



Guatemalan Landslide Death Toll Rises to 131



Guatemala City, October 5 (teleSUR-RHC)-- At least 131 people were reported dead late Sunday with 300 others missing, after a devastating landslide in Guatemala .

The disaster struck on Friday, after heavy rains caused a hillside collapse, crushing people in their homes in a small town outside Guatemala City. Rescue efforts continued on Sunday night; authorities say the search for survivors will continue for at least 48 more hours.

"As the hours go by, we are losing hope," said Irving Vargas, one of some 1,800 rescue workers and volunteers who continue to search for survivors. "We haven't pulled anyone out alive in quite a while."

The head of the country's disaster agency, Alejandro Maldonado, said at least 125 homes were hit in the small town of Santa Catarina Pinula.