



CLRAH
Centro Logístico Regional de
Asistencia Humanitaria

The CLRAH in Images

September-October 2020
Volume 2, N° 5



- ♦ **Presentation of the Logistics Capacity Assessment of Panama**
- ♦ **Panama-Latin America First Virtual Trade Fair**
- ♦ **CLRAH-COEL Webinar on Humanitarian Logistics**

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Connecting the World, Serving the Region

THE HUMANITARIAN 2020

Key topics:

- Logistics Capacity Assessment of Panama
- Panama-Latin America First Business Fair
- CLRAH-COEL Webinar

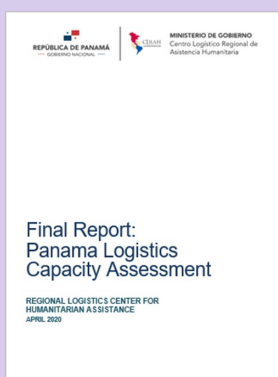
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The CLRAH in Images

“Logistics Capacity Assessment of Panama”



On October 19, the Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance (CLRAH), as a humanitarian facilitation platform, via the Minister of Government, Janaina Tewaney Mencomo, presented the first Logistics Capacity Assessment for the Republic of Panama in the humanitarian context, to the Minister-Counselor for the Facilitation of Private Investments and Executive Secretary of the Strategic Secretariat for Development and Competitiveness, Jose Alejandro Rojas, and the Deputy Regional Director of United Nations World Food Programme, Kyung-nan Park.

The Logistics Capacity Assessment (also known as LCA) consists in the mapping of information on logistics infrastructure and services to support the preparation and response of emergencies in a country.

The event was attended by the president of the Logistics Business Council of Panama (COEL for its initials in Spanish), Rodolfo De La Guardia; the executive director of the CLRAH, Alberto Sierra; general

director of the National Civil Protection System (SINAPROC in Spanish), Carlos Rumbo; and the director of Georgia Tech Panama, among others.

Tewaney Mencomo highlighted that this project is a contribution from the CLRAH, as a support tool of the logistics infrastructure and services in Panama for preparing and responding to disasters.

In addition, Minister Rojas expressed his appreciation on knowing the active participation and compromise of the Logistics Cabinet and its members, which directly contributed to the successful execution and completion of this report.

Furthermore, Park noted that Panama's report was generated by the government itself, making the assessment unique in the Latin America and Caribbean region for this feature, proving once again Panama's leadership in Logistics, and its commitment to humanitarian action.



October 19, 2020

Panama-Latin America First Business Fair

The Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Panama, and the Ministry of Commerce, organized the First Panama-Latin America Virtual Trade Fair. The event had the objective of promoting commerce between Panamanian businesses located and operating in Panama, and Latin America. The fair was held from October 1 to 10, and included the display of products and services related to commerce, industries, agriculture, technology, logistics, health & hygiene, pharmacy and medical devices, SMEs, and creative industries.

Mr. Alberto Sierra, executive director of the Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance (CLRAH) was invited to participate in the event as a virtual conference speaker.

CLRAH's presentation at the virtual conference, consisted of a chronological recount of the Center's identity and objectives; the humanitarian operations carried out by each user and their activation mechanisms; COVID-19 response actions; and the Center's connection with the private sector through the characterization of suppliers, opportunities for potential business collaborations, and strategic alliances. View the presentation here: [Humanitarian Hub: Driver of Alliances and Facilitator of Logistics Coordination](#)

Thus, the Humanitarian Hub as the logistics platform for humanitarian assistance of the Republic of Panama, continues to strengthen and to consolidate itself in the humanitarian logistics field, promoting potential opportunities for commercial collaboration.



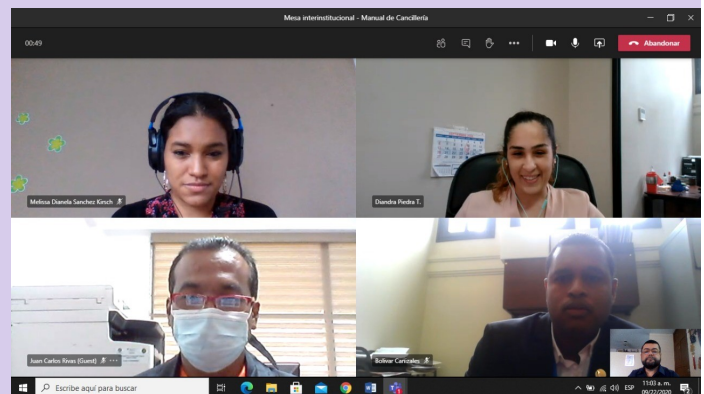
October 1 - 10, 2020

Review of the CCAH Manual of Procedures

The CLRAH currently collaborates in the revision of the Manual of Procedures of the Humanitarian Assistance Coordination Center (CCA) for its initials in Spanish). The revision consists in a restructure proposal of the document, while ensuring to consolidate the vital role of the National Civil Protection System (SINAPROC), entity responsible of the humanitarian assistance in Panama.

This proposal will also include the analysis on CLRAH's responsibilities and actions in the CCAH before, during and after an emergency that should require: international humanitarian assistance, participation of CLRAH's users, as well as collaboration in logistics facilitation, coordination and process improvement.

CLRAH has also provided support in the revision of the Manual of Procedures for disasters and humanitarian crisis of the Minister of Foreign Affairs through the proposal of analysis and simplification of processes.



October 14, 2020

Process Meetings

- ♦ Visit and tour of the complex by the Health ViceMinister and the Health Minister-Counselor.

September 2, 2020

- ♦ Meeting between Customs National Authority and SINAPROC to review the Central American procedure for facilitation.

September 2, 2020

- ♦ Meeting with the Advisor to the Minister of Government and UNOPS, on the definition of the consultancy for the expansion of the Humanitarian Hub.

September 3, 2020

- ♦ Meeting between OAS, UNHRD and MOFA on UNHRD's operations and services.

September 4, 2020

- ♦ Meeting with the President of the Panamanian Red Cross on triangulation between IFRC, Government of Panama and Panamanian Red Cross.

September 9, 2020

- ♦ CLRAH presentation and exploratory meeting with the Logistics Commission of the Private Business Association of Panama Pacifico.

September 17, 2020

- ♦ CLRAH presentation and meeting between the CLRAH's executive director and president of COEL.

17 September, 2020

- ♦ Meeting of the Logistics Regional Board on COVID-19 operations / Work plan with strategic partners.

18 and 25 of September, 2 and 16 of October, 2020

- ♦ Exploratory discussion with the Organization Topos of Mexico with the interest of becoming strategic partners of the CLRAH

October 1, 2020

- ♦ Meeting between UNHRD's Network Coordinator and Executive Director of the CLRAH.

October 5, 2020

- ♦ Planning meeting with COEL and CLRAH on Supply Chain Webinar.

October 6, 2020

- ♦ Strategic meeting with UNOPS consultants on the CLRAH's expansion.

October 8, 2020

- ♦ Preliminary meeting on the process analysis of the Manual of Procedures for disasters and humanitarian crisis of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

October 14, 2020

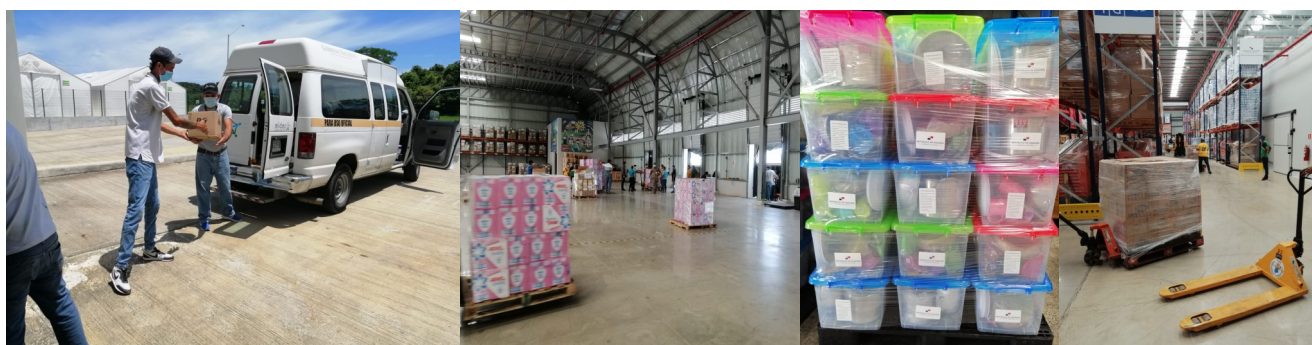
CLRAH as a Regional Platform for Humanitarian Assistance amid COVID-19

The Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance (CLRAH) through its users, actively continues with humanitarian operations and actions in response to populations affected by the COVID-19 pandemic; the National Civil Protection System (SINAPROC) responding at the national level, and at the international level, through the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), and the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD).

CLRAH continues its support to the Panama Solidarity Plan, primarily with warehouse capacity and operations by the SINAPROC, as well as collaboration by the UNHRD.

During the months of September and October, CLRAH users have mobilized humanitarian assistance not only to communities affected by COVID-19, but also to those struck by national emergencies due to extreme weather events. Accordingly, the efforts by the CLRAH administration during these months have been significant.

Each user continues to follow the public health and social measures implemented by the CLRAH administration, in accordance to the recommendations provided by the Ministry of Health during the pandemic.



September 1 to October 31, 2020

Panama Humanitarian Warehouse, coordinated by the SINAPROC

The National Civil Protection System (SINAPROC) operates the Humanitarian Warehouse of the Republic of Panama, located at the CLRAH, providing assistance and aid to populations affected by COVID-19 (via the Panama Solidarity Program) and by emergencies caused by floods during the months of september and october 2020.

SINAPROC, entity that assists and contributes in reducing suffering of affected communities by emergencies, mobilized humanitarian assistance to disaster-stricken areas in the provinces of Colon, Darien, Herrera, Los Santos, East Panama and West Panama.

The Humanitarian Warehouse provides support to the Panama Solidarity Program, by storing items, such as: gloves, oximeters, masks, liquid soap, hand sanitizer, in addition to periodically sanitizing the humanitarian warehouse, SINAPROC offices and the administrative and operation offices of the Center.



Assembly of emergency, kitchen and cleaning kits in the Humanitarian Warehouse of Panama



Dispatch of humanitarian assistance to areas affected by floods



Humanitarian assistance for affected populations in the province of Herrera



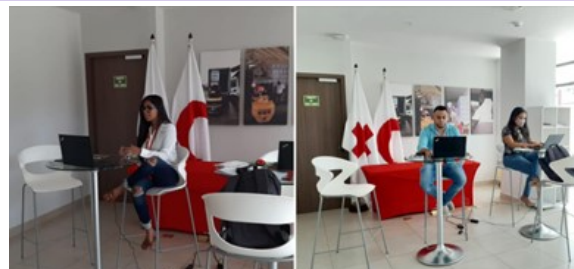
Operations at the Humanitarian Warehouse: Reception of donations, assembly for Panama Solidarity Program and sanitization of the CLRAH

IFRC Humanitarian Operations

The International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) has continued its humanitarian and logistics operations in support to its national societies. During the months of September and October 2020, the IFRC's Health Unit inspected health equipment inventory to ensure the quality of all items prior shipment to beneficiaries in the region; IFRC also organized education and information activities on Warehouse Management, reaching an online audience of more than 167 people in more than 15 countries in the region, including the Academia.



Quality inspection of health equipment



Webinar on Warehouse Management



Dispatch of ambulances from Dubai to Peru, coordinated by the Panama Unit

IFRC dispatched medical equipment, non-food items and personal protective equipment to islands in the Caribbean, which included Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Barbados, Dominica, St. Vincent, Cuba, Haiti, St. Kitts & Nevis and The Bahamas.



Humanitarian assistance dispatched to National Societies in the Caribbean

September 1 to October 30, 2020

UNHRD Humanitarian Operations

The United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot, UNHRD, Hub Manager, was honorably invited to participate in the Panel for Cooperator's Day, presided over by Their Majesties the King and Queen of Spain. Furthermore, on October 9 the World Food Programme (WFP), administrator of the UNHRDs, was awarded with the 2020 Nobel Peace Prize for its efforts to combat global hunger.

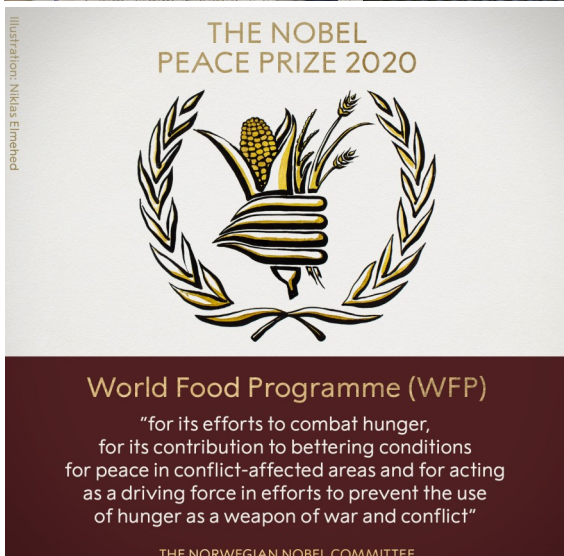


Participation of UNHRD's Hub Manager, Francisco Quesada, in the Panel for Cooperator's Day in Spain. September 8, 2020



On October 1, UNHRD received its first shipment which required storage in the new cold room facilities.

COVID-19 test kits are donations from the Jack Ma Foundation in China, via WHO/PAHO, and must be stored at temperatures of -20°C (-4°F).



Nobel Peace Prize Award to WFP (The Nobel Prize, 2020)



Participated in the delivery of a modular hospital from the United States

Humanitarian Cargo Mobilized by International Users January-September 2020

Humanitarian cargo mobilized by the CLRAH's international users throughout the year has been significant. The International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), has responded to the humanitarian needs of national societies in 34 countries, with a total of 367 tons of cargo mobilized between January and September of 2020.

During this same time period, the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) dispatched a total of 479 tons of humanitarian assistance to 33 countries.

COVID-19: International Humanitarian Cargo

January - September 2020



International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Cargo mobilized

51.5 TONS

3.28 Millions USD

Personal protective equipment (gowns, masks, gloves)

Dispatches to **32 COUNTRIES**

Tons dispatched by region

Central America	Caribbean	South America
23 Tons	16 Tons	12 Tons

Source: Data provided by IFRC (2020). Prepared by CLRAH.



United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot

Cargo mobilized

274 TONS

5.99 Millones USD

Personal protective equipment, diagnostic medical devices, mobile storage units

Dispatches to **31 COUNTRIES**

Tons dispatched by region

Caribbean	South America	Central America
102 Tons	102 Tons	70 Tons

Source: Data provided by UNHRD (2020). Prepared by CLRAH.

COVID-19 has highlighted the importance and value of having the international users as part of the Humanitarian Hub of Panama. The International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies has mobilized 51.5 tons to 32 countries from January to September 2020. In parallel, the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) has mobilized 274 tons to 31 países.

International Humanitarian Cargo *does not include COVID-19 cargo

January - September 2020



International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Cargo Mobilized

316 TONS

1.89 Millions USD

NFIs (jerrycans, tarpaulins, kits, mosquito nets, others), medicines, vehicles 4x4)

Dispatched to **19 COUNTRIES**

Tons dispatched by region

Central America	7.0 Tons
Africa	16 Tons
South America	128 Tons
Caribbean	165 Tons

Source: Data provided by IFRC (2020). Prepared by CLRAH.



United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot

Cargo Mobilized

205 TONS

1.18 Millions USD

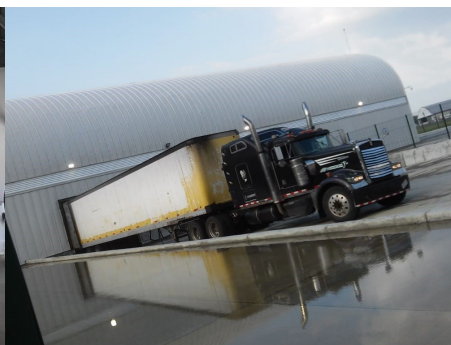
Tents, tarpaulins and ropes, medicines, prefabricated houses and materials to equip them

Dispatched to **15 COUNTRIES**

Tons dispatched by region

North America	1.1 Tons
Caribbean	36 Tons
South America	53 Tons
Central America	115 Tons

Source: Data provided by UNHRD (2020). Prepared by CLRAH.



January 1 to September 30, 2020

Knowledge Transfer Center

The Knowledge Transfer Center (CTC for its initials in Spanish), has promoted new forms to communicate and generate educational and academic activities through virtual platforms. We have designed and participated in virtual academic gatherings with international and national organizations:

◆ **Logistics Business Council of Panama (COEL in Spanish):**

As part of the cooperation agreement signed between COEL and the Ministry of Government in the context of the CLRAH, the webinar *Humanitarian Logistics: Supply Chains in the context of COVID-19* was organized. The event's objective consisted on sharing the experiences between the Humanitarian Hub and the private sector amid COVID-19. The webinar reached an online audience of more than 55 participants, primarily from the private sector, and more than 50 followers via social media. The webinar was highly successful, with the participation of great national and international guest speakers. In addition, the event, was an example of private-public collaboration, allowing to strengthen alliances between the logistics private sector and the Humanitarian Hub.

◆ **Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO):** Attended virtual course on General Characteristics of Cold Chain Management for vaccines and medicines.

◆ **Coordination Center for Disaster Prevention in Central America and Dominican Republic (CEPRENAC in Spanish) and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR):** Attended the webinar titled: "Evidence that makes a difference" in commemoration of the International Day for Disaster Reduction, October 13.

◆ **COEL:** Attended the webinar "Panama, Logistics Center for



combating COVID-19".

◆ **Panama Pacífico:** Attended the training course titled "First aid;



fire prevention and extinction".

◆ **United States Southern Command:** Attended the online course "Management of Disaster Relief Warehouses".

◆ **Technological University of Panama:** Provided support to undergraduate students for their thesis project facilitated by the Knowledge Transfer Center of the CLRAH.

September 1 to October 30, 2020



Results of the ecological compensation: CLRAH's contribution to the Environment

As part of the mechanisms established by the CLRAH to contribute to the environment due to the impact of the construction of the center, we have had significant results in the developing and implementation of corrective plans to counterbalance the ecological damage to natural habitats where the Regional Logistics Center is now located.

Through the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), we have contributed in mitigating the impact of construction on biodiversity, with the implementation of two corrective plans:

♦ Reforestation of 1.5 hectares in Chorro, La Chorrera as part of the hydrological compensation of this location.

Milestones:

- 1) Ecosystem restoration degraded by logging, burns and intensive farming,
- 2) Creation of wildlife corridors,
- 3) Micro-weather improvements,
- 4) Incorporation of species native to the area,
- 5) Promote the sustainable use of organic products.

♦ Reforestation of 6.0 hectares in Chapala Vocational School

Milestones:

- 1) Implementation of silvopastoral systems,
- 2) Post-planting maintenance in pastures,
- 3) Furrow systems for plant maintenance, among others.
- 4) Management of phytosanitary control and fertilizing systems,
- 5) Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.



Sustainable Development Plan for the Humanitarian Hub

Current and future needs of the CLRAH, have driven to consider the design and establishment of a mechanism for the Center's holistic, strategic and sustainable development and expansion, seeking to strengthen its logistics capacities and humanitarian infrastructure at the service of the Americas.

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the humanitarian operations at the Panamanian Humanitarian Hub, and allowed identifying the need for greater availability and capacity in resilient humanitarian infrastructure for other types of users.

Hence the importance of designing a sustainable development and strategic expansion plan, in a humanitarian logistics and business context, in accordance to the needs of the region.

For this reason, CLRAH has requested to the United Nations Office for Project Service (UNOPS) a non-refundable technical assistance to design a proposal for the sustainable development of the Center's infrastructure at a short and medium term.

This proposal is currently under revision and analysis.

UNOPS

PROYECTO CLRAH

DOCUMENTO SOBRE EL DESARROLLO DE
UN ÁREA SOSTENIBLE DE EXPANSIÓN Y SOPORTE -
ANEXA AL HUB HUMANITARIO DE PANAMÁ.

Ing. Lucio Clemente
Ing. Juan R. Ospelt

Material elaborado para uso exclusivo de UNOPS

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September 1 to October 30, 2020

Lessons Learned in the context of COVID-19

Many are the experiences left by the COVID-19 syndemic during these last eight months in 2020, allowing the Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance, CLRAH in Spanish, the identification of lessons learned in this matter.

The CLRAH has reinvented itself and has become a resilient logistics platform for humanitarian assistance in the Republic of Panama, in the national and regional level, providing and facilitating support through its users. Among the identified lessons learned, the following health and safety best-practices can be mentioned:

- ◆ Temperature monitoring at the access gate to all needing to enter the logistics compound. This measure includes drivers and passengers.
- ◆ Security staff at the gate makes sure all accessing the premises have face masks.
- ◆ Any person with a temperature higher than 37.9°C is denied access and must immediately go to the nearest Health Center.
- ◆ Each cargo vehicle must be placed at the reception or dispatch door of the warehouse.
- ◆ Temperature monitoring for all individuals accessing the depot or warehouse.
- ◆ Sanitize shoe soles of all accessing the depot by either fumigation or placement of shoe sanitizer mats.
- ◆ Promote that drivers, whenever possible and practical, remain in their vehicles.
- ◆ Make hand sanitizer readily available for visitors and staff.
- ◆ Do not allow the entrance to anyone not wearing a face mask.
- ◆ Promote the frequent washing of hands for warehouse personnel, or provide hand sanitizer for situations where not practical.
- ◆ Establish cleaning procedures for vehicles, tools and equipment of shared warehouse use (such as forklifts, jackpallets, and the kind).
- ◆ Establish cleaning and disinfecting procedures for common use surfaces, such as handles and railings.
- ◆ Ensure the availability of sanitary products for basic hygiene (water, liquid soap, paper-towel, toilet paper and hand sanitizer).
- ◆ Placement of hand sanitizer dispensers in several locations for easy access by staff.
- ◆ Periodically nebulize the warehouse area to reduce the risk of contamination.
- ◆ Promote social distancing among staff as much as possible.



CLRAH National and International News

- ◆ Nobel Peace Prize: World Food Programme receives award
- ◆ Francisco Quesada, father of CBS students, speaks on WFP Nobel Peace Prize Award
- ◆ Minister of Government presents Panama's Logistics Capacity Assessment
- ◆ Presentation of Panama's first Logistics Capacity Assessment
- ◆ Panama seeks to play a vital role in the distribution of COVID-19 vaccine
- ◆ Supply Chain: Visibility is key to achieve resilient supply chains during COVID-19 pandemic
- ◆ Sinaproce offers humanitarian assistance in San Vicente shelter
- ◆ Launching of the First Edition of Panama– Latin America Business Virtual Fair
- ◆ In 2020, Humanitarian Hub prepares for hurricanes
- ◆ Sinaproce will not stand misconducts, assures Carlos Rumbo
- ◆ Hurricane Dorian anniversary: Thousands supported during a global pandemic and in the midst of hurricane season
- ◆ Webinar: Humanitarian Logistics - Supply Chain in the context of COVID-19
- ◆ Cooperator's Day: Speech by Francisco Quesada, UNHRD Panama Hub Manager

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The Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance or CLRAH, under the Ministry of Government, was created through Law No. 80 of 14 December 2017, as a logistics platform for humanitarian assistance, that facilitates activities of reception, management, storage, redistribution of supplies and equipment, as well as the mobilization of human resources in response to national and international emergencies in the region; consolidating the Humanitarian Hub of Panama.

Furthermore, the National Civil Protection System, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, as well as the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot, currently are users of the CLRAH.



Humanitarian assistance, strategies, planning, webinars,

