

# 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

## THAILAND: FLOODS

31 August 2005

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 over 181 countries.

### In Brief

This Bulletin (no. 01/2005) is being issued for information only, and reflects the status of the situation and information available at this time. The Federation is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation at this time.

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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 Organisations \(NGO's\) 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

Over 100,000 families have been affected by severe flooding in Northern Thailand's Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai, Lampang, Lamphun, Mae Hong Son, Nakhon Phanom, Nan, Phayao and Tak provinces which commenced in the middle of August. Some 2,100 homes and thousands of hectares of crop land were destroyed due to the overwhelming force of runoffs from the Ping River. Torrential rains which earlier in August hammered Chiang Rai, Chiang Mai and Mae Hong Sorn inundated more than 4500 villagers' homes in these three provinces alone leaving 11 people dead and making several roads impassable to small vehicles. At present, the meteorological department has warned seven provinces in the north and northeast of the possibility of flash floods. Flood-prone areas in Nakhon Phanom, Nong Khai, Mukdahan, Ubon Ratchathani, Chiang Rai, Phayao, and Nan provinces are currently being viewed as the areas facing the highest risk for the time being, and the governor has issued an urgent order for local officials at the district, sub-district and the municipal levels to be on alert.

### Red Cross and Red Crescent action

From the onset of the floods the Thai Red Cross Society (TRCS) has played a key role in providing assistance in the affected areas. Over the period 13-17 August, the Society's health centre no. 3 in Chiang Mai and no. 13 in Tak along with the respective TRCS provincial chapters distributed 5,900 emergency relief family parcels and household medicine kits to six districts in Chiang Mai province. The parcels and the medical kits contain basic

food and hygiene items intended to meet the immediate needs of beneficiaries who have been displaced by the floods.

On 18 August, the Society sent a flat boat to Tak to accommodate some of the anticipated needs arising from further flooding. At the end of August, the Thai Red Cross cooperated with the Foundation of Princess Pa and the radio network to distribute 1,050 family packages in Chiang Mai. A representative from the National Society's youth bureau attended the distribution of the items in the villages of Ma Taeng, Sa Rumpee, and Muang.

Additionally, the TRCS relief department in the headquarters and the TRCS Nakhon Phanom provincial chapter distributed 1,000 emergency relief family parcels and 1,000 household medicine kits to affected families in the Tha Au Tain and Sri Song Kram districts of Nakhon Phanom province and are continuing to monitor the situation closely.

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