

Operations update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

China: Sichuan Earthquake

Emergency appeal n° MDRCN003
GLIDE n° [EQ-2008-000062-CHN](#)
Operations update n° 9
4 June 2008

Period covered by this Update: 29 May- 3 June 2008

Appeal target (current): CHF 96.7 million (USD 92.7 million or EUR 59.5 million) to support the Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) to assist around 100,000 families (up to 500,000 people) for 36 months.

[<click here to view the attached revised emergency appeal budget>](#)

Appeal coverage: There has been a very generous and quick response to this appeal. Many pledges of funding have been received since the [revised emergency appeal](#) was launched on 30 May to reflect the increased support of the International Federation to the Red Cross Society of China's response to the massive humanitarian needs of this disaster. [<click here for the donor response list>](#)

[<click here to link to a map of the affected areas; or here for contact details>](#)

Appeal history:

- This emergency appeal was revised on 30 May 2008 for CHF 96.7 million (USD 92.7 million or EUR 59.5 million) to support the Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) to assist around 100,000 families (up to 500,000 people) for 36 months.
- The emergency appeal was launched on 15 May 2008 for CHF 20,076,412 (USD 19.3 million or EUR 12.4 million) for 12 months to assist 100,000 beneficiaries.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF): CHF 250,000 was allocated from the International Federation's DREF to support the RCSC's response to the earthquake.



A Red Cross psychosocial team volunteer talks to an earthquake survivor in Jiuzhou Stadium, Mianyang, Sichuan. (Francis Markus/International Federation)

Summary: The 8.0 magnitude earthquake on 12 May devastated eight provinces; Sichuan, (the most severely affected), Gansu, Shaanxi, Chongqing, Yunnan, Shanxi, Guizhou and Hubei. The death toll currently stands at 69,016 and is expected to rise above 80,000. Over 15 million are displaced (including over five million homeless).

The Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) has continued to provide non-stop assistance to those in the affected areas, mobilizing medical teams, psychosocial teams, and relief vehicles. The efforts of hundreds of RCSC staff and rescue and relief teams have been extraordinary in treating thousands of people with serious and critical injuries. Over 35,000 RCSC volunteers and staff are involved in relief and recovery efforts assisting more than one million earthquake survivors who have received relief items from the Red Cross.

The International Federation's water and sanitation and mass sanitation module emergency response units (ERUs) have arrived, been set up and are now operational. The ERUs are set up in Jiulong and Banqiao, Mianzhu prefectures, sites identified by the joint International Federation and RCSC teams.

The RCSC has requested up to 100,000 tents from outside of China through Red Cross Red Crescent sister societies. So far, approximately 37,000 tents have been mobilized from different sources and further stocks from other partner national societies and other suppliers will be confirmed to cover the full amount. Altogether, the RCSC has distributed up to 52,000 tents in Mianyang, Deyang, Chengdu, A'ba, Ya'an and Gungyuan prefectures.

The president of the International Federation is visiting the disaster-affected areas on 4-5 June to show support to the dedicated RCSC staff and volunteers who have worked around the clock to provide assistance during this huge humanitarian relief effort.

Many partner national societies have made contributions to the appeal: American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross/Australian government, British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross/Canadian government, Croatian Red Cross, Danish Red Cross/Danish government, Finnish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Icelandic Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross/Japanese government, Malaysian Red Crescent, Monaco Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross/Netherlands government, New Zealand Red Cross/New Zealand government, Norwegian Red Cross, Singapore Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, Sri Lanka Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross and United Arab Emirates Red Crescent Society, as well as contributions from American, Irish, Italian and Luxembourg governments, OPEC and the Stavros Niarchos Foundation.

The Red Cross Society of China has also received bi-lateral contributions from Cambodian Red Cross, French Red Cross, German Red Cross, Republic of Korea Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Pakistan Red Crescent, Spanish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, Thai Red Cross, Turkish Red Crescent and Vietnam Red Cross.

The International Federation, on behalf of the Red Cross Society of China, would like to thank all partners for their timely and generous response to this appeal.

The situation

By 3 June, the Sichuan earthquake and aftershocks have left 69,016 dead, 368,545 injured, 18,830 missing, and over 15 million displaced of whom five million are homeless, according to the ministry of civil affairs. The highest number of casualties has occurred in Sichuan province with a recorded 66,674 deaths. In Sichuan alone, 35 million houses have been totally destroyed or damaged. Rescue efforts have officially ended and the focus is now on clean-up, reconstruction and recovery.

Aftershocks continue to hinder relief and recovery efforts as well as worsen the anxiety of those who survived the quake, with over 8,000 aftershocks recorded thus far. Many are still afraid to return indoors and choose to live out in the open. Almost all power supply, telecommunications and roads have been restored though many remain vulnerable to the continuous aftershocks. The latest aftershock (measuring 5 on the Richter scale and 74 kilometres deep) occurred the morning of 3 June on the border of Sichuan and Gansu provinces. However, there are no reports of damage or injury received to date.

The situation at the Tanjashen quake lake is now less critical for the moment as authorities have successfully created a channel to drain the rising water levels and ease the pressure on the lake boundaries. The situation is

being closely monitored, and contingency measures are being taken, including evacuation drills. Efforts continue in draining the larger of the other 33 'quake' lakes (formed by rivers blocked by landslides) in nine counties in Sichuan. More than 200,000 people living downstream of the lake in Beichuan have been evacuated as a precaution but the 1.3 million people from 33 townships in Mianyang are still threatened by the lingering risk of quake lakes bursting and flooding.

A helicopter carrying 14 people (including a relief team) crashed on 1 June amid strong turbulence caused by bad weather conditions. Search and rescue operations were started but to date, there has been no news on the casualties or survivors.

Relief and shelter

According to the ministry of civil affairs, over five million people have lost their homes and millions more displaced as a result of the earthquake and aftershocks. The conditions in tents and makeshift shelters housing millions of displaced people are worsening due to the rains and increasing temperatures. The ministry of civil affairs estimate 3.3 million tents are needed. The Chinese government has already begun producing transitional houses and relief teams have started working on setting these up. Tents, awnings and transitional shelters are greatly needed and factories in China are running at full speed to increase production to meet the demand. The exact number of damaged and collapsed houses will need further assessment. Thousands of schools and public facilities also need rebuilding. The government estimates that the reconstruction of housing and infrastructure for the 15 million displaced will take three years.



Earthquake survivors shelter at a fire station in An County, Sichuan. Francis Markus/International Federation

Basic health care, nutrition, psychosocial support, water and sanitation

According to the earthquake operations centre of the provincial health bureau of Sichuan, the government is planning to build a total of 1 million square metres of transitional housing and public facilities (schools, hospitals) in the coming weeks/months. According to this plan, there will be one transitional health facility for every 2,000 people. This is meant to reduce gap in health services for a period of six to twelve months until more permanent structures have been built. These temporary health facilities will be staffed by local health personnel from destroyed hospitals and health personnel from other provinces.

An earlier outbreak of foot, hand and mouth disease had occurred in April, and to date, several cases have also been reported in earthquake-affected areas. The ministry of health, however, has given assurance that

the situation is under control. To date, there have been no epidemics and the government is taking intensive measures for epidemic prevention and control.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overview

As of 3 June, the RCSC headquarters and its branches have received more than CNY 11.2 billion (CHF1.680 billion) in donations, raised nationally and internationally in cash and in kind. Nearly CNY 3 billion (CHF450 million) has already been spent by the RCSC on emergency relief items in the disaster-affected areas. RCSC has assured that all funds will be used for earthquake relief and recovery, including relief, temporary and permanent housing, rebuilding schools and clinics, recruiting and maintaining Red Cross teams for relief, medical support, psychosocial support and volunteers.

Shelter and relief

The RCSC has requested 100,000 tents from outside of China as part of the International Federation's appeal. The International Federation's regional logistics unit in Kuala Lumpur is working on mobilizing this relief in close coordination and cooperation with the RCSC, the International Federation office in-country and numerous partner national societies. The RCSC has distributed nearly 52,000 tents in Mianyang, Deyang, Chengdu, A'ba, Ya'an and Gungyuan. As of 3 June, some 37,000 tents are in the International Federation's pipeline until end June.

Prefecture	RCSC (HQ and disaster preparedness centres)	International Federation	Others (donated to RCSC)	Total distributed
Mianyang	7,117	8,009	2,350	17,476
Deyang	9,123		3,005	12,128
Chengdu	1,391		289	1,680
A'ba	15,944		1,290	17,234
Ya'an	366		303	669
Gungyuan	1,603		910	2,513
Total	35,544	8,009	8,147	51,700

Table: Tents - numbers and areas of distribution

It has been agreed that some of the 100,000 tents could also be distributed to earthquake-affected areas outside Sichuan province. Gansu and Shaanxi provinces will receive 9,000 and 6,000 tents respectively. The International Federation has requested RCSC's distribution plans in order to make arrangements to redirect some flights to airports other than Chengdu in order to facilitate delivery of tents to Gansu and Shaanxi.

The provision of relief items continues with priority on adequate food, clothing and blankets/quilts. The International Federation and RCSC have agreed on a plan to fast track the local procurement of kitchen sets and hygiene kits.

Health

The RCSC continues to provide medical services in the earthquake-affected areas and is running six health and first aid posts in Juilong (Mianzhu), Juizhou Stadium (Mianyang), An county, Shifang, Pengwu and Mianzhu. A total of 154 health staff are working at these health posts and as of 29 May, approximately 16,660 out-patients have received medical treatment and services.

The German Red Cross hospital is fully operational in Diujangyan and has provided services to 4,832 outpatients, 68 inpatients and 441 patients under observation as of 3 June. The hospital has received much attention from local media and authorities. It has been visited by many organizations interested in learning from the Red Cross experience in deploying such global disaster response tools. Eleven members of the German Red Cross team are on the ground working together with 200 medical staff assembled from local, provincial and Shanghai hospitals. Three members of the German Red Cross team will return this Friday as transition of complete handover of these facilities to the RCSC progresses.

The International Federation's operations support team in Chengdu and the Federation's reference centre on psychosocial support in Copenhagen has been coordinating closely with the IOM and UNICEF on the Chinese translation of the inter-agency guidelines on mental health and psychosocial support in emergency

settings. These guidelines will be made available for use for all agencies working in psychosocial support and mental health in earthquake-affected areas.

Water and sanitation

The International Federation's water and sanitation emergency response and mass sanitation units have arrived and will operate in sites identified by the joint International Federation and RCSC team. The team in-country is also looking into the possibility of further emergency response unit deployments.

The Spanish Red Cross water and sanitation emergency response unit (ERU), and the Austrian and French Red Cross water and sanitation ERU arrived on 2 June, along with the remaining members of the British Red Cross mass sanitation module ERU. Each water and sanitation ERU is capable of providing safe water for up to 15,000 people per day. All teams will work in Mianzhu county, Deyang prefecture with focus on the two townships of Jiulong and Banqiao. The water and sanitation ERUs were set up 3 June and are now operational. The final kits for the mass sanitation ERU will arrive tomorrow and the plan is to have it set up by the end of the week. Team members have started developing plans of action with the local communities and the Sichuan Red Cross branch.

The Spanish Red Cross water and sanitation ERU will operate in Jiulong township which has a population of 12,000 people (some 4,950 families). Approximately 400 people died and 3,000 injured in Jiulong, where most of the buildings have largely collapsed. Water needs are provided through bore holes, many of which have collapsed from the quake. There is a river nearby but it is shallow. Wastewater is being managed by the local government while medical care is being provided by available medical staff. There have not been any reports of any diarrhoea outbreak or other diseases to date. Food is sufficient till mid-June but there is a shortage of clothing, blankets and mosquito nets. Also, 1,200 tents are also urgently needed and are being prioritized by the RCSC with Red Cross Red Crescent assistance.

The Austrian and French Red Cross water and sanitation ERU will operate in Banqiao township with a population of 16,000 people, most of whom have been displaced. Nearly 80 people perished in this heavily damaged township. Here, water is also collected through bore holes, many of which were destroyed during the quake. There is a river nearby. There is a need for sanitation facilities. So far, there have been no reports of an outbreak in diarrhoea or other diseases. Food is sufficient but 6,100 tents are needed.

The British Red Cross team in charge of mass sanitation has completed an assessment in Jiulong and Banqiao townships and will set up latrines by the end of this week. This intervention will also include a strong education component of hygiene promotion.

The International Federation's head of operation support team is conducting assessments together with RCSC for a suitable base campsite for operations staff. This campsite will most probably be located in Deyang.

On 4-6 June, the president of the International Federation will visit Sichuan's affected communities to pay tribute to the thousands who died as a result of the earthquake and to the millions of survivors who struggle to cope with the reality of daily life. He will also thank the Red Cross Society of China's staff and volunteers who



Red Cross Society of China psychosocial team leader taking notes while talking to a person affected by the earthquake. Francis Markus/International Federation

have been working tirelessly since the very first hours of the earthquake to provide much needed relief and assistance.

Coordination and partnerships

The head of the East Asia regional office is participating in information sharing meetings organized by the UN resident coordinator in Beijing, and regularly updates the ICRC regional office on developments in the response. ICRC has offered their support with the provision of two translators, including one with a logistics background.

The International Federation's team on the ground has been closely coordinating its activities with other organizations and exchanging their assessment findings and observations. Contact is also made with the World Health Organization and other UN organizations based in Beijing.

Daily meetings between the International Federation's regional office and RCSC at headquarters and field levels have also strengthened communication and coordination at all levels.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

The communications team continues to highlight Red Cross Red Crescent relief and recovery activities in the earthquake-affected areas of China. A press release was issued on the president and vice-president's visit to earthquake-affected communities on 3 June. The press officer in Chengdu is travelling with the president to get photos and stories of the visit. The president is expected to do several interviews with the Spanish-speaking media. Updated press releases, stories, and photos are available online at www.ifrc.org and www.flickr.com/ifrc.

How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- Red Cross Society of China: Mr. Wang Xiaohua, director of external relations department; email: rcsc@chineseredcross.org; phone: +86.10.6404.8366, fax +86.10.6402.9928.
- East Asia regional office in China: Mr. Carl Naucner, (head of regional office), email; carl.naucner@ifrc.org; and Mr. Qinghui Gu (regional disaster management coordinator), email; qinghui.gu@ifrc.org; phone +86 1391 0959 834, fax +86 10 6532 7166.
- Federation zone office in Kuala Lumpur:
 - Alistair Henley, head of zone office, phone: +6012 203 8254, email: alistair.henley@ifrc.org,
 - Amy Gaver, head of disaster management unit, phone: + 60 3 9207 5700, fax: +60 3 2161 0670, mobile +60 12 220 1174, email: amy.gaver@ifrc.org
 - For pledges of funding: Penny Elghady, resource mobilization and PMER coordinator, phone: +603 9207 5775, email: penny.elghady@ifrc.org

- Igor Dmitryuk, head of regional logistics unit, phone: +60 1 2212 2407, fax: +60 3 2168 8573, email: igor.dmitryuk@ifrc.org
- Federation secretariat in Geneva: Christine South, operations coordinator, Asia Pacific, phone: +41 22 730 4529; mobile: +41 79 308 9824; email: christine.south@ifrc.org
- For media enquiries: Francis Markus (Chengdu): +86 13 91 00 96 892, Eric Porterfield (Kuala Lumpur): +60 12 38 70 829, Federation Duty phone (Geneva): +41 79 41 63 881

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REVISED APPEAL BUDGET SUMMARY

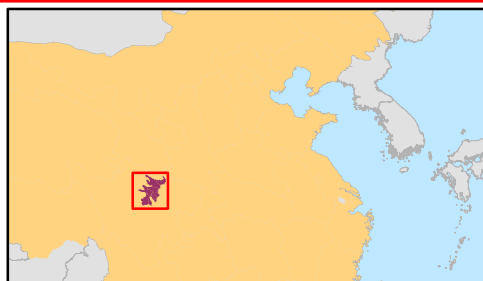
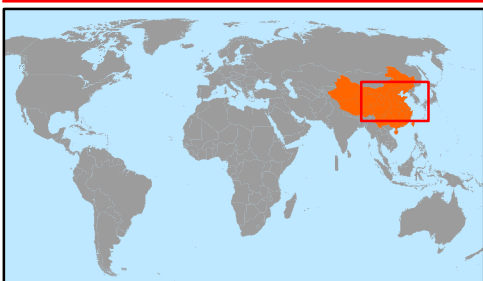
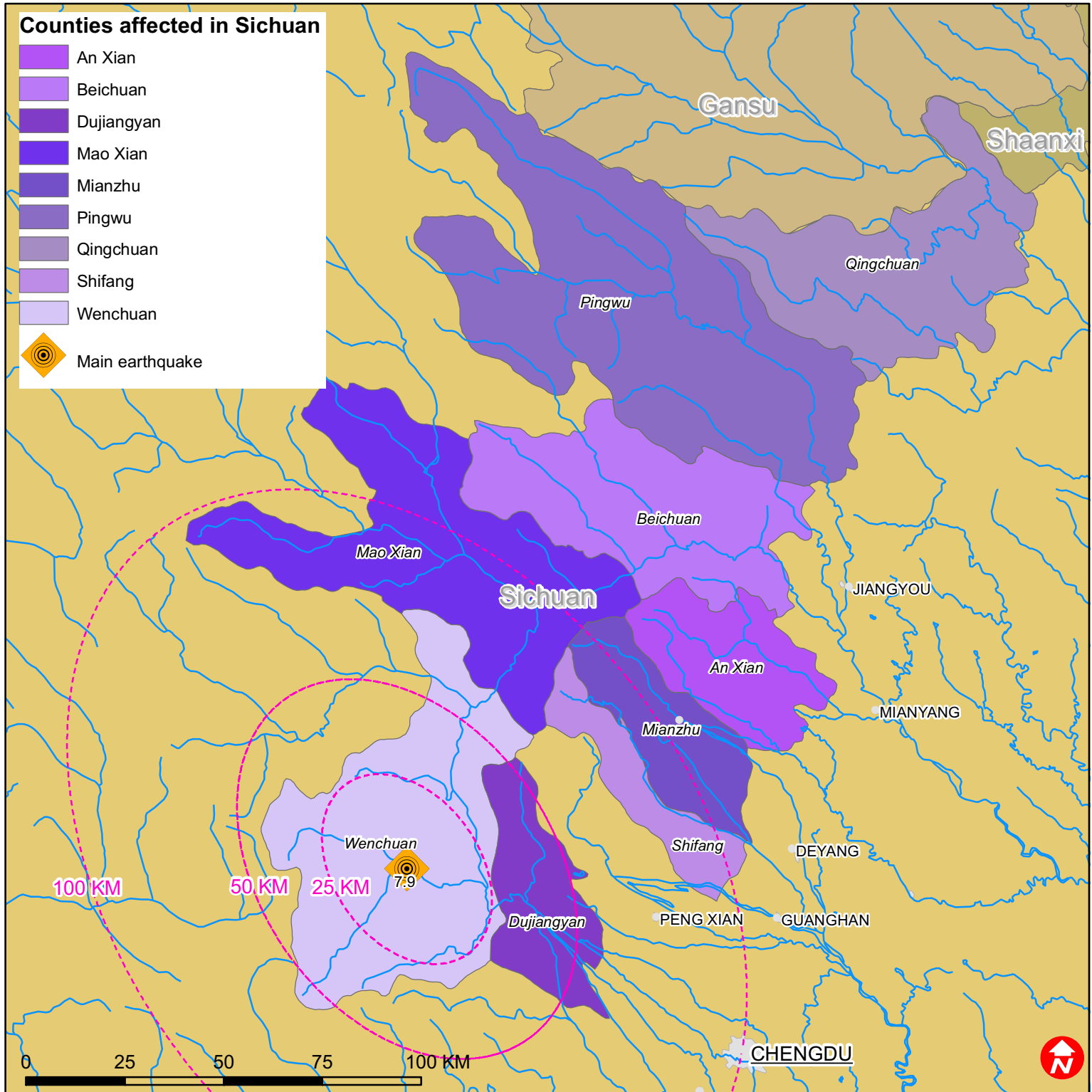
Annex 1

CHINA: SICHUAN EARTHQUAKE**MDRCN003**

	ORIGINAL	REVISED	VARIANCE
<u>RELIEF NEEDS</u>			
Shelter/Tents (Including Air Transport)	630,000	45,200,000	(44,570,000)
Construction Materials	5,000,000	17,000,000	(12,000,000)
Clothing & Textiles	4,000,000	1,000,000	3,000,000
Food	5,000,000	5,000,000	
Water & Sanitation	285,000	120,000	165,000
Medical & First Aid	740,000	740,000	
Teaching Materials	-	500,000	(500,000)
Utensils & Tools	825,000	3,500,000	(2,675,000)
Other Supplies & Services	-	11,200,000	(11,200,000)
Total Relief Needs	16,480,000	84,260,000	(67,780,000)
<u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u>			
Land & Buildings	-		
Vehicles Purchase	90,000	90,000	
Computers & Telecom Equipment	30,000	40,000	(10,000)
Office/Household Furniture & Equip.	-	120,000	(120,000)
<u>TRANSPORT, STORAGE & VEHICLES</u>			
Distribution & Monitoring related to Relief Needs	200,000	800,000	(600,000)
Transport & Vehicles Costs	100,000	350,000	(250,000)
<u>PERSONNEL</u>			
International Staff	316,800	2,130,000	(1,813,200)
National Staff	72,000	428,000	(356,000)
National Society Staff	48,000	48,000	
Consultants	108,000	108,000	
<u>WORKSHOPS & TRAINING</u>			
Workshops & Training	50,000	150,000	(100,000)
<u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u>			
Travel	180,000	600,000	(420,000)
Information & Public Relations	36,000	108,000	(72,000)
Office running costs	85,200	360,000	(274,800)
Communication Costs	78,600	246,000	(167,400)
Professional Fees - auditing fee	847,400	319,400	528,000
Financial Charges	3,000	9,000	(6,000)
Other General Expenses	46,445	288,000	(241,555)
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>			
Programme Support - PSR	1,304,967	6,288,274	(4,983,307)
Total Operational Needs	3,596,412	12,482,674	(8,886,262)
Total Appeal Budget (Cash & Kind)	20,076,412	96,742,674	(76,666,262)
(Less) :Available Resources		37,222,888	
Net Request	20,076,412	59,519,786	(76,666,262)



China: Earthquake



The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.

Map data sources: ESRI, DEVINFO, GIST, CIESIN, International Federation - MDRCN003EAREV.mxd