



## **Thailand Central Region and Bangkok Floods Response**

### **#1 / 90-Days Response Report**

#### **Overview of the Disaster**

In late July 2011, the Tropical Storm Nock-ten and the seasonal southwest monsoon caused torrential rain and widespread flooding in the Northern and North-eastern regions of Thailand. In early October, Tropical Storm Nalgae brought additional heavy precipitation, affecting the Northeast, Central and metropolitan Areas of Thailand and worsening the floods. The floods, which have already affected 58 of Thailand's 77 provinces, have been declared the worst in over 50 years.

According to statistics released by the Flood Relief Operations Command, 815 people have been killed by the flooding and 13.6 million people across 65 provinces have been affected. In addition, 2,078,400 hectares of farmland was inundated and 94 million heads of livestock were affected. As of December 2011, the flooding had caused an estimated USD45.7 billion in economic losses.

“Many more people are affected than in the 2004 tsunami. With the tsunami, recovery and rehabilitation could start immediately. But with this disaster, two and a half million people have been waiting, for weeks, for water to recede to move back into their homes, to rebuild their lives and find some level of normalcy,” World Vision's Weerapong Hasitavej who oversees community programmes in Bangkok commented.

#### **World Vision's Disaster Response**

World Vision is primarily responding in its programme areas where the Thai government aid has yet to reach residents. In the first 90 days, this response has benefited 87,000 people, including those in Thailand's Uthaitani province where World Vision distributed more than 1,000 survival kits, comprising rice, drinking water, tinned fish, tinned pickles and bottled juice. In Chantaburi province, southeast of Bangkok, blanket and mosquito nets were distributed.

In total, with the support of international donors, the following items distributed as part of the disaster response:

- 14,890 survival kits
- 7,600 food packs
- 5,000 cleaning kits
- 5,994 hygiene kits
- 2,274 lifejackets
- 122 boats
- 8,136 cooked meals
- 96 kits for children under 5

Additionally, 11 Child-friendly Spaces were also established to ensure the safety and well-being of children affected.

### **Story: Will I be able to continue my studies?**

Nampeung (10) was worried that she might not be able to go back to school again because her grandmother lost everything and the crops were all damaged in the floods. After the waters receded, her grandmother might incur more debts to repair her home. “I could not stop crying. Our banana orchard was totally inundated. We have nothing left anymore. I cried for my grandmother as she did not know what to do,” Nampeung said with a shaky voice.

The survival kit from World Vision was a valuable gift that has greatly helped to wipe away the girl’s and grandmother’s tears during their difficult days. Nampeung’s strength of heart was considerably restored. The activities that World Vision conducted at the Child Friendly Space also helped to reduce stress caused by the floods. Nampeung joined in the activities every day for the last eight days. She has made new friends, eaten food and snacks, received books and stationery as gifts that she brought back with her every time.

“I’m happy and my grandmother is also happy that I joined in the activities here. I want to thank World Vision for coming in to help us. I have fun and I get to laugh as I play games. I have snacks to eat here. If it is possible, I want the waters to recede quickly because I want to go back to school.”



*Nampeung shows off the card that she made to thank World Vision staff for coming in and helping her.*

### **Moving forward**

Thank you for your generosity and love for children and their families in their time of greatest need. On behalf of beneficiaries from Thailand who may never have a chance to thank you personally, we would like to extend our sincere appreciation for your gift to send hope and help in this emergency.

The Survival Fund by World Vision Singapore allows us to reach out to disaster-stricken victims and is a way to allow us to stand in the gap while both bracing at-risk communities and providing relief to those recovering from disasters. To learn more, visit [www.worldvision.org.sg/disaster](http://www.worldvision.org.sg/disaster).