

Storms Hit Thousands in Argentina and Bolivia



La Paz, February 17 (RHC-teleSUR) -- Thousands have been evacuated and displaced across communities in Argentina and Bolivia due to heavy rains.

In northern Argentina, more than 1,000 people have been evacuated due to this season's rainstorm. Meanwhile, in Bolivia, the vice minister of Civil Defense confirmed that 17,000 families from the department of Oruro have been affected.

Rescue teams have been dispatched in Argentina to look for at least four people lost in Cordoba, among them a mother and son. Six people have died since the beginning of the storm.

Argentina's Ministry of Defense has sent military and National Guard officials to the region most at risk of landslides.

The head of Cordoba's Civil Defense, Hugo Garrido, also confirmed that "at dawn there was also flooding, in some parts of the city, because 18 millimeters fell in less than an hour."

In Bolivia, authorities have issued nearly two tons of humanitarian aid. Authorities estimate that rains will continue until the end of the month.

Sixty families were evacuated on Sunday night in Oruro due to landslide risks near the Huanuni mine. “We have really seen the situation that these 60 families are living in this moment, they are currently evacuating,” said the vice minister for Civil Defense, Oscar Cabrera.

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