

# DREF Bulletin Update



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies  
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge  
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja  
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

## CHILE: FLOODS

**MDRCL001**  
**Update no. 2**  
**1 August 2006**

*The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 183 countries.*

### In Brief

**Period covered by this update: 15-28 July 2006**

**History of this Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF)-funded operation:**

- CHF 130,000 (USD 105,284.47 or EUR 83,215.79) was allocated from the Federations DREF on 14 July 2006 to respond to the needs of this operation.
- This operation is expected to be implemented over a four month period, and will be completed by 14 November 2006; a DREF Bulletin Final Report (narrative and financial) will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 14 February 2007).

**The International Federation undertakes activities that are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".**

**Global Agenda Goals:**

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

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All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGOs\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

*For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for*

*national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>*

## Background and current situation

The strong rains and gusty winds that have affected 7 of the 13 regions of Chile called for the declaration of a Yellow Alert in five Regions – including the IX Region - and a Red Alert in two – including the VIII Region, which was declared a “disaster zone” by the nation’s President.

All the Regions are still monitoring early warning systems with the support of the Civil Protection in anticipation of needs arising from the rains.

Bad weather has caused interruptions to the railway service on the Talca - Constitución section due to subsidence on kilometres 45 and 536, between the communities of Coigüe and Santa Fe, as a result of the Bío Bío river having burst its banks and seriously eroding the embankment. In the sectors of Leonera and Hualqui, there are 25 spots on the railway line that have been affected.



**Floods in the VIII Region of Bío Bío**

Water has subsided in some sectors and the Bío-Bío Regional Committee of the VIII Region, the Chilean Red Cross and the regional National Emergency Office (ONEMI) have been evaluating the inclusion of the community of Laraquete and other isolated communities of the mountain range in the plan for assistance.

The IX Region has seen a decrease in water levels, and local authorities are working on a new survey to determine the number of people still affected. This activity has become complicated by the fact that snow has started to fall and some communities are blocked off.

In the X Region, although the situation is now relatively stable, four rivers have burst their banks, namely the Forrahue, Negro, Unión and Radimari. Due to these new events, the Chilean Red Cross (CRC) has performed a Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA) and identified that 26 families were affected, five of which had to be evacuated.

Due to the low temperatures and the rain, authorities remain vigilant with regard to the possible outbreak of respiratory diseases among the population.

## Red Cross Action



**Survey carried out in the IX Region of Araucanía**

Donations such as clothing, blankets, food, coal, chlorine, diapers and shoes are being received, sorted and distributed out of the Chilean Red Cross offices in Santiago and Branches in the affected areas. CRC headquarters sent a truck loaded with humanitarian relief (clothing, chlorine and diapers) to the affected area, which was distributed in the VIII and IX Regions through the CRC Branches.

On 17 July a meeting was held in CRC headquarters between the Federation’s Disaster Management Delegate and the Logistics Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member in the field, the President, Vice President and Second Vice President of CRC, the National Relief Director, the head of the Disaster Intervention Programme and ONEMI personnel. This meeting served to address airport customs, transportation of goods aboard Chilean Army trucks and re-assessment of the affected areas.

**DREF Allocation no. MDRCL001; Update no. 2**

A chartered flight financed with DREF funds and dispatched from PADRU carrying 2,000 hygiene kits and visibility material arrived in Chile on 18 July. The goods were loaded onto trucks provided by the army. The truck was dispatched on 18 July to the VIII and IX Regions, specifically the cities of Concepción (Capital of Bío Bío - VIII Region) and Temuco (Capital of Araucanía – IX Region), which is where distributions are being handled.

The contents of the 800 food parcels<sup>1</sup> financed with DREF funds were procured locally, and were received at the main warehouse in Santiago. After they were assembled, the parcels were dispatched to the VIII and IX Regions, along with clothing, shoes and chlorine on Tuesday, 25 July. The parcels contain the following:

<b>Contents of food parcels</b>	
Lentils	1 kilogram
Beand	1 kilogram
Sugar	1 kilogram
Tea	100 bags
Coffee	1 can - 170 grams
Cooking Oil	1 litre
Noodles	2 packages – 800 grams
Tomato sauce	2 boxes – 260 grams
Long-life milk	3 litres
Salt	1 kilogram
Flour	1 kilogram
Tuna	2 cans – 700 grams
<b>Total weight</b>	<b>9.960 kilograms</b>

Distribution of goods was re-scheduled and coordinated by local authorities and CRC personnel in the city of Concepción. Distributions within the VIII Region took place in Alto Bio Bio, Curanilahue and Hualqui.

In Alto Bio Bio the kits were transported to the community of Los Ángeles and from there by helicopter to Los Andes mountain range, from where the goods were dispatched in five flights (one per day) to the communities of Trapa Trapa, Pitril and Butalebun. Two groups of volunteers were mobilized to Hualqui and Curanilahue, where assistance was distributed to different communities.

On Friday 21 July the RIT, CRC personnel and volunteers travelled to Temuco, capital of Araucanía, IX Region, to continue with distributions. Dispatch of the relief items to the Branches started on the following day. The National Relief Director and the head of the Disaster Intervention Programme went to Lonquimay to meet with local authorities in order to coordinate distributions to communities located in the Andes and that are difficult to access due to the snow.



**Red Cross personnel wade through the snow to deliver assistance.**

So far, distributions of relief items purchased with DREF funding have been as follows:

<sup>1</sup> DREF funding was sufficient for the purchase of 800 food parcels, although it had been anticipated that a larger number of parcels would be provided with DREF funding.

## VIII Region

Province	Municipality/Village/Community	Beneficiary Families	Hygiene Kits
Bio Bio	Trapa Trapa	224	224
Bio Bio	Pitril	82	82
Bio Bio	Butalebun	294	294
Concepción	Hualqui	200	200
Arauco	Curanilahue	200	200
Total Planned		1,000	1,000
<b>Total Distributed</b>		<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>

## IX Region

Province	Municipality/Village/Community	Beneficiary Families	Hygiene Kits	Food Parcels
Malleco	Collipulli	30	30	
Malleco	Lonquimay	100	100	100
Malleco	Curacautin	60	60	60
Cautin	Melipeuco	70	70	70
Cautin	Carahue	100	100	100
Cautin	Curarrehue	30	30	
Cautin	Tolten	100	100	100
Cautin	Teodoro Smith	100	100	100
Cautin	Nueva Imperial	100	100	100
Cautin	Galvarino	55	55	
Cautin	Chol Chol	30	30	30
Cautin	Temuco	100	100	100
Cautin	Vilcun	35	35	
Cautin	Pto. Saavedra	50	50	
Cautin	Lautaro	40	40	40
Total Planned		1,000	1,000	800
<b>Total Distributed</b>		<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>800</b>

Additional distributions of food parcels with the same content as above and provided with donations made directly to the CRC took place as follows:

## VIII Region

Province	Municipality/Village/Community	Beneficiary Families	Food Parcels
Concepcion	Hualqui	200	200
Arauco	Curanilahue	44	44
Total Planned		244	244
<b>Total Distributed</b>		<b>244</b>	<b>244</b>

## IX Region

Province	Municipality/Village/Community	Beneficiary Families	Food Parcels
Malleco	Collipulli	30	30

Cautin	Curarrehue	30	30
Cautin	Galvarino	55	55
Cautin	Vilcun	35	35
Cautin	Pto. Saavedra	50	50
Total Planned		200	200
<b>Total Distributed</b>		<b>200</b>	<b>200</b>



**Community of Teodoro Schmidt, IX  
Region, flooded roads**

In addition, the five families evacuated as a result of Río Negro bursting its banks received blankets, milk, coal, food and clothing.

### **Constraints**

The most significant constraints were the weather and the long distances that had to be travelled through roads obstructed by snow and landslides.

### **Capacity Building**

In order to carry out capacity building of the CRC, a warehousing workshop was organized for volunteers. The workshop will be delivered by the RIT deployed to the operation and two CRC staff members. The Chilean Red Cross is continuing to coordinate efficient and effective

response to this emergency to assist those affected by the floods.

[\*Click here to return to the title page or contact information\*](#)

