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Migrants

PANAMA

As of the end of March 2016, some 3,613 Cuban migrants are still stranded in Panama. In Paso Canoas (Panama - Costa Rica border) 1,893 Cuban migrants are living in four temporary emergency shelters.

There are 1,720 more Cuban migrants in the towns of Puerto Obaldia and Metetí (Panama – Colombia border).

Paso Canoas and Puerto Obaldia have been hosting migrants since November 2015, when Nicaragua closed its border with Costa Rica. The number of people affected is expected to increase rapidly as more Cuban migrants arrive to Panama every day, including children, chronically ill people and pregnant women.

As of December 2015, when Costa Rica closed its border with Panama, between 30 to 100 migrants arrive to Paso Canoas every day. National authorities, the Red Cross and Caritas are attending the migrants.

Source: Shelter Cluster Americas.



PANAMA: The Paso Canoas, Puerto Obaldia and Metetí settlements are housing about 3,613 Cuban migrants. Panama receives between 30 to 100 Cuban migrants per day. PHOTO: Anna Pont / Shelter Cluster.

HONDURAS

Some 1,600 migrants return to Honduras every week by air and by land from the United States and Mexico. In 2015, around 75,000 Honduran migrants were deported by these two countries.

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs via El Proceso.

Highlights

- **MIGRANTS:** 3,613 Cuban migrants are stranded in Panama and cannot continue their journey to the United States due to the closing of Costa Rica and Nicaragua borders.
- **RAINS AND FLOODS:** In Peru, the rainy season, strengthened by El Niño, has affected some 103,267 people as of the end of 2015. In Argentina last week 1,400 people were displaced due to rains, while 19 provinces of Ecuador remain on alert.
- **FOOD INSECURITY:** 348,000 tons of food is wasted every day in Latin America and the Caribbean. FAO highlights that the region must commit to reduce this figure by half if it wants to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

Monitoring



Zika



El Niño

Weekly stats



3,613

Cuban migrants stranded in Panama



103,267

People affected by floods in Peru since late 2015

Early Warning



Select an icon/title for further information on the emergencies/alerts.

Rains and floods

PERU

Some 103,267 people are affected, 20 are dead, 28 injured and 8,729 are homeless from emergencies related to El Niño since the end of 2015.

Authorities report 24,295 houses affected, as well as 393 schools and 72 health centers.

Source: National Authorities via ANDINA.

ARGENTINA

Around 1,400 people were evacuated on Tuesday (March 29) in the province of Santa Fe (central area) due to overflowing rivers. The capital city of Santa Fe is the most affected. The most recent and severe flooding linked to El Niño occurred in the northeast of the country in December 2015, when there were 30,000 evacuated people.

Source: Civil Defense via La Nación.

ECUADOR

Ecuador's Secretariat of Risk Management (SGR) declared an alert for 19 of its 24 provinces for increased rainfall. The country has reported heavy rains since March 2016 – especially in coastal areas.

An estimated 9,000 people have been affected by rains, floods and landslides in the country.

Source: Secretariat of Risk Management.

Epidemics - Zika

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The number of reported cases of Zika virus shows a decrease in Colombia and some states in Brazil, while increases were reported in Central America and the Caribbean.

Despite this downward trend in reported cases, which coincides with the trend in cases of dengue and chikungunya, there is no assurance that the epidemic is decreasing. According to data from Member States in the region, the majority (98 percent) of cases of Zika virus are suspect cases and laboratory-confirmed cases represent only 2 percent of the total. The Zika virus has affected 33 countries in the region so far.

Source: Pan American Health Organization.

Food Insecurity

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

In Latin America and the Caribbean, 348,000 tons of food end up in the trash every day. The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) states that if the region wants to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), it will have to cut this figure by a half over the next 14 years. FAO estimates that every year, each inhabitant in the region wastes 223 kilos of food, a total of 127 million tons - enough to feed 300 million people, or 37 percent of hungry people in the world.

Source: United Nations.

