

Sit Rep 15

**Office of the Resident Coordinator
Situation Report No. 15
Earthquake in Peru
12:00 hours**

September 7th, 2007

Situation

1. At 11:40:58 PM UTC/GMT (Greenwich time) 6:34:56 PM local time on August 15th, an earthquake measuring 7.9 degrees in the Richter scale struck the Department of Ica. The epicentre was 25 miles (61 kilometres) west-northwest of Chincha Alta, Peru, and 90 miles (161 kilometres) south-southeast of Lima, according to the [U.S. Geological Survey](#). The epicentre was 30.2 km depth (18.8 miles). The effects were also strongly felt in Lima capital.
2. The last official report issued by the National Institute of Civil Defence (INDECI) informed about the situation at 23:00 hrs of August 28th:

519 dead

1,366 wounded

58,581 houses destroyed according to Peruvian Government preliminary assessments.

13,585 houses affected.

103 hospitals affected.

14 hospitals destroyed according to Peruvian Government preliminary assessments.

National Response

On September 5th, the National Institute of Civil Defense (INDECI) informed that it had begun its second phase of assistance, consisting on the distribution food and clothes to the affected families in the regions of Ica (provinces of Pisco, Chincha and Ica), Lima (provinces of Cañete and Yauyos) and Huancavelica (cities of Castrovirreyna and Huaytará).

According to INDECI, more than 250,000 people are in need of clothes, shelters, food and medicines. In this context, INDECI reports having mobilized 15,000 tons of humanitarian aid in coordination with Regional and Provincial Committees of Civil Defense.

Still on September 5th, the Ministry of Health has informed that 1284 patients have been in so far moved to and attended in hospitals in Lima since August 15th. Of these, 520 are in risk conditions, 9 have died and the remaining 755 are in stable conditions.

The National Tributary Administration (SUNAT) has established new rules on the tax treatment of donations and incoming goods for humanitarian aid. Accordingly, the SUNAT has declared as tax-free incoming goods the following: medical equipment and medicines including vaccines, food, clothing, shoes, mattresses, blankets, cleaning goods, construction and plastic materials, tents, shelters, awnings, sleeping bags, rescue dogs, temporary hospitals and any other type of goods required to assist the affected population. SUNAT has additionally informed that this new regulation will be applied to: National Public Sector, Foreign Institutions for Technical Cooperation, National NGOs and other Institutions registered by the Peruvian Agency for International Cooperation (APCI).

UN Response

On September 6th UNICEF has reported its ongoing support to the emergency response in the field of mental health, by strengthening alliances between the Ministry of Health and the various aid organizations that have come to work in the area. The objective is to ensure the building of local capacity to sustain ongoing mental health interventions for disaster victims, beyond the initial emergency period. More than 72 mental health professionals from the Mental Health Unit of the Ministry of Health received training in the *2 x 1 Emotional Recovery* strategy during a two-day session, held in Lima, on September 4th and 5th.

UNICEF continues to support the strengthening of coordination between the National Food and Nutrition Center of the Ministry of Health, the National Nutrition Program of the Ministry of Women and Social Development, and the health network in Pisco, including the regional health authorities of the Ministry of Health, in order to ensure an integrated approach in meeting nutrition needs of young children in the earthquake zone. This integrated approach will work in three phases: diagnosis (identifying areas where baby formula preparation sites can be established in shelters, registration of children who require formula, and the organization of the shelters to accommodate space for bottle preparation); implementation (providing material for preparing baby formula, storage areas for food, training); and follow-up (analysis of progress and difficulties). Between August 30th and September 3rd, more than 11 model areas were established in 11 temporary shelters. More than 629 children under the age of three have received attention at one of these pilot sites.

In addition, household items and utensils have been provided to 24 model baby bottle formula preparation sites including cups, spoons, measuring cups, safe drinking water supplies to ensure the proper preparation of baby bottles.

On September 6th, WHO/PAHO has reported to have fully assessed the situation of health services' infrastructures in Pisco, Ica and Chincha where, according to WHO/PAHO, 21% of primary health services are out of services and 3 hospitals have collapsed. In Castrovirreyna and Huaytará provinces of the Region of Huancavelica, a preliminary report by the Ministry of Health indicates that 17 health referral systems are partially damaged whereas 8 have collapsed.

Similarly, the infrastructure and some sanitation lab equipment in the Ica Regional Directorate of Health have been destroyed by the earthquake.

WHO/PAHO is still advocating for the Flash Appeal which includes projects on epidemiological vigilance, epidemics prevention and public health humanitarian aid management.

UNFPA has informed INEI that other 45,000 Soles (about 15,000 \$) will be available from regular budget to assist INEI's efforts to conclude the Census of people affected by the earthquake. Still on the Census, UNFPA is advocating with Donors for US \$ 300,000.

UNDSS informs today that 35 officers from various UN agencies are currently deployed in the affected areas to coordinate relief efforts.

Education

Pisco:

In Pisco, UNICEF had meetings with authorities from both private and public schools to determine the better process for transition back to school. The transition would be based on three points: the successful demolition of collapsed infrastructure, solving water and sanitation problems in schools, and the existence of psycho-social support for teachers.

Ica:

A three-day session began in Ica on September 4th to assist the education sector in adapting curriculum in the wake of the earthquake disaster. UNICEF participated along with authorities from the Ministry of Education, the National Education Council, the Education Tutoring Council, a professional teachers' association (la Derrama Magisterial) and the Institute for Popular Education. About 197 teachers are participating in this activity which includes education specialists from Ica, Pisco, Nazca and Chincha. During this meeting, education authorities learned that 45 of the 101 schools that exist in Ica—some public and some private—would begin operations very soon.

Chincha:

In Chincha, one school has initiated classes, meanwhile in Nazca and Palpa, all of the schools have started operations.

Protection

Pisco:

UNICEF participated in a meeting of the Emergency Committee in Pisco where an agreement was reached to begin pre-school activities in temporary shelters as from September 10th. To support the beginning of this activity, more than 45 promoters from "*El Programa No-escolarizado de educacion inicial*" (PRONOEI), seven teacher coordinators, a pre-school education specialist and 11 recreation therapists, will receive training in the *2 x 1 Emotional Recovery* strategy on September 6th and 7th. The objective is to create a cadre of "trainers" who can then provide training to other individuals in Ica, Chincha and Pisco.

Meanwhile, recreation activities will begin in seven temporary shelters on September 7th; UNICEF has provided some 500 soccer balls and 250 volleyball nets to support this effort.

Communications

Pisco:

UNICEF held meetings with the directors of two local radio stations, Radio Mix in Pisco and RTV Radio, in San Clemente, to secure their support and agreement in broadcasting radio spots produced by UNICEF which promote mental health and safe hygiene practices. The radio spots feature singer *Gian Marco* and entertainer *Dina Paucar*, both Goodwill Ambassadors for UNICEF Peru. The radio messages began airing on September 4th every 10 minutes during regular radio programming; both radio directors agreed to provide free air time for these public service messages during two to three weeks. UNICEF contacted the director of Channel 25 Mega Vision in San Clemente to secure their support in airing televised messages: they began airing on September 5th at no cost for the next two-weeks period.

On September 5th, popular singer Gian Marco visited the earthquake zone in Pisco, as part of his UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador duties. He visited various shelters with varying degrees of organization and support. Two of the temporary shelters visited still lacked adequate numbers of tents and sanitary facilities; the only major infrastructure in place was a safe drinking water supply tanker provided by UNICEF. The two shelters visited were in Santa Rosa and Teobaldo Pinillos. Gian Marco met and spoke with victims and played with children at these sites. He sang, participated in a soccer game, and talked to some of the children about their fears of a tsunami affecting their community. He then met with the shelter committee of "*Sagrado Corazón*," composed of shelter residents. The shelter is adequately serviced with infrastructure and beneficiaries are working together and sharing responsibilities for different activities including food preparation and cleaning. Gian Marco gave an *impromptu* concert for the mothers and children at the shelter.

Water and Sanitation

WHO/PAHO reports that drinking water networks of local water companies in affected areas have recovered 85.3% of their capacity. In Ica, the recovery reaches 100%, whereas in Cañete 93.5%, in Chincha 79.3% and in Pisco 45.2%. WHO/PAHO also reports that in the city of Pisco, water purification systems and sewage are still damaged and that water is still distributed by tankers.

Donors

On September 4th, ECHO organized a meeting with the pre-selected organizations for the next round of ECHO funds. According to the reports of that meeting, this second round of funds should total 6,000,000 Euros to be disbursed within the next 5 weeks.

The Government of New Zealand have pledged NZ\$ 500,000 for the World Food Programme.

The Government of Belgium has created a Humanitarian Assistance Fund that will be disbursed for projects presented by Belgian NGOs or Belgian Divisions of International NGOs currently present in Peru. Similarly, a Belgian Expert from the Walon Red Cross will initiate a needs assessment and will present a project to the Belgian Federal Government.

NGOs Response

Italian NGO COOPI continues to distribute tents in the area of El Carmen as well as 75 liters water drums in Chincha Alta. In Pueblo Nuevo, COOPI reports, 80 kits for the construction of shelters have been distributed and other 350 will be delivered within the next week. Similarly, efforts to control Dengue and Malaria as well as actions for waste management have been made in the same areas.

With the support of German Agro-Action, ITDG is intervening in the districts of San Luis in Cañete and El Carmen and Sunampe in Chincha fto build family shelters and temporary classrooms.

National Press

On September 4th, Peruvian President, Dr. Alan Garcia, thanked all donor countries that have participated in the efforts to alleviate Peruvian people sufferings in the areas affected by the earthquake. Similarly, Dr. Garcia thanked all International Organizations and those private entities that kindly supported all relief efforts. In this context, he informed that Peru received 15,613 tons of national and international humanitarian aid, which was delivered to the affected areas through National Armed Forces, the National Police and Civil Defense.

Source: El PERUANO 04/09/2007

Peruvian President, Dr. Alan Garcia, informed that the international community has donated US \$ 27 millions and other US \$ 20 millions have been pledged to assist relief efforts. Similarly, during the ceremony organized to officially thank national and international donors, Dr. Garcia highlighted that the Government has opened a bank account for the Emergency and that the other two bank accounts are opened for the National Civil Defense for a total of, respectively, US\$ 621,000 and S/. 122,000 (US \$ 40,000)

Source: LA REPUBLICA 04/09/2007

The FAO will donate US \$ 200,000 to buy fishing nets and rehabilitate fishing boats' engines. The donation aims at assisting informal fishermen affected by the earthquake in San Andrés (Pisco) and Tambo de Mora (Chincha).

Source: EL PERUANO 04/09/07

International News

IOM is this week distributing tents and relief supplies, including mattresses, blankets, sheets and kitchen sets to victims of the earthquake that struck the Department of Ica on 15 August.

The initial emergency shelter plan called for the creation of camps with provisional shelters for those left homeless, but after further assessment, the Government of Peru decided that no additional shelters will be set up and has begun the reconstruction process in the cities of Pisco, Ica and Chincha.

The government's decision to provide assistance to the victims in their towns and villages was based on the reluctance shown by most victims to abandon their homes. Those who did not take refuge in the camps that were initially created, will set up the tents provided by IOM on their land so that they can watch over their belongings and begin rebuilding their homes.

IOM will continue to purchase tents and other emergency relief items that will be delivered to the families registered by Peru's Civil Defence Institute (INDECI by its Spanish acronym). More info: <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/RWB.NSF/db900SID/EVOD-76TCF5?OpenDocument>

Source: RELIEF WEB 07/09/07