



## VIET NAM: TYPHOON AND FLOODS

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*The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in 185 countries.*

### In Brief

**This DREF Bulletin is issued based on the situation described below reflecting the information available at this time, and seeks CHF 200,000 (USD 170,000 or EUR 120,100) from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF). This will enable an immediate response to urgent needs ahead of the results and recommendations of ongoing assessments. Once approved, unearmarked funds to repay DREF will be needed. A preliminary emergency appeal will be launched by the middle of next week; however, the Federation and the Viet Nam Red Cross (VNRC) welcome any offers of assistance to support the initial emergency response operations and future recovery activities.**

*For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>.*

### Background and current situation

In the aftermath of typhoon Lekima which caused considerable damage to infrastructure, heavy rain has hit the provinces of Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Nghe An, Thanh Hoa, Ninh Binh. Extensive flooding has occurred from 4 October through 6 October. One dam under construction in Thanh Hoa was damaged on the night of 4 Oct, inundating almost the entire communes of Tho Xuan and Thieu Hoa district. Evacuees of typhoon Lekima who returned to their homes were forced to re-evacuate due to rising flood waters. A thousand more unable to be evacuated the same night were compelled to seek refuge on trees or roofs. River water overflowing the dykes has forced the evacuation of an additional 54,000 residents along the Ma River. A map of the affected areas will accompany the next report

To date, the number of people affected by the typhoon and floods in 27 provinces is approximately 20 million. Provinces where ten million of the affected are located include Quang Binh, Ha Tinh, Thanh Hoa, Ninh Binh, Nghe An, Hoa Binh, and Son La. About half a million, whose houses have been flooded or destroyed, are in need of urgent assistance.

In the mountainous areas of the Nghe An province, deadly flash floods occurred due to severe damage to several small dams on the morning of 6 Oct, cutting off provincial roads. Flash floods also occurred in three other provinces: Yen Bai, Son La and Ninh Binh.

To date, local newspapers and local authorities have reported almost 40 dead and missing. These include 20 dead and missing in the Nghe An province, and 19 dead in the Thanh Hoa province. In the latter, thousands have been struck by floods and need to be evacuated urgently. Local media has also reported the floods destroying over 80,000

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hectares of rice and vegetable crops including aquaculture. Over 18,500 houses have been flooded and all household items damaged. An estimated 5,000 houses have collapsed or been washed away, while 88,000 have been flooded and damaged in 27 provinces in Viet Nam. In the Thanh Hoa and Ninh Binh provinces, more than 54,000 people and 32,000 others have been evacuated respectively.

Reports from local authorities show preliminary damage estimations given by some provinces. Among these are the Nghe An, Ha Tinh and Quang Binh provinces at a total of VND 575 billion (CHF 42.9 million or USD 36.4 million), while in Thanh Hoa province alone, total damages are calculated at VND 520 billion (CHF 38.8 million or USD 33 million).

While damage estimates are not yet comprehensively available, it is possible that affected areas particularly Quang Binh, Ha Tinh, Thanh Hoa, Nghe An and Ninh Binh will suffer food shortages due to enduring serious flooding twice within two months.

### **Red Cross and Red Crescent action**



VNRC workers assist in response to those impacted by typhoon Lekima and the subsequent flooding.

Since the devastating rains in August, the Viet Nam Red Cross (VNRC) has supported communities in affected areas with the provision of household kits, emergency food, and support for returning to their homes and recovering their livelihoods. Presently, a VNRC team, led by an under general-secretary, are distributing emergency relief and household kits to people affected by typhoon Lekima in the Nghe An and Ha Tinh provinces. This team is also gathering and coordinating information on damages sustained and needs.

The recent typhoon Lekima made it necessary to call upon the VNRC to support and undertake emergency response operations in communities already affected by the rains in August, and other surrounding areas. According to the VNRC, initial needs include 12,000 household kits comprising blankets, mosquito nets, water containers and kitchen sets. In addition, 400 tonnes of rice, clothes, building

materials for house repair, and medicines for sanitation and disease prevention are also needed.

Red Cross chapters assigned staff working around the clock over the weekend and sending updated information to the VNRC headquarters. Thousands of VNRC staff and volunteers have participated in evacuating people from flood-affected areas, and have provided psychological support to those who have lost family members. The Quang Tri Red Cross chapter provided VND500,000 (CHF 37.3 or USD 31.6) per family and assisted 384 families to start the repair to their houses from damage caused by Typhoon Lekima. Red Cross chapter staff members are also carrying out needs and damages assessment.

The VNRC headquarters called for an urgent meeting with all Red Cross partners in Viet Nam over the weekend to share preliminary information on the VNRC's plan of action. The VNRC headquarters will release all 4,600 household kits currently available from its warehouse in Hanoi to assist flood-affected people at the beginning of the coming week. The VNRC has also request that the Federation launch an international appeal to garner more assistance to the typhoon- and flood-affected. The national society will work with the Vietnamese government in seeking support for its own international appeal. Federation delegation staff will also support the VNRC.

The Federation's Southeast Asia regional delegation has deployed a regional disaster management programme officer together with a regional information delegate to Viet Nam. They will arrive on Monday, 8 October to provide support to the Federation country delegation and VNRC staff, as well as provide support in covering the increased damages caused by flooding resulting from typhoon Lekima.

### Other action

Local authorities have mobilized thousands of military personnel to assist in evacuating flood-affected people and strengthen structures such as the river dyke system, dams and other such edifices.

The central government will release VND 130 billion (CHF 9.7 million or USD 8.2 million) to assist the 27 affected provinces in terms of flood response and evacuation. These comprise the Cao Bang, Ha Giang, Yen Bai, Lao Cai, Hai Duong, Bac Kan, Ha Tay, Son La, Bac Ninh, Hoa Binh, Binh Thuan, Hung Yen, Ha Nam, Nghe An, Quang Binh, Nam Dinh, Quang Tri, Ha Tinh, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Thai Binh, Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, Ninh Thuan, An Giang, Soc Trang and Ca Mau provinces.

The national disaster management working group (DMWG) will send a joint assessment team on this coming Monday to help clarify damages and the needs of people affected by typhoon Lekima and the floods. The team will include a VNRC staff member.

## 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 Federation's Global Agenda

The International Federation's activities are aligned with under a 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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