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Ecuador Government Continues with Humanitarian Aid to Quake Victims

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At the time, the official reports 659 deaths, more than 4,000 people injured, 41 missing and 29,067 people in shelters due to the destruction of 6,998 buildings and damages in other 2,740.

Because of the tragedy, the government installed 39 permanent and 64 temporary shelters to accommodate the 6,804 families in need, according to a report from the Ministry of Communications (Secom).

Meanwhile, the Technical Secretariat for Inclusive Management in Disability has identified 268 people with disabilities in shelters and 126 hosted by relatives.

Regarding security, 14,372 members of the Armed Forces and 8,827 policemen remain mobilized in the affected areas in order to ensure the safety of citizens and restrict passage to the so-called zero ground.

The presidents of Bolivia, Evo Morales, and Peru, Ollanta Humala, traveled yesterday with humanitarian assistance to the coastal province of Manabi, the most damaged by the quake, and walked through some neighborhoods with his Ecuadorian counterpart, Rafael Correa.

For this president, touring the territories heavily impacted by the earthquake has become a daily task to exchange with the population and local authorities to assess the damage.

Ecuadorian government yesterday presented a Productive and Economic Recovery Plan to help most critical areas of the country, located in the coastal provinces of Manabi and Esmeraldas.

The initiative includes the opening of credit lines, flexible financial commitments, facilities with collection agencies, tax exemptions and hiring local labor for reconstruction.

In addition, the proposed actions include offering bonuses and preferential loan rates for housing construction.

