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Information bulletin no. 2 Italy: Earthquake

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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Date of disaster:
21 August 2017

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Host National Society: Italian Red Cross

This bulletin is being issued for information only and reflects the current situation and details available at this time.

The situation

On 21 August 2017, a 4.0 magnitude earthquake hit the island of Ischia as well as the near territorial Flegrea coast of Campania, in the province of Naples. The quake struck at 20:57 (18:57 GMT), at depth of 5 kilometres with epicentre five kilometres north-west of Monte di Procida. 31 aftershocks have been registered since then, all of them below 4.0 Richter magnitude. The origin of the earthquake is volcanic.

The municipalities of Casamicciola Terme and Lacco Ameno suffered the greatest damages as the seismic waves were amplified at these parts of the island. Several buildings collapsed or got destroyed as a consequence of the earthquake.



Italian RC volunteers coordination with local authorities. Photo. Source: Italian Red Cross

According to the general director of the local health authority, 39 persons got injured, 12 out of them are hospitalised. 2,600 persons got displaced (2,000 in Casamicciola Terme and 600 in Lacco Ameno municipality). Out of them, 1,051 people were transferred right after the earthquake during the night to Pozzuoli.

Two women are the confirmed victims of the quake, one of them was buried under the “Santa Maria del Suffragio” church, and the other died under the debris of a house. A third person is in critical condition and was transferred to the Cardarelli Hospital in Naples.

The local authorities were actively involved in the rescue activities. A 7-month old child was saved under the rubbles, as well as his parents, after the collapse of their house in the fraction of La Rita. His two brothers, respectively of 3 and 5 years, were detected under the debris and the rescuers worked along the night of 21 August and the morning of 22 August to secure the place before reaching them. Both of them were rescued safely.

The air force (Aeronautica Militare), the navy (Marina Militare) and the port authority (Capitaneria di Porto) were closely monitoring the possible landslides as an aftermath of the earthquake.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The **Italian Red Cross**'s Civil Protection Department summoned the **Operating Committee**, and three operations centres were established¹ to coordinate the rescue operations.

The National Society was coordinating and working closely with the Italian Civil Protection to assess damages and provide support to the affected population as required. The logistic centre in Avezzano was also alerted.

In the early morning hours of 22 August 2017, **18 volunteers from Ercolano and Naples were deployed** with a jeep and two minivans **to assist the transportation of the affected people from the island to the mainland**. In addition to the four volunteers present at the harbour of Pozzuoli, two volunteers were deployed to Naples's harbour to wait for the arrival the people displaced by the earthquake. The volunteers were involved in **First Aid and psychosocial support** activities. Several other volunteers were also on stand-by and ready to be deployed according to the needs.

In the morning of 22 August, a **shipment containing a mobile kitchen, four pneumatic tents, two jeeps, a minibus for transportation, a van and a work wagon** was deployed to the island.

In total, **40 volunteers** were actively involved in the operation.



Italian RC volunteers present in the ports. *Photo: Italian Red Cross*

Contact information

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2. Click [here](#) to see the map of the affected areas.

¹ Municipal operations centre (C.O.C. – Centro Operativo Comunale) in Casamicciola Terme; C.O.C. in Lacco Ameno and mixed operations centre (C.O.M. – Centro Operativo Misto) in Casamicciola Terme.

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, **encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



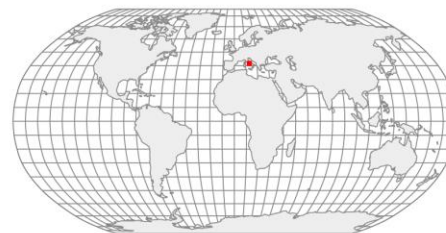
Save lives.
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.



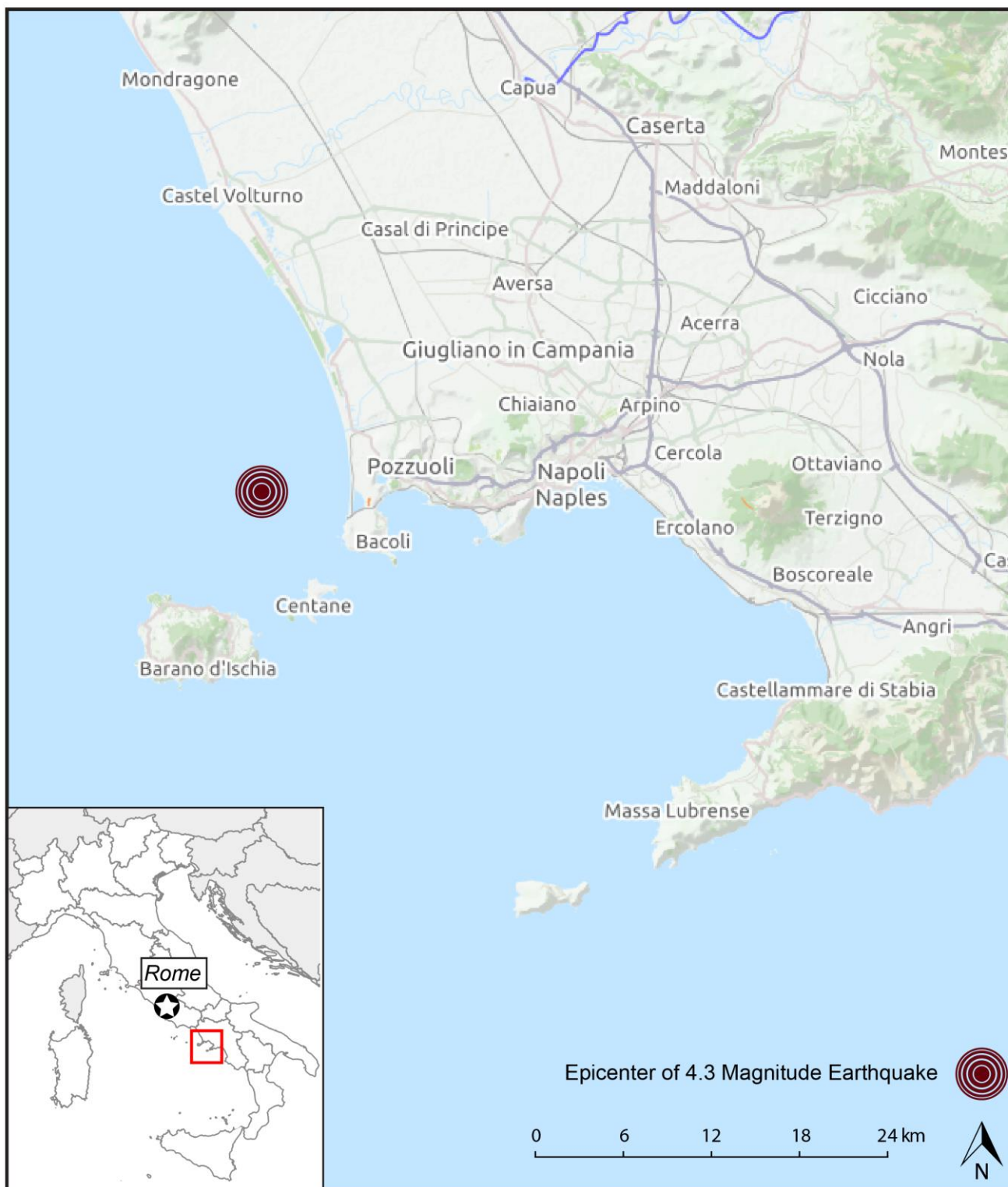
Promote **social inclusion**
and a culture of
non-violence and **peace**.



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The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.

Map data sources: USGS, GADM, OpenStreetMap, Italian Red Cross. Earthquake struck at 18:57 on 21 August 2017 (UTC).