

## **PEVOLCA yellow alert remains in force for Cumbre Vieja area of La Palma**

- **The Scientific Committee reports that the number and magnitudes of seismic movements have fallen but the cumulative deformation has now reached 10 cm**
- **The volcanic process continues and may evolve rapidly in the short term. As a result, more intense earthquakes may be felt**
- **Under the Yellow Alerts status, information to the public and the surveillance and monitoring of volcanic and seismic activity are increased**

At its meeting today, the Scientific Committee of the Volcano Risk Prevention Plan (PEVOLCA) has recommended that the yellow alert status should remain in force for the Cumbre Vieja area, which comprises the towns of Fuencaliente, Los Llanos de Aridane, El Paso and Mazo. An intensification of activity is not ruled out in the short term. The current alert status will be reviewed depending on the evolution of the process.

According to the experts, recent hours have seen further seismic activity, with a fall in the number and magnitude of the earthquakes. The low-magnitude shallow seismicity (1-3 km) continues, although further activity at intermediate depths (4-5 km) has been recorded in the last 12 hours. The deformation has increased in the zone of the volcanic activity and now stands at 10 cm.

The Committee adds further that the process continues and may evolve rapidly in the short term, with more powerful earthquakes anticipated.

Given the situation, the PEVOLCA has stepped up its continuous monitoring of the activity and will notify any significant change observed. The public are asked to be on the alert for any information issued by the Civil Protection authorities.

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### **Oficina de Relaciones con los Medios de Comunicación**

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The Scientific Committee is coordinated by the Canary Island government's Directorate General for Safety and Emergencies and comprises representatives of Spain's National Geographical Institute (IGN), Science Research Council (CSIC), Canarian Institute of Vulcanology (Involcan), Spanish Geological and Mining Institute IGME), National Institute of Meteorology (AEMET), National Oceanographic Institute (IEO), and the universities of La Laguna and Las Palmas de Gran Canaria.

The PEVOLCA has put in place a volcanic 'traffic light' mechanism for alerting the public which consists of four colours according to the level of risk: green, yellow, amber and red. At the yellow level, information to the public and the surveillance and monitoring of volcanic and seismic activity are increased.

At this level, monitoring of volcanic activity is stepped up in order to notify any significant change observed. The public are asked to be on the alert for any information issued by the Civil Protection authorities through official channels and the media.

A volcanic eruption is preceded by a gradual increase in seismic activity. This can take place over a considerable period of time and may be felt by the population, which should remain calm.

At the yellow level, the public are asked to familiarise themselves with the roads in their area in case of possible evacuation and also to identify possible accommodation with relatives outside the risk zones.

In addition, should evacuation prove necessary, you are asked to prepare a small backpack or travel bag with a mobile phone and charger, any personal medication needed and important documentation.

If you notice any significant change (e.g. noise, gases, ashes, change in the water level in wells, small earth tremors, etc), you are asked to report it to 1-1-2. Please remember that this is an emergency number.

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If you live with someone with a disability and who requires special evacuation (ambulance), you should let the Dept. of Social Affairs in your local Town Hall know. In the event of an evacuation, your local Town Hall will provide details of evacuation routes and designated meeting points. Evacuation will only be ordered when required by the situation.

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