

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° 10
6 June 2008

Period covered by this Update: 3 - 6 June 2008

Appeal target (current): CHF 96.7 million (USD 92.7 million or EUR 59.5 million)

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

Appeal coverage: With contributions received to date, in cash and kind, and those in the pipeline, the appeal is currently approximately 48% covered.

[<click here for the current 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.



Children received Red Cross teddy bears as a small token to provide comfort in the wake of the disaster. 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 approximately 69,000 and is expected to rise above 80,000. Over 15 million people are displaced (including over five million homeless) according to the ministry of civil affairs.

The Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) has continued to provide assistance to those in the affected areas, mobilizing medical teams, psychosocial support 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 injuries. Over 35,000 RCSC volunteers and staff are involved in relief and recovery efforts. To date, more than one million earthquake survivors have received relief items from the Red Cross.

The International Federation's water and sanitation emergency response units (ERUs) have arrived, been set up and are now operational in Jiulong and Banqiao townships, in Mianzhu prefecture, on 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 through these sources. Altogether, the RCSC has distributed approximately 57,000 tents in Mianyang, Deyang, Chengdu, A'ba, Ya'an and Gungyuan prefectures to date.

The president of the International Federation visited the quake-affected areas on 5 June to support 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, Austrian Red Cross, 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 the European Commission (ECHO), the American, Irish, Italian, Luxembourg and Slovenian governments, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and the Stavros Niarchos Foundation.

The RCSC 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 generous response to this appeal.

The situation

By 4 June, the Sichuan earthquake and aftershocks have left 69,122 dead, 373,606 injured, 17,991 missing, and over 15 million displaced, of whom five million are homeless, according to the ministry of civil affairs. The highest number of casualties occurred in Sichuan province. In Sichuan alone, 35 million houses have been totally destroyed or damaged. Rescue efforts have officially ended and the focus is now on debris clearing and reconstruction.

Aftershocks continue to hinder relief and recovery efforts, with over 10,252 aftershocks recorded thus far. According to the China Seismological Bureau, some 184 aftershocks occurred on 4 June alone, all measuring below 3.9 on the Richter scale. Reports from Xinhua news determine that up to 14,000 people from Hanwang township, Mianzhu City, have been evacuated due to landslides and mud and rock flows while some 30,000 residents from a small rural county in Qingchuan are being evacuated due to frequent landslides. Almost all power supply, telecommunications and roads have been restored, though many communities remain vulnerable to the continuous aftershocks. In most of the smaller villages and townships, power supply has been largely cut-off, with landslides blocking the roads.



Survivors living in a temporary shelter Dong Qi, Deyang. International Federation.

Authorities have successfully created a channel to drain the rising water levels and ease the pressure on the Tangjiashen quake lake dam wall. Water is expected to start flowing into the channel by 5 June if forecasted showers occur. 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.

The government has dispatched two inspection teams to ensure the proper use of relief funds and material for the areas affected by the quake. This is in line with routine procedures and is an effort by the government to ensure organizations do not misuse funds. The teams will stay in Sichuan to supervise local governments and organizations heavily involved in the relief and recovery effort. These teams have begun inspecting the RCSC and the China Charity Foundation on 4 June.

The government has distributed 794,200 tents, 4.56 million quilts, 699,100 tonnes of fuel and oil, and 1.48 million tonnes of coal. Government and local businesses are working to resume regular goods and financial services to people in the quake-affected areas. The ministry of commerce is looking at the possibility of subsidizing small and medium-sized retailers and logistics businesses affected by the quake that need financial support to recover. This support from the ministry will help to ensure the supply of essential food and goods.

The development of early recovery and reconstruction plans are well underway at the various levels of government, and will be coordinated into a government 'master plan'. RCSC will be engaged in this process and will send assessment teams to meet the local authorities in Sichuan and other quake-affected provinces from 14 to 18 June. To date, government planners have not yet provided clear directives to the RCSC regarding geographical targeting for early recovery and reconstruction programmes. However, the International Federation is currently focussing assessment activities on the six prefectures prioritized for Red Cross Red Crescent relief assistance.

At the macro level, it is reported that the government plans to not rebuild some of the sites of the most devastated settlements and instead merge these into neighbouring townships and villages. This may also apply to completely destroyed schools and hospitals. The local governments at various levels plan to finalize reconstruction plans in two months in most of the areas. However, reconstruction plans may require more time in heavily destroyed and mountainous areas. Each of the earthquake-affected prefectures is twinned with provinces and municipalities from all over China to channel public and local government-to-government

support, and these assistance efforts will be channelled and coordinated through the respective level local governments.

Relief workers are increasingly worried about the threat of disease and health authorities are racing to provide clean food, drinking water and shelter. There have been no serious outbreak of diseases so far and epidemic control staff continue to disinfect the disaster-affected areas. According to the Sichuan provincial government, about 30,500 people in the eight worst-hit villages and smaller townships in the mountainous areas are still without water supply.

Since the start of the response, the government has made establishing temporary schools for children a special focus, which will help children return to a sense of normalcy. Children living in transitional camps have been enrolled in schools. Parents staying in mass camps report a lack of food appropriate for younger children and Save the Children is planning to provide supplementary food for children under 1 year old. Local education authorities are taking measures to help resettle students from areas affected the earthquake. Areas in Sichuan province that suffered relatively little damage are making efforts to take in students whose schools were damaged or destroyed by the quake.

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 shelter, schools and clinics, as well as recruiting and maintaining Red Cross Red Crescent teams for relief, medical support, psychosocial support and volunteers.



International Federation president drinks water purified by the Spanish Red Cross water and sanitation emergency response unit in Jiulong. International Federation.

The Spanish Red Cross and Austrian/French Red Cross water and sanitation ERUs and the British Red Cross mass sanitation ERU have been set up and are operational in Jiulong and Banqiao townships. The Danish Red Cross base camp ERU is being set up in Deyang and will provide Red Cross Red Crescent staff (including RCSC staff) engaged in the emergency operations with appropriate living and working conditions. The ERUs will provide vital survival needs for up to three months before being handed over to RCSC. Red Cross staff from American, Australian, Austrian, Belgian, British, Canadian, Danish, French, German, Norwegian, Spanish and Swedish Red Cross societies are working alongside Chinese Red Cross colleagues.

The International Federation and RCSC teams are continuing with assessments for planning relief and recovery for some of the hardest-hit townships. The coordination efforts between the International Federation operations support team, the RCSC and relevant official agencies have been excellent and have helped facilitate a rapid response. The International Federation is committed to staying as long as it is needed to support relief efforts, including training and capacity building on the tools provided to RCSC.

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 57,000 tents in Mianyang, Deyang, Chengdu, A'ba, Ya'an and Gungyuan. Flights are arriving in Chengdu daily and the International Federation is working towards the target of 100,000 tents to be distributed by the end of June.

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

Prefecture	RCSC (HQ and disaster preparedness centres)	International Federation	Bilateral	Others (donated to RCSC)	Total distributed
Mianyang	7,117	13,059		2,350	22,526
Deyang	9,123		350	2,655	12,128
Chengdu	1,391		39	250	1,680
A'ba	15,944		800	490	17,234
Ya'an	366			303	669
Gungyuan	1,603		700	210	2,513
Total	35,544	13,059	1,889	6,258	56,750

Table: Tents - numbers and areas of distribution as of 4 June 08

The provision of relief items continues with RCSC priority on ensuring adequate clothing and blankets/quilts. The International Federation and RCSC are working on a procurement strategy to fast track the local procurement of kitchen sets and hygiene kits.

In addition, ten Hong Kong Red Cross branch staff and volunteers are in Sichuan providing support for the immediate and mid-term needs of the affected populations. The staff are also providing support in reconstruction planning in the affected areas and developing plans for livelihoods recovery. The Hong Kong Red Cross branch has distributed 1,000 tents in Mianzhou and Jiangyou county, 18,000 quilts in Deyang and Mianyang prefectures, 1,000 family packs in Mianyang. Hong Kong Red Cross branch staff and volunteers are directly monitoring the distributions at the townships and villages.

On 6 June, the RCSC executive vice president took part in a ceremony in Pengzhou, approximately 40 minutes' drive from Chengdu, in which the keys to a pre-fabricated semi-permanent primary and middle school built with Red Cross donations by a local firm of contractors were symbolically handed over. The school, in Longfeng township, consists of 16 buildings with 44 classrooms, accommodating more than 2,000 middle school and 1,800 primary students. The temporary school building is one of 27 in the Pengzhou area, and was built in approximately 13 days.



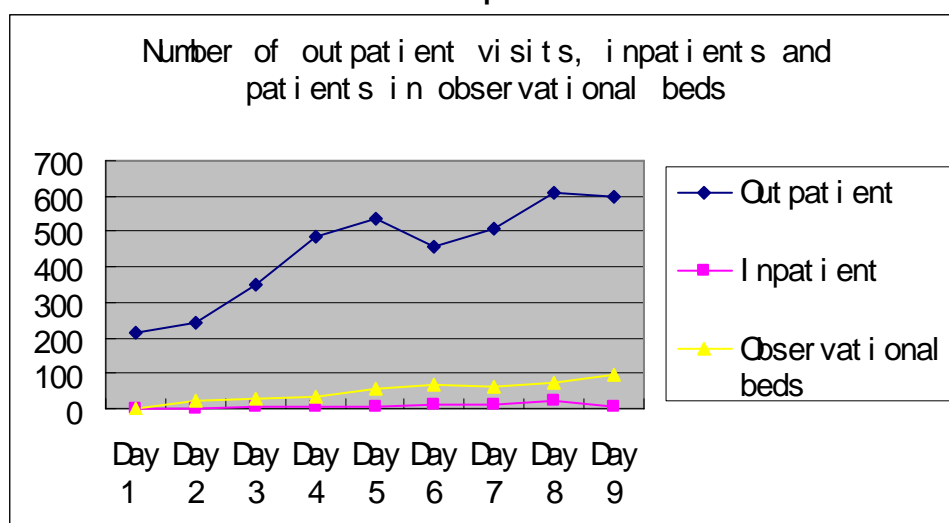
Students assembling in front of their new temporary school in Pengzhou, erected with the support of the Red Cross Society of China. International Federation.

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. Up to 154 health staff are working at these health posts and over 16,660 out-patients have received medical treatment and services so far.

The German Red Cross hospital is fully operational in Diujangyan and has provided services to 4,562 outpatients and 88 inpatients. An average of 456 patients visits the hospital daily. The hospital has received much attention from local media and authorities. Common complaints treated are acute respiratory infections, trauma and wounds either related to the earthquake or under current living conditions. Also common are chronic diseases like hypertension, diabetes and heart diseases.

German Red Cross hospital information to date



To date, eleven members of the German Red Cross team are working with up to 200 medical staff assembled from local, provincial and Shanghai hospitals. Three members of the German Red Cross team

will return this Friday to Germany as part of the transition and complete handover of these facilities to the RCSC progresses. The German team was very impressed by the work, commitment, and dedication of the RCSC volunteers and staff who have worked day and night for three weeks.

The Hong Kong Red Cross branch has also deployed a seven-member medical team (including six volunteers) to Jiangyou county to assist the local township hospital to provide basic health care, including hepatitis A and Japanese encephalitis B vaccination campaigns, and outreach health services. The team started work on 31 May and will operate for the next two weeks, depending on the vaccination progress.

Water and sanitation

The water and sanitation ERUs were set up on 3 and 4 June and are now operational (Spanish Red Cross in Jiulong and Austrian/French Red Cross in Banqiao) and are expected to start providing safe water by 5 June. Each water and sanitation ERU is capable of providing safe water for up to 15,000 people per day as well as basic sanitation for up to 5,000 people. The module, designed for response to scattered populations, can be split and set up as stand-alone units in different locations. The water and sanitation unit also has an integrated distribution and trucking capacity, to transport treated water to dispersed populations. This is ideal as most of the people from these two townships are now living in makeshift shelter camps spread throughout a wide area.



The Spanish Red Cross water and sanitation emergency response unit team purifying water for residents of the Jiulong township. Francis Markus/ International Federation.

The final kits for the British Red Cross mass sanitation ERU have arrived on 4 June and the plan is to have it set up by the end of the week. The mass sanitation module will cover both Jiulong and Banqiao townships and the team plans to set up at least 300 latrines immediately to address the urgent needs in both townships. This intervention will also include a strong education component of hygiene promotion.

ERU team members conducted assessments in Jiulong and Banqiao, have mapped areas and developed plans of action with the local communities and the Sichuan Red Cross branch. The local counterparts are assigned at township and Red Cross levels. Currently, the three ERUs consist of 13 members in-country, with an additional seven people to join when the Danish Red Cross base camp ERU arrives. Members of the Danish Red Cross base camp ERU will arrive on 5, 7 and 12 June, while the equipment is expected to arrive 8 June. The location for the base camp is still being finalized, with the possibility that the team will secure a site at Jiulong township or may be required to split up into two or three nearby locations.

The urgent needs for both townships (as detailed below) are shelter and diseases prevention, as further confirmed by disease control personnel and health inspectors visiting Jiulong on a daily basis. Food is

sufficient till mid-June but there is a shortage of clothing, blankets and mosquito nets. The urgent needs for tents are being prioritized by the RCSC with Red Cross Red Crescent assistance.

Bangqiao (Austrian/French Red Cross and British Red Cross)

The Bangqiao township has a population of 16,000 people, with approximately 80 people who died as a result of the quake. The town is largely destroyed and its population dispersed. Some 2,400 people live in the centre of Bangqiao, while 14,000 live scattered in the surrounding areas. The government plans to start building a transitional shelter on a piece of land adjacent to the centre of the village, which will include a school for 1,400 pupils. This transitional shelter site does not include sanitation facilities. The Red Cross Red Crescent Movement was asked to provide the site with latrines for up to 3,800 people (villagers and pupils). So far, no hygiene sanitation-related diseases have been reported but rising summer temperatures and the start of the rainy season will worsen already harsh living conditions.

Jiulong (Spanish Red Cross and British Red Cross)

The Jiulong township has a population of 12,000 people (approximately 950 families). The town has largely collapsed, with up to 400 fatalities and 3,000 injured as a result of the quake. About 1,000 people are living closely in tents and makeshift shelters around the centre of the village and are sharing only four latrines between them. Prior to the earthquake, every household in the village was equipped with an indoor bathroom and tap water. Up to 11,000 people from Jiulong live scattered in the surrounding villages (radius of 50 kilometres). The government will set up transitional shelters which include sanitation facilities for 1,000 people.

The Spanish Red Cross ERU conducted rapid assessments at four villages (Xinglong, Shang town, Qingquan and Baijou) in Jiulong township. The sanitation conditions in the villages are very poor. Many people live close to the rubble and a majority are collecting water from wells polluted by rain and rubble. Chlorine is being distributed by the authorities and water is being tankered.

There is an urgent need to establish more water distribution points closer to the people, to provide a more secure water source and access to treated water as a complement (or in some cases as an alternative) to family wells.

In addition, there is also an urgent need for mass sanitation, as many people living in makeshift shelters do not have access to latrines and bathing areas.

Discussions between the civil and political authorities and the army on a possible new site for the Spanish Red Cross ERU camp are ongoing. The most probable location identified is close to an area where 1,500 people from the mountainside will be relocated. This site is close to a water source

The International Federation's operations support team in Chengdu is comprised of nine members (including two based in Beijing) and has been further strengthened by three local field officers in finance, translation and health from the regional office in Beijing. The head of the regional logistics unit from Kuala Lumpur arrived in Beijing on 5 June. The public health in emergencies delegate from the Kuala Lumpur disaster management unit will also be joining the operations support team in Chengdu by 8 June. At the time of reporting, the head of regional office is in Chengdu accompanying the president's visit to Sichuan.

Coordination and partnerships

Close coordination with local and central authorities is critical for good planning for the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and other organizations. In addition, the RCSC have also participated in high level coordination meetings with government authorities, including the construction bureaus.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is supporting ongoing operations with three translators, including one with a background in logistics until the end of June. The ICRC has also offered two translators for July if needed.

The operations support team in Chengdu has regular meetings with Save the Children and other organizations operating in the area.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

Currently, the International Federation's regional media specialist in Chengdu is travelling with the president to get photos and stories of the visit. The president's visit is proceeding according to plan. 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 Naucler, (head of regional office), email; carl.naucler@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

