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# **Highlights**

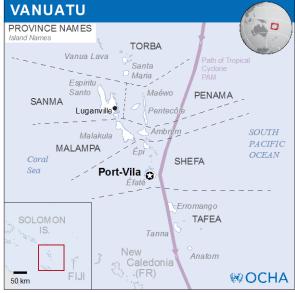
- Distribution of emergency aid continues to communities identified as in need of urgent assistance.
- The Government-led joint Initial Rapid Needs Assessments will continue on 20 March.
- Priority needs emerging from assessments are for WASH, particularly potable water, food, shelter and health.
- A consolidated situation analysis of assessments, which are now 80 per cent complete, will be produced to inform a Government-led response and distribution plan due to be finalized by 20 March.
- Widespread damage to crops has prompted the Government to include seed packs for replanting in planned distributions.
- A Flash Appeal will be launched shortly to support ongoing response operations.

13 Confirmed fatalities

3,995
People in evacuation centres

39 Evacuation centres

Source: Vanuatu National Disaster Management Office



Map Sources: ESR1, Gov/L of USA, UNCS, GoV Land Department, UNISYS The bosoderies and varies shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorserved or acceptance by the United Nations. Map created in Mar 2015.

## Situation Overview

Government-led joint Initial Rapid Needs Assessments have continued today in Paama and East Ambrym (Malampa Province), Ambae and Maewo islands (Penama Province) and Aniwa, Futuna and Anatom islands (Tafea Province). The total number of completed assessments will cover 15 islands and several island groups with 16 assessment missions (out of which seven were conducted on 18 March and two will be conducted on 20 March).

The aim of the initial rapid assessment is to obtain a detailed overview of the situation on the ground in order to reach a common understanding of the required scale of the response to Cyclone Pam and to target the response in a coordinated manner. A detailed assessment report will be found at the end of this report.

On 19 March the Government authorized the transport of relief supplies required for life-saving purposes to the provinces. It has also authorized life-saving assistance such as the supply of health items, emergency food and water. Distribution of other relief supplies will be authorized once the Government approves the National Distribution Plan. A consolidated needs assessment report for the islands reached will be finalized on 19 March. It will form the basis of a national emergency relief distribution plan to be presented to the Government on 20 March. Once endorsed, relief distributions in all affected communities will be overseen and coordinated by the Government. A standardized package of assistance will be identified based on the assessment report. In preparation, the Vanuatu Government has authorized the transport of emergency relief supplies to the provinces.

The NDMO has compiled a list of all stocks in country plus new stocks received and a list of all aid supplies in the pipeline. The lists are continuously updated with new data. The information will be used to guide the procurement of relief items, personnel and transport to meet the needs that the assessment report articulates (see "Assessment Report on Affected Islands" section).

Water and food are major needs. Agricultural experts estimate that affected people will run out of food in less than one week. The Government of Vanuatu urgently needs an initial investment of no less than US\$2 million of financial aid to purchase goods and ship them to the most affected islands. The Government is establishing an

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

emergency food account for financial contributions. It has also requested in-kind food assistance in the form of rice, biscuits and tinned protein that would cover the period from March to June, when seeds and newly planted crops will be harvestable.

# Humanitarian Response

The Government is leading response efforts across all clusters supported by humanitarian partners.



## **Camp Coordination and Camp Management**

#### Needs:

- Shelter, food and water are the key needs of families in evacuation centres.
- Families require tools and material to rebuild their homes.
- Children cannot attend classes in the schools that are being used as evacuation centres. A total of 34 schools are currently used as evacuation centres in Efate, Torba and Penama. Schools also require repairs.

39
Evacuation centres are still open

- Partners need to consider an eventual evacuation Out Plan from the shelters and impacts on where people can go considering the limited shelter options available.
- Current information from evacuation centre managers puts the figures at 39 evacuation centre still being open, housing 3,995 people in and around Port Vila.
- A large but unknown number of people without shelter are being hosted by families and communities.

## Response:

- The Evacuation Centre Working Group/CCCM Cluster has decided to deploy the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) to improve and systematize data collection and analysis of needs and gaps in evacuation centres.
- Training for enumerators of the DTM will take place on 20 March, with data collection starting on 19 March.
- IOM has offered to provide CCCM training including on camp management to NDMO, NGO and other personnel responsible for the management and coordination of evacuation centres.
- Evacuation centres are being prioritized during an ongoing measles vaccination campaign.

#### Gaps:

- There is a need to provide up to date information on multi-sectoral needs and updated figures of those in evacuation centres.
- Access to gender segregated latrines and bathing facilities in evacuation centres and ensuring access to water is required.

## Education

#### Needs:

• A total of 34 schools are being used as evacuation centers in Efate, Torba and Penama, which prevents children from going to school.

 The UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) estimates 500 schools are affected, including Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), primary and secondary schools. Schools being used as evacuation centres

- Facilities and resources are damaged in the majority of schools in Efate, Tafea, Torba and Penama.
- Assessments confirmed that the majority of the schools in Shefa and Tafea Provinces are destroyed.
   Remaining schools are being used as an evacuation centres.

#### Response:

- UNICEF and Save the Children emergency supplies are to be shipped this week.
- UNICEF is targeting 57,000 school-age children. However, numbers will be confirmed once assessments are complete.
- Planning has commenced for the provision of psychosocial support in schools with the assistance of the Protection Cluster.



#### Needs:

- Initial aerial and joint initial needs assessments highlight damage or destruction of food crops, including yams, taro, manioc, kumala, banana, fruit trees and coconuts.
- Communities in Tanna report food supplies will last until 25 March.
- Seeds needed are vegetable seeds, English cabbage, Chinese cabbage, tomato, capsicum, cucumber and
- Food needed immediately includes rice, meat/tuna cans and crackers that meet Food Security and Agriculture Cluster standards.
- It is expected additional rice commodities will need to be imported (200 to 250 metric tonnes).

#### Response:

- The World Food Programme (WFP) will provide food assistance following a direct request from the Government. Targeting 50,000 people or 10,000 households, although more assistance will be needed.
- Key messages, which are being shared via radio and pamphlets, include advice to farmers to replant island cabbage, manioc and taro, as well as to watch out for livestock and plant pests and diseases.
- Efforts are being made to bring in seeds and seedlings from the less affected islands to the heavily affected
- An assessment of gardens (including forestry and fishery) is ongoing.
- Food distribution guidelines are being disseminated through community committees.

## Gaps:

- More information on fisheries and livestock damage and recovery plans is required as well as a detailed mapping of the most affected areas.
- Not all community members are able to access the key messages on replanting and pest control.
- Communication to the islands and on the islands is a challenge.



## **Health and Nutrition**

#### Needs:

- There is an urgent need to get emergency care and water to people to save lives and prevent serious illness.
- The following needs exist in the provision of health care services:
  - Maternal and Child Health care
  - Adequate medical personnel for key affected areas
- Disease control and outbreak response is also needed, including:
  - Surveillance
  - Vaccination
  - Case management
  - Vector control
- Affected people require nutrition and communication on key health issues to prevent future diseases
- Psychological, as well as social and emotional health issues among the disaster-affected people will need to
- Damaged health facility structures still require reconstruction.

#### Response:

- Emergency health kits to support up to 50,000 people have arrived in Vanuatu.
- WHO and Ministry of Health have set up a surveillance system designed to quickly identify any disease
- A super yacht, donated by a private company, will arrive in Vanuatu on 21 March. It will carry one doctor, five emergency medical technicians and medical equipment and it is capable of producing 10,000 litres of water a
- Australia has mobilized an Australian Medical Assistance Team (AUSMAT) of 27 people to provide life-saving medical support. The team will set up a 40-bed hospital ward, a pharmacy, and x-ray services. Australian clinicians started work on 18 March in Port Vila hospital and attended to over 135 patients.
- On 18 March, four AUSMAT members (one doctor, two nurses and one logistician) together with a Ministry of Health doctor travelled to Tanna on an ADF aircraft to attend to several seriously injured cyclone victims.
- A French frigate with two helicopters, two medical teams and supplies arrived in Tanna on 19 March.

- An Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) team of 56 people is assisting with the immediate clean up and early reconstruction, focusing initially on Port Vila hospital.
- Disease control and outbreak response:
  - Plan to vaccinate for measles and provide Vitamin A to 10,500 children aged six months to five years in 10 days across Efate with 1,500 has already been completed. If access can be provided, Santo and Tanna will be tackled next week, given that cold chain systems can be established and staffing allows. Vaccinations in Efate have already started.
- Communications and Prevention:
  - Pre-emptive advocacy: The Ministry of Health is continuing to provide radio announcement warnings to the public about the risk of diarrhoeal disease, viral outbreaks and preventative measures. Broadcast slots have been secured for pre-recorded daily radio announcements.
- Mental Health:
  - Services are being established.
- Nutrition
  - There is capacity now to treat severe malnutrition at VCH. It is important to encourage mothers to continue breastfeeding infants rather than use formula if possible. All incoming infant milk formula must be coordinated and approved by the Ministry of Health.
- Health facility repairs:
  - VCH: Repairs are almost complete. Most wards will be operational by 19 March except paediatrics. Central Medical Stores have been made water tight with temporary tarpaulin. Waste management is functional. Cold rooms have been established for the Central Medical Store (CMS) and mortuary.
  - Lenakel Hospital: The roof is intact but significant damage has been caused. Medicines storage is waterdamaged, AUSMAT is conducting a stocktake of medical supplies and medicines and is conducting a structural assessment. Foreign medical teams have been sent to Tanna to provide medical care.
  - Paonangisu Health Centre: Significant damage was caused with seven out of its nine buildings were badly damaged. The Health Centre is a major site for deliveries in Efate. A health cluster team will visit the structure on 20 March.

#### Gaps:

- Limited number of health centres are accessible.
- Food and water in evacuation centers are reported to be limited, poor sanitary conditions
- VCH: Body bags and additional space and trays for mortuary are required.
- Mataso Island is in need of urgent patient evacuation.
- Lenakel Hospital: Medical supplies and fuel are still urgently needed. Sterilizers are also required for the delivery of babies.
- Greater assistance for repairs of health facilities in outer islands is required.
- Limited communication still poses a problem in many of the affected islands.



- In evacuation centres health issues typical of overcrowded shelter situations are emerging (e.g. diarrhoea, vomiting and a confirmed case of measles). Surveillance will be done via existing health centres rather than in evacuation centres. However, some form of monitoring is necessary in centres to trigger WASH or other needed interventions where appropriate.
- Conditions for children vary considerably between centres, with some being unsafe, and lacking appropriate supervision.
- Reports from rapid assessments are yet to be shared, but in Emae Island, Shefa Province, several protection issues were identified: overcrowding; lack of privacy (particularly for women); unsafe environment for children (debris); women and children being confined to shelters during the heat of the day due to lack of shade outside. Twenty breastfeeding women and seven pregnant women have been identified. School is currently suspended.
- There have been four reports from hospitals of gender-based violence.

#### Response:

- 39 evacuation centres (sheltering 3,995 people) in Port Vila and surroundings are being managed by ADRA, Save the Children and the Red Cross.
- Oxfam is helping ADRA with plastic sheeting to provide sex-disaggregated latrines in nine evacuation centres. The feasibility of providing lights and generators to reduce protection risks is under consideration.

- The health cluster has provided a checklist of early warning signs for outbreaks of diseases.
- IOM shelter and camp management experts now fill the gap of dedicated coordination capacity for the working group on evacuation centres.
- UNFPA is organizing mobile teams to visit evacuation centres and provide antenatal care.
- 400 dignity kits have been distributed to women in evacuation centres. UN Women will deploy a gender specialist this weekend for three months.

#### Gaps:

- Information about centres outside Port Vila remains a gap. Assessments of several locations have not yet been completed and reports of previous assessments have not yet been circulated formally.
- Referral systems for sexual and other forms of gender-based violence (SGBV) in evacuation centres are yet to be implemented.
- Tensions over disparities in service provision between centres and surrounding communities have been reported in a limited number of cases. This has to be addressed in order to avoid a cessation of service provision. A second organization reports that the local government, through chiefs, had intervened in a similar case to defuse the situation.
- Further establishments of emergency shelter in Emae Island are needed to address overcrowding and privacy issues.
- Replenishment and repairs for health facilities are required as well as emergency food supplies (appropriate for pregnant and lactating women). There is also a need for temporary learning spaces and child-friendly spaces.



#### Needs:

The picture regarding shelter needs is evolving. Unofficial feedback from rapid assessments on Tanna indicates approximately 15 per cent of shelter destroyed and 20 per cent badly damaged.

90% of buildings damaged

- in Tongoa, Emae and Other islands, including Tongoa, Emae and Erromango, have reported higher levels Erromango islands
- Rapid assessments of other islands are ongoing.

of damage up to 90 per cent.

## Response:

- A broad response plan is being developed as rapid assessments are being completed.
- Shelter kits and tarpaulins are being distributed; however there are not enough in the country.
- Shelter kits and tarpaulins are being shipped to Tanna. IOM is delivering 500 shelter kits to affected areas over the next two days (20-21 March).
- Habitat for Humanity is providing surge support.
- British military aircraft has delivered supplies, including 1,600 shelter kits and 1,600 lanterns.



## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

### Needs:

- Vanuatu's offshore islands, particularly Tanna Island, rely heavily on water supplies since ground water sources have been contaminated and rainwater harvesting structures are damaged.
- According to estimates, about 60 per cent of the population in Shefa and Tafea has no access to clean drinking water. Based on individual reports, access to water has emerged as the greatest need.
- Based on individual reports, Mataso (400 people), Etas (3,000 people), Eratap (1,300 people), Salini (200 people) and Prima (200 people) in Shefa Province have no access to water due to lack of power to operate the piped water supplies.

Response:

- ADRA and UNICEF provided a generator and fuel to Eratap village in Efate Island to establish a water supply system which now serves 1,500 people.
- WASH cluster members supported the inter-cluster rapid assessments in Shefa and Tafea to identify areas in need of WASH assistance.

60%

of the population in Shefa and Tafea is believed to have no access to drinking water

- The Red Cross shipped 500 hygiene kits to Tanna Island.
- Vanuatu's Department of Geology, Mines & Water Resources (DGMWR) has deployed plumbers to provide immediate technical support to communities around Efate Island.
- The WASH cluster in Tafea Province is active. It is led by the Provincial Water Officer and supported by NGOs active in Tanna Island (Care International, ADRA and WVI).
- The Vanuatu Mobile Force is providing ongoing support to peri-urban areas through water trucking.
- Save the Children, ADRA and the Red Cross are providing WASH support, including distribution of water and construction of latrines in evacuation centres in Efate Island.
- Ten 3KVA generators, donated by the New Zealand Government, are planned to be sent to Tanna to reestablish power to the water pump, which has capacity to provide water for 8,000 people.
- On 18 March, approximately 200 litres of water was provided in containers to Makira in the Shepherd Islands group and on 19 March, 320 litres of water was provided in containers to Tongariki in the Shepherd Islands group.

#### Gaps:

- While water sources can be secured in Port Vila, transportation and delivery of water is difficult due to limited access to remote parts of the affected islands.
- There is a lack of water pumps and generators for groundwater sources in Tanna Island.
- Delays in access to international supplies delay the provision of WASH relief.
- There is limited in-country technical capacity to operate water treatment systems.
- No prepositioned supplies exist in the northern islands of Shefa province, which therefore depend on assistance from outside the province.



## **Emergency Telecommunications**

#### Needs:

- Voice communications outside of Port Vila is completely non-operational due to damaged telecommunications infrastructure. Satellite equipment is needed to provide a temporary solution for Government and humanitarians until local providers can repair infrastructure and restore services.
- Solar charging equipment and portable generators are needed to recharge satellite phones, laptops and other essential communications equipment.

## Response:

- Members of the Emergency Telecommunications network are mobilizing, deploying responders and equipment to Vanuatu.
- 2x emergency.lu satellite terminals have arrived in Dubai from Luxembourg for immediate onward shipment to Port Vila.
- Temporary internet connectivity established by Telecoms Sans Frontieres (TSF) for the Government in provincial capitals is also available to the humanitarian community operating in these areas. TSF also is supporting the UN overall with connectivity, including UNDAC.
- ABC International Development's immediate priority is to assist Vanuatu partners to restore radio transmission equipment. Radio broadcasts from national broadcaster, VBTC, can now be heard in Port Vila, but the rest of Efate and the other islands still have no access to communications. In collaboration with Radio New Zealand International (RNZI), ABC deployed a RNZI technical broadcast engineer to assess and help repair damaged transmission infrastructure in Port Vila. He assessed what is required to get Shortwave (SW) and Medium Wave (MW) restored and identified equipment and parts needed to repair transmission equipment to enable radio access across Efate and other provinces affected by TC Pam.
- Pacific Media Assistance Scheme (PACMAS) staff is working at the Vanuatu Broadcasting & Television Corporation (VBTC) to assist the broadcaster and Vanuatu government partners (including the National Disaster Management Office and the Ministry of Health) on a communications strategy. The content teams are working on messaging around a number of themes, including emergency relief, health risks and information, NDMO messages and rebuilding Vanuatu.

### Response:

Electricity is a pervasive challenge for the operation. The cyclone severely damaged power infrastructure across the country. The entire operation is reliant on solar power and generators.



## **Logistics**

#### Response:

- WFP, with assistance from UNICEF, is to establish two storage hubs, one at Port Vila airport, where a site has been identified, and another one in Tanna Island.
- A coordination group has been established to help streamline processes for the use of military assets in the relief effort.
- Port Vila Airport and port are operational.
- The Civil Aviation Authority reported that most runways and terminals on the affected islands are serviceable but there are some limitations to terminal support for night flying.
- The Australian Defence Force (ADF) sent out vessels with basic relief supplies (food, water, blankets, tarpaulins) to affected areas in Nanumaga, Niutao and Nanumea (in the Pacific nation of Tuvalu ) which have yet to receive any support. ADF and the New Zealand Defence Force also have helicopters arriving to Vanuatu in a few days. The French Military has a helicopter on a frigate arriving at Tanna on 19 March.
- DFAT has a private helicopter arriving from Fiji today.
- Supplies continue to arrive from organizations including MFAT, DFAT, DFID and Red Cross.
- Further ships are on standby to deliver relief items.

# Funding

China's Ministry of Commerce announced that it would provide 30 million yuan (US\$4.8 million) worth of tents, food, power generators and other urgently needed relief supplies to support the Vanuatu. Supplies would be shipped as soon as possible. The Red Cross Society of China has also offered emergency humanitarian assistance to Vanuatu amounting to \$100,000 so far. China joined global efforts aimed at helping Vanuatu recover from the cyclone. The Singapore Red Cross launched an urgent public appeal Wednesday to raise \$2.2 million and the Singapore government offered \$50,000. Britain and Australia have pledged \$2.9 million and \$3.8 million, respectively.

On 15 March, the Government of Japan decided to extend emergency relief supplies equivalent to 20 million yen (US\$170,000) for tents (70), sleeping pads (270) and plastic sheets (200) to Vanuatu through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) as a governmental agency for Japan's Official Development Assistance. JICA will deliver these relief supplies from Singapore the end of this week. The Government of Japan also decided to dispatch two Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) advance and medical teams to Vanuatu in order to identify the needs of the affected areas and coordinate the possibility of further assistance based on discussions with the Government of Vanuatu and its partners (Vanuatu Humanitarian Team). The team consists of total 14 members with a Team Leader (Japan's MOFA), logistics members (MOFA and JICA) and medical experts (doctors, nurses and pharmacists). The teams are tentatively scheduled to be stationed in Vanuatu until 30 March.

In addition to the medical team the Government of Japan also decided to dispatch an additional survey team from Japan's Ministry of Defense (Four Officials). The primary focus of the team is to assess relevant emergency assistance needs (e.g. logistics, medical assistance, etc.) together with the Government of Vanuatu and its partners. Furthermore, JICA has deployed one disaster and coordination consultant to support the UNDAC mission on the ground.

Information about financial contributions should be sent to: fts@un.org.

## **General Coordination**

The Humanitarian Coordinator for Vanuatu, Ms. Osnat Lubrani, met with the Prime Minister of Vanuatu on 19 March. An official agreement was reached to launch a Joint Flash Appeal and submission to the Central Emergency Response Fund.

The Government of Vanuatu convened a meeting on 19 March to streamline coordination structures. An agreement was reached to continue the existing cluster system and strengthen inter-cluster coordination. At this meeting it was also proposed that a working group to coordinate distributions and provide linkages to provincial level structure should be established in Port Vila. It was agreed that the working groups for shelter, evacuation centres and emergency telecommunication would continue as working groups in addition to the existing six clusters (WASH, Food Security and Agriculture, Health and Nutrition, Protection and Gender, and Education).

The NDMO has compiled a list of all stock in country plus new stock received and a list of all stocks in the pipeline. These lists are continuously updated with new data. They will be used to guide the procurement of relief items, personnel and transport to meet the needs the assessment report articulates.

Agreement was obtained with the Prime Minister for the Humanitarian Coordinator to convene the donors for a briefing soonest, possibly in a joint effort with the PM.

The UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs is supporting the Government in needs assessments and general coordination. The OCHA Office for the Pacific is providing support on reporting, information management, and public information, and a United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team is supporting the Government-led assessments. OCHA is also supporting the Humanitarian Coordinator.

# Assessment Report on Affected Islands

On 19 March four more multi-disciplinary initial joint rapid needs assessment teams conducted assessments on seven islands in three provinces. The islands were Paama and East Ambrym (Malampa Province), Ambae and Maewo (Penama Province) and Aniwa, Futuna and Anatom islands (Tafea Province)

Over the period 17–19 March joint rapid needs assessments were conducted in the islands of Tanna, Erromango, Emae, Tongoa, Epi, Ambrym, Pentecost, Ambae, Manewo, Aniwa, Futuna, Paama and Anatom (Tafea, Penama, Malampa and Shefa provinces).

The outer islands and Shepherd Islands north of Efate, which cannot be reached by a fixed-wing plane, are still to be assessed. The Government is sourcing helicopters to access communities as quickly as possible.

## **Ambrym Island, Malampa Province**

### **Recommendations**:

#### Relief Distribution/Security

- a. According to the Joint Needs Assessment team report, 96 per cent of food crops are destroyed.
- b. Food stocks in commercial centers will only last for two weeks.
- c. Fuel stocks will also last for only two weeks
- d. Medical supplies need to address the epidemic diseases as soon as possible.

#### WASH

- e. Set up an alternative waste disposal/management system or restore regular garbage collection system (use water crafts instead of dump trucks).
- f. Roll out sanitary and hygiene advocacy programs to prevent an outbreak of diarrheal and other sanitation related diseases.

#### Health

- Strengthen surveillance in affected communities.
- h. Intensify health promotion and advocacy on disease prevention.

#### Livelihood:

The communities are likely to need an alternative source of income. The main source of income in the area is copra, now that all coconut plantations are badly damaged; there will be no income for more than one year for families.

## **Emae Island, Shefa Province**

## Recommendations:

#### Food

a. Provision of seedlings to be considered to stimulate recovery of food gardens. In the meantime, food distribution will be required.

#### WASH

- b. Urgent planning for provision of water in the short term.
- c. Water quality assessments (taking into account local opinions regarding contamination of ground water sources)
- d. Rainwater harvesting equipment (tanks, gutters, pipes).
- e. Hygiene kits and soaps needed.

#### **Emergency shelter**

- Temporary shelter required to reduce crowding in remaining dwellings, provide shade and promote selfrecovery.
- g. Chainsaws for rebuilding

#### Health

- h. Restock of dressings and wound care supplies and medicines.
- One referral boat needs to be replaced or repaired urgently.

#### Logistics

- j. More chainsaws are needed for debris clearance and house rebuilding.
- k. Coastal road also needs to be cleared/repaired for sea-transport.

#### **Emae Island, Shefa Province**

#### **Key Findings/Observations:**

#### **Infrastructure & Logistics**

1.1 Roads have been damaged and blocked by fallen trees from the southern to the eastern side. Public workers have cleared the roads from Melsisi to Lonorore only. The rest of the road on the eastern side is partially damaged and not accessible for vehicles. Local NGOs are equipped with vehicles that can drive on the repaired roads only. Boat transport is accessible to Lonorore Airport. The team was not able to assess schools on the eastern side.

#### **WASH**

- 2.1 Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) is a concern to Central Pentecote (Lonorore). Although flushed toilets existed, observations showed that soap and other sanitation tools were not beingused and the toilets did not comply with hygiene standards.
- 2.2 Due to the lack of communication, no reports have been received on the status of eastern Pentecote.
- 2.3 Reports indicate that there are two full water tanks in central Pentecote, which have been contaminated by the cyclone.
- 2.4 Lonorore has a water supply system but still reported water to be contaminated.

#### **Evacuation Centre**

3.1 It was observed that the majority of the people are living in rather good conditions in the assessed areas. People have been reported to have used their Nakamal (traditional meeting place) as their evacuation

#### Health

- 4.1 Reports from health workers in Lonorore indicate no reported injuries or sickness in the Aid Post including Melsisi Hospital.
- 4.2 No outbreaks of communicable diseases are reported to date.
- 4.3 There is also no infrastructural damage to the Aid Post buildings in the central area.

#### **Food Security**

- 5.1 The majority of the farmlands observed in the central parts have not been damaged. However, the eastern side has a lot of damaged farmland and vegetation with significant impacts to livelihoods and agriculture.
- 5.2 Food is not an immediate concern. However, sustaining food security, particularly on rice availability may be an issue in the longer term due to the vast damage to agricultural crops and farmlands.

### Communication

6.1 Communication has been disrupted and is yet to be restored.

#### Education

- 7.1 Schools that have been damaged:
  - Santari school, south-east
  - Melsisi school, central
  - Ranwadi High school, central
  - Upiku school, central

### Recommendations

Schools that have been affected need to be rebuilt.

b. A detailed assessment is to be carried out on the eastern side of Pentecote for a deeper understanding of the damage.

## Tafea Island Province (Islands of Tanna, Aneityum, Futuna and Erromango)

#### **Futuna**

- 1. No deaths.
- 2. Some minor injuries.
- 3. Communications tower is down and in urgent need of repairs.
- 4. All residents have access to clean drinking water.
- 5. Local vegetable gardens are damaged and the remaining crops will last for another two weeks.
- 6. Fruit and banana trees are damaged.
- 7. Local shops are open and trading.

#### **Tanna**

The Island had sustained major damage to dwellings and critical infrastructures. There is an urgent need to address many of the recommendations identified in this report.

#### Recommendations

#### **WASH**

- a. Supplies of bottled water to fill initial gaps.
- Set up an emergency/relief potable water supply distribution system.
- c. Delivery of 10L collapsible water bladders.
- d. Delivery of water purification tablets
- e. Delivery of hygiene kits.

#### Food

Supply of tinned meat and rice. f

## Shelter

- g. Delivery of tents/tarps for housing / schools.
- Delivery of shelter tool kits.

### Health

- Delivery of medical supplies to support the hospital infrastructure. i.
- Regular medical visits and surveillance to the evacuation centers and the temporary shelters. j.
- k. Restore functionality of damaged health facilities and augment resources in affected communities to enable health services to reach isolated villages and to increase capability to respond to possible disease outbreaks.
- Mobile health teams to provide services to isolated areas. Potential need for midwife services to reach women delivering at home.
- m. Intensify health promotion and advocacy on disease prevention.

## Misc Items

n. Delivery of chainsaws to assist in road clearance.

#### Background on the crisis

Severe Tropical Cyclone (TC) Pam struck Vanuatu (population 234,000), affecting the capital of Port Vila, as an extremely destructive category 5 cyclone on the evening of 13 March at around 11 p.m. local time. The cyclone's eye passed close to Efate Island, where the capital is located, and winds are estimated to have reached 250kmph with gusts peaking at around 320kmph.

## For further information, please contact:

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