

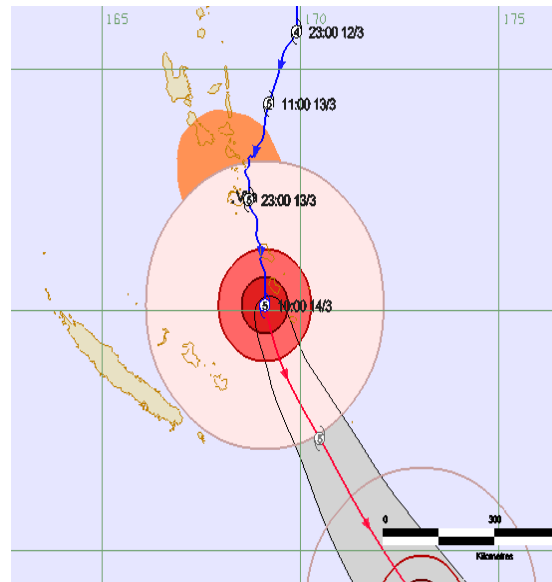


Situation report issued by NDMO Vanuatu  
This report covers the period from 26 March 2015

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## Highlights

- On 26 March, Government food packages were dispatched to Aneityum utilising four Australian Blackhawk helicopters.
- The Australian Naval Logistics/Supply Ship HMAS Tobruk is currently off the coast of Tanna. Once docked, HMAS Tobruk will unload stores and commence operation of its water purification unit.
- New Zealand Defence Force Logistic/Supply vessel HMNZS Canterbury was loaded with relief supplies on 26 March in Port Vila and departed for Epi.
- The French frigate Vendemiaire is distributing relief supplies in Tanna by helicopter. On 26 March the Puma helicopter attached to the French frigate Vendemiaire transported 10 tonnes of relief supplies to various locations around Tanna.
- On 26 March Vendemiaire will travel to Futuna.
- As of 26 March, OCHA's Financial Tracking Service recorded a total of USD \$16 million in financial contributions from donors.



## Situation Overview

Humanitarian partners continue to work closely together under Government leadership via the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) to enact the Government's response plan to Tropical Cyclone Pam.

Rapid assessments of infrastructure by the Multi Sector Working Group are ongoing and data is being collated. Emergency repairs will be prioritised and costed in consultation with Government ministries.

Planning is ongoing for detailed sectoral assessments in all affected areas. The results will complement those sourced through Government-led joint initial rapid needs assessments conducted in the first week after the cyclone.

Relief stocks including food, shelter, water and health supplies continue to be dispatched to the most-affected areas.

Distribution of government food packages in Tanna is ongoing, as is distribution of rice to approximately 92,000 people in Port Vila (all five municipal wards), peri-urban areas (Pango, Mele) and rural Efate. Area councils are collecting their stock from the warehouse on a daily basis.

Approximately 32 metric tonnes of high energy biscuits were dispatched to Tanna on 26 March to be distributed to approximately 30,000 people, while 2.6 metric tonnes of high energy biscuits were transported by CARE for Erromango and Aniwa islands for distribution to approximately 2,500 people.

On 26 March Government food packages were dispatched to Aneityum utilising four Australian Blackhawk helicopters. The Australian Naval Logistics/Supply Ship HMAS Tobruk, currently off the coast of Tanna, surveyed landing sites at Tanna due to the sea state curtailing landing craft operations. Once docked, HMAS Tobruk will

unload stores and commence operation of its water purification unit. The unit uses seawater to produce 100,000 litres of safe drinking water a day.

New Zealand Defence Force Logistic/Supply vessel HMNZS Canterbury was loaded with relief supplies on 26 March in Port Vila and departed for Epi.

The French frigate Vendemiaire is distributing relief supplies in Tanna by helicopter. On 26 March the Puma helicopter attached to the French frigate Vendemiaire transported 10 tonnes of relief supplies to various locations around Tanna. On 26 March Vendemiaire will travel to Futuna.

On 22 March, a plane chartered by China brought a supply of tents to Port Vila. The Chinese Government provided Vanuatu's Government with US\$4.7 million worth of emergency assistance, including food, water, shelter, health items and generators.

Deutsche Post DHL Group's Disaster Response Team (DRT) is based at Bauerfield International Airport in Port Vila is providing logistical support free of charge for the movement of relief supplies. This includes unloading cargo planes, conducting professional warehousing and inventory management, and loading relief goods for onward transportation to Vanuatu's islands. Deutsche Post DHL Group, in cooperation with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), established a global network of Disaster Response Teams to support airports after natural disasters.

As at 26 March, OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS) recorded USD \$18 million in financial contributions from donors. Of this total, USD \$5.1 million was contributed to the Flash Appeal.

**For more information please visit: <http://www.humanitarianresponse.info/operations/vanuatu>**

## 1.0 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

### Needs

- No change since the previous situation report.

### Response

- UNICEF coordinated the deployment of water tanks and the logistical chain to serve 2,500 people in Epi, Tongoa and Emae islands.
- OXFAM is coordinating the immediate rehabilitation of the pumped water supply for Etas for approximately 2,000 people.
- HMNZS Canterbury deployed to Shepherd Islands group on 26 March to distribute 7,500 1.5L bottles of water, 1500 10-litre collapsible containers and 23 water tanks ranging in size from 5,000 litres to 25,000 litres.
- Promedical continued to supply approximately 1,000 people with water trucking around Efate.
- International Medical Corps have distributed hygiene kits and water purification tablets to a third of the affected households in Ambrym.
- The Red Cross NOMAD water treatment unit continues to support Green Hill, North Tanna and Mele in Efate, serving a population of approximately 6,000 people.
- The Dragonfly yacht distributed water tanks in North Tanna.

## 2.0 Health and Nutrition

### Needs

- More than 160,000 people are affected on 22 islands. All of these people are at increased risk of disease outbreaks.
- Adequate nutrition is required for the more than 160,000 people affected; in particular, nutritional support for pregnant and lactating women and children under five years.
- Approximately 25,000 children aged 6–59 months require vaccinations in the next 1–2 months.

### Response

- Fifteen early warning sentinel disease surveillance sites were established out of 24 planned.
- Daily public health messaging through radio and print is occurring across all provinces. However, radio coverage and access is patchy across many islands.

- Fifty-four health facilities have been assessed to-date. Thirty-five of those assessed sustained damage. Assessments are ongoing.
- Thirteen Foreign Medical Teams (FMTs) were registered with the Ministry of Health.
- Eleven FMTs are in location on eight islands, two FMTs are awaiting/in-transit to location.
- Two provinces are adequately covered by FMTs (Shefa and Tanna), most at-risk areas of one remaining province adequately covered by FMTs (Penama).
- 46 evacuations to Vila Central Hospital from outer islands (18–25 March)
- Three hospitals (Efate – Vila Central Hospital, Tafea – Lenakel Hospital, Sanma – Northern Provincial Hospital) now have capacity to treat severely malnourished children. Distribution of health promotion messages commenced targeting all provinces. Training of immunization teams and nurses on Infant, and Young, Child Feeding commenced on 26 March for Port Vila and surrounding villages.
- 8,450 children aged 6–59 months received measles vaccinations along with deworming treatment, vitamin A and soap.

#### **Gaps & Constraints**

- Ongoing service provision through community health centres, dispensaries and aid posts will be constrained due to damaged and non-operational facilities.
- Ongoing care of patients with infected wounds post-cyclone remain a concern.
- Some FMTs will be leaving on 28–29 March. Coordination of incoming and outgoing FMTs will be critical to ensure adequate services are available to avoid any gaps in health care.
- Ongoing communication problems in rural areas (this is improving as mobile phone coverage is restored).

### **3.0 Shelter and NFIs**

#### **Needs**

- Current estimates suggest that approximately 15,000 homes have been destroyed or damaged.
- The majority of affected people live on their land and need assistance in their place of origin.
- There is a small residual population in evacuation centres in Port Vila.

#### **Response**

- Shelter Cluster partners have distributed the following relief items so far:
  - 3,750 emergency shelter kits
  - 7,500 tarpaulins
  - 5,500 blankets
  - 2,500 kitchen sets
- Distributions have occurred in areas determined by the Government as priority 1 (Shefa and Shepherd Islands) and priority 2 (Tafea). Distributions have also been undertaken in evacuation centres in Port Vila.

#### **Gaps & Constraints**

- In-country stocks of shelter supplies including tool kits, tarpaulins, and kitchen sets are critically low.
- Some distribution centres are reporting household numbers to be higher than those used for initial baseline needs analysis. If correct, this will result in additional gaps on limited in-country stocks.
- There have been difficulties in reporting on shelter item distributions on remote islands due to limited communication available.

### **4.0 Food Security and Agriculture**

#### **Needs**

- There is an urgent need for long-term food assistance (\$5 million per month; \$15 million for three months) to be provided to all affected people.

#### **Response**

- As of 26 March, food was dispatched to reach more than 160,000 people.
- Distribution of Government food packages in Tanna is underway, as is distribution of rice to approximately 92,000 people in Port Vila (all five municipal wards), peri-urban areas (Pango, Mele) and rural Efate.

- Approximately 32 metric tonnes of high energy biscuits were dispatched to Tanna island on 26 March to be distributed to approximately 30,000 people, while 2.6 metric tonnes of high energy biscuits were transported by CARE to Erromango and Aniwa for distribution to approximately 2,500 people.
- The procurement of non-perishable emergency food stocks has been completed. The stocks include a total of 470 metric tonnes of rice from the World Food Programme, the German Government, the Red Cross and ADRA.
- Food distributions to 7,500 people on Ambrym Island were completed on 26 March.
- Food stocks for about 32,000 people are underway to the provinces of Penama (Pentecost, Maewo), Torba (Merelava), Malampa (Paama) and Shefa (Epi and Lanem).

#### **Gaps & Constraints**

- Reliable statistics on the number of households at the area council and village level on the affected islands is currently unavailable.
- The transportation of food and seeds within and across the 22 affected islands is a logistical challenge.
- Limited storage space is available for fresh produce (e.g. fish).
- Import of seeds and tools are needed to address the shortfall of locally available stocks, specifically cucumber, beans and squash.
- Farming tools are required.

## **5.0 Gender and Protection**

#### **Needs**

- The island of Mataso has been deemed uninhabitable in the short term.
- Of the 3,976 people recorded as having occupied evacuation centres in and around Port Vila, 618 are still to return to their normal place of residence.

#### **Response**

- The Government is facilitating the relocation of between 50 and 75 people to Port Vila, where they will be hosted by other families. They are expected to return to the island once it is again able to sustain them.
- IOM is providing medical checks before evacuation. The Government will discuss needs and available support. The IDP Working Group will provide ongoing monitoring until the people are able to return home.
- The Gender and Protection Cluster will participate in detailed technical assessments to take place throughout Vanuatu (exact timing to be determined). Every team will contain a member of the cluster.

#### **Gaps & constraints**

- Information gaps relating to gender, protection and disability persist, although reports of some tensions rising between communities and within families have been received via organizations working in the sector.

## **6.0 Logistics**

#### **Response**

- The procedure for customs clearance is being clarified with the customs department.
- The first mobile storage unit on Tanna at the airport is ready for common storage. The second mobile storage unit is being erected on 26 March at the Provincial Disaster Management Office.
- UNICEF has offered to all agencies the use of a 1500 sqm warehouse with a forklift near the Port Vila airport.
- A complete warehousing solution for short-term use is being explored at the Port Vila port.
- An assessment was conducted in Metaso to determine the most vulnerable people who need to be evacuated. The remaining teams from the Shepherd Island food distribution returned to Port Villa the 26 March.
- 18 water tanks of 1,000 litres were loaded on the HMNZS Canterbury for distribution in the Shepherd Island group, which complements the ship's ability to produce 120,000L water/day. Red Cross shelter supplies for the Shepherd Islands were also loaded on the HMNZS Canterbury.
- The MV Serafenua, organized by NDMO, was delayed and left the morning of 26 March to Erromango and Tanna islands with food on board.
- 114 metric tonnes of rice will be shipped to Pentecost on the Vanuatu Ferry on 26 March.
- The 1st wave food distribution on south Epi started 26 March by (commercial) helicopter and will continue on the 27 March.
- The ADF Blackhawks delivered the remaining food for the 1st wave distribution to Aneityum.
- On 26 March Australian C-130s delivered high-energy biscuits to Tanna.

- Fiji Military Forces were tasked to support school and infrastructure priorities over the 10 days.
- The Solomon Islands Government has sent the Royal Solomon Islands Police Patrol Boat 'Auki' to Port Vila from Honiara to assist with the humanitarian effort. The patrol boat has the capacity to move five tonnes of cargo at any one time.

#### Gaps & Constraints

- Storage capacity in Port Vila, Tanna and Epi needs to be augmented, as the amount of relief items to arrive is likely to increase in the coming weeks.

## 7.0 Infrastructure

### Response

- A national rapid response assessment of infrastructure by the Multi Sector Working Group is on-going to assess needs for immediate (emergency) repairs and recovery (rehabilitation) work. Standardised Rapid Assessment Forms (available on request) have been developed and distributed for Health Sector, Education Sector, Justice, Infrastructure (roads, bridges, drainage) and Government of Vanuatu buildings.
- Eighty rapid assessments have been received to date:
  - **Tongoa:** extensive damage, trees down and landslides but roads accessible. Water tanks damaged, issue of shelter, schools and clinic damaged but some functions remain.
  - **Nguna, Emau and Pele:** minor to moderate damage (water and shelter). Full report available.
  - **Buninga and Togariki:** not accessible – will need helicopter-based assessment.
  - **Matasso, Makira and Emae:** extensive damage. Water, shelter and food are high priority issues along with accessibility.
  - **Vaemali and Port Qwemi** – moderate damage, accessibility an issue. HMNZS Canterbury will moor south of Epi and act as a logistics centre for relief work in Epi. JCB to clear roads. Epi assessment gaps can be undertake by NZDF.
  - **Erromango:** Team sent 26 March.
  - **Efate:** Waiting for assessments of Erakor and Ifira.
  - **Paama:** Waiting for report.
  - **Abrym:** Waiting for report.
  - **Aniwa, Aneityum and Fortuna:** to be covered by ADF and CARE – PWD team being dispatched on Thursday to Aniwa.
  - **Mosso and Leleppa:** USAR team reports received.
  - **Tafea:** Extensive support through ADF. Deployment to extend to Erromango. DG requests for confirmatory reporting/assessment on Aniwa, Fortuna and Aneityum.
- The 50-member strong, Fiji Reconnaissance Team arrived for two weeks. They are approved to work on North Efate Schools in conjunction with logistical support and funds for transport and fuel from the Ministries of Health and Education.
- Ministry of Health – 54 assessments done and being appraised technically, out of a total 135 health formal sector buildings. AutoCAD and GPS coordinates available for 369 Ministry of Health facilities. Aid Posts also important for community response. NOTE: Large number of appraisals yet to be received
- Ministry of Education assessments being received by Ministry of Education, but not yet provided to Working Group.
- Port Vila main roads accessible with hard/soft debris removal underway, through a variety of contractors.
- Urban Search And Rescue (USAR) team completed 50 assessments.

### Gaps & Constraints

- Fuel – as previously reported, petrol supplies in the provinces are very low due to chain saw usage. PWD has organised fuel today to those PWD Provincial Divisions affected. Diesel supplies are in variable availability.
- Closing of GoV e-mail system at 4.30 pm has a negative impact on Infrastructure Team working late into night. Can this be extended?

- Need to standardise language of reporting of damage levels Infrastructure Working Group preparing a table of assessment levels/language. Draft prepared

## 8.0 Emergency Telecommunications

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### Response

- Local commercial communications providers are steadily progressing with re-establishing services across the country. The countrywide Government network, however, still needs to be made fully operational.
- One quick deploy satellite terminal from emergency.lu has arrived in Port Vila. The terminal has been loaded onto a vessel, along with a generator, for shipment to Tanna Island. This equipment will replace the portable terminal currently installed at the NDMO to provide faster and more reliable Internet connectivity for Government and humanitarian responders operating in the area.

### Gaps & Constraints

- Sustainable power solutions are needed to support communications equipment deployed across the country.

## 09.0 Meetings: Friday 27 March

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- NGO Heads of Agencies Meeting (Mon, Wed, Friday) 7am.
- NEOC Government daily brief 7.30am -EOC NDMO.
- WASH 8am -Meteo/NDMO conference room.
- Health 9am -WHO conference room.
- Intercluster Coordination Meeting 10:30, Tuesday, March 24 @ Meteo/NDMO conference room (every second day).
- Logistics Cluster meeting 11:00 Monday March 22 UNICEF Tent (NDMO compound).
- FS&A 2pm DARD (Monday, Wednesday and Friday).
- IDP working group 2pm Tues March 24 Meteo/NDMO conference room (and every second day).
- IDP monitoring group 2pm Monday March 23 Meteo/NDMO conference room (and every second day).
- Shelter cluster meeting 16:00, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, UNICEF Tent.

## 10.0 Information sharing

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**For more information and all documents** related to the response please visit:

<https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/operations/vanuatu/vanuatu-tropical-cyclone-pam-mar-2015-13-march-2015-update>

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**Please send all offers of assistance** to [ndmo.logistics@gmail.com](mailto:ndmo.logistics@gmail.com)

**ICT responders operating in Vanuatu please share contact details** with [Vanuatu.ETC@wfp.org](mailto:Vanuatu.ETC@wfp.org) to facilitate local coordination.

**Organisations involved in the ICT response please share updates** on:

<http://ictemergency.wfp.org/web/ictrepr/emergencies2015/cyclone-pam>