

Guatemala: Volcanic Eruption

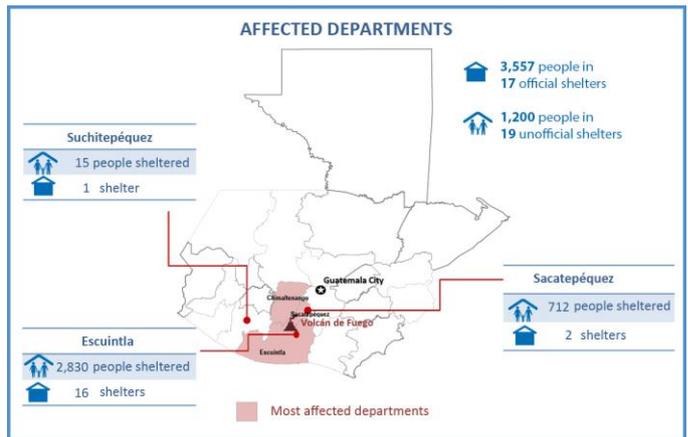
Situation Report No. 3 (as of 13 June 2018)



This report is produced by the **Humanitarian Country Team in Guatemala**, in collaboration with humanitarian partners, based on consolidated information from the National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction (CONRED), UN System via the UN Emergency Technical Team (UNETE), NGOs and the Red Cross. It covers the period 7-12 June 2018.

Highlights

- According to a Food for the Hungry evaluation, there are approximately 17 official shelters with 3,557 people, as well as 19 unofficial shelters with 1,200 people.
- Main shelter needs identified so far include staffing for shelter management, water and sanitation, storage space for supplies from collection centres, organization and management of supplies from collection centres, protection for children and women and security.
- Some 996 affected families will be relocated – authorities currently working to identify a suitable location.
- The agricultural industry needs to be reactivated quickly, as there has been considerable damage caused by falling ash and debris to corn, bean and coffee plantations
- Per the Red Cross, 197 people remain missing.



Affected departments in Guatemala.
Source: OCHA

1,714,373

People affected

12,823

People evacuated

57

People injured

110

People killed

3,557

People in official shelters

197

People missing

*official data as of 04:00pm, 12 June 2018

Situation Overview

The Volcán de Fuego volcano continues to register seismic activity, specifically avalanches and eruptions. The National Institute for Seismology, Volcanology, Meteorology and Hydrology (INSIVUMEH) is constantly monitoring the volcano and has not yet ruled out the possibility of more pyroclastic flows of similar or greater severity than those recorded since the beginning of the emergency.

The National Coordination for Disaster Reduction (CONRED) estimates that 966 homes have been affected. The families will be relocated once authorities determine a suitable location

First responders continue to find the deceased in their search and rescue efforts. Municipal authorities and the local community are deciding whether not to now designate the affected area as a cemetery ground.

The Humanitarian Assistance and Aid Coordination Centre (CAAH) has followed up with the various offers of aid from foreign governments and the international community that have come in after calling for international aid. Countries such as Canada, Honduras, Mexico and the United States have provided aid. International search and

rescue personnel have been aiding as well, working in the most affected areas. Japan has provided an expert volcanologist as well.

Humanitarian teams have carried out evaluations in ground zero, identifying supply needs that are then taken from collection centres to shelters. Unfortunately, the shelters themselves become a collection centre, leading to difficulties in storing and organising incoming supplies; at present, there is no discernible supply management, leading to unequal distribution between shelters. Shelter personnel are overworked and stressed, often working without shifts or rest periods. As most shelters are schools or educational centres, school terms are now delayed. As such, the national activation of the education sector is being considered to identify priority actions needed to restart regular school activity.

Most of the affected population work in factories and farmland in the south, while others engage in temporary work such as carpentry and fruit vendors in Escuintla and Chimaltenango. The crops grown in affected areas, which were all but wiped out, were for self-sustenance and consisted mostly of corn and bean. In areas near the volcano (San José de las Caldera) where ash and tephra fell, the damages to coffee, bean and corn crops require urgent action to jumpstart the agricultural industry.

The eruptions have affected an estimated 5,098 families in an area of roughly 7,000-8,700 acres. Losses in agricultural activity are roughly 2.47 million kilograms of coffee, equivalent to 1.27% of the national coffee export for 2018-2019.

Financing

The Humanitarian Country team is currently working on a proposal to request CERF funds for approximately US\$1.5 million.

The following contributions have been reported since the previous Situation Report:

- Catholic Relief Service (CRS) – US\$20,000 towards first response
- Plan International – US\$130,000 towards psychosocial support activities, childhood protection in shelters and shelter management support
- The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) – CHF256,877 (US\$260,577) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) Emergency Appeal
- UNDP – US\$100,000 for Post-Disaster Needs Assessment
- Start Funds – EUR182,760 (US\$215,488) assigned to Action Against Hunger, Action Aid and World Vision

Humanitarian Response



Shelter – Sectorial working group coordination: IOM

Needs:

- Logistics and storage system to ensure the optimization of available space.
- Security and control measures at shelter entry and exit points
- Strengthening of the Secretariat of Social Work of the First Lady of Guatemala (SOSEP) leadership as state sector authority
- Communication and media strategy to provide proper information

Response:

- Operational personnel in each of the seven shelters in Escuintla
- Equipment procurement and staffing is underway to carry out a detailed electronic registration of sheltered people. A field mission to map actors in the sector is scheduled for 12 June.

Gaps:

- Shortage of beds for the entire sheltered population.



Health - Sectorial working group: PAHO/WHO

Needs:

- Psychosocial support to evacuees and sheltered people to support the community and cultural grieving process.
- Health diagnostics for sexual and reproductive health and diseases that require urgent and specialized care.
- Mechanisms to efficiently transport gravely affected people to places with more capacity for proper clinical attention.
- Primary and specialized differentiated health care.

Response:

- Four psychologists and one external consultant.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) - Sectorial working group: UNICEF

Needs:

- Women-specific needs in different shelters (towels, dental hygiene kits, sanitary towels, undergarments)
- More bathrooms to meet the demands of the volume of people, separate bathrooms for men and women and proper illumination

Response:

- 12 eco-filters



Protection – Sectorial working group: UNHCR

Needs:

- Access to information listings on evacuees, missing people and a population census of the affected region
- Strengthening of coordination between the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Guatemalan Red Cross and the Attorney General's Office in searching for missing people and restoring family links, as well as establishing effective protection measures for children without families.
- Design and dissemination of informational material on where to go to restore family links and search for missing people.
- Establish protection teams in each shelter to ensure a fair and uniform application of protection measures.
- Analysis of known risks and vulnerabilities in shelters, as well as evacuation plans and contingency plans.
- Ensure safe spaces for women and children by age range.
- Establish teams trained in childhood protection to monitor children and adolescents, in particular, separated or unaccompanied children.
- Community mechanisms to cope with loss, recommending the encouragement of funerals, ceremonies and culturally appropriate religious practices to respect cultural and social practices.
- Integration of victim participation mechanisms in decision making processes involving the recovery of families and communities
- Representation for women during shelter and security coordination activities.

Response:

- Some 400 emergency flashlights and whistles for women and children in four shelters to ensure safe use of bathrooms at night and other poorly lit areas, 400 women's hygiene kits in four shelters, training on protection and human rights for women in each of the official shelters
- The Gender Working Group is building a checklist for the inclusion of a Gender approach in each of the sectors (water, sanitation and hygiene, nutrition, protection, education, etc.)
- Seven telephone stations in shelters, two forensic dentists, two forensic anthropologists, 150 body bags, and reactive DNA testing supplies for up to 100 tests.



Food Security and Agriculture - Sectorial working group: FAO & WFP

Needs:

- Investment in jumpstarting agricultural activities for the most affected people.
- Adapt existing shelter space for proper ventilation and furniture for food storage

Response:

- WFP is supporting with food supplies and supply management with storage.



Early Recovery - Sectorial working group: UNDP and CONRED

Needs:

- Affected families that will be relocated require access to land for subsistence farming.
- Affected families that will not be relocated, but who have damages to subsistence crops, require reactivation of their crop farming, either with economic or technical assistance.
- Affected families that are to be permanently relocated require assistance in quickly obtaining land and living spaces to ensure sustainable food security.

Response:

- CONRED has confirmed national technical working groups for recovery and reconstruction.
- A recovery and PDNA expert and a volcanic statistic interpretation and analysis expert have been deployed in support of CONRED and Secretariat of Planning and Programming of the Presidency (SEGEPLAN). UNDP has purchased emergency computer equipment for CONRED's use.

General Coordination

The UN system, through the Humanitarian Country Team, continues to work in different coordination spaces (UN Disaster Management Team, UN Emergency Technical Team, HCT assembly and sectorial working groups), analysing and prioritizing humanitarian needs that require support.

An action plan for shelters has been coordinated with the shelter sectorial working group, in close coordination with SOSEP. This is plan is being led by IOM in their capacity as sectorial working group leader and includes response actions for needs in health, water, sanitation and hygiene; psychosocial support, protection and early recovery.

For more information, please contact:

Ms. Rebeca Arias, UN Resident Coordinator, rebeca.arias@one.un.org, Tel. (502) 23843120

Mr. Sergio Garcia, CONRED Executive Secretary, scabanass@conred.org.gt, Tel: (502) 23240800

Mr. John Lundine, NGO working group, john.lundine@plan-international.org, Tel: (502) 23230202

For more information, please visit: www.unocha.org | www.reliefweb.int | www.redhum.org