

Operations update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

China: Sichuan Earthquake

Emergency appeal n° MDRCN003
GLIDE n° [EQ-2008-000062-CHN](#)
Operations update n° 12
16 June 2008

Period covered by this Update: 11 - 15 June 2008

Appeal target (current): CHF 96.7 million (USD 92.7 million or EUR 59.5 million)

[<click here to view the attached revised emergency appeal budget>](#)

Appeal coverage: With contributions received to date, in cash and kind, and those in the pipeline, the appeal is currently approximately 65% covered.

[<click here for the current donor response list>](#)

[<click here to link to a map of the affected areas; or here for contact details>](#)

Appeal history:

- This emergency appeal was revised on 30 May 2008 for CHF 96.7 million (USD 92.7 million or EUR 59.5 million) to support the Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) to assist around 100,000 families (up to 500,000 people) for 36 months.
- The emergency appeal was launched on 15 May 2008 for CHF 20,076,412 (USD 19.3 million or EUR 12.4 million) for 12 months to assist 100,000 beneficiaries.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF): CHF 250,000 was allocated from the International Federation's DREF to support the RCSC's response to the earthquake.



The water and sanitation ERU in Deyang prefecture is providing potable water to more than 6,000 beneficiaries with two treatment units. Spanish Red Cross

Summary: The 8.0 magnitude earthquake on 12 May devastated eight provinces; Sichuan, (the most severely affected), Gansu, Shaanxi, Chongqing, Yunnan, Shanxi, Guizhou and Hubei. The death toll currently stands at 69,170 and is expected to rise above 80,000. Over 15 million people are displaced (including over five million homeless) according to the ministry of civil affairs.

The Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) has continued to provide assistance to those in the affected areas, mobilizing medical teams and relief vehicles. Over 35,000 RCSC volunteers and staff are involved in relief and recovery efforts. To date, more than one million earthquake survivors have received relief items from the Red Cross.

The International Federation's water and sanitation emergency response units are now operational in Xinglong, Jiulong, Banqiao and Zundao townships, in Deyang prefecture, on sites identified by the joint International Federation and RCSC teams.

The RCSC has requested up to 100,000 tents from outside of China through Red Cross Red Crescent sister societies. So far, approximately 103,000 tents have been mobilized through these sources. Altogether, the RCSC has distributed over 60,000 tents in Mianyang, Deyang, Chengdu, A'ba, Ya'an and Gungyuan prefectures to date.

Many partner national societies and other entities have made contributions to the appeal: American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross/Australian government, Austrian Red Cross, Belgian Red Cross, British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross/Canadian government, Croatian Red Cross, Danish Red Cross/Danish government, Finnish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Icelandic Red Cross, Irish Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross/Japanese government, Malaysian Red Crescent, Mauritius Red Cross, Monaco Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross/Netherlands government, New Zealand Red Cross/New Zealand government, Norwegian Red Cross, Singapore Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, Sri Lanka Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross and United Arab Emirates Red Crescent Society, as well as contributions from the European Commission (ECHO), the American, Irish, Italian, Luxembourg and Slovenian governments, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, Royal & Sun Alliance and United Technologies.

The RCSC has also received bi-lateral contributions from Cambodian Red Cross, French Red Cross, German Red Cross, Republic of Korea Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Pakistan Red Crescent, Spanish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, Thai Red Cross, Turkish Red Crescent and Vietnam Red Cross.

The International Federation, on behalf of the Red Cross Society of China, would like to thank all partners for their generous response to this appeal.

The situation

During the past few days, flooding caused by torrential rains has affected nine provinces in the southern region of China and has killed at least 57 people, forcing more than one million to be evacuated, while affecting 17.87 million people. Sichuan province, which was most heavily affected by the 12 May earthquake, was also hit badly. Flooding has submerged farm land and houses, and is causing further landslides throughout the southern regions.

Recovery from the 12 May earthquake continues under threat of rainy weather and high heat. By 15 June, the Sichuan earthquake and aftershocks have left 69,170 dead, 374,159 injured, 17,427 missing, and over 15 million displaced, of whom five million are homeless, according to the ministry of civil affairs. By Saturday (14 June), 1.41 million quake survivors had been evacuated. The highest number of casualties occurred in Sichuan province. In Sichuan alone, 35 million houses have been totally destroyed or damaged. Rescue efforts have officially ended and the focus is now on debris clearing, transitional settlement and reconstruction.

Aftershocks and the threat of more landslides due to rain continue to hinder relief and recovery efforts. According to the China Seismological Bureau, over 12,242 aftershocks have been recorded thus far and some 145 aftershocks occurred on 14 June alone (all measuring below 5.0 on the Richter scale). Up to 50,000 residents living in the high-mountainous areas of Wenchuan county, near the epicenter of the 12 May quake, will be relocated before 30 June to avoid secondary disasters caused by aftershocks and landslides.



Tents donated by the Iranian Red Crescent arrive at the Chengdu airport and are met by Red Cross volunteers and staff, and loaded onto trucks for distribution to the local levels. International Federation.

As of Sunday (15 June), the government's disaster relief fund had reached CNY 53.76 billion (CHF 7.68 billion). Domestic and foreign donations had reached CNY 45.65 billion in cash and goods, among which CNY 14.15 billion had been forwarded to the disaster areas.

Relief supplies continue to pour into the quake zone and the government has distributed over 1.3 million tents, 4.82 million quilts, 14.1 million pieces of clothing, 1,042,100 tonnes of fuel oil and 2.22 million tonnes of coal so far. Relief workers have built 138,000 temporary houses and 34,200 were being installed, while material for 91,000 temporary houses had arrived in the affected areas.

Roads and enterprises are continually being restored in the area. A total of 52,111 kilometres of road has been restored out of the 53,289 kilometres that was destroyed in the quake. And by Saturday, 4,622 state-owned enterprises and large-scale enterprises with annual revenue above CNY five million had resumed operation.

The Tangjiashan quake lake, the largest of the 34 quake lakes formed by landslides blocking rivers, no longer poses a threat to the communities downstream. Other quake lakes are still at risk of flooding, and the government is monitoring the situation closely. Still, 13 Sichuan cities have reopened to tourists to revive its once booming travel industry. Of the 4,000 scenic areas of Sichuan, 568 were damaged, including the Wolong panda reserve, which lost at least one panda and five staff members in the quake.

The rainy weather and continuing aftershocks add to the threat of landslides and mudslides in the hilly and mountainous areas around the quake zones. Due to this, hundreds of thousands of people are likely to remain living in tents and makeshift shelters in large camps in the flatter urban areas for months ahead. Living conditions in these tents and transitional shelter settlements are harsh and will worsen as summer temperatures continue to rise with temperatures reaching up to 40 degrees Celsius. Heatstroke and other hot weather related ailments remain a health concern.

Following the government of China's new regulation on reconstruction, the State Council has announced plans to issue supplemental rules to aid the full implementation of the regulations. The regulations set guidelines for the reconstruction and provide an important legal ground for the rebuilding work of various departments and quake-hit regions. The government intends to educate the public about these regulations in hopes that they will become the watch-dog of its appropriate implementation.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overview

The RCSC is continuing to provide much needed relief assistance to disaster affected communities across eight provinces. The provision of tents and other non-food items remain the focus of activities along with medical support (mobile teams and field hospitals) and psychosocial support. Emergency shelter and safe drinking water remain the top priorities for Red Cross Red Crescent action in the affected areas.

The RCSC leadership has conducted an assessment in affected areas of Sichuan, Gansu and Shaanxi provinces to identify possible Red Cross interventions for the recovery phase. A plan of action will be developed after the leadership has properly discussed all options. This will be followed by sectoral assessments by the RCSC together with the International Federation in the areas where Red Cross will focus its support for the longer term, which will include reconstruction.

Red Cross volunteers and staff are meeting multiple flights at the Chengdu airport each day. Tents from the Iranian Red Crescent have begun arriving and are expected to increase in numbers in the following days. Close coordination and logistics support have been crucial in ensuring that tents, and other goods, are tracked from arrival to distribution point. Currently, a good system is in place all the way down to the distribution level.

Four emergency response units (ERU) teams are now established and working on the ground to meet the needs of the affected people in Deyang prefecture. These ERUs include one Spanish Red Cross water ERU, one Austrian/French water ERU, one British mass sanitation ERU and one Danish base camp ERU. Activities of each ERU have already begun scaling up to meet the needs in their respective areas, and have recently expanded to include Zundao township, which is next to Jiulong. They provide clean drinking water to temporary clinics, schools and families living in temporary shelters, with a capacity of reaching up to 30,000 people. In Jiulong and Banqiao townships, a total of 96 latrines have been built and the construction work has already started in Zundao. The International Federation along with the RCSC is also providing sanitation and hygiene training and education to these communities.

The Danish ERU team has established a location in Jiulong to set up the base camp. The site itself is too small to accommodate the full capacity of a standard base camp ERU, so adjustments will be made accordingly. The team will do their best to make the site as complete as possible with the space available. As of 16 June, the ERU teams will be able to move into the base camp.

RCSC counterparts are already working alongside the international staff of the water and sanitation ERUs to ensure skill transfer. Representatives of the RCSC leadership visited all the ERU teams on Wednesday, 11 June, to discuss the further assignment of RCSC counterparts to each ERU. The leadership fully recognizes the importance of having adequate numbers of counterparts working with each ERU to ensure a smooth handover to the RCSC and continuation of the activities. At this time, all ERU teams, except the Danish Red Cross team, have counterparts working with them and the RCSC is committed to providing more counterparts in the near future.



A child watches her reflection in the Spanish Red Cross ERU's shiny tank as she gathers water with her grandmother. Francis Markus/International Federation

Shelter and relief

Tents continue to arrive at the Chengdu airport, with up to 4,800 tents per day expected in the last weeks of June. More than 32,735 tents have arrived and another 55,485 have scheduled delivery dates. The International Federation is working towards a target of 100,000 tents to be distributed by the end of June. Already, the RCSC has distributed over 68,000 tents to Mianyang, Deyang, Chengdu, A'ba, Ya'an and Gungyuan.

The delivery of some 63,000 tents from the Iranian Red Crescent has begun, and the frequency of these flights is already increasing. As of 16 June, two flights have arrived and another five are scheduled to be in Chengdu before Wednesday (18 June).

The logistics for handling the arrival and distribution of these relief items at the airport is being coordinated jointly by the International Federation's logistics team and the RCSC. An efficient system with clear communication lines has been established and is functioning effectively. Communications between team members handling dispatch and those doing customs clearance has been significantly improved with the introduction of a whiteboard at the airport showing what has been cleared and what has been dispatched.

On 13 June, representatives from both the International Federation and the RCSC greeted volunteers who have been working at the Chengdu airport to facilitate the arrival and dispatch of Red Cross relief items.

The International Federation and the RCSC are working together to formalize a relief monitoring system that will ensure accountability at all levels for the distribution of tents and all forthcoming locally procured relief goods. From 9-11 June, the International Federation operations support team conducted a detailed tracking of the distribution of recently arrived tents from airport to final destination. They reported that the system in place to track goods at all levels was adequate to meet International Federation standards. Minor adjustments and recommendations that would further improve the system were noted.



Trucks carrying tents to the local levels must battle poor, and often dangerous, road conditions throughout the province. These Canadian Red Cross tents were sent to Beichuan, which was obliterated by the quake. International Federation.

The procurement specifications for relief items is being finalised along with the delivery schedule and distribution plan. A procurement delegate from the regional logistics unit in Kuala Lumpur will arrive in Beijing tomorrow (17 June) to conduct the procurement of kitchen sets, hygiene kits and quilts.

Prefecture	RCSC (HQ and disaster preparedness centres)	International Federation	Bilateral	Others (donated to RCSC)	Total distributed
Mianyang	7,117	10,948		2,350	20,415
Deyang	9,123	7735	350	2,655	12,128
Chengdu	1,391		39	250	1,680
A'ba	15,944	612	800	490	17,846
Ya'an	366			303	669
Gungyuan	1,603	4,718	1,046	210	7,577
Total	35,544	20,794	2,235	6,258	68,050

Table: Tents - numbers and areas of distribution as of 15 June 08

Health

The RCSC and German Red Cross jointly organized field hospital in Dujiangyan has been formally handed over to the RCSC as of 15 June. Hospital services will be maintained by the RCSC Huashan hospital team for an estimated three more months before the hospital will be decommissioned and stored for future emergency deployment. The hospital is still seeing up to 800 patients per day.

Medical teams are still providing services on the ground. The International Federation is continuing to monitor and assess the health situation in operational areas with particular concern regarding the threat of disease and heat related ailments. Government health workers continue to provide thorough disease prevention services including health risk inspection and disinfection teams.

Water and sanitation

The International Federation's water and sanitation emergency response units and mass sanitation emergency response unit are fully functioning in communities within Deyang prefecture. The four emergency response units currently consist of 21 members in-country with RCSC counterparts working closely alongside the international teams in order to ensure a transfer of knowledge about the operation of the emergency response units.

Each water and sanitation emergency response unit is capable of providing safe water for up to 15,000 people per day and the mass sanitation emergency response unit able to provide basic sanitation to 20,000 people. The water and sanitation emergency response units have integrated distribution and trucking capacity, to transport treated water to dispersed populations. This is ideal as most of the people in the operational areas of the two water and sanitation emergency response units are now living in makeshift shelter camps spread through a wide area.

The Spanish Red Cross water and sanitation emergency response unit is currently operating two water treatment units. As of 15 June, 15 tap stands are in place and the team has distributed 197.2 cubic metres of clean water. In addition to serving the Jiulong township area, the team has expanded its activities to four tented camps and Peng Hua village in Zundao township, which is next to Jiulong and near to the Spanish emergency response units base. The Spanish team made an assessment in the Zundao area and a plan of action was made in cooperation with the local authorities and the Deyang Red Cross branch to meet the water needs of the people living in these areas. The installation of distribution points in Zundao is currently in progress. At this time, there are two RCSC assigned counterparts working closely with the team and getting familiar with the emergency response units equipment and how it operates.



RCSC counterparts are learning the skills needed to operate the ERUs once they are handed over. More counterparts are being put in place in each ERU. Austrian/French Red Cross.

The Austrian and French Red Cross water and sanitation emergency response unit is set up in Xinglong township, which has a population of 20,000. Most of the population has access to water, but it is not safe to drink without being boiled or treated. The team has set up one treatment unit with one distribution point near the emergency response units base camp and has now installed a large 70,000 litre and 5,000 litre bladder tank for clean water storage. On Wednesday, 11 June, the team did a further assessment in Xinglong township and identified seven new locations for additional distribution points. This was done together with the leaders of the community, and the community itself is contributing to the process by building the platforms for the water storage. Two of the planned seven distribution points are already installed. The team is now looking for different water trucking solutions to transport treated water to the distribution points. Two RCSC counterparts are already working closely with the team and the RCSC is looking for additional counterparts to join later.

The British mass sanitation emergency response unit has continued with latrine construction in Jiulong and Banqiao. By 15 June, 96 latrines were completed in four out of five target villages in Jiulong with another 35 in progress or in the pipeline. In Banqiao, further discussions with the community have indicated that the community does not require additional latrines. Following the Spanish team's assessment of the neighbouring township of Zundao the team is planning to provide sanitation facilities to the four tented camps in the Zundao township and one camp in Penghua village. The current sanitation situation in these camps is very poor with one big communal latrine shared between 200-500 people.

Additionally, the team is providing sanitation facilities to the surrounding temporary schools and the health promotion activities have now been directed towards the children and adolescents attending these schools. Other possible hygiene promotion interventions will be discussed together with the local community. Since Wednesday, 11 June, one RCSC counterpart has been working with the team.

The purpose of the Danish Red Cross base camp emergency response unit is to provide base camp facilities (tented accommodation, kitchen, showers, and toilets) to the emergency response unit delegates and the RCSC counterparts and volunteers working with the emergency response units. The last two delegates of the team, a camp manager and a kitchen manager, arrived 12 June. The site for the base camp is in Jiulong next to the British and Spanish emergency response units.

The space designated was not big enough to build the complete base camp accommodating 60 people. However, the team has tried to make the camp as complete as possible with the space given to them and with the current plan and set up it will be able to accommodate 36 people. The camp has now been set up and the British and Spanish teams will move to base camp as of 16 June, while the Austrian/French team will remain at their emergency response unit site for the time being.

All teams are working very hard and have high spirits. The coordination efforts between the International Federation operations support team, the RCSC and relevant official agencies have been excellent and have helped facilitate a rapid response. The International Federation is committed to staying as long as it is needed to support relief and recovery efforts, including training and capacity building on the global tools (emergency response units) provided to RCSC.

Coordination and partnerships

Close coordination with local and central authorities is critical for good planning for the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and other organizations. The RCSC is regularly involved in high level coordination meetings with government authorities, and in discussion with the ministry of construction regarding reconstruction planning.

All emergency response units teams are working in close collaboration and coordination with local authorities, community leaders and the Deyang Red Cross branch. Also, continuous support to the teams has been provided by the RCSC headquarters field team based in Chengdu.

Medicins Sans Frontiere France visited the International Federation's field support team in Chengdu on Friday. They will have a small team on the ground working in the mental health sector in Mianzhu city, mainly identifying individuals in need of further psychological support.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is supporting ongoing operations with three translators, including one with a background in logistics.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

The International Federation's regional media specialist remains in Chengdu conducting interviews, writing stories and taking photos. Updated press releases, stories, and photos are available online at www.ifrc.org and www.flickr.com/ifrc.

How we work

All International Federation 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 is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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REVISED APPEAL BUDGET SUMMARY

Annex 1

CHINA: SICHUAN EARTHQUAKE**MDRCN003**

	ORIGINAL	REVISED	VARIANCE
<u>RELIEF NEEDS</u>			
Shelter/Tents (Including Air Transport)	630,000	45,200,000	(44,570,000)
Construction Materials	5,000,000	17,000,000	(12,000,000)
Clothing & Textiles	4,000,000	1,000,000	3,000,000
Food	5,000,000	5,000,000	
Water & Sanitation	285,000	120,000	165,000
Medical & First Aid	740,000	740,000	
Teaching Materials	-	500,000	(500,000)
Utensils & Tools	825,000	3,500,000	(2,675,000)
Other Supplies & Services	-	11,200,000	(11,200,000)
Total Relief Needs	16,480,000	84,260,000	(67,780,000)
<u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u>			
Land & Buildings	-		
Vehicles Purchase	90,000	90,000	
Computers & Telecom Equipment	30,000	40,000	(10,000)
Office/Household Furniture & Equip.	-	120,000	(120,000)
<u>TRANSPORT, STORAGE & VEHICLES</u>			
Distribution & Monitoring related to Relief Needs	200,000	800,000	(600,000)
Transport & Vehicles Costs	100,000	350,000	(250,000)
<u>PERSONNEL</u>			
International Staff	316,800	2,130,000	(1,813,200)
National Staff	72,000	428,000	(356,000)
National Society Staff	48,000	48,000	
Consultants	108,000	108,000	
<u>WORKSHOPS & TRAINING</u>			
Workshops & Training	50,000	150,000	(100,000)
<u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u>			
Travel	180,000	600,000	(420,000)
Information & Public Relations	36,000	108,000	(72,000)
Office running costs	85,200	360,000	(274,800)
Communication Costs	78,600	246,000	(167,400)
Professional Fees - auditing fee	847,400	319,400	528,000
Financial Charges	3,000	9,000	(6,000)
Other General Expenses	46,445	288,000	(241,555)
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>			
Programme Support - PSR	1,304,967	6,288,274	(4,983,307)
Total Operational Needs	3,596,412	12,482,674	(8,886,262)
Total Appeal Budget (Cash & Kind)	20,076,412	96,742,674	(76,666,262)
(Less) :Available Resources		37,222,888	
Net Request	20,076,412	59,519,786	(76,666,262)



China: Earthquake

