

**News from Quito, Ecuador**  
**February 2022**

“from where will my help come? My help comes from the LORD...”  
*Psalm 121:1b-2a*

Receive our greetings in this new year. We ask that God bless and protect you.

This rainy season in Ecuador has been heavier than usual, the excessive rains caused a lot of damage, one very close here in Quito. The night of January 31 heavy rains on the slopes of the Pichincha Volcano affected 2 neighborhoods of the city, bringing mud, water, and debris down 2 streets with great force which overflowed a containment pond and first hit a volleyball court where about 50 people were present and continued down into the city through the neighborhoods. The disaster left about 160 families affected, 28 people dead, 52 injured, of which 7 are still in the hospital, and 1 person still missing. About 27 homes were significantly damaged, 8 homes completely collapsed, and many businesses were affected.

Just days before in the last week of January, in the rural mountains 4 hours south of Quito and 2 hours south of Pastocalle, there were torrential rains. These rains overflowed rivers, collapsed roads and bridges, caused landslides, flooded homes, and greatly affected communities and productive lands leaving 2 dead and more than 300 families affected.

The Ecuadorian population has been very supportive and soon mobilized in solidarity with the affected families. On Saturday, February 5, a Minga (a community workday) was held in Quito with more than 1,200 volunteers to help clean up the mud and debris. The government is moving a lot of help, and the Methodist Church also collected donations to share with the affected families.

Please continue to pray for these affected communities.

The Churches of Ecuador are holding a time of prayer each day at 3 PM ET. Thank you for joining us in these prayers, together we raise our prayers to God.

We pray for Ecuador, we pray for the widows, and orphans who remain, we pray for the families who were left homeless, the families who were left without their crops and food. We pray that the Lord will bless families in need in the countryside or in the city. We pray for pastors and church leaders who strengthen God's mission among the people. We pray for all the countries that have suffered disasters either due to winter or excessive rains.

We greatly appreciate your communications, your prayers, your donations, and offerings sent both to missionary support and to support of the projects in Ecuador. We especially appreciate the donations to salaries of the pastors of Ecuador that in recent months many of you sent through the Advance.

We want to always be in communication, please do not stop writing to us, if you have reasons for prayer we can share with the Ecuadorian churches.

Dios les bendiga.

Sara Flores and Dakin Cook

Some pictures from the past weeks:



Quito Mudslide



River South of Quito



Consolation