

Disaster relief emergency fund (DREF)

Peru: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRPE005
GLIDE n° [FL-2011-000198-PER](#)
17 April 2012

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent emergency response. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of National Societies to respond to disasters.

CHF 255,940 has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Peruvian Red Cross (PRC) in delivering immediate assistance to 800 families (some 4,000 beneficiaries). Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: The annual seasonal high precipitation period from December to April has worsened in 2012 due to hydro-meteorological disturbances, causing flooding in different areas in Peru and affecting a total of 649,526 persons country-wide. The Peruvian Red Cross will focus its relief efforts in the most affected department—Loreto—where approximately 202,676 persons have been affected by floods.

The Peruvian Red Cross operation will centre on distribution of safe water, hygiene kits and blankets as well as on improving the living conditions in 16 collective centres that have been established in districts within Loreto to shelter affected families. This DREF operation will support the National Society to deliver assistance to the most vulnerable part of the population living in relatively remote areas.

This operation is expected to be implemented over 3 months, and will therefore be completed by July 2012; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by October 2012).

[<Click here for the DREF budget; here for contact details; here to view the map of the affected area>](#)



Photo 1. The Peruvian Red Cross staff and volunteers conducted damage and needs assessments during the floods in Loreto, April 2012. Source: Peruvian Red Cross.

The situation

During the past months, changes in hydro-meteorological conditions in the Pacific and the La Niña weather phenomenon have affected precipitation levels, which caused the Amazon River to reach a historical level of 118.59 msnm (metres above sea surface level) during March 2012. On 29 March, a State of Emergency due to severe flooding was declared for 18 of the 24 departments in Peru for 60 days. The floods have affected several districts and in particular the San Juan, Belen, Punchana and Iquitos districts. The National Civil

Defence Institute reported that that overall 649,526 people have been affected in the entire country. The department of Loreto, and its district of Iquitos, is especially a major area of concern as it has the highest ratio of its population affected (Figure 1).

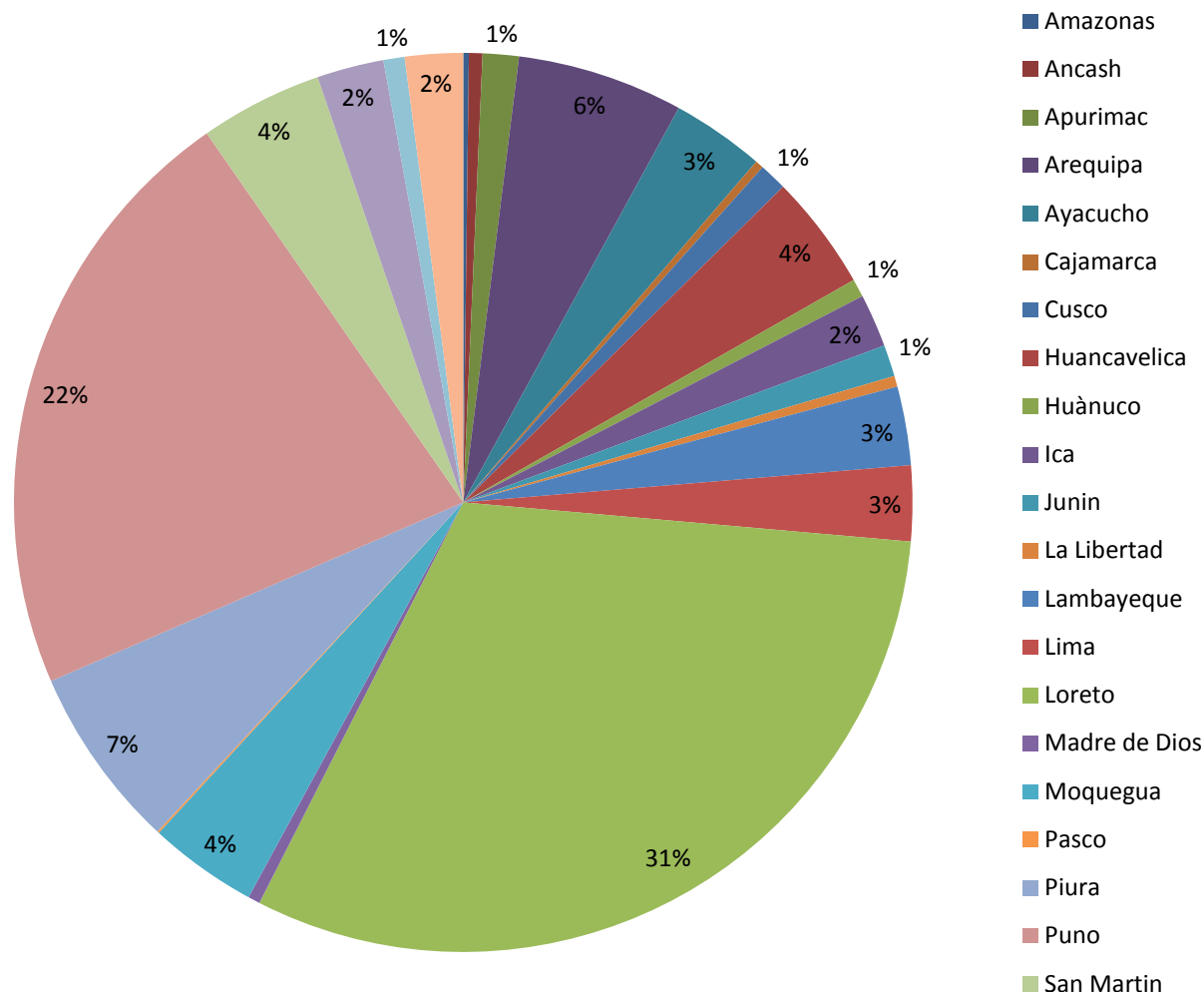


Figure 1. Percentage of affected families due floods in Peru April 2012. The largest area impacted by floods is Loreto with 31 per cent of the total affected population.

Most of the roads in the country are affected (road network of 17,764km) with a total of 2,500km of them destroyed, and access to many areas has been disrupted. This has made thus far the distribution of assistance and relief materials to the affected populations in some areas particularly challenging. The continuous rising of the River Marañón's water level is of high concern due to the possibility of additional floods in the upcoming days. Moreover, the meteorological forecast estimates that precipitations will continue but with a lower intensity during the following week.

In terms of livelihoods and agricultural production, the floods have affected large areas of the cultivated land: 10,851 hectares were affected and 1,639 hectares of crops have been lost which has a large impact on the livelihoods of people. In the Loreto department alone, the authorities report a total of 2,000 hectares of crops destroyed. In this department, livelihoods are based on forestry and small subsistence agriculture with the main crops being rice, cassava and sugar cane. The crops provide some additional income for families but represent the main source of food for families. Currently, the Peruvian Ministry of Agriculture is performing more in depth assessments of the effect of floods to the agricultural sector but it is estimated that there are considerable losses. The impact to the region's economy and livelihoods might result in long-term rehabilitation needs. This is especially true in the two Amazonian regions of Loreto and Ucayali. However, more detailed assessments are taking place. Table 1 shows the information of most affected departments (more than 10,000 persons affected).

Department	Population Affected	Collapsed houses	Affected houses	Educational institutions affected	Health facilities affected	Cultivated area affected (Ha)	Cultivated area lost (Ha)	Natural forest cover affected (Ha)
Arequipa	38,965	1,072	7,944	62	1	928	203	
Ayacucho	21,782	1,160	3,285	113	13			
Huancavelica	27,066	548	1,576	56	17	18	23	22
Ica	12,465		2,468					
Lambayeque	18,429	732	2,973	126	19	1056	4	
Lima	17,657	514	1,921	40	11	56.5	85	0.5
Loreto	202,676		43,420	413	44			
Moquegua	25,557	549	6,571	98	14	226	131.9	35
Piura	42,840	386	9,753	75	23	2269.4	30	756.5
Puno	142,248	2,296	25,261	238	46			500
San Martin	28,787	38	5,569			700		180
Tacna	15,687	273	4,185	90	22			
Ucayali	13,599	20	2,087	24	10			

Table 1. The table presents information of only the most affected departments, which have more than 10,000 people affected. (Loreto department is highlighted). Source: National Centre of Operations, National Civil Defence Institute of Peru, 9 April 2012.

Thus far, 43,420 houses have been affected by the floods in the department of Loreto. The districts most affected in the Loreto department are: Parinari, Urarinas and Nauta (Loreto province), as well as Ramón Castilla (Mariscal Ramón Castilla province). The total number of affected families is expected to rise as the prognosis for rains in the next days estimates a 60cm increase in the rivers' levels. The National Meteorology and Hydrology Service (SENAMHI) has issued a red alert as the Amazonian rivers Amazonas, Marañón, Ucayali and Huallaga have exceeded their overflowing level meaning a considerable threat of severe flooding.

Assessments carried out by the Peruvian Red Cross have identified 64 collective centres that have been established in schools and community centres in the Maynas province (Loreto department). A total of 1,865 families (8,649 persons) have been evacuated to these collective centres as of 9 April 2012 and some minority groups are staying with their relatives and friends. The collective centres have been opened in the flood affected districts of San Juan (21 centres), Belen (10), Punchana (14) and Iquitos (19). According to the Regional Civil Defence Committee, the overall situation in shelters is poor with low sanitary services and limited access to freshwater. Each of the families is living in an area of 8m² that is separated with a plastic sheet of a height of 1,7m.

In addition, seven health facilities were flooded in the Maynas province and continue to be non-functional and one is partially functioning, lowering the access for medical services for the population. In Loreto, a total of 44 health centres and 413 schools have been affected, causing delays in hospitalization and medical care as well as preventing educational activities, hence affecting the academic year. The National Civil Defence Institute has increased epidemiological surveillance and preventative actions for acute respiratory infections, acute diarrhoea, dengue and leptospirosis in the affected areas. Overall in Loreto, 240 cases of leptospirosis have been detected thus far.

Preliminary damage and needs assessments has been carried out in the Loreto department by the Peruvian Red Cross; however, the number of affected people might vary due to the possible increase in overflowing of rivers in the upcoming days based on the weather forecast.

Coordination and partnerships

The Peruvian Red Cross is part of the National Disaster Risk Management System and the Humanitarian Network as a member of its Executive Committee. The coordination with the aforementioned bodies as well as with the Ministry of Health and other humanitarian organizations ensures increased efficiency for the

planning and implementation of relief interventions. Overall, a total of 696.73 MT of humanitarian aid has been delivered to the affected population; however, the Regional Civil Defence Committee reports that in the worst hit region of Loreto, approximately 5,000 persons are living in very poor conditions and continue in need of food rations and non-food items.

Several organizations such as CARE, Practical Solution, GAA, COOPI, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the World Food Programme (WFP) and Plan International are supporting regional and local authorities with needs assessments and information management throughout the country. UNICEF will be assessing the emergency situation in Loreto during this week. CARE is delivering seeds and feed for animals in Huacané (Puno department), and the organization ADRA is providing humanitarian aid (food and tents) in Cusco and in Lurigancho. World Vision is providing assistance in La Libertad and Cusco in the sector of shelter; while Caritas Peru is providing assistance in Apurímac and Lima. The UN is assessing the possibility to launch a flash appeal for the CERF funds.

In the Maynas province, provincial authorities together with the Regional Civil Defence Committee, the regional health office, the Maynas provincial authorities and local district authorities are coordinating the relief activities with the Peruvian Red Cross branch in Maynas. The International Federation through its Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) and the regional representation for Andean Countries maintain constant communication with the Peruvian Red Cross to ensure full support to the operation.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

A National Contingency Plan was drawn up by the National Society in view of the seasonal rains and the forecast of the El Niño phenomenon in 2011. The Peruvian Red Cross mobilized its volunteers to carry out the preliminary field assessments due to the severity of the situation from 4 April 2012.

The needs

Selection of people to be reached: 800 families (approximately 4,000 people) will be selected in the province of Maynas by the Peruvian Red Cross in coordination with the provincial authorities and local authorities as well as with the Regional Civil Defence Committee. The selection of beneficiaries is based on the following criteria:

1. Families severely affected and located in collective centres.
2. Families who have not received assistance yet.
3. Families whose economical situation has deteriorated due to the floods.
4. Families who have children under the age of five, single mothers, elderly and people with chronic diseases.

Some of the initial needs identified are:

A. Non-food items

The most important needs identified by the Peruvian Red Cross at the moment are essential relief items such as blankets, jerry cans and hygiene kits to ensure improved living and health conditions.

B. Health

The epidemiological situation is being monitored by 25 health officers. At the moment there is no official statement on the increase of respiratory or intestinal diseases; however, some cases of diseases have been detected in the collective centres. Fumigations are being carried out by the Regional Emergency Operation Centre for vector-control purposes to prevent the spreading of dengue and malaria. Vector-disease control is necessary to prevent epidemical outbreaks; therefore, the National Society is prioritizing the promotion of health and prevention of communicable diseases through educational campaigns. Access to freshwater is essential and needs immediate actions as to minimize the risk of acute diarrhoea and other intestinal diseases.

C. Water and Sanitation

Families already living in the collective centres are not expected to return to their homes before 60 days and more families might need relocation soon if severe precipitations and floods continue during the next weeks. Due to poor sanitation conditions in the collective centres, both sanitation and hygiene promotion activities

are necessary. At the moment, the government is procuring 112 portable toilets; however, access to safe water is still needed. Thus, water distribution and hygiene promotion activities are planned as part of this DREF operation.

D. Shelter

Most of the houses have not been fully destroyed by the floods but are either fully or partially flooded. This situation has caused that as of 9 April at least 1,865 families had to be evacuated to the collective centres. These families are currently sheltered in 64 collective centres, of which 10 are located in the Belen district, 19 in Iquitos, 14 in Punchana and 21 in San Juan. Unfortunately, assessments indicate that the collective centres do not fulfil minimal standards of privacy, security and hygiene due to overcrowding. Some families are living in 8m² areas, separated by plastic sheets of 1.70 metres high. As the situation is expected to deteriorate in the following weeks if the rivers continue to rise, activities need to be performed in order to improve living conditions of affected families sheltered in collective centres.

The proposed operation

In the Maynas province (department of Loreto), 4,000 of the most vulnerable persons (approximately 800 families) affected by the floods will be assisted with relief activities such as access to safe water, distribution of relief items, improvement of conditions in the collective centres, epidemic control and health activities. The Peruvian Red Cross will coordinate with the Regional Civil Defence Committee of Loreto to provide assistance to the most affected districts of Iquitos, San Juan, Punchana and Belen.

Additionally, the DREF will support the activities of volunteers with protective gear and transportation costs. Volunteers and National Intervention Teams members will be also receiving training to be able to provide psychosocial support to the communities, as well as training related to Sphere standards, management of collective centres and water and sanitation. Furthermore, given the remoteness of the affected area, some radio equipment, GPS and laptops will be provided to ensure the security of volunteers and the proper communication with the PRC's headquarters. This operation will focus on the department of Loreto, as it has been the most affected department in the country. Volunteers will be provided insurance coverage during their operational activities within this DREF.

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)
Outcome: 4,000 people (800 families) affected by floods in the districts of Iquitos, San Juan, Punchana and Belen, in the province of Maynas (department of Loreto) will benefit from the provision of essential non-food items to recover from the effects of the flood.
Output: 800 families affected by floods in the districts of Iquitos, San Juan, Punchana and Belen, in the province of Maynas, the Department of Loreto will receive blankets, jerry cans, water filters and hygiene kits.
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct damage and needs assessment in the affected areas. • Develop a beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance. • Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user. • Monitor and evaluate relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.

Emergency health
Outcome: The health risks in the emergency affected population are reduced through community health promotion and disease prevention in the districts of Iquitos, San Juan, Punchana and Belen, in the province of Maynas, Loreto department.
Outputs: 4,000 people (800 families) in the affected area in the districts of Iquitos, San Juan, Punchana and Belen, in the province of Maynas are reached with health campaigns, and psychological support.
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct assessment of possible health risks and monitor development of epidemics. • Evaluate the psychosocial support needs among the affected population. • Provide psychosocial support for the affected population. • Distribute public information on epidemics and communicable diseases.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: The risk of waterborne and water related diseases is reduced through the provision of safe water, adequate sanitation as well as hygiene promotion within the affected population in the districts of Iquitos, San Juan, Punchana and Belen, in the province of Maynas, Loreto department.

Outputs: 800 families (4,000 persons) in the districts of Iquitos, San Juan, Punchana and Belen, in the province of Maynas are reached with safe drinking water, and sanitation and hygiene promotion.

Activities planned:

- Assess situation in collective centres with a view of ensuring availability of an adequate water supply and sanitation.
- Train Red Cross volunteers on water and sanitation topics.
- Install equipment for the safe storage of water in collective centres.
- Install water treatment plants and distribute to collective centres (water trucking).
- Distribute chlorine tablets, jerry cans, water filters and hygiene kits to 800 affected families.
- Provide hygiene promotion and disseminate public information on vector control and waste management.
- Provide potable water, appropriate sanitation and hygiene promotion for 800 families in Maynas.
- Work alongside community members on waste removal and to clear waterways.

The hygiene kits to be distributed include the following items:

Item	Article	Quantity (units) per kit
1	Bar of soap (for laundry) 250g	4
2	Roll of toilet paper	4
3	Bar of soap (150gr)	4
4	Toothpaste (tube of 90g)	3
5	Tooth brush for adults	4
6	Tooth brush for children	1
7	Shampoo sachet	10
8	Razor	2
9	Hand towel (50x120cm)	2
10	Sanitary pads (package)	2
11	Comb	3

Emergency shelter

Outcome: The immediate shelter needs of the target population are met in the most affected districts of Iquitos, San Juan, Punchana and Belen, in the province of Maynas, Loreto department.

Outputs: At least 16 shelters in the districts of Iquitos, San Juan, Punchana and Belen, in the province of Maynas have improved conditions with access to freshwater and sanitation as well as safer environment.

Activities planned:

- Assess and select target collective centres.
- Train Red Cross volunteers and local authorities in the management of collective centres.
- Conduct basic repairs and improvements in collective centres.

- Monitor the evolving situation.

Capacity of the National Society

The Peruvian Red Cross has experience in assisting affected communities based on past experiences during the 2009–2010 flood emergency, when 11 departments (Amazonas, Ancash, Ucayali, Junín, Ayacucho, Arequipa, Lima, Cusco, Huancavelica, Puno and Apurímac) were affected by floods. In this occasion, the National Society assisted some 5,000 affected persons (approximately 600 families) with relief items and health promotion. The current operation will be led by the PRC disaster response unit, with the support of several volunteers trained as National Intervention Team members in the areas of health, relief, and water, sanitation and hygiene promotion.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **IFRC Regional Representation:** Iñigo Barrena, regional representative for the Andean countries; phone: +51 997 555 638; and email: ci.barrena@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Zone:** Jorge Zequeira, PADRU coordinator; phone: +507 317 3050; and email: jorge.zequeira@ifrc.org
- **In Geneva:** Christine South, quality assurance senior officer, phone: +41.22.730.4529, email: christine.south@ifrc.org
- **Regional Logistics Unit (RLU):** Douglas Baquero, regional logistics coordinator; email: douglas.baquero@ifrc.org

For Resource Mobilization and Pledges:

- **In IFRC Zone:** Inga Purmalis, resource mobilization officer; email: inga.purmalis@ifrc.org

**For Performance and Accountability
(planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)**

- **In IFRC Zone:** Jane Grimshaw, PMER manager; email: jane.grimshaw@ifrc.org



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3. Click [here](#) to view a map of the affected area

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 (NGOs) 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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Saving lives, changing minds.



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.
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DREF OPERATION

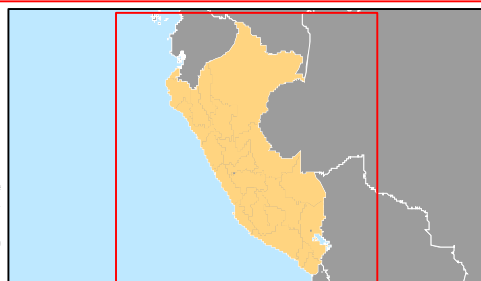
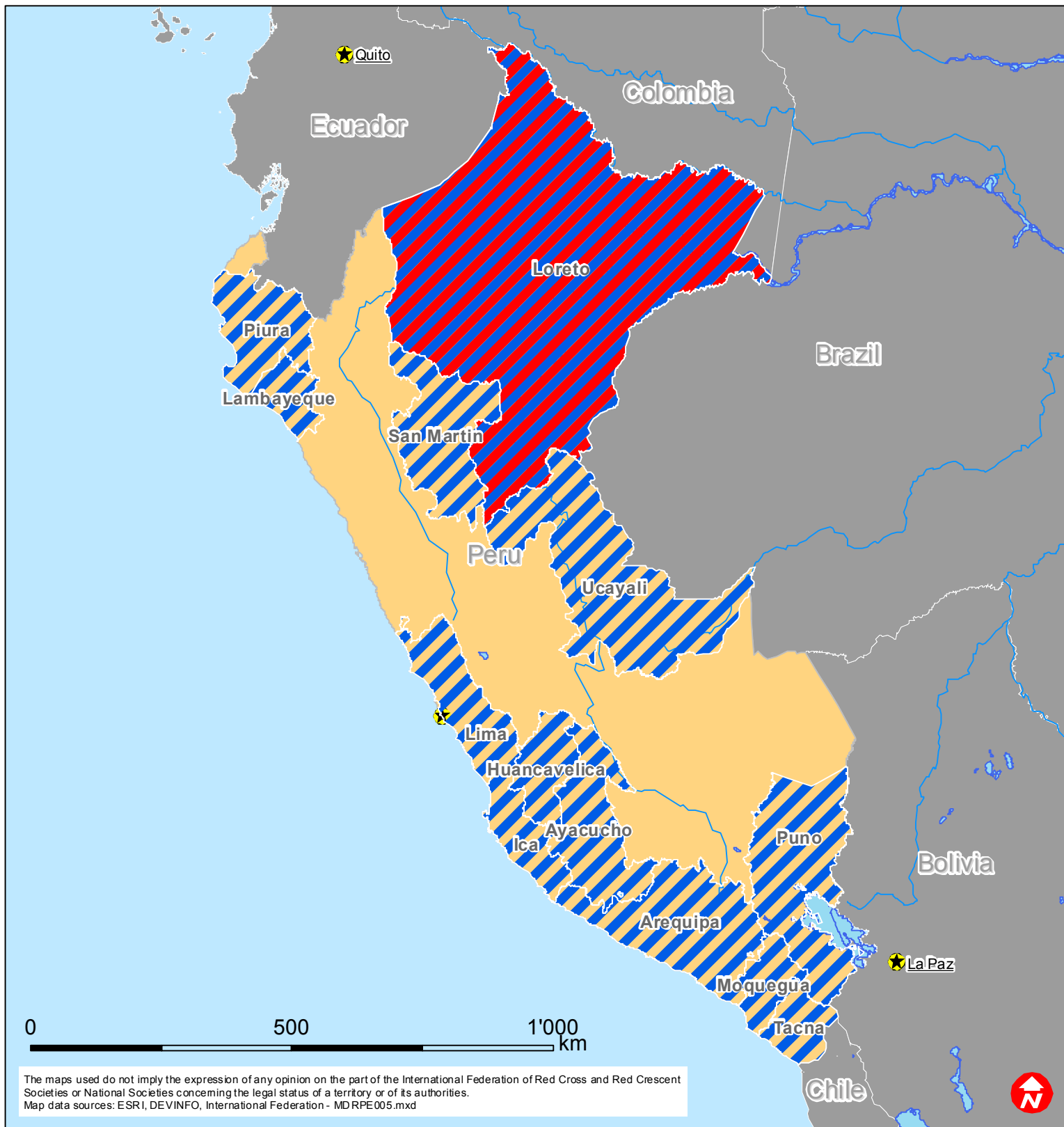
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MDRPE005 Peru Floods 2012

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	
Shelter - Transitional	5856
Construction - Housing	
Construction - Facilities	
Construction - Materials	
Clothing & Textiles	8,784
Food	
Seeds & Plants	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	124,286
Medical & First Aid	
Teaching Materials	7,961
Ustensils & Tools	7,320
Other Supplies & Services	
Emergency Response Units	
Cash Disbursements	
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	154,207
Land & Buildings	
Vehicles Purchase	
Computer & Telecom Equipment	7,320
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	
Medical Equipment	
Other Machiney & Equipment	
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	7,320
Storage, Warehousing	
Dsitribution & Monitoring	31,612
Transport & Vehicle Costs	4,575
Logistics Services	1,468
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	37,655
International Staff	
National Staff	
National Society Staff	11,170
Volunteers	13,085
Total PERSONNEL	24,255
Consultants	
Professional Fees	
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0
Workshops & Training	5,948
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	5,948
Travel	2,471
Information & Public Relations	1,830
Office Costs	3,820
Communications	1,442
Financial Charges	1,373
Other General Expenses	
Shared Support Services	
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	10,935
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	15,621
Total INDIRECT COSTS	15,621
TOTAL BUDGET	255,940



Peru: Floods



-  Targeted department
-  Most affected departments