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## Information bulletin China: Earthquake

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

**Information Bulletin n° 1**  
**GLIDE no: EQ-2013-000080-CHN**  
**22 July 2013**

**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.**

A 6.6-magnitude earthquake jolted a juncture region of two counties in northwest China's Gansu Province on 22 July. The epicentre, with a depth of 20 kilometres, was monitored at 34.5 degrees north latitude and 104.2 degrees east longitude. A total of 371 aftershocks were felt with the largest magnitude of 5.6. As of reporting time, the death toll has risen to 75 people and another 604 people injured.



Rescuers search for survivors in the debris of houses devastated by the earthquake in Minxian county, Dingxi city - 22 July 2013. Photo/icpress.cn

The Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) Gansu Red Cross provincial branch's assessment and response team immediately departed from the capital city of Gansu province towards the

affected areas shortly after the earthquake hit this morning. A work team from the RCSC headquarters has also departed to Gansu to provide support in needs assessment and initial relief distribution. Relief items from both the branch and the headquarters have been despatched at the same time.

A health emergency response team (ERT) of RCSC Gansu branch comprising of approximately 20 members and a psychosocial support ERT comprising of four members have also departed to Minxian county.

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Society's (IFRC) East Asia regional delegation and Asia Pacific zone office are closely monitoring the situation together with the RCSC and ready to provide international assistance if needed.

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

## The situation

A 6.6-magnitude earthquake hit a juncture region of Minxian County and Zhang County in northwest China's Gansu Province on 22 July. To date, a total of 75 people have been reported dead, 14 missing and 604 injured. A total of 27,300 people have been relocated. It has also been reported that 402 houses have collapsed and 5,630 houses were damaged.

Strong tremors were felt by the local people in the Minxian County in Dingxi City as well as the neighbouring cities of Longnan, Tianshui, Gannan, Baiying and the provincial capital city of Lanzhou. Xi'an, capital of the neighbouring Shaanxi Province was also reported to have felt the quake.

The China Earthquake Administration started a second-grade (first grade is the highest) earthquake response and despatched rescue teams to the affected areas. The state disaster prevention committee and ministry of civil affairs are proactively sending resources and personnel to assist with the response and rescue work. Gansu provincial government earthquake rescue team deployed 120 rescue specialists and medical staff, and the local police mobilized 300 members to join the rescue efforts. Gansu provincial civil affair department immediately mobilized some 1,500 tents, 4,000 quilts and 2,000 folding beds to the worst affected areas. The ministry of civil affairs also sent out 10,000 tents, 30,000 quilts, 5,000 folding beds and 10,000 sleeping bags.

Heavy rain is forecasted in the affected areas in the coming days and is feared to cause continuous damage by landslides or houses collapsing.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) Gansu Red Cross provincial branch staff have departed for the affected areas 15 minutes after the earthquake this morning and are collecting firsthand information for further response actions. A work team from the RCSC headquarters is on the way to Gansu for needs assessment and initial relief distribution.

As of now, 200 tents, 2,000 jackets and 1,000 family kits were sent out from RCSC Regional disaster response and preparedness warehouse in Xi'an (capital of Shaanxi province), and 3,000 quilts and 3,000 jackets from the its warehouse in Ningxia province. The total value is CNY 991,800 (CHF 152,345). The RCSC Gansu provincial branch has also distributed 50 tents, 1,000 quilts and 1,000 jackets from their provincial warehouse. A total of 1,000 boxes of instant noodles and five tons of bottled water are being procured by provincial staff and will be sent out later today.

A health emergency response team (ERT) of RCSC Gansu branch comprising of approximately 20 members and a psychosocial support ERT comprising of four members have departed for Minxian county. All of them are volunteers from hospitals in Lanzhou (capital of Gansu province).

## Contact information

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

- **National Society:** Ms Zhang Ming, director of external relations department; email: [rcsc@redcross.org.cn](mailto:rcsc@redcross.org.cn); phone: +86 1064048366, fax +861064029928.
- **IFRC East Asian regional office in Beijing:** phone: +86 1065327162, fax: +86 1065327166
  - Mr. Martin Faller, head of office; email: [martin.faller@ifrc.org](mailto:martin.faller@ifrc.org); mobile: +86 13511075162
  - Mr. Francis Markus, communications delegate; email: [francis.markus@ifrc.org](mailto:francis.markus@ifrc.org); mobile: +81 3910096892
- **IFRC Asia Pacific zone office in Kuala Lumpur:** phone: + 60 3 92-7 5700, fax: +60 321610670
  - Ms Karen Poon, operations coordinator; email: [karen.poon@ifrc.org](mailto:karen.poon@ifrc.org), mobile: +6013360 0366
  - Mr Patrick Fuller, zone communications manager; email: [patrick.fuller@ifrc.org](mailto:patrick.fuller@ifrc.org); mobile: +6012 230 8451

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1. Map [below](#)
  2. [Return](#) to the title page
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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.

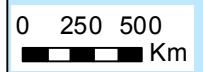
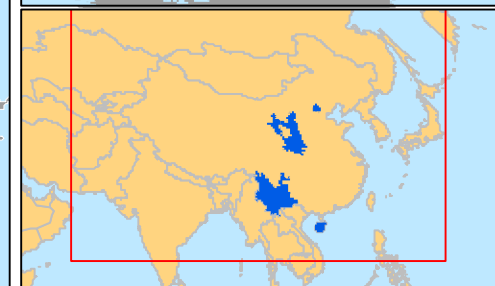
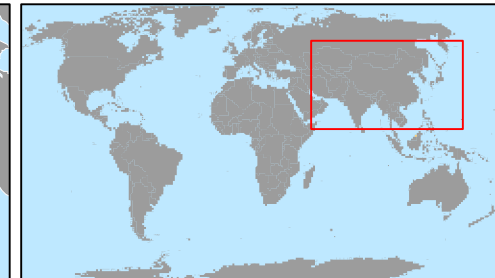


The IFRC's work is guided by [Strategy 2020](#) which puts forward three strategic aims:

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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Map data sources: ESRI, IFRC. Produced by PMER/KUL