



Key Interest Points:

- Regional Simulation
- Strategic Alliance
- Ecological Compensation Areas

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Volume 1, Nº 2

Activities for September & October of 2019

CLRAH prepares for Regional Drill

The Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance (CLRAH, for its acronym in Spanish), participated at the Regional Workshop on regional and national protocols and procedures for Humanitarian Assistance and Emergency Response, as part of the implementation of the Regional Mechanism of Humanitarian Assistance (MecReg/SICA), to be placed in force during the Regional Simulation and will take place in the Republic of Nicaragua.

The National Government presided by His Excellency Laurentino "Nito" Cortizo, President of the Republic, firmly believes in education, therefore together with Omar Smith, General Director of SINAPROC, the Centre is driving forward training activities such as this workshop. "We are convinced that the exercise results will be of great benefit for the Region", stated Alberto Sierra, Executive Director of the CLRAH.

During the aforementioned

workshop, participants shared experiences and lessons-learned on regional and national protocols & procedures for humanitarian assistance, as well as those for emergency response, and moreover defined the participation of the CLRAH in the regional sphere via simulation from Panama.



Alberto Sierra, Executive Director of the CLRAH; Claudia Herrera, Executive Secretary of the CEPREDENAC; Omar Smith, General Director of the SINAPROC and Jorge Zequeira, Regional Security Coordinator of the IFRC

September 30, 2019

Round Table with Dr. Masys

Users of the CLRAH exchanged successful on-field experiences related to Risk Management, Emergency Response and Humanitarian Assistance with Dr. Anthony Masys - defense scientist of the Government of Canada, and Director of Global Disaster Management, Humanitarian Assistance & National Security of the University of South Florida.

Within the framework of said activity, it was possible to share with the specialist, the experiences encountered by the SINAPROC, the IFRC, and the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot – UNHRD.



September 4, 2019

CLRAH participates in the Water Security Workshop

On Sunday, 1st of September 2019, Mr. Alberto A. Sierra, Director of the Regional Logistic Center for Humanitarian Assistance (CLRAH, for its acronym in Spanish), jointly with his work team, participated before the Water Security Workshop - Identification of Key Areas of Vulnerability and Increased Resilience, with the support of the Coordination Center for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America and the Dominican Republic, and participation of the National Civil Protection System.

The work platform of the CLRAH is centered on education, an important pillar of its administration. Within the framework of the World Congress "Water - Connecting the World", this workshop was developed to learn how scenario planning and visual thinking strategies can support the resilience of water security. The event was conducted by Dr. Anthony Masys with whom the CLRAH has made an approach to

establish a Teaching Program in Humanitarian Assistance and Logistics.



Officers of the British Embassy visit the CLRAH

Upon September 6, 2019, the Logistic Center for Humanitarian Assistance, (CLRAH, for its initials in Spanish), was visited by the Regional Director of Consular Operations of the British Embassy in Mexico City, Ms. Grace Chun; the Regional Vice Consul in Panama, Mr. Jose Gabriel Mezquita and Pro Consul - Consular Officer Ana Lorena Jones, whom were accompanied by the representative of the National Civil Protection Service, Mr. Isaac Villarreal, Depot Coordinator for the national user.

During said gathering the high ranked British Delegates were rendered information concerning the operations and facilities of the Users.

Ms. Chun, valued and congratulated Panama, for the effort and professional work being carried out by the National Government in offering the

facilities of the CLRAH for humanitarian assistance and logistics in the region.



"Promoting Strategic Alliances"

Sustainability Forum: "Water as a strategic resource for sustainable competitiveness in Panama"

The executive director of the CLRAH, Mr. Alberto Sierra attended the Sustainability Forum: "Water as a strategic resource for sustainable competitiveness in Panama", aimed to strengthen the dialogue concerning Panama's economy, its direct correlation with the availability of water, and how to guarantee a sustained growth through a strategic handling of the country's resources.



September 12, 2019

Meetings Scheduled for September concerning Procedures

- * Meeting with the Executive Vice-President of the City of Knowledge (Ciudad del Saber) to establish strategic alliances.

September 10, 2019

- * Management and Maintenance Procedures.
- * Strategic Governmental Administration.
- * Development of Humanitarian Procedures with the SINAPROC.

September 11, 2019.

- * Meeting with the Security Office of Panama Pacifico.

September 13, 2019

- * Initial meeting for the CLRAH's Waste Reduction and Recycling Program.

September 13, 2019

- * Technical Meeting with the Customs Authority to review the proposed Cabinet Decree that advocates new provisions concerning relief goods and humanitarian assistance.

- * Institutional Strategic Plan Meeting to be held with the Ministry of Economy & Finance.

September 23, 2019

Zegel-IPAE University of Peru

On September 12, 2019 the CLRAH received the visit of a group of 32 students, plus two specialists from ZEGEL IPAE (Higher Education Institute of Peru – an Entrepreneurs School dedicated to promote the commercial and educational development of Peru), as part of CLRAH's capacity building proposal through programs, training and educational promotion being developed for humanitarian assistance and logistics.

During said visit, general information about the CLRAH was distributed, providing valuable insights about its facilities and the services it offers concerning humanitarian assistance and logistics, whereby videos were aired and

experiences shared, as well as a tour through the different Depots that conjointly make up the Humanitarian Hub.



President of the Logistics Business Council (COEL, for its acronym in Spanish) pays a visit

On September 18, 2019, The President, and the Executive Director of COEL, Mr. Antonio Garcia Prieto, and Ms. Marcela Ortega, respectively, paid a courtesy visit to the CLRAH.

During their visit and briefing, they were received by its Executive Director Mr. Alberto Sierra and staff, as well as by Mr. Mauricio Bustamante, Regional Chief of IFRC Logistics and Mr. Francisco Quesada, Manager of the UNHRD Panama.

Several topics were discussed, such as the operations of the CLRAH, its International users IFRC & UNHRD, and the logistics facilities.

Moreover, experiences encountered by the IFRC and the UNHRD were shared about the devastation caused

by Hurricane Dorian in the Bahamas. Also, future collaboration and work between the CLRAH and the COEL was evaluated. The visit ended with a tour through the administrative facilities and warehouses of their respective users.



Informative Visit with the Maritime Chamber



The CLRAH was visited by the Vice-president of the Maritime Chamber of Panama and staff, accompanied by 17 students from the Technological University of Panama, and representatives from the Maritime University of Panama, who were received by the coordinators of the CLRAH.

Said visit promoted initial collaborations between the Maritime Industry and the Academy with the CLRAH (Government), in order to establish capacity development through programs, training and educational promotion geared to humanitarian assistance and logistics.

September 19, 2019

A Visit to the Depot of the Office of the First Lady

Mr. Alberto A. Sierra, Director of the Regional Logistic Center for Humanitarian Assistance and staff, held a meeting with Ms. Mery Cohen, in charge of the warehouse of the Office of the First Lady.

The visit consisted on a tour through the depot and presentation of the stored inventory stored. Moreover, discussing the possibility of repositioning SINAPROC's inventory at their warehouse located at the CLRAH, and standardization of supplies to ensure procurement of homogeneous goods.

Counsel Sierra mentioned that the CLRAH is offering its support for the standardization process, as well as for the comparison of supplies from international users of the CLRAH, the specifications of the DAS, and the Office of the First Lady.



September 20, 2019

**“Promoting
Strategic
Alliances”**

The CLRAH Participates before the Medium Term Disaster Management Workshop



Counsel Alberto A. Sierra and his staff participated at the Medium Term Disaster Management Workshop coordinated by the Pacific Disaster Center (PDC) and the National Civil Protection System (SINAPROC).

During said event preliminary results of the referred national evaluation dealing in disaster preparedness and risk reduction were shared, exchanging experiences encountered in risk management and lessons learned; as well as the participation of the CLRAH in these types of technical evaluations.

September 25, 2019

DisasterAWARE Training by the CLRAH

Melissa Sanchez, Yair Torres, jointly with the Director Alberto Sierra participated at the DisasterAWARE training session, which provided participants with a general view of the support integrated platform for decision making of the Pacific Disaster Center (PDC).

DisasterAWARE has been specifically designed to meet the needs of Disaster Management and the humanitarian assistance community, through improved tools and support functions for decision making.

September 26 and 27, 2019



CLRAH participates in the Incident Command System

The CLRAH participated through our collaborator Mr. Osvaldo Guerrero before the course termed Incident Command System (ICS), which provided a standardized approach to the command, control and coordination of emergency response, as well as valuable insights on preparedness before disruptive events.

For two consecutive days, collaborators from Panama Pacifico were trained by Panama Fire Brigade and personnel of the National Civil Protection Service, on the proper use of the aforementioned tool.

September 26 and 27, 2019



CLRAH and the CEPREDENAC fortify their capacities

Amidst preparation for the Regional Simulation which was coordinated and addressed by the CEPREDENAC, Counsel Sierra and staff partook in the Regional Workshop termed: Regional & National Protocols and Procedures for Humanitarian Assistance and Emergency Response.

As such, cooperation ties were fortified in the revision of the strategic guidelines for the design of the Action Plan defined in the Cooperation Agreement between Panama and the CEPREDENAC.

September 30, 2019



Hurricane Dorian strikes the Bahamas

"Dorian is a sample of the pulsating threat of the climatic emergency for Small Insular States in Development", declared Denis McClean from the United Nations Office for Disaster Reduction (UNDRR).

Panama, contributed with its part through the CLRAH by granting a rapid exoneration process for two aircrafts donated to the IFRC for this disaster.

September 7, 2019



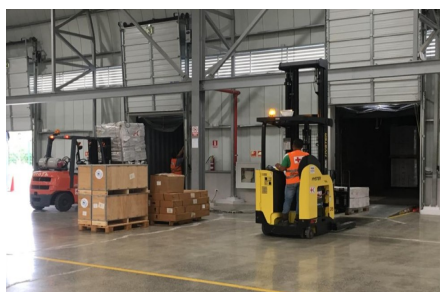
Picture: EFE Agency

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

As a first response to Operation Hurricane Dorian in the Bahamas, an Airbus A300 was dispatched from the warehouse of IFRC, containing relief supplies such as tarp type-stores, collapsible drums, plastic buckets, tool kits, plastic tarpaulins, hygiene kits, kitchen kits and blankets for approximately 800 families.

Within the first week after Hurricane Dorian, and thanks to an additional flight donation sponsored by UPS, and additional 21 tons of relief supplies were dispatched from the IFRC's Depot, and then were transported and loaded on board its B757 to aid an extra 500 families in the Bahamas.

Fortunately, yet another donation was granted by Airbus allowing 40 additional tons of relief supplies, dispatched from the IFRC's Depot, to be loaded on board the hold of the chartered A330 flight to aid an additional 1,000 families.



"Our Users"

September 5 to 9, 2019

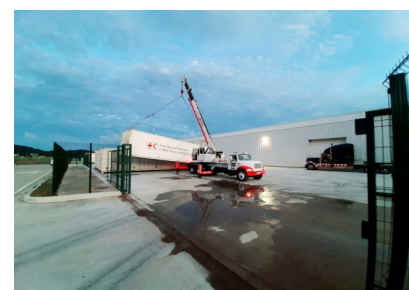
In October, we generated knowledge transfer and logistics adaptation

The container terminal of the IFRC warehouse was adapted to receive eight (8) 40ft High Cube containers to be used as back-up storage for relief supplies, should capacity at their main hold exceed its normal storage capacity.

October 15, 2019



October 18, 2019



Furthermore, a basic course in depot handling was granted to eleven members commissioned to Disaster Response of the National Civil Protection System, as well as to two members of the CLRAH; with the purpose of strengthening their logistics capacity, and hence, be able to optimize joint tasks. Between September and October, approximately 200 students from 7 different universities including Panama, Colombia and Peru, visited the Center.

INTRODUCTION OF THE “LCA” BEFORE THE LOGISTICS CABINET

The Logistics Cabinet was introduced to the project termed Logistics Capacity Assessments or “LCA”, aimed to identify strengths and weaknesses of Panama in terms of logistics before a sudden off-guard catastrophe or emergency.

Mr. Alberto Sierra, Director of the CLRAH, mentioned that the project is being promoted by the World Food Program and provides the inventory of available logistics infrastructure of countries for humanitarian assistance in case of disasters.

Additionally, the aforementioned project will facilitate the development of logistics capabilities in humanitarian assistance, and as such contribute to Panama’s preparedness by providing updated information for timely humanitarian logistics coordination and strategies in case of disasters.



September 26, 2019

FOLLOW-UP MEETING OF THE LCA

On Monday, October 7, 2019 a follow-up was had on the agreements established at the Logistics Cabinet pertinent to the establishment of the LCA Project for Panama.

Counsel Sierra brought-forth the advances achieved with the Logistics Cabinet, and mentioned counting on the approval on behalf of the State to obtain data from the LCA, as well as the methodology proposed for the project work-table

The CLRAH plans to hold meetings with GT (Georgia Tech) to know the availability of data and it was agreed that after this initial inventory of data, an indicator will be provided on all the data had preliminarily.

The LCA Panama is to set an example in issues of best-

practices, for it will have the direct support from the State, and the information from diverse government entities.



CONTINUOUS WORK MEETINGS

- ◆ Informative meeting with the MEF pertinent to the CLRAH.

October 4, 2019

- ◆ Logistics Cabinet Meeting with Georgia Tech Panama, to present the LCA Project.

October 9, 2019

- ◆ Meeting with the Vice Minister of Multilateral Matters & Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Erika Mouynes.

October 14, 2019

- ◆ Technical Meeting between the CLRAH and Georgia Tech Panama with the purpose of exploring data requirements for the CLRAH.

October 15 and 23, 2019

- ◆ Participation at the National Assembly of Deputies in the framework of the Commemoration of World Food Day.

October 16, 2019

- ◆ Videoconference on the simulation of the CLRAH within the framework of the Regional Simulation _CEPRENAC.

October 18, 23, and 25, 2019

- ◆ Technical Follow-Up Meeting of the LCA.

October 23, 2019

- ◆ Participation at the Management Center of the CLRAH, coordinated by the Planning Office of the Ministry of Government.

24 de octubre de 2019

- ◆ MINGOB-PMA Agreement follow-up in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Relations.

21 y 28 de octubre de 2019

CTC IN ACTION

The CLRAH's Knowledge Transfer Center (CTC, for its acronym in Spanish) enhances and promotes capabilities in humanitarian assistance and logistics through informative visits, as well as conferences with the academic sector of the University of Panama.

During said academic activities, the concept of Panama as a Humanitarian Hub by means of the CLRAH, was shared, just as the operations of its users, the SINAPROC, and the IFRC, respectively, as well as the operations of the UNHRD, within the complex.



October 12, 2019

ENGINEERING STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PANAMA VISIT THE CLRAH

***“703 people
have been
informed,
oriented and
have visited the
CLRAH”***



The University of Panama as a strategic ally in the educational field represents the means of knowledge transfer on matters concerning humanitarian assistance and logistics, as to consolidate the continuous job of the CLRAH before the humanitarian communities of The Americas

October 11, 2019

INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITIES JOIN THE CLRAH



The experience of humanitarian assistance and logistics encountered by the IFRC and the SINAPROC, were shared with students of the CAFAM University Foundation and its Teaching Corps, during this informative & technical visit.

CAFAM Colombia University Foundation

October 24, 2019

ACADEMIC TOUR OF THE TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY OF PERU



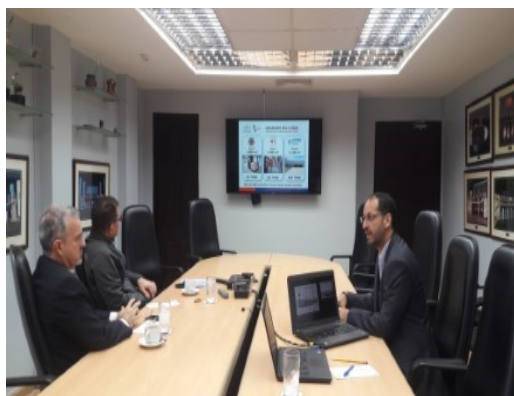
October 24, 2019

MEETINGS WITH THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The CLRAH was invited by the Chamber of Commerce to participate at the upcoming Expo-logistic Fair 2019, to be held upon December 10 & 11, 2019, at the ATLAPA Convention Center, within the framework of the China Lac Event in Panama.

Participation of the CLRAH will include a presentation emphasized on Humanitarian Logistics as a new market and its traits during the conference cycles; as well as two stands to be located in the exhibition area; promoting a strategic relation with the private sector.

Similarly, the possibility of including a Humanitarian Business Roundtable formed by a Panama Bureau of Humanitarian Buyers before the forthcoming EXPOCOMER 2020, was discussed.



October 8 & 28, 2019

CLRAH'S ECOLOGICAL COMPENSATION AREAS

The ecological compensation product of the construction of the Center by UNOPS, 6 hectares of land have been reforested in two communities of the District of La Chorrera; the first being converted into two agroforestry farms: the Vocational School of Chapala (the very first ever located in the Province of West Panama), and the other one located at the "El Chorro de La Chorrera", basin to the Caimito River of the Province of West Panama, as an area of permanent preservation.

As to the one concerning "El Chorro de La Chorrera", such forms part of the restauration plan for this emblematic site, wherein native species of fruit and timber yielding trees have been planted, creating as such a biodiverse corridor.



CLRAH supports efforts to reduce the effects of climate change in Panama

Connecting the World, Serving the Region

The Regional Logistic Center for Humanitarian Assistance (CLRAH, for its initials in the English language), assigned to the Ministry of Government, was created by Law 80 of December 14, 2017, as a Logistic Platform for Humanitarian Assistance, whose end purpose is to facilitate the activities of reception, handling, storage and redistribution of supplies and equipment, as well as deployment of human resources before national and international emergencies that take place in the region; guaranteeing as such an efficient humanitarian assistance and logistics, and hence consolidating the Humanitarian Hub of Panama.

The National Civil Protection System, the International Federation of the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, as well as the United Nations Humanitarian Response Deposit, are all part of the CLRAH.



Preparing & Working for Humanitarian Activities



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