Guatemala
Humanitarian
Situation Report
No. 1

Highlights

• On 3 June 2018, the Fuego volcano in Guatemala erupted leaving a devastating scenario in three departments of the Central American country: Escuintla, Sacatepéquez and Chimaltenango. Over 1.7 million people living in the affected area – including more than 663,000 children, have been affected.

• By 8 June, the death toll reached 109 people and 197 remained missing. Search and rescue operations were suspended on 7 June due to weather conditions in the area.

• At least 12,407 people have left their homes as the volcano is still active and the risk of new events remains. On 7 June, authorities reported new pyroclastic flows, evacuations and rescue personnel were activated.

• An estimate 4,175 people are currently living in authorized shelters, including approximately 1,616 children. Many more have sought shelter with families and friends.

• UNICEF and partners have been in constant communication with authorities in charge of the response. The Humanitarian Country Team has been activated to support the Government’s efforts. On 7 June, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued an official request for international assistance.

• While assessments are ongoing in the affected locations, UNICEF has identified key areas of intervention in response to the most urgent needs of children, pregnant and lactating women. UNICEF will work with authorities and partners supporting actions in nutrition, education, child protection, water, sanitation and hygiene sectors.

• Since the onset of the emergency, U-Report was used as a platform to verify the situation of U-Reporters across the three most-affected departments. U-report is currently being used to share messages on self-care in case of new events.

8 June 2018

663,467*
No. of children affected

1,713,617
No. of people affected
(CONRED, 6 June 2018)

1,616*
No. of children in shelters

4,175
No. of people in shelters
(CONRED, 6 June 2018)

5,800
No. of children out of school
(MINEDUC, 8 June 2018)

*Estimated by UNICEF, based on age group distribution projections of the National Institute of Statistics.

Map: Departments affected by the eruption of Fuego Volcano (Guatemala)
Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

On 3 June 2018 at 15:00 h, the Fuego volcano - located on the border of Escuintla, Sacatepéquez and Chimaltenango departments in Guatemala – erupted for the second time this year, with strong explosions raising ash columns to 15,000 meters above sea level, moving west and south west, according to the special vulcanological bulletin issued by the National Institute of Seismology, Volcanology, Meteorology and Hydrology – (INSIVUMEH).

According to the National Coordination for Disaster Reduction (CONRED), over 1.7 million people have been affected by the eruption, in a region with a large indigenous population and high levels of poverty. Key facts describing the affected region are detailed in the following table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators*</th>
<th>Sacatepéquez</th>
<th>Chimaltenango</th>
<th>Escuintla</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>361,879</td>
<td>690,933</td>
<td>937,901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children (under 18)</td>
<td>131,646</td>
<td>295,797</td>
<td>343,308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children (under five)</td>
<td>33,858</td>
<td>81,505</td>
<td>84,304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of indigenous people (%)</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under-five mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevalence of stunting among children under five (%)</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People living below the national poverty line (%)</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of children between 7 and 12 years old out of elementary school (%)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion employed in agriculture (%)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion employed in industry (%)</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion employed services (%)</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


- After the eruption, entire communities were buried with volcanic material, resulting in the deaths of 109 people. Over 12,000 have been evacuated from their homes and are now sheltered.
- Guatemalan President, Jimmy Morales, declared National Orange alert and State of Calamity for the three departments, and activated Emergency Operation Centers (COE) in Guatemala City (National COE), Escuintla, Sacatepéquez and Chimaltenango.
- As reported by CONRED, search and rescue, and needs assessment remain as the main priorities. Other priority sectors include shelter, covering primary needs (incl. food rations, hygiene kits) and damage assessments.
- Preliminary Rapid Needs Assessment have been completed, additional support has been requested to the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and assessment teams - including Government and Non-Governmental organizations - have been deployed.
- The National Directorate of Protection and Security (PROVIAL) has completely closed the road connecting Escuintla and Antigua Guatemala City (Sacatepéquez department), due to the thick ash clouds and the volcanic material falling on the area.
- CONRED has mobilized its first response team to the affect area. However, relief corps have not been able to access the villages of La Libertad, Los Lotes and El Rodeo, where the number of missing people is unknown.
- On 4 June, the Ministry of Education suspended classed in the three affected departments, as a preventive measure to protect the integrity of the students.
- On 7 June, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a request for international assistance to address the emergency.
Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

- The HCT has been activated, UNICEF is an active member.
- UNDMT and UN Emergency Technical Team (UNETE) members are maintaining constant sharing of information and analysis.
- The Resident Coordinator (RC) a.i. and UNETE Coordinator are in close permanent coordination.
- To respond to the emergency, the following national sectoral groups have been activated:
  - Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) (UNICEF, leader)
  - Nutrition (UNICEF, leader)
  - Education (UNICEF, leader)
  - Health (PAHO, leader)
  - Protection (UNHCR, leader) / Child Protection sub-cluster (UNICEF, leader)
  - Shelters (OIM leader)

Humanitarian Strategy

The Humanitarian Country Team, through the coordination of the Office of the Resident Coordinator and OCHA, is coordinating the response to the emergency. It has been decided that the focal point for coordination with the Government regarding support to sheltered people, will be IOM as the leader of the Shelter Cluster.

Actions proposed in sectors led and co-led by UNICEF (Nutrition, WASH, Education, and the Child Protection subcluster), are coordinated through IOM, as direct line of communication and coordination with SOSEP.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Nutrition

There is reportedly adequate food supplies and enough food donations to cover the shelters. People living in shelters are now receiving prepared food, in addition to donations. According to preliminary reports, kitchens in shelters have not been properly equipped for the preparation of food and there is lack of differentiated assistance for adults, young children, pregnant and lactating women. There is no micronutrient supplementation planned for children and women.

There is a need for guidance in breastfeeding and feeding for small children. Trained staff for managing the food and nutrition component in shelters is also a priority.

In response to the identified gaps, UNICEF - in coordination with Nutrition cluster partners – will form nutrition brigades to monitor the nutritional status of children for the timely identification of acute malnutrition cases and its adequate treatment; to provide counseling in breastfeeding and supplementary feeding; support adequate preparation of food, kitchen organization and preparation of food rations. Additionally, friendly spaces will be installed for breastfeeding and support, using mother-to-mother methodologies.

Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

Shelters used are permanent structures (schools, municipal buildings, etc.) with installed water and sanitation facilities, however, safe spaces for women and girls have not been established; bathrooms are far from the main structure, in some cases children have to bathe in the open air, there are not enough sanitary facilities available, lighting is not adequate, some lacks access ramps and the number of hygiene kits is insufficient (including for women, children, elderly, menstrual, etc).

UNICEF, in coordination with the WASH cluster, plans to support the installation of portable toilets and shower batteries; provision of equipment, supplies and services for solid waste management; as well as distribution of hygiene kits.

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1 Managed by SOSEP (Secretariat of Social Work of the Office of the First Lady).
Education
Due to the emergency, four schools were destroyed and six schools are being used as shelters, leaving approximately 5,800 children without access to school, risking the finalization of their school year. Children in shelters are not receiving classes either and activities were suspended in three most affected departments. Children in shelters need spaces to receive classes, along with a more compact curriculum adapted to the emergency. It is necessary to train teachers and parents to address the psychosocial situation of children affected by the emergency.
UNICEF, with the education cluster, is working to support the Ministry of Education in the construction of education spaces for sheltered children, as well as to identify alternative options for other children that have been left without access to education.

Child Protection
The Attorney General's Office (PGN) is supporting the identification of lost and missing children, challenges have been found for the identification of deceased children.
Exposure to the disaster and deteriorated living conditions, can affect children’s psychological and social well-being, and therefore need urgent psychological support. Currently, there is not enough specialized personnel in this area.
The Child Protection Sub-Cluster has prepared a proposal focusing on supporting children in shelters, working within the framework of the minimum standards for the protection of children in emergency situations and Return to Happiness. All organizations will provide material for psychosocial support activities.

Communications for Development (C4D), Community Engagement & Accountability
As a part of the joint UN emergency assessment, UNICEF supported an analysis of information needs of the affected population, both in the communities of the municipalities declared in red alert (Chimaltenango, Sacatepéquez and Escuintla) and in the shelters. Following issues were identified: uncertainty regarding new evacuations, nature of the emergency, protocols, etc., lack of information about how to access to basic services especially health and water; lack of information on mechanisms for the protection of children and adolescents, inadequate nutrition practices (for example, exclusivity of breastfeeding in the first 6 months of life) and insufficient understanding of psychosocial care. UNICEF is supporting the government partners, including Ministry of Health, to design a C4D strategy to address these shortcomings. To ensure effective implementation of the C4D strategy, UNICEF will provide technical assistance to existing networks: Communication Voluntary Group of Breastfeeding, Municipal Committee of Food and Nutrition Security (COMUSAN), Community Committee of Food and Nutrition Security (COCOSAN), Community Committee of Development (COCODE), and others. Finally, UNICEF will provide tools and communication channels: i.e. community video, community radio, social networks (U-Report), and graphic tools.

During the emergency of the Fuego Volcano, U-Report was used as a platform to verify the situation of U-Reporters in the three most-affected departments, finding out if U-Reporters had been affected, were in their homes or in shelters and how they were feeling. The results can be seen here: http://guatemala.ureport.in/poll/675/. U-Reporters sent in pictures and explained the situation that they were facing, which were then shared via social media. After this, UNICEF sent a flow of informative messages adapted from CONRED messages to all 10,000 U-Reporters in Guatemala, providing advice on how to take care of themselves, their family and community. Access to information and safety advice has been promoted via Facebook, and over 800 individuals in affected districts have accessed this information. U-Report will continue to be used as part of the emergency response.

“I live in the northern department of Escuintla which is just 10 kilometers from the lahar. My town is full of shelters and everything has come to a standstill. There’s a constant sound of ambulances arriving with rescued people.” U-Reporter, 5th June.

Media and External Communication
Since the beginning of the emergency, key information is being disseminated through UNICEF’s social networks, sharing also official information from CONRED. There is constant communication with UNICEF Regional Office (LACRO) and HQ, and with some UNICEF National Committees. An interview with UNICEF's Representative was conducted by ABC newspaper (Spain), other interviews with BBC and Radio Canada are being coordinated by the Country Office. A
A photographer was hired and deployed to capture images of the emergency zone, photographs have been shared with DOC and National Committees. In coordination with LACRO, a press release was issued on 9 June in both English and Spanish, disseminated to national and international media.\(^2\)

A customer-based collection campaign is currently active. The bank BAC Credomatic offered a campaign with the commitment of matching donations (up to US$ 130,000).

### Funding

#### Preliminary Funding Requirements (as of 8 June 2018)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appeal Sector</th>
<th>Requirements (US$)</th>
<th>Funds available (US$)*</th>
<th>Funding gap</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>US$</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>315,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>265,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>340,000</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>310,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>125,000</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>95,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Protection</td>
<td>250,000</td>
<td>110,000</td>
<td>140,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sector Not Specified</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,080,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>220,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>860,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Including funds pledged from Sweden and UNICEF’s Humanitarian Thematic funds.

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**Next SitRep: 15/June/2018**


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