

Vietnam: Heavy Rainfall and Flooding in Northern Viet Nam

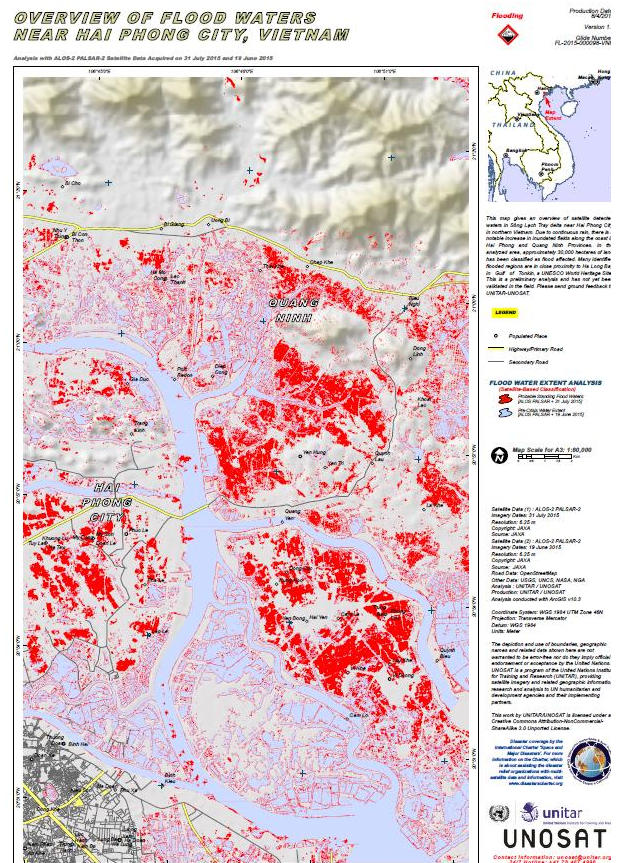
Situation Report No.2 (as of 5 August 2015)



This Situation Report is issued on behalf of the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Viet Nam. It covers the period from 26 July – 5 August 2015. The next situation report will be issued on or around 7 August 2015.

Highlights

- Lessening rainfall since 4 Aug has helped local relief and recovery reach out the beneficiaries in coastal provinces.
- Only 17 houses in Lang Son and 94 houses in Quang Ninh are still affected by some flood water and flood debris.
- Quang Ninh People’s Committee has raised initially VND27billion (US\$1.25million) since 30 July following a provincial fundraising campaign to support the affected communities.
- 4 Aug, President Truong Tan Sang visited affected households in Quang Ninh, emphasizing the urgent need for resettlement of affected households and future integration of disaster risks reduction measures in residential land-use planning and industrial development.
- An initial assessment from UN humanitarian partners in the field suggested that food and water supplies are in place in Quang Ninh; and a short-term shortage of NFIs for households who lost their homes due to the flooding and sludge from coal mines.
- There are increasing localized damages from flashfloods and landslides in mountainous provinces, particularly in the sectors of Agriculture (Dien Bien, Thai Nguyen, **Bac Giang, Quang Ninh**) and Transportation (Dien Bien, **Lang Son, Cao Bang, Lao Cai, Son La**).
- The UN in Viet Nam is collaborating with the humanitarian partners who are collecting field information for emergency relief and stands ready to support the Government and the people of Viet Nam. So far, the situation is under good control of local provinces and central governments for relief and initial recovery. An interagency coordination meeting will be organized on 6 August with humanitarian partners to consolidate information in the field, and identify if there are any gaps in response and identify what is required, such as whether a comprehensive assessment of damages in the affected provinces will be needed for early recovery processes.



UNITAR/UNOSAT: Overview Maps of satellite detected waters in Lach Tray river delta near Hai Phong City on 31 July. In the analyzed area, approximately 30,000 hectares of land has been classified as flood affected. Many identified flooded regions are in close proximity to Ha Long Bay in Gulf of Tonkin, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
<http://www.unitar.org/unosat/node/44/2253>

Fatalities 30	Injured 43	National Road erosion (m3) 246,044¹	House partially flooded/damaged 12,712	House Fully damaged 150	Rice Paddies Damaged (Ha) 17,928
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¹ Only accounted for the second episode of flooding and landslide from 30 Jul 2015

Situation Overview

- During 2-4 Aug, rainfalls caused sporadic landslides in northern mountainous provinces, particularly hit were Dien Bien (Tuan Giao District), Cao Bang (Thong Nong district) and Lang Son (Dong Mo district).
- During the evening/morning of 3-4 Aug, water levels in upstream rivers (Song Luc Nam, Thuong, Cau and Thao) and downstream rivers (Song Hong and Thai Binh) of the Red River Delta rose. Localized flooding during 3-4 Aug also fully submerged many houses and villages along the Ma River of Quan Hoa and Lang Chanh districts, Thanh Hoa Province.
- During 2-4 Aug, localized damages due to flashfloods and landslides increased in mountainous provinces, particularly in the two sectors of Agriculture (Dien Bien, Thai Nguyen, **Bac Giang, Quang Ninh**) and Transportation (Dien Bien, **Lang Son, Cao Bang, Lao Cai, Son La**).



A landslide covers a road on the route from Lai Chau City to Sin Ho District. — VNA/VNS Photo Nguyen Cong Hai

- On 4 Aug, heavy downpours caused substantial damage to Hai Duong Province, especially in the districts of Chi Linh, Ninh Mon, Ninh Giang, Kim Thanh, inundating about 5,000ha of agricultural areas (VNNNews)
- As of 5 Aug, it is forecasted that rainfall will be lessen and become sporadic. Flood waters from upstream and downstream Red River Delta will continue to recede. However, the risks of soil erosion along the river basins will continue, particularly in Quang Ninh, Bac Giang, Thai Nguyen, Lai Chau, Dien Bien, and Son La.

Summary of Damages caused by the floods as reported by the CCNDPC on 5 August

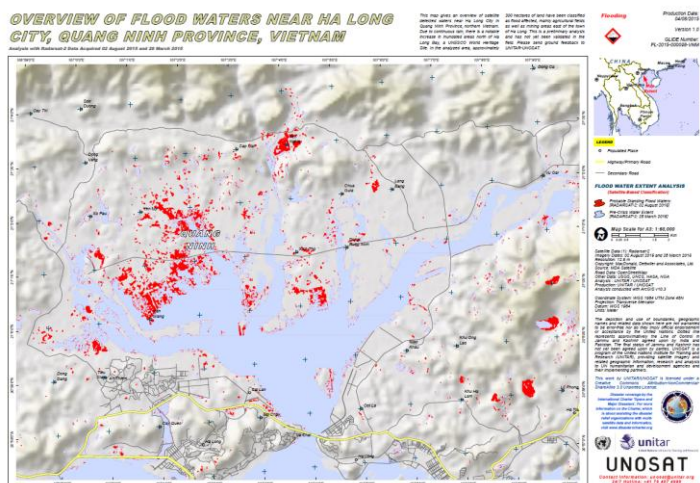
Damages from heavy rainfall and flooding in Quang Ninh 26-29 July:

All figures remain unchanged (Ref: Sitrep #1)

Damages in Northern Provinces from 30 July – 4 August

Flash flooding and landslides also caused initial damages in all Northern provinces of Viet Nam. According to the Central Committee for Natural Disaster Prevention and Control (CCNDPC) as of 13:00PM 5 Aug, the damage caused by landslide and flooding during 30 July to 4 August is as follows:

1. Deaths: 13 persons (Lai Chau: 2; Lang Son: 2; Son La: 1; Bac Giang: 3; Cao bang: 3; Yen Bai: 1; Thanh Hoa: 1)
2. Missing: 3 persons (Tuyen Quang: 1; Lang Son: 1; Thanh Hoa: 1)
3. Injured: 11 persons (Dien Bien: 4; Cao Bang: 5; Lao Cai: 2)
4. House damaged: 3,788 households (Houses fully damaged/collapsed: 122 houses; Houses damaged: 3,666 houses)
5. Agriculture: Paddy fields damaged/flooded: 14,664 ha and Cash crops damaged/flooded: 1,436 ha
6. Water resource management constructions: 11.2km of irrigation and 140 water works damaged
7. Transportation: Approximately 246,049m³ of national roads and 36,778m³ of provincial roads were eroded/swept away
8. Others: there are a number of increasing concerns of health risks, water sanitation and environment issues due to the sludge of coal mines in Quang Ninh, and the future risk to the Ha Long Bay (see UNITAR maps and more details below)



UNITAR/UNOSAT: - Overview satellite detected waters near Ha Long City in Quang Ninh Province on 2 Aug, northern Vietnam. Due to continuous rain, there is a notable increase in inundated areas north of Ha Long Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. In the analyzed area, approximately 300 hectares of land have been classified as flood affected, mainly agricultural fields as well as mining areas east of the town of Ha Long
<http://www.unitar.org/unosat/node/44/2255>

Humanitarian Response

National Response

- Only 17 houses in Lang Son and 94 houses in Quang Ninh are still affected by some flood water and flood debris.
- Quang Ninh People's Committee has raised initially VND27billion (US\$1.25million) since 30 July following a provincial fundraising campaign to support the affected communities. The Fatherland Front of Quang Ninh is coordinating with local authorities for emergency relief work.
- On 3rd Aug, The Minister of Construction investigated the affected sites of residential houses and initially confirmed to supply 2 tonnes of cement to support the rebuilding of houses for affected communities. The Ministry will work with the Department of Construction to address the gaps for residential planning, establish no-build zones as well improving future land-use residential planning for Quang Ninh.
- 4 Aug, President Truong Tan Sang visited affected households in Quang Ninh, emphasizing the urgent need for resettlement of affected households and future integration of disaster risks in residential land-use planning and industrial development.
- The Ministry of Transportation is coordinating with local provinces to clear landslide and flashflood debris in the affected sites of national and provincial roads, particularly in Lao Cai, Dien Bien and Lang Son. So far, most transportation routes have been cleared except some sections at National Road 12 (Dien Bien) and National Road 3B (Lang Son).
- The Minister of Agriculture and leader of the Water resource directorate investigated all critical dam and dyke damaged spots and reservoirs in Bac Ninh, Bac Giang and Son La during 2-4 Aug.
- A new design has been completed by MARD-Vietnam Academy for Water Resource and the Ministry of Industry and Trade to reconstruct the spillway No. 740 in Mong Duong Coal Mine, Quang Ninh from the night of 4 Aug.
- To date, the Vietnam Red Cross has provided VND700million to Quang Ninh (VND 365m in cash, 600 household kits, and 600 aquatabs) and VND 112million to Tuan Giao District (Dien Bien Province). Additionally, The Quang Ninh Red Cross Chapter also received support from the Dong Hiep Trade and Investment Ltd. of VND270 million and from the Coca-Cola Company Vietnam distributed 24,000 water bottles (~VND 145million).

International Response

United Nations

- During 3-5 Aug, the UN in Viet Nam is collaborating with the humanitarian partners who are collecting field information for emergency relief and stands ready to support the Government and the people of Viet Nam. So far, the situation is under good control by local provinces and central governments for relief and initial recovery.
- The UN DRMT held two meetings on 4 Aug at 11AM and 14:30PM to directly report to the UNRC on the initial assessment of the situation, government and province response processes, and plans for future coordination with clusters and humanitarian partners in the coming days.
- An initial assessment from UN humanitarian partners in the field suggested food and water supplies are in place in Quang Ninh; and there is a short-term shortage of NFIs for households who lost homes due to the flood and sludge from coal mines.
- UNDRMT requested for an inter-agency coordination meeting on 6 Aug with humanitarian partners DMWG at the UN Building to consolidate information from the field, and to identify if there are any gaps in response and what will be required, such as whether a comprehensive assessment of damages in the affected provinces will be needed for early recovery processes.
- The UN agencies have contacted a number of counterparts at the ministry levels who are currently working in all affected provinces in different capacities. The UN agencies have not received any request from provinces and central government for immediate support. The UN agencies have been requested to urgently and regularly consult their counterparts who may be working in the affected areas, for information on damages and needs, and updated information on landslides as well as to prepare for an inter agency joint assessment if it is deemed necessary.

International NGOs

- A joint assessment team is making a visit to Quang Ninh province over August 5-6, coordinated by Save the Children, CARE, PACCOM and Kindness (a Taiwan-based agency) to gather and verify initial data on the flooding. Objectives of the visit are: (i) getting a better understanding of the impact of the disaster, including verifying informal data received on a number of the population having lost access to clean water; (ii) getting updates from provincial authorities on response so far and their plans for the coming weeks; and (iii) to consider possible initial response for the worse affected areas. A debriefing meeting is set to take place in Hanoi immediately following the visit, where the team will share findings and make recommendations on next steps.
- World Vision will provide emergency support to two affected communes under their project areas in Cat Ba district, Hai Phong city with means of transportation (boat) and motor generators. Details of support will be shared later.
- Several INGOs have a number of project operations in the field in most of the affected provinces and will continue to update the UN and counterparts with information on flash flooding and landslide issues in the coming days.
- The Disaster Management Working Group Chair (Save the Children) will coordinate with the UNDRMT for the joint meeting on 6 Aug

The main needs, responses and gaps, particularly in the Quang Ninh are summarized below



Health

Damages and Needs:

- No serious damage to health care facilities, some community health centers, and hospitals in Cam Pha, Ha Long, Van Don- Quang Ninh have partly damaged due to floods but still remain function.

Response:

- Local health sectors are focusing maximum efforts on treating injured people, cleaning the contaminated environment, water supplies, preventing outbreaks, health education for promoting personal hygiene, food safety, and prevention of disease.
- The General Department of Preventive Medicine (GDPM)/MoH issued a letter to ask DoHs of affected provinces for efforts in enhancing the monitoring of communicable diseases and outbreaks after the flooding, and assigning mobile teams to readily support local health needs if requested..
- GDPM provided for DoH Quang Ninh: 1000 kg Chloramins B; 500,000 Aquatabs, and 300 liters of chemicals for killing vectors.
- Medical service Administration (MSA) issued letters to ask hospitals in affected areas to enhance first-aid, health care services for victims, ensuring efficient medicine provision
- The Health group will meet to discuss further on health response measures, and considering conducting rapid health assessment
- Some scattered instances of disease, such as skin issues, and pinkeye have occurred in affected communities.



Health worker in Cao Thang ward, Halong city, Quang Ninh is instructing people affected by flooding how to clean contaminated water by chloramine B (photo: Provincial Health Education and Communication Center)

Gaps & Constraints:

- More health workers are needed in the monitoring of disease outbreaks after flooding
- There is a lack of chemicals for cleaning contaminated environment
- The Quang Ninh DoH is requesting MoH and WHO support in providing more chemicals for cleaning the environment and drinking water
- Contact cluster focal point: WHO Vu Hieu; Email: vuh@wpro.who.int



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Damages and Needs:

- Under assessment. No specific information to date.

Response:

- An emergency WASH Working Group meeting, co-chaired by MARD/Water Resources Directorate and UNICEF, took place on August 4. The Group agreed to follow up with national partners on damages and information gaps and to collect information on damages to schools and health centers. The next meeting is on August 11 at the Green One UN House to review the disaster situation and discuss collective response actions.
- Oxfam will share with NCERWASS the relevant experiences and lessons learnt on coal ash and waste spill which they have been alerted on by Waterkeeper Alliance (<http://endcoal.org/2015/07/heavy-rains-in-vietnam-cause-an-avalanche-of-coal-waste-threatening-communities-and-ha-long-bay-world-heritage-site/>)
- The Emergency WASH Cluster Working Group will meet on Tuesday (11th August) at the Green One UN House to review the disaster situation and discuss collective response actions.

Gaps & Constraints:

- To be updated in the next report
- Contact cluster focal point: UNICEF (Lalit Patra - lpatra@unicef.org)



Education and Child Protection

Damages and Needs:

- Number of child fatalities: 9 (Quang Ninh: 7; Lang Son: 1; Lai Chau: 1), mainly primary and lower secondary students and all of them were killed at home due to landslides and flash flooding.
- Regarding damages to school infrastructure: most damages are of school WATSAN facilities from satellite sites of 'Early Childhood Education' schools and primary schools (real figures are not yet available).
- In Quang Ninh alone there are 17 schools damaged with estimated costs of 25 billion VND of which 9 were 'Early Childhood Education' schools which were seriously damaged and schooling activities are temporarily on hold.
- Children could not go to school due to damages caused to their homes, damaged/flooded roads to school and or evacuation to secure places.

Children killed

9

Response:

- As informed by MOLISA, 1,459 households at risk of flooding in Quang Ninh were evacuated to safe shelters, mostly in public buildings, such as Commune Clinics, Cultural Houses, and Schools.
- MOLISA's Children Department has requested Quang Ninh and other affected provinces to arrange appropriate care for children whose parents/caregivers are dead, injured or missing, and to provide psychosocial support for children, particularly those seriously affected by the flood.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Quang Ninh has faced some difficulties in the transportation of food and basic goods to the affected population due to high water levels and damages caused to the road.
- Contact focal point: UNICEF (Hoang Van Sit - hvsit@unicef.org and Dinh Phuong Thao - dpthao@unicef.org)



Early Recovery

Damages and Needs:

- About 246,049m³ of national roads and 36,778m³ of provincial roads were eroded/swept away
- There are increasing concerns regarding environmental issues due to the sludge of coal mines in Quang Ninh, particularly the future risk to the Ha Long Bay

- Affected households in Quang Ninh, particularly those who are evacuated near Mong Duong town, still need the debris around their houses and surrounding areas to be cleared.
- Investigations are ongoing to identify and assess the scale of the impacts of flood flows containing the sludge of coal mines, with inputs from field missions.
- Photos of the households affected by the sludge of coal mine by Vietnamnet <http://vietnamnet.vn/vn/xa-hoi/254502/nhung-gi-con-lai-khi-lu-bun-khung-khiep-tran-qua.html>

National Road erosion (m3)

246,044**Response:**

- The UN is working to provide satellite imagery of the flood situation since 30 July with support from UNITAR and UNOCHA
- The UN is supporting GIS experts to work with the Disaster Management Center (MARD) in the field since 3 Aug to validate the information of satellite imagery produced by the Government and UNITAR/UNOSAT
- All of the imagery and databases can be accessed from here: <http://www.unitar.org/unosat/maps/VNM>
- The UN has a daily consultation with counterparts from MARD – Standing Office for Natural Disaster Prevention and Control and Disaster Management Working Group for the purposes of situation updates, and sharing of information.
- The UN is providing regular support for interagency coordination and the consolidation of information for the UN Situation Report.

Gaps & Constraints:

- To be further updated in the next report
- Contact focal point: UNDP (Bui Viet Hien – bui.viethien@undp.org)

**Nutrition**

- There are no major concerns reported to date.
- No damages to the of nutrition service system were reported from affected provinces, or central nutrition programme
- The official reports from Dien Bien and Lao Cai reported no concern for nutrition in the short term, but there may be future concerns for 160,444 hectares of farmed land flooded in Lao Cai.
- If a Joint Rapid Assessment is deemed necessary, the Nutrition Cluster are ready to send a member.
- Contact Cluster focal point: UNICEF (Nguyen Dinh Quang - ndquang@unicef.org)

Funding

- No information on funding is currently available.

General Coordination

- The UN Disaster Risk Management Team is closely monitoring the situation.
- A meeting with the members of UNDRMT and core members of DMWG will be organized on 6 Aug to update on the situation.

For the UN Humanitarian Response

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For more information, please visit UN in Viet Nam website: <http://un.org.vn>

Vietnam: Heavy Rainfall and Flooding in Northern Viet Nam

Situation Report No.1 (as of 3 August 2015)



This Situation Report is issued on behalf of the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Viet Nam. It covers the period from 26 July – 3 Aug 2015. The next situation report will be issued on or around 5 August 2015.

Highlights

- Between 26 July – 3 Aug, wide spread heavy rainfall has affected most of Northern Region of Vietnam. Some provinces experienced extreme rainfalls such as Quảng Ninh, Điện Biên, Lạng Sơn, Sơn La, Lai Châu, Bắc Giang.
- Quang Ninh is the most affected province. Rainfall recorded during 26-30 July 2015 in a number of stations was significantly above the seasonal average: 886mm in Co To Island, 890mm in Mong Cai, 1172mm in Cua Ong.
- Since 26 August heavy rain-fall has led to serious flooding in Northern Coastal Vietnam. Since 31 July, flash flooding and landslides have also affected the Northern mountainous provinces of Vietnam. It is forecast that rainfall will be lessen from 4 Aug and the risk of flooding will likely continue in the lower river basins of northern Viet Nam in the coming 2-3 days.
- Local and central Governments has been responding in a timely manner to all the affected areas.
- The UN in Viet Nam is closely monitoring the situation in liaison with the Central government.
- The UN in Vietnam, with support from UNITAR and UNOCHA Bangkok, is also acquiring satellite images of the flooding situations in Quang Ninh and other affected provinces to assist central government in their situation analysis, response and recovery processes.

Fatalities	Injured	Household evacuated	House partially damaged	House Fully damaged	Paddy Rice Damaged (Ha)
23	38	1,459	12,638	108	12,040

Situation Overview

- Since 26 July, two episodes of heavy rainfalls have occurred, causing consecutive flooding and subsequent damages in the northern region.
- From 26 -29 July, heavy rainfall occurred in coastal Northern provinces. Quang Ninh was particularly affected with extreme rainfalls, causing serious flooding in the province. Total recorded rainfalls in a number of gauging stations in Quang Ninh during 26-30 July were historically highest in the last 40 years, including Cửa Ông: 1172mm, Cô Tô: 886mm, Móng Cái: 890mm, Bãi Cháy: 695mm. Especially, extreme daily records above 200mm were reported in Cửa Ông: 437mm (26/7) and 278mm (27/7), Móng Cái: 334mm (27/7) and 264mm (28/7).
- Since 29 July - 2 August, wide spread rainfall occurred in all northern provinces. Due to accumulated rains in the past days, severe flash flooding and landslides have been reported in mountainous provinces such as Dien Bien, Son La, Lai Chau, Bac Kan while lowland coastal provinces such as Quang Ninh, Hai Phong, Thai Binh, Nam Dinh are continuingly flooded. The average records rainfalls in northern provinces in three days 29 July – 1 August were 50-100mm. Especially, high records of approximately 200mm were reported in provinces Lai Chau (182-213mm), Dien Bien (204mm), Ha Giang (238mm), Tuyen Quang (204-224mm), Phu Tho (205mm), Thai Nguyen (185mm) and Quang Ninh (190-350mm)
- On 3 August, the National Center for Hydro Meteorology Forecasting (NCHMF) forecasted low and scatter rainfalls will continue in the next few days. The water level of lower river basins of Red River Delta will likely continue to rise in the next 24 hours.

Summary of amages caused by the floods as reported by the CCNDPC on 3 August

Damages from heavy rainfall and flooding in Quang Ninh 26-29 July

According to the Central Committee for Natural Disaster Prevention and Control (CCNDPC) on 30 July, the damage caused by flooding in Quang Ninh Province during 26-29 July is as follows:

1. Deaths: 17 persons
2. Injured: 32 persons
3. Households evacuated: 1,459 households
4. House damaged: 9074 households (~45,000 people)
 - Houses fully damaged/collapsed: 28houses
 - Houses damaged: 9,046 houses
5. Agriculture:
 - Paddy field damaged/flooded: 3,264ha
 - Cash crops damaged/flooded: 1,065ha
 - Poultry lost: 2,078
6. Aquaculture
 - Aquaculture rafts damaged (floating farms): 882 rafts
 - Aquaculture farms damaged: 1,070 hectares
7. Transportation:
 - About 300,000m3 of provincial and national roads were eroded/swept away
8. Others
 - Local Media reported serious damage in coal mines in Quang Ninh, particularly in Mong Duong District. Large quantities of coal mine waste were washed away and spreading toxic contamination and environment pollutions in the province.
 - Nearly 100 households in Mong Duong District were supported by Provincial authorities to evacuate in temporary shelters and will be relocated to the new resettlement sites in the coming months. Their houses were washed away and the location is in high risk of seriously affected due to coal mines damages.
 - The Electricity of Viet Nam (EVN) has warned of a possible power shortage since coal mining has been halted currently due to torrential rains and floods.
 - Total initial economic lost in Quang Ninh was estimated about VND 2,000 billion (US\$92million), of which half of the lost was in the sector of Coal and Mineral Industries (Tuoitrenews and Vietnamnet).



Left photo: The coal grounds of many coal companies in the city of Cam Pha, Quang Ninh province were washed away by the floods. Local people flocked to a flood stream to collect coal. Photo credit: Vietnamnet

Right photo: This picture taken shows residents inspecting a car and debris submerged in thick mud in a community located next to the Mong Duong coal mine following heavy rains in Quang Ninh, Vietnam. AFP

Damages in Northern Provinces from 30 July – 1 August

Flash flooding and landslides also caused initial damages in all Northern provinces of Viet Nam. According to the Central Committee for Natural Disaster Prevention and Control (CCNDPC) as of 19PM 2 Aug, the damage caused by landslide and flooding during 30 July to 2 August is as follows:

1. Deaths: 6 (Lang Son: 2; Lai Chau: 2; Son La: 1; Bac Giang:1)
2. Injuries: 6 (Dien Bien: 4; Lao cai: 2)

3. House damaged: 3,672 households
 - Houses fully damaged/collapsed: 80 houses (Dien Bien:2; Bac Giang: 2; Quang Ninh: 76)
 - Houses damaged/flooded: 3,592 houses (Dien Bien: 211; Tuyen Quang: 2; ; Lai Chau: 1; Cao Bang: 7; Yen Bai: 6; Quang Ninh: 3,346; Lao Cai: 1; Son La: 6; BacKan: 12)
4. Agriculture:
 - Paddy field damaged/flooded: 8,776ha (Dien Bien: 650; Tuyen Quang: 337; Bac Giang: 4,084; Lang Son: 1330; Cao Bang: 20; Quang Ninh: 2263; Bac Kan: 92)
 - Cash crops damaged/flooded: 847ha (Dien Bien 650; Bac Giang: 159; Cao Bang: 30; Lao Cai: 2.5; Bac Kan: 6.1)
 - Livestock lost: 98 (Dien Bien: 87; BacKan:11)
 - Poultry lost: 11,500 (Dien Bien)
5. Water resources:
 - Irrigation channel damaged: 10,871m (Dien Bien: 10,000; Tuyen Quang: 297; Lang Son: 20; Lai Chau: 520; Cao Bang: 34)
6. Transportation:
 - About 138,315m³ of national roads/embankments were eroded/swept away (Dien Bien: 17,000m³; Lang Son: 103,500m³; Lao Cai: 17,815)
 - About 23,103m³ of rural roads/embankments were eroded (Dien Bien: 11,000m³; Tuyen Quang: 103m³; Cao Bang: 12,000m³)
7. Others:
 - A section of dam 790 in Quang Ninh's Cam Pha City, containing sludge from coal mining in the province, broke on July 30th morning, local authorities reported. The Cam Pha People's Committee have reported that repairs and reinforcement measures have been taken to consolidate the dam, preventing it from breaking under the pressure of torrential rains.
 - The media reported that more than 500 households in Quang Ninh's Uong Bi City were inundated on the 2nd of August and that flood waters rose over the dams in Thuong Yen Cong Commune of Uong Bi City, isolating it completely and that authority had to breach the city's key spillway of Sinh River's dam to release water. (<http://vietnamnews.vn/>).



Left: The accumulated rainfall during the 1- 2 Aug in Uong Bi town, Quang Ninh, has caused very high flooding. A spillway (dam) was broken down to release the flood pressure in Uong Bi (Vietnamnet)

Right: Floodwaters spread all over Tuan Giao town, Dien Bien province after Huoi Cu dam breach on August 1 (SGGP-Sai Gon Giai Phong)

Humanitarian Response

National Response

- The Central Government has been active in responding to the events in a timely manner. In 26 July, evacuation of households in Quang Ninh was activated. Specific instructions from the central committee were commutated to provinces and ministries to timely response and coordinate the efforts of search & rescue, recovery and preparedness for future flooding risks by the Prime Minister (Telegraph 1192/CĐ-TTg and 1199/CĐ-TTg on 28 July) and by the Central Committee for National Disaster Prevention and Control and Search and Rescue – CC NDPC & SR (11/CĐ-TW at 3PM 28/7/2015)
- The National Committee for Search and Rescue (VINASARCOM) established 03 operation stations in Quang Ninh to provide direct support in search and rescue. Total 305 officials, 31 facilities were mobilised to evacuated 1,459

households who were at risk of flooding to the safe shelters as well as to undertake search and rescue of the missing people;

- During 28-29 July, the CCNDPC sent a number of delegates to investigate the damage and to inspect critical constructions and sites at high flood risks. The officials also provide direct support to local authorities in Quang Ninh in coordinating and instruction of relief and early response works.
- On 1 August, the Chairman of Central Committee for NDPC – Minister of Agriculture – led the mission to examine the security conditions of the dyke system of Ha Noi, supervised the preparedness work for future flood risks
- On first August, the Standing office for Central Committee of NDPC discussed with Vietnam Electricity Company (EVN) and reservoir agencies to analyse the flood risks and scenarios of flooding in the northern regions and river basins for future coordination and operation of two major reservoirs Son La and Hoa Binh of the region.

Responses in Provinces

- The Quảng Ninh Provincial Committee for Natural Disaster Prevention and Control and Search and Rescue (PCNDPC & SR) assigned officials to high risk communities to provide direct instruction and support in response and relief, search and rescue. The committee coordinated closely with the military forces in the provinces and timely evacuated the population at high risk of flash flooding and eroding coal mines.
- Irrigation systems in coastal provinces of Hải Phòng, Thái Bình, Nam Định, Ninh Bình and major sluice gates were operated to increase flood water discharge capacity, reduce water levels as preparedness for future flooding.
- All PCNDPCs in Northern mountainous provinces are closely monitoring the rains and flood risk situation. Lai Chau Committee for NDPC issued instructions No. 10/CĐ-UBND on 01/8/2015 to all local agencies for preparedness and response to landslide and flooding. Bac Kan and Lao Cai PCNDPC evacuated 107 households (Bắc Kạn: 71; Lào Cai: 36) from the high risk areas.
- On 29 July, Vietnam Red Cross (VNRC) provided VND160 million of relief kits for affected families in Quang Ninh. This included VND 3m to support households who lost their members and 200 household kits (blanket, mosquito net, cooking kit: pan and pot, kettle, and Aquatabs)
- The Ministry of Health (MoH)/Department of Health (DOH) officials are on 24-hour duty to monitor and coordinate actions and report to CCNDPC. MOH sent 02 urgent telegraphs to all provinces for detail response instructions and closely coordinate with the provincial DOH branches in affected provinces. Initial relief distributed to DOH of affected provinces:
 - Quang Ninh: 30 medical stocks, 500,000 Chloramines B, and 100 life vests
 - Other provinces: Lang Son, Bac Can, Cao Bang, Bac Giang, Yen Bai, Tuyen Quang, Ha Giang, Son La, Lai Chau, Dien Bien, and Lao Cai, each province provided with 30 medical stocks, 30 life vests, 200,000 Chloramine B, and 200 medical equipment sets.
- Media reports highlight the positive mobilization of local people in supporting affected communities in Quang Ninh in the past few days.

International Response

United Nations

- UNRC communicated to all UNCT members of the detail situation updates and that the Government has not requested international assistance. So far, the government is closely and systematically monitoring and responding to the situation. Base on the situation update on 4 Aug by clusters/UNDRMT members, the UNRC may convene for an extraordinary meeting as deemed necessary.
- The UN DRMT has been liaising with officials of the Standing office of CCNDPC regarding Government response of the flooding situation in northern region of Viet Nam.
- The UNDRMT, with support from UNITAR and UNOCHA Bangkok, is also acquiring satellite images of the flooding situations in Quang Ninh and potentially other affected provinces to assist central government in their situation analysis, response and recovery processes. UNOSAT was activated for Quang Ninh from 30 July. A number of satellite imagery was also collected by the Government counterparts since 26 July via Sentinel Asia Platform.
- WHO is in close contact with Disaster Management Unit (DMU) / MOH to monitor the situation and ready to provide support if requested. MOH has not yet made any official requests for international support.
- WASH Cluster has decided Save the Children and Oxfam to take lead on flood in Northern provinces (3 Aug).
- UNDSS advised necessary precautions must be taken if travelling to affected areas
- Next meetings:
 - UNDRMT will meet at 11AM on 4 August to update the situation.
 - WASH cluster meeting is planned at noon of 4 August

International NGOs

- Disaster Management Working Group met on July 31 to discuss next steps. Decision was taken to monitor the situation and next steps will decide if situation worsens.

Funding

- No information available at the moment.

General Coordination

- The UN Disaster Risk Management Team is closely monitoring the situation.
- A meeting with the members of UNDRMT and core members of DMWG was organized on 31 July to update the situation. No rapid assessment was deployed and core members will continue to monitor the situation. UNDRMT will meet again on 4 Aug to jointly discuss with all members of the situation, analyse the response gaps and conduct appropriate actions as needed and report

For the UN Humanitarian Response

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