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Information bulletin

Democratic People's Republic of Korea: Typhoon Bolaven

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Information Bulletin n° MDRKP001
GLIDE n° [TC-2012-000159-PRK](#)
5 September 2012

This bulletin reflects the current situation and details available at this time. As the rainy season is still unfolding, with reports of more damage coming every day, the Red Cross Society of Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK RCS), together with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) are considering requesting funds from IFRC's disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) in the coming days. Support channelled through the DPRK Red Cross's longer-term planning framework under the emergency planning component is also welcomed.



Tanchon County affected by typhoon Bolaven. Photo: DPRK Red Cross.

Since July, most parts of DPRK were hit by consecutive floods caused by torrential rains. The impact of these floods was exacerbated when typhoon Bolaven hit on 28 August. While information on the extent of damage is slowly coming in, according to data provided by the DPRK government, as of 3 September, at least 59 persons are dead, 1 is injured and 50 are missed. A total of 5,766 dwelling houses have been partially or totally damaged and 2,192 houses are submerged.

In response to the latest typhoon, DPRK RCS, with the support of IFRC, released 2,515 emergency relief kits, including quilts with covers, cooking sets, plastic sheets, jerry cans, hygiene kits and water purification tablets, which were distributed to the flood affected families covering 11,604 beneficiaries in three provinces.

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

The situation

Successive torrential rains and tropical storms have caused extensive flooding from at the end of August, severely damaging buildings, infrastructure and crops throughout the DPRK especially in south and north Pyongan, south and north Hwanghae, south and north Hamgyong, Jagang and Ryanggang provinces.

On 28-30 August, Typhoon Bolaven hit, worsening the flood situation for DPRK especially in south and north Hwanghae, south and north Hamgyong, Kangwon and Ryanggang provinces. Preliminary information released by the government indicate that as of 3 September, at least 59 persons are dead, 1 is injured and 50 are missed. A total of 5,766 dwelling houses have been partially or totally damaged and 2192 houses are submerged.

Up to 52,299 hectares of crop land were submerged, buried or washed away aggravating food situation in the country.

The tables reflect the flood damage reported by the government as of 3 September:

Casualty and dwelling house damage

Affected areas	28-29 Aug (Typhoon Bolaven)							
	Total	Dead	Injured	Missing	Total	Destroyed	Damaged	Submerged
	person	person	person	person	household	household	household	household
Total	110	59	1	50	7958	3493	2273	2192
South Phyongan	8	8			823	714	21	88
North Phyongan					13	3	10	-
South Hwanghae					119	19	100	-
North Hwanghae					386	14	185	187
South Hamgyong	93	48		45	3952	2405	316	1231
Kangwon	1		1		229	25	90	114
Rygang	4	1		3	1174	178	424	572
Nampo city					97	-	97	-
North Hamgyong	4	2		2	1160	135	1025	-
Rason city					5	-	5	-

Arable land damage

Affected area	Total	Submerged (hectare)	Buried (hectare)	Washed away (hectare)	Crop fallen (hectare)
Total		4473.8	101.7	593.9	47131.3
South Phyongan	381		10		371
North Phyongan	23.5				23.5
South Hwanghae	23351	1014.6	1.7	8.4	22326.3
North Hwanghae	6027.3	149			5878.3
South Hamgyong	13876.6	2306.3	45	303.4	11221.9
Kangwon	2004.4	18			1986.4
Rygang	1399.1	417.3	1	106.1	874.7
North Hamgyong	3846.6	568.6	44	176	3058
Pyongyang city	4.2				4.2
Nampo city	147				147
Rason city	1240				1240

Public building damage

Affected area	Total		Destroyed		Damaged		Submerged	
	building	m ²	building	m ²	building	m ²	building	m ²
Total	877	51052	284	32407	587	16225	6	2420
South Phyongan	1	330	1	330				
North Phyongan	2	20	1	13	1	7		
South Hwanghae	17	695	4	319	13	376		
North Hwanghae	16	4701	2	2330	14	2371		
Kangwon	11	986	2	440	9	546		

South Hamgyong	294	2810 2	238	2450 5	56	3597		
Ryanggang	470	9181	11	1729	458	5472	1	1980
North Hamgyong	49	6393	25	2741	24	3652	5	440
Nampo city	12	204			12	204		

Industrial building damage

Affected area	Total		Destroyed		Damaged		Submerged	
	buildin g	m ²	buildin g	m ²	buildin g	m ²	buildin g	m ²
Total	91	11577	43	3448	43	7514	5	615
South Phyongan	2	55	2	55				
North Phyongan					1	44		
South Hwanghae	13	584	12	578	1	6		
North Hwanghae	16	2135	1	50	15	2085		
Kangwon	17	2673	14	1507	3	1166		
South Hamgyong	20	1792	5	352	11	990	4	450
Ryanggang	15	3433	5	468	10	2965		
North Hamgyong	5	630	2	207	2	258	1	165
Rason city	4	462	4	462				

Road and bridge breakdown

Affected area	Road		Bridge	
	Point	m ²	Point	m
Total	1273	1730947	283	18036
South Phyongan	1	99		
South Hwanghae	9	176		
North Hwanghae	4	236	10	870
Kangwon	1	1650		
South Hamgyong	1185	1561325	160	5670
Ryanggang	16	56430	45	1403
North Hamgyong	57	111031	68	10093

The government immediately responded to the floods, which included providing emergency relief items to flood-affected people, rehabilitating the damaged infrastructure and taking measures to prevent future flooding.

- Early warning and evacuation
- Search and rescue
- Tracing service for the missing
- Rehabilitation and recovery of infrastructure
- Provision of emergency food to the disaster affected people
- Provision of emergency relief items
- Repairing of dam and embankment
- Repairing of damaged houses

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

DPRK RCS, together with IFRC, has already been responding to floods affecting the country since July, and distributed emergency relief items to 9014 families (40,026 persons) in 16 counties of six provinces, in close coordination and support from the government. In response to Typhoon Bolaven, an additional 2,515 families were supported with emergency relief items.

Before the start of rainy season, DPRK RCS activated its emergency task force at headquarter and branch level in close coordination with the national disaster prevention committee. National Disaster Response Teams (NDRT) and Provincial Disaster Response Teams (PDRT) were placed on high alert. Several workshops and trainings including the damage and need assessment, standard operation procedures for disaster response, emergency water and sanitation and emergency health were held across the country targeting for Red Cross staff and volunteers, officers at local authorities.

A rapid assessment was conducted by some local volunteers in the aftermath of Typhoon Bolaven in affected communities, who collected the following information. This information will be verified by NDRT and PDRT members once access to the affected areas have improved.

Preliminary reports indicate that houses were partially or totally damaged, and some of the affected people moved in with their neighbours and relatives, while others are living under temporary shelters and public buildings. The local government is engaged in the reconstruction of public service facilities and rehabilitation of infrastructure and damaged houses. Meanwhile, flooding of water sources has reduced the quality of water available in the affected areas. Pumps stations were also submerged and pipelines damaged, further hampering the supply of safe drinking water.

Furthermore, damaged crops due to flooding of arable land is expected to threaten the food security situation in the affected areas. Most affected families reported sudden loss of food stocks due to the floods.

Provincial Red Cross branches are coordinating with local government and provincial flood damage prevention committees to constantly assess the damage and needs. They are also closely monitoring the food and nutrition status of the affected population in close coordination with local authorities.

Red Cross volunteers at community level were mobilized in rescue, evacuation and first aid services to the affected people. DPRK RCS has distributed emergency relief items like tarpaulins, quilts, cooking set, jerry can, hygiene kit and water purification tablets to 2,515 most affected families (11,604 beneficiaries) as follows.

Province	Quilt	Cooking set	Jerry can	Water purification tablets
South Hamgyong	7,332	1,583	1,583	439,920
North Hamgyong	2,974	645	645	178,440
Ryanggang	1,298	287	287	77,880
Total	11,604	2,515	2,515	696,240

IFRC's stock of relief items is severely depleted, therefore, with growing needs in the field, it is not possible to address this need at the moment. Procurement to replenish these stocks began in August, but will require some time before the items are delivered.

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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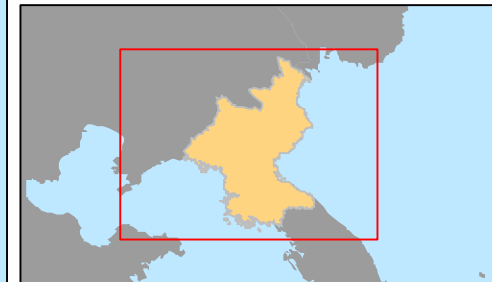
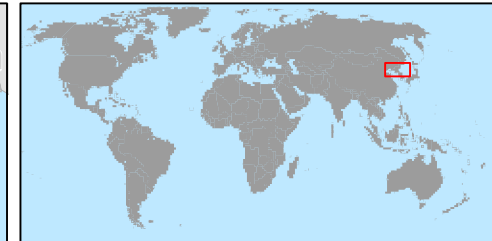
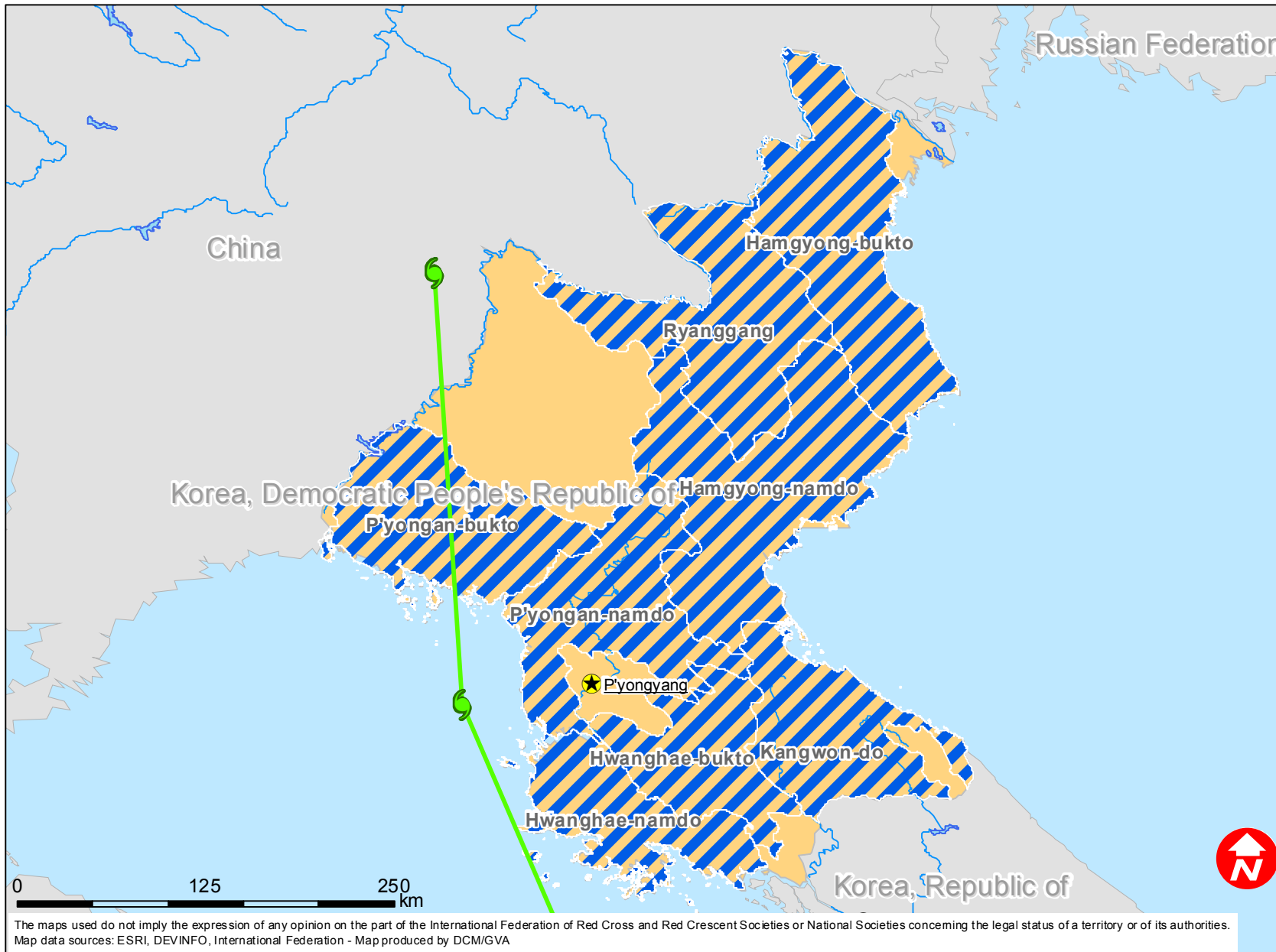


The IFRC's work is guided by [Strategy 2020](#) which puts forward three strategic aims:









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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Bolaven

-  TROPICAL DEPRESSION
-  TROPICAL STORM
-  TYPHOON-1
-  TYPHOON-2
-  TYPHOON-3
-  TYPHOON-4
-  SUPER TYPHOON-4
-  Affected provinces