

Boquete-born geophysicist explains the 9 October earthquake's effects

When	No date given
Where	Panama; researcher from Boquete
Source	gn_boquete
Outlet	Infobae
Published	2026-10-30 10:20-05:00
Discovered	2026-10-30 12:00-05:00
Link	https://www.infobae.com/panama/2026/10/30/terremoto-en-panama-libero-energia-equivalente-a-367-bombas-atomicas-como-la-de-hiroshima/

Summary

Infobae reports that geophysicist Isaac Guerra Araújo, a native of Boquete, estimates the 9 October magnitude 7.5 quake released energy equal to about 367 Hiroshima bombs and permanently changed ground levels in Azuero and Veraguas by up to three metres.

Details (summary of the article)

Infobae interviewed Panamanian geophysicist Isaac Guerra Araújo, who is from Boquete, about his field research on the magnitude 7.5 earthquake of 9 October. He estimates the energy released was equivalent to roughly 367 Hiroshima-type bombs, enough to shift millions of tonnes of ground and leave permanent deformation along the Azuero peninsula and the Veraguas coast. Measurements at Búcaro in Tonosí show vertical displacements of about three metres, more than the two metres first modelled; other areas near Mariato rose about two metres or subsided up to three. Preliminary models suggest Isla Cañas sank 15–30 centimetres, making high tides reach further inland, and a new channel about 37 metres wide and over four metres deep has split the island in two, though its cause still needs study. Seabed uplift of 30–40 centimetres near Mariato and southern Tonosí may have caused a limited local tsunami. He warns that salt water has entered farmland and that rebuilding should account for the permanent changes, suggesting houses on pilings. Guerra Araújo, a Senacyt doctoral scholar finishing a PhD at Western University in Canada, also calls for many more seismic sensors, including undersea equipment, and cautions that aftershocks may continue for weeks or months.

Original (es)

Terremoto en Panamá liberó energía equivalente a 367 bombas atómicas como la de Hiroshima

Terremoto en Panamá liberó energía equivalente a 367 bombas atómicas como la de Hiroshima Infobae