



International Telecommunication Union



Humanitarian Telecommunications

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Télécoms Sans Frontières



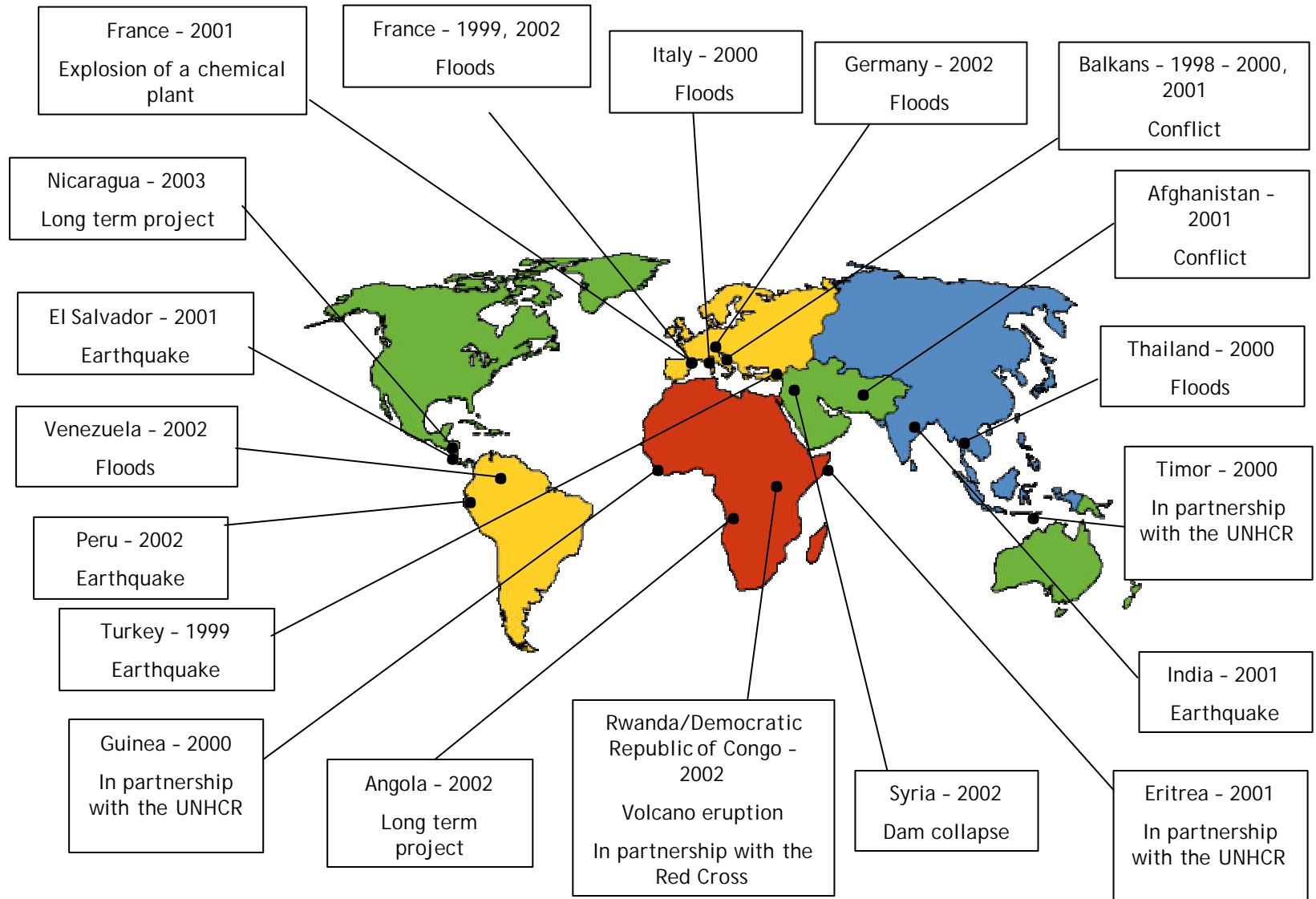
TSF's mission is to offer telecommunication facilities anywhere terrestrial infrastructures are destroyed, insufficient or non-existent



Workshop on Telecommunications for Disaster Relief, 17-19 February 2003



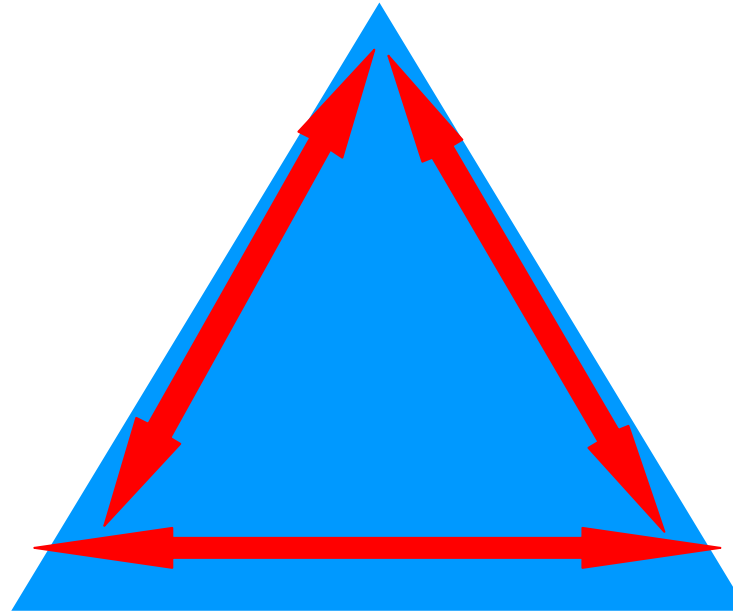
TSF at a glance





Crisis Triangle

Information
Platforms



Site of event

Outside world

- Crisis Coordination Centre
- Field Operations
- Victims

- Headquarters
- Media
- Relatives





What do relief efforts need?

o Voice

- HQ - Crisis Coordination Centre (CCC)
- HQ - Field Operations
- Field Operations - Crisis Coordination Centre
- Field Operations - Field Operations



Access to Information

- Email
- Internet
- Fax



Rescue Team Coordination

Within minutes, TSF sets up a fully operational telecommunications centre with :

- **Telephone**
- **Fax**
- **Internet access**
- **Data transmission**
- **Video emergency**



Local and international rescue teams, other NGOs, UN agencies etc. can contact their headquarters and field offices to exchange reports, photos and live videos of the situation.



What do survivors need?

- Food, Water, Medicine ...
- Access to Information
- Help and support





Support for Survivors

Survivors are offered the chance to call their families to reassure them and obtain help.

Dispersed family members can be reunited.





TSF's Role

Information
Platforms



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Is technological progress the answer?

o Yes

- Costs down (e.g. Inmarsat's MPDS, RBGAN)
- Speed up (e.g. broadband)
- Miniaturisation, Processing speed ...
- Informatics culture improving

o No

- Existing technology enough
- Human factors
- Technological gap
 - Countries
 - NGOs





Are conventions & standards the answer?

- o Yes
 - Tampere convention
 - Global standards
 - Mobile phone standards

- o No
 - Coordination
 - Human factors
 - Bureaucracy





Conclusion





Our partners



Télécoms sans Frontières is member of the United Nations Working Group on Emergency Telecommunications (WGET), partner of the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO) and member of the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA).



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