

*This report is based on information received from official sources in Chile and was issued by the OCHA Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, covering the period 13 to 17 March.*

#### **HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES**

- **A new coordination mechanism was set up by the Ministry of Interior. An Emergency Committee incorporating various ministries will manage the emergency response phase. The Ministry of Planning (MIDEPLAN) will centralize information on emergency needs and is the focal point for inter-agency emergency shelter meetings. The Ministry of Interior will chair the Emergency Committee and WASH meetings.**
- **Priority needs indicated by the new Government are temporary shelter, education and water and sanitation.**
- **Updated estimates of emergency needs will be released over the next days.**

#### **I. Situation Overview**

- A new coordination mechanism was set up by the Ministry of Interior. An Emergency Committee incorporating various ministries will manage the emergency response phase. The Ministry of Planning (MIDEPLAN) will centralize information on emergency needs and is the focal point for inter-agency emergency shelter meetings. The Ministry of Interior will chair the Emergency Committee and WASH meetings. An organigram will be disseminated in the next few days.
- The last of the search and rescue teams have stopped their search for survivors in the Island of Juan Fernandez and other remote areas.
- On 15 March, a meeting was held between the Government's Ministry of Planning, UN agencies, NGOs and International Organizations to coordinate relief efforts. The priority needs indicated by the new Government are temporary shelter, education and water and sanitation.
- A 6.7 magnitude aftershock struck Chile on 15 March. Over 200 aftershocks of magnitude higher than 5 on the Richter scale have rocked the country since the 8.8 quake of 27 February.

#### **II. Humanitarian Needs and Response**

##### **Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items:**

###### *Needs*

- The Government confirmed that 160,000 houses - 37% of which in Biobío - have been irreparably damaged or destroyed in the regions of Metropolitana, O'Higgins/Libertador, Maule and Biobío. Some 93,600 houses still need to be assessed in Maule and O'Higgins.

###### *Response*

- As of 13 March, the Chilean Red Cross started distributing family kits to 112 families in three towns in the Maule region. With the arrival of 2,696 kitchen sets, 2,661 hygiene kits, 7,000 blankets and 10,500 jerry cans from the Regional Logistics Unit in Panama, NFI distribution will now rapidly advance.
- As of 13 March, the Chilean NGO "Un Techo para Chile" has built 660 temporary houses in O'Higgins, Maule, and Biobío.
- The Ministry of Planning (MIDEPLAN) will centralize information on emergency needs and is the focal point for inter-agency emergency shelter meetings.
- A coordination meeting on temporary shelters between MIDEPLAN and international and national organizations was held on 16 March. Feedback of this meeting will be included in the next situation report.

## **Water and Sanitation:**

### *Needs*

- Approximately 155,000 people in rural areas still do not have water and sanitation services. In urban areas, some 500,000 people are now serviced by water trucks or other alternative means.
- Water purification systems are needed to re-establish routine services in hospitals.
- Emergency sanitation solutions are urgently required for the regions of Maule and Biobío
- Garbage collection, implementation of technologies for adequate disposal of excrements and integrated solid waste management are needed.

### *Response*

- The Ministry of Interior will be chairing the WASH meetings. A coordination meeting was held on 17 March.
- In coordination with the Ministry of Public Works and municipalities, UNICEF will define and set up temporary sanitation services and supply drinking water to health facilities, shelter camps, schools and affected communities. The agency will also support the restoration of water services to rural areas.
- Some 500,000 pamphlets on hygiene practices have been distributed by the Ministries of Health and Planning.
- A Chilean Red Cross water and sanitation team is operational in Biobío benefiting some 4,000 people.
- PAHO/WHO and IFRC have sent experts in water and sanitation.

## **Health:**

### *Needs*

- Re-establishment of health services (including hospital equipment).
- Assessment of radio-therapy equipment.
- Vaccines for Hepatitis A and H1N1.
- Complete the infrastructure assessment of health establishments.
- Psycho-emotional support has been identified as a central need for more than 80% of the entire population that has been directly or indirectly affected by the earthquake/tsunami.

### *Response*

- PAHO/WHO has supported the Ministry of Health in the evaluation of structural and non-structural damages in the area of Araucania and in Santiago city, and is providing technical support for modular hospitals.
- UNICEF is actively participating in radio, newspaper and TV interviews to build awareness and bring attention to children's psycho-emotional needs. The agency is now working with the Ministries of Planning, Health, Education and Justice to continue a strategy of intervention to address the needs of these affected children.
- A National Committee for Mental Health in Emergencies and Disasters has been formed, with staff from Assistance Networks and Public Health.
- The Spanish Red Cross basic health care unit, assisted by 10 Chilean RC volunteers, provided health care to 542 people in Hualañé (Maule region) since 9 March. A Spanish Red Cross psycho-social support team trained 463 people in community interventions in the same city.

## **Education:**

### *Needs*

- Local authorities estimate that 1,260 schools have been significantly damaged. Alternative solutions need to be found for some 560,000 students.

### *Response*

- The Ministry of Education announced its "45 Day Plan" beginning on 13 March with the objective that all students return to school within 45 days.
- UNESCO and UNICEF are helping the Ministry of Education develop a basic tool for rapid needs assessments of the education sector which go beyond the evaluation of damaged infrastructure.
- According to the Ministry of Education, the first temporary modular unit is functioning in the coastal areas of Maule for approximately 150 students. The second unit will be installed in the next weeks in Constitución (Maule Region) with a capacity of 800 students.
- UNICEF and the Ministry of Education's national programme 'Chile Grows With You' are preparing activities to aid teachers and school officials in how to provide adequate psycho-emotional support to children.

*The mission of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is to mobilize and coordinate effective and principled humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors.*

#### IV. Coordination

- A new coordination mechanism was set up by the Ministry of Interior. An Emergency Committee incorporating various ministries will manage the emergency response phase. The Ministry of Planning (MIDEPLAN) will centralize information on emergency needs and is the focal point for inter-agency emergency shelter meetings. The Ministry of Interior will chair the Emergency Committee and WASH meetings. An organigram will be disseminated in the next few days.
- The United Nations Emergency Technical Team (UNETT) is meeting twice a week to discuss coordination mechanisms. A second inter-agency cluster assessment is being planned for next week to establish coordination mechanisms with local government structures and define where CERF projects will be implemented.
- A meeting on Emergency Shelter was organized by OCHA on 12 March with international and local partners to discuss plans and actions in this sector.

#### V. International Funding and Assistance

- Current tracking of contributions indicate nearly US\$ 115 million in resources pledged or committed, including US\$10 million from the CERF, and almost US\$7 million in uncommitted pledges.

#### VI. Contacts

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#### Websites and document links:

Government of Chile website: <http://terremotochile.com/>

For more information on Chile and other crises, visit: [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int) and [www.redhum.org](http://www.redhum.org)

For information on OCHA: <http://ochaonline.un.org/>

For information on ICRC's family tracing service, go to: <http://www.familylinks.icrc.org/familylinks>.

Maps about Chile: <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/RWB.nsf/doc404?OpenForm&emid=EQ-2010-000034-CHL&rc=2>