

Chile Earthquake : Call for international donations

On 27 February 2010, an earthquake took place at 06:34:17 (GMT), 03:34:17 (local time). It registered 8.8 on the Ms Scale and its epicenter struck the city of Constitución, located in Region del Bío-Bío, approximately 600 kilometers (400 miles) south of Santiago. It affected more than one third of our country's territory, mainly where most of the Guides & Scouts Association of Chile members (girls, boys, young women, young men and adults) are located. This situation worries the Association terribly because they do not have much information about them.

In the capital city, Santiago, the damage acted upon houses, buildings and various public constructions; freeways, hospitals, schools, and monuments. However, there are other areas of our country, cities such as Talca, Chillán and Concepción, which have been stricken harder and are deeply afflicted as a result of this great natural disaster that brought, as consequence of its power, a devastating tidal wave. This caused tsunami alerts in the coasts of Peru, Ecuador, and the Polynesia and even as far as Japan.

The Guides & Scouts Association of Chile have been working tirelessly, from the very first moment the ground stopped moving, with all our members, volunteering young and adult women and men. They have been offering their selfless help, carrying out the most diverse tasks in direct coordination with the National Office of Emergencies, which belongs to the Home Office of the Chilean Government. At this time, those involve removing debris, aiding victims, packing and distributing of emergency food and clothing, amongst many others tasks.

Support International Humanitarian Aid

Scouts Australia will not be sending a group to help with the aid efforts as we are not formally trained in Disaster Relief and would be a hindrance to the efforts.

If individuals have the skills and want to help then we suggest you get in contact with humanitarian agencies such as the Red Cross or UNICEF who are long standing partners of the Scout Movement. They are organised and have the necessary infrastructure to coordinate the support to Chile from Australia.

Also we will not be giving or attempting to send products or goods at this stage unless we are formally asked. Please refer to the requests made by emergency crews through the humanitarian agencies such as Red Cross or UNICEF.

Support the International Scout Aid

You can support the International Scout Aid by contributing financially which will aid the Guides & Scouts Association of Chile labour of civic duty and service to the affected community. A special account has been opened for those who wish to contribute to the aid relief.

Send your donations to: Name of Bank: BANCO SANTANDER CHILE
Address (Chile): Bandera 140, Santiago, Chile
Account number: 0-051-80008-2
Account name: ASOCIACION DE GUIAS Y SCOUTS DE

CHILE

SWIFT Code: BSCHCLRM

**Reference: Donación Ayuda Terremoto (Earthquake Aid
Donation)**