



Action by Churches Together

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Coordinating Office

Appeal

China

Assistance to Flood Affected ASCN-32

Appeal Target: US\$ 579,491

Balance Requested from ACT Network: US\$ 555,278

Geneva, 25 July 2003

Dear Colleagues,

Violent rainstorms repeatedly hit a vast area of China for about 24 days during June and July, causing severe casualties and tremendous damages in 11 provinces and municipalities in the south and along the Huai and Yangtze rivers. There were thousands of landslides in mountain areas and in the plains, the water level in the main rivers and their tributaries rose rapidly overflowing the embankments. Many cities have been flooded while thousands of villages have been submerged for days in flood waters that rose up to 4 meters.

Anhui, Jiangsu, Henan, Hunan, Hubei and Guizhou are among the worst affected provinces.

Rainstorms still continue in parts of the affected provinces, causing new casualties and damages. Medical teams have been sent among the evacuated people to treat the injured and those suffering illnesses such as diarrhoea, vomiting, coughs and colds and various skin diseases – the most frequently reported illnesses in the shelter camps. Meanwhile, large amounts of fast food, food rice, drinking water, medicine, water purifiers, fuel, clothing, blankets and tents are being delivered and distributed among the displaced people. However, in spite of all these efforts, food rice, drinking water, medicine, clothing, blankets, and materials needed to set up make-shift shelters are still urgently needed as the number of people needing assistance is so great.

ACT member the **Amity Foundation** is proposing an assistance programme for the most vulnerable families comprising: food rice, medicines, blankets along with rehabilitation of homes, schools and irrigation facilities in the most affected and comparatively poorer prefectures: Yunshang Prefecture in Anhui Province, Huai'an Prefecture in Jiangsu Province, and Xiangxi Prefecture in Hunan Province.

ACT is a worldwide network of churches and related agencies meeting human need through coordinated emergency response.

The ACT Coordinating Office is based with the World Council of Churches (WCC) and the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) in Switzerland.

Project Completion Date:

31 July 2004

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

	Amity	ACT Co-ordination	Evaluation	Total Target US\$
Appeal Target(s)	531,991	7,500	40,000	579,491
Less: Pledges/Contr. Recd.	24,213	0	0	24,213
Balance Requested from ACT Network	507,778	7,500	40,000	555,278

Amity is dealing with 2-3 emergency responses per year, in a very specific environment. Through each response Amity is learning new lessons regarding assessment, planning, actual implementation, monitoring and reporting. Amity has indicated that it would like to add also components like disaster preparedness and training, both related to the own organisation, the partner network and the affected communities. In consultation with the Amity, the ACT CO therefore wishes to conduct an evaluation of the different emergency responses done in the last few years, looking at the responses itself, the implementation set up with the local partners and governments, as well as the organisational capacity. The findings and recommendations are expected to assist both Amity and the ACT CO in strengthening the capacity of Amity. Therefore a budget component for both ACT evaluation and ACT Coordination are included within this appeal.

Thor-Arne Prois

Director, ACT

Full details of programme and budget are on following pages.

I. REQUESTING ACT MEMBER

- **The Amity Foundation**

II. 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-profit 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, on average, 2 to 3 emergencies a year. In major disasters, it starts with emergency assistance of 2 to 4 months followed by rehabilitation programs for a period of 1 or 2 years. When there is a need, and when resources are available, disaster mitigation and prevention programs are initiated to help reduce the effect of disasters on communities. Amity works in close collaboration with its local partners.

Description of ACT Implementing Partners

Amity implements its relief and rehabilitation programs in close collaboration with the **Overseas Friendship Association** – a people's organisation strongly supported by the Chinese government. It aims at promoting friendship and co-operation between Chinese people and people overseas. The Overseas Friendship Association has been a close partner of Amity in the fields of relief and rural development for the past 11 years and has gained comprehensive experience in relief activities.

III. DESCRIPTION of the EMERGENCY SITUATION

Background Information

Violent rainstorms repeatedly hit a vast area of China for about 24 days from June to July, bringing severe casualties and tremendous damages to a total of 11 provinces and municipalities in the south and along the Huai and Yangtze rivers. The rainfall ranged between 200 and 450 millimetres in a great many areas. Thousands of fatal landslides were induced in mountain areas. In the plains, the water level in the main rivers and their tributaries rose rapidly overflowing the embankments. Holes had to be blow in embankments and dykes to release some of the flood waters. Many river dykes collapsed under the pressure of the water resulting in widespread flooding. Many cities have been flooded while thousands of villages have been submerged for days in flood waters that rose up to 4 meters.

Anhui, Jiangsu, Henan, Hunan, Hubei and Guizhou are among the worst affected provinces.

Current Situation

Rainstorms still continue in parts of the affected provinces, causing new casualties and damages. Meanwhile, the water level in all of the middle and lower reaches of the river Huai and its tributaries either remain at high levels or above danger level. The flooded areas along these rivers can not be drained, therefore, the water logging is very serious in some areas covering hundreds of thousands of square kilometres. Of the 1,974 million evacuated people, 60% are sheltering in relatives' homes, 16% in public facilities such as schools, 5% in tents while the rest (19%) are living in simple make-shift shelters on dykes. Over a thousand medical teams have been sent among the evacuated people to treat the injured and those suffering illnesses such as diarrhoea,

vomiting, coughs and colds and various skin diseases – the most frequently reported illnesses in the shelter camps. Governments at different levels in Anhui, Jiangsu, Hubei and Henan have each allocated US\$7.63 million, US\$16.95 million, US\$1.82 million and US\$1.02 million respectively for flood control and emergency assistance within their own administrative areas. Meanwhile, large amounts of fast food, food rice, drinking water, medicine, water purifiers, fuel, clothing, blankets and tents are being delivered and distributed among the displaced people. However, in spite of all these efforts, food rice, drinking water, medicine, clothing, blankets, and materials needed to set up make-shift shelters are still urgently needed as the number of people needing assistance is so great.

Relief funds and materials are needed urgently. The China Red Cross Society has appealed for international assistance to help the flood victims in the disaster affected areas.

Impact on Human Life

The impact on human life is great. It is right in the middle of summer and temperatures can reach between 36 to 40 degrees centigrade. For the homeless and evacuated families, many of them still have difficulties in accessing proper shelters, regular meals, warm blankets and other life necessities. They are often exposed to the scorching sun and the cold intermittent rains along with the continual attacks by mosquitoes. Many people are becoming weak and sick in the poor and unsanitary living conditions.

Those people living in areas where there is serious water logging will have problems harvesting their crops. Many crops have been damaged or even destroyed after being submerged under the flood waters for such a length of time. Production in all the affected areas will be reduced by half or lost completely. Millions of people will suffer a lack of food rice for 4 to 6 months. Furthermore, as the flood waters rose so rapidly, people only had time to run for their lives leaving their belongings behind. Most possessions have been destroyed or damaged by the floods and there are many who will not be able to afford food rice and/or new seeds to plant let alone replace lost possessions without outside assistance.

Most of the affected communities are located in less or least developed, poor areas and their annual net income per capita is between 630 to 840 yuan (about US\$76 to 102). Without external assistance they will be unable to reconstruct their dwellings and will be forced to live in make-shift shelters or tents for many years.

The same problem will be encountered as regards collapsed community facilities like village schools, clinics, bridges and irrigation facilities. Village communities are obliged to pay half of the funds required to rebuild these facilities. As these villagers can not afford the amount required, the destroyed facilities may remain unbuilt for many years. The village children may have to have their classes in small dim tents, which are hot in summer and cold in winter. The villagers may find it hard to get medical treatment when they become sick. And the farm crops may not be properly irrigated in time of need. In the long run, the life of the people will be degraded and even threatened.

Description of Damages

Official statistics as received through OCHA as of 14 July, 2003:

- People affected: 130 million
- People killed: 338
- People affected by flood related illnesses: 77.759
- People evacuated: 3.17 million, including 1.15 million in Anhui, 740.000 in Jiangshu and 420,000 in Hunan.
- Farmland affected: 9.44 million hectares and 1.73 million hectares of crops destroyed.

- Housing units collapsed: 650,000 and
- Housing units damaged: 2.17 million room
- The direct economic loss is estimated at CNY 47.300 million (about US\$5,725 million).

Besides roads, communication, irrigation and power supply facilities and many other community facilities in the disaster affected areas were either destroyed or seriously damaged.

Note: due to the continued flooding and heavy rain the figures related to loss of live and damages are still increasing. Furthermore a powerful tornado struck Anhui, affecting 203,500 people and damaging 14,500 houses.

Locations for Proposed Response

Amity proposes responding to the emergency in the most affected and comparatively poorer prefectures: Yunshang Prefecture in Anhui Province, Huai'an Prefecture in Jiangsu Province, and Xiangxi Prefecture in Hunan Province.

Amity will focus its work on specific counties in the above named prefectures. The actual working places will be decided upon based on the main indicators related to the damages.

IV. GOAL & OBJECTIVES

Goal: to help meet the basic needs of about 9,000 homeless, displaced/evacuated and severely affected families in Yunshang Prefecture, Anhui Province; Huai'an Prefecture, Jiangsu Province and Xiangxi Prefecture, Hunan Province.

Objectives:

- To provide medicines for treatment of diarrhoea, vomiting, skin diseases and coughs amongst others.
- To provide 15 kilos of food rice to each of the 10,500 individuals in about 3,000 homeless, evacuated and severely affected families;
- To provide 2 quilts to each of the 9,000 homeless and evacuated families;
- To help repair houses for about 300 homeless families;
- To help rebuild houses for about 250 homeless families;
- To help rebuild 5 village schools;
- To help reconstruct 3 village irrigation facilities;

V. TARGETED BENEFICIARIES

Number and Type of Targeted Beneficiaries

About 31,500 people – men and women, old and young – around 9,000 families in Yunshang, Huai'an and Xiangxi prefectures will be the beneficiaries.

Criteria Utilized in Beneficiary Selection

- homeless families
- displaced or evacuated families
- families who have lost at least two thirds of their crops

The final selection of the families will be done based on a) assessment in the potential target villages, b) the actual damages suffered by the families and c) the amount of funding received, d) discussions and communications with the Civil Affairs Bureau responsible for the collection of data related to damages and the co-ordination for relief and rehabilitation activities.

VI. PROPOSED EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE & IMPLEMENTATION

- **Medicine** –for diarrhoea, vomiting, skin diseases , cold and water borne diseases common during flooding.

The local government has sent over a thousand medical teams to different resettlement points. Amity will work in collaboration with these teams in the selected target villages. The task of these medical teams is to assess what kind of medicines are needed and how much is needed. They will treat the patients in the target villages.

Each time a medicine is prescribed for a specific patient, not only the type and the number/amount of medicine is noted down but the patient, the doctor and the nurse who is treating the patient will all have to sign their names on the prescription. These prescriptions and receipts proving purchase will be examined and double checked by Amity personnel before reimbursement to the implementing partner.

- **Food rice** - locally produced, ordinary quality - 15 kgs of rice as the main staple food will be supplied to 10,500 individuals, village by village.

Amity will only provide food rice, the main staple, to cover the families' most basic food needs.

- **Blankets** – 1.8 meters wide, 2 meters long, made of cotton. 2 quilts will be provided to each of the 9,000 homeless families;

- **Repair and Reconstruction of Houses**

About 300 homeless families will be assisted in the repair of their houses and 250 families with the rebuilding of their houses. The actual assistance provided towards repair or rebuilding will depend on a survey of the extent of damage per house. The Civil Affairs Bureau will send an expert to carry out this survey. For rebuilding a standard design will be used with a floor space of about 80 to 100 m², built with bricks and cement.

People with professional skills from beneficiary families will be teamed up in small groups. These groups will be responsible for construction / repair of a number of houses. Beneficiary families are to provide the labour required to construct their houses. Technical staff from County Quality Control Bureau will visit the construction site to ensure quality control at all crucial stages. The construction could continue only when it is confirmed that technical specifications are met and quality requirements satisfied.

A total of 18,000 to 20,000 yuan (about US\$2,179 to 2,421) is required to rebuild a house described above. Of this total amount, the local government is to contribute 9,000 to 10,000 yuan (about US\$1,090 to 1,210). The beneficiary family will also contribute a small amount in addition to the used materials from the collapsed houses and the labour they have to offer in the construction of a house. Amity Foundation is planning to provide 4,000 yuan (about US\$484) per house. Amity will provide the contribution in cash and this will be released in stages to ensure that construction is completed as planned.

▪ **Reconstruction of Village Schools**

The reconstruction of schools is planned in 5 villages, which will be selected based on actual damage to the school buildings. A standard school consist of 6 class rooms and 2 teachers offices.

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

The standard school building has a floor space of 400 to 450 m² and costs between 260,000 to 290,000 yuan (about US\$31,477 to 35,109). Of this total amount, the local government will contribute half of the funds. The benefited communities will also contribute a small amount in addition to the labour and the used materials from the old school buildings. Amity Foundation is planning to provide 120,000 yuan (about US\$14,528) in cash per school. In order to ensure the success of the project and to maintain a good control of the fund, the Amity funds will be released in stages according to project progress.

▪ **Reconstruction of Village Irrigation Facilities**

Amity plans to assist 3 villages (to be selected on the basis of actual damage) with the reconstruction of irrigation facilities, consisting of a dyke and an acequia or irrigation ditch. The dyke will be 3 to 4 meters high, 5 to 6 meters wide, built with bricks and cements. The acequia will be 1.2 meters wide, 1 meter deep, and 500 to 700 meters long

Professional construction teams will be responsible for the construction of the irrigation facilities. The beneficiary communities will provide the labour required. Technical staff from the County Quality Control Bureau will visit the sites to ensure 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 an irrigation facility described above, a total of 140,000 yuan (about US\$16,949) is required. Of this total amount, the local government will contribute 60,000 (about US\$7,264). The benefited communities will also contribute a small amount in addition to the labour required. Amity Foundation is planning to provide 60,000 yuan (about US\$7,264) to help rebuild an irrigation facility. In order to ensure the success of the project and to maintain control of the funds, Amity will release funds in stages according to project progress.

Procurement

Relief materials will be purchased locally. In order to ensure the quality and to achieve cost effectiveness, 3 potential suppliers will be invited for quoted prices. The supplier will be determined based on comparison between the quality, the price, the supply period and the service they each offer.

Materials for reconstruction of houses, schools and irrigation structures will not be purchased by Amity or its partners but this will be contracted out to professional construction teams. They purchase the construction materials according to the quality specifications set before starting. There will be a contract between the construction team and Amity regulating the activities and the materials used.

Each time when the construction reaches the stages at which funds should be released, the experts from the county quality control bureau and our local partners will perform inspections on the quality and the materials used.

Transportation and Distribution

Relief materials will be transported from the supplier's warehouse first to the targeted townships, then to each of the targeted villagers. There, they will be distributed directly to the individual families. While relief materials are being distributed, beneficiaries will be required to sign their names and affix their seals on Amity Relief Material Distribution Registers prepared beforehand. The signed registers will then be put on the walls of Village Halls together with assistance and beneficiaries selection criteria for public surveillance. Purchase of the material is expected to include the transport from the supplier to the distribution points.

Implementation

For the emergency assistance, Amity will go to the target areas to train the local partners and involved local government staff on the criteria for selection of beneficiaries, target areas and suppliers. Amity will also train local partners about the purchase and distribution of the materials as well as monitoring and reporting. Amity project personnel will comprise two persons - one full time and one part time who will be assisted by long-term volunteers working with local partner staff.

Target areas in Jiangsu first will be assisted first followed by Anhui, and then Hunan.

Detailed information on the actual places and beneficiaries will be supplied in a revision and/or the reports.

Transfer from Emergency

After relief and rehabilitation is completed, Amity plans to introduce some disaster mitigation or preparedness programs to reduce the vulnerability of the community in the future.

VII. ADMINISTRATION, 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 during the whole operation process. It also ensures that relief funds are used as planned. In order to effectively implement the relief work, a local implementation group will be set up. The head of the County Overseas Friendship Association is the group leader. Representatives from relevant county departments, township departments, and target villages are group members. The implementation group is to report back on the actual situation in the target areas. It works with Amity to co-ordinate, design, and implement relief work, and to procure and distribute relief materials. In the course of implementation of relief work, adjustments will be made based on the feedback of the implementation group, consultations with different sources and the first hand information obtained from the field trips made by Amity relief staff. The associate general secretary in charge of Amity Projects Department supervises relief work and the Head of the Emergency Unit will co-ordinate the work.

Finance Management and Control

Amity Foundation is responsible for finance management. In order to make sure that relief funds are used as planned, it has been agreed between Amity and its local partner (Overseas Friendship Association) that Overseas Friendship Association will pay for the emergency relief materials first. They will then be reimbursed later when the relief materials are distributed and the receipts and invoices support the total amount requested.

- Purchase receipts (with tax bureau seals) provided by the suppliers which clearly states the total amount/number, the unit cost and the total cost of the bought materials.
- Receipts provided by 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 along with the numbers and types of the materials they received.

For construction of houses, village schools and irrigation facilities, it is agreed between Amity and its local partner (Overseas Friendship Association and the county government) 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 last one third be released when construction is completed and when all technical specifications are met and quality requirements satisfied.

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

Monitoring

Amity and its local partners will closely monitor the overall process of the relief work. As one of the measures taken to monitor the work, target townships and villages will be requested to make known assistance criteria, selection criteria, beneficiary families as well as the assistance they each shall receive. Both Amity and its partner will make field trips before, after and during relief and rehabilitation activities to visit the target families to check that all is proceeding as planned.

Reporting

Amity is responsible for preparation of all reporting.

VIII. IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE

The implementation period, which begins from appealing for emergency assistance in July and ends with the submission of an audit report, is estimated to last for about one year till August 2004.

IX. CO-ORDINATION

The department of Civil Affairs of Anhui, Jiangsu and Hunan are responsible for the overall relief work within their provinces. It maps out the overall disasters and needs in different prefectures and allocates financial and in-kind support from outside the province to different prefectures according to their needs. It also co-ordinates the activities of different relief agencies to avoid duplication of assistance. The Civil Affairs Bureau at prefecture and county levels work following the same pattern within their prefectures and counties to allocate financial and in-kind assistance to different counties and townships to avoid duplication of relief activities.

Amity co-ordinates with these civil affairs departments and its local partners for its relief activities.

X. BUDGET

INCOME	US\$
Hong Kong Christian Council (200,000)	<u>24,213</u>
TOTAL INCOME	24,213

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE

<u>Description</u>	<u>Type of Unit</u>	<u>No of Units</u>	<u>Unit Cost RMB</u>	<u>Budget RMB</u>	<u>Budget US\$</u>
Emergency Assistance					
medicine	lump sum			300,000	36,320
food rice	kilo	472,500	2	945,000	114,407
blankets	sheet	18,000	42	<u>756,000</u>	<u>91,525</u>
sub total				2,001,000	242,252
Rehabilitation					
repair of houses	number	300	1200	360,000	43,584
reconstruction of houses	number	250	4000	1,000,000	121,065
reconstruction of village schools	number	5	120000	600,000	72,639
reconstruction of irrigation facilities	number	3	60000	<u>180,000</u>	<u>21,792</u>
sub total				2,140,000	259,080
Administrative fee (staff salaries, office maintenance and supplies, etc.)				253,243	30,659
TOTAL EXPENDITURE				4,394,243	531,991
Less Income					<u>24,213</u>
BALANCE REQUESTED FROM ACT NETWORK				4,194,243	507,778

Exchange Rate: 1 USD = RMB 8.26

Note to the budget:

As usual a lumpsum, calculated as 7% of the project costs, is provided to cover the administration costs. This follows an agreement with the Donor Partners of the Amity Foundation and this formula is used for all the projects implemented by Amity.