

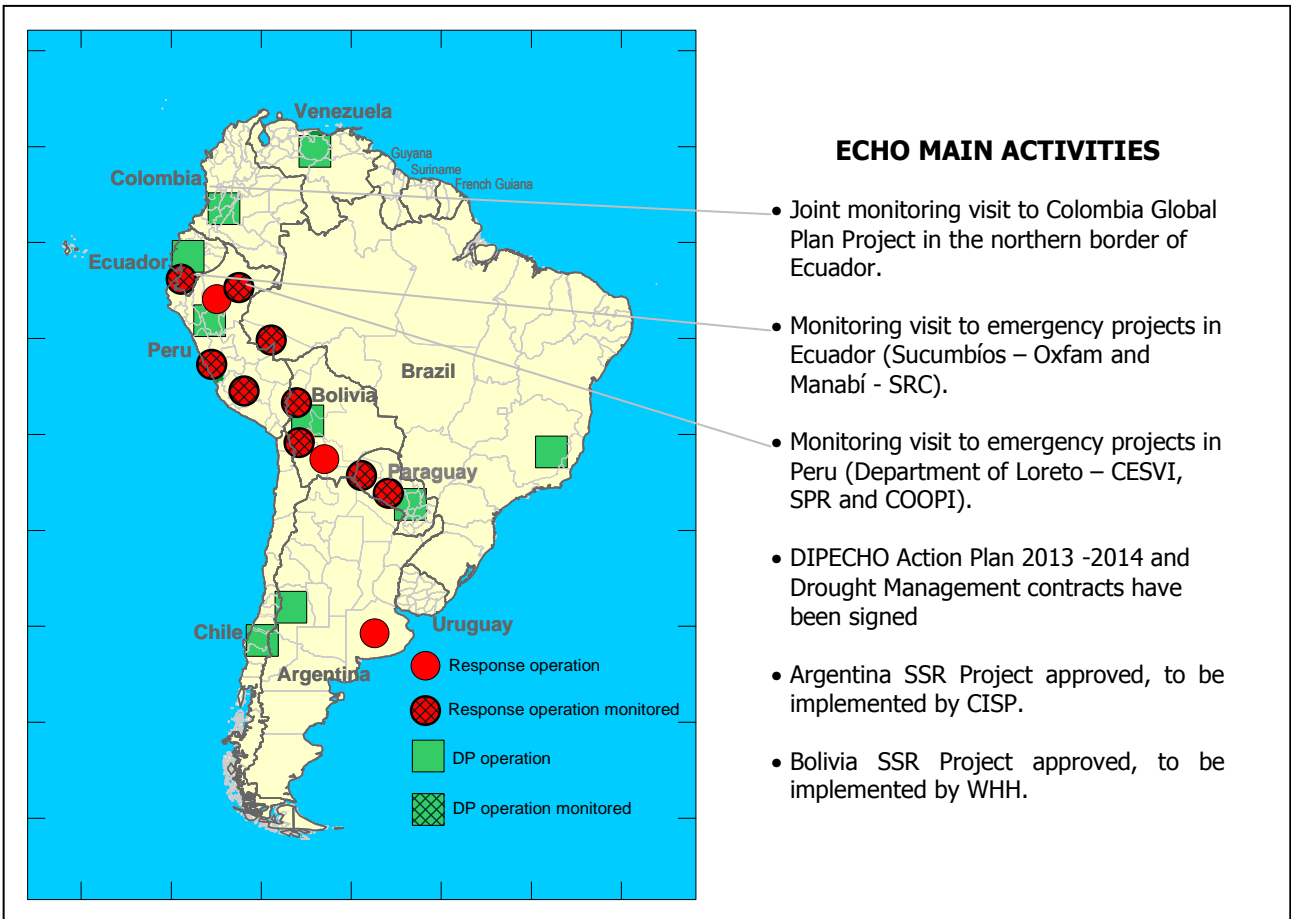
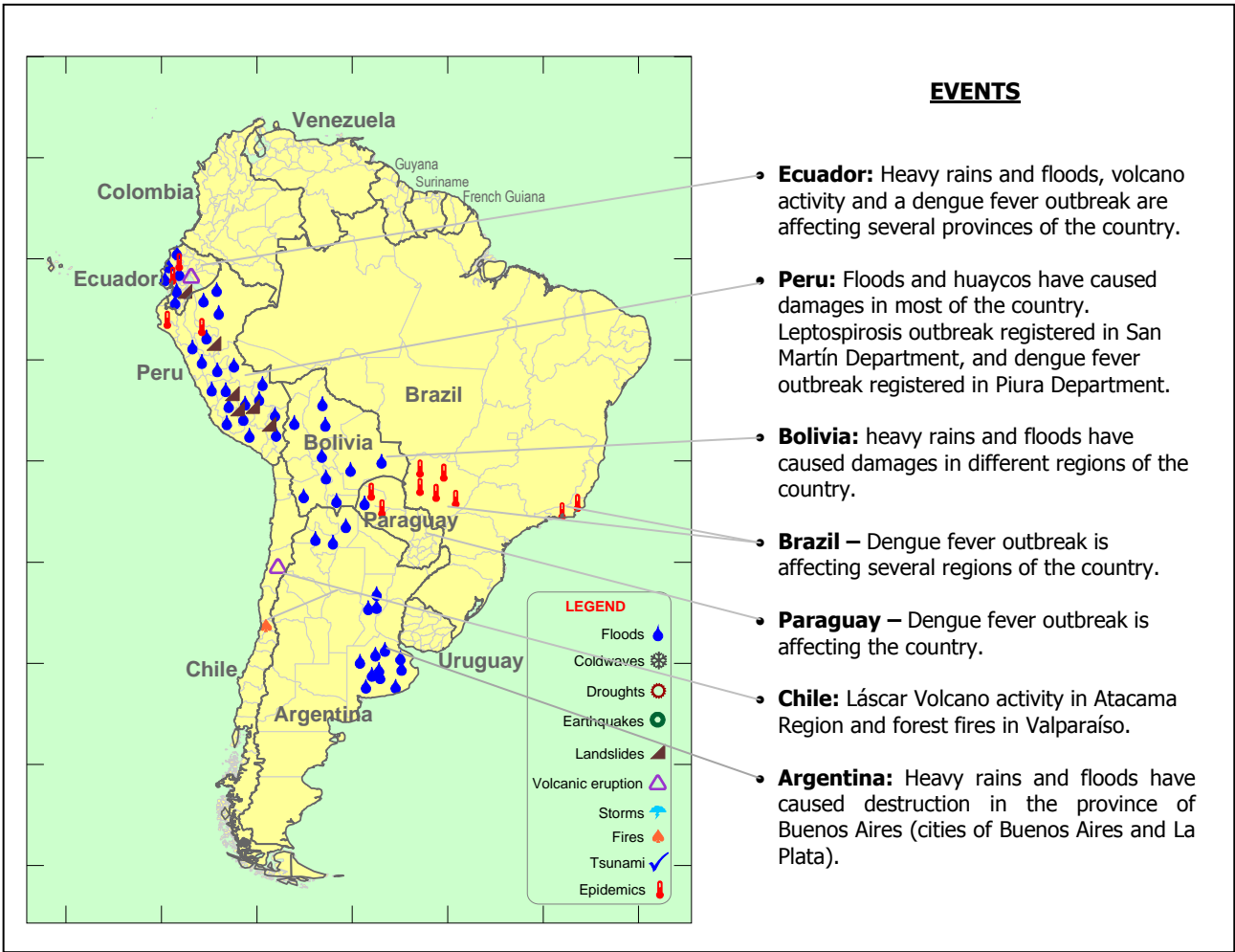


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MONTHLY REPORT

1. SUMMARY / MAIN HIGHLIGHTS

- (1) **Argentina – Heavy rains and floods:** One of the heaviest storms recorded moved through the province of Buenos Aires hitting both the capital, Buenos Aires, and the city of La Plata (capital of Buenos Aires province, 56 Km away from Buenos Aires city). The death rate reported is approximately of 60 people and 20 persons disappeared. The estimated number of affected people is 350.000. Thousands of cars were carried away by floods and hundreds of families had to be evacuated from their homes.
* An SSR project for 300,000 EUR has been approved for providing humanitarian assistance to population affected by floods in La Plata most vulnerable neighbourhoods. The project will be implemented by CISP. ECHO is also financing 47% of a DREF for providing humanitarian assistance to affected population.
- (2) **Bolivia – Heavy rains and floods:** At least 33,000 families have been affected by heavy rains in the country during 2013. VIDECCI has allocated 19 million of Bolivianos (approximately 2M Euros) to assist affected population.
* An SSR project for 300,000 EUR has been approved for providing humanitarian assistance to population affected by floods in San Juan del Oro, Bolivia. The project will be implemented by a consortium led by WHH.
* ECHO is also financing 60% of a DREF for providing humanitarian assistance to affected population in Potosí and Chuquisaca.
- (3) **Brazil –Dengue fever outbreak:** 132 deaths have been registered as a result of dengue in Brazil during the first trimester of 2013. Dengue cases have been increased approximately 279% if compared to the same period in 2012.
- (4) **Chile – Volcano activity:** Yellow alert was issued due to a considerable increase in the activity of Láscar Volcano. The volcano is located near the community of San Pedro de Atacama, Antofagasta Region.
- (5) **Ecuador – heavy rains, floods, landslides, volcano activity and dengue fever outbreak:** Since January 2013, the Ecuadorian coast has been affected by heavy rains. At least 11,470 persons have been affected.
Dengue fever outbreak: Since January 2013, 5.849 dengue cases have been registered; 30 hemorrhagic dengue fever.
Tungurahua volcano: Activity remains in a moderate-high level. Orange alert has been issued.
- (6) **Paraguay – Dengue fever outbreak:** At least 1,500 cases of dengue fever have been registered. The number of dengue fever cases is four times higher compared to year 2012.
- (7) **Peru – Heavy rains, floods, huaycos (landslides), and leptospirosis and dengue outbreaks:** Heavy rains, floods, landslides (huaycos), and hailstorms have caused severe damages, at least 19,080 persons have been severely affected (have lost their houses, belongings, assets and livelihoods), 176,643 persons have been affected (damaged houses, loss of assets and livelihoods).
Leptospirosis outbreak: At least 66 cases have been confirmed and 380 persons present the disease symptoms in San Martin department.
Dengue fever outbreak: At least 622 cases have been notified in Piura, from which 39 have been confirmed, one person has died.
* An SSR project for 300,000 EUR has been approved for providing humanitarian assistance to population affected by floods in the province of Alto Amazonas, Loreto Department. The project will be implemented by COOPI.
- (8) **DIPECHO and Drought Management –** 16 contracts have been signed for HIP DIPECHO Action Plan 2013-2014 and two for the HIP 2013-2014 for building resilience in drought-affected communities in Central and South America.
- (9) **Head of ECHO Unit B5** (Asia, LAC and Pacific) Esko Kentrschynskj visited Ecuador from 15th to 17th of April. He met the Direction of Refugees and ECHO Quito team in Quito and travelled to Sucumbios in order to monitor ACNUR activities. He could corroborate the increasingly difficult conditions imposed to Colombian refugees in Ecuador.



ARGENTINA

1. EVOLUTION OF THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

Heavy rains and floods

- One of the heaviest storms recorded moved through the province of Buenos Aires hitting both the capital, Buenos Aires, and the city of La Plata (capital of Buenos Aires province, 56 Km away from Buenos Aires city).
- The 155 mm cumulated between 0 and 7 hours exceed the record of rain fallen in one single day of April since 1906. The previous record was 142 mm on 08/04/1989.
- The death rate reported is approximately of 60 people and 20 persons disappeared. The estimated number of affected people is 350.000. Thousands of cars were carried away by floods and hundreds of families had to be evacuated from their homes. There are still more than 1,000 people in temporary shelters. In many parts of the city, cars continue to be piled. People without electric power have decreased from 280,000 to 13.000 according to Buenos Aires Province Government. The situation is desperate in several areas where water level has reached between 1 and 2 metres. It seems that in La Plata people are still waiting to be rescued from the roof of their houses.
- President Cristina Fernández, visited the catastrophe zone, while hundreds of persons looted a supermarket. Affected population also started a protest and several streets were blocked, they were demanding rapid humanitarian assistance. Certain national media stress the weak management of the emergency by the authorities and the defective urban planning and the lack of investment in drainage infrastructure during the last years which has led to this situation.
- Water, food and clothing are reported to be the most pressing needs of the affected population. The Government has decreed 3 days of National Mourning and a day off to the public administration and schools.
- Rescue brigades capacities' are overwhelmed and humanitarian assistance is being delivered with difficulties due to the fact that many areas remain flooded. The Governor guaranteed that there will be assistance for all affected people in order to recover what has been lost. In La Plata and its surroundings there are more than 50 places habilitated to receive and distribute a massive amount of items donated from different parts of the country where there is a massive solidarity mobilization to help the victims. The provincial government has established 33 shelters for evacuated population. 60.000 liters of bottled water have been distributed. No international assistance has been requested.
- Solidarity among Argentines has resulted in tones of donations of food, clothing, cleaning and hygiene products to alleviate needs of affected population. The Governor of Buenos Aires province has requested to stop donations because their capacity to receive and deliver donations has been exceeded. At the same time, assessments are on-going in order to determine the real needs and priorities of the recovery phase. A total of 210 trucks were filled with humanitarian assistance to be delivered to affected families.
- According to officials, flash floods in the Province of Buenos Aires have caused losses for approximately 2,618 million pesos (389.6 million EUR). Preliminary estimations refer that one in four buildings/ properties were severely affected by the floods; at least 58,582 properties/ buildings were damaged. Each family needs an average of 78,000 pesos (11,600 EUR) for repairing their houses and for buying new assets. 25% of population in La Plata (135,037 persons) were directly affected by the disaster, while more than 55% of the population have lost a vehicle or suffered other type of damages and losses.
- The President, Cristina Fernández, announced that aid in cash will reach to more than 153,000 persons with an investment of 400 million pesos (59, 52 million EUR) for housing (repair and rehabilitation). For these actions, the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) and the Andean Development Corporation (CAF) will give non-refundable loans (donations) and will open direct credit lines. The first one will give a non-refundable loan for 200,000 USD and a direct credit for 20 million USD; while the other institutions will donate 20 million USD and will loan 100 million USD for the most vulnerable population. The maximum amount to be granted to each person will be of 50,000 pesos (7,440 EUR) through direct assignation and certification that the person has been severely affected, with a plan of 48 months deadline, with 3 month grace period and with an annual interest rate between 7 and 14%.

- By 17 April, at least 23,200 persons affected by heavy rains and floods in the city of Buenos Aires and La Plata has started the paperwork in order to receive the state assistance. The national protection system has been designed for providing immediate assistance, meaning that affected population would have access to especial supplements of Social Security, personal credits from the national program PRO.CRE.AR and loans for retirees and pensioners. The government will be very strict when verifying damages to houses and properties. It is estimated that benefits will be paid in 5 days after presenting the paperwork.

- **Heavy rains and floods in Santa Fe Province**

Heavy rains were registered in more than two hours, where more than 168 mm of rain were registered in the city of Santa Fe and its surroundings, Province of Santa Fe. Houses and streets were underwater, public transport and schools were suspended, as well as the electricity service. The water level reached 1m inside the houses. At least 90 families were evacuated to temporary shelters and the affected areas were declared in emergency. Humanitarian aid is being distributed to affected families.

2. HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE AND MAIN ISSUES

- ECHO Quito Field Office is in contact with its humanitarian partners in Argentina. So far partners are responding with their own resources.
- A SSR project for 300,000 EUR for providing humanitarian assistance to affected population in La Plata has been approved. Implementing partner is CISP. Also, ECHO is financing 47% of the DREF for Argentina.

BOLIVIA

1. EVOLUTION OF THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

Heavy rains and floods in the country

- Vice- Minister of Civil Defence (VIDECI), Oscar Cabrera, informed that 33,000 families have been affected by heavy rains in the country during 2013. He also informed that VIDECI has allocated 19 million of Bolivianos (approximately 2M Euros) to assist people affected in coordination with the municipalities and departmental governments.

2. HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE AND MAIN ISSUES

- ECHO is closely following the situation with its partners.

BRAZIL

Dengue Fever

- According to the Ministry of Health, 132 deaths have been registered as a result of dengue in Brazil during the first trimester of 2013. Active dengue cases have been augmented in approximately 279% if compared to the same period in 2012. Since January 1st to March 31st, 635.161 people infected have been registered; out of which 1.417 have been considered as severe cases. The most affected states are: Mato Grosso do Sul (3.105 cases), Goiás (3.104) and Espírito Santo (3.000). Other states with dengue cases are Rondonia, Acre, Amazonas, Tocantins, Minas Gerais, Río de Janeiro, Paraná and Mato Grosso.

2. HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE AND MAIN ISSUES

- Nothing to report.

CHILE

1. EVOLUTION OF THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

Volcano activity

- The National Emergency Office (ONEMI) declared yellow alert due to a considerable increase in the activity of Láscar Volcano. The volcano is located near the community of San Pedro de Atacama, Antofagasta Region. The

volcano has registered a considerable increase in its seismic activity and gas and steam emissions have also increased, incandescent material has also been registered. The volcano is under strict surveillance.

- **Forest fire:** more than 60 houses were consumed by a forest fire registered in La Cruz and Mariposas hills in the city of Valparaíso. At least 150 houses were evacuated in the same area. No victims were reported but considerable damages have been registered. The national government is providing humanitarian assistance to affected families. Three temporary shelters have been established.

2. HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE AND MAIN ISSUES

- Nothing to report.

ECUADOR

1. EVOLUTION OF THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

Heavy rains and landslides in the country

- Since January 2013, the Ecuadorian coast has been affected by heavy rains. The provinces of Guayas, El Oro and Manabí are the most affected. At least 11,470 persons have been affected by the rainy season. In Esmeraldas province, 16 people have died as a result of landslides occurred during past weeks and the Emergency Operations Committee (COE) has declared the state of emergency in Esmeraldas canton
- Esmeraldas province: 6 communities in San Lorenzo canton have been affected due to overflowing of Tulumbi River. Cacao, sugar cane and passion fruit crops have been also affected. Authorities of the National Risk Management Secretariat (SNGR) are providing humanitarian assistance and assessed the situation. Also in Quinindé and Eloy Alfaro cantons 75 families have been affected and 16 persons died to a landslide, Only in Quinindé canton, the rainy season has left approximately 3.000 families affected.
- Manabí province: 60 houses are at risk of collapsing in Portoviejo canton, which has been affected by heavy rains. At least 15 families are at risk.
Overflowing of Jipijapa River has caused damages in houses and crops in the canton of Jipijapa. The Emergency Operations Committee (COE) has declared the emergency in the canton in order to receive support from institutions in charge of risk management in the area.
- Guayas province: In Salitre, a rural municipality approximately 300 hectares of crops (70% of rice), were affected due to overflowing of Vinces River. Rupture of a contention wall cause severe damages in several communities where at least 90 houses were affected
- Los Ríos province: Approximately 926 hectares of rice, cacao, banana and corn have been affected due to overflowing of Vinces River. 20 families were relocated in this area. A damage assessment in the agricultural sector was carried out to support small farmers and through access to credits of the BNF (Banco Nacional de Fomento).
- **Dengue fever outbreak** - According to Ministry of Health latest report, since January 2013, 5.849 dengue cases has been registered; 321 cases less than in 2012. 30 hemorrhagic dengue fever cases have been registered. The provinces with the largest number of cases are: Manabí, Guayas, Los Ríos, El Oro, Orellana and Sucumbíos.
- **Tungurahua volcano:** activity remains in a moderate-high level, characterized by the emission of gases, ash and high roars. Ash fall continues to cause damages to the agricultural sector in the volcano surrounding areas, in at least 7 communities. The volcano is in Orange Alert and under strict surveillance. It registers an eruptive process of 13 years.

2. HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE AND MAIN ISSUES

- Nothing to report.

PARAGUAY

1. EVOLUTION OF THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

Dengue fever outbreak

- According to the Minister of Health, at least 1,500 cases of dengue fever have been registered. The number of dengue fever cases is four times higher compared to year 2012. This has been the most severe dengue fever outbreak in the country. Departments with the highest number of cases are Central, Asunción and Alto Parana. The epidemiological bulletin on the Ministry of Health mentions that 52 persons have died of dengue. The Minister that it is still very important to work on the elimination of vectors with the participation of the population in the most prone areas.

Floods

- The departments of Alto Paraguay and Concepción have been affected by heavy rains and floods. The city of Fuerte Olimpo (Capital of Department of Alto Paraguay in El Chaco Region) was affected by heavy rains causing damages due to poor sewage system. In just five days, in this area rained about 300 mm, equivalent to the months of January and February. While in city of Concepción (Department of Concepcion), several houses and more than 30 school centres were isolated due to floods. Floods have affected more than 600 persons in 25 neighbourhoods and settlements in Conception. Municipality of Concepción declared local emergency in the district in order to allocate funds to assist people affected. The National Emergency Secretariat (SEN) has distributed food, mattresses and other items to families affected.

2. HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE AND MAIN ISSUES

- Nothing to report

PERU

1. EVOLUTION OF THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

Heavy rains and landslides

- According to the National Civil Defence Institute, heavy rains, floods and landslides have caused considerable damages in the country. At least 19,080 persons have been severely affected (have lost their houses, belongings, assets and livelihoods), 176,643 persons have been affected (damaged houses, loss of assets and livelihoods; 45 persons have died and 12 are missing. A total of 1,628 houses have collapsed, 1,681 houses are inhabitable, and 38,039 have been affected; 256 km of roads have been destroyed by floods and landslides, 1,630 km of roads affected, 57 bridges destroyed and 107 bridges damaged. The Ministry of Agriculture reports a total of 17,823 hectares of crops lost nationwide, and 66,999 hectares affected that will yield well below expectations. A total of 16 regions reported damages in crops. Overflowing rivers in the mid and low Amazonian rainforest areas as well as the centre of the country have affected some transient and permanent crops in the regions of Huánuco, Pasco, San Martin and Loreto.
- At least 758 MT of humanitarian aid has been delivered to affected population (housing materials, clothing, blankets, mattresses, food rations, hygiene and kitchen kits, etc.). The National Emergency Operations Centre is activated.
- The Government has allocated 708 million nuevos soles (207.2 m EUR) for responding to the emergency and another 50 million nuevos soles (14.6 m EUR) for mitigating damages and prevention measures. The National Humanitarian Network has been meeting on a regular basis in order to evaluate the emergency situation caused by the rainy season.
- Forecasts: According to the National Meteorology and Hydrology Service forecasts, rivers on the low selva such as Ucayali, Marañón, Huallaga and Amazonas will reach its maximum overflowing level in April and the situation will extend until May.
- The national government has declared in emergency several districts of Ancash, Cusco and Loreto, and extended for 30 days the emergency in the province of Arequipa; which has been severely affected by heavy rains, landslides and rivers overflowing. In Ancash 8 provinces have been affected, in Cusco 3 provinces. Heavy rains continue to cause damages of considerable magnitude which makes it impossible to start with rehabilitation

actions in affected provinces. In Loreto, the province of Alto Amazonas has been declared in emergency due the considerable damages caused by overflowing of Huallaga River and its tributaries. Several communities settled in the riverbanks have been completely flooded and their situation is extremely serious.

- **Leptospirosis outbreak**

Red alert has been declared in the city of Junajuí (Mariscal Cáceres province), in San Martín Department, due to a leptospirosis outbreak that has killed two persons. At least 66 cases have been confirmed and 380 persons present the disease symptoms. The hospital in Junajuí has collapsed, but authorities are confident that the outbreak is controllable. The Ministry of Health has sent medical brigades to support the hospital. Local doctors have been trained for treating leptospirosis and the emergency service of the Hospital has been strengthened. Also, medical supplies for the laboratory have been delivered to the hospital. Immediate actions have been taken against new cases of dengue and leptospirosis such as rats' and stray dogs' elimination, fumigation and cleaning markets. A main reason for the leptospirosis outbreak in this locality is stagnant water contaminated with urine from animals. There are extremely poor sanitary conditions in this area.

- **Dengue fever outbreak**

The Regional Health Office of the Department of Piura has issued a Yellow Alert in the Department due to the considerable increase of registered dengue cases. At least 622 cases have been notified, from which 39 have been confirmed, and one person has died. This situation is of great concern in the health sector. Through this measure, health establishments are strengthened which will enable to provide effective and efficient assistance to patients.

2. HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE AND MAIN ISSUES

- ECHO is closely monitoring the situation with its partners in the field.

REGIONAL EMERGENCY HIP 2012

- Regional Humanitarian Implementation plan (HIP) of €5 million with 12 months duration to assist people affected by severe flooding in South America, particularly in Peru, Bolivia, Paraguay, Ecuador, Colombia and Brazil. Projects ongoing:
 - Ecuador: COOPI, AVCF, Spanish Red Cross and Plan International (€1.290.020).
 - Peru: CESVI, German Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, WHH, and COOPI (€ 2.451.077).
 - Bolivia: FAO and COOPI (€ 580.600).
 - Paraguay: COOPI and Spanish Red Cross (€ 678.303)

DIPECHO ACTION PLAN 2013-2014

- All contracts have been signed and projects have already started.
- Contracts for HIP 2013 – 2014 for building resilience in drought-affected communities in Central and South America have been signed.

Regional Humanitarian response and main issues

Regional rainfall forecast

