

# 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

## **PERU: EARTHQUAKE**

24 June 2001

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*This Information Bulletin is being issued based on the needs described below, reflecting the information available at this time. Based on the situation, the Federation will be making funds available from its Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) and is preparing an appeal.*

### ***The Situation***

A strong earthquake, lasting more than one minute and measuring - according to initial reports - 7.9 on the Richter scale has struck southern Peru (at around 15:35 local time). Preliminary reports from the media state that at least 50 people are dead and 500 injured. The earthquake was felt in Bolivia and Chile.

The towns most affected are Arequipa, 750 kilometres south east of Lima, and Moquewa (Moquegua), south east of Arequipa (1,200 kilometres from Lima). Telephone and electricity lines have been damaged and communication is very difficult. In many villages in the region, houses are made of mud and are fragile. The climate in the region is currently cold and wintery; Arequipa and Moquegua are located on the altiplano.

### ***Red Cross/Red Crescent Action***

Peruvian Red Cross Society (PRCS) staff and volunteers have begun first aid and search and rescue operations, as well as initial assessments. The President of the Peruvian Red Cross, is in Arequipa, and the Peruvian government has called for international assistance..

A three-person joint Federation and Peruvian Red Cross team is on their way to Moquewa and Arequipa. The team is composed of a Federation Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) delegate, a Peruvian Red Cross relief coordinator and the Peruvian Red Cross Head of Logistics. The team was already in Peru coordinating a relief operation for flood victims in Puno, near the Bolivian border and Lake Titicaca, and have been rapidly redeployed to respond to the latest disaster and to provide support to the Peruvian Red Cross operation.

The Federation has already contacted some major donors and is planning to deploy emergency Field Assessment and Coordination Teams (FACT) and Emergency Response Units (ERUs), primarily focusing on water, sanitation, and logistics. Some emergency material will be delivered from the Federation logistics base in Panama.

## *Anticipated needs*

Emergency needs include blankets and tents (shelter material) as well as food and water. Support in the form of psychological support teams to help families who have lost members is also anticipated.

For a full description of the National Society profile, see [www.ifrc.org](http://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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