Response to Tropical Storms

Tropical storms have drenched Guatemala in the last several weeks, causing flooding and landslides. The National Disaster Management Agency (CONRED) reports that the cumulative effects of both Eta and Iota have directly affected 1.5 million people, driving 251,300 people into shelter, with over 50 fatalities (Regional Sit Rep 05 26/11). Infrastructural damage includes more than 48,700 homes with moderate to severe damage and nearly 100 damaged or destroyed bridges. CONRED indicates that the most affected departments are Alta Verapaz, Izabal, Quiché and Huehuetenango, with pressing needs in WASH, food security, shelter management and recovery. UNDP is actively supporting initial government led assessments of damage and loss needs and damages, aiming at complementing it with the formulation of a comprehensive human impact assessment and a recovery strategy to guide recovery implementation. UNDP will support municipal level coordination, and will work with CONRED on a pilot housing recovery program including a communication campaign. UNDP’s efforts will be focused in Quiche, the department with the highest multi-dimensional poverty index in the country, to implement emergency employment program targeting the rehabilitation of housing, local roads, and community infrastructure. Crisis Bureau is supporting these efforts through a declaration level one (I).

Key action points and follow-up

The DRRT Regional Advisor will accompany the UNDP CO team to guide and implement the assessment and initiate recovery planning.

The Digital Assessment Team is following up with the CO on a request to adapt and integrate HBDA into local assessments.

Regions:

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