

INFORMATION BULLETIN



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

MEXICO: FLOODS

20 August 2002

Information Bulletin N° 2/2002

This Bulletin is for information only. The Federation is not seeking any funding or other assistance from donors for this operation at this time.

The Situation

Torrential rains in Central Mexico since 14 August resulted in the bursting of the “Ventanillas” dam and subsequent flooding in the region of San Luis Potosi. A total of 13 people died, 11 remain missing and it is estimated that some 3,000 people were affected by the floods. In the municipality of Villa Garcia in Zacatecas, the bursting of the dam resulted in one death, two disappearances and some 4,000 people have been affected. In both areas, a state of emergency was declared. In addition, in the region of Durango, five communities were hit by heavy rains, resulting in material damage to housing. The rains have now diminished and the flood water has subsided in San Luis Potosi and Zacatecas, however, in Durango heavy rain continues to fall.

Red Cross/Red Crescent Action

The Mexican Red Cross (MRC) is working in coordination with the Mexican army and the civil defence. The National Society carried out a damage and needs assessment on 16 August. The results of the survey indicate that in San Luis Potosi in the municipality of Villa de Reyes, the communities of Las Rusias, Guadiana, Carrera Torres, Villa de Reyes, Carranca and Ventillas were most severely hit by the flooding. Furthermore, 190 houses were damaged, 10 of which were totally destroyed.

The San Luis Potosi branch of the Mexican Red Cross is distributing blankets, food, clothing and shoes, and is also providing first aid care. The assessment in Villa Garcia, Zacatecas, indicated that 210 houses were damaged, 11 of which were totally destroyed. The National Society is providing food, clothing and first aid services. The Durango branch of the Mexican Red Cross is involved in providing support to the affected communities.

The MRC is in a position to respond to relief needs; however funds are sought to implement community based disaster education and preparedness projects in the affected areas.

For a full description of the National Society profile, see www.ifrc.org

For further details please contact :

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All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For support to or for further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

For longer-term programmes, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal.

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