



REDLAC Weekly Note on Emergencies

Latin America & the Caribbean

This note is compiled for The Risk Emergency Disaster Working Group for Latin America and the Caribbean (REDLAC) by the OCHA Regional Office through disaster monitoring and input from our Regional Humanitarian partners. This note summarizes key facts and actions reported by the Sources indicated. Activities carried out in affected countries are not limited to the ones reported here. Please check with Sources for further information. For input, feedback and suggestions send us an email to ocha-rolac@un.org

Year 6 – Volume 319

12 August, 2013

HIGHLIGHTS:

- **NICARAGUA:** More than 14,140 people affected in RAAS from rains and overflowing rivers.
- **GUATEMALA:** Flooding in Izabal department affects 228 people
- **HONDURAS:** Health authorities intensify fight against dengue - 15,546 people affected.

FLOODING

NICARAGUA: Several communities in the South Atlantic Autonomous Region (RASS) were affected by rains. Thirteen people are dead and at least 14,149 people were affected by overflowing rivers in rural areas of Bluefields and Tortuguero.



Plan International delivered gloves, flashlights, helmets, ropes, lifejackets and first aid kits to municipal committees. This aid has an estimated value of half a million dollar. Image: ©Radio La Primerísima

Staple crops were damaged and the United Nations World Food Programme is distributing food to affected families, following a request by the National System

for Disaster Prevention. The United Nations Technical Team in the RASS and the North Atlantic Autonomous Region (RAAN) are coordinating with municipal and regional committees to attend the needs and damages in the municipalities.

Source: UNETT team in Nicaragua.

GUATEMALA: Heavy rain and overflowing rivers in the Livingstone municipality (Izabal department) affected 228 people and caused minor damages to 38 houses. Shelters were not activated as people sought shelter with friends and families.

Source: National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction.

PARAGUAY: The European Union's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department (ECHO) allocated 595 million guaraníes (102,000 euros) to the Paraguayan Red Cross to assist 1,631 families in the Departments of Ñeembucu and Misiones. The funds will be used to

distribute first aid supplies, support the recovery of livelihoods and provide psychosocial support.

In June, the Paraná and Paraguay Rivers overflowed causing flooding that affected about 2,300 families in the departments of Misiones, Alto Paraná and Ñeembucú.

Source: ECHO.

EPIDEMIOLOGY

HONDURAS - Dengue: Local authorities are intensifying their actions to control the dengue mosquito in affected areas. About 15,546 confirmed cases and 17 deaths were reported in the epidemiological week No. 30 (21-27 July). ⁽¹⁾

UNICEF is supporting the Government with supplies and logistics. ⁽²⁾

Source: 1) Health Secretariat of Honduras. 2) UNICEF via El Heraldo.

MEXICO - Dengue: This year the number of cases of dengue has increased 61 percent from 2012. Since January there have been 32 deaths. The National Epidemiological Surveillance Center reports 16,246 cases of dengue in the epidemiological week No. 30 (21-27 July), while in the same period in 2012, there were 10,070 cases.

Source: National Epidemiological Surveillance Center.

HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

PERU: WFP and the National Civil Defense Institute (INDECI) signed an agreement to ensure that Peruvians affected by natural disasters will receive quality humanitarian assistance and service provided through emergency programmes, projects and interventions, especially in food aid. INDECI reports that in the 2012-2103 rainy season, more than 180,000 people were affected in the Loreto, Arequipa, Cusco, Anchas, Huancavelica and Huánuco regions.

In the next four years, WFP will provide technical assistance to identify gaps that could hamper the efficient delivery of food aid during emergencies. It will also provide capacity building for INDECI to ensure a more efficient food aid management in emergencies.

Source: WFP