

www.ifrc.org
Saving lives,
changing minds.

Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) China: Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF n° MDRCN006	Glide n° TC-2018-000110-CHN
For DREF; Date of issue: 15 July 2018	Expected timeframe: 3 months, Expected end date: 15 October 2018
Category allocated to the of the disaster or crisis: Yellow	
DREF allocated: CHF 381,563	
Total number of people affected: 2.9 million	Number of people to be assisted: 17,500 persons¹
Host National Society(ies) presence (n° of volunteers, staff, branches): Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) has 1,779,614 volunteers. One national level Disaster Preparedness (DP) Centre in Beijing, 8 regional DP centres, 26 DP centres at provincial level and over 670 DP centres at municipal and county levels.	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: National Disaster Reduction Commission, Ministry of Emergency Management	

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

Heavy and continuous rainfall since 7 July 2018 has caused flooding in most parts of Sichuan and the southeast region of Gansu Province. In some areas of North Central Sichuan, there has been heavy rainstorms and torrential rains for four consecutive days. These were also compounded by the effects of two weather systems in the area; Typhoon Prapiroon, and Typhoon Maria. According to reports from National Disaster Reduction Commission, as of 13 July 2018, floods have affected 1,381,000 people, where 3 persons have died; 222,000 have taken emergency resettlement; 22,000 needed emergency relief in Sichuan prefectures of Deyang, Mianyang, Guangyuan (that includes 15 cities and 70 counties); more than 900 houses have collapsed, and 29,000 houses have been damaged. A total of 36,900 hectares of crops have been affected by the floods and 5,200 hectares will have no harvests this year. The direct economic loss has been estimated to be over 5.3 billion yuan.

Gansu province was hit even harder, according to the Ministry of Emergency Management. A heavy rainstorm occurred in Southeast Gansu from 10 to 11 July 2018. The provinces of Tianshui, Zhangye, Pingliang (including 10 cities and 46 counties) are flooded, and have affected 1,519,000 people where 12 have died; four are missing; and 30,000 were evacuated. More than 2,300 houses collapsed, and 19,000 were damaged to varying degrees. The direct economic loss was 3.6 billion Yuan.

On 12 July 2018, the Provincial Disaster Reduction Commission selected four technical persons and two satellite commanding vehicles - carrying unmanned aerial vehicles and 4G communications equipment - to collect unmanned aerial vehicle remote sensing data with the working group. According to this rapid assessment, heavy rainfall has resulted in a large number of seriously damaged houses that have continued to collapse in these two provinces. More rain has been falling over the past week, worsening the flood situation. The flooding season will continue until the end of August and more rain can be expected until then. The government has reinforced its coordination capacities by combining efforts with the National Disaster Reduction Commission and the Ministry of Emergency Management, who have launched a national Level IV disaster relief response in Sichuan and Gansu Provinces.

¹ The proportion is based on 5,000 households and their respective average family sizes: 2,500 households (7,500 persons) in Sichuan, and 2,500 households (10,000 persons) in Gansu.

Summary of the current response

Overview of Host National Society

The Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) plays an auxiliary role to the government and is one of the first responders to communities affected by disasters, providing much needed relief supplies and support. RCSC is recognized by the Government of the People's Republic of China as an important institution for addressing a variety of humanitarian needs especially in times of disasters. RCSC, through its headquarters based in Beijing and 35 provincial branches and 97,680 grassroots branches, is closely coordinating its actions with central and local governments at each corresponding level, ensuring that Red Cross activities are focused in areas where they have greater impact in cooperation with the local governments.



Relief teams and volunteers setting up temporary shelters, Sichuan province. (Photo: RCSC)

On 12 July 2018, the RCSC responded to Level IV emergency response alert in the disaster affected areas of Sichuan Province. According to the assessed needs in disaster affected areas, the RCSC's disaster preparedness center in Chengdu, 5,000 jackets, relief packages for 2,000 families and 100 tents with a total value of 945,400 Yuan were allocated in support of the disaster relief work of the Sichuan Branch. The goods and materials have arrived and have been distributed in the disaster areas. On 13 July 2018, the RCSC initiated Level III emergency response to the disaster affected areas of Gansu Province. Relief packages for 3,500 families with a total value of 1,042,610 Yuan were allocated in support of the disaster relief work of Gansu Red Cross branch.

The RCSC has developed 21 Emergency Response Teams (ERTs) that have been deployed to various operations and have the capacity to take leadership roles in supporting the continuity of the emergency operations. RCSC also has an impressive number of active volunteers, amounting up to 1,779,614 of them. RCSC has developed a comprehensive warehousing and logistics system by having one national level Disaster Preparedness (DP) Centre in Beijing, eight regional DP centres, 26 DP centres at provincial level, and over 670 DP centres at municipal and county levels.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

Through its IFRC Country Cluster Support Team (CCST) office in Beijing, the IFRC supports coordination of disaster response efforts of its secretariat in assisting the National Societies of China, Japan, Republic of Korea and Mongolia. IFRC will support the RCSC in the implementation of activities through technical assistance, programme planning, monitoring and evaluation as well as any required logistical and administrative support. In April 2013, 400,000 Swiss francs was allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the RCSC in delivering immediate assistance to some 5,000 families (20,000 beneficiaries) affected by the 7.0-magnitude Sichuan earthquake. Branch members of RCSC were conversant in implementing interventions that were then supported by IFRC.

IFRC retains a status agreement with the Government of People's Republic of China since 1999. The IFRC disaster management colleagues are working together with their counterparts in IFRC and RCSC. The IFRC CCST in Beijing has been working closely with RCSC, and maintains close communication and coordination at technical and strategic levels. IFRC is monitoring the situation and liaising regularly with RCSC. It supports the National Society in operational coordination.

RCSC has an active programme of international cooperation bilaterally with other members of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, including its special branches in Hong Kong and Macau. IFRC has long-term cooperation programme with the RCSC in areas of technical assistance and development in organizational and youth development, health and disaster risk management. IFRC is well coordinated with the Regional Delegation of International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Beijing through regular contacts and cooperation exchanges.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

The National Disaster Reduction Commission and the Ministry of Emergency Management have combined efforts and sent a working group to help in disaster areas and to guide the disaster relief work. Disaster management authorities in each province have deployed their emergency response teams to help affected families in evacuating from flooded areas. The provincial flood control and drought relief headquarters has organized emergency response teams on 11 July 2018 and worked with reservoirs in the upper reaches of the Yangtze river to reduce the pressure that floods have brought to Chongqing municipality and southwestern Sichuan. So far, around 52,000 Chongqing residents affected by floods have been relocated to safer places. Primary focus areas remain; the on-going response in Sichuan and Gansu; managing requirements; and having the capacity to facilitate new and ongoing assessments in new areas affected by

floods. On 13 July 2018, the Ministry of Emergency Management allocated from the Central Disaster Relief Warehouse² in Chengdu and Lanzhou 8,000 tents, 8,000 folding beds, and 50,000 quilts to some areas affected heavily by rain and floods in Sichuan and Gansu Province. The allocation is used to support emergency relocations and transitional life assistance, so as to ensure the basic well-being of the affected people³.

Needs analysis, targeting, scenario planning and risk assessment

Needs analysis

Joint rapid assessments have and are being conducted by the RCSC, in coordination with the local disaster management authorities. Assessments reports have been received from the affected areas and the RCSC analysis highlights key relief priorities in the flooded areas:

- Emergency shelter.
- Non-food items.

The immediate focus is on the relief phase, but planning has already started for recovery and rehabilitation. Particularly for the provinces of Sichuan and Gansu with thousands of hectares of agricultural lands destroyed, there will be many longer-term challenges. The local authorities are working hard to transport and deliver the most basic and immediate needs of the affected communities through the provision of basic food items, as well as non-food items (NFIs) such as towels, blankets, and clothing. Chengdu and Xi'an Disaster Relief and Preparedness Centres of the RCSC remain available for supporting the required logistical and warehousing requirements of the operations. From the initial reports of the disaster management staff of RCSC headquarters and response teams on the scene, the need in the affected areas remain considerable.



Flooded home in Sichuan due to increase of water level in upper reaches of the Yangtze River. (Photo: RCSC)

As the situation is still ongoing and more flooding is likely in the coming days, new assessments may have to be carried out as the situation evolves. Further information is required, thus, this DREF allocation will support current and planned interventions, and will also support a more detailed assessment.

Targeting

According to the National Bureau of Statistics of China, the proportion of males to females is in the ratio 51.22 males to 48.78 female, and the average family sizes for Sichuan and Gansu are 3.02 and 3.45 respectively. Specific targeted locations shall be decided by the RCSC and based on best available information in coordination with the local disaster management authorities. The targeted communities shall be identified in the city of Deyang, Ya'an, Guangyuan, Meishan, Aba, Mianyang, Leshan, Neijiang.

Scenario planning

As the situation is still evolving and flooding maybe expected to occur until the end of August when the season ends, RCSC will maintain its current practice of continuous assessments in affected areas to direct assistance to the most vulnerable populations and beneficiaries.

Operation Risk Assessment

As the flood season is underway, the possibility of more floods and potential landslides cannot be excluded. Weather forecasts indicate rain is likely to continue in some of the affected areas. Hence, it is possible that further flooding across the southwest of China may occur. Other weather systems associated with typhoon affecting south China also can play a role in exacerbating the situation.

RCSC is recognized, respected, and accepted in China. With over 90,000 grassroots level branches, it has a wide network of community-based volunteers who have had experience in field actions strongly anchored to the communities.

² Owned by the Ministry of Civil Affairs.

³ Source: China National Commission for Disaster Reduction.

B. Operational strategy

Overall Operational objective:

The survival and immediate needs of the population's affected by floods in Sichuan and Gansu provinces of China are met through the provision of relief kits to 2,500 households (7,500 persons) in Sichuan, and the provision of NFIs to 2,500 households (10,000 persons) in Gansu. The targeted population is primarily those displaced by, and secondarily those affected by, flooding and flash floods according to beneficiary selection criteria outlined below.

Proposed strategy

The RCSC, utilizing its presence of staff and volunteers across the affected areas, has been actively engaged in response over the past week, since the heavy rains started. The operation is relief focused, providing the affected population, and especially the displaced population, with shelter and essential household items. The cash distribution has been considered as an option during the relief phase. The RCSC is at the early stages of a long-term capacity building in emergency cash programming. However, to ensure the timeliness of the relief work relevant to this DREF operations, the RCSC shall be able to immediately release NFI from available stock levels in regional warehouses and cover the required needs immediately and then replenish the NFI stocks with support from this DREF.

Relief items are being distributed based on beneficiary selection criteria and in close coordination with the authorities. This DREF provides for the Red Cross branch of Sichuan to purchase 2,500 relief kits to provide assistance to 2,500 households, benefiting about 7,500 persons. The itemized contents of the family relief kits are summarized in the table below.

List of itemized NFIs for distribution in Sichuan.

Non-food item	Quantity
Rain coat	5,000
Flashlight	2,500
Mosquito net	2,500
Tableware	10,000
Toothbrush	10,000
Towel	5,000
Shirt (women)	2,500
Shirt (Men)	2,500

The DREF also provides support to Gansu Province plans to purchase blankets, jackets, and quilts to cover the needs of 10,000 persons (or 2,500 households). The procurement of 100 tents is an interim measure to support 100 families that have the most damaged shelters. Should the need be assessed to be higher or should the situation evolve, more assistance will be sought. Currently, one ERT has been mobilized to assist in the distribution and installation of shelters. Similarly, the procurement of 2,500 jackets is an interim measure for the most vulnerable family member in each household, with other items to be provided using locally-mobilized donations when needed.

List of NFIs for distribution, and number of beneficiaries in Gansu.

Non-food item	Quantity	No. of beneficiaries
Tent (single)	100	400
Jacket	2,500	2,500
Blanket	2,500	10,000
Quilt	2,500	10,000

Assessment and beneficiary selection

The direct beneficiaries include elderly, women and children as they are part of the most-at-risk groups when disaster strikes. More specifically, the direct beneficiaries within the local populations will be identified based on their level of vulnerability in coping with the disasters. Such factors considered in their selection include socio-economic status of the beneficiaries prioritized as most-at-risk. Female-headed households and families with members with disability are other criteria for consideration. Priority will be given to:

- Families most affected by the floods and landslides and displaced from their homes.
- Families headed by women (widows), elderly couples, young couples with small children.
- Families who are not recipients of any substantial assistance, especially housing by government, NGOs and other organizations.

Operational support services

Human resources

The operation is expected to involve 30 voluntary members of RCSC's Relief Emergency Response Teams (ERT) in Gansu and Sichuan Provinces and up to 25 staff members. RCSC and IFRC CCST office in Beijing and IFRC Asia Pacific regional office in Kuala Lumpur have already assigned a Disaster Risk Management Manager and Operations Coordinator for the development of this DREF operation. Depending on how the situation evolves, more assessment teams will be sent out. This DREF covers travel, accommodation and per-diem costs related to the staff and volunteers. The DREF covers insurance for the volunteers used in the operation through the IFRC global volunteer insurance scheme. Given the likelihood of more flooding in the coming weeks, this DREF contains provisions for the deployment of one RDRT member, should the situation require. This assessment will inform the design of necessary interventions which will be supported using funds/resources mobilized locally by RCSC, or with a top-up allocation if required.

Logistics and Supply Chain

Local procurement will be done by RCSC in accordance with the operation's requirements, and aligned to RCSC and IFRC's logistics standards, processes and procedures. Which items can be procured locally, at what quality and quantity and within which timeframe cannot be confirmed at this point in time.

RCSC has good warehouse capacities in both provinces of Sichuan and Gansu. Transport and distribution costs within the country will be included in this DREF budget.

Information technologies (IT)

The IFRC Asia Pacific regional office Communications Manager and IFRC CCST Beijing's Communications Officer are supporting RCSC with media coverage which has been extensive so far. Social media posts have been released on the IFRC Tweeter channel and has enhanced public understanding of the disaster needs and operations. Field visits will be conducted to capture materials for web stories, and best practices reflecting the actual needs and operations in the field.

Community engagement and accountability (CEA)

Community engagement and accountability will be ensured by close coordination with the affected population - a key point for consideration during this relief and response operation, so that the response is adjusted according to the expectation and needs of affected families, and addresses their concerns.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation, & reporting (PMER)

RCSC will oversee all operational, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting aspects of the present operation in the flood affected provinces through its country-wide network of branches and volunteers. IFRC, through CCST office in Beijing will provide technical support in programme management to ensure the programme objective is met.

The responsibility for day-to-day monitoring of the operation will be with RCSC provincial branches but supervised RCSC headquarters to ensure appropriate accountability, transparency and financial management of the operation. Operation updates will be issued to report progress of the implementation of the proposed programmes and lesson learned workshop will be conducted towards the end of operation.

DREF OPERATION
MDRCN006 China : Floods

15/7/2018

Budget Group	DREF BUDGET CHF
Shelter - Relief	285,200
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	285,200
Dsitribution & Monitoring	9,500
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	9,500
Volunteers	32,175
Total PERSONNEL	32,175
Workshops & Training	8,000
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	8,000
Travel	20,000
Information & Public Relations	2,000
Communications	1,400
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	23,400
Programme and Services Support Recovery	23,288
Total INDIRECT COSTS	23,288
TOTAL BUDGET	381,563

Reference documents



Click here for:

- Previous Appeals and updates
- Emergency Plan of Action (EPOA)

For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:

In the Red Cross Society of China (RCSC)

- Ping Wang, secretary general; email: wangping@redcross.org.cn
- Wenbo Ma, head of international organizations division/ external liaison department; phone: +86 10 64028411; email: mawenbo@redcross.org.cn

In the IFRC country cluster support team (CCST), Beijing

- Gwendolyn Pang, head of CCST; mobile: +86 135 1107 5162; email: gwendolyn.pang@ifrc.org
- Bahram Amintorabi, disaster risk management manager; mobile +86 135 1106 5152; email: Bahram.amintorabi@ifrc.org

In the IFRC Asia Pacific regional office (APRO), Kuala Lumpur

- Martin Faller, deputy regional director; email: martin.faller@ifrc.org
- Necephor Mghendi, head of disaster and crises unit; email: necephor.mghendi@ifrc.org
- Victor Ng, interim operations coordinator; mobile: + 60 14735 9088; email: opscoord.apro@ifrc.org
- Riku Assamaki, logistics coordinator; mobile +60 12 298 9752; email: riku.assamaki@ifrc.org
- Rosemarie North, regional communications manager; email: rosemarie.north@ifrc.org

For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support:

- Sophia Keri, resource mobilization in emergencies coordinator; email: sophia.keri@ifrc.org

For Performance and Accountability support (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)

- Fadzli Saari, acting PMER manager; email: fadzli.saari@ifrc.org

In IFRC Geneva

- Susil Perera, senior officer, response recovery and preparedness; phone: +412 2730 4947; email: susil.perera@ifrc.org

How we work

All IFRC 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 the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, **encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.