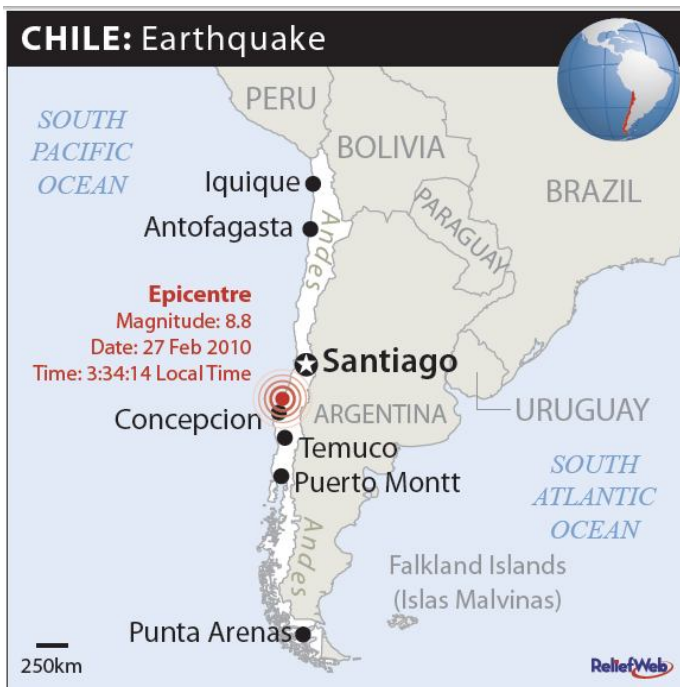


*This report was issued by OCHA Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean and covers the period from 27 February to 1 March. The next report will be issued on or around the 4 March.*

## I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- Latest figures indicate at least 723 people killed and 2 million affected.
- Major airport still operating with restrictions.
- Government identifies main needs including field hospitals with surgery facilities, dialysis centres, generators, satellite phones, water purification system, and mobile bridges.

## II. Situation Overview



Reliefweb map showing the location of the 8.8 magnitude earthquake that hit the Chilean Coast on 27 February 2010.

- The epicentre of the earthquake was 325km southwest of Santiago, 35km depth; Coastal towns of Chile and Juan Fernandez Island located 630 Km from shore were impacted by waves that advanced 3 km in certain areas.
- Preliminary evaluations indicate 2 million people affected and 723 deaths currently reported.
- The Government of Chile declared 6 regions as zone of catastrophes: Valparaiso, Metropolitana, Libertador O´Higgins, Araucania, Biobío and Maule. A detailed map with population in the zone of impact can be seen in the annex.
- Santiago Airport international and other airports in the affected zone are still operating with restrictions.

### Basic services conditions

- Electricity has been established progressively: Valparaiso and Metropolitana have been re-established in 80%. In Maule, 18 communities continue with no power supply as well as in Biobío.
- Water supply has also been restored progressively; areas with no water supply due to the lack of power supply or pipelines damages have been serviced by water trucks.
- Telephone systems are still overwhelmed and communications is not always easy.
- Roads and bridges conditions are still being assessed; government has prioritized the reopening of major roads to ensure minimum connectivity to affected zones.
- Hospitals in Maule were the most affected with moderate to severe damages on infrastructures.
- To ensure public order and accelerate the distribution of aid, curfew is expected in certain areas where looting was observed;

### III. Humanitarian Needs and Response

- Following preliminary assessments, the Chilean Government welcomes the support targeting the following priority relief items:
  - field hospitals equipped with surgery facilities
  - autonomous dialysis centre
  - generators
  - field camps
  - satellite phones and related stations
  - structural damage evaluations systems
  - salt water purification system
  - mobile bridges
  - field kitchen
- Community kitchens have been installed to provide basic food supplies and agreements with private food enterprises have been made to provide free distribution of basic goods in Maule and Biobío.
- Argentinean Government together with Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) are sending a large capacity hospital; other four field hospitals are being installed by PAHO.
- Schools classes are still suspended from 1 to 8 March in affected areas.

### IV. Coordination

- The Chilean National Emergency Office (ONEMI) is coordinating the relief operations.
- National Authorities held a meeting with UN agencies to establish a clear plan of assistance.
- The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) offered support on evaluations.

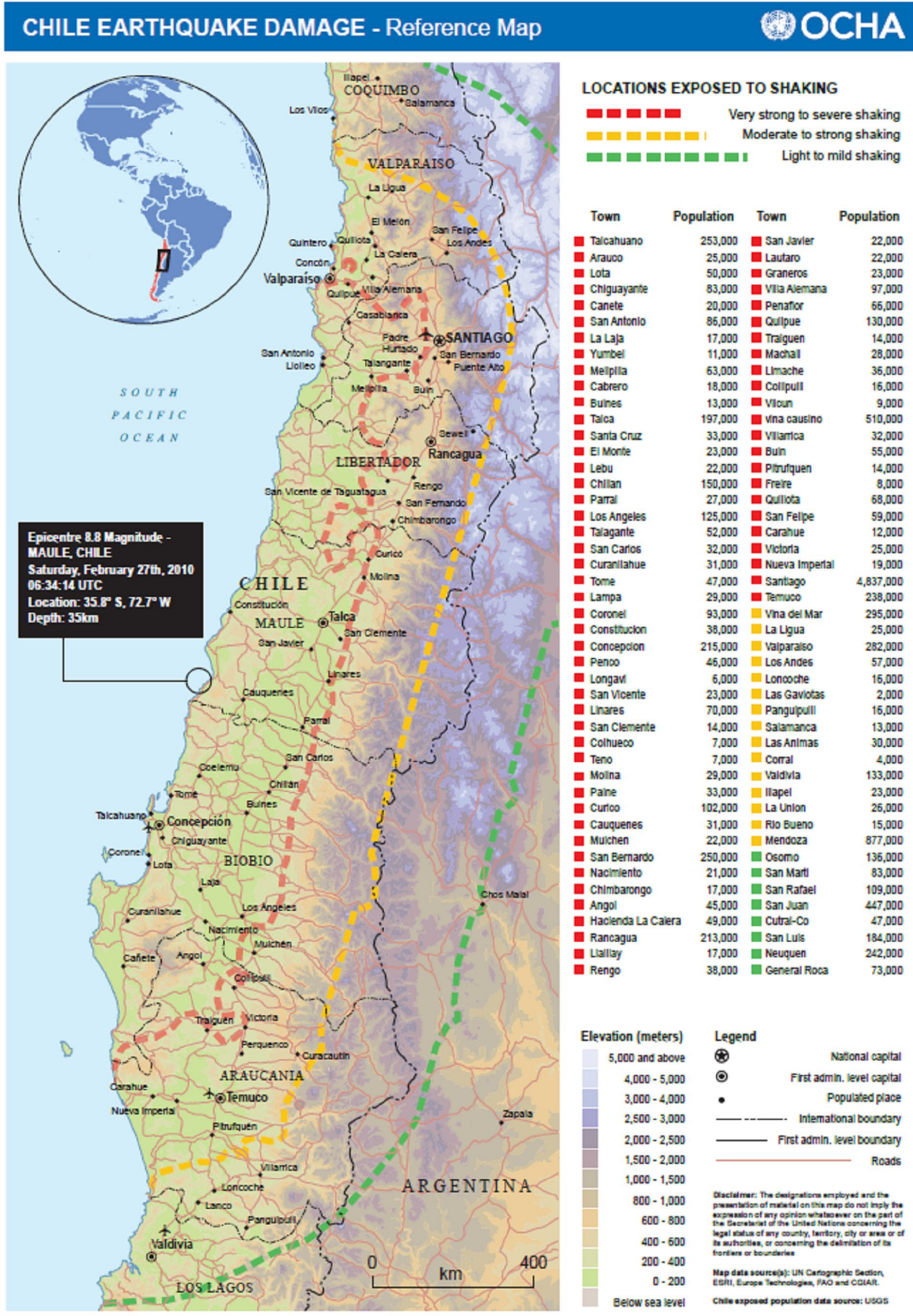
### V. Funding

- IFRC released approximately \$280,000 from its Disaster Emergency Response Fund to support Chilean Red Cross to initiate the relief operations to 3,000 families.
- American Red Cross has pledged an initial \$50,000 from its International Response Fund.
- ECHO has offered \$3 million in emergency funding.

### VI. Contacts

Location	Role	Name	Contact Details
Panama	Officer in Charge	Rogério Mobilia Silva	<a href="mailto:silvar@un.org">silvar@un.org</a> +507 317 1748/49
New York	Humanitarian Affairs Officer	Heidi Kuttab	<a href="mailto:kuttab@un.org">kuttab@un.org</a> + 1 917 367 33 65
Chile	Coordination Officer	Alejandro Mañón	<a href="mailto:alejandromanon@undp.org">alejandromanon@undp.org</a> +562 654 1016

**ANNEX – Map of Chile – Earthquake Damage perimeters – with estimated population numbers**



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.