

PEVOLCA Scientific Committee maintains yellow alert despite fall in volcanic activity in Cumbre Vieja, La Palma

- **Experts stress that the current situation may be temporary and does not mean that the reactivation of the volcano has ceased**
- **Yellow alert remains in force for the towns of El Paso, Los Llanos de Aridane, Mazo and Fuencaliente**
- **At this alert level, information to the public and surveillance and monitoring of volcanic and seismic activity are increased.**

At its meeting today, the Scientific Committee of the Volcano Risk Prevention Plan (PEVOLCA) reported a reduction in seismic activity but stressed that the current situation could be temporary and does not mean that the reactivation of the volcano has ceased. Accordingly, it has recommended that the current yellow alert level should remain in force for the Cumbre Vieja area of La Palma, in the towns of Fuencaliente, Los Llanos de Aridane, El Paso and Mazo, with a stepping up of surveillance and monitoring. The Scientific Committee and Steering Committee of the Plan will meet again on Saturday.

In its report, the Committee notes that seismic activity has decreased noticeably in recent hours, although a powerful pulse with localised events has been recorded both at 6-8 km depth and nearer the surface. Shallow seismicity is now the prevailing form. Today's seismicity is situated to the north-east of yesterday's activity. The deformation continues, albeit at a slower rate, and is compatible with a more superficial source.

The volcanic process continues and may evolve rapidly in the short term. The reduction in seismic activity could be temporary and does not necessarily mean that the reactivation of the volcano has ceased.

Oficina de Relaciones con los Medios de Comunicación

Centro Coordinador de Emergencias y Seguridad (1-1-2 Canarias)

616 061 112

prensa@gscanarias.com

Para más información consulta el Portal de Noticias



As indicated in the previous note, more powerful earthquakes may be felt. Similarly, the occurrence of observable surface phenomena is not ruled out.

The Scientific Committee also addressed media stories concerning the possible collapse of the western flank of Cumbre Vieja and the triggering of a giant tsunami. It stresses that there is no data to support this hypothesis, which has no demonstrable scientific basis.

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 established a volcanic 'traffic light' mechanism for alerting the public. The traffic light consists of four colours according to the level of risk: green, yellow, amber and red. At the yellow level, both 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 report 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.

Oficina de Relaciones con los Medios de Comunicación

Centro Coordinador de Emergencias y Seguridad (1-1-2 Canarias)

616 061 112

prensa@gscanarias.com

Para más información consulta el Portal de Noticias



They should prepare a small backpack or travel bag with a mobile phone and charger, any personal medication needed and important documentation in case evacuation is ordered.

Any significant change (e.g. noise, gases, ashes, change in the water level in wells, small earth tremors, etc) should be reported by calling 1-1-2, although please remember that this is an emergency number.

If you live with someone with reduced mobility who requires special evacuation (ambulance), you should let Social Services 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 take place when required by the situation.