

This report is produced by the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator Viet Nam. It covers the period from 18 October 2016 till 31 December 2016. Another situation report for this emergency will be issued if significant more information becomes available.

Highlights

- Since mid-October, a series of five consecutive floods has affected provinces in Central and South-Central Viet Nam and the Central Highlands, resulting in human loss, significant damage to housing and infrastructure, and severe crop and livestock damage and loss.
- The six most affected provinces are Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang Ngai, Binh Dinh and Phu Yen - with 10 to 30 per cent of the total population per province estimated to have been affected by one or more floods.
- Relief assistance by the Government has been extensive, but urgent needs on WASH, health, shelter and livelihoods remain, particularly for people affected by the most recent floods early December
- An estimated 1 million people in the six most affected provinces are considered to be in need of short and medium term recovery assistance over the coming months



5 Periods of floods in just over 2 months	18 Provinces affected	134 Deaths and missing	10 to 30% People affected per province	1m People in need of recovery assistance	US\$460m Estimated economic loss
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Situation Overview

Since mid-Oct. 2016, provinces in Central and South-Central Viet Nam and the Central Highlands have been affected by five consecutive periods of flooding due to very heavy rainfall caused by a combination of tropical depressions and the North-Eastern monsoon. The total rainfall on average over a two-month period reached up to 1,500-2,000mm, with peaks in Quang Nam (2,611mm), Quang Ngai (2,729mm) and Binh Dinh (2,417mm). While rainfall-induced flooding occurs annually in these regions, they rarely occur so frequent and this late in the year. Irrigation and hydropower reservoirs in all affected regions reached their maximum capacity leading to a series of controlled water discharges, further intensifying the flood impact.

The six most affected provinces are: Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang Ngai, Binh Dinh and Phu Yen. As of end Dec., all evacuated people have returned to their houses or are accommodated by relatives.

Flood period:	Provinces affected:
• 13 to 18 October:	Nghe An to Thu Thien Hue
• 30 October to 7 November:	Ha Tinh to Ninh Thuan, and the Central Highlands
• 29 November to 4 December:	Thua Thien Hue to Binh Dinh
• 5 to 9 December:	Thua Thien Hue to Ninh Thuan
• 13 to 18 December:	Thua Thien Hue to Phu Yen, and Gia Lai



Collapsed bridge (Photo: ©CCNDPC)

As reported by the Government's Central Committee for Natural Disaster Prevention and Control (CCNDPC) on 30 December, the total damage and loss of all five floods is as follows:

- Human impact: 134 deaths and missing, 151 people injured
- Housing: 233,271 houses flooded (of which 163,682 above 1meter), 4,093 damaged or collapsed
- Crops: 53,247ha rice damaged, 23,294ha perennial crops and 44,437ha vegetables submerged
- Livestock: 18,371 cattle and 1,218,449 poultry has been killed
- Infrastructure: 1,782km of roads damaged or eroded, 585 bridges or culverts and 60km of dykes damaged
- Est. economic loss: VND 10,520billion (approx. US\$ 460million)

Joint rapid needs assessments have been carried out by NGOs, UN, Red Cross and local authorities in response to the first and last floods, the two considered as most severe; 23-28 Oct. in Ha Tinh and Nghe An, and 21-23 Dec. in Quang Nam, Quang Ngai and Binh Dinh. Findings were documented and presented at various emergency meetings.¹

Humanitarian Response

Needs:

Based on assessments, the following needs have been identified by Government and humanitarian partners, with one million people across the most affected provinces considered in need of recovery assistance;

	Key immediate needs (for most recent floods)	Recovery needs (for all floods)
 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disinfection: Chloramine B and Aquatabs • Water quality testing and surveillance • Repair of open wells • Environmental clean-up • WASH kits for female headed households, poor and the elderly • Gender- and age-sensitive behavioral change communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore water supply systems • Rebuild and improve WASH facilities of affected poor households, engaging men and women in design and construction • Disinfect and repair open wells • Rehabilitate WASH facilities in schools and health facilities (commune health centers) – combined with awareness raising
 Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health checks for children, elderly, pregnant and lactating women • Disease surveillance: diarrhea, cholera, pneumonia, skin diseases and dengue • Support to mobile health teams • Environmental clean-up of health facilities • Behavioral change communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen diseases surveillance • Follow-up on antenatal check-ups and immunization programs • Restocking of medical supplies • Training on disease outbreak surveillance • Counseling services for children
 Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nutrition supplements for under-five children, lactating and pregnant women – particularly in poorest households affected 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malnutrition surveillance • Assessment of nutrition impact
 Food Security and Livelihoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rice and other food, for poor and near-poor • Seed support for crop replanting (in-kind and through cash transfer programming) • Animal restocking, with fast growing breeds • Monitoring of price inflation on local markets of essential commodities • Animal disease monitoring • Soil clean-up 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash transfer programming for seeds and agricultural inputs, with equal access for men and women • Seasonal calendar advice and training on resilient crops, livestock and farming techniques, for male and female farmers and extension workers • Monitoring of price inflation
 Early Recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash compensation for affected people • Unconditional cash, incl. for non-food items • Repair of essential irrigation and infrastructure (roads, bridges, pumps etc.) • Cash-for-work programs for environmental clean-up and debris clearance • Set up beneficiary accountability systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure repair: roads, bridges, irrigation, reservoirs, and early warning • Startup grants for micro and small enterprises of affected households • Recovery needs assessments • Access to technology for improved water resources management

¹ Assessment reports can be downloaded from the NGO Resource Centre website: <http://www.ngocentre.org.vn/dmwig>

 Shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shelter kits or materials for households with badly or completely damaged houses, combined with construction support, and ensuring protection safeguards for women 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cash transfer programming combined with technical training for ‘build back better’ house repair or resilient housing, ensuring protection safeguards for women
 Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental clean-up of schools Monitoring and follow-up of school attendance rates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audit and repair of damaged schools, ensuring more resilient buildings Replenish educational materials

National response:

- Throughout all the floods, the Government has issued extensive warnings and operational directives via various media to guide the preparedness and response efforts. High-level coordination meetings and missions in Hanoi and in the affected provinces were organized on a regular basis.
- The Government’s relief operations have been rapid and extensive, with distribution of food (rice, noodles, dry food, water); WASH and health supplies (400,000 Chloramine B tablets, 1million Aquatab tablets, 850 medical kits); seeds for replanting crops (2,523 tons rice seed, 307 tons maize seed, 38 tons vegetables seeds); livestock support (1million vaccination doses, 230 tons chemical disinfectant); search and rescue equipment (life jackets, tarpaulins, buoys); and state budget support for repair of essential infrastructure (VND 600billion or approx. US\$ 26.4million). Local authorities have also mobilized various support from local budgets and private donations.
- Additional relief and recovery aid will focus on seeds, chemicals for disinfection, vaccination, nutritional supplies for children and breastfeeding women, cash for infrastructure repair and other livelihood recovery support.

International response:

- On 17 Nov., the IFRC launched an Emergency Appeal seeking 1.4 million Swiss francs to support the Viet Nam Red Cross to deliver assistance to 30,775 people for nine months, with a focus on WASH; shelter (including non-food items); disaster risk reduction and National Society capacity building. The appeal complements an earlier allocation in Oct. from the IFRC’s Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) and is updated on an on-going basis.
- With US\$ 225,000 allocated from the Canadian Humanitarian Assistance Fund in Oct., Save the Children has distributed unconditional cash transfers to 3,600 affected households, and rehabilitated water sources and sanitation facilities in provinces affected by the first floods.
- In Dec., Habitat for Humanity received a grant for the delivery of WASH kits to 14,000 affected households. Items such as water containers, purification tablets and filters will be distributed in the coming weeks.
- Per request of the UN in Viet Nam, UNITAR/UNOSAT has provided satellite imagery analysis of the affected regions to support the damage and needs assessments and relief and recovery operations.
- On 30 Dec., at the UN in Hanoi, the Government and the UN have co-convened an emergency meeting to discuss the recent floods. At the meeting the Government briefed humanitarian partners about the immediate response and priorities for recovery. Inter-agency assessment teams also shared the findings from their missions to Quang Nam, Quang Ngai and Binh Dinh. The Government, UN and partners agreed on most urgent needs and also to step up investments in building long term resilience to disasters and climate change.

General Coordination

The Government is leading the humanitarian response and recovery at the national level and in the affected provinces. Emergency coordination and recovery is facilitated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) as the Chair of the Central Committee for Natural Disaster Prevention and Control (CCNDPC), hereby supported by the UN and in collaboration with INGOs, the Red Cross and other humanitarian partners.

The UN is providing coordination, information management, technical assistance and other support through the UN Disaster Risk Management Team (DRMT). The DRMT is meeting on a regular basis, under the facilitation of the Resident Coordinator’s Office (RCO) and guidance from the UN Resident Coordinator a.i. and the UN Country Team.

The INGO-Red Cross-UN Disaster Management Working Group (DMWG) is meeting frequently as required and collecting information on agency responses.

For UN Humanitarian Coordination and Response

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