

Guatemala: Volcanic Eruption

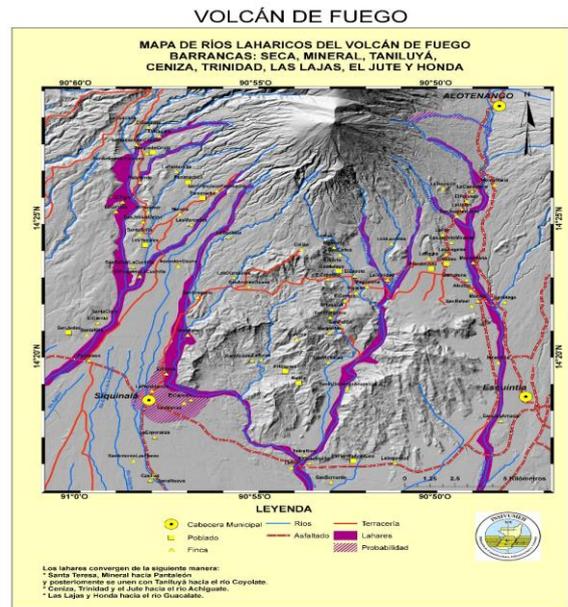
Situation Report No. 2 (as of 07 June 2018)



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 5-7 June 2018. The next report will be published in 2 days.

Highlights

- The number of people in shelters continues to rise. Although official shelters are operational, those who have self-sheltered remain unaccounted for.
- Search and rescue is ongoing, with personnel in affected areas working under high-risk conditions.
- The Volcán de Fuego volcano continues to be active. On 6 June, authorities reported a pyroclastic flow down the El Jute and Las Lajas ravines, prompting the evacuation of at-risk communities in the area.



Map of lahar flows emanating from the Volcán de Fuego volcano in the Seca, Mineral, Tanluya, Ceniza, Trinidad, Las Lajas, El Jute and Honda ravines. Source: INSIVUMEH

1,713,566
People affected

12,407
People evacuated

58
People injured

99
People killed

4,137
People sheltered

197
People missing

*official data as of 07:30am, 7 June 2018

Situation Overview

Volcanic activity has increased after the first eruption on 3 June. Explosions have ranged between moderate and strong, throwing ash some 5,000m into the air. On 5 June, authorities issued evacuation alerts that triggered mass panic in the surrounding population, leading to a massive population movement that caused the collapse of critical roads.

On 6 June, the National Institute for Seismology, Volcanology, Meteorology and Hydrology (INSIVUMEH) reported that the accumulation of volcanic material resulted in lahar flows down the Seca and Mineral ravines, both of which are tributaries of the Pantaleón river. These lahar flows measure 30-40m in width and 4-5m in height, descending with heat and giving off steam and carrying material similar to a cement mix with rocks that are 2-3m in diameter, putting communities near the ravines and Pantaleón bridge at high risk. New lahar flows are possible if current rainfall continues.

A red alert remains in place for the Escuintla, Sacatepéquez and Chimaltenango departments, as well as in the municipalities of Escuintla, Alotenango, Yepocapa and Santa Lucía Cotzumalguapa. The institutional alert level remains at orange.

National Coordination for Disaster Reduction (CONRED) system organizations continue to perform search and rescue for missing people and provide care and attention in shelters and collection centres are ongoing. At present, CONRED is carrying out a damage assessment and needs analysis DANA. Areas buried under ash and debris remain inaccessible, hindering attempts to accurately quantify missing persons estimates.

Shelter situation

CONRED has 21 registered shelters in the departments of Escuintla (17), Sacatepéquez (1), Santa Rosa (2) and Suchitepéquez (1). The number of people sheltered continues to rise. There are no detailed surveys with data disaggregated by age and sex.

The shelters currently have sufficient food, water and clothing supplies, as well as mattresses and cots. However, there are reports that children are consuming food that does not meet the nutritional requirements for their age.

Shelters are still being fitted to receive people, as most of them are schools, public buildings or community halls. Conditions are not yet in place to receive people with disabilities and the setting up of safe spaces for pregnant and lactating women is unfinished.

Financing

The following contributions have been reported so far:

- The Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID):
 - EUR40,000 to CONRED to purchase 3,735 blankets and 295 folding cots
 - EUR50,000 towards the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF)
 - EUR50,000 to activate Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) with Oxfam
 - EUR60,000 to activate WASH with Action Against Hunger
- UNICEF: US\$15,000
- The Spanish Red Cross: EUR15,000 to support first response by the Guatemalan Red Cross
- UNITED WAY: US\$16,000 in groceries for shelters
- USAID: US\$10,000 USD to purchase hygiene kits

Humanitarian Response

The information below is a joint analysis between humanitarian actors, with the participation of UNICEF; UNFPA, UNDP, WFP, UNHCR, OHCHR, IOM, FAO, Oxfam, Good Neighbors, Plan International, ACH, Mercy Corps, CONRED, OCHA, Food for Hungry, COOPI, Techo, Child Fund, Care, UN Women, Save the Children, UNDSS, UNESCO, World Vision, UN Volunteers, AECID, Red Cross and AWO International



Shelter (21 registered shelters and some 23 not registered or self-shelters) - Cluster coordination: IOM

Needs:

- There are no detailed or current census data disaggregated by age and sex
- Per UNHCR, the identification of foreigners, refugees or people with special needs remains a critical task
- Shelter administration authorities are overwhelmed and require support in human resources
- There are no information distribution mechanisms in place (megaphones, for example)
- Psychosocial Support for adults, children and shelter management staff
- Not all shelters have kitchen sets.
- Feeding programs are not distinguishing between adults, children and vulnerable groups.
- There are damages to 7 centres, 6 shelters and 14 collection centres.

Response:

- Food, water, mattresses, cots and clothing needs are sufficiently covered.
- Some organizations, such as Oxfam, are still delivering supplies (300 hygiene kits and 5 kitchen kits in each shelter)
- Plan International provided three shelter management support technicians to the Secretariat of Social Work of the First Lady of Guatemala (SOSEP), three psychosocial support teams of four psychologists each to shelters in Escuintla and Alotenango, as well as delivering 500 mattresses, 500 sheets, 500 pillows, 500 blankets, 250 menstrual hygiene kits and 250 children's hygiene kits for approximately 1,500 people, with an approximate cost of US\$180,000
- Good Neighbors delivered 1,000 quilts and 250 mattresses for shelters in Escuintla

Gaps:

- Protection programs for childhood, women and vulnerable groups, safe spaces, psychosocial support and support to migrants and refugees
- Shelter infrastructure conditions, mainly to facilitate access for people with disabilities, protect the privacies of families and women and improving the illumination of specific areas.
- Improve security to keep out non-shelter management personnel that pose a risk to children (kidnapping, abuse), women (violence, abuse) and other groups.
- Coordinated work with the health, WASH and nutrition clusters to improve conditions

**Health - Cluster coordination: PAHO/WHO****Needs:**

- PAHO/WHO
 - Improved coordination with the Ministry of Health (MOH) in carrying out actions. A 3W needs to be done to strengthen health support in shelters
 - Ensure access to information on vaccinations for children under 5.
 - Family hygiene kits
 - Reinforce communications on health and hygiene risks to the affected population, including protective measures against falling ash, hand washing, food handling and waste management.
 - Protective equipment for health professionals and first responders on the ground, including masks and protective eyewear.
 - Post-birth obstetric hygiene kits (diapers for the mother, sanitary towels, moist towelettes)
 - Birth kits
 - Strengthening and coordination of psychosocial support and mental health in shelters, morgues and in the community
 - Medication for pregnant women
 - Shortage of sexual and reproductive health personnel

Response:

- PAHO/WHO
 - Formation of medical teams with the MOH and social security health system to care for patients at the El Rodeo health centre outside of the affected area and in functioning shelters
 - Transfer of burn patients and patients who require hospital care to hospitals in Escuintla, Roosevelt and San Juan de Dios.
 - First response teams (Guatemala municipal fire brigades, volunteers, and the Guatemalan Red Cross) carrying out search and rescue, recovery and transportation activities.
 - Public and private ambulances are supporting patient transfers from Escuintla to national hospitals.
 - The MOH reports that is sufficiently stocked and supplied to attend to the emergency.
 - Distribution of sterile gowns and personal protection equipment to hospitals and health centres.
 - Deployment of interagency evaluation team to shelters in Escuintla
 - Deployment of emergency coordination specialists
- UNFPA is preparing to deliver 1,000 sexual and reproductive health kits, as well as provide care for pregnant women and new-born children and distribute informational material on sexual violence and sexual and reproductive health care.

Gaps:

- N95 personal protective masks
- Protective eyewear
- Obstetric hygiene kits
- Basic kits for birth and neonatal care.

**Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) - Cluster coordination: UNICEF****Needs:**

- UNICEF:
 - Essential hygiene supplies
 - Sanitation services
 - Essential daily hygiene supplies for families
 - Proper spaces for safe water storage

**Protection - Cluster coordination: UNHCR****Needs:**

- Protection for sanitation services to guarantee the security and privacy of users
- Insufficient latrines to meet the demand
- There are seven pregnant women, with 1 ready to give birth, yet there is no dedicated space for them
- There is no privacy for changing clothes, as everyone is located in the same open space
- Safe spaces are needed for children and women and lighting is missing from bathrooms and group areas

Response:

- The ICRC Restoring Family Links program was launched on 5 June, in collaboration with the Guatemalan Red Cross and ICRC at a global level, to facilitate the contact between family members who are searching from abroad. The ICRC is also providing forensic and search support.
- UNICEF has deployed psychosocial support professionals for child protection with the framework of Structured Activities for a Safe Environment for Children.
- UNICEF, in coordination with the Attorney General's office, has activated a missing children alert system.
- UNICEF is supporting psychosocial support volunteers. Save the Children has held meetings with volunteer leaders to promote the proper standards for volunteer intervention, and will hand over the leadership in mental health to the MOH.

**Food Security - Cluster coordination: FAO & WFP****Needs:**

- The Ministry for Agriculture, Livestock and Nutrition (MAGA) reports that 2,538 hectares of basic grain growing land have been affected, with damages affecting families in 20 per cent of the affected area
- MAGA also reports that 3,187 hectares of vegetable growing land have been affected, with damages affecting families in 15 per cent of the affected area.
- MAGA reports 3,000 hectares of coffee growing land have been affected, with damages affecting families in 20 per cent of the affected area.
- FAO estimates that supplies will be required to start production cycles for corn and beans, as well as supplies for the production of backyard gardens and minor livestock.
- Reports from the departments of Chimaltenango and Sacatepéquez cite that volcanic ash has affected 1,325 families

Response:

- MAGA has deployed teams to evaluate, identify and map damaged areas.
- FAO is implementing a recovery and rehabilitation project for agricultural production systems for backyard gardens and basic grains



Nutrition - Cluster coordination: UNICEF

Needs:

- Separate feeding for small children and extra rations for pregnant and lactating women
- Guidance for proper feeding of small children, including breastfeeding
- Safe spaces for breastfeeding
- Micronutrients for children and women

Response:

- UNICEF
 - Formation and training of nutrition brigades who will monitor overall nutrition and provide guidance on breastfeeding and complementary feeding
 - Coordinate for supplemental feeding for children and women
 - Provide Ready-to-use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) treatment for children who have been identified with acute malnourishment.
 - Identify pregnant and lactating women
 - Provide technical assistance in preparing food for infants and small children
 - Ensure safe spaces for breastfeeding in shelters and mother-to-mother support

Gaps:

- Lack of trained personnel in breastfeeding and child nutrition
- Lack of financial resources to mobilize brigade members



Early Recovery - Cluster coordination: UNDP and CONRED

Response:

- Technical assistance from an expert on damage, loss and recovery needs evaluation is expected to begin on 8 June, in support of government and UNDP evaluation processes carried out with other organizations such as the World Bank, ECLAC and the European Union, among others.
- Support the Early Recovery working group set up by the Government to plan recovery actions

General Coordination

The Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) was activated by the Resident Coordinator, with coordination support and information management support from OCHA. The seven clusters most relevant to the response have been activated. Actions are being coordinated with national-level counterparts, including CONRED, the MOH and SOSEP, among others. The UN Disaster Management Team (UNDMT) is active. OCHA ROLAC is providing support and guidance from Panama.

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