

CHINA: FLOODS

12 February 1999

appeal no. 21/98 (revised)

situation report no. 9 (Budget revision)

period covered: 15 December 1998 - 31 January 1999

The devastating flooding in central and north eastern China in July and August left nearly 14 million homeless. Latest reports from the Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) indicate that while the majority of the homeless have been temporarily rehoused over the winter period, there are still pockets of victims living in makeshift shelters in the southern parts of China. There is a general expectation that when Spring arrives, there will be pressure for those victims that have lost their homes to move out of the temporary accommodation and to rebuild their homes.

In the north east, the Inner Mongolian Branch of the RCSC has completed approximately 1,200 shelters within the current shelter programme. The onset of winter has forced a temporary halt to the work, which will resume in spring. Much of the construction material required for the additional 1,300 shelters has already been purchased and pre-positioned in readiness for the restart of the programme.

A re-evaluation of the current needs prompted the Federation to increase and expand its support to the Red Cross Society of China, resulting in a revised Emergency Appeal budget.

The context

More than sixty days of rains during the summer caused devastating flooding in 29 provinces along the banks of the Yangtze, Nenjiang, and Songhuajiang rivers. An estimated 223 million people were affected, of whom some 15.85 million were forced to evacuate their homes and seek temporary shelter. Now that much of the flood waters have receded, the true cost of the destruction is becoming apparent. Of the 2.9 million people previously reported to be living on dikes in the flood affected area, the Federation estimates that up to 90% have been temporarily resettled with other families. There still remain isolated pockets of homeless living in temporary shelters close to their original villages. Free government distributions of emergency food, medicines, and shelter material ceased soon after the original emergency phase ended, leaving flood victims reliant on borrowing basic food stocks from the local government.

After re-evaluating the current needs in the areas of Shelter, Institutional Development, and Disaster Preparedness, the Federation reviewed the size of its support to the Red Cross Society of China and expanded the Emergency Appeal budget from 13.6 million to CHF 16.01 million to meet the increased need. The revised Appeal aims not only to assist victims of the current emergency with increased food, medicines, sanitation material, and shelter, but also to preposition basic emergency relief supplies as well as to fund programmes that will strengthen the capacity of the RCSC to react more effectively to future disasters. Given the huge size of China, along with the prevalence of disasters in the region, this additional funding is considered essential in order to further enhance the capabilities of what is already a highly resourceful and capable National Society.

Latest events

Along the Yangtze, more and more families are returning to what remains of their homes. One of the main concerns of the Federation is the apparent inability of some of the poorer victims to finance the reconstruction of their homes.

The World Food Programme (WFP) has initiated numerous Food for Work Programmes in four of the worst effected provinces. With this food assistance, each beneficiary has been able to start rebuilding the infrastructure of the areas close to their homes. This includes clearing and replanting their agricultural lands and participating in rehabilitation of drinking water supplies, irrigation canals, and government initiatives requiring their participation in dike rehabilitation. A total of 42,000 MT of rice has so far been distributed, easing the immediate crisis facing the most vulnerable in these areas. The Federation is trying to provide the victims with other high priority relief items (such as clothing and shelter) to complement the WFP effort.

Red Cross/Red Crescent action

Relief activities •

Over the reporting period, the Federation and the Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) have concentrated their efforts on ensuring that the Provincial Red Cross organisations are supplied with the funds and materials to assist the most vulnerable in the flood areas. The main focus has been on supplying clothing, food, and quilts for the winter months.

A rehabilitation project, modelled on the successful Inner Mongolia Emergency Shelter Programme, is beginning in Hubei and Hunan Provinces. The project will aim to assist those victims who lost their homes in many of the areas now being assisted under the WFP programmes. A basic 'package' of materials will be donated to approximately 4,500 of the most vulnerable victims in these target areas. Using these inputs, along with some small government grants and some of their own resources, the beneficiaries will be able to complete the basic rebuilding of their homes.

Inner Mongolia Emergency Temporary Shelter

The programme aims to provide 2,500 families with the materials to build basic shelters. According to the latest reports from the Federation's Field Delegate who visited the Region during this reporting period, close to half of the shelters (1,200 shelters) have been completed, providing over 4,800 victims with adequate heated shelters over the coldest months. With the onset of the winter, and with temperatures dropping to below minus 18 Celsius in places, work has had to stop on this programme.

On the field trip made by the Field Delegate, it was found that a large proportion of the remaining funds held by the Inner Mongolia Branch of the RCSC had been utilised in the purchase and pre-positioning of the remaining material required to complete the final 1,300 homes. Work is not likely to start before April, 1999, due to the long Winters in this part of China. It is expected that this project will be completed in late June or early July.

Funds distributed

The International Federation so far has allocated or spent a total of CHF 9.5 million to purchase and distribute the following relief items:

Monetary Value of Relief Goods Transferred to the RCSC to date (all funds in CHF)
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Provinces Assisted	Water Purification Tablets	Medicines	Sanitation Materials	Food	Coats/ Quilts	Housing	Value of Goods
Hubei	352,269	250,250	285,412	1,024,375	235,025	NA	
Hunan	275,206	164,125	230,866	651,837	36,700	NA	
Jiangxi	202,042	157,625	172,365	695,570	156,925	NA	
Fujian	31,283	52,000	35,454	144,300	NA	NA	
Guangxi	62,566	52,000	35,454	144,300	NA	NA	
Sichuan	31,283	52,000	32,724	138,047	NA	NA	
Heilongjiang	0	136,500	37,000	624,338	314,350	NA	
Inner Mongolia	0	84,500	18,818	883,812	235,700	1,500,000	
Total	6,260 boxes of 10,000	150,000 kits	932,500 bottles	9,687 MT	68,750 Pcs	2,535 Shelters	
Monetary total by type	954,649	949,000	848,093	4,306,579	978,700	1,500,000	TOTAL 9,537,021

Planning •

Relief

CHF 1 million has been allocated to purchase additional quantities of food and medicines. The food will be distributed among the flood victims, many of whom are still struggling and suffering in makeshift shelters during low winter temperatures. The medicines will be distributed through Red Cross clinics free of charge to flood victims to treat winter illnesses.

Disaster Preparedness - Pre-positioning

The RCSC and the Federation delegation have worked together on producing a plan to ensure that when future disasters threaten China, the Society will be in a better position to respond. This planning revolved around ensuring that specific high risk Provinces receive adequate stocks of basic, durable relief materials which will be pre-positioned for the long-term in both Provincial and Prefecture Red Cross branches and Disaster Preparedness Centres. This programme, with a budget of approximately CHF 810,000, will allow RCSC to replenish much of the stocks released and distributed by the Society during the current emergency.

Disaster Preparedness (DP) - Training

In addition to the pre-positioning of essential relief items, the Federation and the RCSC plan to develop Disaster Preparedness management training at both Headquarters and Provincial level in order to further enhance the National Societies' capabilities to react to disasters in the future. The aim will be to further develop the awareness of DP, assessments of disasters, and reporting elements within the framework of the societies disaster management plan.

Emergency Shelter

The availability of earmarked funds from the German Red Cross has allowed the expansion of the emergency shelter programme already planned for the southern provinces of Hubei and Hunan. The aim is provide emergency shelter for 2,000 families in Hubei and 2,500 families in Hunan. Each family will be given financial support to purchase building materials to assist them in reconstructing their damaged houses. Now that funding has been secured for this important programme, the Federation plans to recruit a delegate to monitor and assist the RCSC in managing its implementation.

Institutional Development

With the remaining funds available after the essential relief objectives have been met, the Federation and RCSC will also introduce an Institutional Development programme, covering staff training, dissemination, youth programmes, information, and improving the infrastructure at Headquarters and Branch level.

The revised budget reflecting the increased programme activities is attached as Annex II.

Fund-raising •

The Red Cross Society of China continues to fund-raise actively at both Headquarters and Branch- level. Significant donations have been received from the Hong Kong Red Cross Branch of the RCSC.

Federation Delegation •

All three delegates travelled to the field during this reporting period. The Representative visited Hebei Province to carry out a final assessment of the Earthquake programme. The field delegates carried out missions to both Inner Mongolia and Yunnan.

The Federation delegation now comprises three delegates - one representative, and two field delegates with monitoring and reporting functions - and in addition receives technical support in finance and information from the South East Asia Regional Delegation.

Government Action w

From the start of the disaster, the government called for both cash and in-kind donations from across China, raising more than 7.26 billion yuan (US\$ 874 million) in cash and collecting 100 million yuan (US\$ 12 million) worth of clothing -- by far the largest amount of disaster-relief ever collected within the country.

The government is now calling for increased efforts in rebuilding the dikes destroyed during the recent flooding. Much of this work is being carried out by people living along the banks of the dikes.

Other Agency Relief Efforts •

WFP has just completed its fourth distribution of rice to four of the worst affected provinces. In each round, beneficiaries receive a 15 day ration. There are some fears that further distributions might not be possible due to the shortfalls in the UN Appeal for commodities for its Food for Work (FFW) activities. While the Appeal called for a total of 247,214 MT of rice, to date only the equivalent of 109,484 MT has been received. The agency reports excellent progress is being made in the five FFW activities.

Outstanding needs

The funds currently available concludes the Federation's current Flood Emergency Appeal, and will enable the Federation to assist the RCSC in preparing for future disasters.

External relations - Government/UN/NGOs/Media

While there has been an inevitable slackening of media interest in the floods operation, the Federation Delegation in China continued to give interviews to both the international and Chinese media. The main interest has been on the co-operation between the RCSC and the Federation, as well as the post flood recovery work now taking place throughout China.

Information sharing with Beijing-based embassies continues on a monthly basis. The Federation continues to co-ordinate closely with MSF, World Food Programme, OCHA, UNDP and UNICEF to strengthen relief delivery through shared information. A Federation representative now participates at the weekly UNDP-chaired Disaster Management (DMT) co-ordination meetings.

Contributions

See Annex 1 for the list of contributions to this revised Appeal.

Conclusion

With the ongoing recovery activity that is being seen throughout the country, the Federation's involvement in the emergency phase of this massive disaster is now drawing to a close. The final relief efforts will concentrate on assisting the RCSC to supply much-needed food to areas not covered by the WFP 'Food for Work' Programmes and medicines to Red Cross medical teams. Outside these relief efforts, the emphasis will now be on developing initiatives to help the RCSC respond to future disasters. While much of the groundwork has been completed to achieve this goal, the Society has requested assistance in further developing its disaster response capabilities. To this end the Federation will be working closely with the Society to develop training packages and identify how, through the provision of specific pre-positioned relief commodities, the Society will be in a position to fulfil the needs of the most vulnerable in the early stage of future disasters.

The Federation's delegation in China will continue to monitor the ongoing and planned shelter programmes as well as provide donors with reports on how their funds have been utilised. In addition, with support from the Regional Delegation in Kuala Lumpur, it will assist the RCSC in planned Disaster Preparedness training.

For further information, please contact Marcel Fortier, Desk Officer, on +41 22 730 4268 (e:mail: fortier@ifrc.org).

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BUDGET SUMMARY

	IN CHF	
CHINA: Emergency Floods Operation		
Revised Budget N° 2	1st revision	2nd revision
FOOD ITEMS		
Basic Food (Rice/Wheat - 10.500 MT x CHF 485)	3,880,000	5,092,500
NON FOOD ITEMS		
Basic medical supplies	1,940,000	1,573,000
Sanitation material, vector control	410,000	860,000
Water purification tablets (56.200.000 tablets)	1,377,000	840,500
Blankets (150,000 pcs x CHF 7.90)	1,185,000	0
Quilts (34.000 pcs x CHF 15.40)	1,232,000	578,000
Winter coats (24.000 pcs x CHF 17)	426,700	408,000
Emergency shelter (7.500 units x CHF 500)	1,501,300	3,757,000
Vehicles (4 x 4WD x CHF 40.000)	152,000	160,000
Pre-positioning / Relief material (<i>see annex</i>)	0	810,000
EMERGENCY RELIEF SUPPLIES	12,104,000	14,079,000
Transport (relief goods - 8.500 MT)/ Storage/	492,000	492,000
Personnel (Expat staff / 35 months/del)	180,000	350,000
Personnel (180 local staff x CHF 190 x 7 months)	171,000	179,000
Disaster Preparedness, Training	30,000	220,000
Travel & communications	105,000	150,000
Information	18,000	21,000
Evaluation	15,000	20,000
Administrative, office & general expenses	75,000	80,000
Secretariat operational support	414,000	485,000
NEEDS	1,500,000	1,997,000
TOTAL APPEAL	13,604,000	16,076,000
LESS CASH ON HAND		15,650,000
NET REQUEST CASH & SERVICES		426,000

NB: All relief items will be procured locally

Pre-positioning Relief Material**CHF**

Water purification tablet (14.700.000 tablets)	225,000
Sanitation material, vector control	200,000
Tents for medical team (400 units)	67,000
Clothing sets (30.000 sets)	258,000
Medical supplies	60,000

TOTAL

810,000

APPEAL No. 21/98

PLEDGES
RECEIVED

12/02/99

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL				16,076,000	98.10%	
AUSTRALIAN - GVT		100,000	USD	136,000	04/08/98	
AUSTRALIAN PRIVATE DONORS		25,000	USD	33,188	19/11/98	IBM
AUSTRALIAN - RC		292,455	AUD	258,150	21/12/98	
AUSTRIAN - RC				100,000	21/08/98	
BARBADOS - PRIVATE		50,000	USD	69,200	09/10/98	ERNST & YOUNG
BRITISH - RC/GOVT		150,000	GBP	368,070	25/07/98	
BRITISH - RC/GOVT		250,000	GBP	574,750	24/08/98	
BRITISH - RC		46,858	GBP	106,396	17/11/98	INNER MONGOLIA SHELTER PROGRAM
CANADIAN - RC		100,000	CAD	98,500	20/07/98	
CANADIAN - RC		50,000	CAD	51,230	21/07/98	
CANADIAN - RC/GOVT		200,000	CAD	186,900	21/08/98	
CANADIAN - RC/GOVT		50,000	CAD	49,800	28/08/98	
CANADIAN - RC/GOVT		442,000	CAD	412,165	04/09/98	
CANADIAN - RC		160,000	CAD	153,600	20/08/98	
CANADIAN - RC		150,000	CAD	137,175	25/09/98	
CANADIAN - RC		500,000	CAD	430,150	04/11/98	
CZECH GOVT		20,000	USD	26,550	16/11/98	
DANISH - RC/GOVT		2,000,000	DKK	437,000	05/08/98	
DANISH - RC		500,000	DKK	109,916	24/07/98	
ECHO		1,050,000	XEU	1,746,570	21/09/98	
ECHO		355,000	XEU	590,507	20/08/98	
FINLAND - RC		300,000	FIM	81,150	16/09/98	
FINNISH - RC/GOVT		1,000,000	FIM	271,300	26/10/98	
FRENCH - GOVT		150,000	FRF	36,945	07/10/98	
GERMAN - RC/GOVT		350,000	DEM	294,630	11/08/98	WATER TABLETS
GERMAN - RC/GOVT		399,399	DEM	336,214	04/09/98	QUILTS
GERMAN - PRIVATE		1,300	DEM	1,060	04/06/98	

GERMAN - RC/PRIVATE	2,850,000 DEM	2,306,220	30/12/98	Messrs. Daimler
ICELAND - RC	200,000 ISK	4,204	20/07/98	
IRELAND - GVT	50,000 IEP	106,000	14/09/98	
IRELAND - GVT	75,000 IEP	155,100	02/11/98	
ICRC	500 USD	692	09/10/98	
ITALIAN GOVT	100,000 USD	150,000	31/08/98	
JAPANESE - RC	20,000,000 JPY	215,400	14/09/98	
JAPANESE - RC	10,000,000 JPY	103,400	13/08/98	
JAPANESE - RC	15,000,000 JPY	168,075	10/11/98	
REP. KOREA RC	30,000 CHF	30,000	08/08/98	
LIECHTENSTEIN - RC / PRIVATE		18,260	07/09/98	
LUXEMBOURG - GOVT		500,000	26/08/98	
LUXEMBOURG - RC		10,000	01/12/98	
MACAU - RC	67,867 USD	94,165	17/10/98	
MACAU - RC	136,736 USD	202,506	14/08/98	
MONACO - RC	30,000 FRF	7,389	23/09/98	
NETHERLANDS - RC	270,000 NLG	201,626	20/08/98	MEDICAL SUPPLIES
NETHERLANDS - RC/GVT	650,000 NLG	485,400	18/09/98	
NORWEGIAN - RC	150,000 NOK	29,700	23/07/98	
NORWEGIAN RC/GOVT	1,350,000 NOK	267,300	23/07/98	
POLAND - RC	2,000 USD	3,000	28/08/98	
SPAIN - RC/GOVT	12,000,000 ESP	118,992	12/08/98	
SWEDISH - RC/GOVT	1,500,000 SEK	283,200	12/08/98	
SWEDISH - RC	3,000,000 SEK	536,100	02/11/98	SHELTER PROGRAMME
SWITZERLAND - PRIVATE	660 CHF	660	01/10/98	
SWISS - RC		239,000	31/08/98	
SWITZERLAND - PRIVATE		2,040	12/08/98	
AMERICAN - RC	21,279 USD	28,248	23/11/98	
USA - AMCROSS: private donors	25,000 USD	37,500	12/08/98	Amex
USA - AMCROSS: private donors	15,000 USD	20,760	15/10/98	AT&T
USA - AMCROSS: private donors	25,000 USD	37,500	29/09/98	CitiCorp
USA - AMCROSS: private donors	10,000 USD	13,840	29/09/98	Wal-Mart Foundation
USA - AMCROSS: private donors	20,000 USD	27,680	29/09/98	Meritor Automotive
USA - USAID	300,000 USD	415,200	08/10/98	HEALTH / WATSAN
US EMBASSY - BEIJING	250,000 USD	375,000	27/07/98	
US - PRIVATE	40 USD	60	06/08/98	
AMERICAN - RC	837,500 USD	1,111,781	15/12/98	

SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH	15,650,014 CHF	97.35%
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**KIND AND SERVICES
(INCL. PERSONNEL)**

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
Belgium	Delegates			12,464	30/11/98	Estimated contribution
Belgium	Delegates			15,088	30/11/98	Estimated contribution
Canada	Delegates			13,776	30/11/98	Estimated contribution
Denmark	Delegates			15,252	30/11/98	Estimated contribution
Denmark	Delegates			14,104	30/11/98	Estimated contribution
United Kingdom	Delegates			25,584	30/11/98	Estimated contribution
United States	Delegates			24,600	30/11/98	Estimated contribution
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				120,868 CHF		0.75%

**NOT REQUESTED IN
APPEAL**

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0 CHF		