

OPERATIONS UPDATE



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

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA: FLASH FLOODS

9 September, 2002

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 178 countries. For more information: www.ifrc.org

Preliminary Appeal No. 22/02

Launched on 9 August, 2002 for CHF 903,000 (USD 599,935 or EUR 619,026) to assist 22,500 beneficiaries.

Operations Update No. 1; Period covered: 9 August to 9 September, 2002

IN BRIEF

Appeal coverage: 19.9%%

Related Appeals: N/A

Outstanding needs: CHF 723,034

Summary: While the donor response has been timely and adequate, further support is needed to fully implement the intended objectives and activities.

The Situation

Torrential rains of up to 340 – 380 cm fell within 10 hours on August 5th and 6th, 2002, primarily impacting the western parts of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). The high run-off volume combined with high winds and tides overwhelmed the embankments in coastal areas in Anjou City, while flash floods caused extensive damage to many houses, crops and infrastructure including roads, bridges, railways, public buildings, water, sewage and communication systems throughout areas of north and south Pyongan, and South Hwanghae provinces and Kaesong municipality.

Assessments of all the areas started immediately on August 5th, with final assessments completed by August 14th, as information from flood-rendered inaccessible areas continued to trickle through to the central authorities. The final report identified 24 deaths, with 5 persons still missing and presumed dead.

The Federation launched Preliminary Emergency Appeal no. 22/02 for CHF 903,000 on 9 August, seeking assistance for 22,500 beneficiaries in North and South Pyongan, and South Hwanghae provinces and Kaesong City area.

The Typhoon also hit the northern part of the Korean peninsula. The DPRK Red Cross and the Federation DP delegate are currently in Kangwon Province on the eastern coast of DPRK undertaking an assessment of

affected areas. In the western province of South Pyongan the flash floods operation launched by the Red Cross in the first week of August continues.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Action

The Red Cross was the first organization to respond to initial reports, with assessment teams of the National Society and Federation staff in the field in Anju City within hours of the flooding, and again the next day in response to the Governments request for an international agency assessment. They have been the only agency to provide relief support to the affected by distributing pre-positioned relief items maintained in 3 warehouses in the region. The initial distribution to 1,799 of the worst affected families in and around Anju City was completed within 48 hours, and as further information and assessments accumulated, the transportation, distribution and monitoring of items for an additional 6,323 families throughout the affected areas was completed within 9 days.

Specifics of distribution: On 6 August, relief items were released from the DPRK Red Cross central DP warehouse in Pyongyang and distributed to 1,799 of the most severely affected families (8,634 people). The item included: 4,734 blankets; 407 kitchen sets; 2,206 water containers; 259,020 water purification tablets; 10 rolls of tarpaulins; 50 first aid kits and 2 hospital tents.

For the Anju City area

<u>Item</u>	<u>No. of families/ beneficiaries</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
blankets	407 / 1,953	1,953
cooking sets	407 / 1,953	407
water containers	407 / 1,953	814
water purification tablets	407 / 1,953	58,590

For the partly affected

blankets	1,392 / 6,681	2,784
water containers	1,392 / 6,681	1,392
water purification tablets	1,392 / 6,681	200,430

For other areas

Further distributions took place as outlined below:

Province	City / County	No. of families	No. of Benef.	Blanket	Kitchen Set	Water Container	Water Purifying Tablet	First Aid Kit	Plastic sheeting	Released from	Distribution Date
South Phyongan	Kaechon	2,453	11,774	11,774	2,453	2,453	1,059,660	150	100	Central DP Warehouse, Pyongyang	13~14 Aug.
	Dokchon	1,200	5,400	5,400	1,200	1,200	486,000	90	50		12 Aug.
North Phyongan	Kujang	132	594	594	132	132	53,460	12		Regional, Huichon	14 Aug.
	Pakchon	110	495	495	110	110	44,550	20		Regional, Sinuiju	19 Aug.
	Unjon	60	270	270	60	60	5,400	10			“
	Jongju	58	261	261	58	58	5220	10			“

South	Chongdan	170	700	700	170	170	63,000	15		Regional, Kaesong	14 Aug.
Hwanghae	Yongan	107	535	535	107	107	48,150	10			“
	Baechon	96	480	480	96	96	43,200	10			“
Kaesong	Kaesong	138	685	685	138	138	61650	13			“
Sub-total		4,524	21,194	21,194	4,524	4,524	1,870,290	340	150		
TOTAL											

Immediate Needs

Additional relief items to complete the distribution to the above families include:

- water containers
- water purification tablets
- temporary shelter including one plastic sheeting for 4524 families each to provide protection, living and storage space, privacy and emotional security.

Water and Sanitation activities including the provision of two million water purification tablets and 4,524 collapsible containers as well as assisting local authority to repair drinking water feeding pipes.

Basic medical supplies including 300 first aid kits (for hospitals) and 300 first aid kits for (for FA posts) to provide adequate care for those in need.

Replacement stock for the distributed items is also being sought to have available as the typhoon season (September, October) approaches.

Coordination

In 1995, following severe flooding, the Government of DPRK for the first time appealed for international assistance. The Federation in cooperation with the DPRK Red Cross launched CHF 5 million appeal for the distribution of clothing, blankets, food and first aid kits to 130,000 men, women and children and to rebuild 1,900 houses. The emergency operation has since evolved from food aid and shelter to a programme focused on disaster preparedness and support to the health system through drug distributions, water and sanitation activities, health worker training and community based first aid. The 2002 annual budget is approximately CHF 12.4 million.

The Federation operational area currently covers three provinces and a municipal (North Phyongan, Chagang, South Phyongan, Kaesong Municipality), comprising 51 counties and 1,762 provincial, city and county, village level health institutions, with a catchment population of approximately 6 million. The federation delegation comprises nine international delegates including four health delegates, a disaster preparedness and relief delegate and a water and sanitation delegate.

As a result of its role in disaster response operations during the 1995 and 1996 floods and the 1997 drought, the DPRK Red Cross has been increasingly recognized by the Government and international agencies as a key player in disaster preparedness and response. A Memorandum of Understanding between the DPRK Red Cross and the Federation was signed in 2000. The document outlines the roles and responsibilities of DPRK Red Cross in disaster preparedness and response. In the same year, DPRK Red Cross and the Federation cooperated to provide relief assistance to 6,000 households affected by the typhoon that hit the eastern coast of DPRK. In 2001, the Federation with the DPRK Red Cross successfully implemented the flood relief operation in Kangwon Province by providing pre-positioned DP items with 2,700 homeless families. The strategic pre-stockpiling of relief items under the 1999 programme proved to be crucial in the implementation of the above operations.

Outstanding needs

While the donor response has been timely and adequate, further support is needed to fully implement the intended objectives and activities.

For further details please contact: Aurelia Balpe, Federation Desk Officer; phone: 41 22 730 43 52; email: balpe@ifrc.org.

All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>.

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DPR Korea - Floods / strong winds						ANNEX 1
APPEAL No. 22/2002		PLEDGES RECEIVED				10.09.2002
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
CASH						
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				903'000		TOTAL COVERAGE 19.9%
FINNISH - RC		50'000	EUR	73'490	14.08.2002	
JAPANESE - RC		30'000	USD	44'220	14.08.2002	
MONACO - RC		10'000	EUR	14'646	09.08.2002	
SWEDISH - GOVT		300'000	SEK	47'610	16.08.2002	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				179'966	CHF	19.9%
KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				0	CHF	0.0%
ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	