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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of

**on the financing of emergency humanitarian actions in PERU from the general budget
of the European Union**

(ECHO/PER/BUD/2011/01000)

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on the financing of emergency humanitarian actions in PERU from the general budget of the European Union

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No.1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid¹, and in particular Article 2(a) and Article 13 thereof;

Whereas:

- (1) The worst rains in 18 years were registered in late January and early February 2011 and continued until mid April, severely affecting the Department of Ucayali, situated in the tropical zone in the Central East of the country. Overflowing of the rivers Ucayali, Tambo, Negro, Urubamba, Aguaitía and Irazola severely affected the 4 provinces of the department. Water levels rose to 20 metres as opposed to four metres in normal flooding;
- (2) At least 58,037 people have been affected by heavy rains and floods, mostly indigenous population. The Department of Ucayali registers high levels of poverty. At least 1,042 houses have been completely destroyed and 13,884 have been partially destroyed. The worst affected province is Atayala, where 1,782 families have lost their livelihoods, assets and belongings.
- (3) At least 43,571 hectares of crops have been devastated and approximately 50,000 hectares severely affected, 1,000 breeding animals and poultry have died, and more than 28,593 (mainly poultry) have been seriously affected.
- (4) The agricultural cycle is disrupted with most or all crops lost, thereby causing a critical blow to household economy and local food security, leading people previously mostly engaged in subsistence farming to engage in fishing, which barely provides enough resources for household consumption; due to the isolation of the affected communities, selling fish for cash for purchasing other food supplies such as rice is rarely an option.
- (5) Unseasonal rains and low temperatures in early July have exacerbated the situation.
- (6) Despite the Regional Government's efforts to address the emergency situation, the magnitude of the floods in Ucayali Department has widely surpassed the institutional

¹ 1- OJ L 163, 2.7.1996, p. 1.

capacity of Peru to respond to the situation at different levels. A needs assessment mission was conducted by the European Commission on 4-6 July highlighting significant weaknesses in local response capacities, resulting in almost inexistent local support. The needs assessments confirmed emergency needs in terms of livelihoods, food and nutrition, shelter, non food items and disaster preparedness. The Regional Government of Ucayali has formally requested support from the FAO and from NGO COOPI on 11 July 2011.

- (7) Assistance is needed to support those most vulnerable populations who lost all or most of their crops and who do not have livelihood alternatives, and are therefore most exposed to immediate life-threat, particularly targeting indigenous ethnic groups who have been the most affected by the flooding.
- (8) The provision of early recovery support is critical in the coming months before the end of the next planting season (August-October);
- (9) To reach populations in need, humanitarian aid should be channelled through non-governmental Organisations (NGOs) and international organisations including United Nations (UN) agencies. Therefore the European Commission should implement the budget by direct centralised management or by joint management;
- (10) Humanitarian aid actions financed by this Decision should be of a maximum duration of 6 months;
- (11) It is estimated that an amount of EUR 2,000,000 from budget article 23 02 01 of the general budget of the European Union is necessary to provide humanitarian assistance to up to 8,000 people, taking into account the available budget, other donors' contributions and other factors. The activities covered by this Decision may be financed in full in accordance with Article 253 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation;
- (12) The present Decision constitutes a financing Decision within the meaning of Article 75 of the Financial Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002², Article 90 of the detailed rules for the implementation of the Financial Regulation determined by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002³ and Article 15 of the internal rules on the implementation of the general budget of the European Union⁴.
- (13) Pursuant to Article 13 of Council Regulation (EC) N° 1257/96, the opinion of the Humanitarian Aid Committee is not required.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

1. In accordance with the objectives and general principles of humanitarian aid, the Commission hereby approves a total amount of EUR 2,000,000 for the financing of

² OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p.1.

³ OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p.1.

⁴ Commission Decision of 5.3.2008, C/2008/773

emergency humanitarian actions in Peru from budget article 23 02 01 of the 2011 general budget of the European Union.

2. In accordance with Article 2(a) of Council Regulation No.1257/96, the principal objective of this Decision is provide humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable people affected by floods in Ucayali Department, Peru. The humanitarian actions shall be implemented in the pursuance of the following specific objective:
 - - To improve the humanitarian situation of vulnerable populations affected by floods in Ucayali Department, by integrated relief and immediate recovery support and disaster preparedness mainstreaming

The full amount of this Decision is allocated to this specific objective.

Article 2

1. The period for the implementation of the actions financed under this Decision shall start on 11 July 2011. Expenditure under this Decision shall be eligible from the same date. The duration of individual humanitarian aid actions financed under this Decision shall be limited to a maximum of six months.
2. If the implementation of individual actions is suspended owing to force majeure or other exceptional circumstances, the period of suspension shall not be taken into account in the implementing period of the Decision in respect of the action suspended.
3. In accordance with the contractual provisions ruling the Agreements financed under this Decision, the Commission may consider eligible those costs arising and incurred after the end of the implementing period of the action which are necessary for its winding-up.

Article 3

1. In accordance with Article 253 of the Implementing Rules and having regard to the urgency of the action, the availability of other donors and other relevant operational circumstances, funds under this Decision may finance humanitarian actions in full.
2. Actions supported by this Decision will be implemented either by non-profit-making organisations which fulfil the eligibility and suitability criteria established in Article 7 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1257/96 or international organisations.
3. The Commission shall implement the budget:
 - either by direct centralised management, with non-governmental organisations,
 - or by joint management with international organisations that are signatories to the Framework Partnership Agreements (FPA) or the Financial Administrative Framework Agreement with the UN (FAFA) and which were subject to the four pillar assessment in line with Article 53d of the Financial Regulation.

Article 4

This Decision shall take effect on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels,

For the Commission

Claus Sorensen, Director-General



Emergency Humanitarian Aid Decision **23 02 01**

Title: Commission decision on the financing of emergency humanitarian actions in Peru from the general budget of the European Union

Description: Emergency humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable people affected by floods in Ucayali Department, Peru

Location of action: PERU

Amount of Decision: EUR 2,000,000

Decision reference number: ECHO/PER/BUD/2011/01000

Supporting document

1 Humanitarian context, needs and risks

1.1 Situation and context

The worst rains in 18 years were registered in late January and early February 2011, and continued until mid April, severely affecting the Department of Ucayali, situated in the tropical zone in the Central East of the country. Overflowing of the rivers Ucayali, Tambo, Negro, Urubamba, Aguaitía and Irazola affected the 4 provinces of the department: Atalaya, Coronel Portillo, Padre Abad, and Purus; the worst affected and poorest province being Atalaya. Water levels rose to 20 metres as opposed to four metres in normal flooding.

At least 58,037 people have been affected by heavy rains and floods, mostly indigenous population. The Department of Ucayali registers high levels of poverty.

At least 1,042 houses have been completely destroyed and 13,884 have been partially destroyed. The worst affected province is Atayala, where 1,782 families have lost their livelihoods, assets and belongings.

According to Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) and the Regional Office of the Ministry of Agriculture at least 43,571 hectares of crops have been

devastated and approximately 50,000 hectares severely affected, 1,000 breeding animals and poultry have died, and more than 28,593 (mainly poultry) have been seriously affected.

The agricultural cycle is disrupted with most or all crops lost, thereby causing a critical blow to household economy and local food security, leading people previously mostly engaged in subsistence farming to engage in fishing, which barely provides enough resources for household consumption; due to the isolation of the affected communities, selling fish for cash for purchasing other food supplies such as rice is rarely an option.

On 25 February 2011 an emergency was declared at regional level. Humanitarian aid was mobilized by the Regional Government and the private sector. Proceedings for the National Emergency decree were not properly managed and approval was delayed until 14 April when a National Emergency decree was issued.

As a first response to the immediate needs, DG ECHO1 approved in April a project of 199,619 Euro with NGO partner COOPI under financing decision ECHO/DRF/BUD/2010/03000. The project is assisting 2,500 affected people (approximately 500 families) in 30 villages in the district of Iparia (Coronel Portillo province) with house rehabilitation, food aid support, livelihood reactivation and reinforcement of disaster preparedness. However, due to the extent of the damage a wider intervention is required. With the end of this project in August and the harvest planned in early October, a 2 months gap will exist in food access.

No aid has been delivered to remote affected rural areas, mainly due to high logistical costs and the extremely weak capacities of local institutions to access the areas and provide accurate data on the affectation. Affected areas are mainly indigenous with high poverty rates.

1.2 Identified humanitarian needs

Despite the Regional Government's efforts to address the emergency situation, the magnitude of the floods in Ucayali Department has widely surpassed the institutional capacity to respond to the situation at different levels.

The National Humanitarian Network² needs assessment in the affected area, and two missions carried out by DG ECHO, in May and July, confirmed remaining acute early recovery needs in livelihoods, food and nutrition, shelter, non food items and disaster preparedness:

➤ *Livelihoods*: Substantial gaps in livelihood support (agriculture and livestock) have been identified (the Regional Government of Ucayali has formally requested support from the FAO and from NGO COOPI by letter dated 11 July 2011). Early recovery support needs to be ensured before the next planting season. Basic livelihood reactivation is needed to re-establish local subsistence mechanisms.

¹ European Commission's Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection

² National Humanitarian Network is a formal body composed of United Nations agencies, national and international NGOs, who jointly support and coordinate with the National Civil Defense Institute (INDECI) and other government institutions. A joint and multi-sector needs and damages assessment mission was carried out on 19 and 20 April 2011. The assessment team consisted of representatives of: INDECI, Ministries of Health, Agriculture, Housing, Environment, Education, Defence, Production, PRONAA (National Feeding Programme), UNICEF, UNFPA, FAO, OCHA, WFP, COOPI, Red Cross, Caritas, ACT Peru and SENAMHI.

- *Food aid and food security*: there is a very high prevalence of chronic child malnutrition in the department of Ucayali. There are indeed pockets of vulnerability in Atayala and Iparia provinces where the flood impact on the livelihood of the poorest is likely to have significant consequences on their nutritional status, and external support to cope with the lost harvest is necessary. The coping capacities of the affected population has been further eroded by the loss of the March-April harvest because of the floods, deteriorating further the already critical food security situation faced by this unassisted population and exposing them to greater immediate life-threat. Food rations are needed to the most remote and unmet pockets of vulnerability.
- *Shelter*: populations have returned to their homes in precarious conditions (poor sanitary and housing conditions), as their houses have been severely affected and they have lost all or most of their belongings. Support is needed for the provision of tools and materials (iron sheets, etc...) to repair damaged houses. Technical support to local authorities is needed regarding reconstruction, rehabilitation and recovery mechanisms in safe places and other alternatives, in order to re-establish living conditions.
- Provision of *non-food items* such as hygiene kits, kitchen sets is important for the most vulnerable communities.
- *Disaster risk reduction* should be mainstreamed as much as possible in the response to this event, to increase the capacity of the local authorities to cope with future events, and to reduce the vulnerabilities of the affected communities. This should be done not only through the inclusion of specific disaster preparedness and mitigation activities, but also through the adoption of a risk reduction approach in the humanitarian response activities.

1.3 Risk assessment and possible constraints

Access to affected rural areas is one of the main challenges for the delivery of humanitarian aid in response to the floods. Access to the area is only by boat and logistics costs are very high, which is a constraint for the delivery of humanitarian assistance to affected population.

There is still a risk that there is an underestimation of the affected population. The data used for "numbers of affected populations" are based on government figures, for which local government institutions lack capacity to undertake assessments and provide proper information and accurate data on the affectation.

Further rainfall during the implementation period could hamper access to beneficiaries.

2 Proposed DG ECHO response

2.1 Rationale

DG ECHO's intervention aims to ensure that emergency humanitarian aid is provided to the most affected people in order to avoid a further deterioration of their livelihoods and food security situation. The timing of implementation of the present financing decision is aimed to coincide with the agricultural planting season and fill the gap of the lean season.

This emergency Decision intends to alleviate the suffering of the affected population, particularly concentrating emergency assistance on the most affected populations in the Department of Ucayali, who have not received official assistance due to remoteness or lack of resources/capacity of local authorities.

DG ECHO will assist those who lost all or most of their crops and who do not have livelihood alternatives, and who are therefore most exposed to immediate life-threat, particularly targeting indigenous ethnic groups who have been the most affected by the flooding.

Priority will be given to operations that mainstream disaster risk reduction into their relief activities as the population targeted by this Decision has little alternative but to continue to live in this disaster-prone areas. Actions will aim to increase the capacity of the local authorities and to reduce the vulnerabilities of the affected population.

Assistance under this Decision is expected to reach approximately to 8,000 people (1,600 families). Coordination will be ensured between partners selected under this decision.

2.2 Objectives

- Principal objective: To provide emergency humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable people affected by floods in Ucayali Department, Peru.
- Specific objectives:
 - To improve the humanitarian situation of vulnerable populations affected by floods in Ucayali Department, by integrated relief and immediate recovery support and disaster preparedness mainstreaming

2.3 Components

The focus of this financing Decision will be on emergency activities with an early recovery component in order to allow affected rural population to restart self subsistence agricultural production as soon as possible.

Shelter and non food items

- Small-scale rehabilitation of individual shelters with a self-help approach through the provision of basic tools, with, to the extent possible, a Disaster Risk Reduction approach, i.e. with raised homestead support by pillars. This activity will be coupled with relevant skills training.
- Distribution of non food items including kitchen sets and hygiene kits.

Food aid

- Provision of emergency food relief (especially to the remote/unmet pockets)
- Promotion of good infant feeding practices through training and awareness-raising.

Emergency livelihood recovery

- Direct provision of essential agricultural inputs for distribution to the most affected households for the next cropping season (tools, seeds).
- Distribution of livestock, mainly poultry, to restore livelihoods.
- Training and awareness campaigns to communities with the aim of improving food sources better preparation for future events.

Disaster preparedness

- Training and awareness-raising among targeted populations and authorities, mitigation works.

2.4 Complementarity and coordination with other EU services, donors and institutions

(See table 3 in annex)

USAID has provided support for the procurement of seeds (for around 356,248 EUR) through its project of fighting against drugs and crime which is being implemented in the department of Ucayali.

FAO is currently in discussion with the Australian government on a long-term development project for poverty reduction in the department of Ucayali. Such an action would provide an opportunity for linking response with long-term development support.

2.5 Duration

The duration of humanitarian aid actions shall be maximum 6 months.

Expenditure under this Decision shall be eligible from 11 July 2011.

If the implementation of the actions envisaged in this Decision is suspended due to force majeure or any comparable circumstance, the period of suspension will not be taken into account for the calculation of the duration of the humanitarian aid actions.

Depending on the evolution of the situation in the field, the Commission reserves the right to terminate the Agreements signed with the implementing humanitarian organisations where the suspension of activities is for a period of more than one third of the total planned duration of the action. In this respect, the procedure established in the general conditions of the specific agreement will be applied.

3 Evaluation

Under Article 18 of Council Regulation (EC) No.1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid the Commission is required to "regularly assess humanitarian aid

actions financed by the Union in order to establish whether they have achieved their objectives and to produce guidelines for improving the effectiveness of subsequent actions." These evaluations are structured and organised in overarching and cross cutting issues forming part of DG ECHO's Annual Strategy such as child-related issues, the security of relief workers, respect for human rights, gender. Each year, an indicative Evaluation Programme is established after a consultative process. This programme is flexible and can be adapted to include evaluations not foreseen in the initial programme, in response to particular events or changing circumstances. More information can be obtained at:

http://ec.europa.eu/echo/policies/evaluation/introduction_en.htm.

4 Management Issues

Humanitarian aid actions funded by the European Union are implemented by NGOs and the Red Cross National Societies on the basis of Framework Partnership Agreements (FPA), by Specialised Agencies of the Member States and by United Nations agencies based on the Financial Administrative Framework Agreement with the UN (FAFA) in conformity with Article 163 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation. These Framework agreements define the criteria for attributing grant agreements and financing agreements in accordance with Article 90 of the Implementing Rules and may be found at http://ec.europa.eu/echo/about/actors/partners_en.htm

For NGOs, Specialised Agencies of the Member States, Red Cross National Societies and international organisations not complying with the requirements set up in the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Union for joint management, actions will be managed by direct centralised management.

For international organisations identified as potential partners for implementing the Decision, actions will be managed under joint management.

Individual grants are awarded on the basis of the criteria enumerated in Article 7.2 of the Humanitarian Aid Regulation, such as the technical and financial capacity, readiness and experience, and results of previous interventions.

5 Annexes

Annex 1 - Summary decision matrix (table)

Principal objective To provide emergency humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable people affected by floods in Ucayali Department, Peru.				
Specific objectives	Allocated amount by specific objective (EUR)	Geographical area of operation	Activities	Potential partners³
To improve the humanitarian situation of vulnerable populations affected by floods in Ucayali Department, by integrated relief and immediate recovery support and disaster preparedness mainstreaming	2,000,000			<u>Direct centralised management</u> - COOPI - CROIX-ROUGE - DEU <u>Joint management</u> - FAO
TOTAL	2,000,000			

³ COOPERAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE (ITA),DEUTSCHES ROTES KREUZ, (DEU),UNITED NATIONS - FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION

Annex 2 - List of previous DG ECHO decisions

List of previous DG ECHO operations in PERU				
Decision Number	Decision Type		2009/2010 EUR	2011 EUR
ECHO/PER/BUD/2010/01000	Ad hoc		2,000,000	2,259,000
	DIP/2009/		2,486,973	
	DIP/2009/05011		1,997,896	
	Subtotal	0	6,084,869	2,259,000
	TOTAL		8,343,869	

Date : 28/07/2011

Source : HOPE

(*) decisions with more than one country

Annex 3 - Overview table of the humanitarian donor contributions

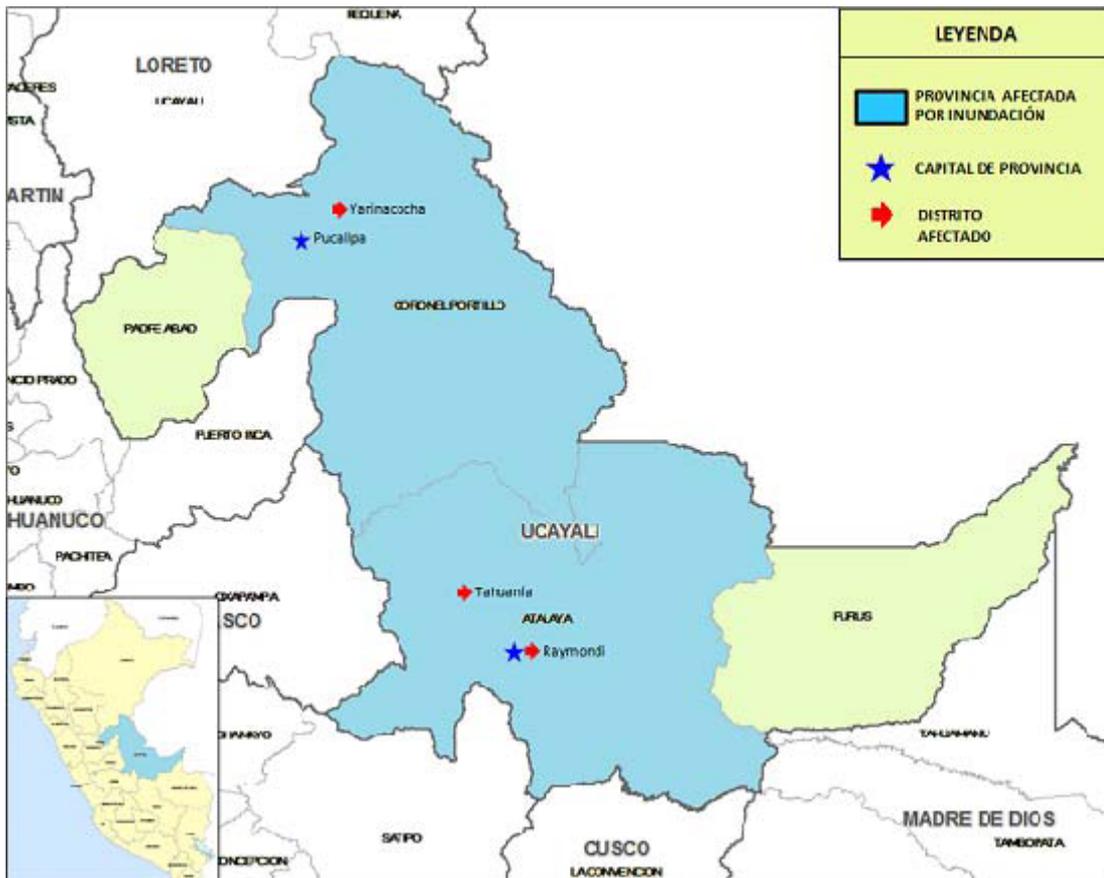
Donors in PERU over the last 12 months			
1. EU Member States (*)		2. European Commission	
	EUR		EUR
Germany	281,339	DG ECHO	5,077,515
Greece	5,000		
Italy	1,000,000		
Luxembourg	50,000		
Sweden	215,761		
Subtotal	1,552,100	Subtotal	5,077,515
TOTAL	6,629,615		

Date : 28/07/2011

(*) Source : DG ECHO 14 Points reports. <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/hac>

Empty cells : no information or no contribution.

Annex 4 – Maps



Annex 5 - Human Development Index per district

