



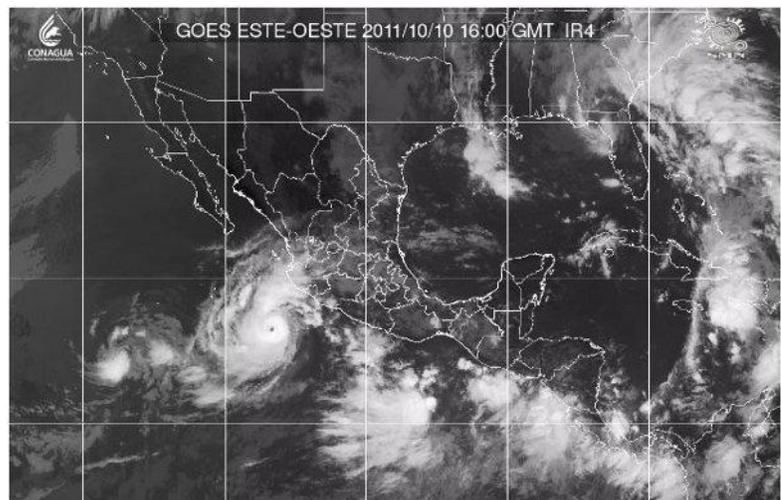
Friday, 14 October, 2011

## PAHO/WHO EOC SITUATION REPORT #1

### Floods in Central America

#### El Salvador – Heavy Rains and Floods

Continuous heavy rains for the past week have triggered floods and landslides killing 4 people in El Salvador. Several main roads and bridges have been blocked or damaged, making access to healthcare difficult. The Government of El Salvador has declared a national emergency for a more rapid and appropriate response.



Source: CONAGUA

5,057 people are displaced by floods to 77 shelters, mainly in the department of La Paz, Ahuachapan, and Sonsonate. Some hospitals are reporting minor damages and flooding in the Sonsonate, Chalatenango and la Libertad health centers (SIBASI).

The health sector has requested USD\$372,800 to purchase medicines and basic sanitary supplies. They will also purchase gasoline to mobilize primary care personnel and establish an environmental health plan to prevent increase in respiratory and gastrointestinal diseases and dengue outbreaks.

The Situation Report is produced by the PAHO/WHO Emergency Operations Center to inform about recent developments in the region. New editions will be issued as the situation requires. To subscribe or unsubscribe to these reports please [visit this page](#).

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The National System of Civil Protection has been activated, and has made available USD\$837,588 to assess the emergency and conduct health, infrastructure and nutrition response. Civil Protection is providing technicians to monitor risk of landslides in various areas and taking appropriate preparative measures.

The PAHO/WHO country office in El Salvador participated in a health assessment of shelters in rural areas, and has declared administrative emergency to respond to the emergency.

Mexico – Hurricane Jova

In Mexico, 5 people were killed and 4,000 people were displaced due to Hurricane Jova. A total of 50,000 people have been affected in the state of Tabasco due to torrential rains. There have not been reports of damage on health infrastructure and the emergency



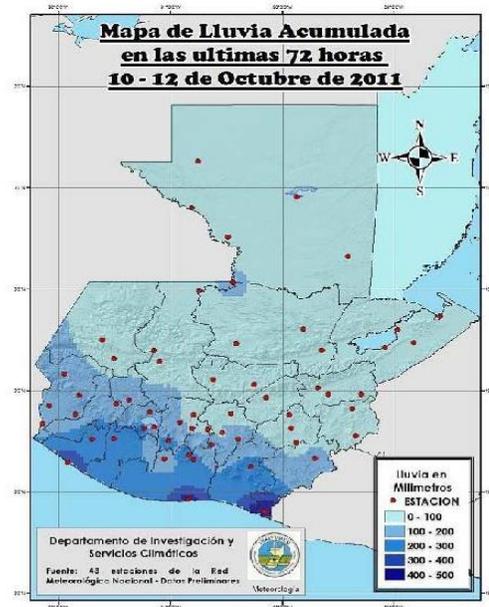
Source: NOAA

has been handled locally. Jova made landfall on October 11 as a category 2 hurricane triggering floods, collapsed homes and mudslides in affected areas of Cihuatlan, Manzanillo, and Barra de Navidad. Jova produced 6 to 12 inches of rain over the states of Michoacan, Colima, Jalisco, and Nayarit.

Guatemala – Heavy Rains

The Government of Guatemala has reported 21 people have died, 16,818 people affected and 2,551 people evacuated due to heavy rains brought by several storm systems. Drenched terrain and continuous rains could bring more floods and landslides.

3,321 people are displaced to 41 shelters in El Progreso, Escuintla, Huehuetenango, Jutiapa, Quetzaltenango, Retalhuleu, Santa Rosa, Solola, Suchitepequez, and Chimaltenango.



Source: Department of Investigation and Climate Services

Ten bridges have sustained structural damage and highways are shut down, isolating Quetzaltenango and Quiche. Assessments carried out by the government have indicated that 3,767 people are in high risk areas.

PAHO/WHO team was deployed to Guatemala to support assessments in shelters located in the affected areas as well as needs evaluation for water and sanitation.