

Telecommunications to save
lives....

“A life experience”

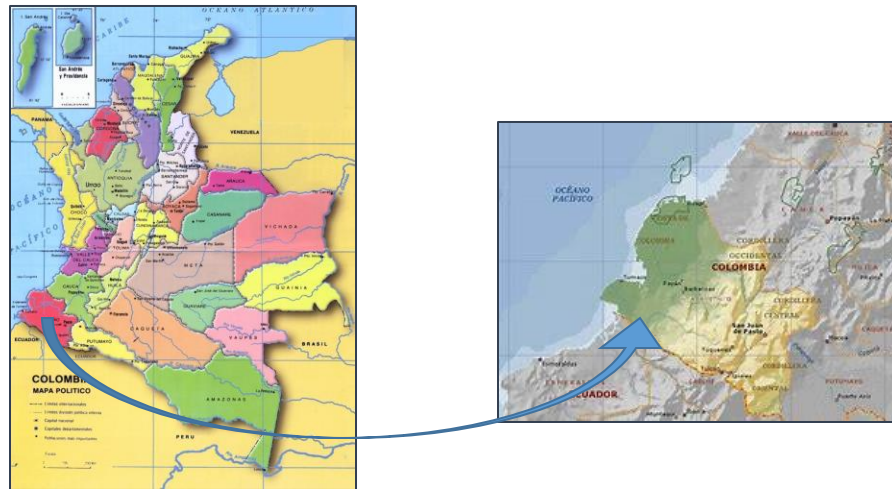
Maritza Delgado

July 05 2018

CERN

The beginning

- Graduated in November 2002 from Universidad del Valle, Colombia, as an Electronic Engineer, focusing on mobile telecommunication networks.



- Started working on Emergency Telecommunications and Disaster Management in July 2003 in Pasto, Colombia.



Colombia experience....

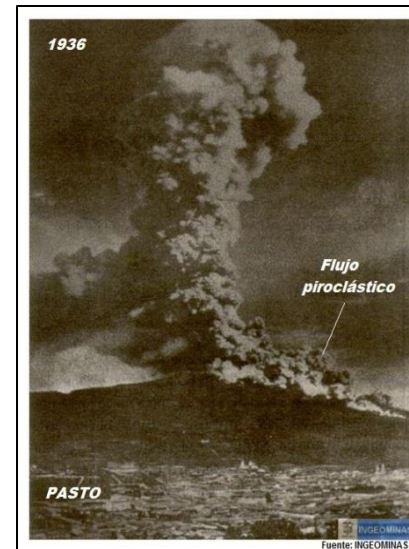
Regional Disaster Management Office

Nariño is the department with the highest number of disasters caused by different kind of hazards in Colombia

Volcanic activity: Colombia has 95 volcanos, 37 are in activity. One of the most active volcanoes is the Galeras.

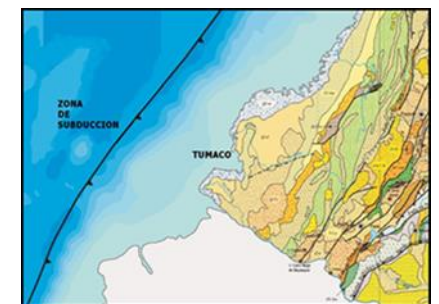
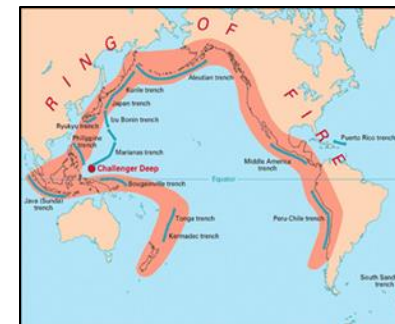
Galeras Volcano: Development of early warning system to deliver alerts to communities in high risk.

EWS commonly consist of several interlinked components, such as sensors measuring relevant physical parameters, telecommunication equipment, monitoring centers, and organizational structures for disseminating understandable information.

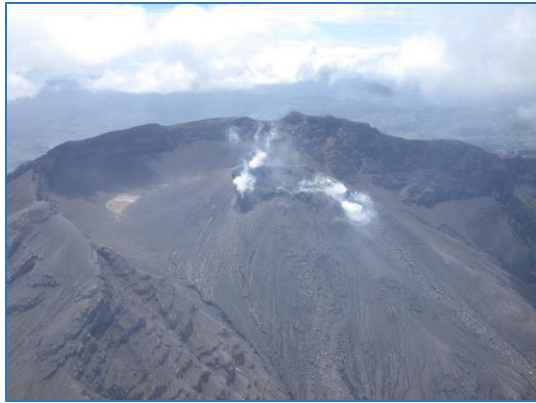


Tsunami: Development of a telecommunication network for tsunami alerting and response coordination.

Colombia has been hit by two tsunamis in recent history. One in 1906 and one in 1979, both in the Pacific coast of Nariño



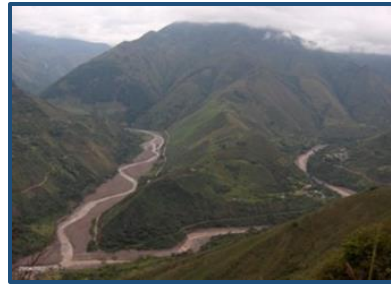
Galeras Volcano... installing telecommunications equipment



Colombia experience....

National Disaster Management Office

- **Huila Volcano:** Development of community-based EWS including Amateur Radio. Project funded by World Bank



- **Combeima canyon:** Development of an EWS in close cooperation with the Meteorological Office of Colombia and DIPECHO (Disaster Preparedness Programme of the European Commission)



Ministry of Information and Telecommunication Technologies of Colombia

- Advisor to the Minister of ICTs on emergency telecommunications matters.
- Development of the first draft of the National Emergency Telecommunication Plan
- Represent the Ministry at International meetings concerning Disaster Risk Reduction and management issues as well as related to Emergency Telecommunications

GET 2007

First Global Forum on Emergency Telecommunications
Organized by ITU.

International experience

- **International Telecommunication Union:** United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies – ICTs.
- Organization of several workshops and forums on the development of National Emergency Telecommunication, standard operating procedures, regulatory frameworks, hands on training on the use of satellite telecommunications equipment, among others
- Participation at international meeting and events related to emergency telecommunications and the use of ICTs for disaster risk reduction and disaster management
- Delivering emergency telecommunications equipment to countries that have been hit by disasters. ITU deploys the equipment within 24/48 hours in the aftermath of a disaster.
 - Haiti. Hurricane
 - Japan. Tsunami
 - Philippines. Hurricane
 - Nepal. Earthquake
 - Ecuador. Earthquake

Nepal



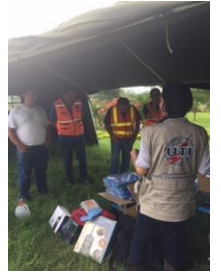
Philippines



Haiti



Ecuador



Personal thoughts

Challenges

- 85% of people working on this environment are men
- Lack of trust (coming from women)
- Less opportunities

What has helped

- Faith in God
- Self confidence
- Family support

THANK YOU