

# 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° 11  
11 June 2008

Period covered by this Update: 6 - 10 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 63% 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.



A man sits in the remains of his once standing house in Hanwan town as his infant son sleeps next to him.  
Sho Huang/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 69,146 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 over 60,000 tents in Mianyang, Deyang, Chengdu, A'ba, Ya'an and Gungyuan prefectures to date.

The president and vice-president of the International Federation visited the quake-affected areas on 4 and 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 10 June, the Sichuan earthquake and aftershocks have left 69,146 dead, 374,072 injured, 17,516 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, transitional settlement and reconstruction.

Aftershocks and the threat of quake lake related flooding continue to hinder relief and recovery efforts, and to result in new displacements of people.. According to the China Seismological Bureau, over 11,380 aftershocks have been recorded thus far and some 186 aftershocks occurred on 10 June alone (all measuring below 5.9 on the Richter scale).

Relief supplies continue to pour into the quake zone and the government has distributed over one million tents, 4.76 million quilts, 13.97 million garments, 885,700 tonnes of fuel oil and 1.89 million tonnes of coal so far. Relief workers have built 68,100 temporary houses and 23,400 were being installed, while material for 91,200 temporary houses had arrived in the affected areas.

The threat of flooding from Tangjiashan quake lake (largest of the 34 quake lakes formed by landslides blocked rivers) has been averted, with local authorities successfully blasting a drainage channel and diverting flood waters through the abandoned town of Beichuan. Some 250,000 people who were evacuated from low-lying



This man digs through the rubble of his former home, which overlooks tents housing thousands of residents of JiouLong, to find materials that can be used for the construction of his new home. Sho Huang/International Federation.

areas downstream of the lake are expected to be able to return to their homes in a few days. There is still a serious risk of flooding from the other 33 quake lakes in Sichuan province, and further precautionary evacuations are likely in the coming days and weeks. Beichuan, the worst-hit county where more than 8,600 people died alone and 70 percent of the town completely destroyed, will be relocated to a new site called Bandengqiao some 35 kilometres west of Mianyang city.

Continued aftershocks and rain are adding to the threats of landslides and mudslides in the hilly and mountainous areas and hundreds of thousands of people are likely to remain living in tents and makeshift shelters in large camps in the flatter urban areas for months ahead. Living conditions in these tents and transitional shelter settlements are harsh and will worsen as summer temperatures continue to rise with temperatures reaching up to 40 degrees Celsius. In one area of Mianyang, 41 such camps have been set up on higher ground- these camps hosts up to 80,000 people. Meteorologists forecast continued hot weather for the next few days, there are increasing reports of quake survivors suffering from heatstroke and related ailments.

The Government of China has now passed a regulation on reconstruction following the disaster which has been signed by China's premier. The regulations which set guidelines for the reconstruction provided an important legal ground for the rebuilding work of various departments and quake-hit regions. It includes transitional settlements of quake-hit people, reconstruction planning, assessments, financing, policies, supervision and management and legal obligations. It also put forward special requirements on earthquake-resistance levels of infrastructure construction in the quake-hit regions, including schools and hospitals. The regulations also welcome international assistance as part of the reconstruction effort.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

### Overview

The RCSC is continuing to provide much needed relief assistance to disaster affected communities across eight provinces. The provision of tents and other non-food items remain the focus of activities along with medical support (mobile team and field hospital) and psychosocial support. Late last week the Executive Vice president of the RCSC inaugurated the first 27 of more than 1,000 transitional schools to be constructed with RCSC support. Senior RCSC staff are conducting assessments in Sichuan, Gaanxi and Shaanxi provinces this week and a more detailed and comprehensive assessment process is planned towards the end of June - to inform RCSC plans for recovery and reconstruction. The RCSC is working towards hosting a partnership meeting with PNS in July.



British Red Cross worker using heavy machinery to dig latrines in Jiulong. Francis Markus/International Federation

Emergency shelter and safe drinking water remain the top priorities for Red Cross Red Crescent action in the affected areas. Red Cross Red Crescent water purification units in Jiulong and Xinglong townships are providing clean drinking water to hospitals, schools and families living in temporary shelters, with a capacity of reaching up to 30,000 people. In Jiulong and Banqiao townships, the International Federation is providing sanitation and hygiene training and education. A total of 38 latrines have been built in Jiulong township with training in Banqiao planned to start later this week.

The International Federation's operations support team is gradually moving its activities down to village level and is working closely with RCSC to identify target areas under the provincial government's master plan, where a key role in the recovery phase can be played.

#### **Shelter and relief**

The mobilisation of tents through Chengdu airport is picking up pace and up to 4,800 tents per day are expected over the coming weeks. This supply will require some 50-60 trucks daily and up to 100 volunteers will be involved in the loading and unloading at the airport with two flight arrivals per day. The International Federation's logistics team and RCSC have established an efficient system and clear communication lines for handling relief items arriving at Chengdu airport.

Some 63,000 tents are expected to come from Iran Red Crescent with the first flight with 2,500 tents due to arrive today (11 June). One person from the regional logistics unit in Dubai has been mobilised to Tehran to support in this activity. The RCSC has distributed over 60,000 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.

The International Federation will locally procure up to 100,000 quilts, kitchen sets and hygiene kits in China. One person from the regional logistics unit in Kuala Lumpur is preparing to be deployed to Beijing to support with this procurement.

Prefecture	RCSC (HQ and disaster preparedness centres)	International Federation	Bilateral	Others (donated to RCSC)	Total distributed
Mianyang	7,117	10,948		2,350	20,415
Deyang	9,123		350	2,655	12,128
Chengdu	1,391		39	250	1,680
A'ba	15,944	612	800	490	17,846
Ya'an	366			303	669
Gungyuan	1,603	4,718	1,046	210	7,577
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,544</b>	<b>13,059</b>	<b>2,235</b>	<b>6,258</b>	<b>60,315</b>

**Table: Tents - numbers and areas of distribution as of 10 June 08**

### Health

RCSC and German Red Cross are planning to hand-over the field hospital between 16 and 18 June. Hospital services will be maintained by the RCSC Huashan hospital team for an estimated three more months before the hospital will be decommissioned and stored for future emergency deployment.

Medical teams are still providing services on the ground. The International Federation is continuing to monitor and assess the health situation in operational areas with particular concern regarding the threat of disease and heat related ailments. Government health workers continue to provide thorough disease prevention services including health risk inspection and disinfection teams.

### Water and sanitation

The International Federation's water and sanitation emergency response units (ERU) and mass sanitation emergency response unit are now firmly established on the ground and operational. The four ERUs currently consist of 17 members in-country with two additional people to join later this week. All teams are working at the moment in Deyang prefecture.

Each water and sanitation ERU is capable of providing safe water for up to 15,000 people per day and the mass sanitation ERU able to provide basic sanitation to 20,000 people. The water and sanitation ERUs have integrated distribution and trucking capacity, to transport treated water to dispersed populations. This is ideal as most of the people in the operational areas of the two water and sanitation ERUs are now living in makeshift shelter camps spread through a wide area.

The Spanish Red Cross water and sanitation ERU operating from Jiulong township. The ERU team's plan of action was developed together with the local community and authorities. The two water treatment units (seven trucked water and three via pipes) are now operational and ten water distribution points providing safe water are already up and running in Jiulong. The distribution points are located in an easily assessable area and currently provide safe water for approximately 1,000 people, a Red Cross hospital, a health centre and a school for 200 children in Jiulong. Plans for expansion are being discussed.

The Austrian and French Red Cross water and sanitation ERU is operating from Xinglong township. One water treatment unit is now operational with one distribution point capable of providing 5,000 litres of safe water per day. The team has established very good working relationships with the local community and locations for additional distribution points are being discussed.

The British Red Cross mass sanitation ERU team is targeting Jiulong and Banqiao townships for basic sanitation and hygiene promotion activities. The team has trained key community people from the targeted villages in Jiulong township on latrine construction and the first 38 latrines were built and functional by Monday. The training for latrine construction in Banqiao township started on Tuesday (11 June). Hygiene promotion training is also being designed together with local professionals. The plan is to train people at the village level to promote good hygiene practices.

The Danish base camp ERU arrived on Monday (9 June). The Danish base camp ERU arrived on Monday and will support Red Cross Red Crescent staff with tented accommodation and basic facilities near the operation sites in Deyang. The camp will be established in Jiulong next to the British and Spanish Red Cross ERU operation sites. The Austrian and French team has established small base in Xinglong next to their

operation site which will be supported with some equipment from the Danish base camp ERU. As of Tuesday, the Austrian and French ERU teams will start staying in Xinglong overnight.

The International Federation and RCSC teams are continuing with assessments and 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 and recovery efforts, including training and capacity building on the global tools (ERUs) provided to RCSC.

### 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. The RCSC is regularly involved in high level coordination meetings with government authorities, and in discussion with the Ministry of Construction regarding reconstruction planning.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is supporting ongoing operations with three translators, including one with a background in logistics.

### Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

The International Federation's regional media specialist remains in Chengdu conducting interviews, writing stories and taking photos. Updated press releases, stories, and photos are available online at [www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org) and [www.flickr.com/ifrc](http://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:**

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[<click here to return to the title page>](#)

**REVISED APPEAL BUDGET SUMMARY**

Annex 1

**CHINA: SICHUAN EARTHQUAKE****MDRCN003**

	<b>ORIGINAL</b>	<b>REVISED</b>	<b>VARIANCE</b>
<b><u>RELIEF NEEDS</u></b>			
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)
<b>Total Relief Needs</b>	<b>16,480,000</b>	<b>84,260,000</b>	<b>(67,780,000)</b>
<b><u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u></b>			
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)
<b><u>TRANSPORT, STORAGE &amp; VEHICLES</u></b>			
Distribution & Monitoring related to Relief Needs	200,000	800,000	(600,000)
Transport & Vehicles Costs	100,000	350,000	(250,000)
<b><u>PERSONNEL</u></b>			
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	
<b><u>WORKSHOPS &amp; TRAINING</u></b>			
Workshops & Training	50,000	150,000	(100,000)
<b><u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u></b>			
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)
<b><u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u></b>			
Programme Support - PSR	1,304,967	6,288,274	(4,983,307)
<b>Total Operational Needs</b>	<b>3,596,412</b>	<b>12,482,674</b>	<b>(8,886,262)</b>
<b>Total Appeal Budget (Cash &amp; Kind)</b>	<b>20,076,412</b>	<b>96,742,674</b>	<b>(76,666,262)</b>
<b>(Less) :Available Resources</b>		<b>37,222,888</b>	
<b>Net Request</b>	<b>20,076,412</b>	<b>59,519,786</b>	<b>(76,666,262)</b>





# China: Earthquake

