

Bolivia - Drought

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"A prolonged drought is severely threatening the food security, health and nutritional status of children and adults in Bolivia's southeastern El Chaco region."



SITUATION

A prolonged drought is severely threatening the food security, health and nutritional status of children and adults in the El Chaco region, which consists of the departments Santa Cruz, Chuquisaca, and Tarija. Approximately 180,000 people are affected, of which 26,000 are children. Food availability is of major concern now and is expected to worsen until the next harvest in May 2005. The region is considered to be at risk of a major humanitarian crisis.

ACTION

The Government of Bolivia has declared the drought-affected region of El Chaco as a national disaster area. The United Nations Disaster Management Team under the leadership of the United Nations Resident Coordinator has prepared a Flash Appeal to respond to the urgent and immediate needs of approximately 55,000 of the worst-affected population.

