

REPORT ON THE DISASTER RELIEF FUND 2010-11

INTRODUCTION

This report gives an account of the activities of the Disaster Relief Fund (the Fund) in 2010-11.

DISASTER RELIEF FUND

2. The Fund was established on 1 December 1993 following the introduction of a resolution under section 29 of the Public Finance Ordinance (PFO) into the Legislative Council (LegCo). It is to provide a ready mechanism for Hong Kong to respond swiftly to international appeals for humanitarian aid in relief of disasters that occur outside Hong Kong. With an initial appropriation of \$50 million from the General Revenue, the Fund is topped up at the start of each financial year and as necessary during the financial year, depending on calls for relief and the size of the Fund balance and commitments then.

3. As with all other funds covered by PFO, the Financial Secretary has been designated as the administrator of the Fund. The LegCo Finance Committee's approval is required for each disbursement exceeding the limit of the delegated power which, at present, is \$8 million. The Fund is audited by the Audit Commission annually and the audited accounts are submitted to the LegCo for information¹.

OPERATION OF THE FUND

Disaster Relief Fund Advisory Committee

4. A Disaster Relief Fund Advisory Committee (the Committee) comprising unofficial and official members was set up on 1 February 1994 to

¹ The Director of Audit submits a report on the accounts of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region to the LegCo every year. The accounts of the Disaster Relief Fund are included in that report.

advise on the policy and practices regarding disbursement of funds for disaster relief. It also advises on the size of grants made to recipients and monitors the use of grants. The current membership of the Committee is at **Annex A**.

Guidelines and Conditions for Approval of Grants

5. Grants from the Fund are only made in cases of a specific disaster, not for an on-going problem, and of such nature and scale that stimulates a response by the international community. To enable a fair and objective appraisal of applications for grants from the Fund, the Committee employs a set of guidelines and conditions, which are reviewed as when necessary, for approving the applications. These guidelines and conditions are at **Annex B**.

Monitoring the Use of Grants

6. To ensure that grants are only used for the approved purposes, the following measures are put in place to monitor the use of grants made to relief organisations –

- (a) the relief organisation should report to the Committee the critical project milestones, including the commencement date and completion date of a project, within one month from the respective scheduled date;
- (b) should there be signs of deviation from the approved targets, inclusive of the schedule, relief area, number of victims benefited, etc., the relief organisation is required to obtain prior approval from the Committee;
- (c) the relief organisation should submit an evaluation report and an audited account on the use of the grant within six months upon completion of the relief programme. The evaluation report submitted should comprise an overall assessment of the programme in terms of the number of victims benefited and the total time used to provide emergency relief to them. Other information such as a statement of need, project goal, relief items, timeliness of relief actions, coordination with other relief organisations, monitoring effort and project finance, etc. should also be provided, where applicable; and

- (d) the evaluation report and audited accounts are reviewed by the Secretariat of the Committee and the Audit Commission during the annual audit of the Fund to ensure that the grant conditions are complied with.

7. For grants made to governments outside the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, evaluation reports on the use of grants are normally called for from the recipient authorities. The disasters in such cases are usually severe, extensive and complex. As the recipient authorities have to focus their efforts on emergency relief work, the timeframe for their provision of evaluation reports is therefore not specified.

GRANTS APPROVED IN 2010-11

8. In the year 2010-11, 43 applications were received. Among them, 37 were approved; three were rejected and three withdrawn by the relief organisations. The total amount of grants approved is \$354.26 million. These programmes, which had met the guidelines for approval, are summarised as follows –

Relief programmes for –	Amount of grants made
* drought victims in Guangxi, Guizhou and Yunnan, Mainland	\$138.59 million
* earthquake victims in Qinghai, Mainland	\$117.64 million
* flood victims in Gansu, Guangxi, Hunan, Jiangxi, Shaanxi, Sichuan and Yunnan, Mainland	\$72.33 million
* earthquake victims in Yunnan, Mainland	\$3.3 million
* flood victims in Pakistan, India and Sri Lanka	\$12.25 million
* typhoon victims in the Philippines	\$3 million

Relief programmes for –	Amount of grants made
* earthquake victims in New Zealand	\$6.15 million
* earthquake/tsunami victims in Japan	\$1 million

A list of approved programmes is at **Annex C**.

EFFECTIVENESS OF THE GRANTS

9. The grants made in 2010-11 had achieved the purpose of the Fund which is to provide swift response to international appeals for humanitarian aid for relief to disasters that occur outside Hong Kong, as measured against the following review findings.

Processing Time of Applications

10. Our target application processing time is 12 working days from the date of receipt of full information from the applicant to the date of notification of the result. In 2010-11, all applications were processed within the target timeline. Excluding those applications withdrawn, the average processing time of the 40 applications processed was 3.13 working days.

Evaluation Reports from Grant Recipients

11. Relief organisations are required to submit audited accounts and evaluation reports within six months upon completion of the relief projects. In this regard, all the 29 reports due for submission in 2010-11 were received and examined by the Secretariat. All of these reports were accepted as they had satisfactorily met the following targets as prescribed in the applications for grants–

- (a) Use of grants – all grants were used for the designated purposes to cover the budget of relief programmes as approved and that prior approval from the Committee was obtained for changes in the use of grants. The condition that not more than 5% of an individual grant should be used to cover overheads or other administrative costs was met. Among the 29 relief programmes on which

evaluation reports had been accepted, 15 recorded a total of unexpended balance of about \$0.72 million which was returned to the Fund.

- (b) Number of beneficiaries – all relief programmes had achieved the originally proposed target number of beneficiaries. The 29 programmes in aggregate provided immediate emergency relief to some 1.1 million disaster victims. The relief items received by the beneficiaries ranged from food, drinking water, tents, blankets, folding beds, clothing, hygiene kits, medicines, cooking utensils to portable toilets.
- (c) Timeliness of project completion – all relief projects were delivered according to the approved schedules.

12. For grants made in 2010-11 with the evaluation reports due for submission in 2011-12, the Secretariat will monitor their submission and examine them upon receipt. The outcome of the examination will be reported in the next annual report of the Fund.

GRANTS APPROVED SINCE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FUND

Summary

13. By 31 March 2011, the Committee had received a total of 353 applications for grants from the Fund. Of these, 288, totaling \$1,436.63 million, were approved, representing a success rate of 81.59%. For the remaining 65 applications, 50 were declined as they did not meet the guidelines for approval and 15 withdrawn by relief organisations. A total of 15 relief agencies and seven governments/authorities had received the grants. The beneficiaries were mostly victims of earthquakes, tsunamis, floods, droughts/famines, and typhoons/cyclones. Relevant statistics are provided below.

Distribution of Grants by Recipients

14. A total of 15 relief agencies and seven governments had received grants from the Fund. The five non-governmental organisations which had received the largest amount of grants were Hong Kong Red Cross, Médecins

Sans Frontières, Oxfam Hong Kong, The Salvation Army and World Vision Hong Kong. They had altogether received \$512.24 million from the Fund, representing some 35.66% of the total amount approved. Statistics on distribution of grants by recipients are at **Annex D**.

Distribution of Grants by Countries/Geographical Regions

15. Some 78.56% of the total approved grants (amounting to \$1,128.58 million) were used for carrying out relief programmes in the Mainland; 16.66% (amounting to \$239.29 million) for programmes in other places in Asia. The remaining 4.78% (amounting to \$68.76 million) were for programmes in Africa, Latin America and Oceania. Statistics on distribution of grants by countries/geographical regions are at **Annex E**.

Distribution of Grants by Nature of Disaster

16. Around 34.38% (99 cases) of all programmes approved by the Committee were for the relief of flood victims; 33.33% (96 cases) for earthquake/tsunami victims; 10.42% (30 cases) for drought/famine victims, 9.38% (27 cases) for typhoon/cyclone victims; 7.99% (23 cases) for snowstorm victims and 4.51% (13 cases) for other disasters. Statistics on distribution of grants by nature of disaster are at **Annex F**.

Secretariat
Disaster Relief Fund Advisory Committee
June 2011

Disaster Relief Fund Advisory Committee
Membership
賑災基金諮詢委員會
成員名單

(with effect from 1 January 2011)
(由二零一一年一月一日起生效)

Chairman

Chief Secretary for Administration) *ex-officio*
政務司司長) 當然委任

Members

Prof the Hon Anthony CHEUNG Bing-leung, GBS, JP
張炳良議員，GBS，JP

The Hon V Nee YEH, JP
葉維義議員，JP

The Hon Mrs Sophie LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, GBS, JP
梁劉柔芬議員，GBS，JP

The Hon WONG Sing-chi
黃成智議員

Mrs Alice CHONG YUK Tak-fun, JP
張郁德芬女士，JP

Mr Leo KUNG Lin-cheng, JP
孔令成先生，JP

Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury) *ex-officio*
財經事務及庫務局局長) 當然委任

Secretary for Labour and Welfare) *ex-officio*
勞工及福利局局長) 當然委任

Secretary

Chief Executive Officer (Administration)
總行政主任(行政)

Guidelines for Grants from the Disaster Relief Fund

I. Coverage

- (1) Grants should only be made in cases of a specific disaster, not an on-going problem.
- (2) Grants should only be made in cases of disasters of such nature and scale that stimulate a response by the international community.

II. Assessment of Proposals

- (3) Grants should be made in response to-
 - (a) appeals made to the international community by a government or a relief organisation for disaster relief aid in the country or locality concerned; or
 - (b) applications submitted by a relief organisation for a disaster relief project being or to be carried out by the organisation. Retroactive funding is not supported.
- (4) The appeal/application should be based on humanitarian grounds. Political considerations will not be taken into account.
- (5) The appeal/application should have received a measure of public support in Hong Kong.
- (6) Any application by a relief organisation should be supported by a proposal outlining the nature and scale of the aid project, the number and type of beneficiaries and the size of grant required.
- (7) The relief organisation should have demonstrated a sound track record in providing similar types of disaster relief services and activities.
- (8) The size of the grant should be sufficient to make an impact.
- (9) When there is more than one application of a similar nature and for the same disaster, regard should be given to the likely number of beneficiaries, the promptness with which the relief may be provided and the nature of the relief to be provided.

III. Conditions of Grant

- (10) Individual grants should take the form of one-off cash payments.
- (11) The grant should be given to the government concerned or to a reputable relief organisation in the field.
- (12) Up to 5% of the grant may be used to cover overheads or other administrative costs. The rest should be spent entirely on disaster relief services and activities.
- (13) The government/relief organisation concerned should be required to submit an evaluation report and/or an audited account as appropriate to the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region on the use of the grant within a specified period.

Disaster Relief Fund
賑災基金
Grants approved in 2010-11
2010-11 年度批出款項
(1.4.2010 - 31.3.2011)

	Applicant 申請機構	Date of Approval 撥款日期	Beneficiaries 受惠人士	Nature of Programme 項目內容	Relief Areas 賑災地區	Grant Approved 批出款項 (\$million 百萬元)
1.	Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region 廣西壯族自治區	1.4.2010	Drought victims 旱災災民	Cash grant 現金	China - Guangxi 中國 - 廣西	40
2.	Guizhou Province 貴州省	1.4.2010	Drought victims 旱災災民	Cash grant 現金	China - Guizhou 中國 - 貴州	40
3.	Yunnan Province 雲南省	1.4.2010	Drought victims 旱災災民	Cash grant 現金	China - Yunnan 中國 - 雲南	40
4.	World Vision Hong Kong 香港世界宣明會	1.4.2010	Drought victims 旱災災民	Rice 食米	China - Guangxi and Yunnan 中國 - 廣西及雲南	2.8
5.	The Amity Foundation 愛德基金會	12.4.2010	Drought victims 旱災災民	Water, plastic buckets, water containers and food 清水、膠桶、儲水箱及食物	China - Guangxi, Guizhou and Yunnan 中國 - 廣西、貴州及雲南	3.42
6.	The Association of Chinese Evangelical Ministry 中國福音事工促進會	12.4.2010	Drought victims 旱災災民	Rice and plastic buckets 食米及膠桶	China - Yunnan 中國 - 雲南	1.24
7.	The Salvation Army Hong Kong and Macau Command 救世軍港澳軍區	12.4.2010	Drought victims 旱災災民	Rice and water 食米及清水	China - Yunnan 中國 - 雲南	6.74
8.	The Amity Foundation 愛德基金會	19.4.2010	Earthquake victims 地震災民	Quilts, bedding sheets, blankets, clothes, food, water and medicine 棉被、床單、毛氈、衣物、食物、清水及藥物	China - Qinghai 中國 - 青海	4.5
9.	Operation Blessing Hong Kong 慈福行動	21.4.2010	Drought victims 旱災災民	Corn 玉米	China - Guizhou 中國 - 貴州	0.25
10.	Qinghai Province 青海省	23.4.2010	Earthquake victims 地震災民	Cash grant 現金	China - Qinghai 中國 - 青海	100
11.	The Salvation Army Hong Kong and Macau Command 救世軍港澳軍區	23.4.2010	Earthquake victims 地震災民	Folding beds 摺床	China - Qinghai 中國 - 青海	7.24
12.	Oxfam Hong Kong 樂施會	23.4.2010	Drought victims 旱災災民	Rice 食米	China - Guangxi and Yunnan 中國 - 廣西及雲南	2.64
13.	World Vision Hong Kong 香港世界宣明會	23.4.2010	Drought victims 旱災災民	Rice 食米	China - Guizhou 中國 - 貴州	1.5
14.	World Vision Hong Kong 香港世界宣明會	30.4.2010	Earthquake victims 地震災民	Flour 麵粉	China - Qinghai 中國 - 青海	5
15.	Save the Children 救助兒童會	6.5.2010	Earthquake victims 地震災民	Household and hygiene kits 家居及衛生用品	China - Qinghai 中國 - 青海	0.3
16.	ADRA China 安澤國際(中國)救援協會	6.5.2010	Earthquake victims 地震災民	Cooking kit and stoves 食具及爐	China - Qinghai 中國 - 青海	0.3
17.	Social Workers Across Borders 無國界社工	11.5.2010	Earthquake victims 地震災民	Blankets and clothes 毛氈及衣物	China - Qinghai 中國 - 青海	0.299
18.	The Amity Foundation 愛德基金會	2.7.2010	Flood victims 水災災民	Rice, tents, nylon sheets, cooking oil, quilts and mosquito nets 食米、帳篷、帆布、食油、棉被及蚊帳	China - Guangxi and Hunan 中國 - 廣西及湖南	5.18
19.	The Salvation Army Hong Kong and Macau Command 救世軍港澳軍區	2.7.2010	Flood victims 水災災民	Rice, quilts, mosquito nets and sterilizing and disinfectant chemicals 食米、棉被、蚊帳及消毒劑	China - Hunan 中國 - 湖南	7
20.	World Vision Hong Kong 香港世界宣明會	2.7.2010	Flood victims 水災災民	Rice 食米	China - Hunan and Jiangxi 中國 - 湖南及江西	3
21.	The Association of Chinese Evangelical Ministry 中國福音事工促進會	9.7.2010	Flood victims 水災災民	Rice 食米	China - Jiangxi 中國 - 江西	1.07
22.	Oxfam Hong Kong 樂施會	9.7.2010	Flood victims 水災災民	Rice, cooking oil, quilts, clothes and cooking utensils 食米、食油、棉被、衣物及食具	China - Yunnan 中國 - 雲南	0.98

Disaster Relief Fund
賑災基金
Grants approved in 2010-11
2010-11 年度批出款項
(1.4.2010 - 31.3.2011)

	Applicant 申請機構	Date of Approval 撥款日期	Beneficiaries 受惠人士	Nature of Programme 項目內容	Relief Areas 賑災地區	Grant Approved 批出款項 (\$million 百萬元)
23.	World Vision Hong Kong 香港世界宣明會	6.8.2010	Flood victims 水災災民	Rice and quilts 食米及棉被	China - Shaanxi 中國 - 陝西	2
24.	The Amity Foundation 愛德基金會	11.8.2010	Flood victims 水災災民	Water, food, cooking oil, bedding sheets and medicines 清水、食物、食油、床單及藥物	China - Gansu and Sichuan 中國 - 甘肅及四川	3.1
25.	World Vision Hong Kong 香港世界宣明會	12.8.2010	Flood victims 水災災民	Family and kitchen sets, hygiene items and food 家居用品及食具、衛生用品和食物	Pakistan 巴基斯坦	3
26.	Oxfam Hong Kong 樂施會	18.8.2010	Flood victims 水災災民	Hygiene kits and family kits 衛生用品及家居用品	Pakistan 巴基斯坦	2
27.	Save the Children 救助兒童會	18.8.2010	Flood victims 水災災民	Shelter kits and hygiene kits 帳篷及衛生用品	Pakistan 巴基斯坦	0.3
28.	Save the Children 救助兒童會	18.8.2010	Flood victims 水災災民	Household kits and hygiene kits 家居用品及衛生用品	India 印度	0.3
29.	Gansu Province 甘肅省	19.8.2010	Mudslide victims 泥石流災民	Cash grant 現金	China - Gansu 中國 - 甘肅	50
30.	The Salvation Army Hong Kong and Macau Command 救世軍港澳軍區	1.9.2010	Flood victims 水災災民	Tents 帳篷	Pakistan 巴基斯坦	4.65
31.	World Vision Hong Kong 香港世界宣明會	29.10.2010	Typhoon victims 風災災民	Food, blankets, mats and mosquito nets 食物、毛氈、地蓆及蚊帳	The Philippines 菲律賓	3
32.	World Vision Hong Kong 香港世界宣明會	25.2.2011	Flood victims 水災災民	Food and corrugated tin sheets 食物及鐵皮屋上蓋	Sri Lanka 斯里蘭卡	2
33.	The Salvation Army Hong Kong and Macau Command 救世軍港澳軍區	14.3.2011	Earthquake victims 地震災民	Portable toilets 流動廁所	New Zealand 新西蘭	6.15
34.	World Vision Hong Kong 香港世界宣明會	21.3.2011	Earthquake victims 地震災民	Cooking oil, quilts, mats and mosquito nets 食油、棉被、地蓆及蚊帳	China - Yunnan 中國 - 雲南	2
35.	Save the Children 救助兒童會	25.3.2011	Earthquake victims 地震災民	Hygiene kits 衛生用品	China - Yunnan 中國 - 雲南	0.5
36.	The Association of Chinese Evangelical Ministry 中國福音事工促進會	25.3.2011	Earthquake victims 地震災民	Quilts 棉被	China - Yunnan 中國 - 雲南	0.8
37.	Save the Children 救助兒童會	25.3.2011	Earthquake victims 地震災民	Hygiene kits 衛生用品	Japan - Miyagi Prefecture and Iwate Prefecture 日本 - 宮城縣及岩手縣	1
Grand Total 總數						354.26

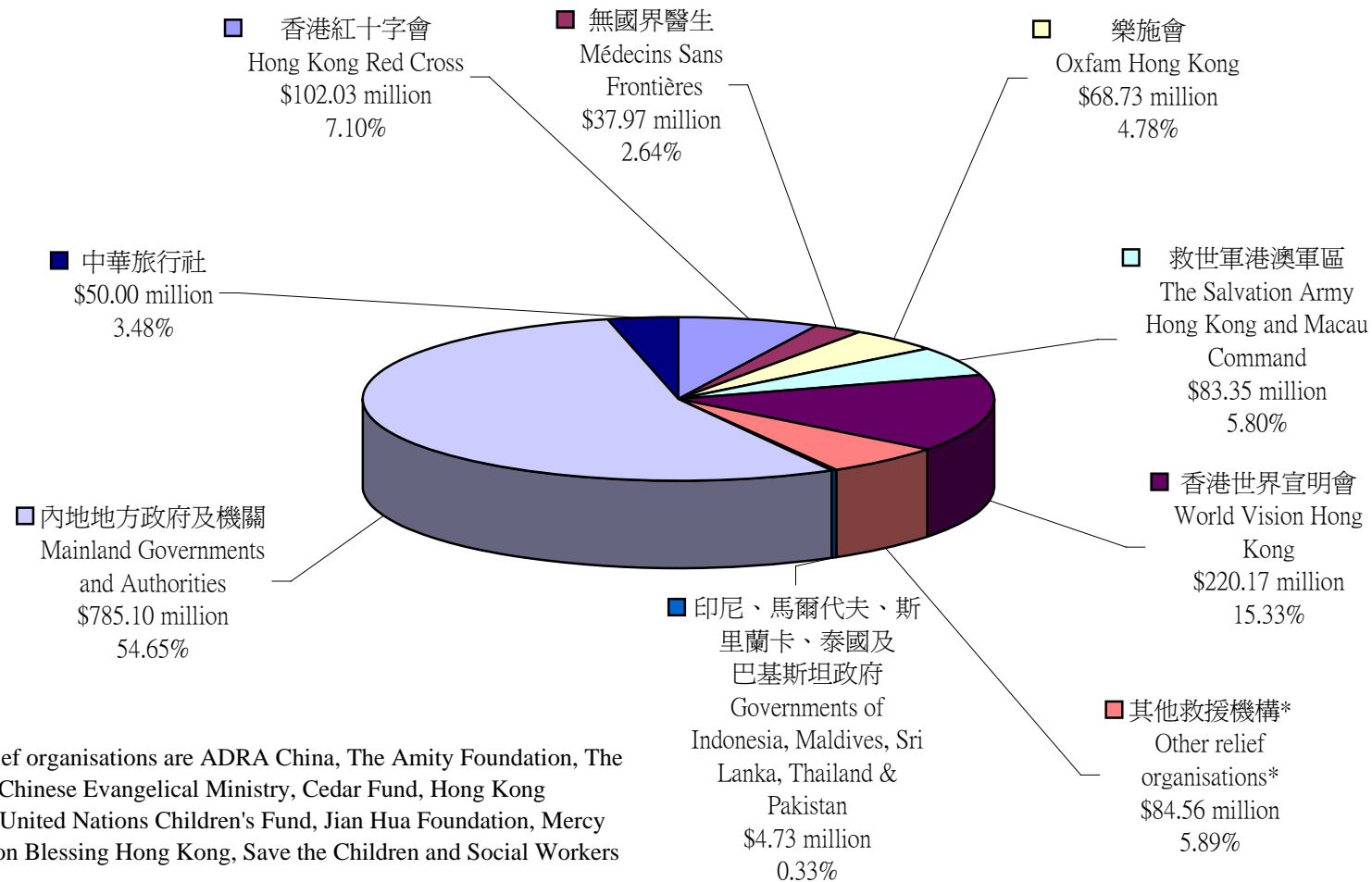
DISASTER RELIEF FUND (AS AT 31 MARCH 2011)

Annex 附件 D

賑災基金(截至2011年3月31日)

DISTRIBUTION OF GRANTS BY RECIPIENTS SINCE ESTABLISHMENT OF FUND (\$million)

由基金成立開始接受援機構／政府劃分的撥款金額(百萬元)



* The other relief organisations are ADRA China, The Amity Foundation, The Association of Chinese Evangelical Ministry, Cedar Fund, Hong Kong Committee for United Nations Children's Fund, Jian Hua Foundation, Mercy Corps, Operation Blessing Hong Kong, Save the Children and Social Workers Across Borders.

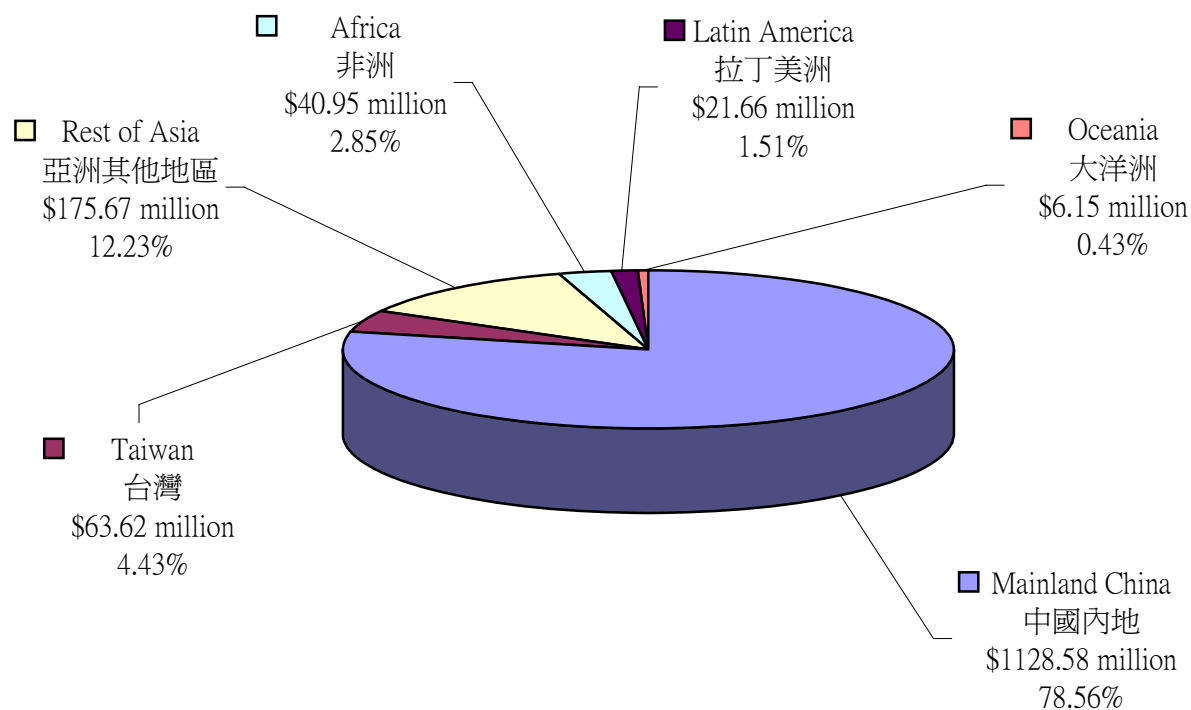
*其他救援機構包括安澤國際(中國)救援協會、愛德基金會、中國福音事工促進會、施達基金會、聯合國兒童基金香港委員會、建華基金會、國際美慈組織、慈福行動、救助兒童會及無國界社工。

DISASTER RELIEF FUND (AS AT 31 March 2011)

賑災基金 (截至2011年3月31日)

DISTRIBUTION OF GRANTS BY GEOGRAPHICAL REGIONS SINCE ESTABLISHMENT OF FUND (\$million)

由基金成立開始按國家/地區劃分的撥款金額 (百萬元)



DISASTER RELIEF FUND (AS AT 31 MARCH 2011)

賑災基金(截至2011年3月31日)

NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES APPROVED BY NATURE OF DISASTER SINCE ESTABLISHMENT OF FUND

由基金成立開始按災禍類別劃分的獲撥款賑災計劃