

Appeal

China

Assistance to Xinjiang Earthquake Victims – ASCN-31 Appeal Target: US\$ 437,519

Geneva, 17 March 2003

Dear Colleagues,

An earthquake measuring 6.8 on the Richter Scale rocked the north-western part of China on 24 February 2003, bringing devastation to a total of 9 counties in Kashen Prefecture and Xinjiang Urumgar Autonomous Region. Bachu and Jiashi are the two worst affected counties. Hundreds of people were killed, villages were flattened, water and power supply facilities were totally destroyed, schools, clinics and other public facilities collapsed.

A second earthquake measuring 5.8 Richter scale struck again the same region on March 12, creating more terror among the panic stricken people, and bringing further destruction to the affected communities. 80 percent of the homeless families have moved to either tents or make-shift shelters. However, in spite of all the efforts made, there are still homeless who do not have access to proper shelters and enough quilts. These people are suffering the intense cold and high winds in rough make-shift shelters made of plastic sheeting.

ACT member, **the Amity Foundation**, is already assisting the affected population with their own resources and is proposing to provide further assistance to 16,750 most vulnerable people through:

- Food aid
- Tents
- Reconstruction of houses
- Reconstruction of community infrastructure

Project Completion Date:

6 February 2004

Summary of Appeal Targets, Pledges/Contributions Received and Balance Requested

	<u>US\$</u>
Total Appeal Target(s)	437,519
<u>Less:</u> Pledges/Contr. Recd.	<u>0</u>
Balance Requested from ACT Network	437,519

Elizabeth Ferris
Co-ordinator
Diakonia & Solidarity
World Council of Churches

John Nduna
Acting Director, ACT

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Director
LWF/World Service

Full details of programme and budget are on following pages.

REQUESTING ACT MEMBER

> The Amity Foundation

I. IMPLEMENTING ACT MEMBER & PARTNER INFORMATION

Description of Implementing ACT Member

The Amity Foundation is a church related relief and development organisation aiming at promoting health, education, social service, rural development, emergency relief and rehabilitation programs. Amity is legally registered as a non-profitable organisation and has been serving the people in China for the last 18 years.

Amity has been engaged in relief work for the past 17 years and has established a nation wide relief network through its local partners and local churches. Amity handles 2 to 3 emergencies a year. In major disasters, it starts with emergency assistance followed by rehabilitation programs for a period of one to two years. When resources are available, it also initiates disaster mitigation programs to help reduce the effect of disasters on disaster-prone areas. Amity works in close collaboration with its local partners.

Description of Implementing ACT Member's Partner

Amity implements its relief and rehabilitation programs in close collaboration with the Overseas Friendship Association - a people's organization strongly supported by the Chinese government. It aims at promoting friendship and co-operation between Chinese people and the people overseas. In the past 12 years, the Association has been a close partner of Amity in the fields of relief and rehabilitation and has gained itself a comprehensive experience in relief activities.

II. DESCRIPTION OF EMERGENCY SITUATION

Background Information

A earthquake measuring 6.8 on the Richter Scale rocked the north-western part of China on 24 February 2003, bringing devastation to a total of 9 counties in Kashen Prefecture and Xinjiang Urumgar Autonomous Region. Bachu and Jiashi are the two worst affected counties. Hundreds of people were killed, villages were flattened, water and power supply facilities were totally destroyed, schools, clinics and other public facilities collapsed.

Current Situation

Currently, there are frequent aftershocks measuring between 5 and 6 on the Richter scale, creating more terror among the panic stricken people, and bringing further destruction to the affected communities. All dead people have been buried and seriously injured people transferred to other places for medical treatment. 80 percent of the homeless families have moved to either tents or make-shift shelters. Fire engines are being used to deliver drinking water and the military are being dispatched to help dig out family belongings from beneath the ruins of the collapsed houses. About 70 percent of the homeless families have been assisted with a sack of flour, 2 quilts and a stove to help them cope with the severe cold and other hardships resulting from the quake. However, there are still about 20 to 30 percent of the homeless who do not have access to proper shelters and enough quilts. These people are suffering the intense cold and high winds in rough make-shift shelters made of plastic sheeting.

Impact on Human Life

The impact on human life is great. At this time of the year temperatures are between -5 and -10 degrees with snow, rain and howling storms. Those rendered homeless, with an average of 6 people per family, have to

crowd in tents or make-shift shelters which give very little protection against the extreme cold. The provision of 1 or 2 overcoats along with 3 quilts are far from enough to protect a whole family from the cold.

Food is another problem - presently, smaller families are assisted with a sack of flour while larger families receive 2 sacks. This is barely enough to support a family for a month. The homeless families will have to rely on their flour that is now buried beneath the ruins of the collapsed houses. The homeless families will lack flour for about five months before the next harvest is due.

Reconstruction of houses will be a problem as the homeless families are very poor and were barely able to provide sufficient shelter for themselves before the earthquake. The affected communities are located in the least developed areas inhabited by Urumgar ethnic groups whose annual net income per capita is only about 800 yuan which is about USD97. The families are so poor that they have barely any possessions in their houses. The amount required for reconstruction of a house would be an astronomical and unattainable figure for them. Without external support, they may have to live in tents or make-shift shelter the rest of their lives.

The same problem will be encountered with regard to collapsed community facilities such as village water towers, schools and clinics. Villagers of a community are obliged to pay half the funds required to rebuild these facilities. As these villagers can hardly afford the amount required, the collapsed facilities may remain in rubble for many years. The villagers may have to use the unhygienic snow water stored in ponds all the year round and students may have to study in small badly lit tents, which are hot in summer and cold in winter. There will also be problems obtaining much needed medical assistance. In the long run, the basic life sustaining elements of life for the people will be degraded and even threatened.

Description of Damages

Exact casualties and losses in the 9 affected counties are not available yet. However, conservative statistics reveal that by 26 February:

- People killed: 268
- People seriously wounded: 2,058
- People turned homeless: over 110,000
- Houses flattened: 8,861
- Houses seriously damaged: more than 9,000
- Village schools destroyed or damaged: 103
- Clinics destroyed or damaged: 16

In the worst affected county of Bachu, almost all water and power supply facilities were totally destroyed. The estimated direct economic loss in Bachu County alone exceeds 1.3 billion yuan.

Locations for Proposed Response

Qiongkuerqiake Township (one of the three worst hit townships) in Bachu County (one of the two worst hit counties).

III. GOAL & OBJECTIVES

Goal: to help meet the basic needs of about 2,750 homeless families in Qiongkuerqiake Township, Bachu County.

Objectives:

- to provide 15 kilos of flour to each of the 1,510 individuals in the 352 homeless families for 3 months (based on 6 persons per family)
- to provide 2 quilts to each of the 2,750 homeless families
- to provide 1 tent to each of the 100 most vulnerable homeless families
- to help rebuild a house for each of the 352 homeless families
- to help rebuild 2 water towers
- to help rebuild 2 village schools

IV. TARGET BENEFICIARIES**Number and Type of Targeted Beneficiaries**

About 16,500 most vulnerable people in around 2,750 families in Qiongkuerqiake Township, Bachu County.

Criteria Utilized in Beneficiary Selection

- Vulnerable homeless families

V. PROPOSED EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE & IMPLEMENTATION**Description of Assistance**

- **Food flour** – locally produced, ordinary quality
- **Quilts** – 1.8 meters wide, 2 meters long, cotton wadding, 3.5 kilograms in weight
- **Tents** – 12 m² in size, water proof, cotton wadding
- **Reconstruction of Houses** – special design applicable to earthquake resistance, with a floor space of about 50 to 60 m² each, steel framework, built with logs and bricks
- **Reconstruction of Water Tower** – special design applicable to earthquake resistance, 8 meters high, 5 meters in diameter, steel framework, built with bricks and cements
- **Reconstruction of Village Schools** – special design applicable to earthquake resistance, with a floor space of 436 m² each, steel framework, built with logs and bricks

Procurement

All relief materials will be purchased locally. In order to ensure the quality and to achieve cost effectiveness, 3 potential suppliers will be invited to tender prices. The supplier of relief materials will be determined based on the comparison between the quality, the price, the supply period and the services they offer.

Transportation and Distribution

Relief materials will be transported from the supplier's warehouse first to the target townships, then to the target villages. There, they will be distributed directly to the individual families. While relief materials are distributed, beneficiaries will be required to sign their names and affix their seals on Amity Relief Material Distribution Registers prepared before hand. The signed registers will then be displayed on the walls of village houses together with assistance and beneficiaries selection criteria for public surveillance.

Construction of Houses

Professional construction teams will have the responsibilities for reconstruction of the houses while the beneficiary families themselves will provide the labour required to construct their houses. Technical staff from the County Quality Control Bureau will visit the construction site to exercise quality control at all crucial stages.

Construction will continue only when it is confirmed that technical specifications are met and quality requirements satisfied.

A total of 20,000 yuan (about USD2,420) is required to rebuild a house described above. Of this total amount, the local government is to contribute 9,000 yuan (about USD1,089), the beneficiary family will also contribute a small amount in addition to the used materials from the collapsed houses and labour needed in the construction of the house. Amity Foundation is planning to provide 6,000 yuan (about USD726) per house. Amity funds will be released in stages to make sure that construction is completed as planned.

Construction of Schools

Professional construction teams will be responsible for the construction of the schools and the beneficiary communities will provide labour. Technical staff from the County Quality Control Bureau will perform quality control at all crucial stages. Construction will continue only when it is confirmed that related technical specifications are met and quality requirements satisfied.

To rebuild a school with a floor space of 436 m², a total of 281,000 yuan (about USD33,999) is needed. Of this total amount, the local government will contribute half of the funds, the communities will also contribute a small amount in addition to labour and the used materials from the old school buildings. Amity Foundation is planning to provide 110,000 yuan (about USD13,309) to help rebuild a school. In order to ensure the success of the project and to maintain a good control of the funds, Amity funds will be released in stages according to project progress.

Construction of Water Tower

Professional construction teams will be responsible for the construction of the water towers while the beneficiary communities will provide labour. Technical staff from the County Quality Control Bureau will carry out quality control at all crucial stages. Construction will continue only when technical specifications are met and quality requirements satisfied.

A total of 180,000 yuan (about USD21,779) is required to rebuild a water tower. Of this amount, the local government will contribute 70,000 yuan (about USD8,469) and the communities will offer the labor required. Amity Foundation hopes to provide 90,000 yuan (about USD10,889) for each of the water towers. To ensure the success of the project and to maintain a good control of the fund, Amity fund shall be released in stages according to project progress.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE, FINANCE, MONITORING & REPORTING

Administration

Amity Foundation works in close co-operation with its local partners. However, Amity is the main operating body throughout the relief efforts. It supervises and monitors the whole operation process and checks that relief funds are used as planned.

In order to implement relief work effectively, a local implementation group will be set up. The head of the County Overseas Friendship Association will be the group leader. Representatives from relevant county departments, township departments, and target villages are group members. The implementation group works with Amity to co-ordinate, design, and implement relief work. In the course of relief work, adjustments will be made based on the feedback from the implementation group, consultations with different sources, and first-hand information obtained from the field trips made by Amity relief staff.

Finance

Amity Foundation is responsible for finance management. In order to ensure that funds are used as planned, it has been agreed that the Overseas Friendship Association will initially pay for the relief materials and they will be reimbursed later after the relief materials have been distributed and all receipts correspond to the total amount spent:

- Purchase receipts (with tax bureau seals) provided by the suppliers clearly stating the total amount/number, the unit cost, and the total cost of the brought materials.
- Receipts provided by the beneficiary townships which clearly states the total amount/number of the emergency relief materials they have received (with township government seals).
- Receipts provided by the beneficiary villages which clearly states the total amount/number of the emergency relief materials they have received (with village government seals).
- Relief Material Distribution Registers with names of beneficiary families, number of family members, and their signatures and seals.

For reconstruction of houses, water towers and schools, it has been agreed between the Amity and its local partners that Amity's funds will be released in stages. One third of the funds will be released when construction starts. Another one third released when construction is half done. The payment will be released when construction is completed and when the final inspection shows that all technical specifications and quality requirements have been met.

Jiangsu Huahong Certified Public Accountants will audit this appeal following procedures and regulations set by the Central Government.

Monitoring & Reporting

Amity and its local partners will closely monitor the overall process of the relief work. One of the measures taken to monitor the work is that each targeted township and village will be requested to make known the assistance criteria, beneficiary selection criteria, beneficiary families as well as the assistance they each receive for public surveillance. Moreover, both Amity and the Overseas Friendship Association will make field trips before, during and after the relief activities to check that all beneficiary families have received the assistance and that all funds have been used correctly.

Amity is responsible for preparation of all reports according to ACT guidelines.

VII. IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE

6 March 2003 – 6 February 2004

The implementation period, which begins from commencement of emergency assistance and ends in submission of audit report, is estimated to last for about 12 months.

VIII. CO-ORDINATION

Amity works in close collaboration with the local governments. The Civil Affairs Bureau of Bachu County is responsible for the overall relief work within its county. It maps out damages and needs in different villages and allocates external financial and in-kind assistance according to their needs. It also co-ordinates different relief agencies to avoid duplication of relief activities in the same village.

Amity co-ordinates with the Civil Affairs Bureau of Bachu County and its local partners.

IX. BUDGET

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE

Description	Type of Unit	No of Units	Unit Cost Yuan	Budget Yuan	Budget US\$
Flour	kilos	67,950	2.00	135,900	16,443
Quilts	quilts	5,500	88.50	486,750	58,893
Tents	tents	100	2,450.00	245,000	29,643
Houses	houses	352	6,000.00	2,112,000	255,535
Water Tower	tower	2	90,000.00	180,000	21,779
Village School	school	2	110,000	<u>220,000</u>	<u>26,618</u>
Sub total				3,379,650	408,911
Transportation Fee	trucks	12	1,200	14,400	1,742
Administration (office expenses, staff salaries, communication, travelling, accommodation etc)				222,041	26,865
TOTAL EXPENDITURE				<u>3,616,091</u>	<u>437,519</u>

Exchange Rate: 1 USD = 8.265 yuan