

# **CHINA: FLOODS 1996**

29 October 1996

*appeal no. 10/96*

*situation report no. 4*

*period covered: 7 September - 28 October*

## ***The context***

The torrential rains and storms that have plagued China for the past several months appear to have ceased with the last typhoon, the 29th tropical storm of the season. In total, nearly 3,000 people lost their lives in the floods. Approximately 20,000 were injured. Almost two million rooms were destroyed, with four times as many severely damaged. Around 150 million people were affected by the floods.

In some areas rebuilding has begun. In others, people are still living in makeshift shelters.

## ***Latest events***

Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) staff and volunteers continue to provide relief aid to hundreds of thousands of flood victims. The RCSC Medical Teams service, in conjunction with the Department of Public Health, dispatched 5,940 teams (over 62,000 medical personnel) and accumulated 3,784,304 patient contacts (some seen more than once) up to 4 October. In addition, over 15,000 staff and volunteers at the provincial level have participated in the operation.

PROVINCE	MEDICAL TEAMS	DISASTER VOLUNTEERS/STAFF	DISINFECTANTS in RMB	MEDICINE in RMB	FOOD in RMB	TENTS in RMB
Anhui	1,202	3,879	299,800	599,900	399,480	200,000
Zhejiang	204	74	299,800	399,470	300,000	140,000
Jiangxi	542	919	298,000	399,470	300,000	100,000
Hubei	236	401	499,800	1,099,448	300,000	600,000
Hunan	821	292	499,800	1,099,448	300,000	600,000
Guizhou	334	1,328	300,255	600,550	300,000	200,000
Hebei	1,411	192	495,000	498,510	700,000	0
Henan	468	2,432	247,500	251,355	400,000	0
Shandong	552	980	247,500	249,330	300,000	0
Shanxi	57	186	302,500	299,955	300,000	0
Fujian	47	192	400,125	400,700	400,000	0
Xinjiang	66	3,065	300,000	300,000	600,000	0

## ***Red Cross/Red Crescent action***

The RCSC continues to provide medical teams in co-operation with the Department of Public Health. As flood waters recede there is a renewed need for sanitation. Food is still needed. In some areas, flood victims were able to replant with hopes for another crop in the autumn. However additional flooding wiped out their resources again and planting for some will be impossible until spring. Fund-raising continues. Provincial and local fund-raising efforts have raised:

- over RMB 22.6 million (approximately CHF 3.4 million) in cash
- in-kind donations valued at RMB 43.1 million (approximately CHF 6.5 million).

## ***Outstanding needs***

Funds are needed to continue the operation and provide food, medicine, disinfectants, and quilts to those who are still vulnerable.

## ***External relations - Government/UN/NGOs/Media***

The RCSC and the local, provincial and national government agencies continue to work in close co-operation. Their collaborative effort in providing medical personnel has become well established. In other areas of relief, the RCSC continues to focus on the procurement and distribution of relief goods while the Ministry of Civil Affairs is moving into rehabilitation.

International media attention has faded although national sources continue to produce stories on the floods.

## ***Contributions***

See Annex 1 for details.

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