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Information bulletin no. 2 Mexico: Hurricane Patricia

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Information Bulletin No. 2	
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National Society: Mexican Red Cross	

This bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. [<click here for detailed contact information>](#)

The situation

Hurricane Patricia was downgraded to a tropical depression and continues its passage on land northeast of Zacatecas, so in the coming hours it will cause heavy rains from 75 to 150 millimetres (mm) in Coahuila, Nuevo Leon and Tamaulipas as reported by the Mexican Weather Service. The authorities recommend the public be aware of the heavy rains that will continue in the country.

At 13:00 pm, central time in Mexico, the National Hurricane Centre (NHC) reported that Patricia, a remnant low pressure area, was located southwest of Nuevo Leon, about 70 kilometres (km) southeast of Saltillo, Coahuila, and 95 km southwest of Monterrey, Nuevo Leon with maximum sustained winds of 45 kilometres per hour (km/h), gusting to 55 km/h shifting to the northeast 39 km/h. During this afternoon, gusts of up 55 km/h will continue in Zacatecas, Nuevo Leon and Coahuila, which is expected to dissipate in the next hours.



**Collection centre was opened in the Mexican Red Cross headquarters.
Source: Mexican Red Cross**

The National Civil Protection System urges people to stay informed about the weather through different media outlets. Minor damage was reported, especially in roads, electrical systems and water supply. Government agencies are working in the reestablishment of services and enabling paths. So far, no serious injuries or damages were reported.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

On 22 October 2015, the Mexican Red Cross repositioned food items for 3,500 families in Colima and Jalisco to respond immediately to the needs of the affected population. Approximately, 300 the Mexican Red Cross

volunteers—specialized in pre-hospital care and needs assessments— are working to determine what are the immediate needs of the population in terms of pre hospital or medical services and food assistance. The volunteers are using mobile data collection technology (Open Data Kit – ODK) to gather assessments of damage and needs in the state of Colima including registration of beneficiaries. Tomorrow 25 October 2015, the Mexican Red Cross will start distributing humanitarian aid using the Mega V system.

The President of the Mexican Red Cross specified that the institution has 800 volunteers of which 500 volunteers, with the support of 37 emergency units of the Red Cross, are supporting the population of the communities of Tecoman, Armory and Manzanillo, in the state of Colima, and areas of Puerto Vallarta, Cihuatlan and Tomatlan, in the state of Jalisco.



Intervention teams from Mexican Red Cross. Source: Mexican Red Cross

Communication messages are being disseminated to invite people to follow the instructions of state agencies.

Several collection centers were opened at the national headquarters and branches of the Mexican Red Cross nationwide to support the people affected. Additionally, a bank account is open to receive financial donations. The MRC Jalisco branch carried out evacuations of people with disabilities living in the in the communities of Desembocadura and Gethsemani in Puerto Vallarta who could not move to evacuation centres.

The Mexican Red Cross has maintained communication and coordination with the Civil Protection System, the Mexican Navy and Army and other government entities. Furthermore, the Mexican Red Cross communications department has kept the population informed of the actions taken over the collection centers, bank accounts and other actions through social networks.

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) actions

The IFRC's regional office in Panama through its crisis and disaster management Unit (PADRU) has maintained communication with strategic partners sharing information and actions taken by the Mexican Red Cross.

Since the beginning of the emergency, PADRU maintained contact with the National Society to support from a regional approach to channel information to other organizations and attending international media interviews. All departments of the IFRC maintained their participation in the Emergency Operations Centre and met established protocols to prepare the support to the Mexican Red Cross if needed.

It has lowered the alert level from orange to yellow and continue to monitor the event until there is more information on the damage. Throughout the warning process, PADRU maintained communication with the UN, ECHO and PNS informing them of the action taken.

The IFRC Communications Unit has been supporting with interviews for international English speaking media. To date there have been interviews with Al Jazeera, CNN International and several international radio stations seeking to know the preparation activities of the Mexican Red Cross.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this emergency please contact:

- **Mexican Red Cross:** Isaac Oxenhaut Gruszko, National Relief Director;
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- **IFRC Regional office in Panama:** Inigo Barrena, PADRU coordinator; email: c.i.barrena@ifrc.org.
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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 Disaster 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.

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

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.