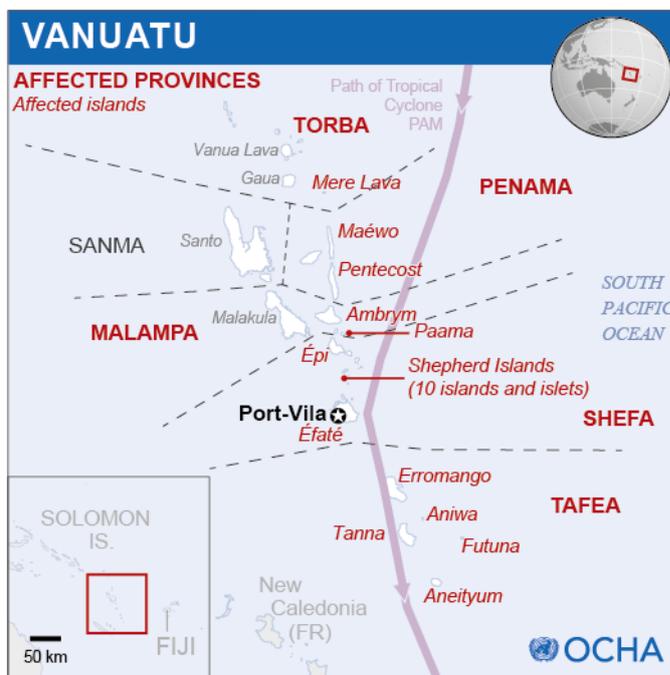




This report is produced by the OCHA Regional Office for the Pacific (ROP) in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 22 to 23 March 2015. The next report will be issued on or around 24 March 2015.

Highlights

- About 166,000 people, including 82,000 children, on 22 islands in Vanuatu are estimated to have been affected by Tropical Cyclone Pam.
- Around 75,000 people are in need of shelter; 110,000 people are without access to clean drinking water.
- Food assistance has been dispatched and has now reached approximately 120,000 people.
- Distribution of shelter kits for approximately 15,000 people is ongoing in the rural areas of Efate Island and has commenced on the Shepherd Islands.
- Initial Rapid Needs Assessments have been completed in all the affected provinces.
- Root crops, which make up at least 80 per cent of the local food source for the entire population, have been significantly damaged across all affected islands.
- Around 166,000 people will require food and assistance in agricultural recovery to sustain their livelihoods.
- All islands in Tafea Province and the outer islands of Shefa Province remain high priority areas for water, food, shelter and health assistance.



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.

11* Confirmed fatalities	166,000 People affected on 22 islands	3,306 People in evacuation centres in Efate	30 Evacuation Centres in Efate	75,000 People in need of emergency shelter	110,000 People in need of clean drinking water
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Source: Vanuatu National Disaster Management Office, Vanuatu Humanitarian Team

Situation Overview

As of 23 March, Initial Rapid Needs Assessments were completed in all affected provinces. Having obtained a baseline overview of the situation on the ground, the Government and humanitarian organizations are stocking up relief supplies to further strengthen lifesaving assistance to affected people that has been ongoing since 15 March.

The aim of these assessments was to reach a common understanding of the scale and severity of the response to target aid delivery accordingly. Assessment results display extensive loss of crops, livestock, fisheries and other livelihoods assets primarily in Malampa, Penama, Shefa, and Tafea Provinces, with damage also sustained in Torba and Sanma Provinces. Around 166,000 people will require food and assistance in agricultural recovery to sustain their livelihoods.

Food supplies continue to be dispatched and have now reached approximately 120,000 people. Furthermore, a Government of Vanuatu vessel arrived in the Shepherd Islands – one of the hardest hit island groups – and has started producing 10,000 litres of critically needed safe drinking water per day with its on-board water processing unit. Distribution of shelter kits for approximately 15,000 people has begun in the rural areas of Efate Island and will commence soon in the Shepherd Islands. Around 5,500 children have been vaccinated against measles and have received Vitamin A supplementation and deworming treatments in the capital, Port Vila. Aid distribution efforts will

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

now focus on the rest of Efate Province, Santo and Tanna Islands.

The logistics of aid delivery for this response is posing huge challenges because of the large numbers of islands that require support across Vanuatu, Kiribati, the Solomon Islands and Tuvalu. Vanuatu alone has more than 80 islands. On 23 March, the World Food Programme (WFP) established two mobile storage units at Port Vila airport. The units will provide common storage space for relief goods from 24 March onwards. The UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) has established storage facilities in Vanuatu to ensure supplies that enter the country can be quickly deployed to the estimated 82,000 children in need.

Numerous passenger and relief supply movements took place on 23 March. An Australian Military C-130J aircraft supplied 10 Metric Tonnes (MT) of food and two forklifts (to be used for offloading of relief items) to Tanna Island with another 25 MT of food and Non-Food Items (NFIs) to be delivered on 24 March. The Royal Australian Navy (RAN) Logistics/Supply ship, the HMAS Tobruk, departed Port Vila for Tanna and other outlying islands to deliver 504 hygiene kits, 1,080 water buckets, 96,000 Aquatabs, 504 Shelter Tool Kits, 1,010 tarpaulins and 300 bed nets. It is also carrying a team of engineers and a water purification system. Royal Australian Air Force C-17 aircraft continue to conduct the daily delivery of relief supplies from Brisbane to Port Vila. A prioritization process for the delivery of assets is underway.

Root crops have been damaged, which make up at least 80 per cent of the local food source for the entire population of Vanuatu. Affected people have also experienced extensive loss of planting materials and farming tools with a near total destruction of leafy vegetables (high in protein content) and small livestock in some affected areas.

Assessments of the damage to health facilities are ongoing in Malampa and Penama Provinces. Of the 21 health facilities assessed in Shefa and Penama provinces, 15 have been damaged. More than 30 health facilities are expected to need reconstruction/rehabilitation once the assessments have been completed. In the meantime, six Foreign Medical Teams (FMTs) have been deployed to provide health care services to priority areas, with two more deploying in the coming days.

One week into Tuvalu's declaration of a State of Emergency, details of the impacts on outer islands remain unclear. Separate OCHA Situation Reports will be produced covering Tuvalu's central islands (Nui, Nukufetau, Vaitupu and Funafuti). Situation Report No. 1 is available [here](#).

*On 22 March, the Government of Vanuatu, Office of the Prime Minister, revised the number of casualties to 11 people.

Humanitarian Response

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



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Needs:

- There are 3,306 displaced persons in 30 evacuation centres.
- Almost 80 per cent of displaced people are willing to return to their communities if they receive sufficient emergency shelter assistance.

3,306
people in evacuation
centres

Response:

- The International Organization for Migration (IOM) has completed the first round of the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), which has mapped those in all current evacuation centres in and around Port Vila.
- Planning is ongoing among partners on the distribution of urgently needed shelter kits in the affected -areas of Port Vila.
- IOM's analysis of health and WASH-related information on the DTM show that the main health problems being reported are flu-like illnesses and diarrhoea; however, there no major outbreak concerns at this time.
- Only a limited number of evacuation centres have on-site health facilities, although there is access to existing health clinics in Port Vila including the Vila Central Hospital.



Education

Needs:

- An estimated 82,000 children (including 57,000 school-aged children) and approximately 2,900 teachers have been directly affected by Tropical Cyclone Pam across Vanuatu.

Response:

- Education in Emergencies (EiE) supplies such as temporary learning spaces (tents), School-in-a-Box, recreation kits, Early Childhood Development (ECD) kits and student backpacks will be distributed enabling about 10,000 children to attend school.
- Education Officers and Ministry of Justice officials will provide psychosocial support for children and teachers in the most affected islands.

Gaps:

- The logistical demands of transporting EiE supplies to affected schools across Vanuatu remains a significant challenge.
- Only two Save the Children and UNICEF staff are providing rehabilitation assistance for education. More support is needed.
- Significant funding shortfalls remain to procure EiE supplies for affected schools and children.

**Food Security****Needs:**

- Food needs for 166,000 people remain urgent in Tafea, Shefa, Malampa, and Penama Provinces; however, as of 23 March food assistance has been dispatched to reach some 120,000 people.
- The Government of Vanuatu has purchased 94.5 million VT (US\$870,000) worth of locally available emergency rations, which are awaiting distribution.

166,000
people in need of food
assistance

Response:

- FAO conducted food and seed distributions of 'Priority 1' packages to Shefa Province (Makira, Mataso, Pele, Mosso, Tongoa, and Tongariki) with the first package distribution now complete. 'Priority 1' packages will be distributed to all islands in Tafea Province and the outer islands of Shefa Province (high priority areas).
- In addition to rice distributions that commenced on 22 March, registration for food and seed distributions of 'Priority 1' packages in rural Efate began on 23 March.
- Distribution of 'Priority 1' packages to Tafea Province (Tanna and Erromango) has also commenced.
- Organizations have been importing seeds and tools to address the shortfall of locally available stocks, specifically cucumber, beans and squash.
- A rapid needs assessment for animals as well as an assessment of damage to fisheries has been initiated in the priority areas (identified as the most-affected) of Shefa Province.

Gaps:

- While food distributions are ongoing, financial gaps exist for the procurement and transport of food: it is estimated that this distribution will last for 2.5 months at an estimated cost of approximately \$3.7 million.
- Information on the impact on fisheries and fishing gear on the islands remains unknown.
- Availability of local crop-planting material is limited.

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

- Approximately 3,306 people in 30 evacuation centres in and around Port Vila are currently exposed to public health and environmental health risks because of flooding, poor sanitary conditions and limited medical care.
- Of the 21 health facilities assessed in Shefa and Penama Provinces, 15 have been damaged. More than 30 health facilities are expected to need reconstruction / rehabilitation once assessments have been completed.
- There remains an urgent need for health care services including emergency care, maternal and child health care, nutrition and disease control and outbreak response including surveillance, vaccination, case management and vector control throughout the 22 affected islands.
- Damaged health facilities require repair.

10,500
children to be
vaccinated against
measles

Response:

- Six Foreign Medical Teams (FMTs) have been deployed to provide health care services, with an additional two to be deployed to priority areas soon.

- Six International Emergency Health Kits arrived in Vanuatu on 23 March.
- Disease control and outbreak response: Extensive measles vaccinations (5,500 to-date) undertaken within Port Vila. Vitamin A, deworming treatment and soap is also being provided. Relief efforts will now focus on the rest of Efate, Santo and Tanna islands.
- A bed net distribution is scheduled to start this week for communities at risk of malaria in the Port Vila area.
- Sixteen sentinel sites are being utilized for the Early Warning (EWARN) system. Eight are already functional; the remaining eight will be established this week.
- Three Interagency Diarrhoeal Disease Kits (IDDKs) have been prepositioned in Port Vila in preparation for a potential large-scale outbreak of diarrhoeal disease.
- Public health messaging using traditional and non-traditional media is planned for affected areas. This has already commenced in Shefa Province through radio, text messaging, social media and print.
- The Health Cluster is exploring a broader range of health topics for ongoing information messages and products.
- Volunteers from the NGOs, GlobalMedic and GlobalFire have prepared relief supplies that are being sent to Vanuatu. This includes 500 water purification units that will give 500 families the ability to purify water for one year. In addition to the units, the families will also receive 500 hygiene kits, which will provide families with 48 bars of soap, four toothbrushes and four tubes of toothpaste. Additionally, Aquatab water purification tablets will be distributed to those most affected. GlobalMedic is responding in partnership with ADRA Canada and ADRA Vanuatu to deliver these items.

Gaps:

- Full medical assessments of all rural communities have yet to be completed.
- Ongoing communication problems exist in rural areas.
- Limited logistics assets exist for deployment of medical personnel to the northern islands (Mere Lava, Maewo, Pentecost, Ambrym and Paama).



Shelter

Needs:

- About 75,000 people are in need of emergency shelter.
- It is estimated that approximately 15,000 homes have been destroyed or damaged in the provinces of Penama, Malampa, Shefa and Tafea.
- The provision of emergency shelter has been identified as a key need in the humanitarian response. In addition, affected people have lost key NFIs, such as cooking utensils.

75,000
people in need of
emergency shelter

Response:

- Emergency shelter relief supplies for approximately 3,000 households (15,000 people) were despatched on 21 March and have arrived on 22 March. The distribution of these supplies has begun in the rural areas of Efate Island and in the Shepherd Islands.
- Distribution of emergency shelter materials has commenced for internally displaced people in all 13 schools used as evacuation centres in Port Vila, enabling adults and children to return to their homes and schools. The remaining 15 evacuation centres will receive distribution of relief items on 24 March.

Gaps:

- Many people are currently sheltering in evacuation centres in Port Vila and throughout the affected islands. The inability to provide more emergency shelter relief items is identified as a key constraint in people returning to their homes. Logistics, specifically the movement of stock to remote island locations, is a challenge.
- There is a shortage of in-country shelter stocks.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs:

- About 110,000 people are in need of clean drinking water.
- Water, sanitation and hygiene needs are priorities in all affected islands.

110,000
people in need of
clean drinking water

Response:

- The yacht, Dragonfly, continues to produce 10,000 litres of safe drinking water per day in the Shepherd Islands.
- Oxfam is upscaling water trucking to four locations around Port Vila.
- Save the Children continues to provide technical support to the Department of Geology, Mines and Water Resources in north Efate.
- The Department of Geology, Mines and Water Resources has deployed the Provincial Water Officer for Shefa Province to Emae Island to support with repairs to water supply infrastructure.

Gaps:

- In-country WASH items are close to depleted. Incoming foreign stocks will have to be distributed as quickly as possible.

**Logistics****Response:**

- On 23 March, two mobile storage units were erected at Port Vila airport by WFP and they will provide a common storage space from 24 March. Another two mobile storage units were dispatched to Tanna in Tafea Province on the ship the MV Toraken. They are due to arrive on 23 March, after which they will be used as a common storage space for the Government and humanitarian agencies. The storage units at Port Vila airport and Tanna will be operated in cooperation with UNICEF.
- Approximately 100 MT of food, as well as logistics items, will arrive in Tanna on 23 March on the MV Toraken. Two logistics personnel have been deployed to Tanna to assist with the setup of the storage unit.
- On 22 March, the yacht, Dragonfly, delivered 50 shelter kits, 12 MT of water, diesel fuel and NDMO food commodities to Buninga and Tongariki Islands.
- Approximately 44 MT of relief items, including hygiene kits, aqua tabs, tarpaulins and buckets, arrived in Port Vila by plane
- On 23 March, approximately 22 MT of relief items arrived in Port Vila on the ship, HMAS Tobruk. Items included hygiene kits, blankets, sleeping mats, tarps, shelter kits, bed nets, buckets and aqua tabs.
- Four MT of NDMO food commodities were flown from Port Vila airport to Tanna.
- On 24 March, another 16 MT of food is scheduled to be airlifted to Tanna.
- The Vanuatu ferry is being loaded with NDMO food commodities and items from Oxfam and International Medical Corps and is planned to depart 23 March for Epi, Paama, Ambrym, Maewo and Pentecost islands.

Gaps:

- Storage capacity in both Port Vila and Tanna needs to be augmented beyond the existing mobile storage units, as the amount of relief items arriving is likely to increase in the coming weeks.
- The availability and amount of fuel on the affected islands is not clear, particularly in relation to aviation fuel. The Logistics Cluster will contact Pacific Petroleum to clarify.
- The procedure for customs clearance for international commodities arriving into Port Vila needs to be shared with partners.

**Emergency Telecommunications****Response:**

- One WFP staff member was deployed to Tanna to establish temporary internet connectivity for the NDMO and humanitarian partners.
- Internet connectivity has been extended to Port Vila airport for the use of humanitarian staff.
- Télécoms Sans Frontières (TSF) has established a WiFi bridge to create a common internet connection for the coordination efforts of relief workers deployed in Port Vila. The connection is available 24/7 and allows responders to communicate with their head and regional offices, send reports and manage day-to-day coordination.
- Emergency Telecommunication Support is being provided to the United Nations Reception and Departure Centre, which registers humanitarian staff arriving in Vanuatu.
- On 21 March, operations started in the north of Efate to address no or partial coverage in the northern areas of the island.

- On 23 March, a team deployed to Erromango on a flight chartered by CARE International to offer free telephone calls via satphone to affected populations. Four satphones are currently deployed for this purpose in Erromango.

Gaps:

- Assessments on the island of Espiritu Santo have shown that while Digicel has reestablished its network and TVL's network is almost recovered, surrounding islands in the province of Penama remain without coverage.
- A TSF team is still assessing telecommunications in Penama Province, focusing on the islands of Pentecost, Ambae and Maewo. Logistical constraints mean assessments will commence on 25 March.

Funding

The Australian Government continues to expand its support to Vanuatu, including the distribution of supplies for a further 2,500 people onboard the RAN Logistics/Supply Ship HMAS Tobruk. In addition, Australia is providing over \$10 million in relief funding, including in-kind support and \$50,000 for emergency sexual and reproductive health services for women in Vanuatu.

A Flash Appeal is being drafted by humanitarian partners to support the Government of Vanuatu's response to Tropical Cyclone Pam. Planning is initially based on a three-month timeframe.

As of 23 March, UN OCHA's [Financial Tracking Service](#) recorded a total of \$10 million in financial contributions from donors. The list below is compiled by OCHA on the basis of information provided by donors and appealing organizations.

Donor	Funding (USD)	Percentage of Grand Total	Outstanding pledges (USD)
Australia	8,267,957	50.9%	0
United Kingdom	2,465,331	15.2%	2,311,248
New Zealand	1,800,000	11.1%	0
United Arab Emirates	1,200,000	7.4%	0
European Commission	1,122,334	6.9%	0
Italy	336,700	2.1%	0
Germany	260,000	1.6%	0
India	250,000	1.5%	0
United States	200,000	1.2%	0
Japan	167,870	1.0%	0
Canada	128,102	0.8%	0
Estonia	54,000	0.3%	0
China	0	0.0%	4,900,000
Korea, Republic of	0	0.0%	500,000
Grand Total (USD):	16,252,294	100.0%	7,711,248

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

Information about in-kind contributions should be sent to: logik@un.org.

General Coordination

Currently, there are a number of private vessels and aircraft that are coming into Vanuatu loaded with relief supplies. Biosecurity Vanuatu will carry out normal quarantine clearances but during this post-Cyclone Pam period the Government will not charge for clearance and inspection of relief vessels.

However, 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 the clearance.

For further information, please contact Sylverio Bule on +678 562 4447 or bsylverio@vanuatu.gov.vu.

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

- Terms of References (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.

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

For further information, please contact:

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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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