

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Chile: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRCL004
Glide No. FL-2008-000069-CHL
9 June 2008

The International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of national societies to respond to disasters.

CHF 220,000 (USD 209,523 or EUR 135,218) has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Chilean Red Cross in delivering immediate assistance to some 4,000 people beneficiaries. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: From 19 May to 27 May, the Chilean government declared a yellow alert between the regions of Valparaiso and Los Lagos. The Emergency Operative Committees have been activated since the beginning of the emergency and approximately 8,000 families have been affected by the floods. This DREF operation will be focused on the delivery of basic relief items and psychosocial support to 800 families.

This operation is expected to be implemented over two months, and will therefore be completed by 6 August, 2008; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 6 November, 2008).

[<click here for the map, or here for contact details>](#)



Floods in the area of Lincantén.
Source: Chilean Red Cross

The situation

A yellow alert was declared for all the regions between Valparaiso and Los Lagos during 19 to 27 May, 2008. The Port of Quintero has been closed to all types of vessels and the ports of Valparaiso, San Antonio, Talcahuano, San Vicente Lirquen, Coronel, Lebu amongst others are closed to smaller vessels. Heavy rain and flooding have killed five people and forced around 12,000 people to leave their homes after a river overflowed its banks.

The most affected communities are Molina and Lincantén in the region of Maule about 125 miles (200 km) south of the capital, Santiago. The community of Molina has 500 affected families due to the overflowing of the Lontué river, along with another 1,500 families from Licantén. The city hospital has also been damaged

by the mud and flood water. The Chilean government has mobilized cleaning equipment to the affected zones and local firemen have been cleaning the streets and flooded houses. The water pipelines have collapsed but they are expected to be functioning again once cleaning activities are completed.

On 3 June 2008 the National Emergency Office from the Ministry of the Interior (Oficina Nacional de Emergencia - Ministerio del Interior, ONEMI) established a Preventive Early Alert for the entire area between the regions of Ohiggins and Bio Bio due to the constant rain. ONEMI has delivered a week's worth of food parcels and is planning to deliver additional food assistance for another week.

Coordination and partnerships

The CRC has been coordinating all its relief actions with the government, state institutions, the Civil Protection System and non-governmental organisations (NGO's) present in the field. Coordination meetings have been held between the CRC and Civil Protection System headed by the governor of the affected zone.

From the onset of the emergency, the International Federation, through the Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) and the Regional Representation for South America, has been closely monitoring the events and is coordinating all response activities with the Chilean Red Cross (CRC).



The CRC performing damage and needs assessments. Source: Chilean Red Cross

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Since the beginning of the emergency the local branch in Curicó in the region of Maule evacuated approximately 50 people. The CRC provided first aid care to the people in common shelters using Urgent Medical Attention System ambulances (Sistema de Atención Médica de Urgencia – SAMU), installed a telecommunications system and performed damage and needs assessments in the affected areas.

The Chilean Civil Protection is coordinated by the ONEMI; the CRC is part of this system and only intervenes when an area has been declared a disaster zone. The CRC has been monitoring the situation

through ONEMI's Early Alert System technical reports. PADRU is deploying two Regional Intervention Team (RIT) members to support the National Society in its procurement process and relief activities. All

humanitarian assistance will be coordinated with regional and community authorities from the Chilean Civil Protection at a central level and from the field.

The CRC has completed a plan of action that will benefit 800 families in the affected areas. The plan of action aims to provide the affected people with psychosocial support and emergency relief items. A technical assessment to determine early recovery needs and potential areas of intervention will also be carried out during the first two weeks of the operation to meet the needs of those most affected by the disaster.

The needs

After evaluations were completed, the CRC identified the most important needs to be water and sanitation, hygiene promotion (hygiene kits, cleaning kits), food parcels, psychosocial support and logistical support. The beneficiaries were selected following the Civil Protection National System, the International Federation and Sphere standards. The assessments were completed by accredited personnel from the ONEMI, with the support of an International Federation RIT member.

The proposed operation

The overall objective of this operation is to provide humanitarian assistance to 800 families for a period of two months in the areas declared as disaster zones by supplying them with the basic necessities in order to contribute to their rapid recovery.

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Objective: 800 of the most vulnerable families in the areas of Lincantén and Molina in the region of del Maule will benefit from relief items.

The food items in the food parcels were selected by a nutritionist and were adapted to local customs following the standards of the Civil Protection and the International Federation (Project Sphere), estimating 2,100 kcal/per day per each family member. They will be procured locally.

Table 1: Food parcel per family

Item	Quantity
Lentils	1 kg
Beans	1 kg
Sugar	2 kg
Box of Tea	100 units
Mate herb	500 grams
Cooking oil	1 Litre
Noodles	2 kg
Tomato sauce	260 grams
Jam	500 grams
Milk	2 Litres
Salt	1 kg
Yeast	125 grams
Flour	2 kg
Jurel (fish)	850 grams
Arroz	1kg

The hygiene kits will follow the local needs and the International Federation and Civil Protections standards.

The hygiene kits will contain the following items:

Table 2: Hygiene kit per family of 5

Ítem	Quantity
Bar laundry soap	1 kg
Toilet paper	12
Soap	1300 grams
Toothpaste	500 grams
Tooth brush	5
Shampoo	1,250 ml
Razors	5
Hygiene pads	80
Hand towels	5
Comb	2
Plastic bag	1

Each cleaning kit consists of two boxes, each containing the following items:

Table 3: Cleaning kit per family of 5

Box 1	Box 2
14" Broom	Plastic bucket 2 ¼ gallons
1 Mop	7" Hand plastic brush
18" Squeegee	Synthetic big sponge
32# Straw broom	Liquid multipurpose detergent
	Clorox
	2 pairs of plastic gloves
	Gallon garbage bags

Each kitchen kit will contain the following items:

Table 4: Kitchen kit per family of 5

Item	Quantity
1 litre aluminum bowl	5
Stainless steel fork	5
2.5 litre frying pan use as lid for 7 litre pot	1
15cm stainless steel kitchen knife	1
Table stainless kitchen knife	5
30 cm. Wooden spoon	1
15ml stainless steel soup spoon	5
5 litre aluminum pot	1
7L aluminum pot	1
300 ml stainless steel cups	5
0.75 litre capacity aluminum bowls	5

Activities planned:

- Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments.
- Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance.
- Local procurement of relief supplies when cost efficient (food, mattresses).
- Distribution of relief supplies and control of supply movements from point of dispatch to end user.
- Monitoring and evaluation of relief activities and reporting on relief distributions.
- Development of a recovery, transition and exit strategy.

Emergency health

Objective: 800 of the most affected families in Lincantén and Molina from the Maule region will receive psychosocial support.

Activities planned:

- 20 volunteers from the local branches of Maule will be trained as part of an agreement with the Catholic University in order to treat the affected people.

- Procurement of visibility and identification and communication material.

How we work

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 \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The International Federation's activities 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.

Contact information

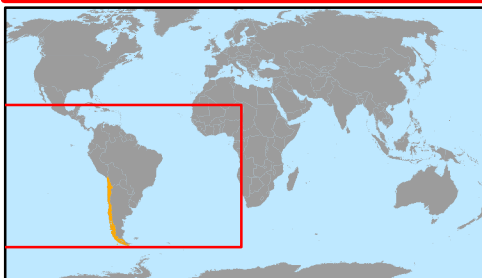
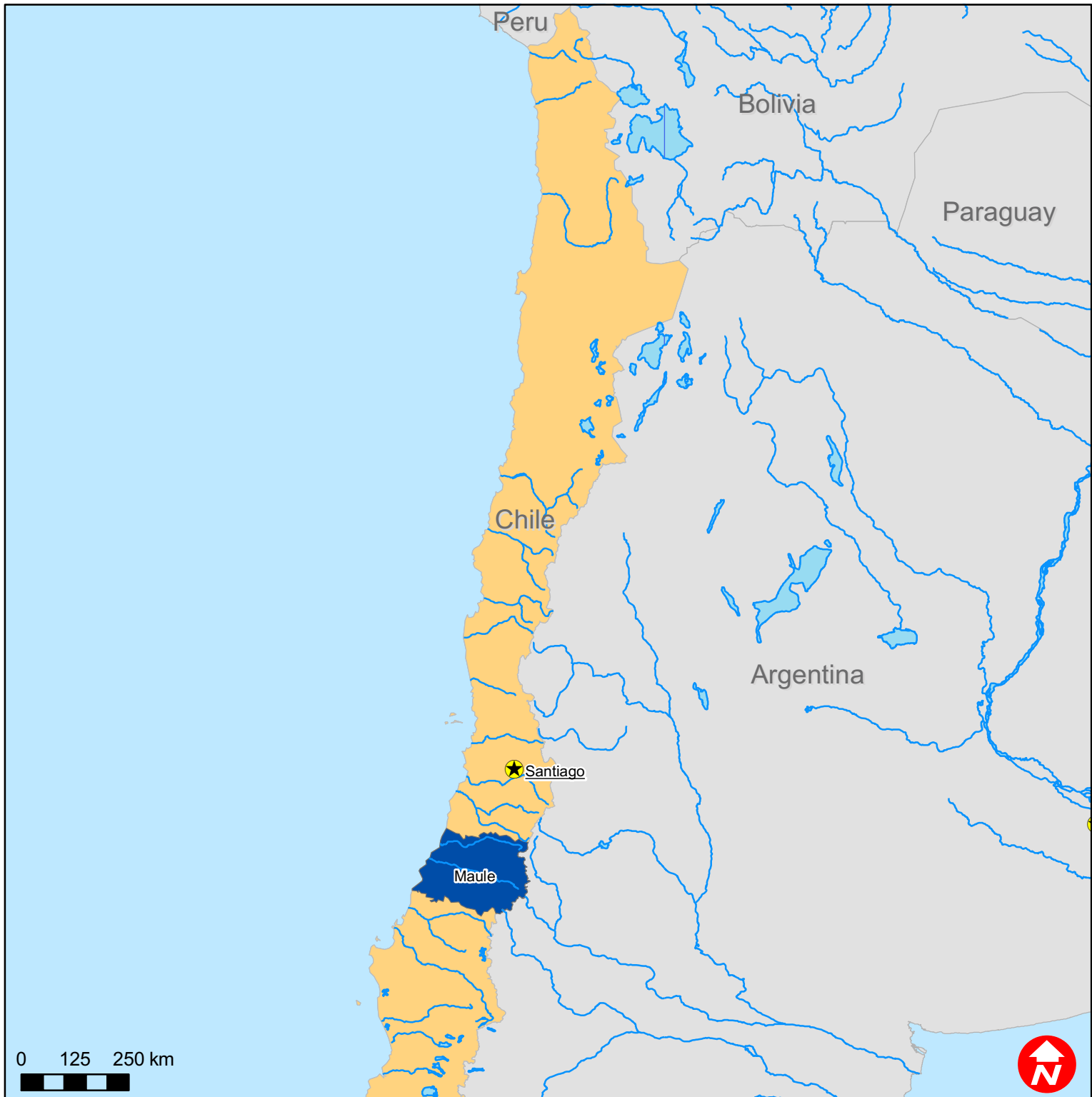
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[<map below; click here to return to the title page>](#)



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 Affected region