

Cuban president reiterates support to province most affected by Hurricane Ian

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Havana, October 13 (RHC)-- First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and President of the Republic Miguel Diaz-Canel has reiterated the country's support for the recovery efforts in the western province of Pinar de Rio, severely affected by Hurricane Ian.

Speaking to the residents of the municipality of Consolación del Sur on Thursday, during his fifth visit to Pinar del Río after the hurricane, the Cuban head of state said that the damage there was extensive, and stressed the willingness to resolve the damage in the shortest possible time.

More than 300 workers from several provinces are collaborating in that locality, where more than 20 thousand houses were damaged, as well as crops, economic infrastructure and basic services.

According to the Twitter profile of the Presidency, electricity has been restored there to 25 percent of customers.

Pinar del Río was the province hardest hit by the hydrometeorological event, last September 27, with sustained winds of more than 200 kilometers per hour and heavy rainfall.

Among the priorities defined by the highest authorities of the country in that area are the reestablishment of the electric service, water supply and the restitution of more than 99 thousand houses.

According to data from the Electric Union, thanks to the rehabilitation work of the lines in the different municipalities of Pinar del Río, 43.49 percent of customers already have electricity, although some localities such as San Juan y Martínez and San Luis present greater complexities.

In the westernmost province, 6,151 people remain evacuated, and 96 and 89 percent of mobile and fixed telephony were restored, respectively, while 546 hectares of various crops, including grains and vegetables, were planted.

Afterwards, the Cuban president spoke with the workers of the brigades working to restore electricity to the municipality of Viñales, according to the President's Twitter account.

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