ALERT COLD SNAP



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BACKGROUND

On 22 June 2018, the Peruvian government through its Council of Ministries issued the Supreme Decree N° 062-2018-PCM declaring 122 districts from the high Andean areas from nine departments in state of emergency due to the damages caused by frost, snowfall and heavy rains, causing negative effects on health, education, as well as in agriculture and livestock activities. The severe weather significantly increased the cases of pneumonia and respiratory diseases; 556 cases of pneumonia among children under 5 years have been reported, as well as 185 fatalities. According to the National Center of Epidemiology, Lima has the highest number of influenza AH1N1, followed by Piura, Puno, Cuzco, Madre de Dios and Tacna. This season's frost arrived earlier than usual and has already affected more than 104,579 Peruvians in 11 regions of the country.

In some areas, such as San Antonio de Putinas in Puno, temperatures plummeted to - 15 °C (5 °F), causing deaths of at least 6 children According to the Office of the Ombudsman, 15 schools were close as well as 02 health centers. 1,327 houses have been affect. As of July 09, 2018, in Puno, people were affected by the cold snap, 12,027 animals have died and 1,224,426 were affected; whereas in Cusco, there are 74,225 affected people, 18 affected houses, one affected school, 30 km of road were damaged, 2,287 animals have died and 192,844 were affected. There are 5,059 hectares of damaged crops.

NEEDS

Humanitarian needs at this point include:

- Community-based psychosocial care,
- NFIs to improve housing (such as solar panels, warm walls and clean kitchens)
- Materials and assistance to improve animal sheds.
- Warm clothes for the children

The impacts are more severe for affected people with special needs, including people living with disabilities who require additional support to access assistance. Women and children are known to be particularly vulnerable during times of crisis. Students are currently facing disruption to studies due to the situation.

STAKEHOLDERS

The national government has delivered 1,324.79 tons of humanitarian aid to the inhabitants of the affected region. Ministers and representatives are mobilizing to the affected region of the country to provide humanitarian aid consisting of clothing, blankets, toolkits, and food. Additionally, public institutions, civil organizations and private sector have launched solidarity campaigns to collect outwear, blankets, non-perishable food, personal hygiene kits.

ACT Alliance

The ACT Alliance Peruvian Forum is planning to provide humanitarian relief through a RRF to the affected remote areas where assistance has not arrived so far and are in need. DIACONIA and the Methodist Church of Peru will coordinate the response. The Forum is currently monitoring the situation and is preparing a response proposal based on a quick needs assessment. Coordination meetings are taking place at country level, in coordination with ACT Secretariat Regional Office.

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Any funding indication or pledge should be communicated to the Head of Finance and Administration, Line Hempel (<u>Line.Hempel@actalliance.org</u>)

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