



**Situation Report No. 2**  
**UNCT**  
**El Salvador**

**TIME/DATE**

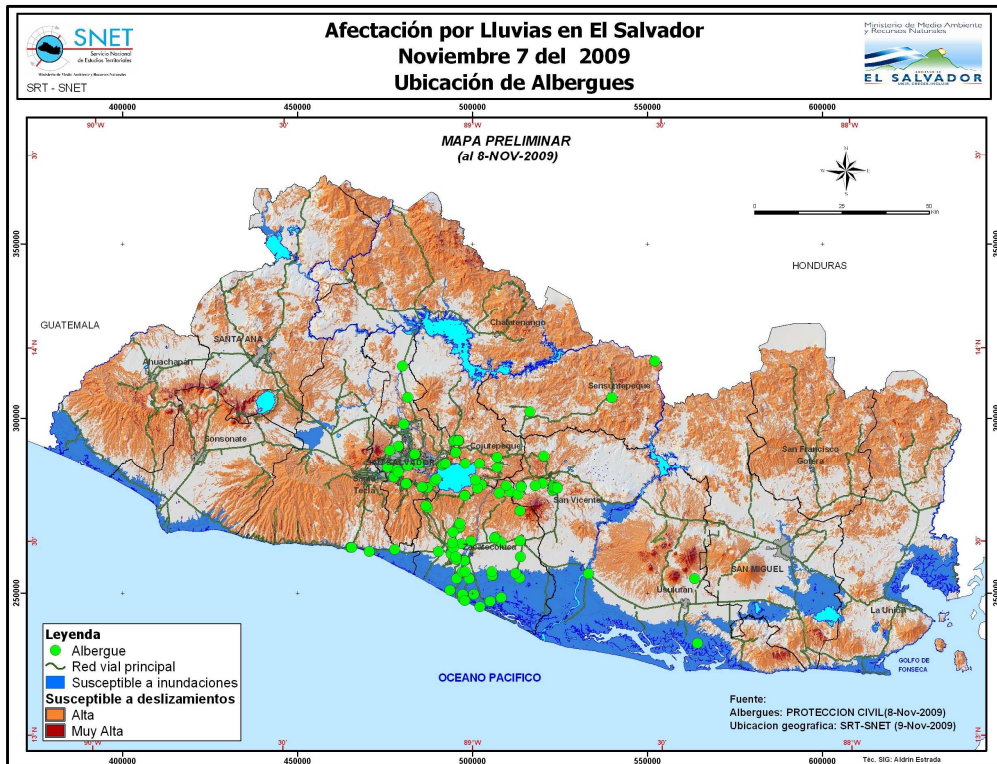
- 21:00 (Local) Tuesday 10 November, 2009
- 03:00 (GMT) Wednesday 11 Noviembre, 2009

**SITUATION**

As outlined in Sit Rep No. 1, on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> of November El Salvador experienced unprecedented heavy rainfalls provoked by the passing of Hurricane IDA (category 1) and a low pressure system off the Pacific Coast, causing flooding and landslides in many parts of the country.

As a result, 144 people have been reported dead, 12,930 people are currently being attended in 119 shelters (down from 16,111 yesterday) in 40 municipalities of 7 departments (Cabañas, Cuscatlan, La Paz, La Libertad, San Salvador, San Vicente and Usulután). No new figures have been presented regarding the number of missing persons. Around 1,835 homes have been affected and more than 200 destroyed. At this time, the total number of people affected remains unknown, although it is estimated that this figure is at least 3 times the number of people currently in shelters.

In terms of access, 80 main roads were obstructed during the rainfall of which 7 have been cleared and 32 are currently being cleared. 24 bridges have also collapsed.



## Shelters

In general the following needs have been identified in the temporary shelters: Drinking water, water and sanitation, beds, cooking utensils, construction materials.

A list of essential emergency items has been distributed to donors including: food products, hygiene, blankets, clothing, construction materials, first aid logistical materials, and medicine.

It has been observed that the organizational capacity within the shelters must also be strengthened.

## Health

25 health facilities have been damaged. Medicine, mental health and recovery of health establishments have been established are priorities in this sector. Prevention and control of vectors is also important. 15 mobile units, 440 nurses and 191 doctors have been mobilized to the affected areas to support health services.

## **Water& Sanitation**

The department of San Vicente is one of the areas most affected by the heavy rainfall, where it is estimated that around 2/3 of the population has no access to secure water sources.

A significant number of wells, piping and drainage have been destroyed (around 200 wells just in the municipality of San Luis Herradura).

A detailed assessment of the WASH situation will be carried out in the next days.

## **Food**

17 MT of governmental food assistance have so far been reported as distributed, however, people displaced in temporary shelters across the 5 most affected departments will continue requiring emergency food aid over the coming days.

It is also expected that the food security condition of many thousands more will have also been affected by these heavy rains as vital assets such as homes, and livelihood means, such as harvests, will have been destroyed or severely affected by extensive floods and mudslides.

Evaluation are done at the moment of potential food aid needs of shelters that have not yet been attended as well as in communities which have been particularly affected in terms of their longer term food security condition.

## **Logistics**

Due to multiple mudslides (108 reported so far) and the damages caused to up to 18 bridges, some areas are still isolated or difficult to access by road. These areas include parts of San Martin (in San Salvador) as well as Santa Maria Ostuma and San Pedro Nonualco in la Paz. The government has continued to use military helicopters in multiple search and rescue operations. SUMA will be implemented at the main entrance points to track the humanitarian aid received.

## **NATIONAL RESPONSE**

The Permanent Mission of El Salvador to the United Nations Office in Geneva has related the request for international assistance from the Government of El Salvador.

Following the decree of National Emergency the Government organized a donor meeting to share information on the affected population and to explain the procedures for humanitarian assistance.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has released a list (attached) of basic emergency items to attend the victims currently in shelters.

National Civil Protection Committee continues its efforts to assess damage and immediate humanitarian needs, coordinate relief interventions and distribute aid to affected populations.

The Municipality of San Salvador is providing food and noon food items to 1800 people located in temporary shelters. Around 300 hundred municipality workers are collaborating in removing debris from the affected areas.

## **RESPONSE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY**

An Emergency Cash Grant of \$50,000 has been approved by OCHA to support immediate relief actions and four other UN agencies (UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, PAHO) have activated mechanisms to access emergency funding.

An UNDAC team has been deployed to support National Civil Protection Committee in damage and needs assessment and support coordination of international assistance.

UN and UNDAC team have met with the Ministry of foreign affairs to explain the consolidated appeal process, and National Civil Protection Committee to agree on support to damage and needs assessment and sector coordination.

Additionally several aid Agencies (PAHO, FAO, UNDP, IFRC, ECHO, IOM, MSF) are deploying international experts to support emergency efforts.

During the last two days the UN Disaster Technical Management Team (UNETE) has deployed 8 field missions to assess shelters and communities situation.

WFP is currently processing a request by National authorities (Civil Protection and specific Governorships) for WFP food assistance to attend the needs of up to 3,500 people located in shelters in San Vicente and La Paz. This figure will increase in the upcoming hours as further need assessments take place and official requests are processed.

UNICEF and UNFPA will be delivering water and non food aid including hygiene kits to shelters over the next three days.

PAHO has supported the Ministry of Health in their needs assessment, delivered 100,000 water purification tablets and is currently deploying staff to manage SUMA.

AECID has contributed \$66,335.40 of food and non-food aid including cooking materials, blankets and hygiene kits. This aid will be soon distributed by Civil Protection.

The Italian Cooperation has contributed 95,000 euros, through the IFRC to fund hygiene kits, cooking materials, blankets and other material. They have also donated \$25,000 in computer equipment.

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