

SITUATION UPDATE

VOLCANO ERUPTION IN ST. VINCENT



As of April 12, 2021

Volcano Erupts in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Displacing Thousands

On April 9, 2021, La Soufrière Volcano erupted in the Caribbean island of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines – its first eruption in 42 years. Heavy ash has covered the island and this plus lava flows pose a threat to communities close to the volcano in the north of the island. About 20,000 people (the island has about 100,000 inhabitants) have been forced to flee, and, according to officials, will likely remain displaced for months. Crops and vegetation in affected areas have also been destroyed.

According to the *Miami Herald*, the island’s finance minister, Camillo Gonsalves, said: “This is not something that’s going to be over in a week or two. We’d be lucky if it’s over in three or four months.” Not only the falling of ashes, but also eruptions, will continue for months, according to officials. Gonsalves added, “We are going to have to rely, increasingly as time goes on, on our development partners and on our friends and allies.” And many are concerned about the spread of Covid-19 in facilities such as churches and schools that are serving as shelters.



Photo source: UWI Seismic Research Centre/AFP



Resident of the island covered in ash (Photo source: UWI Seismic Research Centre/AFP)



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Disaster Relief

Outreach Aid to the Americas has activated its Americas Relief Team (ART) operation in response to the volcano eruption in St. Vincent. OAA's ART (www.americasrelief.org) consists of activating a series of procedures to obtain critical relief supplies, logistics support, and MOUs with other foreign relief agencies and with local partners as primary assignments to provide support to victims in the countries that we serve.

Monitoring Disaster News in the Caribbean and Central America

As OAA continues work across the Americas region, our organization remains strong and we are focused on serving our partners and the vulnerable peoples in Cuba, The Caribbean, and Central America. We are actively monitoring the news in the region and we are providing guidance and planning program activities accordingly, based on needs.

It's About Them!



You can help!

Link here: [Donate Now Disaster Relief](#)