

OPERATIONS UPDATE



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

DPRK: FLOODS

9 November 2001

Appeal No. 34/2001

Launched on October 16, 2001 for CHF 815,000 for 4 months.

Beneficiaries: 1,200 families (12,000 people)

Operations Update No.2; Period covered: 22 October - 5 November; First Programme Update (no. 1) issued: 22 October 2001

“At a Glance”

Appeal coverage: 77%

Related Appeals: East Asia regional programmes 01.47/01

Outstanding needs: CHF 187,058

The Disaster/Situation: Between 9 and 10 October, 36 hours of torrential rain and high tides struck two cities and three counties in Kangwon Province, in the eastern part of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, causing more than 120 casualties and making thousands homeless. Many of the most vulnerable have received essential relief items from the DPRK Red Cross and Federation Disaster Management stocks. The Federation and DPRK Red Cross are planning a second phase of local procurements to ensure that affected persons receive jackets and shoes before the start of winter as well as to resupply the depleted disaster preparedness stocks.

Operational Developments:

The rehabilitation of the areas affected by this sudden onset disaster has gathered pace. Since the last Bulletin, the Government and local population within the affected areas have managed to clear much of the silt and sand on main roads. However, damage to infrastructure, especially main bridges and rail links, will take time to repair. Many of the most vulnerable have now received essential relief items from the DPRK Red Cross/Federation Disaster Management stocks. The Federation and the DPRK RC have provided blankets, plastic sheeting, kitchen sets and water purification tablets to 1,200 homeless families. Final distributions to the remaining affected households in Wonsan City will be completed by 9 November, 2001. The DPRK RC have also released and distributed 100 metric tonnes of wheat to assist affected households in Wonsan City.

The Federation and DPRK RC are now planning the second phase of local procurements to ensure that affected persons receive winter jackets and shoes before the start of winter as well as to resupply the depleted disaster preparedness stocks in both the Central and Provincial warehouses.

Red Cross Red Crescent action w

The considerable contributions from national societies and other donors have enabled the Federation/DPRK RC to respond immediately to the disaster, by allowing them to release valuable stocks of disaster relief materials to the affected areas. The operation has been divided into two phases: Phase 1 - October to early November and Phase 2 - end November to mid December 2001.

During this reporting period, distributions of blankets, water purification tablets, kitchen sets (consisting of cooking pots, bowls, cups, buckets and chop sticks), plastic sheeting, and a 20 litre water container have been distributed in the worst affected ris (county administrative units) and dongs (city units) in the target Province. The newly arrived Regional Relief Delegate was able to monitor all the distributions carried out in the 12 ris in Anbyon and Tongchon counties between 30 October - 2 November.

The speed of response by DPRK RC and Federation has been mainly due to pre-positioned stocks. Part of the aim of this appeal is to ensure that all stocks used from the Disaster Preparedness warehouses are replenished to ensure that the National Society can react to future disasters.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Society w

The progress against the objectives outlined in the Appeal is provided below:

Objectives	Status
1. 150 first aid kits (dressing materials bandages, plaster and antiseptics) distributed to four hospitals in Wonsan City, Tongshon, Anbyon and Munchon counties and disaster preparedness warehouse stocks replenished by November 2001.	Following discussions with UNICEF/WHO, Munchon county was omitted from the Red Cross distribution as these agencies are now able to cover the needs in this county. Materials will either be procured or released from the current CBFA stock. Later to be replenished.
2. 300 first aid kits distributed to temporary and permanent first aid posts and disaster preparedness warehouse stocks replenished by November 2001.	As UNICEF is not able to supply the first aid posts in the affected areas, the Federation will go ahead with its plans to supply these kits. The Federation's Health Co-ordinator has defined the contents of these kits in consultation with the Federation's Health department.
3. 12,000 women, men and children receive blankets and disaster preparedness warehouse stocks replenished by November 2001.	Distributions to counties outside Wonsan were completed at the end of October with final distributions to Wonsan to be completed by the end of the first week of November. The procurement of replenishment stock is underway.
4. 2,700 families receive kitchen sets and disaster preparedness warehouse stocks replenished by December 2001.	Distributions to counties outside Wonsan were completed at the end of October, with final distributions within Wonsan City to be completed by the end of the first week of November. New kits were designed following lessons learnt from the 2000 Typhoon Operation, and based on input from female heads of households about the most needed items. The procurement of replenishment stock is underway and is likely to be completed by the end of December.
5. 2,700 families receive fuel for cooking.	Many families have sought shelter with friends and other family members, whilst new housing sites are located and houses constructed. The need for fuel is therefore less of a priority and this activity will be omitted from the revised appeal.
<p>6.1 One million water purification tablets procured and distributed to 2,700 households by December 2001.</p> <p>6.2 To rehabilitate the water supply for a catchment population of 309,000 in Wonsan City and surrounding villages.</p> <p>6.3 To rehabilitate sanitation systems in Wonsan City and 15 surrounding villages.</p>	<p>6.1 Distributions to counties outside Wonsan were completed at the end of October, with final distributions within Wonsan City to be completed by the end of the first week of November. In addition to Korean language instructions printed on each strip advising families on how to use the tablets, the local Red Cross, at each distribution point explained the usage of the tablets, and the need to boil water prior to adding the tablets. It is hoped that by distributing g these tablets, the cases of intestinal disease, which appear to be on the rise, due to the increased use of river water, will be reduced.</p> <p>6.2 Following further evaluations by the Federation's water and sanitation Delegate, the water and sanitation activities</p>

	<p>have been revised. The Federation will now only water supply pipes to five villages. At the end of October, a total of 3,800 mts of pipe was transported to target villages. The local population and Red Cross will work with the authorities to ensure that the pipes are laid and reconnected to the main systems.</p> <p>6.3 Following co-ordination with UN and other I.N.G.O's, it has been decided, given that the UNICEF is already planning to cover the majority of rehabilitation of sanitation systems in the affected region, that the Federation will no longer be involved in sanitation activities.</p>
<p>6. 5,400 collapsible water containers procured and distributed and disaster preparedness warehouse stocks replenished by January 2002.</p>	<p>Distribution will be completed in the first week of November. Suppliers now being sought to tender for the procurement of replenishment stocks.</p>
<p>7. All logistics processes relating to ECHO distributions meet Federation and ECHO requirements.</p>	<p>A dedicated senior Federation trained relief delegate from Beijing was identified and mobilised in the last week of November 2001 to oversee the operation. It has been decided, given the progress already made by the in country team of delegates, in the early weeks of the operation, that it will be unnecessary to employ an additional delegate to monitor and manage this operation. The disaster preparedness delegate will continue the work he started at the beginning of the operation and will, with the assistance from the HOD, Health, Logistics and Finance delegates, complete all necessary reporting, procurement and monitoring activities required to successfully complete the operation. Federation- trained logistics personnel are continuing to oversee all logistics processes related to operation.</p>
<p>8. Monitoring and evaluation processes are well planned and reports provide information about impact, service delivery, finances, human and physical resources.</p>	<p>Prior to the arrival of the Regional Relief Delegate on the 27 October, the HOD has traveled twice to affected area (20/21 and 24/25 Oct.). Following briefings by the HOD and the DPRK RC the Relief Delegate traveled to the affected area for a 4-day monitoring mission. Federation delegates have been present at 21 distribution sites which represent at least 95% of the total distribution taken place so far</p>

Distribution of Relief in Ist Phase (As of 9.10.2001)

County/City	No. households received assistance	Kitchen Sets	Water Containers	Water Purification Tablets	Plastic Sheeting	Blankets
<i>Tongchon County</i>	339	339	339	127'080	339	1'412
<i>Anbyon County</i>	473	473	473	169'380	473	1'882
<i>Wonsan City</i>	1'888	1'888	1'888	704'520	1'888	7'828
Total	2'700	2,700	2'700	848'530	2,700	11'122

Monitoring on Relief Distributions

The Regional Relief Delegate based in Beijing arrived in Pyongyang on 27 October, following the issuance of a visa by the DPRK Government. Following a period of briefing by the Delegation's HOD and the DPRK RC on the current situation, he left the capital on 30 September to travel to the affected areas.

The purpose of this mission was to follow the distribution of relief goods transferred from the DP stocks in the Central warehouse in Pyongyang to beneficiaries in the two affected counties of Tongchon and Anbyon as well as monitor the start of distributions in Wonsan City.

During the field trip to South Hamgyong and Kamgwon Provinces that took place between 30 September and 2 November, the Delegate was able to interview several persons affected by the disaster, not only at the distribution sites, but also in their temporary accommodation. Given the need to attend all the distributions, due

to time restraints, the delegate was not able to carry out the set 'target' of six interviews per distribution point. The delegate confined himself to at least one interview and one 'home visit' at each site.

The delegate was able to attend all the distributions in the two counties outside the main city (Anbyon and Tonchong) and the start of distributions within Wonsan city. He was able to witness the efficient delivery of relief stock by the DPRK RC. All of the goods (water containers, plastic sheeting, water purification tablets, family kitchen sets and blankets) had been delivered in advance to distribution points in the centre of each ri. Tallies made by the delegate showed no discrepancies from the distribution plan. Those persons who were to receive assistance had been given the timings of the distributions and were all in attendance at the distribution points prior to the arrival of the monitoring team. Prior to distributions starting, the main relief officer explained what was to be handed over as well as giving some advice on the use of the water purification tablets.

Most of these interviews were recorded by the DPRK RC Relief Officer and Relief Delegate and a number of photos of the distribution were recorded on both video, still and digital camera.

It was obvious from the visual appearance of those attending the distributions, as well as the home visits that followed, that the National Society in co-operation with the local authorities had selected the most vulnerable homeless families for assistance. Not only had they all lost their homes, but many were lone elderly women, pensioners or invalids who do not have the capacity to provide for themselves. Very few of those visited had managed to save any of their belongings during the flooding or salvage much once the waters had receded.

Some reconstruction (to new sites) is underway in the area. Most families interviewed had already been assigned new sites for their homes and in many ri some initial work, such as building the cement footings had already been completed. Some affected persons complained that they were still waiting for additional supplies of cement and other materials from the central government in order to complete the work on their new homes. There seemed to be a lot of resistance from families to relocate to safer areas, since this means moving from land they had lived on all their lives. Some were delaying their move until the 'Chinese cabbages' that they had planted had been harvest. Many families rely on the 'kimchi' that is produced from the crop as their main staple.

During the field trip the Delegate had several meetings with representatives from local government, the DPRK Red Cross local and HQ staff as well as meetings with visiting UNICEF and WFP staff.

Coordination of assistance with FDRC on distribution preparations

The Flood Damage Rehabilitation Committee (FDRC) of the Government of DPR Korea is responsible for all relief and rehabilitation activities following natural disasters. The DPRK RC is in regular contact with this agency to coordinate its response to the disaster.

Beneficiary lists prepared by DPRK RC/FDRC

Following the statistics received from the FDRC on the affected population, it was agreed that the Federation and DPRK RC would concentrate its resources on assisting the most vulnerable within the disaster areas. These were the homeless, who had lost not only their homes, but in most cases all their possessions, including furniture, clothing, food and fuel stocks. Using the total loss of their homes as a main vulnerability factor in determining which persons would received Red Cross assistance, the DPRK RC then instructed their branches in the two affected Provinces to work with the local FDRC to prepare detailed list of beneficiaries that fitted this criteria.

The relief delegate found that the criteria had been appropriate in identifying the most vulnerable households as many of the other affected population had the means to continue their lives, albeit with difficulty.

Independent checks on the quantity and equity of distributions

During the previously mentioned distribution monitoring mission carried out by the Federation Regional Relief delegate and a DPRK Red Cross DP and Relief team, a total of 20 distribution sites were visited during the distribution cycle to observe the distribution process. All the distributions in Anbyon and Tohgchon were visited (total of 12) as well as eight sites in the distributions in Wonsan City.

Red Cross staff and volunteers from the county level branches were responsible for establishing and operating the distributions and representatives from the DPRK RC Provincial and National HQs were present at each site to assist (and in some cases help in the training of) the Red Cross teams with the distributions. The main conclusions drawn by the Delegate were:

- All goods were stacked neatly ready for distribution, with protection matting on the ground.
- Following random checks of the stocks and distribution information, all stocks tallied with distribution plan and the number of beneficiaries present.
- Beneficiary registration and identification had been completed based on the Federation vulnerability guidelines (i.e. homeless families only).
- Beneficiary list had been established that included names of households, family size, items to be received. In one area in Anbyon, the Red Cross had also include the age of family members on the beneficiary list. This should be encouraged, as it allows data to be gathered that could be useful for future distributions of winter jackets and shoes.
- Each beneficiary was required to sign for receipt of goods - Given the full numeracy of the target population, all were able to provide legible signatures and it was not necessary to use the 'thumb prints' method employed in other parts of the East Asia region.

End user monitoring conducted

The Delegate interviewed beneficiaries at all of the distribution points as well as in a number of the households in temporary shelters. Beneficiaries were randomly selected and the interviews were conducted based on a standard monitoring questionnaire which aimed to identify not only their current needs, but also assistance received from the Red Cross (initial round of distributions) or any other government or non governmental agencies. The average household size of interviewed beneficiaries was 3.6. Many of the beneficiaries had already received some second hand clothes from neighbouring units that had not been affected by the floods. All reported that they had received their 'standard' food rations from the Government.

Family and community support to vulnerable people appears to be a common practice within DPRK following such disasters. All interviewees stated that they had been informed in advance about the Red Cross distributions. Communication regarding the upcoming distribution had been passed from the DPRK RC at Provincial level to their local Country branches, who had in turn passed this information to volunteers in the respective ris. To date all persons interviewed (men and women) expressed their satisfaction with the relief received.

During the next monitoring visit, planned from the 6 - 9 November, the Relief Delegate and DPRK RC will visit beneficiaries who received relief at distributions the Federation was not able to attend. It is hoped that these monitoring activities to households will provide more information on the acceptability of the assistance received. The Delegate will also monitor the use of water purification tablets.

National Society Capacity Building w

The DPRK RC with the support of the Federation has been involved from the onset of this disaster, in planning, implementing and monitoring of the relief operation. The National Society's intensive involvement in this and past operations has significantly strengthened the Society's disaster response capacity at national, provincial and county level. More specifically the National Society has gained skills in the following areas:

- Designing, reviewing and ensuring timely implementation of distributions;
- Development of beneficiary selection criteria;
- Establishment and coaching of community distribution committees;
- Monitoring distribution sites and systems;
- Household interviews;
- Establishment of procurement and logistics systems;
- Appeal preparation and donor reporting.

Federation Delegation w

Following the return of the Regional Relief Delegate to Beijing at the end of the first round of distributions, the resident DP Delegate, who helped develop the initial appeal, will take on the overall responsibility of the operation. With the assistance of the HOD, Finance, Logistics and Health Delegates that are currently assigned to DPRK, he will complete all the activities outlined in the appeal. The delegation also will continue to enjoy the strong support from the Federation's Regional Finance Unit in Kuala Lumpur.

Government Action

Following the significant damage to roads, bridges and rail links in the affected areas, the Government has been quick to respond by taking measures to open up the main routes into the flood area. In the short period between the return of the HOD and arrival of the Relief Delegate, much clearing up work had already been carried out. Main routes are now passable thanks to the efforts of the local population, who have been mobilised to create temporary routes around destroyed bridges and roads.

Some cement has been released by the central government to assist in the rehabilitation works, especially for the reconstruction of bridges and homes.

The HOD will continue to liaise with the FDRC through the DPRK RC in matters relating to the co-ordination of all Red Cross activities.

Coordination

The Federation and the DPRK Red Cross continue to liaise with the government and international partners at both local and central levels. Regular field monitoring visits to affected areas and Red Cross beneficiaries will be coordinated with local governments to continuously assess the disaster situation.

Outstanding needs

A revised appeal budget is being finalised to take into account changes to operational plans brought about by the interventions made by the UN.

For further details please contact: Aurelia Balpe, Phone : 41 22 7304352; Fax: 41 22 733 03 95; email: balpe@ifrc.org

All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

This operation seeks to administer to the immediate requirements of the affected persons of this disaster. Subsequent operations to promote sustainable development or longer-term capacity building will require additional support, and these programmes are outlined on the Federation's website.

For further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>.

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DPR Korea - Floods / mud slide						ANNEX 1
APPEAL No. 34/2001		PLEDGES RECEIVED			07.11.2001	
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
CASH						
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				815'000		TOTAL COVERAGE 77.0%
AUSTRIAN - RC		25'000	EUR	36'980	29.10.2001	
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID		46'147	GBP	108'907	24.10.2001	PROGRAMME EVALUATION COSTS, WINTER JACKETS
DANISH - RC		277'500	DKK	55'195	24.10.2001	
FINNISH - RC		42'047	EUR	62'196	22.10.2001	
ICELANDIC - RC		200'000	ISK	3'310	16.10.2001	
KOREA, REPUBLIC - RC		100'000	USD	162'400	22.10.2001	
SPANISH - RC		2'000'000	ESP	17'780	24.10.2001	
SWEDISH - GOVT		750'000	SEK	116'550	19.10.2001	RELIEF AND OPERATIONAL NEEDS
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				563'318	CHF	69.1%
KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID		27'383	GBP	64'624	24.10.2001	2'700 TARPULINS, 50 ROLLS OF PLASTIC SHEETING, TRANSPORT & INSURANCE
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				64'624	CHF	7.9%