

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

DPR KOREA: TRAIN EXPLOSION IN RYONGCHON COUNTY

30 June 2004

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilising the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organisation and its millions of volunteers are active in over 181 countries.

In Brief

Appeal No. 12/2004; Operations Update no. 05; Period covered: 6 May- 25 June, 2004; Appeal coverage: 69.9%; ([click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List, also available on the website](#)).

Appeal history: Launched on 26 April 2004 for CHF 1,652,000 (USD 1.25 million or EUR 1.06 million) for 12 months for 2,000 Families (10,000 people) for 12 Months; Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: CHF 50,000.

Outstanding needs : CHF 511, 846

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: [Annual Appeal 01.68/2004](#); [Emergency Appeal 12/2004](#)

Operational Summary: The assistance provided by the DPRK Red Cross and the International Federation to 1,850 families is being well received by the beneficiaries. The DPRK Red Cross and the Federation in co-ordination with the local government agencies and NGOs in the field are moving forward in regard to restoring the county's water supply system and rebuilding the polyclinic. A high level visit paid to DPRK by representatives from the Federation and PNS during the first week of June confirmed the effectiveness of the activities being conducted thus far in response to April's explosion.

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Operational Developments

The 1,850 families who lost their homes during the explosion continue to be housed in temporary shelters, as the primary focus in Ryongchon continues to be on reconstruction. Workers who have been brought in from all over the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) are working day and night as new buildings are being completed on a daily basis. The families who represent a diverse background of farmers, office workers and industrial workers and the community are directing all of their attention towards reconstructing their homes and the city's infrastructure.

The assistance provided by the DPRK Red Cross and the International Federation has been well appreciated by these families some of whom are also working as Red Cross volunteers. A visit from representatives of the leadership of the International Federation, the Republic of Korea Red Cross, the British Red Cross, the Canadian Red Cross, the Norwegian Red Cross and the Swedish Red Cross during the first week of June confirmed the effectiveness of the activities and the distribution of relief items being conducted in response to April's explosion thus far. The visit provided a good opportunity to raise awareness among the international community of both the effectiveness of the DPRK Red Cross and the continuing needs in DPRK in a press conference, arranged by the Federation which was held in Beijing on 9 June. Coverage about the situation by widely viewed networks such as CNN and BBC is a means of allowing the general public to have greater insight into the overall operational context.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overall appeal objective: The objective of this appeal is to address both the short term and long term needs of 1,850 families who lost their homes as a result of 22 April's explosion in Ryongchon county.

Phase I: Distribution of relief items from Red Cross disaster preparedness centres

Phase I project objective: To restock disaster preparedness warehouses in Sinuiju and Pyongyang with tarpaulins, quilts, jerry cans and 45 supplementary health kits.

The Danish Red Cross with funding from ECHO, and technical support from the DPRK Red Cross and the Federation has purchased 2,000 tarpaulins, 14,000 quilts, 5,040 jerry cans, and 45 supplementary health kits to replenish disaster preparedness supplies in the national society's disaster preparedness centres in Sinuiju, located some 5 kilometres from Ryongchon, and in Pyongyang. The items are expected to arrive in DPRK beginning at the end of July. The supplies being purchased with ECHO funding are critical to maintaining the society's level of preparedness. As the Ryongchon explosion demonstrated a society's capacity to respond quickly and effectively to sudden disasters depends on the availability of the appropriate emergency supplies. The DPRK Red Cross and Federation's long term disaster preparedness programme supported by the British Red Cross and DFID provided the society with the knowledge, training and the materials to respond quickly to the explosion. There is no doubt that the ongoing long term disaster preparedness and response training enabled the expedient action on the ground.

The Danish Red Cross is also purchasing an additional 3,700 quilts for the centres with funding from other sources.

Phase II (four months): Support for 1,850 homeless families

Phase II project objective: to provide 1,850 families (9,250 individuals) who lost their homes and their belongings in the explosion with:

- **1 set winter jacket and pants**
- **1 pair of winter shoes**
- **1 quilt**
- **300 kg of coal for cooking**

The coal for cooking is expected to arrive during the last week of June. Final distribution of the coal, however, is expected to take place around August/September when it is currently anticipated that beneficiary families will be moving from the temporary housing where they are currently based into their newly reconstructed permanent residences. For now, the beneficiaries are either being housed with other families or in public spaces that have been converted into shelters and thus lack the appropriate storage space for the coal. The coal therefore will be stored in the DPRK Red Cross warehouse until it is ready for distribution.

Winter jackets and shoes for the men, women, children and infants who were living in the households destroyed by the explosion are being procured in accordance with the Federation's logistics procedures. The tables below provide an overview of the quantities of the items which are being procured to meet the needs of the families.

Winter jackets and pants

No. of families	No. of beneficiaries	Size and Qty	XXL		XL		Large		Medium		Small		Infant	Total
			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
1,850	9,250	Unit												
		Pcs	1,500	500	1,400	750	800	1,200	600	1,000	400	400	700	9,250

- Please note sizing of clothing in DRPK differs to European or North American standards.

Winter Shoes

No. of families	No. of beneficiaries	Size And Qty.	42	40	39	38	37	36	35	32	30	28	Total
1,850	9,250		800	1,000	1,000	1,000	900	900	1,000	900	900	850	9,250

Staple items such as those being provided to the beneficiaries in Phase II with support from donors such as USAID/OFDA through the American Red Cross, the Australian government through the Australian Red Cross, and Austrian government through Austrian Red Cross will protect beneficiaries from DPRK's fierce winter climate as they make the transition back to their normal routine.

Phase III (12 months): Reconstruction of polyclinic and the restoration of the water supply

- Reconstruction and equipping of the polyclinic**

Phase III reconstruction project objective: To rebuild the 750 square meter polyclinic for use by the community as a diagnostic centre and for physical therapy.

Activities

DRPK Red Cross staff and the Federation's health and logistics coordinators have compiled a detailed list of the necessary items to properly equip the new polyclinic and a peripheral-level health laboratory. As the previous clinic was completely destroyed, items being purchased for the new polyclinic include standard laboratory equipment required for conducting basic medical tests and collecting specimens. Additionally, support from the Hellenic Government through the Hellenic Red Cross will be used for the procurement of a sonograph for the polyclinic, and cover the training costs for use of the sonograph for one staff member. Additionally UNHCR will be supporting the DPRK Red Cross and Federation's reconstruction activities.

- Restoration of the water supply**

The DPRK Red Cross and the Federation are providing temporary water sources during the period where the permanent water supply is being restored. Two 15m³ bladder tanks have been mobilised by the DPRK Red Cross and the Federation, and will be placed by the county hospital and polyclinic.

Phase III water supply project objective: To supply 27,000 people (total urban population) with 8,000 m³/day potable water.

On 18 June, the DPRK Red Cross and the Federation participated in a planning and co-ordination meeting where the designs, budget estimates and implementation timeframe for water supply and sewage system were presented to the contributing NGOs and agencies.

More comprehensive engineering drawings for the water supply and sewage system were presented at this meeting in addition to budget estimates, timeframes and the assignment of roles and responsibilities of the partners.

The whole water system will serve a total population of 27,000 people from four water sources to a 800 cubic meter storage tower and then gravity fed in two main directions: the first west of the main road to Sinuiju, and the other east of the main road to Sinuiju.

The draft timeframe for the completion of the whole system has been anticipated as September 2004. This will be revised accordingly.

Restoration of Ryongchon water supply: division of responsibilities.		West of Town		East of Town	
Organisation	Activities	No. of districts covered	Budget Estimate (Euros)	No. of districts covered	Budget Estimate/Components (Euros)
DPRK Red Cross/ International Federation	The area to the west of the road was most severely affected by the blast and therefore will be 100% covered by the Red Cross Emergency Appeal. The estimate for this has been calculated as EUR 250,000.	5	250,000 WSS & SEW: Pipes, fittings, pumps, transformers		
German Agro Action (GAA)	The area to the east has been divided into 3 sub-areas to make it easier for other organisations to choose and implement according to their respective budgets. One of these sub-areas will be covered by GAA for the water supply system as they will be responsible for the reconstruction of some public buildings. The estimate for this has been calculated as EUR 40,000.			3	40,000 WSS: Pipes and fittings
UNICEF	Unicef have offered to cover the water supply, and sewage system for the rest as well as the main pipe from the water sources to the storage tower. The estimate for this has been calculated as EUR 189,000.			4	89,000 WSS: (only 4 districts) Pipes and fittings 41,000 Main Pipe from source to water tower 5000 Electric cable 54,000 SEW: (for all 6 districts) Pipes and fittings
DPRK Government	The authorities have pledged to provide all the necessary materials for the construction of the pump houses, water tower and waste treatment plant.				

Activities

- Start procurement for all materials.
- Drilling of boreholes, supported by CESVI, is ongoing for temporary water supplies at the county hospital and new site for the Polyclinic.
- Plan for drilling of boreholes at new hospital in coordination with ADRA.
- Develop contingency plan in event that procurement goes beyond the implementation timeframe.

D.P.R. KOREA - Train Explosion

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 12/2004

PLEDGES RECEIVED

26/05/2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				1,684,000		TOTAL COVERAGE 69.6%
AMERICAN - RC		10,000	USD	12,735	27.04.04	DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLD PACKAGES TO AFFECTED FAMILIES
AMERICAN - GOVT/OFDA		100,000	USD	127,350	27.04.04	
AUSTRALIAN - GOVT		250,000	AUD	232,875	13.05.04	
AUSTRIAN - RC		50,000	EUR	77,975	30.04.04	
BRITISH - RC		15,000	GBP	34,358	04.05.04	
CANADIAN - GOVT/CIDA/IHA		100,000	CAD	97,600	26.04.04	
FINNISH - RC		50,000	EUR	77,975	27.04.04	
IRISH - RC		25,000	EUR	38,988	28.04.04	
JAPANESE - RC		83,195	USD	105,948	26.04.04	
KOREAN - RC		100,000	USD	127,350	04.05.04	
SINGAPORE - RC				70,000	29.04.04	
SWEDISH - RC		1,000,000	SEK	169,000	04.05.04	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				1,172,154	CHF	69.6%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
Note: due to systems upgrades in process, contributions in kind and services may be incomplete.						
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				0	CHF	0.0%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
REPUBLIC OF KOREA - RC		5,810,302	USD	7,399,420	10.05.04	BLANKETS, CLOTHES, MEDICINE, WATER, FOOD, KITCHEN SETS, RELIEF SETS, TRUCKS, VEHICLES , EXCAVATORS
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				7,399,420	CHF	