

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: FLOODS

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This Information Bulletin is being issued based on the needs described below reflecting the information available at this time.

The Situation

Persistent rains continued in Madre de Dios and Cusco departments over the last week. According to official reports from the Emergency Operations Centre, 18 people have died, 59,474 people have been affected by the floods, 6,119 houses have been damaged and 680 hectares of crops were lost; an additional 31,485 hectares of crops were also partially affected in Puno, Cusco and Madre de Dios. Many subsistence farmers lost their crops and incomes in Puno, one of the poorest departments in Peru, and the population of Madre de Dios is at risk of diarrhoeas and malaria.

The Peruvian government, through the National Institute of Civil Defense (INDECI), is coordinating relief activities. Distribution of 192 tonnes of assistance has begun in the three affected departments and includes clothes, blankets, mattresses, food, cooking stoves, mosquito nets and boots. The government emergency response structure remains on alert given the potential El Niño South Oscillation (ENSO) in the coming weeks.

Red Cross/Red Crescent Action

Technical staff from the Peruvian Red Cross (PRC) headquarters and 183 volunteers from seven branches are involved in relief activities at field level. The National Society has collected 70 tonnes of clothes and blankets, mainly donated by the Peruvian people. Some 4.6 tonnes have been deployed to Cusco, 3.5 tonnes to Madre de Dios and 3.1 tonnes to Puno.

Regional authorities and municipalities have supported the Peruvian Red Cross relief distributions with logistics and personnel, while several national air transportation companies: Tans, Aerocontinente and Aero Condor offered airlift to deliver the relief cargos, search and rescue equipment and to fly Red Cross staff into the affected areas.

The national health director and the national relief director of the PRC are assessing the medical needs in Madre de Dios department given the current health risks. A Federation Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) delegate is supporting the evaluation of needs which is being carried out with the Peruvian Red Cross branches in Puno.

The Peruvian Red Cross branches have requested equipment for 200 volunteers (helmets and rain proof coats), given the conditions in the affected communities.

Close coordination is taking place with the local authorities, the Civil Defense, the Ministry of Health (MINSA), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), together with various organizations involved in relief, such as ADRA, OXFAM, CARE, CARITAS, PREDES and MSF.

The regional delegation for South America is ensuring coordination with the Peruvian Red Cross and participating National Societies: the German Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross. The Pan American Disaster Response Unit and its regional logistics unit are on standby in case the situation deteriorates.

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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