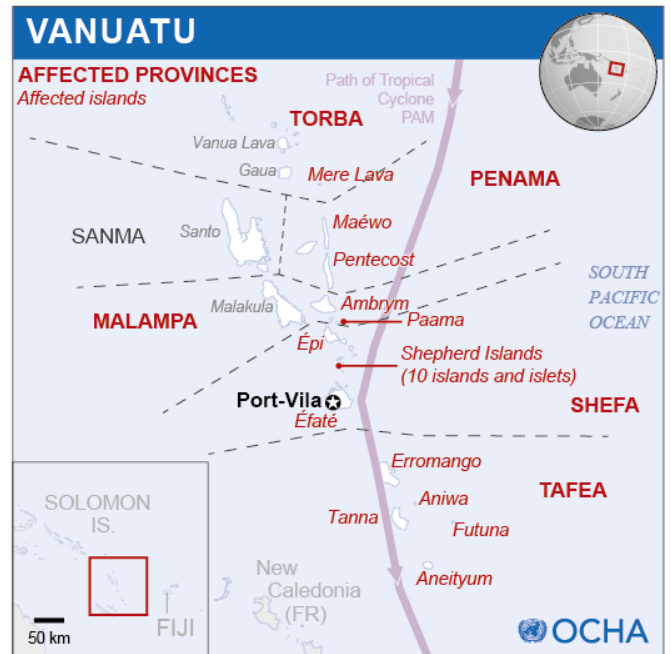




This report is produced by the OCHA Regional Office for the Pacific (ROP) in collaboration with humanitarian partners and in close support of the Government of Vanuatu. It covers the period from 2 to 3 April 2015. The next report will be issued on or around 8 April 2015.

Highlights

- Government-led assessment teams returned to Port Vila from the cyclone-affected islands in Shefa and Tafea provinces on 2 April. Data processing and analysis has already begun.
- Vaccination campaigns continue, with 10,900 children having received vaccinations against measles, as well as deworming and Vitamin A tablets and soap.
- More than 15,000 insecticide-treated bed nets were distributed in Shefa Province.
- Access to clean water remains one of the most pressing humanitarian concerns, with an estimated 100,000 people in need of safe drinking water.
- Military assets have been providing critical logistical support, but a sustainable solution needs to be found for transportation.
- Food distributions continue, with more than 26,000 people having been reached during the current round of distribution.



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

10,900

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

On 2 April, 11 Government-led teams returned from 13 cyclone-affected islands in Shefa and Tafea provinces where they assessed humanitarian and early recovery needs across several sectors. The National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) and the Vanuatu Humanitarian Team (VHT) debriefed the teams the following day and have already started processing the collected data. Assets from all military forces responding to the aftermath of the tropical cyclone – Australia, France, New Zealand, Tonga and the Solomon Islands - provided extensive logistical support in the process. The second round of assessments is scheduled to begin on 6 April, with the teams travelling north for assessments in Malampa and Penama provinces. The overall results will inform the revision of humanitarian response planning and ensure it effectively integrates early recovery needs.

Food distributions continue in the affected provinces. More than 26,000 people have received food in the current round of distributions. The next round is scheduled to commence in priority cyclone-affected areas as early as next week. Nutrition and Food Security partners are working together to ensure that key messages on nutrition accompany distributions. At the same time, the Government and humanitarian partners are supporting affected people to restore their livelihoods through the distribution of seeds, fresh planting materials and chicks.

Care International has identified gender and protection concerns on the islands of Erromango, Tanna, Futuna and Aniwa where women are reporting being left out of rebuilding and recovery efforts in their communities. Mixed

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

reports were received regarding the impact of the cyclone on the dynamics of violence against women, exacerbating the issue in some cases and promoting greater cohesiveness in others. The need to travel further for water collection has ostensibly placed women at greater risk of assault.

Access to clean water remains one of the most pressing humanitarian concerns, with an estimated 100,000 people in need of safe drinking water. Some of the smaller Shepherd islands are reportedly the most water-stressed, as they depend on rainwater and have very limited alternative sources. While military assets are providing critical support in supplying water to people in need, a sustainable solution needs to be found for transportation. Durable supply solutions must complement the restoration of traditional water-harvesting, catchment and storage systems, many of which were destroyed by the cyclone.

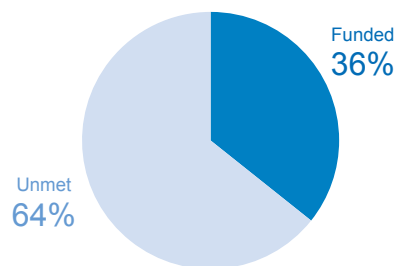
Funding

As of 3 April, OCHA's [Financial Tracking Service](#) (FTS) recorded \$25 million in financial contributions from donors. Of this total, \$10.7 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.

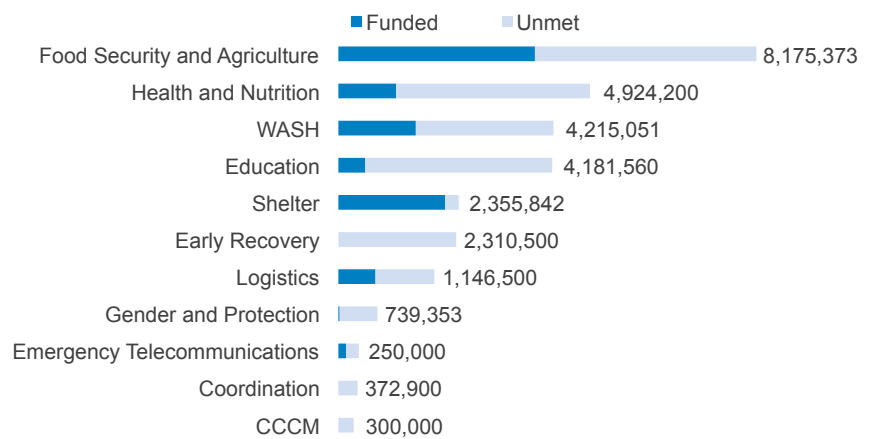
For updated funding figures, please visit the [Tropical Cyclone Pam](#) page on FTS.

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 and Agriculture

Needs:

- The long-term food security response requires:
 - Fishing gear, including boats and fishing nets;
 - Livestock welfare support, in particular animal feed, water and shelter.
- Premises of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, Fisheries and Biosecurity in Port Vila, which sustained extensive damage, still requires rebuilding.
- Boarding schools still require food assistance. The Food Security and Agriculture Cluster has reserved 20 MT of rice for schools and is facilitating private partners to provide food to individual schools.

26,000

people reached with the current round of food assistance

Response:

- The first round of food distributions has reached at least 26,000 people in Shefa, Tafea, Malampa, Torma and Efate provinces. Distributions are on the way in Efate Province, the islands of Pentecost and Maewo of Penama Province, as well as Tanna Island.
- Some 470 MT of non-perishable food has been procured for the second round of food distributions, which are expected to commence in priority areas next week.
- Some 10 MT of fresh produce was transported by an Australian C-130 aircraft from Santo Island to Port Vila on 2 April to be sold by women's groups at local markets.
- The Food Security and Agriculture Cluster has piloted a project, which saw 30 households in Pele Island receive 10 chicks each, with feed to last for six weeks. If successful, the initiative will be scaled up.
- On 2 April, fresh planting materials to grow manioc, sweet potato and island cabbage were distributed to 2,000 people in rural areas and the outer islands of Efate.

Gaps:

- Reliable baseline data on number of households at the Area Council and village level remains limited. Detailed population counts for the islands of Tanna and Efate continue.
- Collection of information regarding delivery points for distribution and the populations continues.
- Distribution tracking needs still needs to be improved.

**Health and Nutrition****Needs:**

- In Port Vila alone, 34,000 people need insecticide-treated bed nets.
- Over 160,000 people need nutritional support, including pregnant and lactating women and children younger than five years.
- Assessments of the status of 71 health facilities (excludes aid posts) in the affected areas continue. To date, 61 facilities have been evaluated, finding that 43 have sustained damage and 53 are operating.

15,000

people have received
bed nets in Shefa
Province

Response:

- As of 1 April, 14 Foreign Medical Teams (FMTs) are providing assistance in the affected areas. There is one FMT working in each of the Ambrym, Epi, Tongoa, Nguna and North Efate islands. Four FMTs are based in Tanna, while five are working in Port Vila and the surrounding districts. One FMT is yet to be assigned an area.
- The Early Warning Surveillance System is monitoring eight communicable health concerns. As of 2 April, "influenza-like illness" (ILI) is the most commonly notified concern, representing one third of consultations reported from seven sites. At the Lenakel Hospital in Tanna alone, 257 cases of ILI were reported. Increasing numbers of conjunctivitis across the country have also been reported to the Ministry of Health (MoH). Clinicians have been reminded to start treating suspected leptospirosis cases with antibiotics prior to laboratory confirmation.
- About 10,900 children aged six months to five years have received measles vaccinations, deworming treatments, vitamin A and soap, primarily in Shefa province. A vaccination campaign has commenced in Sanma Province and will be followed by one in Tafea Province next week.
- Three additional medical evacuations to Vila Central Hospital were undertaken on 1 and 2 April. More than 60 such evacuations have been carried in the aftermath of Tropical Cyclone Pam. The average number of annual medical evacuations in Vanuatu is 30.
- More than 15,000 bed nets have been distributed in Shefa Province.
- Dignity kits are being distributed across all affected provinces through the Reproductive Health working group.
- The Information, Education, Communication (IEC) working group continues to disseminate key health promotion messages about the vaccination campaign, maternal and child health, psychosocial support, as well as the prevention of water-borne and vector-borne diseases. The Nutrition working group is working with Food the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster to ensure that nutrition messages accompany food distributions.

Gaps:

- A list of critically low items has been compiled by Central Medical Stores, including drugs, equipment and laboratory supplies. This list is available through the MoH. Partners wishing to provide support should approach the Ministry directly and should preferably use existing procurement channels instead of in-kind donations.

**Gender and Protection / Internally Displaced Persons Working Group****Needs:**

- Care International has identified the following gender and protection issues on the islands of Erromango, Tanna, Futuna and Aniwa:
 - Women are reporting being left out of rebuilding and recovery efforts in their communities.
 - Women are reporting that they are having to walk long distances to bring children to health services; this is due to a number of different reasons including: health posts being damaged and not operating since the cyclone; shorter routes are impassable due to debris; access for transport is not possible because of blocked roads.
 - Women reported that with the financial burden caused as a result of the cyclone (e.g. repairing damage, replacing household goods and buying food they would normally have produced themselves) they may not be able to afford their children's school fees. This could hamper children's return to school (known to be positive factors in children's recovery following a crisis).
 - Affected people reported ongoing anxiety and distress following the cyclone (with fears of a recurrence in some cases). Heightened anxiety was reported among pregnant women. Disruptions to critical services, such as telecommunications, add to the disruption of normal day-to-day life.
 - Mixed reports were received regarding the impact of the cyclone on the dynamics of violence against women, exacerbating the issue in some cases and promoting greater cohesiveness in others. The need to travel further for water collection is observed to place women at greater risk of assault.

Response:

- The Disability Working Group of the Gender and Protection Cluster has circulated guidance and key messages on aging and disability inclusion in emergency relief efforts and recovery programming. The guidance document has been shared with all cluster leads and includes links to further resources, as well as contact details for members of the Disability Working Group, who can provide further advice.

Gaps:

- More information needs to be shared with affected people at the community level, delivered in a format they can easily access (e.g. radio) and which is particularly relevant to women and youth. Messages should specifically include relief distribution plans, where and how to request assistance and where to register complaints.
- There is a need for greater consultation and active inclusion of groups such as women, girls and boys and people living with disability (including in leadership roles). Recognition of their skills would enable humanitarian actors to utilize them in the relief and recovery effort.
- Observations to date suggest that vulnerable groups have not been prioritized in the delivery of emergency assistance.

**Shelter****Needs:**

- Current estimates based on the most recent damage assessment and distribution information from cluster agencies and from the Shefa Provincial Government are:
 - Approximately 13,410 houses were damaged and in need of shelter assistance.
 - Shelter distribution has taken place or is ongoing to about 38,000 people in Shefa, Tafea, Melampa and Penama provinces.

50,000
people have received
emergency shelter
assistance

Response:

- There are reports of rapid recovery in some rural areas. Education and training in safer construction in rural areas is being prioritized.
- In addition to continuing with distribution of shelter support in rural and urban areas, Shelter partners are working on both the shelter component of a multi-sector assessment as well as a complementary shelter and settlements vulnerability assessment at the household level. This will inform the early recovery phase and provide further information and shelter recovery strategies and gaps in emergency distribution.

Gaps:

- Concerns remain about the coverage of urban and peri-urban areas in Port Vila, which has experienced significant population growth. Shelter partners have been pooling resources in order to meet the need in Port Vila and have been working closely with community disaster centres and municipal authorities to target households with shelter assistance. There are also reported shelter gaps in Maewo and Merelava islands (Penama Province) and Epi and Efira islands (Shefa Province).

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

- An estimated 110,000 people are still in need of clean drinking water.

110,000people in need of
clean drinking water**Response**

- UNICEF has finalised partnerships with Oxfam, Save the Children and International Medical Corps to provide financial support including relief supplies.
- Some 1,100 hygiene kits have been dispatched for distribution in Ambrym Island.
- The WASH Cluster has worked with the New Zealand Defence Force to provide water to 1,500 people in Epi Island. Additional water tanks have been loaded in Epi and will be transported to Emae to support 800 people.
- The WASH Cluster Lead and Co-Lead - the Ministry of Geology, Mines and Water Resources and UNICEF – travelled to Tanna to take stock of the situation. A provincial WASH Cluster is being established with regular meetings led by the Secretary General.
- The Australian Defence Force and the French Military Forces have restored the water supply in the Lenakal Hospital in Tanna.
- The WASH Cluster used mobile phone technology to collect data during the Second Phase Harmonised Assessments in Shefa and Tafea, making data processing and analysis more efficient. A draft report containing the findings is expected to be issued on Monday.

Gaps

- Some of the smaller Shepherds islands are reportedly the most water-stressed, as they depend on rainwater and have very limited alternative sources. While military assets have been providing critical support in supplying water to people in need, a sustainable solution needs to be found for transportation. Sustainable supply needs to be complemented with the restoration of traditional water-harvesting, catchment and storage systems, many of which were destroyed by the cyclone.
- Although some locations in Tanna, such as Lanakel, have fresh water sources, bad road conditions and the lack of transport vehicles makes it difficult to transport to water-stressed locations. Vehicle repairs in various locations might be a strategy to address this challenge.

**Logistics****Needs:**

- Provincial Disaster Committees on the islands of Epi, Emae, Tongoa, Tanna and North Pentecost still need diesel and petrol to transport humanitarian relief.

Response:

- The Logistics Cluster will share a report on limitations and constraints at distribution and delivery points in the affected areas with partners for their feedback after Easter.
- The Logistics Cluster is managing a central storage location at the Star Wharf in the port of Port Vila for the NDMO. The space will be used for interim storage of humanitarian supplies before they are shipped to affected islands. It currently has 16 full and eight empty containers with government food stocks, including rice, noodles, canned fish, meat, biscuits and water, and can be expanded further by 14 containers.
- The departure of the yachts Umbra and Dragonfly has left a gap in regular fresh water supply to North Tanna and the Shepherd Islands (Mataso, Tongariki, Puninga). The MV Canterbury has replaced them in servicing the area surrounding Epi Island.
- Three sailing vessels offered by a private 'Sea Mercy' fleet are scheduled to arrive to Aneityum Island on 13 April. This fleet will provide medical and light cargo transport support until October. They will not, however, be able to transport fresh water needed in North Tanna and the Shepherd Islands.
- The MV Sabrina offloaded food in North Pentacost on 1 April, after a two-day delay due to low tide.
- On 1 and 3 April, a number of in-kind contributions reached Vanuatu by air and sea, including:
 - 80 large tents, two generators, 2,000 blankets and more than 30 MT of food from the Russian Government;
 - 220 generators, 500 kg of tarpaulin and 43 MT of food from the Chinese Government.
- Further donations are expected in the upcoming days:
 - Four military B-737 flights are expected to land between 4 and 6 April, containing unconfirmed contributions from the Indonesian Government;
 - 58 MT of food and corrugated galvanised iron (CGI) sheeting are scheduled to arrive by sea from China on 7 April;
 - 42 MT of food and clothes are also expected to arrive by sea from French Polynesia.

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.
- Pallets are needed in Efate for temporary storage of humanitarian supplies.

**Emergency Telecommunications****Needs:**

- Vanuatu's communication infrastructure was severely damaged by Cyclone Pam and is still affected. Re-establishment of services across the country is essential to allow the Government and relief organizations to respond to expressed needs.

Response:

- Twenty-four solar panels were received in Port Vila to be used as a power source in response to the lack of power across the affected islands.
- Four 5.5 kilovolt-amps (KVA) generators were donated to the Vanuatu Office of the Government Chief Information Officer.

Gaps:

- Transporting ETC equipment to the affected areas is still a challenge.

General Coordination

A Donors Forum, chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Climate Change, was held on 2 April to provide a briefing on the development of the Social and Economic Development Recovery Plan. OCHA outlined the ongoing harmonized assessment process, which are being used to identify residual humanitarian priorities and gaps in life-saving assistance, as well as early recovery needs. The World Bank provided a brief outline of the process and key

dates of the Damage and Loss Assessment (DALA) and Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA). The training of Government leads is currently underway and an extended briefing for NGOs is scheduled for 6 April.

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.

A number of private vessels and aircraft continue 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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