

www.ifrc.org  
Saving lives,  
changing minds.

# Disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) China: Sichuan Lushan Earthquake

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

**DREF operation n° MDRCN005**  
**GLIDE n° EQ-2013-000046-CHN**  
**25 April 2013**

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent emergency response. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of National Societies to respond to disasters.

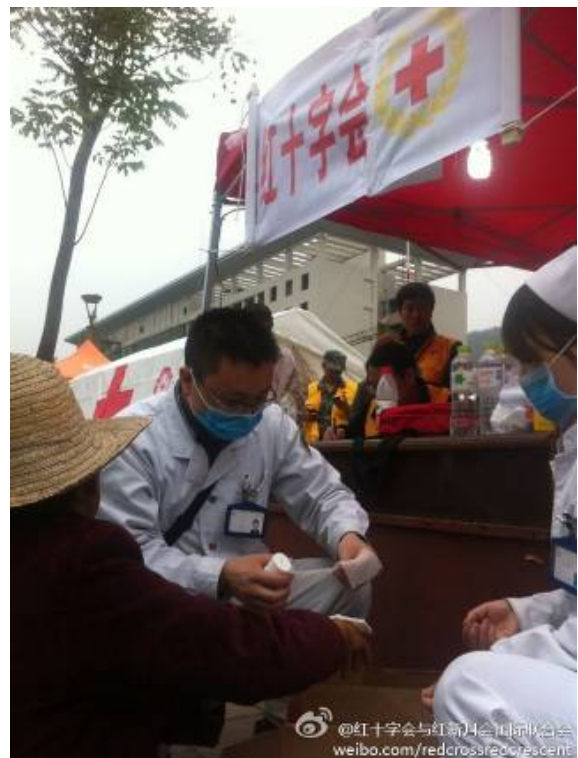
**CHF 400,000 has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Red Cross Society of China in delivering immediate assistance to some 5,000 families (20,000 beneficiaries). Un-earmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.**

**Summary:** A 7.0-magnitude earthquake that hit China's Sichuan province at 8.02 a.m. Beijing time on 20 April had its epicentre near Lushan County, Ya'an Prefecture at a depth of 13 km. 3,509 aftershocks have been reported with several of them being above magnitude 5.

At least 193 people were killed and 23 are missing. A total of 12,211 are reported to be injured. Nearly two million people have been affected across 19 prefectures and 115 counties of Sichuan province. A total of 233,191 persons have been displaced. It is reported that 139,500 houses have collapsed<sup>1</sup>, 3,920 kilometres of road and 450 bridges have been damaged. Further, 362 dams and 197 hydroelectric power stations have been damaged<sup>2</sup>.

While response and rescue teams are gradually reaching the most-affected areas, there are areas still difficult to access due to damaged or obstructed roadways. It is expected that the damage and loss figures and thereby needs will increase once more information is available.

This operation, enabling the Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) to provide assistance to 5,000 most-



Medical team is helping an injured old lady. Photo by RCSC and IFRC joint assessment team.

<sup>1</sup> Source by local government by the end of April 23: <http://www.sc.gov.cn/10462/10705/10707/index.shtml>

<sup>2</sup> Source by local government by the end of April 22: <http://www.sc.gov.cn/10462/10705/10707/index.shtml>

---

affected and displaced families, will be implemented over six months and will be completed by 31 October 2013. A final report will be shared three months after the end of the operation, i.e. by 31 January 2014.

The RCSC response team, comprising of 400 staff and volunteers from several of its branches including national headquarters, has arrived in Lushan County and are trying to enter the worst-hit areas. They have distributed food, drinking water, tents, quilts, umbrellas, etc. to affected populations. Red Cross volunteers are also assisting with medical care, medicine and relief supplies distribution, rescue, setting up tents, providing psychological support and restoring family links.

Three IFRC staff members, including a disaster response operations coordinator from the IFRC's Asia Pacific Zone office, are in Lushan County to assist RCSC teams in conducting needs assessments and planning the overall response.

[<click here for the DREF budget; here for contact details; here to view the map of the affected area>](#)

## The situation

An earthquake of 7.0 magnitude on the Richter scale struck Sichuan province of China, with its epicentre near Lushan County of Ya'an Prefecture, at 8:02am on 20 April, 2013, at the depth of just 13 kilometres.

According to the latest update from the Sichuan government, at least 193 people were killed and 23 are missing. A total of 12,211 are reported to be injured. Nearly two million people have been affected across 19 prefectures and 115 counties of Sichuan province – with around 1 million reported to be from Ya'an prefecture. A total of 233,191 persons have been displaced. It is reported that 139,500 houses have collapsed, 3,920 kilometres of road and 450 bridges have been damaged. Further, 362 dams and 197 hydroelectric power stations have been damaged.

It is expected that the damage and loss figures and thereby needs will increase once hard-to-access areas are reached and more information is available. At the same time, a large number of aftershocks (3,509 aftershocks as of 24 April) are being recorded, which pose further risk of secondary disasters such as landslides.

It is reported that local authorities have identified several dams and reservoirs in the affected areas that have developed cracks and are currently being checked to evaluate the risk. A particular concern is also about a 'barrier lake' that has formed due to debris blocking Yuxi river in Mingshan County. Buildings more vulnerable to collapse appear to be the older tile and timber homes that withstood the 2008 Sichuan quake.

A total of 22,123 response workers have been deployed in the affected area by the government including members from the People's Liberation Army (PLA), armed police, fire brigade, local police and mine relief teams. Utility providers have sent their technicians to restore both electricity and telecommunication networks. Most of the telecommunications, except for two townships, have been recovered. The Ministry of Civil Affairs has dispatched relief materials from its regional hubs. As of today, 50,000 tents, 100,000 quilts, and 10,000 foldable beds have been sent. The Central government has pledged CNY 1 billion (CHF 149 million) for emergency response, transitional shelters and subsidies for the displaced, medical services, as well as restoration of vital public services.

## Coordination and partnerships

The RCSC is an auxiliary to the government and it is one of the first responders to communities affected by disasters, providing much needed relief supplies and support. It is recognized by the government of the People's Republic of China as an important institution for addressing a variety of humanitarian needs facing China's people, especially in times of disaster. RCSC, through its headquarters based in Beijing and branches corresponding to state administrative units in affected areas (provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities), is closely coordinating its actions with central and local governments at each corresponding level, ensuring that Red Cross activities are focused in areas where they have greater impact and cooperation from the local governments. RCSC also works with various domestic partners in fundraising through its national appeal for providing relief support to affected communities.

RCSC has an active programme of international cooperation with other members of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, including its special branches in Hong Kong and Macau, the IFRC and many long-term Red Cross Red Crescent partner national societies, and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Both the RCSC and IFRC maintain close coordination and information sharing with these partners

along with many non-Red Cross Red Crescent partners on the evolving earthquake response operation in the country.

IFRC has been closely coordinating activities with other key organizations in China since the earthquake, and has deployed a disaster response operations coordinator to the field to support the assessment and planning of the operation.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) is continuing its relief work in the affected areas that started immediately after the earthquake. RCSC through its 25 response teams is supporting affected people by conducting search and rescue activities, setting up tents, distributing food, clearing debris, providing first aid and transporting injured people, and providing telecommunication facilities. The response teams, comprising of 400 staff and volunteers from various branches and 113 emergency vehicles, are also supporting by providing family kits, tents, quilts, jackets, cotton clothes, blankets, water, medicines and medical equipment.

As of 22 April, RCSC had dispatched 10,650 family kits, 8,180 quilts, 7,000 jackets and clothing, 2,000 blankets, 2,584 tents, 2,300 bottles of water, 2,500 cartons of instant food and 447 mattresses. RCSC volunteers have provided psychological support to 1,458 persons and several RCSC psychosocial support volunteers are attempting to enter the affected areas.

RCSC held a press conference on its earthquake relief operation on 23 April at 10:00 a.m. that was attended by around 100 representatives from embassies, United Nations organizations and media. Dr Zhao Baige, executive vice president of RCSC, emphasized collaboration with various partners, its focus on conducting its response in a systematic manner and addressing recovery needs through its operations. RCSC also invited feedback and suggestions from the media and general public to further enhance its accountability and transparency. Representatives from IFRC, ICRC and partner national societies also participated in the event and confirmed their support to RCSC's work.

The RCSC has constituted a Scrutiny Committee comprising of members of the general public to monitor the collection and management of donations, emergency response and recovery activities in this operation, as an accountability measure to the general public and donors.

Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners, including partner national societies and the ICRC, are in touch with RCSC and IFRC regarding the latest response and needs. Three staff of the IFRC are on the ground near the most affected areas, including a disaster response operations coordinator from its Asia Pacific zone office, to support the RCSC in performing needs assessments, operational planning, as well as coordination with other Movement partners. In communications, IFRC is working with ICRC and other partners to boost support to RCSC and highlight its work for vulnerable people. ICRC has started a Restoring Family Links website<sup>3</sup> for this disaster, both in English and Chinese, on 23 April.

RCSC launched a national appeal to help those affected by the earthquake. As of 23 April, RCSC has received donations, both cash and in-kind, amounting to CNY 235 million (CHF 35.6 million) including support from Hong Kong and Macau branches and Taiwan Red Cross Organization. Hong Kong branch of RCSC has donated CNY 1 million for emergency relief and Macau branch has donated 1,000 family kits. These 1,000 family kits donated by Macau branch have been distributed in Longmen township on 23 April. The Taiwan Red Cross Organization has donated CNY 5 million to support the operation. A three-member assessment team of Taiwan Red Cross Organization arrived in Lushan County on 23 April. They also brought 12,000 disinfectant tablets to Lushan County. Relief items sent by various other provincial branches are also beginning to reach the most-affected communities.

## The needs

At the moment, the local and national authorities are working hard to transport and deliver the most basic and immediate needs of the affected communities through the provision of basic food items, bottled water, water purification tablets as well as non-food items such as clothing, bedding and mattresses. The very poor road conditions and frequent aftershocks continue to challenge first responders, including the RCSC's response. As joint relief assessment teams of the RCSC and IFRC reach areas that were initially cut off by

---

<sup>3</sup> The web-links are <http://familylinks.icrc.org/yaan-earthquake/en/Pages/Home.aspx> (English) and <http://familylinks.icrc.org/yaan-earthquake/zh/Pages/Home.aspx> (Chinese).

damaged roads or have otherwise been inaccessible, they are able to better identify the needs and the gaps that remain in providing relief to the most affected and vulnerable families in the remote rural areas.

From the initial reports of the disaster management staff of RCSC headquarters and response teams on the scene, the needs in the affected areas remain considerable, with 120,000 people in need of temporary shelter, food, drinking water, and medicines. The hygiene conditions, especially in the temporary shelter areas, are of concern to the RCSC. Relief item distribution needs to be carried out in a coordinated and effective way by volunteer teams led by trained emergency response teams.

As further information is required, this DREF allocation will also be used to support a more detailed assessment process.

## The proposed operation

The proposed operation targets 5,000 families (approximately 20,000 people) affected by the recent earthquake who are expected to stay in temporary shelters during the coming six months in the most affected areas in Ya'an Prefecture of Sichuan Province. The RCSC through this DREF operation will provide immediate needs and capacity assessments, support procurement and distribution of non-food relief and hygiene items, establish temporary sanitation facilities with hygiene promotion, and build the capacity of volunteers to deliver services and relief goods to affected populations.

The RCSC and IFRC will jointly monitor the operation to ensure effective and efficient implementation. Lessons learnt will be captured and shared in a workshop of stakeholders that will enable real-time learning of the relief phase. Additionally, IFRC will continue to provide support to RCSC in communications on the earthquake response operation.

Relief distributions	
<b>Outcome:</b> To provide 5,000 most affected and displaced families (approximately 20,000 individuals) in Ya'an prefecture, with essential relief items to meet their immediate needs.	
<b>Output:</b>  5,000 most affected and displaced families within the target area have received essential items in an effective and accountable manner	<b>Activities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments</li> <li>• Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance</li> <li>• Procurement of 5,000 family kits</li> <li>• Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user</li> <li>• Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions</li> <li>• Conduct an internal lessons learnt workshop on relief activities</li> </ul>

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion	
<b>Outcome:</b> To support at least 5,000 families (approximately 20,000 individuals) living in transitional settlement areas with improved sanitation and hygiene conditions.	
<b>Output 1:</b>  Targeted population is supported with essential hygiene materials and improved awareness of hygiene practices	<b>Activities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments</li> <li>• Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and site selection</li> <li>• Procure and distribute hygiene materials for 5,000 affected families living in re-settled areas</li> <li>• Reproduce and disseminate hygiene promotion materials</li> <li>• Refresher short training for 25 Red Cross volunteer leaders on hygiene promotion</li> <li>• Mobilization of Red Cross volunteers to the communities for hygiene promotion</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hygiene promotion messages disseminated in re-settled areas with IEC materials</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 2:</b> Transitional latrine facilities are accessible to 1,000 displaced people</p>	<p><b>Activities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mobilize RCSC Mass Sanitation Emergency Response Team (ERT) to provide sanitation services</li> <li>Establish at least 50 temporary latrines in the transitional settlement areas</li> <li>Prepare for the capacity to establish 100 more latrines upon further assessment</li> </ul>

## Contact information

**For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:**

- Red Cross Society of China:** Ms Zhang Ming, director of external relations department; email: [rcsc@redcross.org.cn](mailto:rcsc@redcross.org.cn); phone: +86 1064048366, fax +861064029928.
- IFRC East Asia regional office in Beijing:** phone: +86 10 65327162, fax: +86 10 65327166
  - Mr. Martin Faller, head of office; email: [martin.faller@ifrc.org](mailto:martin.faller@ifrc.org); mobile: +86 13511075162
  - Mr. Francis Markus, communications delegate; email: [francis.markus@ifrc.org](mailto:francis.markus@ifrc.org); mobile: +8613.910096892
- IFRC Asia Pacific zone office in Kuala Lumpur:** phone: + 60 3 9207 5700, fax: +60 3 2161 0670
  - Mr Al Panico, head of operations; email: [al.panico@ifrc.org](mailto:al.panico@ifrc.org); phone: +603 9207 5700
  - Ms Karen Poon, operations coordinator; email: [karen.poon@ifrc.org](mailto:karen.poon@ifrc.org); mobile: +60 13 360 0366
  - Mr Patrick Fuller, zone communications manager; email: [patrick.fuller@ifrc.org](mailto:patrick.fuller@ifrc.org); mobile: +6012 230 8451



**Click here**

- DREF budget [below](#)**
  - [Return](#) to the title page**
  - [Go](#) to map**
- 

## How we work

All IFRC 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 the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

[www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)  
Saving lives, changing minds.



The IFRC's work is guided by [Strategy 2020](#) which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
  2. Enable healthy and safe living.
  3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.
-

# DREF OPERATION

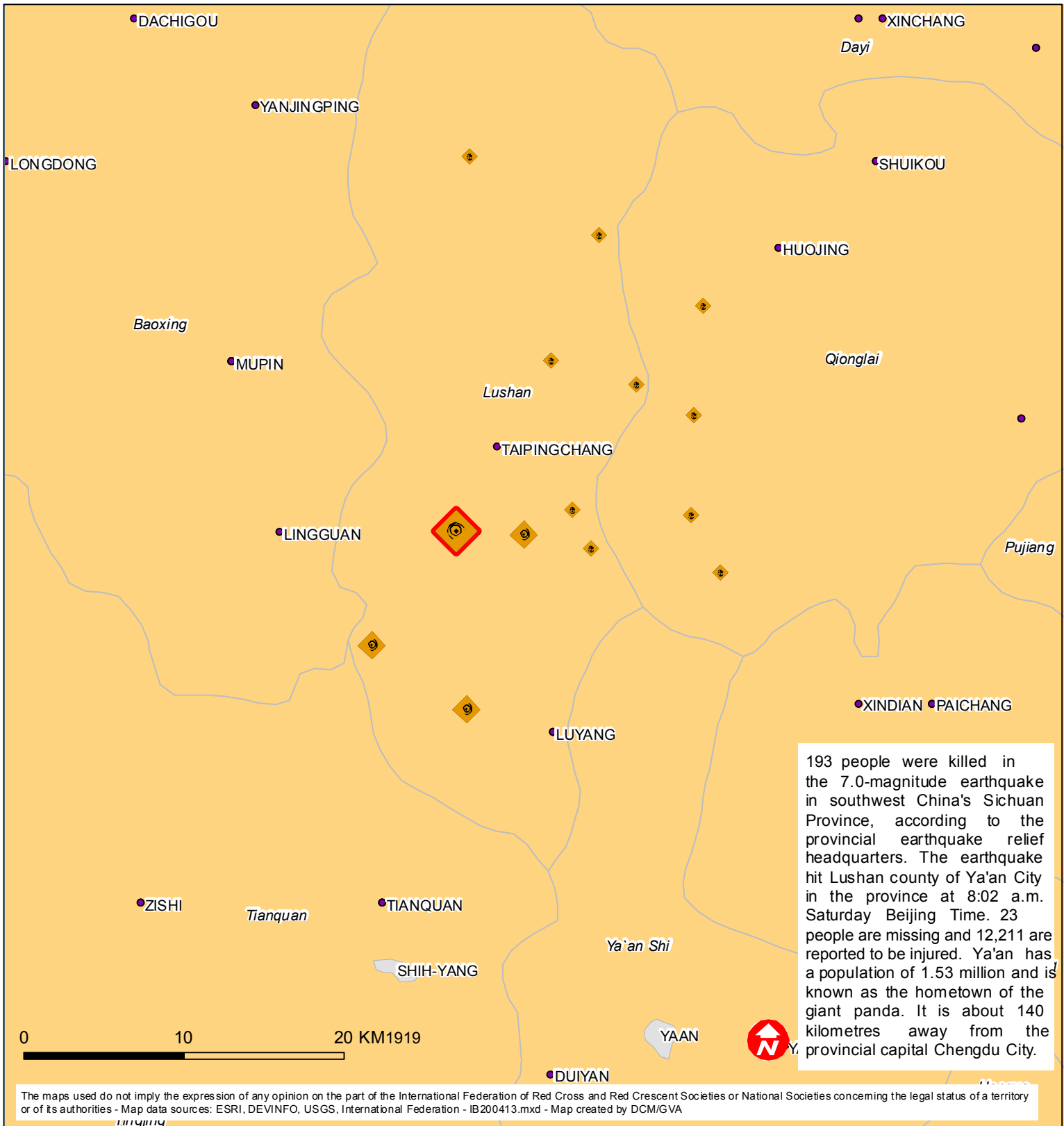
25/4/2013

MDRCN005 China : Sichuan Lushan Earthquake

<b>Budget Group</b>	<b>DREF Grant Budget CHF</b>
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	171,061
Utensils & Tools	135,000
Other Supplies & Services	17,223
<b>Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES</b>	<b>323,284</b>
Distribution & Monitoring	25,205
<b>Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE</b>	<b>25,205</b>
Volunteers	400
<b>Total PERSONNEL</b>	<b>400</b>
Professional Fees	7,464
<b>Total CONSULTANTS &amp; PROFESSIONAL FEES</b>	<b>7,464</b>
Workshops & Training	10,606
<b>Total WORKSHOP &amp; TRAINING</b>	<b>10,606</b>
Travel	6,000
Financial Charges	227
Other General Expenses	2,400
<b>Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>8,627</b>
Programme and Services Support Recovery	24,413
<b>Total INDIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>24,413</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>400,000</b>



# China: Earthquake



- Main Earthquake
- Magnitude 5
- Magnitude 4
- Counties