

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

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PERU: EARTHQUAKE

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in 185 countries.

In Brief

This Bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the situation and the information available at this time. The Federation is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation at this time.

The International Federation undertakes activities that are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to achieve 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.**

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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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.

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

The Situation

At 18:40 local time on 15 August 2007, an earthquake of 7.9 on the Richter scale (source US Geological Survey) hit Peru, with the epicentre 43 km South West of San Vicente de Cañete, south of Lima. Replicas have been felt since this earthquake.

[\(Click here to view the map\)](#)

The epicentre was registered 33km below the earth's surface (Geophysics Institute of Peru). The town nearest to the epicentre is Chincha Alta. In Ica, a town also very near the epicentre, preliminary reports are indicating 37 deaths and 300 people injured, and numbers are rising as new information is made available. The Peruvian Civil Defence System (Instituto Nacional de Defensa Civil - INDECI) is currently setting up a situation room to respond to the emergency.

The earthquake caused buildings to shake and hundreds of people to run out into the streets after the tremors were felt in the capital of Lima and towns near the epicentre. There has been damage to buildings and electricity has been cut off in some areas. All flights from the international airport in Lima have been temporarily suspended. As a preventative measure, a tsunami warning was issued for Chile, Colombia Ecuador and Peru by the Hawaii Institute of Geophysics

Shortly after the earthquakes, the President of Peru made a national statement confirming that all national authorities were on high alert to respond to the situation and that all health services and centres must be on red alert, requesting all doctors to make themselves available and for all services to be free of charge for those who may need it.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Peruvian Red Cross (PRC) immediately mobilised a National Intervention Team (NIT) to the region of the epicentre to evaluate the situation. The NIT is accompanied by a Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member, a logistics expert, who was deployed to support the PRC operation to respond to the cold wave in July. In addition, the Relief Director also accompanies NIT and RIT members on the evaluation mission. As soon this team reaches the affected area, more information will be directly available to assess how many people have been affected and to assess the damage caused to infrastructure.

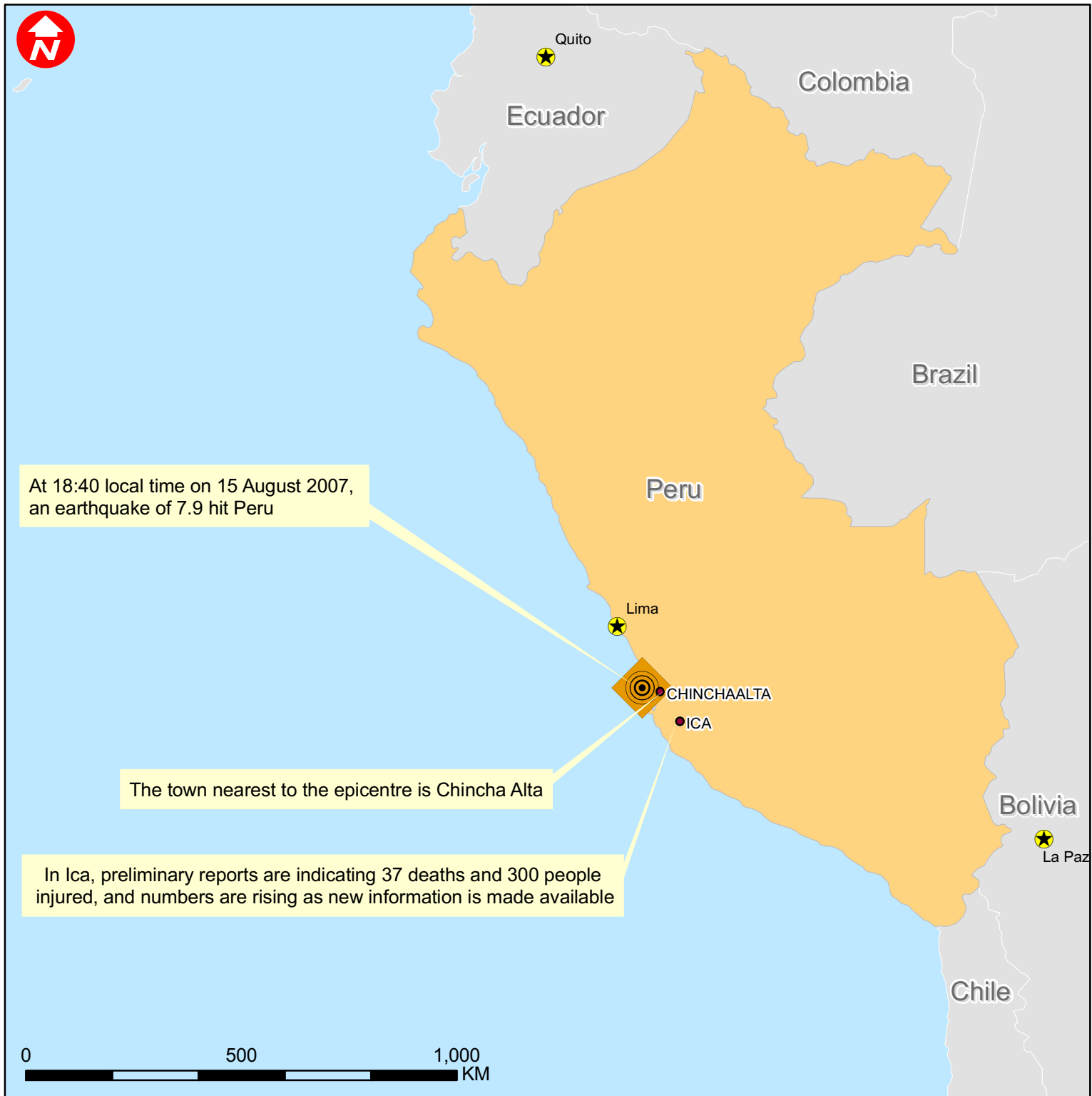
The Regional Representation of the International Federation in Lima is directly supporting the PRC National Society, and both are closely coordinating with INDECI, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and Partner National Societies (PNS) such as American Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross and Japanese Red Cross. The Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) in Panama is on standby to send tents, blankets, jerry cans and other provisions by plane if needs are confirmed. Funds from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) are being made available to support the response if needed.

The Chilean and Colombian Red Cross have offered their support to the National Society in Peru if needed. Volunteers from Chilean Red Cross can be mobilized from the north of the country and the Colombian Red Cross has RIT and NIT members available if needed.

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Peru: Earthquake



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