

# INFORMATION BULLETIN



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies  
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge  
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja  
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

## VIETNAM: TYPHOON XANGSANE

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*The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in 185 countries.*

### In Brief

This Bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the situation at this time. CHF 100,000 is being requested from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF). This will enable an immediate response ahead of the results and recommendations of ongoing assessments. Once approved, unearmarked funds to repay DREF will be needed. A preliminary emergency appeal is expected to be launched this week once the extent of devastation is better known. Typhoon Xangsane first hit the Philippines, causing death and destruction, before moving across the South China Sea before striking Vietnam's central provinces on Sunday 1 October.

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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 \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

### The Situation

Typhoon Xangsane hit the central provinces of Vietnam on Sunday 1 October. Initial estimates by the authorities and Vietnam Red Cross (VNRC) officials identify 24 people dead, 1,200 injured and tens missing in the central Vietnamese provinces of Nghe An, Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thua Thien Hue, Da Nang and Quang Nam. These casualty figures are set to climb.

Overall, 190,000 houses are reported collapsed or with no roof, of which, 5,105 houses were destroyed (Quang Binh 1; Quang Tri 25; Thua Thien Hue 422; Da Nang 751; Quang Nam 3,885; Quang Ngai 15; Kontum 6). Of the damage estimates to hand, 166,000 houses are damaged to some extent in the following provinces: (Quang Binh

37; Quang Tri 1,201, Thua Thien Hue 14,201; Da Nang 5,500; Quang Nam 144,160; Quang Ngai 888; Kontum 20).

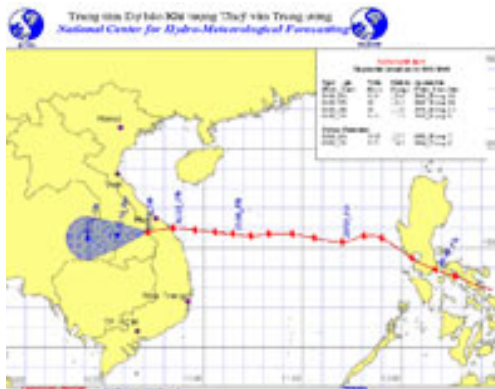
The *Dan Tri* newspaper reported 198 fishing boats have been sunk said. Injured people were being treated at hospitals or health clinics.

In additional, the typhoon has destroyed 9,191 hectares of rice and other crops. Quang Nam province was the worst affected with 122.5 km of dikes eroded as well as many roads.

The situation in many provinces may worsen as heavy rains continue to fall and river levels continue to rise rapidly. This may cause flooding in large areas over the next few days.

Thanks to a rapid evacuation organised by the government, over 200,000 people have been evacuated from coastal zones a day before the typhoon struck.

Authorities and other local agencies with the active participation of military forces are helping local people back to normal life with support in house repair, the clearing of felled trees, restoration of electricity and water supplies, and provision of emergency food for evacuated people. It is expected that extensive support will be required to rebuild houses and provide for other needs, including hygiene kits and households items in the coming days.



Typhoon Xangsane track



People are evacuated before the typhoon



Flooding has spread to many areas



Collapsed trees destroyed many houses

### Red Cross and Red Crescent action

VNRC chapters are supporting affected people: Thua Thien Hue RC chapter has provided 5,000 bags of instant noodles, and evacuated 50,000 people from 12,380 households; Quang Tri RC chapter has mobilised disaster response teams (DRT) with 420 RC members and volunteers to support 870 evacuees, and used two trucks and a speed boat to support its response.

Initial reports indicate a need for drinking water, food and shelter. Of course, a massive rebuilding programme looms. Local authorities, ie Quang Nam, are releasing emergency rice stores.

A coordination meeting between Central Committee for Flood and Storm Control with the Disaster Management Working Group (DMWG) Monday discussed the evolving disaster response.

A DMWG joint assessment team (VNRC & INGOs are eligible to join) is ready to be deployed Tuesday if the Government requests. Logistic and costs will be covered by Oxfam GB and HK.

VNRC HQ is continuing to collect additional information on damage and needs from local chapters. It is anticipated that an International Emergency Appeal will be launched to support VNRC meet the needs of the vulnerable populations. Emergency teams are set to leave Hanoi HQ in support of colleagues in the field.

The media is helping mobilize communities across Vietnam as well as business to support the relief operation as it gathers pace. The Ministry of Health is organising initial medical supplies.