



NEWS
RELEASE

COLOMBIA MUDSLIDES: MERCY CORPS REPORTS FROM MOCOYA

Survivors urgently need food, clean water and blankets

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ABOUT MERCY CORPS

- Leading global organization powered by the belief that a better world is possible
- Empowering people to survive through crisis, build better lives and transform their communities for good
- Meeting the urgent needs of today through emergency response and disaster preparedness
- Building a stronger tomorrow by connecting people to the resources they need to strengthen their community from within
- Nearly 5,000 team members reaching 30 million people
- \$436.6 million total operating revenue in FY2016; 87% channeled directly into programs in more than 40 countries

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BOGOTA, COLOMBIA – The [global organization Mercy Corps](#) has a team on the ground in the city of Mocoa, the capital of the department of Putumayo, following devastating mudslides that leveled homes and destroyed highways. According to news reports, more than 250 people were killed and scores more are missing and left homeless.

“Our first concern is for the survivors of this disaster, and for the families whose loved ones are missing or have died,” says Provash Budden, Mercy Corps’ country director in Colombia. “The Colombian government has a strong first response system and a well-developed disaster unit, and we stand ready to assist.”

Mercy Corps team members in Mocoa report that survivors urgently need food, clean water, blankets and hygiene kits containing soap, toothbrushes and other essential supplies. In addition, survivors of the disaster will require psychosocial support and safe spaces for vulnerable women and children.

“We have been working in Putumayo for 11 years and know the region well,” says Budden. “We will be coordinating with the government and other humanitarian organizations to fill any gaps in the response to this tragedy and help the people of Mocoa build back stronger.”

Join us and [support Mercy Corps’ work](#) in Colombia and elsewhere in the world.

About Mercy Corps

Mercy Corps empowers people around the world to survive through crisis, build better lives and transform their communities for good. Recognized as a leader in delivering rapid, lifesaving aid to hard-hit communities, Mercy Corps has responded to almost every global emergency in the past 20 years, including the Nepal earthquakes (2015), Philippines typhoon (2013), the Japan earthquake and tsunami (2011), Horn of Africa drought and hunger crisis (2010) and Kashmir earthquake (2005). Mercy Corps was also one of the first responders to the Indian Ocean tsunami (2004) and Haiti earthquake (2010).