

Situation Report No.3:

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Flooding

27 August 2012



This report is produced by the UN Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 14 - 24 August 2012

HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

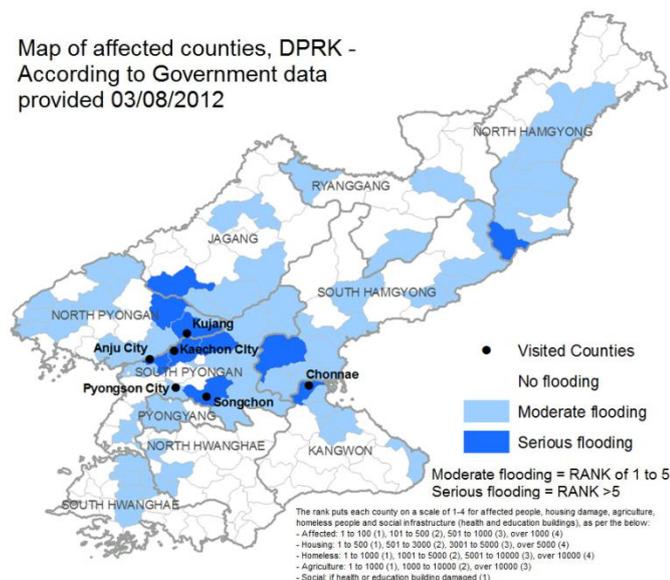
- While all immediate needs are considered met to the extent possible, the response to the flood that occurred as a result of heavy rain over the period 18th- 29th July, continues in most affected provinces/counties in order to restore livelihoods and access to basic services in the areas of food, shelter, health, water, sanitation and hygiene.
- At the same time, humanitarian agencies in DPRK are making efforts to replenish emergency stocks of food and non-food relief items to ensure adequate preparedness capacity in the event of a new emergency.

1. SITUATION OVERVIEW

Despite further heavy rains across the country between 14-16 and 17-19 August, no new information on extent of possible flood and effects has become available, and no additional assistance from the UN has been requested by the Government since the official request was made on 30 July.

According to reports from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Kaesong city in North Hwanghae Province was heavily affected by the rain on 14-15 August. The DPRK Red Cross Society (NS), reported that 659 families were made homeless, 90 houses were fully destroyed and 152 partly destroyed by flash flood. Water supply system has been disrupted and the road to the City has been destroyed making access difficult. National Red Cross volunteers were mobilized to assess the situation and evacuate affected people to safer areas. In the meantime, IFRC/NS have distributed emergency relief items (non-food items and water purification tablets) to the most affected families.

Map of affected counties, DPRK - According to Government data provided 03/08/2012



2. HUMANITARIAN NEEDS AND RESPONSE

FOOD SECURITY & AGRICULTURE

Needs:

2,000 metric tons of cereals is needed to continue assisting the 102,000 people in the flood affected areas and to replenish pre-position food stocks. A further 2,000 metric tons of cereals are needed for small-scale high impact Food for Community Development (FFCD) for schemes focusing on rehabilitation of embankments and roads, restoration of communication, slope protection, erosion control, restoration/re-building of houses, etc. These activities will also support flood affected food-insecure households in targeted communities with temporary employment for the building of flood-protection structures to improve agricultural production. WFP is currently receiving scheme proposals from the flood affected counties and the related needed assessments will follow shortly.

Response:

To date, WFP's flood response has timely reached about 102,000 most affected people in 23 counties providing 10 kg of maize per person for 25 days. This includes an initial distribution of 570 metric tons of maize for 14 days followed by an additional distribution of 450 metric tons of maize for 11 days.

Monitoring teams continue to extensively travel in the flood areas to ascertain that the food assistance has reached the intended beneficiaries.

Gaps & Constraints:

While WFP has released emergency food from its own stocks, around 4,000 metric tons cereals would be required to continue emergency food distribution, pre-positioning of food stocks and early recovery (FFCD) projects.

HEALTH & NUTRITION

Needs:

Health authorities raised their concern that malnutrition rate may increase in the coming weeks or months due to the consequences of food insecurity and health situation following the floods. Displaced people remain in temporary tents with limited access to water and other basic facilities.

Response:

On August 15, UNICEF provided 4.3 million inhabitants of Pyongyang city and 10 counties in Kangwon access to essential medicine for communicable diseases sufficient for 3 months through delivering 964 Essential Medicine Kits and 10 referral kits to 897 health facilities. Moreover 121,300 locally made Oral Rehydration Salts (ORS) sachets were also distributed to above mentioned areas to treat 25,000 diarrheal incidences among the population. UNICEF has also started procurement of 5 complete sets of emergency health kits to serve 150,000 people in four provinces.

With the aid of CERF funds WHO is procuring water testing kits and other hospital consumables for affected by floods areas. Rapid diagnostic kits for identification of cholera, typhoid fever, Campylobacter Jejuni and influenza A & B (20 boxes of each) arrived last week from WHO regional stockpiles. All kits were distributed to anti-epidemic stations at the day of arrival.

UNFPA is procuring emergency reproductive health kits and dignity/hygiene kits scheduled to arrive early September: 6 types of emergency reproductive health kits, useful for provision of Basic Emergency Obstetric Care, and 5,360 dignity kits for displaced women of reproductive age (15-49) for their personal hygiene and health.

On 21-23 August UNFPA in partnership with Ministry of Public Health and Korean Family Planning and Maternal Child Health Association conducted a three day workshop in Haeju city for 30 health staff from South Hwanghae province. The participants were sensitized on minimum initial service package (MISP) for reproductive health in emergency situations, and the use of the emergency reproductive health kits.

The DPRK Red Cross Society, with the help of IFRC, printed 2,000 copies of health/hygiene promotion leaflets which were distributed to affected communities in South Hamgyong and South

Pyongan provinces. They were also distributed in Kaesong city in South Hwanghae where volunteers also provide first aid for injured people. The distribution of essential medicines to IFRC supported health facilities is completed. The health facilities in Kaesong municipality received the essential medicines on 16-17 August: Kaesong 61 health facilities, Kaepung 19 health facilities, Jangphung 25 health facilities.

The health cluster activities will be continued in September with further distribution of purchased supplies and last assessment mission at the end of September/beginning of October.

WATER SANITATION & HYGIENE

Needs:

There remains a need to ensure access to clean water and sanitation where the water supply has been contaminated. There is a continued requirement for water purification tablets.

Response:

UNICEF has to date provided 4,337 WASH family kits to the Ministry of City Management (MoCM) in addition to the 3550 initially released and 100,000 water purification tablets to Save the Children for distribution in South Hamgyong. Anju City was additionally supported with 1,500 Jerry Cans and 1.17 million water purification tablets. 150 Wash family kits were delivered to Chonnae, Songchon, Anju and Kujang when they were first field-visited by UNICEF staffs. 10 million water purification tablets and about 30 tons of calcium hypo chloride have been ordered, and expected to reach DPRK in another 15 days, and MoCM will coordinate their distribution among the effected population and areas. UNICEF is set to intervene for the next phase of emergency relief in the affected areas to support restoring damaged water supply network through provision of pipes, fittings, pumps/motors and repair materials. Priority is given to Songchon where the water source has been contaminated due to bursting of a mine.

In response to the flood occurred during the period 18-30 July, DPRK Red Cross Society, with support from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), has reached to 9,280 families providing support of relief items. Relief items such as plastic sheets, quilts, jerry cans, kitchen sets, water purification tablets, hygiene kits have benefitted 38,912 persons in 23 counties/cities across 6 provinces. In July, 8,374 families (36,564 persons) have benefitted from these relief items. These relief items have addressed the immediate needs of people in a number of key areas: shelter, health, and water and sanitation

The Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC) will support drinking water (Pumping stations in Anju City).

SHELTER

Needs:

The immediate need of the displaced population is for temporary shelter and relief items. In the longer-term those suffering damage to dwellings require support with rehabilitation of houses and construction. In Kaesong city, 659 families are being reported homeless by the DPRK Red Cross Society, 90 houses fully destroyed and 152 houses partly destroyed by flash flood. The water supply system is disrupted and the access road to city was destroyed.

Response:

DPRK Red Cross is supporting temporary shelter materials i.e. plastic sheeting (and 36 family tents) for the most affected families, whose houses have been completely destroyed or are unusable. A total of 4,128 volunteers have been mobilised for hygiene promotion, first aid provision, and the distribution of relief items

WelthungerHilfe will distribute construction materials (steel bars and cement), toolboxes for house rehabilitation and kitchen garden sets to serve a total of 730 households in Kujang (funded by SDC), Unsan and Hyangsan, North Pyongan.

3. COORDINATION

Under the auspices of the UN Resident Coordinator (RC), WFP and Save the Children International are responsible for inter sector coordination through the chairing of the Inter-Agency Emergency Coordination Group (IAECG). Lead agencies have been appointed to coordinate the flood response on sector level as follows:

- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene: UNICEF and Save the Children
- Food Assistance: WFP
- Health & Nutrition: WHO
- Shelter: IFRC

4. FUNDING

CONTRIBUTIONS TO DATE:

CERF	US\$ 1,955,140	4.7 million required (US\$)
DREF	CHF 300,969	
UNICEF Rapid Response Fund	US\$ 37,4518	80% funded
SDC	CHF 200,000	
Germany	EUR 180,000	
Caritas Germany	EUR 40,000	
WelthungerHilfe (<i>own funds</i>)	EUR 50,000	

The pre-positioned stocks and immediate cash contributions released by the humanitarian agencies to address the immediate needs at the onset of the disaster represent an estimated value of US\$ 960,000 in total.

5. CONTACT

For more information, please contact:

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For more information about the response of International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), please visit: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/Appeals/rpts12/KPfl30071201.pdf>