



Nicaragua

Earthquake

15 September 2016

Event Briefing

15 September 2016

1 INTRODUCTION

A magnitude 5.4 earthquake occurred at 05:57:24 UTC on 15 September 2016, (23:57:24 on 14 September local time), 12.9 km (8 mi) NNE of La Paz Centro (Population 23,481), Nicaragua, 21.8 km (13.5 mi) NNW of Nagarote (Population 26,270), Nicaragua, 26.4 km (16.4 mi) E of León (Population 144,538), Nicaragua, 44.9 km (27.9 mi) ESE of Chichigalpa (Population 33,137), Nicaragua and 45.2 km (28.1 mi) NW of Ciudad Sandino (Population 70,013), Nicaragua. Initial estimates from the United States Geological Survey (USGS) located the epicentre of the event at 12.450° N, 86.635°W, and at a depth of 10.0 km (6.2 mi).

2 CCRIF MODEL OUTPUTS

Under CCRIF's loss calculation protocol, a CCRIF Multi-Peril Risk Estimation System (MPRES) report for a Loss Event is required for any earthquake which produces a modelled loss greater than zero in any CCRIF country member; this was the case for this earthquake in Nicaragua. Based on the MPRES footprint, peak ground acceleration of up to 0.2g was felt in the Northwest region of the Nicaragua territory close to the Pacific Ocean coastline (Figure 1).

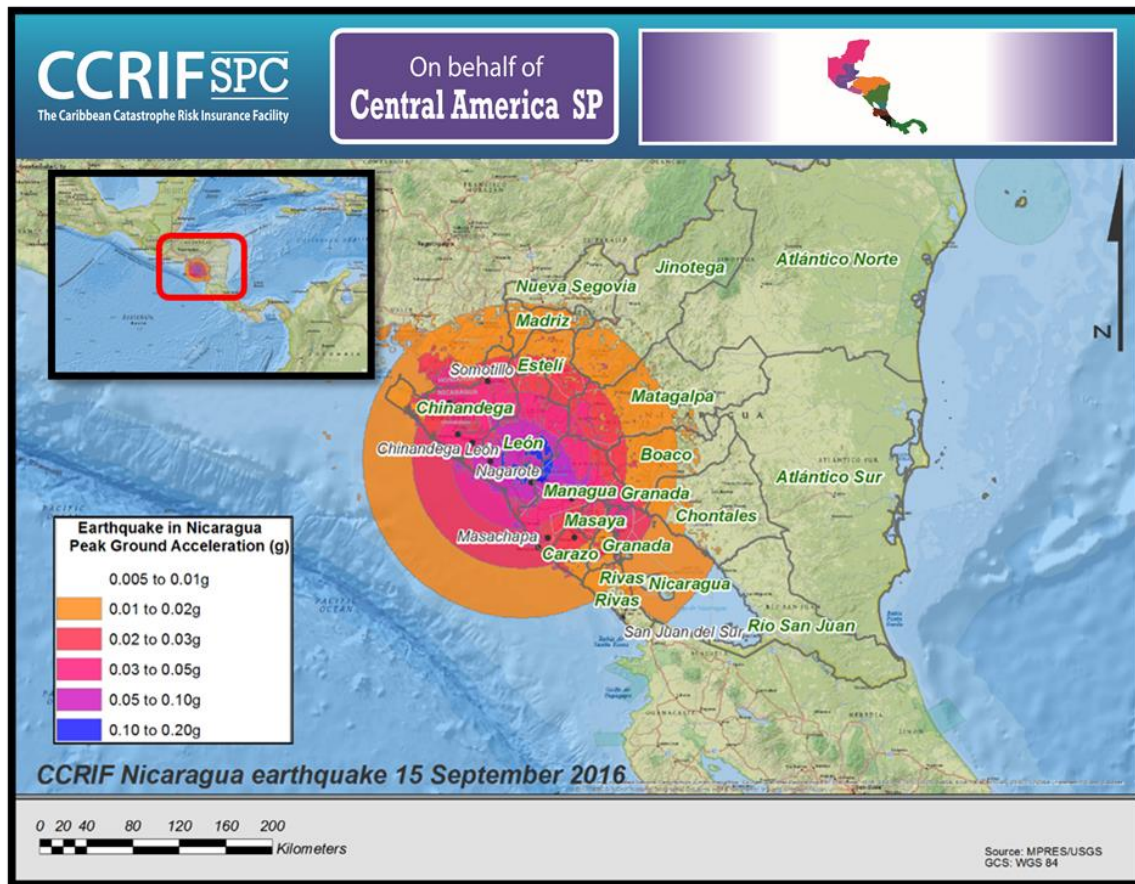


Figure 1 Map showing the peak ground acceleration in Nicaragua following the magnitude 5.4 earthquake on 15 September 2016.
Source: USGS & CCRIF KAC/MPRES.

3 IMPACTS

According to Nicaragua's national disaster organization, Sistema Nacional para la Prevención, Mitigación y Atención de Desastres (SINAPRED), preliminary reports at 19:00 UTC on 15 September quantify the damages caused by the earthquake as follows:

La Paz Centro Municipality, Department of León:

- Las Colinas, Momotombo, reported two collapsed walls.
- One house was partially destroyed in Comunidad Milagros.
- Two pregnant women, one adult male and a child were transferred to the hospital for treatment of diverse injuries.

Department of Managua:

- In District II, one house collapsed.
- One house reported fissures in District V.

Services:

- Nicaragua's electrical service provider (ENATREL) reported that two electrical stations were taken out of service at the time of the tremor for security reasons. The service has been restored.
- The potable water service provider (ENACAL) reported the water supply network was unaffected.
- The Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport had no reports of damages.
- The Ministry of Education reported two schools with fissures and falling shingles.

Preliminary runs of the CCRIF loss model generated small government losses, which were below the attachment point of Nicaragua's earthquake policy and therefore no payout is due.

For further information, please contact ERN-RED, the CCRIF SPC Risk Management Specialist.

Evaluación de Riesgos Naturales

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