

The situation

A 6.5-magnitude earthquake jolted Ludian County of Zhaotong City in southwest China's Yunnan Province at 4:30 p.m. on 3 August. The earthquake damaged the infrastructures and resources in the affected area. The epicenter was monitored at 27.1 degrees north latitude and 103.3 degrees east longitude with a depth of 12 kilometers, according to the China Earthquake Networks Center.

More information on the extent of losses and damages are available since the first [Information bulletin](#). According to the statistics by the Yunnan Provincial Civil Affairs Bureau, as of 09:20 am on 8 August, over 1 million people were affected, 229,700 people were displaced, and 615 people were confirmed dead in the five counties/districts of Yunnan Province alone.

Table 1. Summary of losses and damages of the Ludian earthquake as of 8 August 2014

Province	Prefecture	County/ District	Death	Missing	Injured	Affected	Dis- placed	House damage		
								Collapsed	Severely damaged	Partly damaged
Yunnan	Zhaotong	Ludian	526	109	3,143	1,088,400	229,700	25,800	40,600	151,200
		Qiaoja	76	5						
		Zhaoyang	1	0						
		Yongshan	0	0						
	Qujing	Huize	12	0						
Guizhou	Bijie	Weining				15,500	7,200	12	700	2,800
Sichuan	Liangshan	Ningnan				11,600			100	400
		Jinyang								
		Total	615	114	3,143	1,115,500	236,900	25,812	41,400	154,400

Large scale rescue and relief operations have been initiated by the government, military and civil organizations. The poor road condition, blocked access by numerous mudslide points in this mountainous area, is the biggest challenge for relief and logistics mobilization. The main access route between Ludian County centre and Qiaoja County has been disrupted. This was largely caused by the collapse of the connecting bridge in Longtoushan Town (where the epicenter located). Huge trucks with relief items could not reach the affected area; however relief workers are delivering the relief goods on foot up the mountainous route. Although the bridge was fully repaired by midnight on 5 August, it was only opened to be used by the ambulances and hearse coaches. The bridge was finally opened for other usage in the early morning on 7 August.

Even with the access to Longtoushan Town being opened to other humanitarian purposes, rescue workers are struggling to reach the remote villages near the epicenter as the roads were still not cleared. However, the affected people who survived the earthquake but trapped within their villages were able to manage, through sharing their own food supplies and water extracted from the wells, until the relief goods arrived.

A large number of aftershocks continue to shake the affected area which has caused numerous mudslides and further damage to the lives and properties in the affected area. The mudslides also blocked many of the roads which were cleared and re-opened in the last few days. Elsewhere, a huge landslide happened in a village of Longtoushan Town on 6 August, with 8 people were confirmed dead, 47 are still buried under the rubbles, and 49 are missing.

The water level of a dam lake formed by the earthquake on a river in Huize County, Yunnan continues to rise to an alert level. A drainage operation to reduce the amount of water in the dam lake has been ongoing to prevent potential floods if the dam is to collapse.

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 (NGO's) 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

Saving lives, changing minds.

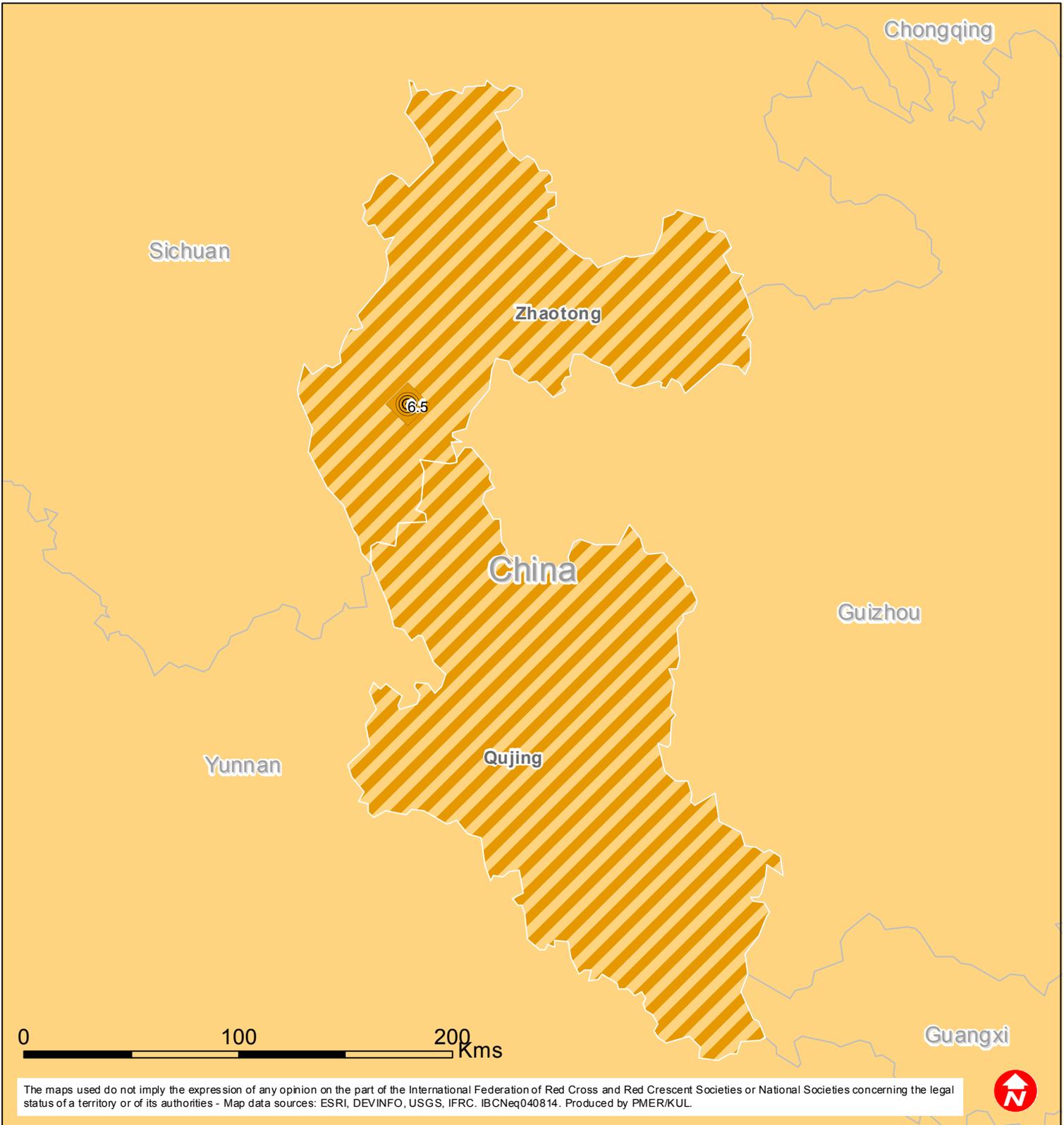


The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

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.



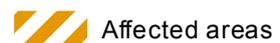
China: Ludian Earthquake



Ludian Earthquake



6.5



Affected areas