

Viet Nam: Flooding in Northern/Central Viet Nam in October 2017

Situation Summary



This update is issued on behalf of the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Viet Nam. It covers the period for October 2017. Another update will be shared once new information become available.

Highlights

- The Government of Viet Nam, through the Central Committee for Natural Disaster Prevention and Control (CCNDPC), has actively responded to the impacts and led coordination in terms of preparedness and response to the floods and landslides in Northern and Central Viet Nam.
- A continued and persistent cold spell over the last few weeks, combined with tropical depressions such as Doksuri in September and Khanun in October have caused heavy rainfall of up to 300-600 mm as well as floods and landslides in 13 provinces of Northern and Central Viet Nam; marking the first time in over a decade where the Northern and Central regions have suffered large volumes of rain in a short period of time.
- The three most affected provinces (Hoa Binh and Yen Bai in the Northern Highlands and Thanh Hoa in North-Central Viet Nam) show high numbers of deaths and missing people, seriously damaged infrastructure, collapsed/submerged houses, and destroyed crops and livestock, and high-level missions led by the Prime Minister and his Deputy Prime Ministers have been carried out to all of the aforementioned areas.
- On 15 October, the province of Hoa Binh issued a 'state of emergency due to landslide', and some local communities in the province were evacuated in the following days due to the possibility of additional landslides.
- The Vietnamese Red Cross as well as international NGOs such as World Vision, Care International, Save the Children, and OXFAM have actively responded to the needs in most affected provinces, including Hoa Binh, Yen Bai, Thanh Hoa, Son La, Quang Tri, Quang Binh, and Ha Tinh, and the Government of Japan has offered additional in-kind support.
- So far, the Government has issued no request for international humanitarian support from the UN agencies.

79,770 people affected by the floods/ landslides	13 provinces severely affected	71,652 houses damaged or flooded 13,587 houses evacuated	145 People who have died, are missing or injured
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Source for damage and loss data: Central Steering Committee of Natural Disaster Prevention and Control

Situation Overview

- **Casualties:** 83 people died (Hòa Bình: 29; Yên Bái: 18; Thanh Hóa: 16; Nghệ An: 10; Sơn La: 6; Hà Nội: 2); 20 people are missing (Hòa Bình: 5; Yên Bái: 10; Thanh Hóa: 3; Sơn La: 2), and 42 people were seriously injured (Hòa Bình: 12; Yên Bái: 9; Thanh Hóa: 7; Thái Bình: 7; Sơn La: 6).
- **Shelter:** 4,703 houses collapsed; 66,949 houses were inundated; and 13,587 houses were evacuated.
- **Education:** 269 schools were affected; with a total number of 281 collapsed and 394 inundated classrooms.

- **Healthcare establishments:** 45 of healthcare establishments were inundated, but no communicable disease outbreaks have been reported. By 27 October, all health care services had been resumed.
- **Crops:** 189 877 hectares of crops have been damaged (paddy, cash crops, perennial crops, annual crops, fruit trees, etc.)
- **Husbandry:** Almost 1.1 million of livestock and poultry died or were swept away; and more than 182 tonnes of animal feed were swept away, buried and/or damaged.
- **Aquaculture:** almost 43,000 ha of aquaculture were damaged.
- **Irrigation system:** Serious damages to the irrigation system (dykes of all types, reservoirs, and roads at national/provincial/district levels) were recorded, including more than 60 dyke incidents. By 18 October, transportation in affected areas in Yen Bai and Son La were cleared.

Overview of Needs and Response

- Regarding a national response, central and local authorities have been proactively implementing both preparedness and response activities in the vulnerable and affected provinces.

Viet Nam Red Cross (VNRC) and international NGOs

- VNRC headquarters and provincial branches in the affected provinces are closely monitoring the development of the situation, and have so far deployed three relief mission to the most affected provinces of Hoa Binh, Yen Bai, and Thanh Hoa, with an initial support of VND 900 million in cash, and VND 57 million in-kind, including water filtration tablets, tarpaulins, and household kits.
- At provincial level, food relief items and tents were shared with severely affected households, and volunteers were mobilized to support the worst affected families both physically and psychologically. In addition, the VNRC assisted more than 4,000 households with unconditional cash support.
- The International NGOs and the Red Cross movement are working together through the joint Disaster Management Working Group (DMWG) to provide humanitarian assistance to the most affected provinces (food, household kits, shelter and other in kind assistance).
- The international NGOs, including World Vision, Save the Children, Care International and Plan International, provided teaching material and education kits to schools, constructed latrine and hand washing facilities, and provided household kits, cash and in-kind support (i.e. water containers, water filters) for the most affected people and households.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Sector focal point: Mr. Lalit Patra (lpatra@unicef.org)

Damages and Needs:

- The National Centre for Rural Water Supply and Sanitation (NCERWASS), together with the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) and the provincial CERWASS, are closely monitoring the emergency development, and provide regular updates to water, sanitation and hygiene issues in the most affected provinces.
- 1,478 ha of residential areas were polluted; 6,650 households lacked clean water; and four major water supply systems were broken.

- Serious damages to irrigation systems (more than 61,000 m of dykes of all types, 200 weirs, and 45 pumping stations were damaged; 12,560 m of sea, river and stream banks eroded; roads (87,240 m of national roads and 175,582 m of local roads) have been recorded. Other infrastructure damages were reported as well, including in the sectors of communication, industries, markets, warehouses, etc. that were severely damaged too.

Response:

- At national level, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), monitors and oversees the emergency and ongoing response activities, and liaises closely with the affected provinces.
- At provincial level, local authorities have been actively implementing response activities; such as the Yen Bai provincial Department of Health (DoH) that distributed 24,000 water treatment tablets to three district Health Centres in Nghia Lo, Van Chan, and Yen Bai city to distribute to 468 affected households, along with behaviour change communications on preventing communicable diseases, and food safety after the floods.



Food Security and Livelihoods

Sector focal point: Ms. Roberta Tranquilli (roberta.tranquilli@fao.org)

Damages and Needs:

- 112,217 hectares of paddys were damaged, of which 35% were completely and severely damaged and will not be harvested. Thai Binh (47,583 hectares), Nam Dinh (29,265 hectares) and Ha Nam (7,889 hectares) provinces were most severely affected. 4,210 hectares of rice and vegetables were severely damaged in the province of Binh Thuan.
- 65,163 hectares of cash crops (maize) were damaged, of which 74% were completely damaged.
- Over 3.3 million of flowers and ornamental trees were damaged and 5,334 hectares of perenial trees were damaged of which half were completely or severely damaged. Almost 1.7 thousand ha of fruit trees and 144 ha of forestry areas were damaged.
- 5.3 thousand ha of perennial crops and 16.5 thousand ha of annual crops were damaged.
- About 1,800 tonnes of food were swept away or lost.
- 98 ha of seedlings were damaged.
- 40 ha of eroded/buried land area, and 122 ha of salt fields damaged were recorded.
- There has been significant damage in livestock: 41,782 animals (including cows, buffaloes, horses, pigs, goats, etc) died, of which 89% were pigs; more than 1 million of poultry died. Thanh Hoa (655,686), Hoa Binh (184,584), Ninh Binh (93,047), Ha Nam (52,960) and Nghe An (47,139) were most impacted with regards to livestock loss.

Response:

- The Government of Viet Nam mobilized efforts to harvest the paddys before the storms in the areas where early harvesting was possible.
- Efforts are ongoing to drain the flooded rice fields.
- An assessmnet is currently ongoing to review the damages and losses, and to estimate the emergency needs in the crop and livestock sectors.

Damages and Needs:

- So far, no communicable disease outbreaks related to the floods were reported in the affected provinces, and health care services for all flooded communities have been recovered since.
- During the flood, the Ministry of Health (MOH) sent delegates to the most affected provinces to guide local health sector response measures during and after the flood. In addition, MOH has provided emergency support to the affected provinces with emergency health kits and medical supplies.
- As reported by the MOH, 65 health care facilities, including 11 district hospitals/district health centres, and 54 commune health stations in four provinces have been damaged or flooded. Activities of all health care services in all these HCFs have been recovered.

Response:

- As of 18 October, MOH has distributed emergency health Kits to 23 affected provinces: 770 emergency medical units; 4,550,000 chloramine B tablets; 340 medical equipment packages, and 3,600 live jackets.
- The Disaster Management Unit (DMU) from MOH closely monitor the situation, and provide regular update reports from the provincial DoHs to development partners.
- DMU closely liaises with the CCNDPC, providing regular updates on the situation, and receive direction from the central Government of Viet Nam regarding response measures.
- The General Department of Preventive Medicine (GDPM)/MOH, in collaboration with local health sectors, are working to strengthen the surveillance and monitoring of the disease situation, and has provided some provinces chemicals for water treatment, including aquatabs, Chloramine B, PPEs, spray machines, chemicals for killing insecticide.

Damages and Needs:

- There are no major impacts reported in the nutrition sector for the affect provinces.
- At all commune health centres in the affected provinces, nutrition services, including antenatal care and IYCF counselling, are running through business-as-usual.

Response:

- The Ministry of Health and the National Nutrition Programme provide regular updates and communication with the provincial nutrition teams in the affected provinces, especially the severely affected provinces such as Sơn La, Yên Bái, Hoà Bình, Thanh Hoá, Nghệ An, Hà Tĩnh, and Quảng Trị, and have provided necessary technical guidance for maintaining nutrition services, as deemed necessary. The National Nutrition Programme team is preparing for a mass-distribution campaign of high dose capsules vitamin A for all children 6-59 months in those provinces in November, one month earlier than normally scheduled.
- The Government of Viet Nam has allocated USD 135,000 (3 billion VND) for the most affected provinces; to help them purchase local nutrition supplements (MNP, MNT and RUFT) under the 2017 National Nutrition Programme, and to respond to the 2017-2018 Emergency Preparedness Plan. In addition, NNP has distributed

120,000 tablets of multiple micronutrients for pregnant women, as well as 50,000 sachets of multi micronutrient powder for young children.



Early Recovery

Sector focal point: Ms. Jenty Kirsch-Wood (jenty.kirsch-wood@undp.org) and Ms. Bui Viet Hien (bui.viet.hien@undp.org)

Damages and Needs:

- Early recovery shelter assistance is of key concern, with 4,703 collapsed, 66,949 inundated, and 13,587 evacuated houses.
- Irrigation systems have been significantly impacted, with more than 61,000 m of dykes, 200 weirs, and 45 pumping stations were damaged and 12,560 m of sea, river and stream banks eroded. 87,240 m of national roads and 175,582 m of local roads were damaged, as were other communication, industrial and market infrastructure.

Response:

- The Government of Viet Nam has been active in providing housing support to affected households, and has begun assessment to provide compensation for agricultural losses. Further assessment of infrastructure rehabilitation and other recovery needs assessment is underway.
- UNDP assisted CCNDPC/VNDMA in their ongoing assessment of the landslide and flash flood status, providing updated landslide and flash flood maps for the fifteen Northern provinces, as well as data on those vulnerable and/or at risk. Furthermore, support was been offered to strengthen post-disaster needs assessment capacities through trainings.

Forecast and General Coordination

Based on recent forecasts, there is a risk of a tropical storm affecting the Central and South Central coast of Viet Nam in the coming days in form of tropical depression number 28.

The Government of Viet Nam, through the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), is coordinating the response in the affected provinces and at national level. The UN, both at country and regional level, as well as the INGOs and the Viet Nam Red Cross are closely monitoring the situation, and will provide support if required.

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