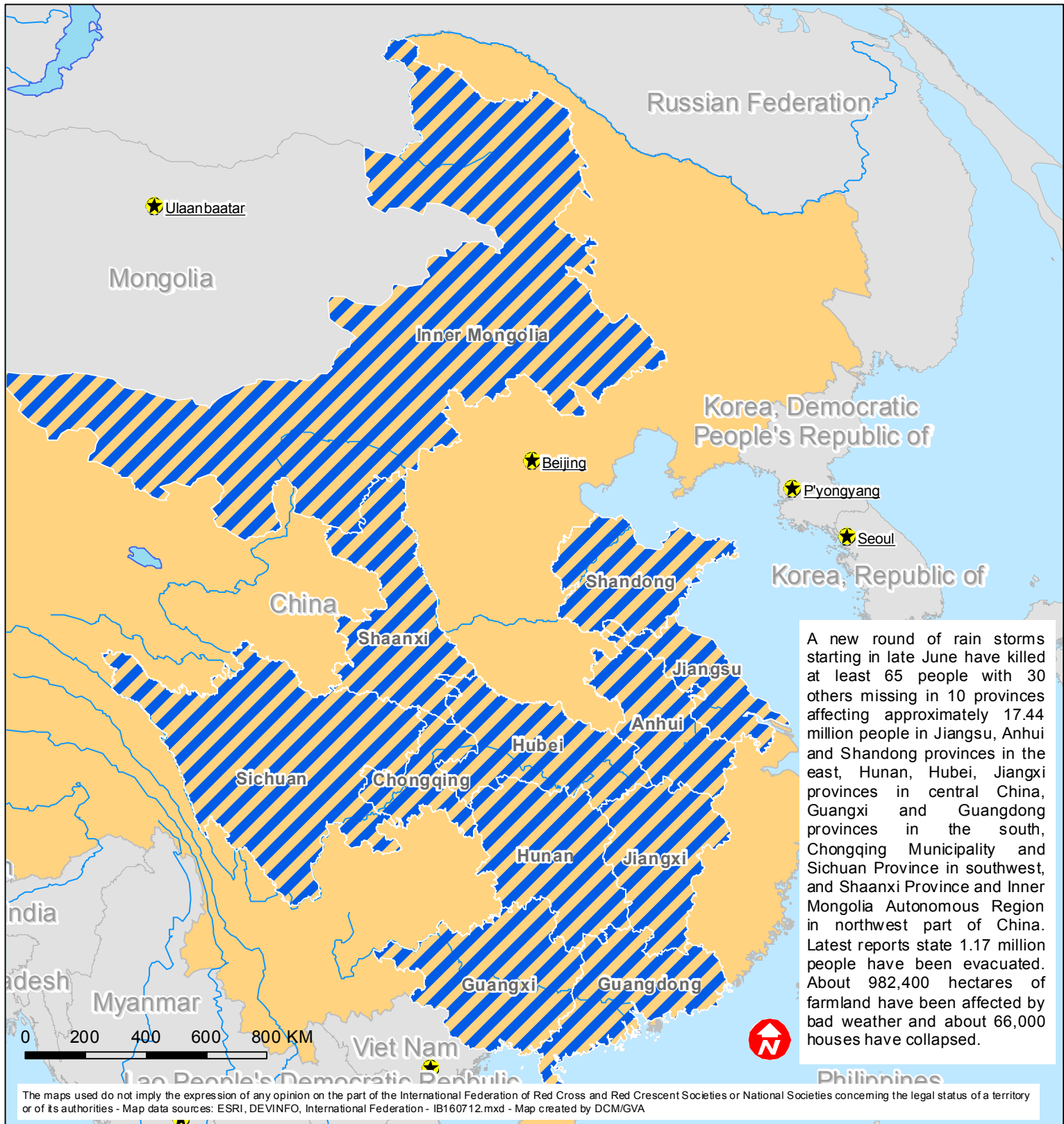



The IFRC's work is guided by [Strategy 2020](#) which puts forward three strategic aims:

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.
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China: Floods



 Affected provinces