

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 (DPRK): TRAIN EXPLOSION IN RYONGCHON COUNTY

10 January 2004

Focus on reconstruction of the polyclinic and the water supply

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. 08; Period covered: August - 30 December 2004; Appeal coverage: 118.7%; ([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. Beneficiary numbers were revised in Operations Update no.7 to include 2,430 families whose homes were partially destroyed.

Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: CHF 50,000.

Outstanding needs: None

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: [Ryongchon Train Explosion \(12/2004\)](#),
[2005 Annual Appeal \(05AA059\)](#)

Operational Summary: Following the distribution of relief items earlier this year, the DPRK Red Cross and the International Federation have concentrated their efforts on the reconstruction of the polyclinic and restoration of Ryongchon's water supply. Work on the polyclinic is close to completion, while the laying of pipes for the water systems in Ryongchon city is complete and water source as well as tower construction is in the final stages. Below freezing temperatures however have led to a temporary delay in the construction of the water tower.

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

Representatives of the International Federation and the DPRK Red Cross, who were in Ryongchon earlier this month, reported that all families left homeless by 22 April's explosion have been resettled in newly constructed homes. Winter has levelled off at below freezing temperatures and beneficiaries who received Red Cross distributions of warm clothes and quilts are now putting these items to good use. Following the completion of emergency response activities (phases I and II of the operation) earlier this year, DPRK Red Cross and the

Federation have been focusing on planned activities for phase III in Ryongchon, namely the reconstruction of the polyclinic and restoration of the water supply systems. Details on the distribution of relief items and the replenishment of warehouse stock are contained in previous operations updates available on the Federation's website (www.ifrc.org) as this report focuses on phase III reconstruction activities only.

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, as well as to provide support to 2,420 families who's homes were damaged by the explosion.

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 sq metre polyclinic for use by the community as a diagnostic centre and for physical therapy.

Activities

The train explosion destroyed Ryongchon's polyclinic that was situated close to the train station. The former polyclinic had the capacity to treat some 80 to 100 outpatients per day.

Shortly after the explosion, the DPRK government approached the DPRK Red Cross and the International Federation to rebuild the polyclinic. The DPRK Red Cross and the Federation have been working closely with the World Health Organisation (WHO), which has assumed responsibility for coordinating the international agencies' assistance in reconstructing and equipping medical facilities in the disaster-stricken area. The WHO is also responsible for liaisons with the Flood Damage Rehabilitation Committee (FDRC) and the Ministry of Public Health. The DPRK Red Cross, the Federation, WHO, Ministry of Public Health and the FDRC are coordinating activities to ensure the design and equipment provided to the polyclinic are consistent with the overall reconstruction plan. This coordination also ensures the polyclinic's functions in relation to the hospital are clearly defined to avoid duplication and serve public needs better.

The DPRK Red Cross has employed a technical construction expert to oversee the construction process of the polyclinic, while the Federation has also contracted an independent consultant to supervise the implementation of the polyclinic design.

The polyclinic building is a two-storey building with a basement floor covering about two-thirds of the foundation area.

- The first floor is about 34.5 m x 13.8 m with 23 rooms, mainly treatment rooms.
- The second floor is about 34.5 m x 13.8 m with 23 rooms, mainly treatment rooms and offices.
- The basement floor is about 22.8 m x 13.8 m with 17 rooms, mainly storerooms.
- The gross area is about 1267 sq metres.

The independent consultant contracted through the Federation has ensured that the procurement of construction materials has been consistent with the project plans throughout the three stages of the building's construction.

The consultant conducted three site visits in Ryongchon during the reporting period. The purpose of the first site visit on 30 September was to see the building's basement and first floor. The second floor was not yet constructed at the time, but the floor slab concrete units were in position and wall construction ongoing. The consultant noted that some changes from the original design had been made.

The second site visit took place on 10 November, following substantial work to the building's first and second stories, and plastering work was still incomplete. The basement floor was being used for storing material and not much progress had been made in finishing it since the previous visit.

The third site visit took place on 21 December. The building's first and second stories that included painting had been finished, and the construction team is now in the process of installing water and sewage systems, wiring the building for electricity and installing a central heating system. The basement floor remains unfinished as the room continues to be used for storing building material.

Work on the clinic's gate and exterior, tree planting, surface cover and sewerage connection is still outstanding and is expected to take about a month to finish.

All construction material for the polyclinic was procured locally. The Federation logistics delegate in DPRK coordinated and conducted the procurement process in cooperation with the disaster management department.

Polyclinic equipment and furniture:

The DRPK Red Cross and the Federation jointly prepared a list of necessary equipment for the polyclinic, which included a sonograph and laboratory equipment. The Federation sent a requisition order for goods to arrive in DPRK on 10 December. The laboratory equipment for the polyclinic is however expected to arrive in DPRK at the end of July 2005. Furniture for the polyclinic procured locally arrived in Ryongchon on 15 December.

Water supply system:

The wastewater collecting system and the laying of pipes for Ryongchon's water system are complete and construction of the water source and tower is in its final stages. Freezing temperatures however have caused some delays, and construction will continue as soon as weather conditions become more suitable.

Technicians from the DPRK Red Cross conducted a workshop for local technicians and workers on best practices of pipe laying in November and made four field trips over the reporting period to monitor the project's progress.

[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

04/01/2005

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				1,684,000	TOTAL COVERAGE 118.7%	
AMERICAN - RC		10,000	USD	12,735	27.04.04	
AMERICAN - GOVT/OFDA		100,000	USD	127,350	27.04.04	
AMERICAN - PRIVATE DONOR		13,050	USD	16,502	16.09.04	
AUSTRALIAN - GOVT		250,000	AUD	232,875	13.05.04	
AUSTRALIAN - RC		15,225	AUD	13,269	09.11.04	
AUSTRIAN - RC/GOVT		50,000	EUR	77,975	30.04.04	
BRITISH - RC		15,000	GBP	34,358	04.05.04	
BRITISH - RC		1,660	GBP	3,795	21.09.04	
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		456	EUR	697	10.06.04	
FRENCH - PRIVATE DONOR		2,482	EUR	3,764	30.11.04	
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	
MALAYSIAN - RC		38,000	MYR	12,426	25.08.04	
MONACO - RC		12,000	EUR	18,432	28.06.04	
PRIVATE DONORS				2,980	10.06.04	
SINGAPORE - GOVT/RC				70,000	29.04.04	
SINGAPORE - GOVT/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				1,980,161	CHF	117.6%

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%

D.P.R. KOREA - Train Explosion

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PLEDGES RECEIVED

04/01/2005

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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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	