

Preliminary Appeal

China

Assistance to Earthquake victims – ASCN82

Appeal Target: US\$ 1,475,617

Geneva, May 13, 2008

Dear Colleagues,

The massive earthquake of magnitude 7.8 that struck Central China at 14:28 on May 12th 2008, Beijing Time, hit mainly the Wenchuan County of Sichuan Province, but some other provinces such as Gansu, Qinghai, Guizhou, Ningxia, Henan, Shanxi, Sha'anxi, Beijing and Jiangsu, were also affected with different levels of tremor.

Casualties have increased to at least 12,000 people, with more than 18,000 believed to be trapped in rubble. In some areas 80 percent of all buildings have collapsed and officials estimate that 3.5 million homes have been destroyed.

Heavy rainfall, power outages and impassable roads are slowing the rescue work. Doctors and other emergency workers were forced to walk to the epicenter, which they eventually reached 24 hours after the quake. Military officials have deployed approximately 50,000 troops to assist local emergency services. Trains carrying relief aid have begun to make their way to the affected areas, carrying more than 50,000 tents, fuel and numerous other relief materials.

ACT International member **Amity Foundation** is responding to the quake. Amity has deployed staff to the affected region and is coordinating their response with local partners. The areas of Gansu and Sha'anxi, especially Sichuan, are being targeted as they are the most severely affected areas, which induced large losses. Amity will focus its relief on approximately 8,000 families whose homes are destroyed and are among the most vulnerable communities.

In this crisis phase, Amity expects to ensure:

- 16,000 of the most vulnerable individuals have sufficient food (15 kilos of rice/person) to tide them over the immediate emergency period of food shortage
- 8,000 poor families have sufficient added protection through the provision of a quilt

- 8,000 homeless families have sufficient added protection to survive the bad weather conditions (weather forecast shows that heavy rains is expected in following two days in quake center areas) through the provision of a sheet of plastic cloth.

Following the crisis, Amity will assist in re-building by assisting with rehabilitation of 600 houses that were destroyed or severely damaged, construction of 10 schools, rebuilding five hospitals or clinics, rehabilitating five drinking water or irrigation systems. This appeal is issued as a preliminary appeal. Once the detailed assessments are finalized, Amity Foundation will be submit a full appeal in the coming weeks.

Project Completion Date: 30 April 2009

Reporting schedule:

Interim narrative & financial: 30 November 2008

Final narrative & financial: 30 June 2009

Audit: 31 July 2009

Summary of Appeal Targets, Pledges/Contributions Received and Balance Requested (US\$):

Appeal Target:	1,475,617
Less: Pledges/Contr Recd:	<u>0</u>
Balance Requested from ACT Alliance:	1,475,617

Signed by:

Robert White

Deputy Director, ACT Co-ordinating Office

I. REQUESTING ACT MEMBER

- The Amity Foundation

II. IMPLEMENTING ACT MEMBER & PARTNER INFORMATION

The Amity Foundation, an independent Chinese voluntary organisation, was created in 1985 on the initiative of Chinese Christians to promote education, social welfare, health, rural development, emergency relief and rehabilitation programmes.

Amity has been engaged in relief work for the past 20 years and has established a nation-wide relief network through its local partners and churches. Amity handles, on average, two or three emergencies a year. For major disasters, Amity starts with emergency relief assistance of two to four months followed by rehabilitation programs for a period of one or two 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:

The Zhigong Party: composed of representatives from high class of returned overseas Chinese and their families and other people with overseas relationship. Zhigong Party was founded in October 1925 in Los Angeles, USA. Zhigong Party of Sichuan Province is the main local partner of Amity Foundation, having worked together for nearly 10 years in the field of education, emergency relief, poverty reduction, and environmental protection.

Gansu Overseas Friendship Association: the main partner of Amity Foundation, having worked together over 10 years on project implementation, involving in micro-credit, environment protection, education, water cistern, emergency relief etc.

Sha'anxi Christian Council: has a long history cooperation with Amity on project implementation. It works closely with provincial government and local churches, which enables a good project implementation. The project implemented in Sha'anxi was mainly drinking water and biogas system.

III. DESCRIPTION OF THE EMERGENCY SITUATION

At 14:28 on May 12th 2008, Beijing Time, the earthquake with the magnitude 7.8 hit Wenchuan County of Sichuan Province. The quake's epicenter is located at north latitude 31.0°, east longitude 103.4°. Except Sichuan, other provinces and autonomous region, including Gansu, Qinghai, Guizhou, Ningxia, Henan, Shanxi, Sha'anxi, Beijing, and Jiangsu, etc, are also affected with different level of tremor. Until 17:28 on May 12th, a total of 577 times of aftershock happened with the biggest magnitude of six. In Wenchuan County, the quake center, number of aftershocks has increased to 1955 times! According to the introduction of researcher Mr. Zhang Guomin from Earthquake Prediction Research Institute under China Earthquake Department, the earthquake in Wenchuan happened 30 km under ground, belonging to the shallow earthquake with severe damage capacity.

According to the statistics of Ministry of Civil Affair, up to 16:00pm on May 13, over 12,000 persons were killed in 8 provinces including Sichuan, Gansu, Sha'anxi, Chongqing, Yunnan, Sha'anxi, Guizhou, and Hubei, other 26,206 were injured, with about 94,000 people are believed to be still buried under rubbles. The public facilities including school, hospital, and roads were severely damaged, especially the six counties including Wenchuan, Lixian, Beichuan, Maoxian, Dujiangyan, and Mianzhu in Sichuan Province, as well as Longnan city in Gansu Province and Baoji city and Hanzhong city in Sha'anxi Province. Due to the cut-off transportation and communication systems in Lixian and Maoxian, the damage in these areas is still unclear.

As at 19:00 on May 13th, casualty statistics are reported as followed:

1. Sichuan Province

County	Death	Injured	Missing/Buried under ruins	Other information
Beichuan - the whole county has been swept and almost all the buildings collapsed	2,648	7,695	-	-
Wenchuan - the county has been isolated from the outside world due to transportation or communication break down	-	-	60,000	Two-third of the buildings collapsed or are badly damaged.
Mao	27	327	4	More comprehensive casualty statistics are unavailable because of electricity, transportation, and communication break-down
Dujiangyan - the whole city is almost ruined in the disaster	-	-	1,000 teachers and students in Juyuan Middle School are buried in the ruins.	58 teachers and students saved.
Mianzhu	2,395	More 10,000	4,800	Three towns in the mountainous area have been isolated from the world outside because of cut-off roads. Valleys and watercourses are badly blocked, and there is heavy potential danger of flood disasters.
Li County	-	-	-	Casualty statistics are unavailable because of electricity, transportation, and communication break-down.

2. Gansu Province: 206 people died, and 2,179 are injured.

3. Sha'anxi Province: 103 people died, and 893 are injured.

The project activities being implemented

Support from government and people from all circle of life

To fight against the earthquake disaster in Wenchuan County of Sichuan Province, National Disaster Alleviation Committee and Ministry of Civil Affair instantly launched the national emergency relief response of level two at 15:20 on May 12th according to the *contingency plan of national disaster relief*. Later on, the response was

upgraded as the level-one response at 22:15 on May 12th. A total of CNY 200 million Yuan (equivalent to US\$ 28,558,373) as living subsidy emergency fund from central government was instantly released that night in order to help the people in the disaster area to solve the difficulties of living.

At the same time, people from all circle of life actively donated money and material to those affected by the disaster. Medical workers, soldiers, policemen and the workers of telecommunication and road emergency repair were immediately engaged in the work of casualty rescue and equipment emergency repair. It is the most important in the emergency relief work that the life security of people in disaster area, the medical insurance, and the transportation channels of emergency relief material are put in place.

The relief work done by Amity Foundation

After the earthquake, Amity immediately launched the emergency response; a special work group had been established. Amity has also decided to release CNY 1 million Yuan (equivalent to US\$142,857) of emergency fund to Sichuan disaster areas to meet the urgent needs those affected. Amity staff arrived in Sichuan in the afternoon of May 12th to collect firsthand information, conduct the assessment work, and discuss the emergency relief work with local partners. An Amity Project Office for Disaster Program was set in Sichuan Province, and the purchasing of emergency materials is in progress now.

IV. TARGET BENEFICIARIES

Location for Proposed Response

Amity plans to provide assistance in the following locations:

- Counties of Wenchuan, Lixian, Beichuan, Maoxian, Dujiangyan, and Mianzhu in Sichuan Province
- Longnan city in Gansu Province
- Baoji city and Hanzhong city in Sha'anxi Province

The areas of Gansu and Sha'anxi, especially Sichuan were chosen as they are the most severely affected areas, which induced large losses.

Amity selects its target areas according to the disaster situation, local capacity and its own capacity. Among the target areas Amity will prioritize Sichuan followed by Gansu and Sha'anxi.

Criteria used in the selection of beneficiaries

- Families whose house have collapsed or are severely affected, becoming uninhabitable. Although quite a lot of tents have been provided to locals, most people can only live outside.
- Families who lost at least two thirds of their production materials.
- Families that are among the poorest or most vulnerable people.

Beneficiaries are selected according to Amity's Basic criteria of beneficiary selection in relief work. For each activity, there may be different item. For example, the provision of quilts is for those living in cold areas while the distribution of rice is to benefit those facing food shortage.

V. PROPOSED EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE & IMPLEMENTATION

Goal & Objectives

Goal:

- To alleviate the suffering of 8,000 families rendered homeless and severely affected by the earthquake in Amity target areas to enable them to return to a normal life as quickly as possible.

Due to the earthquake, many houses which collapsed or ruined, tens of thousands victims have to live in open air and they badly need temporary shelters and warm materials like quilts; the collapse of houses and damage of equipment in the disaster areas have resulted in food and drinking water difficulties. As a second step, an important rehabilitation work for local communities is necessary.

Objectives:***Crisis Phase (life-saving)***

- 16,000 of the most vulnerable individuals have sufficient food (15 kilos of rice/person) to tide them over the immediate emergency period of food shortage.
- 8,000 poor families have sufficient added protection through the provision of quilts.
- 8,000 homeless families have sufficient added protection to survive the bad weather conditions (weather forecast shows that heavy rains are expected in the next two days in quake center areas) through the provision of colored plastic sheeting.

Post-Crisis Phase

- Rehabilitation of 600 houses that were destroyed or severely damaged, to meet the basic habitat needs for the homeless people.
- Rebuilding of ten schools, so that students can take lessons in safe classrooms.
- Rebuilding of five hospitals or clinics to enable people take obtain medical and health service after shock, and receive relevant first aid knowledge through their doctors.
- Rehabilitation of five drinking water or irrigation systems, so that villagers get clean water, or can resume their production as quickly as possible.

Crisis Phase Assistance

Rice: a total of 240,000 kilos of rice will be distributed to 16,000 individuals. The rice will be from inland production and will be distributed to the people confronting food shortage and the problem of ruined living material by the earthquake.

Quilts: one quilt per family will be distributed to about 8,000 families. Each quilt is 1.8 meters wide, 2 meters long, cotton wadding and 3 kilograms in weight. The quilt will be bought locally and will be distributed to those living in harsh environment without capacity to buy warm material, suffering from coldness, and whose house collapsed and furniture was ruined. Each household will receive one or two sets of quilts.

Colored Plastic Sheeting: one piece of color plastic cloth will be distributed to 8,000 families. Each household with 40 m² will receive one piece of plastic cloth in order to meet the demand of temporary lodging of victims. The color plastic cloth will be distributed to families without living place or living in harsh environment due to the collapsing of houses.

Post-Crisis Phase Assistance (Rehabilitation)

Reconstruction of Houses: there is an urgent need for assistance in terms of rehabilitation of houses as the most vulnerable families will be unable to reconstruct their homes without help. Amity has planned to assist 600 of the most vulnerable families with the rebuilding of their houses, mainly in Sichuan.

The reconstruction of the houses will follow a standard design. Each house will have a floor space of at least 60 m² and with the rising cost of construction material, the cost of one 60 m² house will be at least RMB48,000 (around USD 6,857).

Of the total amount needed to reconstruct a house, the local government will contribute RMB5,000 to 8,000 (around US\$ 735– 1,176). The beneficiary families will also contribute half of the required costs in addition to the materials that will be recycled from the collapsed houses. The families will also provide the labour needed in reconstruction. Amity Foundation is planning to provide RMB5,000 to 8,000 (around US\$ 735– 1,176) per house.

Amity's implementing partner, Zhigong Party in Sichuan Province, will provide technical expertise and carry out quality control of the construction work.

Reconstruction of School Building: many school buildings collapsed in this disaster, therefore this project will aim to help carrying out the construction work of school building for those regions that are not able to raise funds for school building construction.

The school construction will follow the standard design to ensure the quality of the project. A school building will be about 500 m², and the cost for each building will be RMB400,000 (around US\$ 58,823). The local government will provide matching fund for each building with RMB200,000 (around US\$ 29,412), and Amity Foundation is planning to provide RMB200,000 (around US\$ 29,412) for each building.

Reconstruction of Hospital or Clinic: due to the severe earthquake, many hospitals or clinic buildings have collapsed. This project aims to help carry out the construction work of hospital or clinic buildings for those communities that are not able to raise funds for the construction.

The construction of a hospital or clinic will follow the standard design in order to ensure the quality of the project. The average cost for each building will be RMB200,000 (around US\$ 29,412). The local government will provide matching fund for each building with RMB100,000 (around US\$ 14,706), and Amity Foundation is planning to provide the RMB 100,000 (around US\$ 14,706) for each building.

Reconstruction of Drinking Water and Irrigation System: in this disaster, many equipments for drinking water and irrigation have been destroyed, hence the urgency for them to have clear water and irrigation water in the near future for production recovery.

To address safety issues regarding drinking water, Amity plans to assist in the rehabilitation of 5 water facilities. For each water facility, Amity will assist with RMB100,000 (around US\$ 14,706). The remaining costs will be covered by the local governments and people will contribute by providing labour.

Procurement

Relief materials will be purchased locally. In order to ensure the quality and to achieve cost effectiveness, three potential suppliers will be invited to give quotes. The choice will be based on a comparison between the quality, price, supply period and service offered.

Prioritisation

Should the appeal target not be reached, the prioritisation will be set in the following order: distribution of emergency relief items, houses and schools, drinking water or irrigation systems, and hospital or clinics.

Approach

In Amity's project management principle, relief work does not simply mean providing materials, money or other emergency relief items, but also taking into consideration the situation of the communities as a whole. Amity is operational in many other areas such as education, social services, health, and rural development from China's coastal provinces in the east to the minority areas of the west. Amity's emergency relief activities are therefore linked with other activities in the areas of intervention or with activities/services provided by the authorities or other organizations.

Amity also supports a participative approach in its work as it is felt that the beneficiaries themselves are capable and should be responsible to help themselves as much as possible. Furthermore, Amity believes that the opportunity to participate in project management provides the necessary experience for the beneficiaries to improve their awareness and ability for community management.

Implementation Schedule

May 2008 to April 2009.

VI. ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

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 and it checks that the relief funds are used as planned. In order to effectively implement the relief work, Amity will work through a local partner organisation, or set up a "project office" partner, which will be responsible for co-ordinating resources. This partner will provide information on the actual situation in the target areas. It will work with Amity to co-ordinate, design, and implement relief work, and to procure and distribute relief materials. In the course of implementation, 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 management of the finances and accounts. In order to ensure that the relief funds are used as planned, it has been agreed with Amity's local partners that they will pre-finance the purchase of the emergency relief materials. They will then be reimbursed later by Amity when the relief materials have been distributed and when the following receipts have been received and checked.

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

For construction of houses, village schools and irrigation facilities, it is agreed between Amity and its local partners that 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 will be released when construction is completed and when completion inspection shows that all technical specifications are met and quality requirements satisfied.

Jiangsu Huahong Certified Public Accountants will audit this appeal. They will follow the procedures and regulations set by the Central Government. For disaster rehabilitation projects, local partners are required to send an auditor's report to Amity on the project.

Amity's local partners will provide copies of receipts and accounts, as well as project tools such as distribution rosters, reports and documents on the construction projects to the auditors. The auditor will also conduct a field visit to audit the partners' accounts and project management.

VII. MONITORING, REPORTING & EVALUATIONS

Monitoring

Amity and its local partners will closely monitor the overall progress of the relief work. One of the measures taken to monitor the work is that the beneficiary townships and villages will be requested to make public the criteria for selection and assistance, the beneficiaries and the assistance received by each. Furthermore, Amity and its local partners will monitor the relief and rehabilitation activities through regular field visits to ensure that the funding and relief items are distributed as planned.

Local partners have been working for a long time with Amity. They are fully aware of Amity's principles of project implementation as well as planning, monitoring and evaluation systems. These include adherence to the Red Cross Code of Conduct and a participatory approach to the projects. Over the past few years, Amity put an emphasis on strengthening the capacities of its own staff and its local partners, in particular on the topic of PME, on which several trainings were carried out.

In delivering support to the targeted beneficiaries, Amity and its local partners are concerned about meeting people's basic requirements regarding water supply and sanitation, food and nutrition, shelter, health services etc. and therefore the Sphere handbook is consulted regularly within Amity's emergency response.

Amity puts gender equality as a basic principle in its work and is aware of the ACT Code of Conduct on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse. Amity staff and Amity's partners are aware that their action is part of an ACT International Alliance response to the emergency. Efforts are being made to ensure compliance with the ACT policies, by Amity and its partners. Matters regarding compliance of Amity's local partners to the ACT policies will be included in the Memorandum of Understanding which are being worked on.

Reporting schedule for ACT:

- Interim narrative and financial reports due at ACT CO by 30 November, 2008 - within one month following mid-term of project.
- Final narrative and financial reports due at ACT CO by 30 June, 2009 - within two months of end of project.
- Audit report to be received by ACT CO no later than 31 July, 2009 - within three months of end of project.

Communications

In responding to emergencies through an ACT appeal, members of the Alliance must, as agreed upon in the Cooperation Agreement, profile ACT actions and the uniqueness of the Alliance.

To do so requires appropriate, effective and strategic communications, which includes the following:

- photographs, feature articles and updates illustrating and documenting the humanitarian response as it pertains to this appeal
- ACT visibility materials as appropriate, given the emergency situation and sensitivities related to humanitarian responses. These may include banners, flags, stickers, vests, jackets, t-shirts, chemises, caps, hats, bags, pens, registration cards etc.

All communications materials must adhere to the Code of Conduct as stipulated in the ACT Communications Policy.

VIII. CO-ORDINATION

Amity will work in close collaboration with the local government authorities. Amity will not only work with the local government departments, but will also work with the local Christian Councils as well. Amity has set up a co-ordination task force or co-ordination team to respond to this disaster. This co-ordination task force comprises of Amity staff, local overseas Friendship Association, local Christian Councils, and Amity local project partners. All information related to this appeal will be discussed and shared among the task force members to ensure smooth running of the projects.

IX. BUDGET

Description	Unit	Quantity	Unit Price (CNY)	Total (CNY)	Total (USD)
Emergency Assistance					
Rice	Kilo	240,000	4	960,000	141,176
Quilts	Sheet	8,000	145	1,160,000	170,588
Colored Plastic Sheeting	Sheet	8,000	50	400,000	58,824
Sub Total				2,520,000	370,588
Rehabilitation					
Houses	House	600	6,000	3,600,000	529,412
Schools	Unit	10	200,000	2,000,000	294,118
Hospital/Clinics	Unit	5	100,000	500,000	73,529
Water/Irrigation Systems	Set	5	100,000	500,000	73,529
Sub Total				6,600,000	970,588
Audit Fee				2,000	294
Administration Fee (includes staff salaries, field visit, office expenditure)				912,200	134,147
TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE				10,034,200	1,475,617
Exchange Rate: 1 USD = 6.8 CNY					
Administrative Costs = 10% of Project Costs					