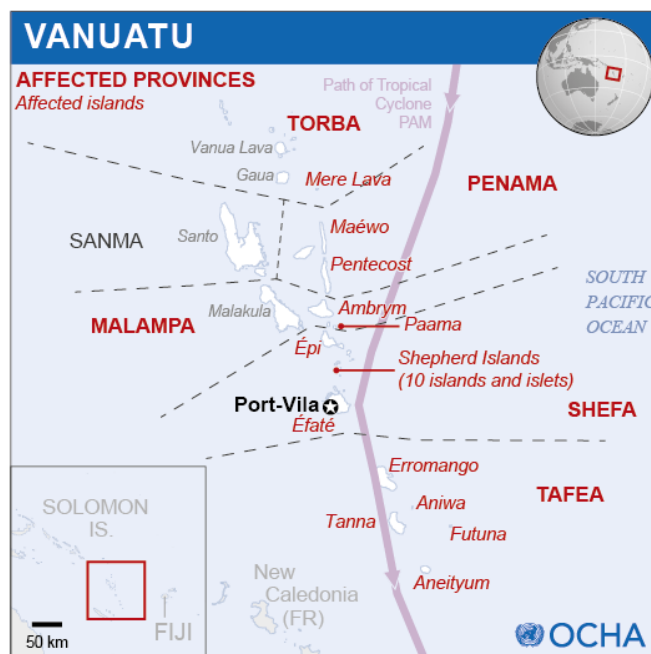




This report is produced by the OCHA Regional Office for the Pacific (ROP) in collaboration with humanitarian partners and in close support of the Government of Vanuatu. It covers the period from 31 March to 1 April 2015. The next report will be issued on or around 3 April 2015.

Highlights

- The first round of Government-led, harmonized assessments will return by 2 April and will be used to identify residual humanitarian priorities and gaps in life-saving assistance, as well as early recovery needs. The second and final round of assessments will be deployed around 6 April.
- As of 1 April, assessments show that Tropical Cyclone Pam destroyed 96 per cent of crops, leaving people with no alternative food stocks.
- Current food distribution to about 110,000 people is close to completion in Shefa, Tafea, Malampa and Torba provinces; food rations for boarding schools are still required.
- Tropical Cyclone Pam affected half of the schools in Shefa Province. As of 1 April, temporary learning spaces have been set up in 13 schools in the province.
- Hygiene kits were provided to approximately 20,000 people in Shefa, Tafea and Malampa provinces.



Map Sources: ESRI, Gov't. of USA, UNCS, GoV Land Department, UNISYS
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Map created in Mar 2015.

166,000

People affected on 22 islands

9,968

Children vaccinated against measles

50,000

People received emergency shelter assistance

20,000

People received hygiene kits

15,000

Homes destroyed or damaged

110,000

People in need of clean drinking water

Source: Government of Vanuatu's National Disaster Management Office supported by the Vanuatu Humanitarian Team

Situation Overview

Vanuatu's population is highly reliant on subsistence farming for food security and livelihoods; the destruction of up to 96 per cent of crops has left people with no alternative food stocks. Furthermore, the destruction of food gardens, coconut and banana plantations, as well as livestock, has left households with no alternative food source and no access to income. This will have a significant long term social and economic impact. Adequate nutrition is still required for over 160,000 affected people, in particular nutritional support for pregnant and lactating women and children under five years.

Approximately 30,000 school-aged children remain affected. Curriculum materials and resources in many schools have been damaged and need to be provided in addition to regular school supplies, which are currently planned for distribution. Initial rapid assessment estimated that 110,000 people are in need of safe drinking water and 75,000 people in need of shelter assistance. Relief efforts are ongoing to meet these needs.

On 31 March/1 April, 11 Government-led teams deployed to Shefa and Tafea provinces to undertake harmonized assessments in cyclone-affected areas. Information collected will be used to revise humanitarian response planning to ensure that needs are being met and to lay the foundation of early recovery planning. The first of these teams will return on 2 April; they are led by a Government of Vanuatu representative and consist of cluster representatives from Government Ministries, supported by national NGO representatives, who are visiting central

[+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report.](#)

hubs in affected Area Councils to meet with key village representatives and affected people.

Foreign military forces, deployed in support of these assessments, are working closely with the Government, Vanuatu Mobile Force (VMF) and humanitarian organizations in a model example of civil-military coordination. Given the logistical challenges to access affected islands, French, Australian and New Zealand military assets alongside Tonga and Solomon Island Patrol boats and commercial assets are providing extensive support to transport assessment teams to the all affected provinces.

The United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator, Valerie Amos, approved US\$5 million from the UN Central Emergency Response Fund to support life-saving response activities for people affected by Tropical Cyclone Pam. Given the urgent need to scale up humanitarian operations and assist those in need across 22 affected islands, the rapid-response allocation will go to relief agencies operating in Food and Agriculture (\$1.4 million), Health and Nutrition (\$1.2 million), Water, Sanitation and Health (\$908,000), Logistics (\$482,000), Shelter (\$446,000 million), Education (\$484,000) and Emergency Telecommunications (\$150,000).

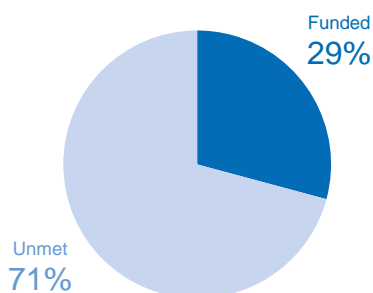
Funding

As of 1 April, OCHA's [Financial Tracking Service](#) (FTS) recorded \$22 million in financial contributions from donors. Of this total, \$8.7 million was contributed to the Flash Appeal for Tropical Cyclone Pam. So far, Australia, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), the United States, Canada, Germany, Estonia and Denmark have contributed to the Flash Appeal as well as private individuals and organizations.

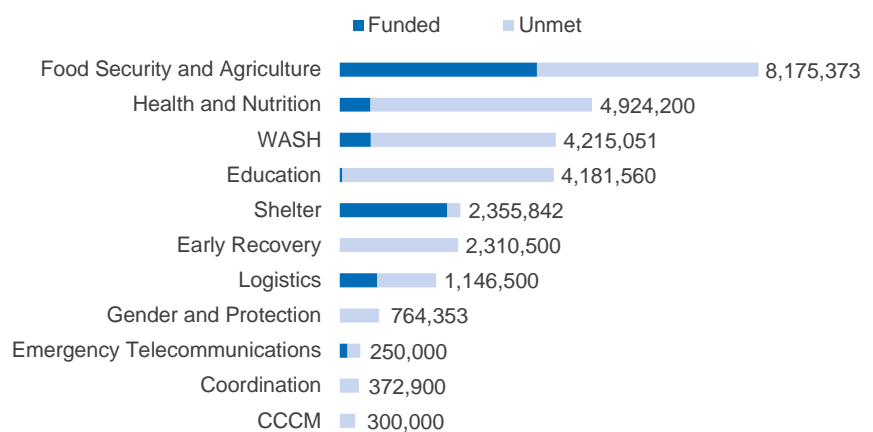
For updated funding figures, please visit the [Tropical Cyclone Pam](#) page on FTS.

Vanuatu Tropical Cyclone Pam Appeal 2015

US\$29.9 million requested



Funding by sector (in million US\$)



All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS - <http://fts.unocha.org>) of financial contributions by e-mailing fts@un.org and in-kind contributions by e-mailing logik@un.org.

Humanitarian Response

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



Food Security

Needs:

- Food rations for boarding schools are still needed. The Ministry of Education and partners are addressing this issue.
- The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, Fisheries and Biosecurity premises in Port Vila sustained extensive damage and requires rebuilding.
- The long-term food security response requires:
 - Fishing gear, including boats and fishing nets
 - Livestock welfare support, such as animal feed, water and shelter.
- The results of an assessment of plant diseases and animal welfare on the island of Epi identified water, shelter and food as the immediate needs.

11,200
people reached with
the first round of food
assistance

- Damage to fisheries, fishing facilities and fish preservation was assessed in the Shepherd Islands and the outer islands surrounding Efate. The results show that 90-95 per cent of pre-existing equipment was destroyed.

Response:

- Procurement of non-perishable emergency food stocks for long-term food assistance is ongoing.
- The first round of food distribution has been completed in the following locations:
 - Shefa Province: Shepherd Islands, islands surrounding Efate and Epi Island
 - Taefa Province: Aneityum, Aniwa and Futuna islands
 - Malampa Province: Paama Island
 - Torba Province: Mere Lava
- Food distributions are close to completion in:
 - Efate Island: rural areas of Efate, urban and peri-urban areas of Port Vila
 - Tafea Province: Erromango Island except Cooks Bay
 - Malampa Province: Ambrym Island
- Food distributions are ongoing in:
 - Penama Province: Pentecost and Maewo islands
 - Tafea Province: Tanna Island
- Seed packages are being prepared for distribution with the second phase of food distributions.
- Distribution of High-Energy-Biscuits to approximately 38,000 people in nine priority islands in Shefa and Tafea Provinces is ongoing.

Gaps:

- Reliable baseline data on number of households at the Area Council and village level is limited. Government staff are conducting a detailed population count for the islands of Tanna and Efate.
- Detailed information by island and Area Council regarding delivery points for distribution and the populations they support is also being collected.



Health and Nutrition

Needs:

- Adequate nutrition is required for over 160,000 affected people, in particular nutritional support for pregnant and lactating women and children under five years. The current target consists of 12,500 boys and girls aged six months to five years and 6,500 pregnant and lactating women/caregivers of young children.

160,000
people in need of
nutritional support

Response:

- The distribution of insecticide treated bed nets will target 34,000 people within Port Vila.
- About 55 out of 70 health facilities (excludes aid posts) in Shefa, Tafea, Penama, Torba and Malampa Provinces have been assessed. Of those assessed, just over 40 sustained some degree of damage and almost 30 were functioning in some capacity: assessments are ongoing. The New Zealand Defence Force is currently rehabilitating the Vaemali Health Centre on Epi Island, while the Australian Defence Force is working in Lenakel Hospital on Tanna Island.
- As of 31 March, two people died out of four leptospirosis cases submitted to Vila Central Hospital. According to the Ministry of Health, two of the recorded cases were infected prior to the cyclone, while two were infected following the cyclone.
- Eight FMTs and two military medical teams are currently based in Shefa, Tafea and Malampa provinces. Four new FMTs are scheduled to start duties soon. This includes the Church of Latter Day Saints (Nguna Island), Israel Aid (Vila Central Hospital), a private New Zealand health team (Mele Health Centre) and a New Caledonian health team (municipal health facilities).
- Interagency Emergency Health Kits are currently located on the islands of Tanna, Efate, Epi, Tongoa, Emae, Buninga, Tongariki, Mataso and Makira.
- The Central Medical Stores' (CMS) supply software is up and running and will be restored to full functionality by 3 April. Full data on medical supplies dispatched will be presented shortly thereafter and a restocking plan will be developed. The CMS currently notes a shortage of chlorine tablets.
- Two medical evacuations took place on 1 April from Epi and Tanna islands to Vila Central Hospital (Port Vila).
- The Health Cluster collaborating with the WASH Cluster to ensure people in health facilities have access to safe water and to further deliver public health messaging on safe water and sanitation.

Gaps:

- Increased demands on health services remain in the affected areas. The Health Cluster urges FMTs and medical actors to extend their presences to continue supporting the Ministry of Health until needs decrease.


Education
Needs:

- Approximately 30,000 school-aged children have been affected by Tropical Cyclone Pam.
- Results of asset assessments in Shefa Province, including the outer islands of Efate Island, confirm that the cyclone affected half of the schools in the area. One school was destroyed and nine were severely damaged. In Penama Province, one school (Tanbok School, Pentecost Island) was destroyed.
- The Education Cluster reports that curriculum materials and resources in many schools have been damaged and are needed in addition to regular school supplies, which are currently planned for distribution.

30,000school-aged children
affected**Response:**

- The Education Cluster and Child Protection Working Group are harmonizing psychosocial support for children in communities and in schools. An orientation workshop on 'Psychosocial First Aid and Child Protection' took place on 30-31 March at the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET), supported by the Ministry of Justice, UNICEF and Save the Children.
- To support the timely re-opening of schools on 30 March, MOET officers have visited schools in Shefa Province to convey key messages to Head Teachers on the importance of planning for educational continuity, psychosocial support to students and hygiene and health practices.
- As of 1 April, temporary learning spaces have been set up in 13 schools in Shefa Province. 'Education in Emergencies' (EiE) supplies (tarpaulins, tents, backpacks containing learning materials, teacher, school and recreational kits) have been sent to Tongoa Island, Efate Island (10 schools) and Buninga Island (two schools).
- The MOET continues to liaise with the Food and Agriculture, Shelter and WASH clusters to ensure that children in boarding schools have access to water, food and shelter.
- Text messages via Digicel and TVL will be sent to affected communities to ensure that educational relief supplies are given to the children in need.
- The Education Cluster Strategy Plan is being reviewed by cluster members for finalization.

Gaps:

- MOET is urgently requesting 1,876 sheets of tarpaulin (4x6 m) to support the re-opening of 268 classrooms, which were destroyed by the cyclone in Malampa, Torba, Tafea and Shefa provinces.
- Funding is needed to provide EiE supplies to 15,000 children, who have not been reached with educational supplies.
- Logistical constraints remain to transport EiE supplies to affected schools on the islands.


Gender and Protection / Internally Displaced Persons Working Group
Response:

- The Gender and Protection Cluster deployed more than 20 personnel for the second phase harmonized needs assessments that commenced on 31 March. All assessors received, as part of their pre-departure briefing, an overview of gender and protection in emergencies.
- The information collected by the technical assessments will fill a critical gap in the knowledge of gender and protection issues and impacts arising from TC Pam. It will guide programming as well as indicate where protection mainstreaming efforts may need to be concentrated in the second phase of distributions.
- The two-day orientation workshop on 'Psychosocial First Aid and Child Protection' concluded on 31 March. The Ministry of Justice, UNICEF and Save the Children delivered the workshop to 30 participants, including ministry staff, teachers, and national/international NGOs. The aim of the workshop was to harmonize approaches to psychosocial support to be provided to children in communities and school environments.
- The Gender and Protection Cluster is following up on reports of destroyed homes of people living with disability. It is also liaising with the Shelter cluster in order to ensure that such cases are prioritized in the delivery of shelter support.

Gaps:

- Observations to date suggest that people living with disability are not routinely being included in the planning and delivery of emergency assistance.

**Shelter****Response:**

- The Shelter Working Group estimates that some 50,000 people have received emergency shelter assistance (tarpaulins, tool kits, kitchen sets) to date. Some 30,000 tarpaulins were distributed by partners or are in the pipeline. Shelter partners are expected to assist around 75,000 people in total.
- In addition to the ongoing harmonized assessments, REACH - a specialist assessment organization - will carry out a shelter and settlements vulnerability assessment based on random sampling at the household level through its partnership with the Global Shelter Working Group. These assessments are complementary and will inform existing needs, gaps as well as recovery strategies.

50,000
people have received
emergency shelter
assistance

Gaps:

- Changes in population statistics mean that there may be a change in the estimated number of households in need of shelter assistance. The Shelter Cluster is working with the NDMO and Provincial Authorities to obtain more accurate population estimates.
- Gaps in emergency shelter distributions in urban and peri-urban areas of Port Vila were identified. Partners continue coordinating distributions and new NGOs may assist in covering these areas.

**Water, Sanitation and Hygiene****Needs**

- The initial rapid assessment estimated that 110,000 people are in need of safe water.

110,000
people in need of
clean drinking water

Response

- Eleven WASH assessment team members have been deployed with UNICEF-supported mobile phone technology, which includes an offline data entry application. This will allow fast processing of data collection upon their return.
- As of 1 April, the WASH Cluster provided hygiene kits to approximately 20,000 people. A further 6,500 hygiene kits are currently located in Shefa, Tafea, Penama, Malampa provinces and will soon be distributed to approximately 32,500 people. The WASH Cluster is planning to distribute another 9,580 hygiene kits to once they arrive in-country.
- A UNICEF/Oxfam partnership has been finalized to support water system emergency repairs, distribution of hygiene kits and hygiene promotion in Ambrym, Epi and Efate islands; it is expected to reach 3,200 people.
- A Samaritan's Purse Water Pump, with the capacity to produce 20-30,000 litres of clean drinking water per day, has arrived on Tanna Island. On 1 April, the WASH team will determine the most suitable borehole in Lenakel town to locate the pump. The Australian Defence Forces, in support of the Government of Vanuatu, UNICEF and NGOs, is working on a project to repair key water systems on Tanna Island.
- The WASH Cluster has supported the Ministry of Health on the development of standardized health and hygiene key messages, to be used by both the Health and WASH Clusters, which are currently being finalized.
- In support of the NDMO, WASH Cluster partners have agreed on a common response plan. Population targets will be set after data from the harmonized assessments will be made available.
- The WASH Cluster has developed a tracking system to monitor ongoing WASH distributions.

Gaps

- There are delays in accurate reporting on WASH distributions from humanitarian agencies on the ground. This is resulting in an inaccurate picture on the WASH situation, which is expected to improve as reports come in.



Logistics

Needs:

- Provincial Disaster Committees on the islands of Epi, Emae, Tongoa, Tanna and North Pentecost require diesel and petrol for the transportation of relief supplies.

Response:

- On 31 March, a plan for a temporary central warehousing solution at the port of Port Vila was agreed with the Efira Company. The plan foresees to provide additional storage capacity of 40 containers and is expected to be formalized soon.
- The Logistics Cluster is collecting information on limitations and constraints at extended distribution and delivery points on the islands. On 31 March, the Ministry of Public Works and Infrastructure presented a report on road access constraints per island, which will be shared with logistics cluster members.
- On 30 March, the NDMO received 35 MT of relief supplies from the Chinese Government containing rice, noodles, biscuits, tarpaulin and six generators. On 31 March, another supply from the Chinese Government was received on an IL-76 aircraft containing 35 MT of rice and 8 MT of noodles. A third supply is expected to arrive in Port Vila on 2 April.
- Sanma Province is preparing to send 10 MT of fresh produce to Port Vila to bolster local trade and livelihoods.
- Additional food assistance sourced by the World Food Programme (WFP) from Fiji is expected to arrive in Port Vila on 14 April. The shipment will include six containers of rice, three containers of noodles and four containers of canned fish. An additional 84.8 MT of NDMO-sourced food supply is expected arrive in Port Vila on 5 April.
- On 31 March, IFRC received an IL-76 aircraft from Kuala Lumpur with approximately 25 MT of shelter and household items of which half was placed in a common storage space and half was sent to Tanna Island.
- Two IL-76 aircrafts from the Russian Government are expected to arrive on 1 April with 30 MT of non-food items (80 tents and two generators) and 29 MT of food (sugar, milk, canned meat and fish).

Gaps:

- Local, skilled staff members are required for the coordination of Mobile Storage Units on Tanna Island.
- Trucking capacity on Efate and Tanna islands is limited to transport relief supplies to affected communities.

General Coordination

A national rapid response assessment of infrastructure by the Multi Sector Working Group and the Public Works Department has been ongoing to assess needs for immediate (emergency) repairs and recovery (rehabilitation) work.

The NDMO is coordinating the response with support from various agencies, governments and partners. The NDMO is expanding outreach to ensure comprehensive coordination and support to Government line-ministries and humanitarian partners. The United Nations has established a [Humanitarian Response](http://www.humanitarianresponse.info/operations/vanuatu) information platform (www.humanitarianresponse.info/operations/vanuatu) as the central repository of documents generated in support of the coordination effort related to Tropical Cyclone Pam. The NDMO's Emergency Operation Center is conducting response planning/monitoring activities, supported by the Vanuatu Humanitarian Team (VHT) and humanitarian partners, and daily radio broadcasts throughout the country.

Currently, a number of private vessels and aircraft are coming into Vanuatu loaded with relief supplies. Biosecurity Vanuatu will carry out normal quarantine clearances, however the Government will not charge for clearance and inspection of relief vessels during the TC Pam response operation. Physical evidence that the vessel or the aircraft has landed in Vanuatu to supply relief and a statement of full disclosure of the cargo and its intended destination must be provided. On arrival, the captain of the aircraft or vessel must advise the airport and the sea port authorities. This is followed by an inspection by the biosecurity officer, who will board the craft for clearance. For further information, please contact Sylvério Bule on +678 562 4447 or bsylverio@vanuatu.gov.vu.

Humanitarian organizations coming into Vanuatu must provide a detailed manifest about their planned activities and relief distributions to the National Disaster Management Office before they enter the country. This should include the following:

- Terms of reference (organization name, planned activities, role, mandate)
- Contact information and number of personnel (email, phone)
- Arrival date and time

- Duration of stay
- Destination(s)
- Contact person coordinating relief supplies
- Type, quantity, weight, size of relief items
- Transportation of assistance (cargo, air, etc.)

Organizations need to make sure to quantify information where possible and specify the type of assistance they aim to provide. Failure to provide this information may lead to a delay or rejection of assistance offers. All information should be sent to: jwaters@vanuatu.gov.vu and ndmo.logistics@gmail.com.

The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) continues to support the Government in general coordination and response planning. Humanitarian affairs officers are providing support to the NDMO on donor relations, reporting, information management, and public information. This includes the Who What Where (3W) database, contact lists and meeting schedules. To gain a better overview of humanitarian actors' response activities, OCHA continued distribution tracking to map existing stockpiles, pipelines and gaps in relief supplies. Tools such as the information needs assessment, situation reports and maps are made available to support better relief planning and action. OCHA also drafted and is now monitoring the Flash Appeal and submitted an application for the Central Emergency Response Fund, which was granted. A six-person UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team supported the Government-led assessments and is now supporting the second phase of in-depth field assessments. OCHA staff from the Regional Office for the Pacific (ROP), the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP) and OCHA Philippines is in Port Vila to support relief operations in response to Tropical Cyclone Pam.

Background on the crisis

Vanuatu is an Island nation of more than 80 Islands with a projected population of 270,000 people. Tropical Cyclone (TC) Pam struck Vanuatu on the evening of 13 March, affecting all six provinces, as an extremely destructive category 5 cyclone 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.

*2015 national statistics office projected population

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For more information, please visit www.unocha.org/rop or <http://reliefweb.int/disaster/tc-2015-000020-vut>
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