



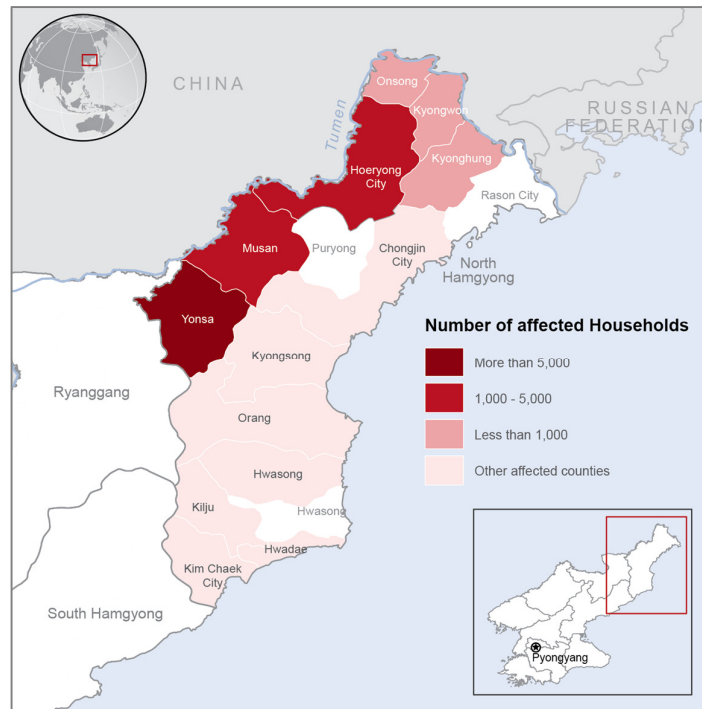
NORTH HAMGYONG FLOODS: AFTER ACTION REVIEW

(MAY 2017)

SITUATION OVERVIEW

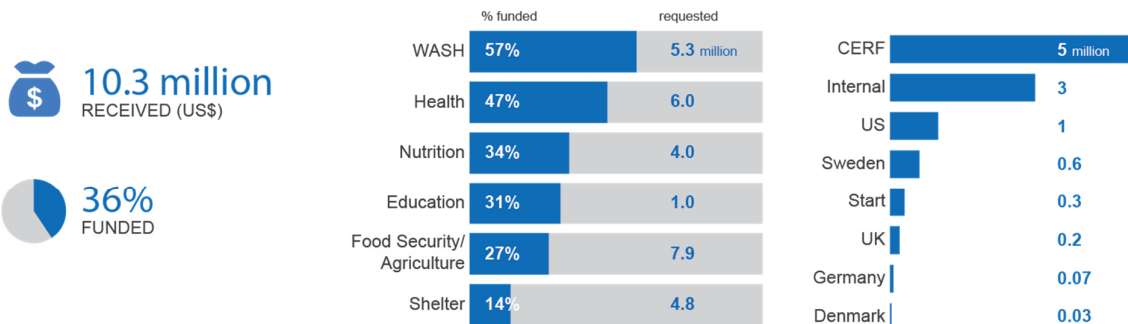
The remnants of Typhoon Lionrock passed DPRK on 29 August 2016, merging with a low-pressure front, resulting in heavy rain and flooding in the northeast and causing the Tumen River to break its banks. North Hamgyong Province was the most severely affected, with an estimated 600,000 people in Hoeryong City, Kyonghung, Kyongwon, Musan, Onsong and Yonsa counties impacted. Almost 70,000 people were displaced, 30,000 houses damaged, essential services disrupted and more than 27,000 hectares of agricultural land submerged.

Floods compounded an already serious humanitarian situation, with vulnerable people already suffering food and nutrition insecurity and inadequate health care. The situation was particularly acute with winter approaching and temperatures falling below zero degrees by the end of October. The Government declared a national emergency of highest priority, mobilizing some 370,000 people to support the response.



The Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) initially released relief materials including food, nutritional supplements, shelter kits, water purification and sanitation, health and education supplies from in-country stockpiles. After a joint assessment mission to the worst affected areas in early September, humanitarian agencies developed a Flood Emergency Response Plan¹ requesting US\$ 29 million to provide immediate humanitarian assistance to 600,000 people in food security, nutrition, shelter, health, and water, sanitation and hygiene for six months.

FUNDING RECEIVED²



¹ An IFRC appeal worth USD 15,5 M was released on 20 September 2016

² This amount does not include funding for SDC projects as they are self-funded.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



600,000
people targeted



604,223
people reached



FOOD SECURITY

143,000
people targeted

143,000+
people reached

- ✓ General food distribution to 143,000 flood-affected people.
- ✓ 860 mt pulses and 86 mt vegetable oil provided to 29,312 households to complement available foods at household level for a three-month period.
- ✓ Non-food items for rehabilitation activities related to food production distributed, including 3,500 pick-axes, 9,500 rubber boots, 9,500 rubber gloves, 300 wheelbarrows and 3,500 shovels to clear rubble from kitchen gardens and agricultural fields.
- ✓ 96 ready-to-install greenhouses and 1,419,500 m² of plastic sheeting, and 120 kg of vegetable seeds were provided to 30,982 households (123,926 people) to start the production of seedlings and vegetables under protected environment.
- ✓ Assisted with supplies for the rehabilitation of animal housing facilities in four affected counties.
- ✓ 32 units of 2-wheel tractors were provided to 16 cooperative farms.



HEALTH

600,000
people targeted

604,223
people reached

- ✓ Tents and coal/wooden stoves delivered to establish 55 temporary hospitals.
- ✓ 141,445 cases of diarrhea managed through provision of one million sachets of oral rehydration solution.
- ✓ Inter-agency Emergency Health Kits distributed to cover needs of 245,000 people.
- ✓ 250 household doctor kits covering 32,500 households and 500 household doctor bags covering 65,000 households distributed.
- ✓ 1,380 safe deliveries conducted using clean delivery kits
- ✓ 207 assistive and mobility devices for people with disabilities provided and 963 people with disabilities and elderly received preventive and functional rehabilitation care.



NUTRITION

113,000
people targeted

78,267
people reached

- ✓ 14,600 severely and moderately malnourished children treated and 44,706 under-five children screened to identify wasted children to initiate immediate treatment.
- ✓ Locally processed fortified supplementary food provided to 30,818 children, pregnant and lactating women to prevent undernutrition.
- ✓ Vitamin A supplements provided to 44,706 children aged 6-59 months and multi-micronutrient powder for home fortification of complementary foods to 14,216 children aged 6-23 months.

- ✓ Multi-micronutrient tablets provided to 9,025 pregnant and lactating women.



SHELTER / NFI

80,000
people targeted

68,800
people reached

- ✓ Approximately 650,000 m2 of corrugated galvanized iron (CGI) roofing sheets covering an estimated 8,600 families, and around 100,000 m2 of CGI sheets for institutions
- ✓ 150 family tents and over 16,000 tarpaulins delivered for use as temporary shelter until new houses constructed.
- ✓ Approximately 8,500 kitchen sets provided.



WASH

140,000
people targeted

168,000
people reached

- ✓ Over 42,000 households (est. 168,000 people) received urgent support through WASH partner interventions, including water purification tablets, calcium hypochlorite, jerry cans, buckets, water filters, soap, latrine slabs, repair items for pumping system, sanitation kits and hygiene promotion materials.



EDUCATION

32,000
people targeted

18,000
people reached

- ✓ Back to school kits distributed to 1,500 children.
- ✓ Printing materials for textbooks distributed to 18,000 children
- ✓ 20 temporary classroom tents and 90 emergency classrooms kits meeting need of 1,500 children
- ✓ Recreation kits distributed to 1,500 children
- ✓ Child-friendly spaces established in 30 kindergartens.

LESSONS LEARNED

Coordination:

- Regular sectoral coordination helped identify joint standards in relief items but also for procurements that can be built on and strengthened for future emergencies.
- Joint projects between agencies, such as START Fund projects implemented by Concern Worldwide, Welthungerhilfe and Save the Children, were effective in providing a swift and coordinated response. Means of transport and expertise were also shared to facilitate and enhance impact of interventions.
- Regular communication and coordination mechanisms need to be strengthened with other Government partners like the Ministry of City Management, Ministry of Public Health, Central Bureau of Statistics, Grand People's Study House and Anti Epidemic Station etc.
- Further analysis of national coordination architecture for response is required to ensure that any future capacity building efforts to strengthen Government of DPRK in preparedness and response capacity is targeted to relevant counterparts.

Humanitarian access:

- Timely and relevant data is essential for effective programming. The Government provided detailed information about damage to buildings and infrastructure, but not yet to internationally accepted standards, including information on the affected population. Equally, information sharing needs to take place regularly to ensure the response can be adapted as more information on impact becomes available. Continued discussions are required to ensure better access to data, as well as baselines for any future emergencies.
- While assessment and monitoring remain challenging, there was relatively free access to affected areas (not to Ryanggang Province) and the joint assessment missions supported response efforts.
- In addition to access to the affected areas, the relatively unrestricted access to take photographs and prepare media pieces assisted in agency fundraising efforts. However, there is a need to better capitalize on positive media and advocacy to further strengthen resource mobilization.

Stockpiles and Distribution:

- Initial distribution was slow – while agencies released stocks from warehouses quickly the onward delivery and distribution, for which local authorities were responsible, was delayed. Sending small teams of national staff to work with local authorities helped resolve any issues and bottlenecks in distribution and ensured regular monitoring of implementation.
- Most humanitarian agencies' in-country prepositioned emergency relief items are stored in central warehouses in Pyongyang. Further consideration should be given to regional warehousing to shorten transport distances and related costs to improve the timely and effective delivery of initial assistance.

General:

- DPRK does not fit into the traditional post-disaster pattern with a period of transitional shelter while longer term solutions are being considered. In North Hamgyong, as following the 2015 flooding in Rason, the Government made physical reconstruction an immediate focus, deploying all available resources to this effect. A continuation of current limited stockpiling of transitional shelters by specialized agencies may therefore be recommended.
- The Government had clear and urgent priorities for the rehabilitation which did not always match those of the humanitarian community. Continued discussions are recommended to ensure agreement and understanding of humanitarian stockpiles and what humanitarian assistance may be expected at the height of an emergency.

PARTICIPATING AGENCY RESPONSE

<p>Concern Worldwide supported 6,548 flood-affected people in Musan and Yonsan counties providing non-food items for cooking and eating, personal hygiene and temporary shelter, as well as basic services for sanitation and clean water. Concern provided 2,000 kitchen kits, 1,500 hygiene kits and 1,000 winterized shelter kits along with WASH related items including 10 sets solid waste cleaning materials kits, construction materials for 300 emergency latrines, 150 water hand pumps and 95 hand washing devices. In addition, 4,650 m² of CGI was provided for construction of emergency shelters and reinforcement of public buildings.</p>	<p>FAO provided agricultural inputs to 40 cooperative farms in the four worst-affected counties (Heoryong City, Yonsa, Musan and Kyongwon) to kick start production of nutritious vegetables under protected environment. The inputs included 120 kg of vegetable seeds, 1,419,500 m² of plastic sheet for construction of plastic tunnels and 96 units of ready-to-install greenhouses. In addition, 22,360 m² CGI sheets were provided for the rehabilitation of animal housing. Also, 32 2-wheel tractors were provided to 16 cooperative farms. In addition, trainings for climate-smart agricultural technologies were carried out.</p>
<p>Handicap International organised four mobile outreach functional rehabilitation camps and provided preventive rehabilitation care to 963 (566 male and 397 female) elderly persons and people with disabilities. In addition, 207 assistive and mobility devices were provided to people with disabilities as per their specific needs and 350 households with people with disabilities and other vulnerabilities gave also received household and hygiene kits.</p>	<p>IFRC supported 7,000 affected families (28,000 people) with non-food items to meet the immediate and medium term household, shelter and settlement needs, as well as water purification kits and winter hygiene kits to reduce the risk of waterborne diseases in affected counties. Some 422 housing units for 1,688 people in Yonsa County were provided to promote durable shelter solutions. IFRC also provided 52,000 CGI sheets along with other roofing material for reconstruction of houses.</p>
<p>Save the Children provided emergency classroom kits for 11 schools; 1,500 back-to-school kits; child-friendly space kits for 30 kindergartens; and 500 household and shelter kits from its pre-positioned stock. SC also provided 27,000 m² of CGI for household roofing for 310 households and supported shelter, household kits and sanitation kits to additional 1,550 families. SC also supported 215 family winterization kits with warm clothing for adults and children. It supported solar water heater system for 12 child-care institutions.</p>	<p>Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation provided 65,000 m² of CGI sheets for roofing along with essential tools (cutter, hammer, saw, roofing nails, plastic sheeting, etc.). Additionally, 60 tons of gabion wire was provided. Over the winter period, the gabion weaving was done by communities with support of a team of trainers. Early spring, the gabions were used for river embankment protection and to prevent further gully erosion. Training sessions with and through Ministry of Land and Environmental Protection staff on applied bioengineering methods were conducted to promote practical and simple technologies of slope stabilization through living vegetation.</p>
<p>UNFPA supported interventions to ensure better access to reproductive health services among women in affected areas. 8,000 dignity kits were immediately released from prepositioned stock and an additional 7,500 were procured and distributed to the three worst-affected counties. 4,460 oxytocin ampules for preventing maternal deaths were provided as well as 28 Emergency Reproductive Health Kits and 50 midwifery kits. CGI roofing sheets were provided for 11 health facilities that were destroyed during the floods. A three-day MISP training at central level was conducted for relevant government ministries.</p>	<p>UNICEF supplied 30 winterized tents to establish temporary hospitals, medicines and emergency health kits (6 IEHKs and 550 essential medicine kits), oral rehydration salt (900,000 sachets) and 1,380 clean delivery kits to ensure continued health services. 500 backpacks containing basic medical equipment, drugs and supplies were distributed to community-based doctors. Obstetric and neonatal care equipment and consumables were provided to County and Ri hospitals. UNICEF supplied blankets for pregnant and lactating women and winter clothes for children (0-16 years) and provided WASH support for 25,000 families and 1,500 institutions to ensure access to safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene.</p>

<p>UNDP provided 200,438 m² of CGI sheets, roofing nails (8,100 kg) and roof ridges (23,029 m²) as part of permanent shelter solutions. This assistance benefitted about 11,000 people (2,750 households) and supported the delivery of priority services by 85 public institutions (schools, kindergarten, clinics, health centres) to an estimated 48,470 people in five of the most affected counties (Hoeryong City, Musan, Yonsa, Onsong and Kyonghung). UNDP concluded its emergency response in November 2016, but has set aside some additional funding for the early recovery phase.</p>	<p>Welthungerhilfe delivered 2,050 emergency relief kits including water sanitation, kitchen and shelter items to the most affected areas in Onsong County and Hoeryong City. Kits were distributed to most vulnerable and disabled people. In total 7,820 people were reached in the most affected areas. In addition, Welthungerhilfe provided 5,600 m² of high quality CGI sheets for the construction of 66 private households for 213 people in Yonsa County.</p>
<p>WFP provided a total of 1,319 mt fortified foods, 1,117 mt pulses and 86 mt vegetable oil to 143,000 flood-affected people. General food distribution was conducted immediately, providing one month ration of soybeans and one week ration of fortified biscuits in six affected counties. In addition, supplementary feeding using locally processed fortified foods reached 30,818 children and pregnant and lactating women in Musan, Yonsa and Hoeryong counties, distributed for a six-month period, covering the winter season. 29,312 households engaged in community and embankment rehabilitation activities received food rations composed of pulses and vegetable oil for a three-month period. Pulses and oil contributed to improved dietary diversity and complemented the cereal ration provided by the Government.</p>	<p>WHO focused on facilitating immediate deployment of 10 mobile health teams and restoring normal delivery of health services in 35 primary health centres disrupted by floods. Support ensured that vital primary and secondary level health facilities resumed providing health care delivery. WHO supported measures to prevent spread of communicable diseases among the displaced population, including the establishment of early warning disease surveillance systems, strengthening of response systems and targeted health education/promotion activities. These measures also contributed to preventing diarrhoea and acute respiratory outbreaks.</p>

Triangle Génération Humanitaire (TGH) and Première Urgence Internationale (PUI) were involved in the preparation of the emergency response plan and appealed for funding for some of the activities therein. However, unfortunately, due to the shortage of funds dedicated to the emergency, both agencies were unable to develop response projects to the North Hamgyong floods.