

Operations update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Viet Nam: Floods

Emergency appeal n° MDRVN007
GLIDE n° [FL-2010-00194-VNM](#)
Operations update n° 2
30 November 2010

Period covered by this operations update: 1-15 November 2010

Appeal target (current): CHF 1,034,754 (USD 1.08 million or EUR 772,216)

Appeal coverage: Coverage of this appeal is currently 87% in hard pledges and 105% including those being processed [<Go directly to updated donor response report, or link to contact details>](#)

Appeal history:

- 18 October 2010: This [emergency appeal](#) for CHF 1,034,754 (USD 1.08 million or EUR 772,216) was launched to assist 120,000 beneficiaries (some 28,500 families) for six months.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF): CHF 155,064 was allocated from the Federation's DREF on 8 October 2010 to [support the national society](#) in immediate response.



Recipients of rice distribution in this remote area in Hong Son district, Ha Tinh province included this family whose home and rice paddies were destroyed by the flood of 19 October. Community members helped sustain them with instant noodles; and with cleaning and repairing their home. The family expressed their great appreciation for the food relief provided by VNRC. (Photo: Tran Quang Tuan/VNRC)

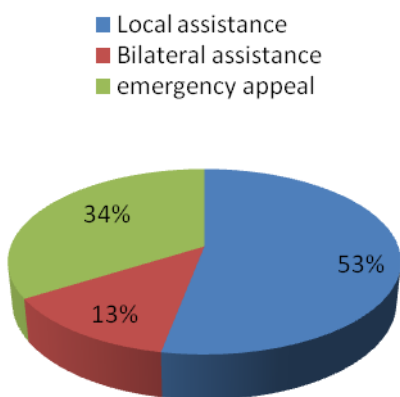
Summary:

The Viet Nam Red Cross (VNRC) continues to work in response to needs of those affected by the two consecutive floods that struck five central Viet Nam provinces¹ in October. VNRC chapters in the Nghe An, Ha Tinh and Quang Binh provinces have so far provided relief to a total of 47,420 families². Up to 219 tonnes of rice (120 tonnes of which are supported directly by this appeal) have been distributed for 7,300 selected families in 27 communes of Ha Tinh and Quang Binh from 1 to 6 November 2010. In terms of non-food item distribution up to 15 November, VNRC chapters distributed a total of 9,500 household kits (of which 3,500 were supported by IFRC) to an equal number of affected families in Ha Tinh, Quang Binh and Nghe An.

In early November, there was further flooding in five provinces of Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, Ninh Thuan, Quang Ngai and Khanh Hoa in south-central Vietnam. Following the latest available information from the Vietnamese government’s central committee for flood and storm control (CCFSC), these floods in November have altogether caused the deaths of 29 people and flooded more than 39,000 houses. VNRC has also provided emergency relief to people affected by this further flooding in south central provinces. Some 10,000 people were evacuated. Using local contributions, the VNRC headquarters has to date released 3,000 household kits and VND 650 million to buy emergency food supplies and water for distribution in Ninh Thuan, Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, Quang Ngai and Khanh Hoa provinces.

Access to safe drinking water for those affected by these floods in Quang Binh has also been provided by VNRC through the deployment of a water treatment unit from Thua Thien Hue province. This unit has provided 184,000 litres of water to 7,126 people in four districts in the province. Up to 3,000 boxes of water purification tablets have also been distributed for household water treatment in the three most affected provinces in the last week of October through trained volunteers.

Overall VNRC response



The relationship between the IFRC emergency appeal, plan of action, and recovery framework within the overall flood response of VNRC on 16 November 2010

With technical assistance from IFRC, VNRC is active in fundraising nationally and has received over VND 30 billion (over CHF 1.5 million) in local contributions. In addition there has been over VND 8 billion (over CHF 400,000) in bilateral international contributions from sister Red Cross Red Crescent Societies and/or their governments.

The relationship between all these different sources of funds and overall plan of action is reflected in the chart here. A full VNRC plan of action covering all funding (including the activities agreed under this appeal) is currently being developed and will be shared in the next update.

As of today the likely overall response of VNRC to this floods operation aims to garner 1,000 tonnes of rice to support at least 50,000 households for three months; 10,000 notebooks and 1,000 sets of training manuals for ten schools in the flood-affected areas; 10,000 household kits; and livestock for the “cow bank” to support livelihoods for the poorest families affected by these floods³.

VNRC chapters are consolidating response actions and carrying out further needs assessments. The disaster

management working group (DMWG) and CCFSC will carry out an emergency market analysis mapping at the end of November 2010 which will assess the early recovery and the functioning of local markets in Nghe An, Ha Tinh and Quang Binh provinces.

To date, partners contributing to this appeal include American Red Cross/American government, British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross/Canadian government, Hong Kong branch of Red Cross Society of China, Japanese Red Cross Society, Monaco Red Cross, New Zealand Red Cross/New Zealand government, and Swedish Red

¹ Quang Binh, Ha Tinh, Quang Tri, Nghe An and Thua Thien Hue

² This figure includes all five provinces affected by consecutive flooding in October.

³ The objectives and activities of this emergency appeal however remain unchanged so far.

Cross/Swedish government. Contributions have also been received from the Italian government and private sector donors.

On behalf of Viet Nam Red Cross, IFRC would like to thank all partners and donors for their timely and invaluable contributions.

The situation

Reported figures on the damages and loss caused by the two October floods in Nghe An, Ha Tinh and Quang Binh provinces remain unchanged from the previous operation update⁴. Three Red Cross chapters are distributing relief, both in cash and kind to affected people on a daily basis with the support of this emergency appeal and from bilateral and domestic contributions.

Between 29 October and 10 November 2010, floods caused by heavy rainfall and a low pressure zone have caused 29 deaths, eight people injured and two missing across 52 communes in the six affected provinces of Ninh Thuan, Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, Quang Ngai, Dak Lak and Khanh Hoa provinces. To date, more than 41,820 people were evacuated with over 39,000 others seriously affected. The CCFSC reported on 10 November, that nearly 2,000 houses have collapsed and over 39,000 others flooded.

Provinces	Damage to houses		Agricultural losses	Estimated total losses (VND billion)
	Destroyed	Flooded/damaged	Rice/crops (hectares)	
Quang Ngai	1	368	NA	1,567
Binh Dinh	46	4,132	2282	513
Phu Yen	21	10,601	1,639	152
Khanh Hoa	161	10601	3,200	300
Ninh Thuan	1701	12,601	11,570	1000
Dak Lak	3	701	1576	120
TOTAL	1,933	39,004	20,267	3,625

Source: Central Committee for Flood and Storm Control, updated 10 November 2010

In total, government sources estimate the loss caused by the floods in November alone to be about VND 2,087 billion (CHF 106.6 million or USD 107.7 million or EUR 79.2 million⁵).

The VNRC chapter in Phu Yen helped evacuate 5,067 people to safe areas and provided emergency relief to 530 affected families with the assistance of VND 121 million (USD 6,205) from domestic contributions; 400 household kits from the VNRC headquarters; and food comprising 4,600 kg of rice, and 580 boxes of instant noodles. The Binh Dinh chapter provided emergency relief to 832 families with assistance of VND 290 million (USD14,871) from local contributions. They also distributed 1,500 boxes of instant noodles and 1,000 bottles of drinking water.

To date, there has been no official request from the people's aid coordinating committee of Viet Nam Union for Friendship (PACCOM) or local authorities for external assistance in response to the current floods in these said provinces, and they are therefore not covered under this emergency appeal. The government, local humanitarian actors are providing search and rescue, emergency relief, water purification tablets, and food aid to affected people.

Coordination and partnerships

Facilitation of coordination in response to this disaster continues among VNRC, IFRC and partner national societies in-country. VNRC takes a leading role in consolidating needs reported by the affected Red Cross chapters of Nghe An, Ha Tinh and Quang Binh provinces to share with in-country partners. A bilateral concept note has been submitted to the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection

⁴ For details see [Operations Update no. 1, page 2](#).

⁵ Exchange rates are indicative

department (DG ECHO) for further assistance with livelihoods, cash grants and water and sanitation at household level by three partner national societies in-country.

The disaster management working group (DMWG) also maintains regular meetings with VNRC and IFRC coordinating action with the government's central committee for flood and storm control (CCFSC), UN agencies, and international non-governmental organizations in order to update the response made so far by all humanitarian actors in those provinces. A relief support matrix is available [here](#).

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overview

VNRC chapters at province, district and commune levels have provided quick and effective response to help affected communities in their areas. The VNRC headquarters remains in constant communication with the provincial chapters and has set up a daily information update routine to ensure action is taken based on the most urgent existing needs.

During the initial stages of emergency response, VNRC chapters distributed a total of 7,000 household kits from their own disaster preparedness stock, consisting of blankets, mosquito nets, cooking utensils, and water containers. Also distributed during that time were 100 plastic sheets, 4,800 boxes of purification tablets, 100 household water filters, 150 emergency tents, over 4,200 boxes of instant noodles and VND 950 million (CHF 48,540 or USD 49,277 or EUR 35,523) in cash by various VNRC chapters. (see [relief matrix table](#)).

More details of this initial response are also available in the IFRC [emergency appeal](#) launched on 18 October 2010.

Support initially provided by DREF funding and now from the ongoing emergency appeal has helped VNRC carry out immediate response through the organization and distribution of food and non-food supplies and drinking water.

Presently, needs assessments by Red Cross chapters continue to determine further distribution of cash for food following the 219 tonnes of rice and 3,500 household kits distributed in selected provinces affected by these floods by the first week of November. The water treatment unit deployed in Quang Binh was demobilized at the end of October once the water needs were met. In total, it provided 184,000 litres of safe drinking water to 7,126 people in four communes in two districts. Some 3,000 boxes of water purification tablets were also distributed for household level water treatment by the last week of October.

Bilateral contributions have also supported the VNRC effort to respond to those affected by these floods.

Province	No. of donors	Cash	Kind	Families reached
		VND		
Ha Tinh	38	1.61 billion	4.64 billion	Over 16,000
Nghe An	31	221 million	2.7 billion	1,000
Quang Binh	60	1.66 billion	9.25 billion	Over 31,000

Progress towards outcomes

Relief distributions: Food

Objective: 17,000 affected households who have lost food stored in houses and/or standing crops during the floods in Quang Binh and Ha Tinh will receive rice or cash to purchase food.

Outputs	Activities planned
17,000 households (71,500 people) who have lost food and/or crops during the flood have received food assistance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of beneficiaries using criteria agreed between the national society and the local communities. • Procurement of rice following Federation procurement standards OR distribution of cash (coupons) for food if needed and the appropriate conditions are met. • Organization of the transport and distribution system for rice by VNRC's Quang Binh and Ha Tinh chapters. • Distribution of rice to 17,000 households with a proper recording system. • Monitoring, evaluation and reporting.

Progress:

The distribution of 219 tonnes of rice of which 120 tonnes were supported through contributions to this emergency appeal and 99 tonnes supported by bilateral donations was completed from 1 to 6 November 2010. Distribution was made according to IFRC standards and procedures. Distribution of these 219 tonnes was made, reaching up to 7,300 families (approximately 30,000 people). All recipients interviewed have expressed their appreciation of the timeliness with which rice was distributed by VNRC within 15 days after the launch of the emergency appeal.

According to the needs identified by VNRC following field assessments, these 219 tonnes of rice were divided between Ha Tinh (81 tonnes) and Quang Binh (138 tonnes) as follows:

Province	District	Commune	Quantity (tonnes)	Distribution date	
Rice procured through bilateral assistance					
Ha Tinh	Loc Ha	Tan Loc	10	4 Nov	
		Hong Loc	10	4 Nov	
	Duc Tho	Duc Vinh	7	5 Nov	
		Duc Quang	7	5 Nov	
		Duc Nhan	6	5 Nov	
	Huong Son	Son Phu	5	6 Nov	
		Son Trung	5	6 Nov	
		SonTien	5	6 Nov	
		Son Tra	5	6 Nov	
	Can Loc	Xuan Loc	7	4 Nov	
		Vuong Loc	7	4 Nov	
		Phuc Loc	7	4 Nov	
	Quang Binh	Minh Hoa	Hoa Hop	9	1-3 Nov
Trung Hoa			9	1-3 Nov	
Rice procured through multilateral assistance under the IFRC emergency appeal					
Tuyen Hoa		Cao Quang	9	1-3 Nov	
		Le Hoa	9	1-3 Nov	
		Mai Hoa	9	1-3 Nov	
		Kim Hoa	9	1-3 Nov	
Quang Trach		Quang Van	9	1-3 Nov	

		Quang Loc	9	1-3 Nov
		Quang Tan	9	1-3 Nov
		Quang Tien	12	1-3 Nov
	Bo Trach	Ha Trach	9	1-3 Nov
		Bac Trach	9	1-3 Nov
	Quang Ninh	Gia Ninh	9	1-3 Nov
	Le Thuy	Thanh Thuy	9	1-3 Nov
		Cam Thuy	9	1-3 Nov
	TOTAL			219

Given its long-standing experience over the years in responding to typhoons and floods in central Viet Nam, VNRC chapters at province, district and commune levels are highly adept in the distribution of relief to those affected. With support from the national headquarters and IFRC, the chapters organize the selection of people to be reached with relief assistance via community meetings to ensure community involvement in the process. Selection criteria are jointly established by VNRC and the beneficiary communities. The relief distribution process was established on a collective basis to ensure beneficiary security during distributions, and respect for those receiving assistance.

With assistance from IFRC, VNRC will further distribute cash for food in affected provinces of Ha Tinh and Quang Binh.

Relief distributions: Non-food items

Objective: 3,500 affected households in the provinces of Quang Binh and Ha Tinh will be provided non-food relief items in order to meet their immediate needs and enable them to restore their everyday lives as quickly as possible.⁶

Outputs	Activities planned
The immediate needs in terms of basic household items for 3,500 of the most affected households (14,700 people) are met.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of beneficiaries using criteria agreed between the national society and the local communities. • Procurement of items for the basic household kits following Federation procurement standards. • Organization of the transport and distribution system for the basic household kits by VNRC's Quang Binh and Ha Tinh chapters. • Distribution of the 3,500 household kits to beneficiaries using a proper recording system. • Monitoring, evaluation and reporting.

Progress:

To date, 3,500 families have received household kits distributed by VNRC in Quang Binh (1,700), Ha Tinh (1,200) and Nghe An (600) provinces under this component of the emergency appeal. More detail on these distributions will be available in the next operations update.

Province	Quantity	Date of distribution
Quang Binh	1,700	23-26 October, early November
Ha Tinh	1,200	Early November
Nghe An	600	
Total	3,500	

⁶ Relief items consist of household kits that contain one blanket, one mosquito net, kitchen utensils and water containers.

In Ha Tinh, the distribution was from 1 to 3 November 2010 because of the disruption of railway services caused by the second wave of flooding. Trains resumed rail services from 28 October; household kits arrived in Ha Tinh on 1 November 2010.

The VNRC disaster response operation has been extended to cover Nghe An province as the people in Nghe An were badly affected by the first flood and affected even worse by the second in October.

A staff member of Ha Tinh Red Cross chapter checks the contents of a household kit with the head of a family in the Phu Phong commune, Huong Khe district, Ha Tinh province. (Photo: Tran Quang Tuan/VNRC)



Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Objective: The risks to the flood-affected people from waterborne or water- and sanitation-related diseases are reduced through the provision of safe water and hygiene promotion to 5,000 households in Quang Binh and Ha Tinh provinces.

Outputs	Activities planned
<p>5,000 households (21,000 people) are provided with safe water and trained on household level water treatment and safe storage.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More detailed assessment of water, sanitation and hygiene needs in these two provinces • Deployment of the VNRC water treatment unit (NOMAD) based in Thua Thien Hue by VNRC staff who have received appropriate training. • Provision of safe drinking water and hygiene promotion from VNRC's water treatment unit. • Distribution of 25,000 bottles of drinking water. • Distribution of 5,000 water purification boxes (each box contains 100 tablets) together with training for households on household water treatment through trained VNRC staff and volunteers.

Progress:

Immediately in the wake of the floods on 8 October 2010, VNRC deployed the water treatment unit stored in Thua Thien Hue province to neighbouring Quang Binh to provide safe drinking water to those in the most affected districts.

From 8 to 27 October 2010, the VNRC Quang Binh chapter provided safe water, although the operation was periodically stopped for six days due to the second wave of flooding. Provision of safe water was as follows:

Dates	District	Commune	Number of people reached	Drinking water (litres)
8-10 Oct	Le Thuy	Phong Thuy	1,126	37,000
11-15 Oct	Minh Hoa	Tan Hoa	3,525	45,000
21-25 Oct			1,826	75,000
26-27 Oct		Minh Hoa	649	27,000
TOTAL	2	3	7,126	184,000

In addition to the drinking water provided by the water treatment unit, 3,000 boxes of water purification tablets (each box containing 100 tablets) for household water treatment have been distributed to 3,000 families with support from this emergency appeal, through trained volunteers in the three provinces of Ha Tinh, Quang Binh and Nghe An. Similar to the distribution of non-food items, the VNRC disaster response operation has been extended to cover Nghe An province under the water and sanitation component.

To date, the 3,000 boxes of water purification tablets have been distributed in Quang Binh, Ha Tinh and Nghe An provinces in the last week of October as follows:

Province	District	Commune	Quantity (boxes)	Date
Ha Tinh	Huong Khe		1,000	
Quang Binh	Minh Hoa	Tan Hoa	200	23/10/2010
		Minh Hoa	200	23/10/2010
		Thuong Hoa	300	26/10/2010
	Quang Ninh	Ham Ninh	300	29/10/2010
		Sub TOTAL	1,000	
Nghe An	Nghie Loc	Nghie Yen	40	22/10/2010
		Nghie Thuan	30	22/10/2010
		Nghie Xa	40	22/10/2010
		Nghie My	30	22/10/2010
		Nghie Cong Bac	30	22/10/2010
		Nghie Cong Nam	30	22/10/2010
		Nghie Quang	30	22/10/2010
		Nghie Thai	30	22/10/2010
		Nghie Van	30	23/10/2010
		Nghie Dien	30	23/10/2010
		Nghie Hung	30	23/10/2010
		Nghie Hoa	30	23/10/2010
		Nghie Dong	30	23/10/2010
		Nghie Xuan	30	23/10/2010
	Nghie Thiet	30	24/10/2010	
	Hung Nguyen	Hung Linh	50	22/10/2010
		Hung Long	50	22/10/2010
		Hung Lam	50	22/10/2010
		Hung Loi	50	22/10/2010
		Hung Yen Bac	50	23/10/2010
Hung Yen Nam		50	23/10/2010	
Hung Trung		100	23/10/2010	
Hung Nhan	100	23/10/2010		
		Sub Total	1,000	
TOTAL			3,000	

Upcoming activities in this component will include training on water and sanitation emergency response for Red Cross chapter staff as well as warehousing, maintenance and replenishment of the water and sanitation emergency response equipment in 2011.

Livelihood support	
Objective: 3,000 households in Quang Binh and Ha Tinh provinces, who have lost their means of income (i.e. lost their crops) have received seeds, fertilizers OR cash grants to help restore their livelihoods.	
Outputs	Activities planned
3,000 households (12,600 people) are able to plant their crops for the next harvest.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct household and livelihood needs and capacity assessments. • Scope the capacity of VNRC and IFRC to deliver a variety of livelihood initiatives such as seeds and fertilizer and/or cash grants. • Develop a beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system with communities to deliver intended assistance. • Provide support to the most vulnerable groups for restoration and alternative livelihood options. • Monitor and evaluate the activities, and report on distribution.

Progress:

With support from the relevant VNRC technical departments at national headquarters, VNRC chapters in the affected provinces will conduct more detailed assessments with regard to seeds and fertilizers for distribution in support of livelihood rehabilitation. Factors to be taken into consideration include the damages sustained, existing needs and customary practices at local level. Subsequently, a tailored plan of action will be developed by VNRC with IFRC support.

Expertise within VNRC itself and experience taken from the Typhoon Ketsana operation by adapting IFRC/ICRC guidelines on cash grant distribution in Viet Nam will be used for consultation with partners i.e. the department for agriculture and rural development (DARD) and selected communities, on the best way in which to assist these communities in livelihood support, especially in view of the next crop in January 2011.

Psychosocial support	
Objective: To provide psychosocial assistance to 100 of the most affected families and help them to cope with their loss.	
Outputs	Activities planned
100 families have received psychosocial support from VNRC.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training and coaching on psychological support for VNRC staff and volunteers in affected provinces • Organization of community-based psychological support (door-to-door visits) by trained VNRC staff and volunteers to families in need. • Organization of various community activities by local VNRC chapters.

Progress:

VNRC staff and volunteers have been in direct contact with families affected by these floods to provide psychosocial support (PSP) as well as distribute small sums of cash to families who have suffered the loss of family members. Further discussion between national headquarters and branches is currently ongoing to discuss suitable and feasible activities under the activities mentioned above.

Up to 75 VNRC staff and volunteers in Ha Tinh, Quang Binh and Nghe An provinces will receive training on PSP and subsequently provide PSP during the following distribution of cash for food and livelihoods. PSP materials will be adopted and tailored from existing IFRC materials and further enhanced with technical support from the IFRC Asia Pacific zone office in Kuala Lumpur and the Southeast Asia regional office in Bangkok.

National Society capacity building

IFRC has supported VNRC for many years now in the development of the national society's capacities and as part of all relief and recovery operations. From the beginning of the operation in response to Typhoons Ketsana and Mirinae in 2009, relief and recovery activities have taken into account capacity building of the national society across all sectors. Capacity building is built into most, if not all, relief and recovery programming.

One excellent example of capacity building was shown in this operation whereby VNRC staff members who were recently trained to operate the deployment of the water treatment unit in emergencies, were able to hit the ground running, and deploy and operate the said unit immediately following the flood. These skills were built during the previous year's floods and typhoon response operation, and have evidently paid off in VNRC's ability to provide needed assistance independently.

At this stage of the operation, VNRC and IFRC are discussing the needs of the host national society in terms of capacity building to improve the quality of overall programmes. Such activities will be further elaborated in operations updates to come.

Logistics

At present, there has been no request from VNRC for the international mobilization of relief supplies. All procurement for food and non-food items will be made in-country. The Federation logistics and procurement delegate who presently supports the 2009 floods and typhoons operation will also be on hand to provide technical support and facilitate the adherence of the national society to Federation international procurement standards and quality control. This delegate will also support partner national societies in procurement procedures should these be requested.

Communications – Advocacy and public information

Support to facilitate timely and accurate information between those on the ground and other stakeholders continues with the help of in-country communications assistance and the Southeast Asia regional office communications unit. News stories on the IFRC public website have been posted, highlighting the [Federation appeal](#), and [VNRC's response to the floods](#), bringing the situation further into the public eye.

How we work

All IFRC 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 the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

IFRC's work is guided by [Strategy 2020](#) which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

Contact information

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Summary of overall response by Viet Nam Red Cross (VNRC) as of 19 November 2010

Province	Cash (VND million)	Household kits ¹	Water PUR ² (boxes)	Rice (tonnes) ³	Houses (to be constructed)	Livestock (cows)	Emergency tents	Water filter (set)	T-shirt	Instant noodles ⁴
Nghe An	150	2,000	1,000	102	50	200	50			2,254
Ha Tinh	300	3,800	2,600	231	100	400	50	100	210	1,950
Quang Binh	300	3,700	2,200	288	100	400	50			
Quang Tri	150	600								
TT Hue	50	400								
Ninh Thuan	100	400								
Khanh Hoa	150	600		18						
Binh Dinh	150	800								
Phu Yen	150	800								
Quang Ngai	100	400								
TOTAL	1,600	13,500	5,800	639	250	1,000	150	100	210	4,204

¹ Including IFRC and Spanish Red Cross

² Including IFRC

³ Including IFRC (219 tonnes) and Italian Red Cross (18 tonnes)

⁴ Including domestic assistance