

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

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA: TRAIN EXPLOSION IN RYONGCHON COUNTY

23 August 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. 06; Period covered: 25 June to 20 August 2004; Appeal coverage: 115.7%; ([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 million (USD 1.25 million or EUR 1.06 million) for 12 months for 1,850 Families for 12 Months; Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: CHF 50,000.

Outstanding needs: none

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

Operational Summary: As the appeal has been more than fully covered and based on discussions held between representatives of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) Red Cross, the International Federation, the affected communities and local authorities, the scope of assistance provided through this appeal has been extended to cover some of the winter needs of the 6,360 families whose homes were damaged by the explosion and did not receive any assistance during the emergency phase.

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 powerful train explosion on 22 April in Ryongchon instantly destroyed some 1,850 homes and damaged a further 6,360 others. Over the past five months the government has managed to reconstruct nearly all homes damaged in the blast, and priority is now given to the installation of the county's sewage system. The affected families however are still in temporary housing and will be able to move back into their homes only once the construction is finalised.

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 replenishment of stock by the DPRK Red Cross for the Sinuiju city warehouse has already commenced and is expected to be completed by the first week of September. A total 2,500 kitchen sets that will replace the sets distributed to affected families in Ryongchon were received by the national society at their disaster preparedness warehouse in Pyongyang. Additionally, 2,000 tarpaulins procured by the Danish Red Cross with support from ECHO were received by the national society in DPRK and will be used to replace the tarpaulins distributed in the emergency phase.

Phase II: support for 1,850 homeless families.

Phase II project objective one: to provide 1,850 families (9,250 individuals) who lost their homes and belongings in the explosion with one winter jacket with pants, one pair of winter shoes, one quilt and coal for cooking amounting to 300 kg.

The DPRK Red Cross has prepared the beneficiary list for household items, and the distribution of items is currently scheduled for the first week of October when families are expected to move into their reconstructed houses and winter temperatures begin to set in. In regard to the movement of items, the quilts have arrived, winter shoes have been procured and expected to arrive on 8 September while winter pants and jackets are expected to arrive at the end of September.

Phase II project objective two: to provide winter assistance to 6,360 families whose homes were damaged by the explosion in the form of two quilts per family.

Discussion about ongoing relief activities were held between the Federation's disaster management delegate, the DPRK Red Cross task force for coordinating relief activities in Ryongchon and the Ryongchon Red Cross branch. Further discussions that demonstrated the need to extend the scope of assistance beyond the families whose homes were totally destroyed by the explosion to cover some of the needs of the 6,360 families whose homes were damaged were also held between the Ryongchon emergency committee and beneficiaries. Of primary concern was how these families could cope with the country's severe winter temperatures, and to this end funding received from the United States government will be used to support part of the Red Cross assistance to 6,360 families in Ryongchon who were affected by April's blast but did not receive any assistance during the emergency phase. A number of 12,720 quilts (two pieces per family) will be distributed to the affected families.

Phase III (12 months): reconstruction and equipment of the polyclinic and the restoration of water supply.

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

Activities

Construction of the polyclinic commenced on 10 August and the basement is completed. An agreement in regard to the construction of the clinic formed between the DPRK Red Cross, the local committee in Ryongchon and the Federation identified the roles and responsibilities of the parties clearly.

The DPRK Red Cross has employed a technical construction expert to oversee the construction of the polyclinic while the Federation will also contract an independent consultant to supervise the implementation of the

polyclinic's design. The DPRK Red Cross, the Federation's health coordinator and the local authorities are currently compiling and finalising the respective lists of necessary equipment and furniture for the clinic .

Building materials for the polyclinic funded through the Federation's appeal will arrive in Ryongchon on 23 August.

Water supply system for polyclinic

The first load of materials for the polyclinic's water supply system will arrive in Dandong in the third week of August and as this is an emergency situation, the use of unmonitored materials has been granted to Ryongchon.

Coordination

A Ryongchon relief operation task force committee made up of six Federation delegates and four DPRK Red Cross staff members that meets on a regular basis to share information and address issues which arise from the ongoing operation was formed. Minutes from the meeting are shared locally with relevant parties and the Federation's East Asia regional delegation.

[Contributions list below; click here to return to the title page.](#)

D.P.R. KOREA - Train Explosion

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 12/2004

PLEDGES RECEIVED

23/08/2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->	1,684,000		TOTAL COVERAGE 115.7%	
AMERICAN - RC	10,000	USD	12,735 27.04.04	
AMERICAN - GOVT/OFDA	100,000	USD	127,350 27.04.04	
AUSTRALIAN - GOVT	250,000	AUD	232,875 13.05.04	
AUSTRIAN - RC/GOVT	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	
ECHO/DANISH - RC	200,000	EUR	305,800 28.06.04	
FINNISH - RC	50,000	EUR	77,975 27.04.04	
FRENCH - PRIVATE DONOR	400	EUR	614 10.06.04	
HELLENIC - GOVT	30,000	EUR	45,870 29.06.04	SONOGRAPH & TRAINING FOR 1 PERSON
IRISH - RC	25,000	EUR	38,988 28.04.04	
IRISH - GOVT	100,000	EUR	153,600 19.05.04	
CHINA/HONG KONG - RC	146,000	HKD	24,353 24.05.04	
JAPANESE - RC	83,195	USD	105,948 26.04.04	
KOREAN - RC	100,000	USD	127,350 04.05.04	
LIECHTENSTEIN - RC			15,000 04.06.04	
LUXEMBOURG - GOVT	50,000	EUR	76,450 15.07.04	
MONACO - RC	12,000	EUR	18,432 28.06.04	
PRIVATE DONORS			2,980 10.06.04	
SINGAPORE - RC			70,000 29.04.04	
SINGAPORE - RC	113,687	SGD	83,457 28.06.04	
SWEDISH - RC	1,000,000	SEK	169,000 04.05.04	
UNHCR	25,000	EUR	31,612 20.05.04	WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH			1,930,322 CHF	114.6%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
AUSTRALIA	DELEGATES			18,400		
Note: due to systems upgrades in process, contributions in kind and services may be incomplete.						
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				18,400	CHF	1.1%

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

D.P.R. KOREA - Train Explosion

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DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				7,399,420	CHF	