




Integrated Fire Management:
New Approaches in Forest Protection
and Nature Conservation




**Welcome to the Delegations of
Chile and Colombia**

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Chile Wildfire Emergency

- January / February 2017 -

- Rainfall deficit in Chile since 8 years
- Severe drought starting in 2016 – extending into 2017
- Multiple ignitions starting wildfires all over the country
- Natural vegetation and forest plantations affected




Chile Wildfire Emergency

- January / February 2017 -

- Extreme fire behaviour (rapid spread, very intense fires)
- Severe damages in settlements and infrastructures



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Chile Wildfire Emergency

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- Forestry personnel (CONAF) and fire service volunteers performed extremely well – but were overwhelmed by the extremely large and intense fires

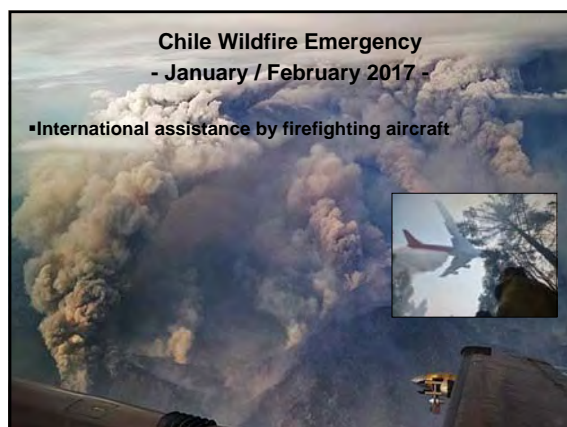




Chile Wildfire Emergency

- January / February 2017 -

- International efforts and engagement to bring the wildfires under control



Chile Wildfire Emergency
- January / February 2017 -

•The damages

- Area burned : 600.000 hectares (ha) (10-fold long-term annual average)
- 11 people killed
- Properties of more than 7400 people damaged or destroyed
- 1600 houses burned
- One single fire affecting 185.000 ha within a few hours

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Chile Forest Fire Emergency
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•The way ahead

- The situation was “forecasted”. South American Nations met in Uruguay in 2016 to be prepared for future fire problems in a changed climate and be to cope with extreme situations – as it happened too fast in 2017 in Chile.

Chile Forest Fire Emergency - January / February 2017 -

•The way ahead

- Chile-Germany cooperation to assess the damages caused by the fires



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Chile Forest Fire Emergency - January / February 2017 -

•The way ahead

- Chile-Germany cooperation to follow-up to foster cooperation in cross-boundary fire management between South American countries in 2017

With support from



by decision of the German Bundestag



Chile Forest Fire Emergency - January / February 2017 -

•The way ahead

- Regional consultation in September 2017 – bringing together authorities of Chile, Colombia and their neighbours to formalize cross-boundary agreements in fire management

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