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Emergency appeal operation update Democratic People's Republic of Korea: Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Emergency appeal n° MDRKP003 GLIDE n° FL-2011-000096-PRK Operation update n° 2 23 September 2011

Period covered by this operation update:
30 August - 22 September 2011.

Appeal target (current): This Emergency Appeal seeks CHF 3.49 million in cash, kind, or services to support the DPRK Red Cross National Society to assist 30,000 flood-affected people for 12 months, and will be completed by 31 August 2012. A Final Report will be made available by 30 November 2012.

Appeal coverage: 37 per cent; additional funds are urgently needed to meet the needs outlined in this appeal.

[<click here to go directly to the updated donor response report, or here to link to contact details >](#)

Appeal history:

- This Emergency Appeal was initially launched on 16 August 2011 for CHF 3.49 million for 12 months to assist 30,000 beneficiaries.
- **Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF):** CHF 453,413 was initially allocated from the IFRC's DREF to support the National Society to respond to this emergency.

Summary:

A total of 6,876 emergency relief kits, including family hygiene kits and water purification tablets, were distributed to 29,933 affected people immediately after the disaster. The relief items were well-received as they protected displaced people from exposure to continued rain.

While the rainy season is over, however, many people still live under the remnants of their dwellings, often at risk of imminent collapse. Others salvaged some construction materials from the debris and repaired houses by themselves. However, as these houses are poorly designed and mud and sands are used as binding materials, the risk of collapsing remains the same as was before. Contaminated drinking water supply sources also continue to raise health concerns.

During the reporting period, an emergency health and hygiene promotion workshop and a disaster preparedness and relief workshop were organized in the affected areas, raising awareness among the communities on health, hygiene and disaster preparedness measures. A feasibility study has been completed in affected areas in working towards improving the water and sanitation situation.



Health and Hygiene promotion workshop in South Hwanghae province. Photo: DPRK Red Cross.

The procurement process of food is underway, with offers received from some suppliers. The procurement process for shelter construction materials is also underway.

Considering the current appeal coverage and ever-increasing market price of construction materials, the DPRK Red Cross Society has reviewed the original target of supporting 1,000 families for shelter materials to about 500 families.

The situation

The recent floods have had serious negative impact on the livelihood of disaster victims and the local economy.

Some of the displaced people continue to live under temporary shelter made of plastic sheetings. As the temperature drops, people are exposed to additional health challenges, especially respiratory diseases. Displaced communities are trying to rebuild their destroyed houses with mud and straw, which may eventually collapse again in the event of heavy rain.

As autumn progresses, there has been some improvement in availability of food. However, food remains the most serious problem for the disaster-affected people in Chongdan, Yonnan and Pongchon counties as rice is not ready for harvest. The people are desperately collecting immature rice to overcome the critical food situation. However, it was not recommended as this practice will significantly affect the harvest in late autumn.

As the water purification tablets distributed have already run out, the risk of waterborne diseases, diarrhea and other gastrointestinal diseases remain.

Coordination and partnerships

World Food Programme's (WFP) emergency food distribution of 80.94 metric tonnes of fortified maize flour to seven counties/cities in south Hwanghae and south Phyongan provinces for 6,745 people is coming to an end.

The inter-agency cluster systems of food, health and WASH are still active.

IFRC continues to participate in humanitarian country team meetings to ensure co-ordination with other partners in the response. In addition, IFRC is co-chairing the water and sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) cluster.

National Society Capacity Building: The capacity building of the National Society headquarters and branches as well as of communities is the focus of the relief operation. The workshops to increase these capacities on disaster response and health and hygiene promotion have been conducted in the reporting period.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overview

Progress towards outcomes

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)	
Outcome: To provide 6,000 affected and displaced families (approximately 24,000 individuals) in three counties in south Hwanghae, with essential food and non-food items to meet their immediate needs.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
To provide emergency food to 6,000 families (24,000 beneficiaries) who are most vulnerable to food insecurity as the result of the floods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Select 6,000 families (24,000 beneficiaries) in critical food situation, focusing on the most vulnerable like children under five year old, pregnant and lactating women and aged people. - Train 120 volunteers in food distribution procedures and monitoring and evaluation. - Mobilize 300 Red Cross volunteers to register target beneficiaries in close coordination with local authorities. - Conduct distribution of emergency food ration (400 grams per beneficiary per day) to 24,000 people for one month in Chongdan, Yonan and Pongchon counties, specifically those who are not covered by current WFP food assistance.

	- Monitor and evaluate the distribution and impact while carrying out continued assessment.
To replenish 3,100 family relief kits already distributed to flood victims, and improve the DPRK Red Cross response capacity	- Monitor the distribution and conduct ongoing assessment - Procure and replenish 3,100 family kits of relief items - Conduct lessons learnt and review workshops in south Hwanghae and Kaesong city (60 staff and volunteers)

Progress: For food distribution, 6,000 families, who lost food stocks and crops due to the flood and are under severe food shortage condition, have been selected as beneficiaries. The priority is given to those most vulnerable: homeless, disabled and family with large family who are not supported by the WFP emergency food relief operation.

Food distribution points have been identified by the DPRK Red Cross provincial branches. Measures are taken to avoid duplication with emergency food aid of WFP. The process for procurement of 288 metric tonnes of food item has already commenced which will be supplied to 6,000 families for one month. The distribution is expected to start from mid-October.

A disaster response and relief workshop was held in Haeju, Chongdan and Pongchon counties in south Hwanghae province for 139 volunteers. The workshop was aimed at building up their capacity to conduct disaster response activities like disaster assessment, needs analysis, beneficiary targeting, relief operation management etc. based on emergency standard operation procedures. In addition, the workshop collected some feedback on the effectiveness of current disaster relief operations. Discussions were held on how to better mobilize volunteers for recovery activities as well.

Permanent housing	
Outcome: To provide good quality construction materials and technical support for the reconstruction of 500 flood-resistant houses in Chongdan, Yonan and Pongchon counties in south Hwanghae province.	
Outputs (expected results)	Outputs (expected results)
500 families will have safer dwellings through provision of quality construction materials and technical support by professionals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Select 500 most vulnerable families in the worst affected areas of Chongdan, Yonan, Pongchon counties in south Hwanghae province. - Support the owner driven construction of flood-proof houses through the distribution of quality construction materials - Design new houses in accordance with government building code for flood-resistant dwellings, in close collaboration with appropriate design institutes and state academy of science. - Develop and distribute proper construction practise manual and IEC material - Train 120 volunteers on safer shelter building skills so they can provide proper guidance and technical assistance to the disaster victims in the construction of their houses. - Develop and organize workshops to inform the communities/beneficiaries about proper construction practices . - Monitoring of ongoing construction by municipal supervisors - Ensure newly built houses have access to safe water and latrines.

Progress/Challenges: The DPRK Red Cross has been negotiating with the State Science Academy for technical support on the provision of design, training of local people and technical monitoring and evaluation on construction of houses. They have completed flood-resistant house designs with the technical support from State Science Academy. The selection of target communities has been completed, in close collaboration with county and provincial branches. In consideration with low appeal coverage, the number of beneficiary families will be reduced to about 500 for the first round.

The price of construction materials like cement, iron bar and timber has drastically increased as compared to the previous months which will have a negative impact on the plan. In addition, these construction materials are hardly

available in local market, therefore, we may need to import from other countries which takes a longer time to process. Further, as the winter season is looming, there is potential risk that the people would be exposed to the severe winter. Donor support in the appeal is therefore crucial to meeting the winter needs of the people.

Emergency health and care	
Outcome: The health risks among 30,000 flood-affected people in Chongdan, Yonan and Pongchon counties in South Hwanghae province will be reduced.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Improved knowledge and practices of the population on the prevention and care of diseases related to floods.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Train 50 Red Cross CBHFA trainers, focusing on psychological support and prevention of waterborne and water-related disease and ARI, jointly with the water and sanitation team. - Train 150 community-based volunteers on health promotion with a special focus on epidemic control - Conduct disease prevention and health promotion campaigns targeting flood-affected population for four months. - Train 30 household doctors with special focus on mother and child care in emergencies. - 200 copies of volunteers CBHFA toolkit printed and distributed - Provide household doctors with ri-kits and mid-wifery kits.

Progress/Challenges: Emergency health and hygiene promotion workshop was conducted on 24 – 26 August with participation of 60 volunteers in three counties of south Hwanghae province. The workshop aimed at increasing capacity of Red Cross volunteers to conduct health and hygiene promotion in the flood-affected communities to prevent outbreak of waterborne diseases. In the workshop, participants expressed the need for provision of health and hygiene promotion materials to increase the impact of the promotion activities. Printing of 200 copies of CBHFA tool kits is under consideration.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion	
Outcome: The risk of water and sanitation related diseases has been reduced through the provision of safe water, appropriate sanitation as well as hygiene promotion to up to 60,000 beneficiaries in Chongdan, Yonan and Pongchon counties in south Hwanghae province.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Safe water is provided to five worst affected communities through reconstruction of damaged water supply systems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Select five of the worst affected project communities in Chongdan, Yonan, Pongchon counties in south Hwanghae province where water supply systems are not properly functioning due to the floods. The total number of households benefiting from that programme will be about 2,500. - This will include the 1,000 most vulnerable families in the five selected communities, selected in for the shelter programme. - Distribute water purification tablets to 2,000 households for additional two months. - Distribute 1,000 household water filters to be used until water supply systems are restored. - Distribution of 1.6 kg of body and washing soap to 1,000 households for two months. - Complete a detailed design for the reconstruction of the water supply systems on the detailed field survey. - Procure and deliver necessary construction materials (cement and reinforcement steel bar, pipes and fittings, pump sets, equipment and instrument) to five communities. - Complete reconstruction of the water supply system in accordance with government standards. - Conduct two three-day water and sanitation technical workshops and five two-day on-the-spot water and sanitation technical workshops to train 150 volunteers on the construction, operation, and maintenance of water and sanitation facilities in the target communities. - Print and distribute 150 water and sanitation technical manuals (IEC

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- pack) to the community technicians.- Monitor and evaluate the process of rehabilitation of water supply systems by DPRK Red Cross.
Appropriate household latrines and wastewater collection facilities are provided to the 1,000 most vulnerable families in the five selected communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Prepare appropriate designs of latrine and wastewater collection systems according to the local and cultural context.- Procure and deliver necessary construction materials (cement and reinforcement steel bar) to the communities to reconstruct latrines and wastewater collection systems.- Monitor and evaluate the process.
The health status of the population is improved through behaviour change and hygiene promotion activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Conduct training of trainers for 50 persons in hygiene promotion.- Conduct training of volunteers for 150 volunteers in hygiene promotion. This will cascade down to 60,000 beneficiaries.- Print and distribute 200 packages of information, education and communication materials on hygiene promotion to be used in the health promotion campaign.- Conduct household-level monitoring.

Progress: The National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) completed assessments in Yonnan, Chongdan and Pongchon counties of south Hwanghae province and identified communities for rehabilitation of water supply and sanitation system. In view of the scarcity of electricity, the team selected communities for gravity-fed water supply.

In view of the present funding coverage, some of the planned activities including provision of water filters are on hold. However, to prevent waterborn diseases in the affected areas, the National Society plans to continue to distribute additional water purification tablets.

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 2. Enable healthy and safe living.
 3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.
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