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# Typhoon Morakot Response

Providing for immediate needs and long-term recovery in Taiwan

A SPECIAL REPORT

For Investors Trust Assurance SPC  
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On the cover: A young girl plays at a Child-Friendly Space, and several new homes built with assistance from World Vision.

Above: Children enjoy their visit to a Child-Friendly Space.

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## The most seriously damaged counties



A higher standard.  
A higher purpose.



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## Thank you

World Vision joins the children and families of southern Taiwan in thanking the Investors Trust Assurance SPC for its generous grant of \$30,500 to help in emergency assistance and recovery efforts following Typhoon Morakot. The storm devastated communities and even completely destroyed some, making them uninhabitable. Your partnership with World Vision allowed us to come alongside thousands of typhoon survivors, bringing vital help, and, more importantly, hope.

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## Deadliest storm

Typhoon Morakot struck Taiwan on August 8, 2009. Its 90 mph winds and 109 inches of rain made it the deadliest typhoon to hit this island nation, taking 639 lives. According to World Vision assessments, the storm affected 28 townships, 56 villages, and approximately 200,000 people. Morakot flooded farmlands, wiped out businesses, and destroyed homes and infrastructure. Government estimates put property damage and other losses at \$3.3 billion.

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## World Vision's response

As Typhoon Morakot dumped torrential rains on the village of Laiji in Chiayi county, villagers worked feverishly to protect their homes from the storm. Despite their efforts, the merciless downpour brought mudslides that cut the village off from the rest of the world.

It was three days after the August 8, 2009, storm before Zhuang Wen-Hui, a World Vision social worker who lives in Laiji, was able to contact the World Vision office in Chiayi. Food supplies were low, and help was urgently needed. The following day, World Vision staff loaded provisions and emergency supplies onto four-wheel-drive vehicles and started off for the village. Because roads were destroyed and access to the village was cut off, 70 youth from Laiji made an arduous 12-hour journey on foot to meet up with the World Vision team and carry supplies back home.

The food delivered by World Vision energized the exhausted youth. "That had to be the most delicious food we ever had," said 20-year-old Du Kai-Sheng. "It was the first proper meal we had after so many days of instant noodles."

Just weeks later, World Vision was helping villages begin their rebuilding and recovery efforts. The typhoon tore through the village of Dashe, in Pingtung county, destroying nearly everything. There was no way to rebuild in its previous site, and villagers and officials settled on a new site at Majia farm in nearby Majia township, where construction of homes began in earnest. Thankful for assistance from World Vision, these hardworking people were eager to clear land and begin building new houses.

"We cannot rely entirely on World Vision for help," said Bai Chun-Xiang, chief of



*Seventy youth hiked miles to meet up with a team from World Vision that delivered emergency supplies for their village.*

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Homes and other buildings were torn from their foundations by raging waters fed by Typhoon Morakot.

Dashe. “It is our responsibility as villagers to rebuild our homes. We have to learn to depend on ourselves. We have the ability to do it,” she added.

### Timely and effective

World Vision staff in Taiwan was on the scene immediately with emergency supplies, and continues to assist typhoon victims as they rebuild their lives. Collaborative Home Building projects (partnerships with villagers and others to help families rebuild homes) in several communities have provided needed materials and supplies so villagers can work together to rebuild homes lost in the storm. Helping Taiwanese families help themselves has brought a needed sense of empowerment to people who watched helplessly as the storm washed away their homes and livelihoods.

Wu Dai-Yi is a retired army veteran who had never built anything. When a mudslide swept away his home, all he could do was watch, and lose hope. But since he joined the Collaborative Home Building project in his village of Jialan and became a team leader, he has built more than homes—he has built a sense of hope and accomplishment.

“Watching the completion of houses, block after block, has brought on an indescribable feeling of achievement and pride,” Wu said.

World Vision also is helping people recover lost livelihoods by setting up Livelihood Reconstruction Centers in six areas. These centers offer psychosocial care, education, job-skills training, and other assistance necessary to help people begin to generate income again after their farms and businesses were destroyed by the storm.

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## Accomplishments

A vital part of this work was made possible by Investors Trust Assurance SPC’s generous grant. Your donation, combined with those of other socially responsible and caring donors, has helped thousands of Taiwanese families survive, recover, and rebuild their lives. Many of these activities, such as home building and livelihood recovery, are continuing beyond this reporting period. We present this report on the Typhoon Morakot emergency response with great gratitude.

What follows are some of the accomplishments and activities your donation helped make possible between August 8, 2009, and March 31, 2010.

- 500 full-time staff members mobilized to distribute aid and support at shelters. They were aided by more than 3,000 volunteers.
- Emergency assistance was provided to 8,767 people in 46 shelters.
- 62,257 relief kits were distributed, providing food, water, clothes, cleaning materials, and personal care items, plus toys for children.
- 324 shelter boxes and 100 water survival boxes were delivered to heavily affected areas. They contained items such as tents, water purification tablets, and other emergency supplies.

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- 10 Child-Friendly Spaces were set up in six communities, providing 4,451 children with a safe place to play and participate in therapeutic activities.
- \$134,744 was provided in emergency cash assistance to typhoon survivors.
- \$940,130 was provided to meet educational needs and living expenses for children in need.
- 20 shelter houses and one shelter command center were set up in heavily affected areas.
- 65 transitional homes were built in Taitung county.
- 809 permanent homes were built in Taitung, Chiayi, and Pingtung counties.
- Five temporary classrooms were built in Pingtung county, and a student dorm was built for a junior high in Nantou county.
- A production and marketing unit was established in Kaohsiung county to help livelihood recovery.
- A contract was forged with a corporation to help farmers in Kaohsiung county plant mangos.
- The Agricultural Research Institute began teaching villagers how to cultivate peaches and preserve plum products.
- Three handcraft organizations were established in three villages to create new enterprise.
- Six Livelihood Reconstruction Centers were established in Kaohsiung, Pingtung, Chiayi, and Taitung counties.

# Milestones

## Typhoon Morakot Milestones

August 6, 2009	World Vision was put on high alert after the Central Weather Bureau issued a warning for Typhoon Morakot
August 8, 2009	World Vision began assessments in affected areas, and launched emergency relief operations. World Vision lost contact with 20 staff members working in affected rural areas.
August 10, 2009	Staff members who had been out of reach delivered updates from affected rural areas via radio or mobile phones. Staff directed rescue helicopters to designated locations to drop supplies, and launched relief operations in areas cut off by storm damage.
August 11, 2009	Prepositioned food supplies in World Vision warehouses were distributed to survivors still stranded in affected areas.
August 12, 2009	The first Child-Friendly Space was set up in the village of Jialan in Jinfong township. This was followed by nine more spaces. Emergency cash aid was distributed in Jialan.
August 13, 2009	Volunteers were recruited to work in affected areas.
August 18, 2009	Shelter boxes (tents and supplies) were provided to families in Taitung and Chiayi counties. In all disaster-stricken areas, World Vision began discussions with villages and local authorities on building temporary and permanent homes.
August 19, 2009	Approval was granted to build a permanent community for residents of Dashe village, Sandimen township, on the Majia farm in Majia township, Pingtung county.
August 21, 2009	Construction of temporary homes commenced in the Jieda section of Jinfong township, Taitung county.
August 27, 2009	World Vision announced a partnership with the Red Cross Society of the Republic of China to rebuild homes for typhoon survivors.
August 30, 2009	Displaced communities gradually began moving from emergency shelters to short-term shelters set up by the government. World Vision continued to provide service in the shelters.
September 29, 2009	Foundation work began on temporary homes in the Deqi section of Taimali township in Taitung county.
October 31, 2009	The first cluster of temporary housing was completed in Kieda, Jinfong township, Taitung county.

## Financial report

### Taiwan Typhoon Morakot Financial Report

Project	Expenses as of March 31, 2010	Budget
Village relocation or reconstruction	\$1,664,228	\$42,474,630
Community rehabilitation	4,834	1,135,743
Emergency cash aid	134,744	135,369
Social services to people in shelters	961	3,836
Living assistance for affected children	940,130	1,176,354
Psychosocial support for children	107,519	30,193
Community enterprise (livelihood recovery)	17,365	110,096
Family reconstruction	68,328	15,797
Mental health care	103,118	8,986
Administrative support	32,988	30,063
Food aid program	688,293	688,293
Holistic care for children	-	956,300
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,762,508</b>	<b>\$46,765,660</b>

# Photo gallery



*Typhoon Morakot caused extensive damage in many villages across southern Taiwan.*



*This model house on Majia farm at left represents the style of homes being rebuilt for the villagers of Dashe village in Pingtung county. World Vision helped build 809 permanent houses through March 31. Below are some of these homes under construction.*



*World Vision staff provided food and other emergency supplies to people who lost homes and belongings during the typhoon.*



*Children often are the most severely impacted by disaster. World Vision created 10 Child-Friendly Spaces, like the one at left, and brought other services, like the bookmobile above, to villages. Child-Friendly Spaces are established and operated in locations where children's lives have been, or are at risk of being, disrupted by natural disaster. They usually consist of tents managed by World Vision staff and community volunteers, where children can engage in activities—such as playing, drawing, singing, and sharing their feelings—that help them begin to return to a normal routine and overcome the emotional effects of a catastrophic event.*