



GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU
GOUVERNEMENT DE LA REPUBLIQUE DE VANUATU

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING
MINISTRE DE L'EDUCATION ET DE LA FORMATION

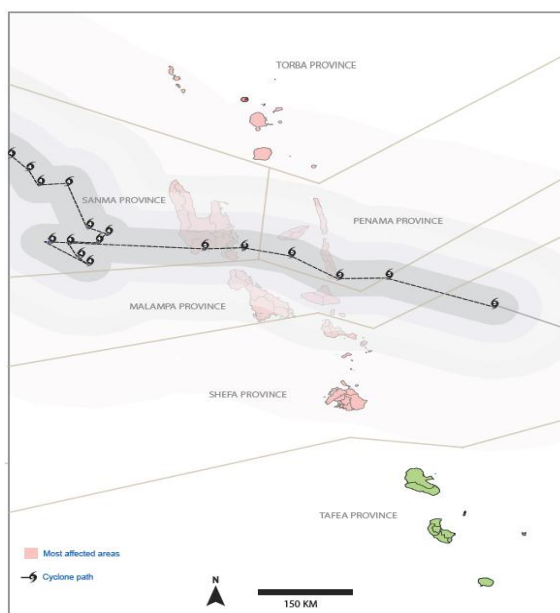
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MoET EOC Situation Update

Response Name	Tropical Cyclone (TC) Harold
Situation Report	01
Date	17 April 2020
Reporting Period	07 April – 17 April 2020
Provinces affected	Sanma, Penama, & Malampa
Attachment(s)	
MoET EOC Status	Activated – Tuesday 07 th April 2020
Next SITREP	24 April 2020

Situation Overview



The Ministry of Education and Training (MoET) is currently **coordinating assessments to schools** in the provinces and islands battered by severe Tropical Cyclone (TC) Harold. Following the last cyclone warning issued by the Vanuatu Meteorology & GeoHazard Department on 07th April 2020, and an “All Clear” advise given by the NDMO, the MoET EOC was activated by the Ministry’s Director General. On the 08th of April 2020, the MoET EOC developed a draft TC Harold Response Plan which was endorsed in principle by the Education Cluster on 09th April 2020. This TC Harold Response Plan is in operation, starting with the **rapid** and **impact assessments of schools damaged** by TC Harold.

Highlights

Preliminary impact assessment report (telecommunications / Blue-cham / media)

- Severe TC Harold made landfall in Vanuatu on 06th – 07th April 2020. The majority of severe damages were experienced in the provinces of Sanma, Penama and Malampa. Torrential rains from TC Harold caused flooding in some areas/islands of Torba and Shefa provinces.
- Approximately 60 per cent (%) of schools (ECCE, Primary, and Secondary and TVET Institutes) were destroyed.
- There are concerns regarding the welfare of provincial education staff and teachers in the affected provinces.
- Many schools (primary and secondary) buildings are used as evacuation centres
- All schools in Vanuatu are currently closed due to Covid-19 prevention measures. In addition, a Declaration of Holidays for Schools Order No.49 of 2020 was made on 11th April 2020 by the Care-taker Minister of Education and Training for schools affected by TC Harold.

Damages

a. Torba

- No major damages report for schools, except in West Gaua where a Year 3 classroom wall has fallen off due to flooding. However, the school confirmed this can be fixed in the coming days.

b. Sanma

- It is estimated that a total of 252 schools (ECCE, Primary, Secondary) were badly affected
- All ECCE Centres build with local materials are totally destroyed
- Schools on the western and southern part of Santo experienced extensive damages.
- The scale of damage on schools in Malo, Aore and Luganville is huge compared to schools around Fanafo area and east Santo.
- School furniture (chair, desk, benches, tables, beds) and teaching/learning materials damaged
- School gardens destroyed

c. Penama

- Around 90 per cent of schools (ECCE, Primary and Secondary) on *Pentecost* Island are badly affected and damaged. Most of these schools are in the central, south and eastern part of the island. Teaching and learning materials are also damaged in the devastated area of central, south and east Pentecost.
- Staff houses and student's dormitories in Melsisi and Ranwadi are damaged
- Most affected schools on Pentecost have lost school documents, equipments and damaged furniture (chair, desk, benches, tables, beds)
- WASH facilities (*contaminated water in tanks; water supply system not functioning; local toilets destroyed; flush toilets and hand washing facilities not functioning due to water supply problem*) in most affected schools of central, south and east Pentecost have been damaged
- School gardens destroyed in central, south and east Pentecost

- No major damages reported from *Ambae* and *Maewo* schools, except minor damages reported from Navuturiki Schools

d. Malampa

- About 20 schools (primary and secondary) in *north Ambrym* experienced some damages to classrooms, teachers' houses, and WASH facilities
- All ECCE Centres in north Ambrym are destroyed, except Linbul and Fanto
- Reports of major damages to schools in *Malekula* and *Paama islands* are yet to be received
- School gardens are destroyed in north Ambrym

e. Shefa

- 3 schools (primary & secondary) on Epi reported some minor damages to school buildings, including staff houses/bush kitchens

Needs

The **immediate needs** for schools in the most affected provinces (*Sanma, Penama & Malampa*) are categorised as follows:

1. Shelter

- Most of the school staff (both teaching and support/ancillary) in the badly affected provinces and islands are in need of emergency shelter assistance
- Schools with damaged boarding facilities (*dormitory*) will need temporary shelter assistance

2. WASH

- As water in tanks/wells may have been contaminated and water supply systems not functioning, there is a need for clean drinking water
- There may be limited supply of sanitation and hygiene kits; MoET will need to collaborate with the WASH Cluster to prioritise more support and supply to schools and their communities

3. Food

- In certain school communities within the badly affected provinces, food shortage is expected. Hence, emergency food supply is needed.

Response

- MoET EOC established a *Call Centre*; calling provincial education officers and school principals to report on preliminary damages on schools, and also checking on teachers' well-being.
- MoET had 3 staff joining the NDMO led rapid assessment teams to the islands of Santo and Pentecost between the 07th and 14th of April 2020. A brief presentation was made by the 3 officers to the MoET EOC on 16 April 2020.
- MoET has developed and finalized costings for TC Harold Response Plan.
- A general orientation was made with MoET's Impact Assessment Teams on Thursday 16 April 2020 before deployment starts on Friday 17 April 2020.
 - Impact Assessment Team to Sanma province deployed at 03:00pm on Friday 17 April 2020
 - *Penama and Malampa Impact Assessment Teams will be deployed over the weekend (18 – 19 April 2020) or early next week (20 – 21 April 2020)*

- Information on damaged schools in Sanma province gathered from Blue-cham and circulated to MoET's EOC and Managers for decision making purposes.
- MoET reps visited/support injured teachers who are hospitalized and teachers who lost loved ones during TC Harold

Gaps

- MoET is requesting UNICEF support for *tents, WASH and dignity kits* for schools in Sanma, Penama and Malampa provinces that are badly affected/damaged.
- MoET has engaged the French Government through the French Embassy to support the MoET in providing *Psycho Social Support* to teachers and students

Impacts

Many of the schools (primary and secondary) in the badly affected provinces/islands may not operate as expected by the MoET. This is because the schools are used as evacuation centres, while many have been destroyed by TC Harold.

Donor activities

- UNICEF has indicated that tents are currently preposition in the country. MoET can request access to these tents for temporary shelter and temporary learning spaces
- DFAT continuously supporting MoET's communications through radio and television broadcasts, and short message services through Digicel and Vodafone.

Further Information

- Education and Training Updates: Toll free: 160 | DL: 33505/33509/33517/23317
- Ministry of Education and Training: <http://www.moet.gov.vu>
<https://www.facebook.com/moetvanuatu/>
- National Disaster Management Office: www.ndmo.gov.vu | [m.facebook.com/ndmo.gov.vu](https://www.facebook.com/ndmo.gov.vu)

- Prepared by: MoET Emergency Operation Centre (EOC)
- Approved by: MoET EOC Manager

- Signature:  