



CLRAH
Centro Logístico Regional de
Asistencia Humanitaria

The CLRAH in Images

November - December 2020
Volume 2, N° 6



- ♦ Prominent visitors at the CLRAH
- ♦ Participation of the CLRAH in the OAS

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Connecting the World, Serving the Region

THE HUMANITARIAN 2020

Key Topics:

- AECID at the CLRAH
- Important donation by the US Southern Command
- Users and COVID-19

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The CLRAH in Images

“Prominent Visitors at the CLRAH”

On November 13 2020, Director of the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID in Spanish), Mr. Magdy Martínez Soliman, visited the Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance (CLRAH) during his visit in Panama.

The Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) is responsible for the management of the government's international development cooperation policy, and Mr. Martínez Soliman visit strengthened the cooperation and collaboration between Panama and the Kingdom of Spain.

At the CLRAH, Mr. Martínez Soliman was welcomed by Her Excellency, the Viceminister of Government, Juana Lopez; the Executive Director of the Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance, Alberto Sierra; as well as the General Director of the National Civil Protection System of Panama, Carlos Rumbo; and manager of the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot, Francisco Quesada.

The AECID is partner of the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) and keeps inventory in the UNHRD's warehouse, which is located at the CLRAH.

The Director of the AECID toured the UNHRD warehouse facility, and was pleased with CLRAH's international users work and operations in the region.

This visit strengthened the already existing ties of collaboration, cooperation and friendship between Spain and Panama, and the CLRAH was the catalyst for this exchange.

The CLRAH has played a key role in the humanitarian response to COVID-19, focused primarily in the dispatched and distribution of aid to more than 34 countries in the region; as well as in the operations of the emergencies caused by hurricanes Eta and Iota in Central America.



November 13, 2020

Commander of the US Southern Command visits the CLRAH



On December 10 2020, the Commander of the U.S. Southern Command, Admiral Craig Faller, and Stewart Tuttle, U.S. Chargé d' Affaires, and other American government representatives, visited the Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance and took part in a donation ceremony from the US Southern Command to the Republic of Panama.

On behalf of the National Government, the donation was received by the Vice Minister of Health, Her Excellency Ivette Berrio. The event also had the important participation of the Minister of Government, Her Excellency Janaina Tewaney Mencomo; the General Director of the National Civil Protection System, Carlos Rumbo, and the Executive Director of the Regional Logistics Center of Humanitarian Assistance.

The donation consisted on personal protective equipment (PPE) and four (4) field hospitals, which will be at the service of the Ministry of Health and Security, as well as of the National Civil Protection System. This donation will aid populations in vulnerable conditions, especially to those affected by the emergencies and humanitarian crisis which Panama currently faces.

Before the donation ceremony, the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) Manager and the Executive Director of the CLRAH, welcomed Admiral Faller to the UNHRD warehouse facility and gave a short tour.

All COVID-19 health and safety guidelines, issued by the Ministry of Health, were followed during the event and the tour.



CLRAH was activated in response to ETA and IOTA



In November 2020, the CLRAH, through its international users, was activated in response to the impact of Hurricanes Eta and Iota in Central America, providing humanitarian assistance to affected countries: Panama, Nicaragua, Honduras and Costa Rica.

The SINAPROC, as the national user of the CLRAH, dispatched humanitarian assistance to affected populations due to floods and landslides.

Additionally, the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFCR) continued to monitor the needs required by its national societies in Central America in the distribution and shipment of humanitarian assistance.

Finally, the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) coordinated operations to provide humanitarian assistance in Central America, in accordance to their partners' requests.

Process Meetings

- Meeting with representatives of the Association of Caribbean States, to implement the cooperation agreement.

November 6, 2020

- Meetings of the Logistics Regional Board on COVID-19 and hurricanes in the region.

6, 13, 20, & 27 of November 2020

- Meeting between the Minister's of Government advisor, CLRAH's Executive Director, UNOPS's directors and consultants on the presentation of consultancy for the expansion of the Humanitarian Hub.

November 13, 2020

- First meeting of the Technical Board on Humanitarian Vehicules, formed by the CLRAH, IFRC, Customs, MOFA, Land Transit & Transportation Authority, Judicial Investigation Directorate, and Panama City Council.

November 19, 2020

- Meeting of the Logistics Board in Honduras on Eta and Iota.

November 23, 2020

- Meeting with the Panamanian Chamber of Commerce on Virtual Trade Fair and follow-up on Business Round Table.

December 1, 2020

- Follow-up meeting on the Technical Board on Humanitarian Vehicles, with the National Authority of Customs and CLRAH representatives.

December 10, 2020

- Meetings of the Logistics Regional Board about operations on COVID-19 and hurricanes in the region.

December 11, 2020

- Follow-up meeting on the Technical Board on Humanitarian Vehicules, with advisor of the Land Transit and Transportation Authority.

December 15, 2020

- Exploratory discussion between GRV and CLRAH on ADR 2021.

December 23, 2020

CLRAH and COVID-19 vaccines

The CLRAH is available to the humanitarian community for becoming the Humanitarian Hub in the region for COVID-19 vaccines.

The Executive Director of the CLRAH, Alberto Sierra, informed that currently there are communications with international organizations, which could potentially use Panama, and if they so decide, distribute vaccines from the CLRAH to the different countries in the Americas.



As an entity under the Ministry of Government, the CLRAH also maintains conversations with the private sector, in order to facilitate alliances between this sector and the international organizations, seeking ultimately to promote Panama's logistics strengths and its potential as a humanitarian hub for COVID-19 vaccines.

Sierra mentioned that in Panama, the Ministry of Health has all the capacities and resources for the national vaccine distribution, and the facilities at the Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance will only be considered, if requested by the Ministry of Health.



December 18, 2020

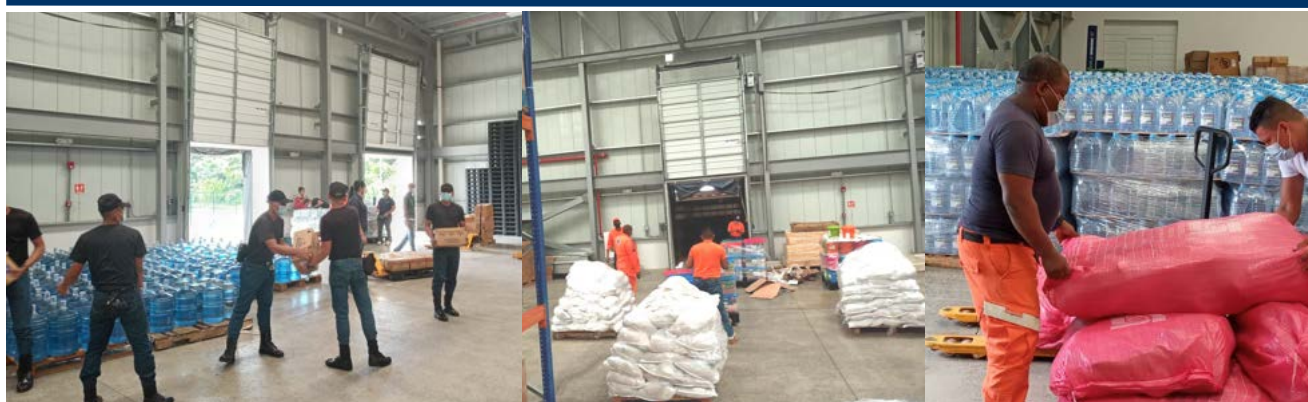
Panama Humanitarian Warehouse, coordinated by the SINAPROC

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) as well as those affected by emergencies caused by floods and landslides in Bocas del Toro, Herrera, West Panama, Veraguas, Ngabe Bugle region and metropolitan areas of Panama, during the last months of 2020.



Due to the impact of Hurricane Eta in Central America, which caused severe floods and landslides, the CLRAH, through its respective users, was activated to effectively provide assistance and aid to those located in affected areas.

SINAPROC coordinated the dispatch of cleaning and personal hygiene items, clothes in good condition and bottled water from the Panamanian Humanitarian Warehouse to the affected regions.



Storage, packaging and distribution of humanitarian assistance to populations affected by disasters and COVID-19.



Hundreds of SINAPROC volunteers have collaborated each day with the Panama Solidarity Program in ATLAPA Convention Center, preparing humanitarian assistance for populations affected by COVID-19.



Her Excellency, the Minister of Government, and the General Director of the SINAPROC, recognize in the International Day of the Volunteer, the value and importance of SINAPROC's volunteers as the entity's backbone.

Faces of the CLRAH:



Humanitarian assistance and logistics to the country and the Americas



Humanitarian Operations of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

Throughout November and December 2020, IFRC dispatched humanitarian assistance primarily in response to the needs required by national societies in countries impacted by hurricanes Eta and Iota, which caused devastation to Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras and Guatemala. Humanitarian assistance was transported by land.



At the IFRC premises, K9 team performs inspection of trucks with destination to Honduras.

Response to Hurricanes Eta & Iota

Due to the impact of hurricanes Eta and Iota in Central America, the IFRC dispatched approximately 86.52 tons to Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica, which included several humanitarian items.

They also donated three (3) vehicles.

November 4, 2020



Visit of the Swiss/Spanish Logistics ERU (Emergency Response Unit) who received training on the logistics operations of the region, before heading off to Honduras to provide support in response to hurricanes Eta and Iota.



In December 2020, IFRC dispatched several shipments of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), non-food items and medical equipment to Cuba, Haiti, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ecuador, Guatemala, Guyana, Belize, Grenada, Trinidad & Tobago, Uruguay, Bolivia and Honduras. It also included a charter with medicines.

November 1—30, 2020

Humanitarian Operations of the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD)

In these two last months, the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) has reached, via its respective partners, several countries in the Americas such as Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Dominican Republic, Venezuela and Panama. Furthermore, UNHRD received important visits from the director of the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation (AECID), the Commander of the U.S. Southern Command, ministers of state, among others.



UNHRD collaboration to the Panama Solidarity Program



Humanitarian items, packaged and distributed to different countries in the Americas



Visit and tour of AECID Director, Diplomats from the Spain Embassy in Panama, UN Resident Coordinator in Panama and the Vice Minister of Government at the UNHRD warehouse.



Visit and tour of Commander of the U.S. Southern Command and representatives, as well as delegates from the U.S. Embassy in Panama, at the UNHRD warehouse.

Humanitarian Cargo Mobilized by International Users

INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN CARGO



MINISTERIO DE GOBIERNO
Centro Logístico Regional de
Asistencia Humanitaria

January - November
2020

The Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance (CLRAH for its initials in Spanish) has two international users, the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), and the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD). Both organizations, provide the CLRAH its international scope in humanitarian response.

1,057

tons

14.2

million USD

Shipments to **35**
Countries

TOTAL MOBILIZED

During this period, CLRAH's international users mobilized humanitarian cargo in response to the emergencies caused by Hurricanes Eta and Iota, COVID-19 pandemic, as well as to other humanitarian and pre-positioning operations in the region.

Tropical Storm Eta And Hurricane Iota

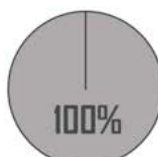
In November, Eta and Iota impacted Central America with strong winds, severe floods and mudslides*. Approximately, 106 tons with a value of 575 thousand USD has been mobilized from the CLRAH to Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama. Items shipped included personal protective equipment (PPE), hygiene kits, kitchen kits, cleaning kits, mosquito nets, tarpaulins, collapsible Jerry cans, among others.

Mobilized Cargo - Eta and Iota (Nov 2020)



86.5 Tons

454 Thousand USD



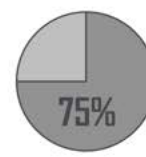
By Land

Dispatched to
Honduras,
Nicaragua y
Costa Rica



19.9 Tons

121 Thousand USD



By Land

Dispatched to
Nicaragua,
Panamá

*OCHA (2020). Central America: Tropical Storm Eta & Hurricane Iota: Six Weeks Later (as of December 22). <https://reliefweb.int>

Covid-19

From January to November 2020, international user's operations in response to COVID-19 mobilized 392 tons with a value of 10.4 million USD, from the the CLRAH to 34 countries in the Americas. Items dispatched were primarily personal protective equipment (PPE) such as face masks, gloves, gowns, infrared thermometers, safety glasses, among others.

Mobilized Cargo COVID-19 (Jan - Nov 2020)



82.7 Tons

3.8 Million USD

Tons mobilized by
Region

Caribbean
51%



33
countries

North America
4%
South America
17%
Central America
28%



309 Tons

6.6 Milion USD

Tons mobilized by Region

South America
40%



34
countries

Caribbean
36%
Central America
25%

Knowledge Transfer Center

As part of the activities of the Knowledge Transfer Center, the last two months have been significant to the CTC, organizing and participating on international activities related to humanitarian logistics and assistance; as well as communicating and promoting the services that the CLRAH offers through its users and strategic partners.

♦ Virtual participation of the CLRAH in the Ordinary Meeting of the Organization of the American States, OAS:

Executive Director of the CLRAH, Alberto Sierra, had the honor of participating in the event and during his presentation, he explained the role and activities of the Humanitarian Hub, emphasizing on the work done by its international users and the participation of the SINAPROC as the national user.

♦ Coordination and cooperation meeting with the Association of the Caribbean States (ACS) and follow-up to the Action Plan:

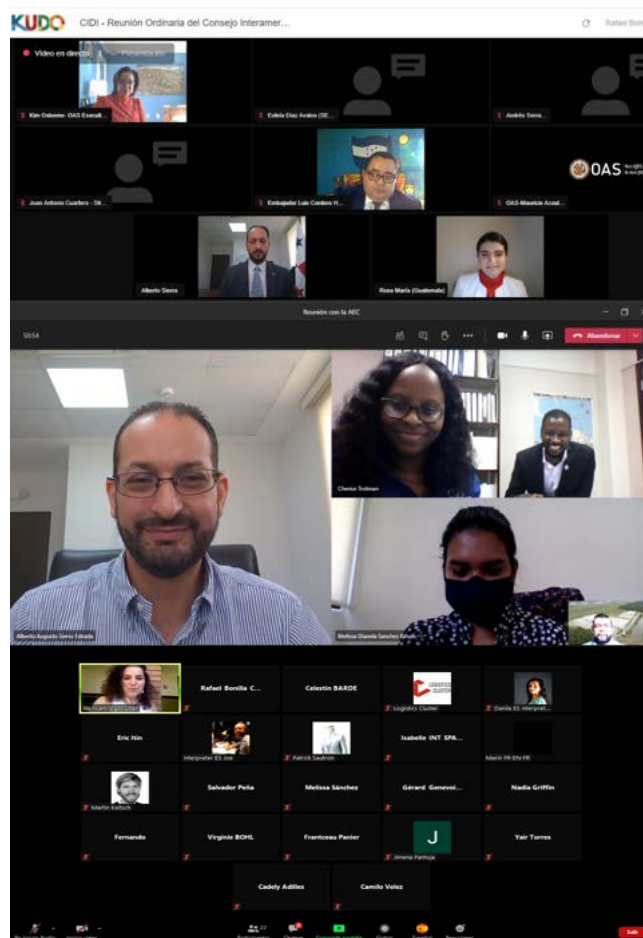
An event that strengthen the cooperation and mutual support ties between both organizations.

♦ Follow-up and continuous communication with the Coordination Center for Disaster Prevention in Central America and Dominican Republic (CEPRENAC in Spanish) for the implementation of the Action Plan :

Durante hurricanes Eta and Iota, we maintained permanent communications and monitoring in order to facilitate any support our users and strategic partners may need.

♦ Participation in WFP's Logistics Cluster Global Preparedness Meeting 2020:

CLRAH representatives participated in this important event, which contributed to enhance their knowledge and capacities in logistics preparedness and its regional scope.



CLRAH National and International News

- ♦ [Red Cross launches massive, multi-country operation as horror of Hurricane Eta emerges](#)
- ♦ [Post on Instagram by the Minister of Government Janaina Tewaney Mencomo on the activation of the Humanitarian Hub in response to Hurricane Eta](#)
- ♦ [Humanitarian Hub of Panama activates in response to Hurricane Eta](#)
- ♦ [Humanitarian Hub prepares aid for Panama and Central America](#)
- ♦ [Panama Solidarity Program was awarded by the IDB and the OAS](#)
- ♦ [Humanitarian Hub mobilizes more than 800 tons of humanitarian aid in the Americas](#)
- ♦ [Commander of U.S. Southern Command arrives at Panama to meet with members of the Panamanian Government](#)
- ♦ [Facing the pandemic and hurricanes, in 2020 the Humanitarian Hub reaffirms Panamanian vocation](#)
- ♦ [WFP Chief urges world to use its wealth to prevent famine in Nobel acceptance speech](#)
- ♦ [Humanitarian response to hurricanes Eta and Iota one of the most challenging faced by Central America in decades](#)
- ♦ [US has delivered USD 7.8 million to fight Covid-19 in Panama](#)

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Editorial Board

- ◆ **CLRAH's Director:**
Alberto Sierra
- ◆ **Editor, writer and designer:**
Rafael Bonilla
- ◆ **Contributors:**
Melissa Sánchez
Yair Torres
Osvaldo Guerrero
Ghiliam Grajales
- ◆ **Translator**
Melissa Sánchez

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- ◆ CLRAH's users

Centro Logístico Regional de Asistencia Humanitaria

Las Américas Boulevard,
Panama Pacifico,
Corregimiento de Veracruz,
Panama Oeste

Telephone:
(507) 520-4622/ 27

E-mail: clrah@mingob.gob.pa

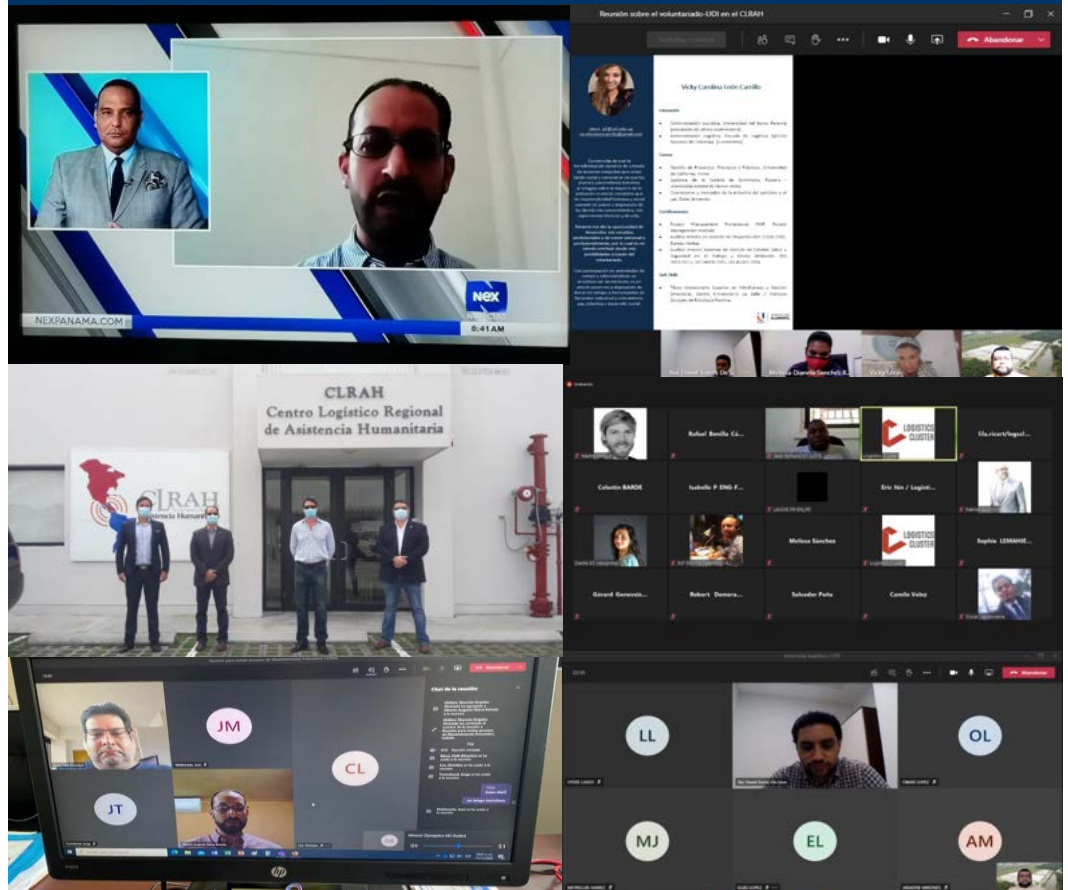
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The Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance or CLRAH, under the Ministry of Government, was created through Law No. 80 of 14 December 2017, as a logistics platform for humanitarian assistance, that facilitates activities of reception, 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 members of the CLRAH.



Work meetings, Interviews and Message of hope



"The Humanitarian Hub of Panama, Committed to its users, partners and the humanitarian community, expresses its gratitude and appreciation for delivering aid where it is needed the most and invites not to lose hope and faith that better times will come"