

## OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (USAID/OFDA)

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, SAN JOSÉ, COSTA RICA



International experts from DPDHL train groups of GoP officials from regional and national institutions to better manage and respond to emergencies and disasters at FAP Captain José Abelardo Quiñones González International Airport in Chiclayo. *Photo courtesy of UNDP*

### USAID/OFDA Helps Strengthen Humanitarian Logistics Capacity in Peru

The El Niño weather phenomenon resulted in heavy rains and river swelling in Peru during the January–April 2017 summer season, causing widespread flooding and landslides. Floods extended into populated areas, resulting in at least 110 deaths, as well as prompted severe health concerns and damaged housing, public infrastructure, and livelihoods that affected more than 1.7 million people.

In response to the unprecedented 2017 floods, the Government of Peru (GoP) National Institute of Civil Defense (INDECI) worked to improve its capacity to respond to major disasters by strengthening response coordination and humanitarian logistics nationwide.

To support GoP capacity building efforts, USAID/OFDA partnered with the UN Development Program (UNDP) to implement a program that would help ensure that humanitarian assistance supply chains remain operational following a disaster. As part of the program, UNDP and Deutsche Post DHL Group (DPDHL) implemented the Get Airports Ready for Disaster (GARD) program to prepare airports to better respond to disasters, develop local capacity by training local officials, and allow disaster relief institutions to better plan and coordinate their efforts. Since 2009, 43 airports in 21 countries have implemented GARD worldwide, training more than 800 employees.

In Peru, GARD focused on FAP Captain José Abelardo Quiñones González International Airport, located in the city of Chiclayo in

northwestern Peru. Because of its geographical location, FAP Captain José Abelardo Quiñones González International Airport is an important hub to northern Peru, and in the event of a disaster, it can act as an alternative airport to Jorge Chávez del Callao Airport in Peru's capital city of Lima.

*Continues on page 2*



During the workshop, DPDHL help GoP officials develop a disaster preparedness action plan for the FAP Captain José Abelardo Quiñones González International Airport based on challenges faced during the 2017 floods. *Photo courtesy of UNDP*

## Humanitarian Logistics continued from page 1

The FAP Captain José Abelardo Quiñones Gonzáles International Airport and INDECI jointly organized the workshop in August 2018. International experts from DPDHL trained representatives from regional and national institutions in the management and response to emergencies and disasters at Chiclayo airport. In addition, an action plan for disaster preparedness was developed for the airport based on challenges evaluated during the workshop, helping to ensure the continual flow of goods into Peru after a disaster.

In addition, USAID/OFDA partnered with the UN World Food Program (WFP) to support INDECI's efforts to bolster the humanitarian supply chain capacities of key response actors in Peru. In 2018, the program reviewed and updated the national Damage and Needs Assessment (EDAN) methodology and the Disaster Response and Rehabilitation Information System, and disseminated new versions nationwide.

WFP also provided training on humanitarian logistics supply chain and the updated version EDAN to a group of disaster response management instructors from Arequipa, Huacho, Loreto, Lima, and Piura regions.

“This capacity building program has had a really positive impact by helping to strengthen disaster preparedness and response coordination in Peru. Humanitarian logistics plays a key role in saving lives and reduce human suffering as it helps relief actors deliver emergency supplies, such as safe drinking water, food, medicines, and other critical supplies reach people rapidly following a disaster. It is crucial for an effective response to a major disaster.” said USAID/OFDA Regional Advisor Sarah McNiece.



WFP provide training on the updated EDAN version to a group of disaster response management instructors from Arequipa, Huacho, Loreto, Lima, and Piura regions. Photo Courtesy of WFP

Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance  
Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean



Tel: +(506) 2290-4133  
Email: ofdalac@ofda.gov  
Internet: www.usaid.gov



Members of CONRED and CARE Guatemala attend an event featuring the donation of USAID/OFDA-supported equipment to CONRED for the regional EOC in Petén. Photo Courtesy of CARE

## USAID/OFDA Supports Disaster Response Capacity Building in Guatemala

According to the long-term Global Climate Risk Index, Guatemala is the ninth most at-risk country in the world to the impacts of climate change. Over the past decade, natural disasters affecting Guatemala have resulted in the loss of hundreds of lives and more than \$3.5 billion in damage to housing, livelihoods, and public infrastructure.

In response to this risk, USAID/OFDA partnered with CARE Guatemala to strengthen the capacity of local, municipal, and departmental actors to respond to disasters in Petén Department. Petén was chosen as the focus of the program because the majority of its municipalities—10 out of 14—are classified as high-risk by the 2017 Risk Management Index Report and they have minimal response capacity.

CARE worked with the Government of Guatemala National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction (CONRED) to develop human resource capabilities and strengthen strategic facilities with equipment and technology to enhance decision-making abilities during a disaster. This included training of CONRED staff as well as equipment donations to strengthen the emergency operation center (EOC).

On January 31, 2019, USAID/OFDA staff attended an event for the donation of computers and other office equipment to CONRED that will be installed at the regional EOC in Petén. The equipment will enhance the ability of CONRED staff to communicate and coordinate with other EOC's in the national system during an emergency.

USAID/OFDA disaster risk management specialist Ricardo Berganza commented, “CONRED staff was appreciative of the equipment donation and support that USAID/OFDA has given over the years. They are working diligently to make Guatemala safer and we are excited to continue working with them.”



CARE Guatemala Director Amilcar Miron (left) and U.S. Mission Disaster Relief Officer for Guatemala Rony Schumann (right) deliver the new equipment for the EOC in Petén to CONRED Director Sergio Cabañas (middle). Photo courtesy of CARE