



Week of January 5-11, 2008

CHILE – VOLCANO

UPDATE



The Llaima volcano, in central Chile near the border with Argentina, which erupted on January 1st. has reduced its activity.

An aerial observation exercise conducted this week reported no further emissions of the volcano. The regional authority maintains the Alert Yellow in the area.

The Civil Defense with community teams has conducted assessment of vulnerable rural sectors.

Precautionary evacuation of persons from high risk locations, including those close to the Lan-Lán and Calbuco rivers has been ordered in case of rising watercourse levels due to thawing and lava flows.

No health impact has been reported.

EQUADOR-VOLCANIC ACTIVITY



The Tungurahua volcano, in central Ecuador, has shown an increase in internal activity since Dec 29, similar to those which preceded the eruptions in July & August 2006. The volcano is currently in a highly active state with an ash and gas plume of nearly 2.5km above the crater indicating no blockage of the main chamber and less probability of a large and unexpected explosion.

Nearly 1000 persons from the high-risk locations of Cusua, Bilbao & Chacauc in Penipe have been moved to shelters at night. Early alert systems and drills are being carried out in other areas. Local Emergency Operations Committees are on permanent alert. PAHO and the UN team have set up a situation room with national authorities to manage the situation.

No health impact has been reported

CHILE – VOLCAN

ACTUALIZACIÓN



El volcán Llaima, en la zona central de Chile, cerca de la frontera con Argentina, que erupcionó el 1 de enero, ha reducido su actividad.

Una observación aérea realizada esta semana indicó que no ha habido emisiones adicionales del volcán; sin embargo la autoridad regional mantiene la Alerta Amarilla en el área.

Se ha ordenado la evacuación preventiva de personas en zonas de riesgo alto, que incluyen áreas cercanas a los ríos Lan-Lan y Cabulco, en caso que suban las aguas debido a deshielos y bajadas de lava.

No se ha informado de impacto a la salud.

ECUADOR – ACTIVIDAD VOLCANICA



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El volcán Tungurahua, en la parte central de Ecuador, empezó a mostrar señales de incremento de actividad interna el 29 de diciembre, similares a las que precedieron a las erupciones en julio y agosto de 2006. El volcán actualmente se encuentra en un estado de actividad alta con una pluma de ceniza y gas que alcanza una altura de 2.5km sobre el cráter, lo cual indica que no hay bloqueo en el compartimiento principal y significa una probabilidad menor de una explosión grande e inesperada.

Aproximadamente 1000 personas de las áreas de alto riesgo de Cusua, Bilbao y Chacauco, en Penipe, han sido trasladadas a albergues por la noche. Se están activando sistemas de alerta temprana y realizando simulacros en otras áreas. Los Comités de Operaciones de Emergencia están en alerta permanente. La OPS y equipos de ONU han activad una sala de situación junto con las autoridades nacionales para manejar la situación.

For more information (In Spanish): <http://www.disaster-info.net/PED-Sudamerica/>



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