

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

TAIPEI: EARTHQUAKE

10 July 2001

This Ops Update is intended for reporting on emergency appeals.

No. 25/99

Launched on 24 September 1999 for CHF 3.3 million for 4 months. Budget increased to CHF 48.4 million and the rehabilitation programme was extended to the end of December 2001 in situation report no: 5, May 2000.

Beneficiaries: 100,000

Operations Update No. 7 Period covered: Sept 2000 - June 2001 (last Ops Update issued: 22 September 2000, report no: 6);

“At a Glance”

Appeal coverage: 100%

Outstanding needs: None

The Disaster: Many families have been unable to find the means to rebuild their homes and continue to live in temporary housing, some built by the Red Cross. Thousands of families have received material and financial support. Reconstruction of schools is almost completed, but delays have occurred in rebuilding clinics. The renovation and stocking of disaster preparedness centres is nearly finished and volunteer training is beginning. Psychological support and social welfare, recently identified as needs, are being planned.

Operational Developments:

Taiwan is currently experiencing an economic slowdown, which is producing increasing unemployment. The effect is particularly bad in central Taiwan, which was seriously affected by the “921 earthquake” (earthquake of 21 September 1999) and has brought about a decline in agricultural production and tourism, the mainstay of the local economy. The Taiwan Red Cross Organisation (TRCO) estimates that of the 5,000 families who were provided with temporary houses following the earthquake, only some 10 per cent have returned to their homes. The cost of rebuilding and paying off previous loans remains financially out of reach for many, despite the various schemes aimed at facilitating this process. In most instances, the local authorities have extended units up to four years the length of time that families can stay in the temporary housing, though the period varies from area to area.

Red Cross Red Crescent action w

The overwhelming response to the International Federation’s request for assistance for the Taipei earthquake operation has enabled the Red Cross to complete the emergency relief phase and to implement an extensive rehabilitation programme. A revised budget for the rehabilitation phase was provided with the 26 May 2000 situation report. The rehabilitation phase has been divided into three main areas:

1. support to communities where houses were destroyed during the earthquake;
2. support to local authority health and education projects; and
3. strengthening the capacity of TRCO in disaster preparedness and response.

The latest memorandum of understanding (MoU) between the Federation and the TRCO was revised in May 2001, bringing the Federation’s current financial commitment to USD 29.2 million. The projects included in the MoU are as follows:

Name of Project	Status
<i>Community Support</i>	
• Construction of temporary housing	Completed by February 2000
• Provision of basic household items	Completed by February 2000
• Financial support to families	Completed by May 2000
• Community Welfare activities	To be completed by December 2001
• Psychological support and social welfare	TRCO are currently drawing up a plan and budget
<i>Health and Education projects</i>	
• Construction/renovation of schools	To be completed by December 2001
• Construction/renovation of health facilities	To be completed by August 2002
<i>Disaster preparedness</i>	
• TRCO disaster preparedness project	Ongoing

Red Cross and Red Crescent Society w

The TRCO continues to provide valuable support to communities affected by the earthquake. Through regularly visits to the earthquake affected area, it compiles information on ongoing needs. Based on this, it plans to undertake a psychological support and social welfare project. Although still in the planning stages this project will support the elderly, low income families, single parent families and those with long term illnesses living in the earthquake affected area through a range of social and basic health care activities. A detailed project description and budget will be forwarded shortly.

Objective 1: To renovate or reconstruct ten schools which suffered severe structural damage during the earthquake.

Some 100 elementary schools in central Taiwan suffered from severe structural damage following the earthquake. The rapid re-establishment of the school system was considered a major priority not only from an academic point of view but also to help children to recover from the trauma of the earthquake. In the May 2000 MoU, the Federation pledged to support the reconstruction of ten elementary schools, as listed below. The TRCO is supporting the construction of another seven schools.

County	Name of Primary School	Progress made to date
Nantou	Chang Ho, Nantou city	Due to be completed in early August 2001
Nantou	Sheh Liao, Chu Shan Town	Construction completed
Nantou	Lu Gu, LuGu Hsian	Due to be completed by end of June 2001
Nantao	Tu Cheng, Tsao Tun Town	Construction underway
Taichung	Da Lin, Shin She Hsian	To be completed by September 2001
Taichung	Kun Shan, Shin She Hsian	To be completed by August 2001
Taichung	Fu Min, Ho Ping Hsian	To be completed by November 2001
Yunlin	Hwa Shan, Gu Keng Hsian	To be completed by August 2001
Chiayi	Feng Shan, Alishan Hsian	Construction underway

Chiayi	Chun Luen, Chung Pu Hsian	Searching for new premises for school
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Initially, the Federation pledged to support the full construction costs of the above ten schools. However, some of the budgets were amended during the planning, design and construction process. The total budgets for Chang Ho, Sheh Liao and Lu Gu schools are larger than the Federation’s commitment, and the balance will be covered by other organizations. The budgets for Kun Shan and Hwa Shan are expected to be lower than originally envisaged. The situation will be closely monitored by the South East Asia Regional Finance Unit.

Because of the different local agencies, authorities and contractors involved in the construction of the above schools, the time needed is different for each school, making it difficult to prepare a timeframe and accurate payment schedule for this project. Construction of nine of the ten schools should be completed before the end of the year. In the case of the remaining school, that of Chun Luen, the local authorities are currently looking for a new site, due to the extensive damage caused to the original site. It is not yet clear when construction will start.

During the reporting period, representatives from PricewaterhouseCoopers Taipei (PWC), who have been contracted by the Federation to monitor and report on the rehabilitation projects, and the Federation's reporting delegate carried out monitoring visits to Chang Ho, Sheh Liao, Lu Gu, Da Lin, Kun Shan, Fu Ming and Hwa Shan. The opening of Sheh Liao school, held on 16 June, was attended by the Federation's reporting delegate and two representatives from the Japanese Red Cross.

A revised monitoring plan has now been drawn up by the Federation and PWC to facilitate future reporting on the progress of the schools project. PWC plan to visit each school three times during the construction process.

Objective 2: To renovate four disaster preparedness (DP) centres and to equip them with basic DP supplies, communication equipment and rescue equipment as well as carry out general DP training for 500 Red Cross volunteers.

The TRCO is currently renovating and equipping 12 disaster preparedness centres strategically located throughout the island of Taiwan. The Federation is supporting four of these centres, located in Taipei city, Kaohsiung city, Keelung and Hualien. The renovation of the Hualien and Kaohsiung centres has now been completed and Taipei and Keelung will be finished within a month. The opening of the DP centre in Hualien was followed by a workshop for over 100 Red Cross volunteers.

Each DP centre will maintain a stock of basic supplies such as cotton quilts, blankets and jackets. In addition, all the centres have been provided with basic rescue equipment such as ropes, axes, emergency lighting equipment and medical equipment.

The DP centres are directly managed by the TRCO headquarters in Taipei. The Taipei DP centre is the largest and is staffed by eight people from the Taipei City Red Cross Chapter. The Hualien and Keelung DP centres will be staffed by two people from their respective Red Cross branches. The Kaohsiung DP centre in the south of the island will be staffed by five people from the Kaohsiung Red Cross Chapter. The personnel costs linked to the DP centres will be covered by the TRCO.

Three vehicles (3.5 tons each) have been purchased for Hualien, Taipei and Kaohsiung and will be used for transporting equipment, supplies and Red Cross personnel. The TRCO purchased and installed radio equipment, fax machines and computers in the four DP centres supported by the Federation.

The TRCO is still finalizing its DP training plan, but intends to train up to 500 people in the use of the rescue equipment and give them first aid refresher training. The TRCO will continue to work closely with the National Fire Administration (NFA), which is the government body responsible for coordinating disaster response in Taiwan. Since the 1999 earthquake, Red Cross volunteers have participated in the local NFA’s training courses.

Health w

The "921 earthquake" caused extensive damage to buildings in rural and mountainous areas. The 14 *tsuns* (settlements) of Ren Ai district, Nantou county, which is home to 15,285 people, rely heavily for health care on one health care institute, staffed by two doctors, and 13 health care stations, which are not regularly staffed by medical personnel. Those living in this mountainous area have to travel long distances to the main health care institute or to hospitals. The Federation pledged to support the renovation or reconstruction of three health care stations, a selection based on the amount of damage sustained, geographical location, accessibility and their situation in the most densely populated areas of the district.

Objective 1: To renovate or reconstruct three health care stations in Ren Ai district and to provide basic medical equipment for the three clinics. In addition, the Ren Ai central hospital will be provided with one medical car and one mobile dental care car.

Construction work on the three health care stations in Chin Ai, Huchu and Jinyin *tsuns* (settlements) was due to start in December 2000 and should have been completed by June 2001, but has been delayed.

Due to the damage caused to the clinic buildings and the land surrounding them, the Nantou county health department proposed to relocate the clinics and to upgrade the facilities. However, the land in Ren Ai is home to the aboriginal people and special permission is needed for construction. Despite the efforts of the local health authorities, the necessary permission to relocate the Jinyin and Huchu clinics was not granted and those two clinics will now be constructed on their original sites.

The revised schedule for Jinyin and Huchu clinics is as follows:

- July - December 2001: Select architects, complete construction design and planning stage, apply for a construction licence from the government, allocate contractors
- January - July 2002: Construction of the health clinics

The land around Chin Ai clinic was damaged by heavy rains and a mudslide and the clinic will have to be relocated, again requiring permission. It is unclear how long this will take. The rest of the plan -- to provide basic equipment and supplies, a medical car and a mobile dental care car for the central hospital in Ren Ai -- remains unchanged.

Shelter w

Following the earthquake, the authorities undertook to construct some 5,000 temporary housing units for those whose houses had been damaged or destroyed and who were not able to participate in any of the government's loan or subsidy schemes. The local authorities allocated families to the housing units at the end of 1999 and in the first two months of 2000. The Red Cross undertook to construct some temporary units and identified families living in the units as a primary target group for assistance, as detailed below.

Objective 1: To provide 1,886 temporary housing units in Nantou and Taichung counties for those whose houses were destroyed or damaged by the "921 earthquake".

The Federation and the TRCO provided funding to support the building and furnishing of a total of 1,886 temporary housing units in Nantou and Taichung counties.

County/City	Location	Number of houses funded by TRCO and the Federation
Nantou	Nantou city	255
	Lu Ku village	30
	Shui Li villages	102
	Pu Li town	296
	Tsao Tun town	112
	Chu Shan town	112
	Yu Chih village	49

	Kuo Shin village	130
	Ren Ai village	106
	Puli town	150
Taichung	Tong Shih town	151
	Tai Ping city	147
	Hsin Sheh village	98
Miaoli	Chou Lan town	48
Taichung city	Taichung city	100
	TOTAL	1'886

Since the last situation report in September 2000, the number of houses funded by the Federation has been increased from 1,321 to 1,341, as some of the housing cost less than the amount budgeted. The additional 20 houses are in Hsin Sheh village where Federation funds covered the cost of building 63 of the 98 houses.

This project has now been completed.

Objective 2: To provide a total of 2,285 sets of household items comprising a quilt, a blanket, a water boiler and radio/clock to families living in the temporary housing units.

This project was completed in the first two months of 2000. A total of 5,000 sets of household items, of which 2,285 were funded by the Federation, were procured and distributed by the Red Cross to families in the temporary housing units.

Objective 3: To provide families living in the temporary housing units with financial support in the form of a cash donation worth approximately USD 1,350, the equivalent of about 10 weeks income.

This project was completed last year, although monitoring continued into this reporting period.

To summarize, a total of 4,755 families benefited from this project; of these some 2,341 were supported by funds from the Federation. Feedback received during the monitoring visits showed that beneficiaries were appreciative of this form of financial support which they used to cover daily living costs such as the payment of water or electricity bills.

Objective 4: To provide newly formed communities in the temporary housing units with funds to maintain or repair public facilities, improve public security, provide nursing or study facilities and to support cultural activities.

A total of 81 communities, representing 4,684 households, received approximately USD 16 per household to cover a 12-month period. Funds were disbursed in July 2000 and communities were due to report back on the utilization of these funds in January 2001.

However, because many local authorities extended the time that families can remain in the temporary housing units, the TRCO, in discussion with the Federation, moved back the date by which communities must report on the utilization of the funds to the end of December 2001.

To date, 13 out of the 81 communities have provided feedback on the use to which the funds have been put. This includes:

- social activities, including the purchase of food, community outings, entertainment;
- community electricity, water, telephone, cleaning and general stationery costs;
- installation of windows and doors, streetlights and mail boxes in the temporary houses.

Although the Federation allocated CHF 3.2 million for this project, only half of these funds were disbursed. The TRCO will probably request that the balance be transferred to the disaster preparedness project.

National Society Capacity Building w

Although most of the projects are being implemented by the local authorities with financial support from the TRCO and the Federation, certain projects such as the disaster preparedness project and psychological support and social welfare projects include components which aim to strengthen the capacity of the TRCO through the training of its staff and volunteers.

Federation Delegation w

The overall management of the Federation's assistance to the Taipei operation is the responsibility of the Federation's Secretariat in Geneva. A series of MoUs outline the different responsibilities of the TRCO and the Federation in providing support to the rehabilitation phase.

The Federation contracted PricewaterhouseCoopers, Taipei, to monitor and report on all of the rehabilitation projects and to provide financial management support to the operation. PWC works in close cooperation with the Federation's Regional Finance Unit in Kuala Lumpur.

Funds are transferred to the TRCO from the Secretariat in Geneva on a working advance basis. These transfers are supported by financial reports submitted regularly by PWC and work plans drawn up by the TRCO.

The regional finance delegate and the regional finance analyst from the Federation's RFU in Kuala Lumpur visited Taipei in June 2001 with the Federation's reporting delegate and met with TRCO and PWC, Taipei, to discuss the ongoing management and financial support provided to the projects. Based on a plan agreed with the Federation and TRCO, representatives from the PWC Taipei office carry out regular monitoring visits to the project sites.

The Federation's reporting delegate spent two weeks in Taiwan in June 2001 working with TRCO to produce general and donor specific reports and with PWC to further improve and develop the monitoring of the ongoing projects and the narrative reports which are submitted to the Secretariat every two months.

Coordination

The TRCO continues to work closely with the relevant local authorities on the implementation of the rehabilitation projects in Taiwan and to make regular visits to the earthquake affected areas.

Outstanding needs

This operation is fully funded and there are no outstanding needs.

For further details please contact: Satoshi Sugai, Phone : 41 22 730 4273; Fax: 41 22 733 03 95; email: sugai@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.

This operation seeks to administer to the immediate requirements of the victims of this disaster. Subsequent operations to promote sustainable development or longer-term capacity building

will require additional support, and these programmes are outlined on the Federation's web site.

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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TAIPEI EARTHQUAKE						ANNEX 1
REQUEST No. 25/99		PLEDGES RECEIVED			10.07.2001	
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
CASH						
REQUESTED IN APPEAL----->				57,473,100	01.01.1999	100.25%
AUSTRALIAN - RC		20,000	AUD	19,408	28.09.1999	
AUSTRALIAN - PRIVATE		100,000	AUD	105,020	16.12.1999	
AUSTRALIAN - PRIVATE/RC		101,015	AUD	100,853	22.09.00	
BELGIUM - RC		35,000	BEF	1,398	22.03.2000	
BRITISH - RC		2,460	GBP	6,150	12.11.1999	
BRITISH - RC		24,737	GBP	65,243	14.03.2000	
CANADA - RC		100,000	CAD	100,924	28.09.1999	
CANADA - GOVT		300,000	CAD	294,000	12.10.1999	
CANADA - PRIVATE				50	10.11.1999	
CYPRUS - RC				832	16.02.00	
DENMARK - RC				21,394	08.10.1999	
GERMANY - RC/GOVT		100,000	USD	155,550	19.11.1999	
GERMANY - PRIVATE		100,000	USD	156,750	10.12.1999	
ITALIAN - GOVT		200,000	USD	314,000	27.09.1999	
ICELAND - RC		200,000	ISK	4,155	05.10.1999	
JAPANESE - RC		30,000,000	JPY	420,900	26.09.1999	
JAPANESE - RC		10,000,000	USD	15,534,999	26.10.1999	REHABILITATION PHASE
JAPANESE - RC		5,400,000	USD	8,583,300	16.11.1999	
JAPANESE - RC		1,166,000,000	JPY	18,008,870	03.02.2000	Renovation of health facilities, assistance to temporary housing villages, renovation, reconstruction of schools TRCO DP activities.
JAPANESE - RC		114,400,000	JPY	1,821,805	03.07.2000	
JAPANESE - RC		50,740,474		789,573	22.05.2000	
KOREAN REP - RC				30,000	24.09.1999	DIRECT TO TRCO
KOREA, REPUBLIC - RC		54,776,488	KRW	83,534	13.06.00	DIRECT TO TRCO
MACAO - RC		83,430	USD	129,359	27.10.1999	
MACAO - RC		16,995	USD	27,906	17.03.2000	
MACAO - GOVT		1,000,000	USD	1,550,500	27.10.1999	
MONACO - RC		40,000	FRF	9,780	13.10.1999	
NETHERLANDS - RC/GOVT		250,000	NLG	182,646	30.09.1999	
NETHERLANDS PRIVATE		11,949	NLG	8,639	23.11.1999	
NEW ZEALAND - GOVT				116,430	15.11.1999	
NEW ZEALAND - RC		6,630	NZD	5,132	22.06.00	
OCHA - UN		33,980	USD	52,816	22.10.1999	
POLAND - RC		2,475	USD	4,064	20.03.2000	
SINGAPORE - RC		50,000	SGD	47,040	28.09.1999	TENTS
SPANISH - RC		12,020	EUR	19,219	30.09.1999	
SWITZERLAND - PRIVATE				15,000	08.11.1999	
THAILAND				73,828	14.10.1999	
AMERICAN - RC		100,000	USD	148,700	23.09.1999	
AMERICAN - RC		250,000	USD	371,750	28.09.1999	
AMERICAN - RC		500,000	USD	772,750	29.10.1999	
AMERICAN - RC		350,000	USD	551,250	04.11.1999	
AMERICAN - RC		1,500,000	USD	2,463,750	28.02.2000	
AMERICAN - RC		2,000,000	USD	3,285,000	28.02.2000	
AMERICAN - PRIVATE				6,398	07.03.2000	
AMERICAN - RC		260,000	USD	428,350	01.04.2000	
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES - RC		5,000	USD	7,594	19.10.1999	
WHO		50,000	USD	72,925	23.09.1999	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				56,969,534 CHF		99.12%
KIND AND SERVICES (INCL. PERSONNEL)						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
JAPANESE - RC				644,600	02.10.1999	Sleeping bags, generators, flashlights
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				644,600 CHF		1.12%
ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0 CHF		