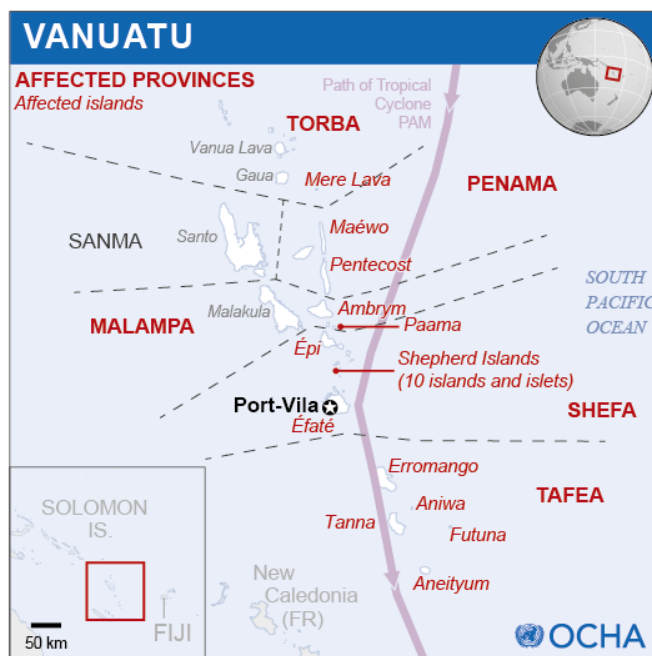




This report is produced by the OCHA Regional Office for the Pacific (ROP) in collaboration with humanitarian partners and in close support of the Government of Vanuatu. It covers the period from 8 to 15 April 2015. The next report will be issued on or around 22 April 2015.

Highlights

- The second round of distributions has commenced, with the first round now completed in Tanna Island but still under way in some areas of Pentecost and Maewo.
- The Government-led assessment results have raised a number of concerns; two thirds of surveyed communities had severe WASH needs requiring immediate attention.
- Better communication with the affected communities has been a significant gap in the response.
- Coinciding with the recent rains in Port Vila, an increasing number of individuals have been approaching the NDMO and requesting tarpaulins.
- This time of the year is the peak transmission season for vector-borne diseases. Partners are distributing bed nets across the country.
- Around 140 government workers and partners responding to the cyclone aftermath in Tanna Island now have access to high-speed internet.



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.

188,000 People affected across the country	110,000 People in need of clean drinking water	60,000 School-age children affected	47,000 People received WASH supplies	19,500 Children vaccinated against measles	30,000 in Tanna Island reached with food
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Source: Government of Vanuatu's National Disaster Management Office supported by the Vanuatu Humanitarian Team

Situation Overview

The first round of food distributions is now complete on Tanna Island, where it reached 30,000 people, and is expected to be finalised in the few remaining areas by the end of the week. The second round of distributions commenced in the islands of Erromango, Aniwa, Futuna and Mere Lava, while preparations for the dispatch and distribution to other areas still in progress. Distributions will be led by government agencies, with support from NGOs in some locations. Trucking of food from ports to final delivery points remains a major constraint, which will be exacerbated by the withdrawal of foreign military assets.

This time of the year is the peak transmission season for vector-borne diseases. As of 13 April, more than 22,000 bed nets have been distributed to protect some 29,000 people in Port Vila. Distribution plans for the rest of Vanuatu will be finalised by the end of this week.

Coinciding with the recent rains in Port Vila, an increasing number of individuals have been approaching the NDMO and requesting tarpaulins. Shelter Cluster partners are expediting the distribution of remaining tarpaulin stocks through the Area Councils in Port Vila to help meet the outstanding needs. Key messages on tarpaulin distributions have also been provided through various channels to improve the information flow to affected communities.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report.

Findings from the Second Phase Harmonised Assessments have highlighted a number of concerns. Water systems have been severely damaged in the affected areas, with many of the rainwater catchment areas and gutters destroyed. All sites tested outside Port Vila showed poor water quality, which was affected by debris and entrance of sea water. Nearly all sanitation superstructures have been destroyed in the assessed areas and, as a result, women, children and vulnerable people now lack privacy and, in some cases, safe, bathing facilities. About 30 per cent of assessed communities are now practicing open defecation, compared to 2.5 per cent in 2013. Women and girls did not have access to sanitary protection materials in two thirds of the surveyed communities.

Significant local recovery in terms of shelter reconstruction was highlighted in many assessed communities, although gaps remain. This is especially the case in Tanna Island and in the capital Port Vila which has a high population living on the urban periphery and in informal settlements. A high proportion of health facilities in Vanuatu were damaged across the country, but only seven were found not to be functioning at all. The provision of services has decreased across all health sectors, with general clinical and child health services severely affected.

Education facilities have been severely affected. Damage was particularly widespread in Shefa and Tafea Provinces, where a decrease in access to toilets at schools was also recorded. Displacement continues to be a concern, with *ad hoc* evacuation centres in Tanna Island reporting up to 30 families. Communication with affected communities was found to have been a significant gap. Affected people need accurate information on avenues for accessing distributions, their timings and eligibility criteria. There is also a need for targeted assistance to vulnerable people, such as persons living with disabilities, female-headed households and older persons. A report containing the findings of the assessment will be issued on 16 April.

Military forces continue their withdrawal from Vanuatu. Australian air assets are no longer available for transportation of relief within the country, and New Zealand Defence Force assets will leave on 19 April. Humanitarian partners will turn to commercial transport assets to continue the provision of relief. Engineers from the Fiji Military Response team continue the reconstruction of school buildings in Northern Efate.

The Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) installed satellite equipment on Tanna Island to provide high-speed internet connectivity to the humanitarian community. More than 140 users have already registered for this service.

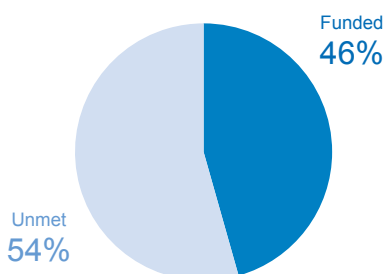
Funding

As of 15 April, OCHA’s [Financial Tracking Service](#) (FTS) recorded \$28 million in financial contributions from donors. Of this total, \$13.6 million was contributed to the Flash Appeal for Tropical Cyclone Pam which is 46 per cent funded. So far, Australia, Canada, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States have contributed to the Flash Appeal as well as private individuals and organizations.

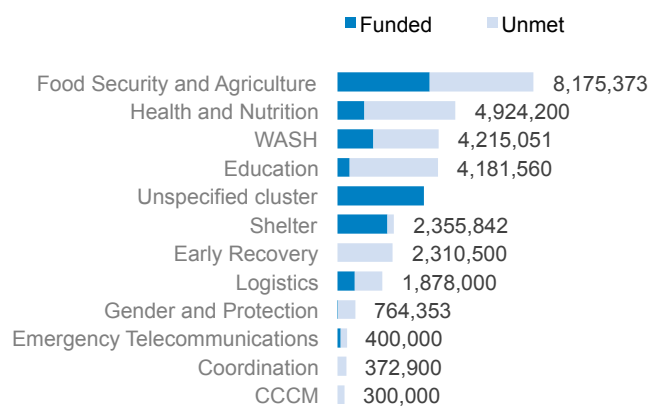
For updated funding figures, please visit the [Tropical Cyclone Pam](#) page on FTS.

Vanuatu Tropical Cyclone Pam Appeal 2015

US\$29.9 million requested



Appeal 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.
- The services and programmes of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, Fisheries and Biosecurity, which were severely disrupted by the cyclone, remain to be re-established.
- Although Food and Education partners are spearheading several initiatives to provide food for children at boarding schools, they still require food assistance.

30,000
people in Tanna Island
received food during
the distribution

Response:

- The first round of food distributions is now complete in Tanna Island, where it reached 30,000 people. Additional distributions are underway to ensure full rations are provided in areas where population estimates have been revised upwards. The first round continues in Pentecost and Maewo Islands and is expected to be finalised by the end of the week.
- The second round of distributions commenced in the islands of Erromango, Aniwa, Futuna and Mere Lava, while preparations for the dispatch and distribution to other areas are being finalised. Distributions will be led by government agencies, with support from NGOs in some locations.
- A one-off distribution at boarding schools in Shefa and Tafea Provinces will see full-time students receiving two kilograms of rice, and part-time students receiving one. The Food Security and Agriculture Cluster has also assisted with the creation of a website to facilitate any groups or organisations who would like to provide additional assistance to schools.

Gaps and constraints:

- Trucking and transfer of food from ports to final delivery points is a major constraint in the response. The withdrawal of military assets, especially helicopters, will make this a more pressing need.



Health and Nutrition

Needs:

- All affected people are at risk of disease outbreaks.
- Nutritional support is required for 6,500 pregnant and lactating women and 12,500 children younger than five years.
- The number of diarrhoea cases in Tanna is being closely monitored. Forty-five cases of acute fever and rash have been reported on Erromango. A specialist team will be sent to investigate.

19,500
children vaccinated
against measles

Response:

- Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) counseling has been provided to 2,600 mothers of children younger than 2 years old. The Health and Nutrition Cluster will provide IYCF counseling to 60 per cent of all caregivers. To date, 5,200 children have been screened for acute malnutrition in Sanma Province. Three in-patient treatment centres in Sanma, Tafea, Shefa Provinces have received supplies for inpatient treatment of severe acute malnutrition. Some 8,750 (70 per cent) children between six and 59 months will receive micronutrient powders.

- A total of 19,500 children aged between six and 59 months - 78 per cent of the targeted 25,000 - have been vaccinated against measles.
- This time of the year is the peak transmission season for vector-borne diseases. As of 13 April, 22,500 bed nets have been distributed to protect almost 29,000 people in Port Vila. Bed nets are to be replaced in 17 villages on Tanna and Erromango Islands, reaching 2,500 people. Distribution plans for the rest of Vanuatu will be finalised by the end of this week.
- Pregnant women and lactating mothers are being targeted by the Reproductive Health Working Group to ensure adequate care. A Maternal and Child Health family planning clinic is being established in Tanna Island.
- Although decreasing, the number of medical evacuations remains well above the pre-cyclone average. Three medical evacuations were carried out during the previous week, bringing the total number since the cyclone to 68.
- Key health messages are being disseminated through community leaders and Area Councils in Tanna and Shepherd Islands by the Vatu Mauri Consortium. Messaging also continues through the radio and social media.
- Of the 71 health facilities assessed, six were found destroyed, ten had suffered major and 35 minor damage. No damage was reported in 19 facilities.
- Foreign Medical Teams are encouraged to submit statistical reports to the Ministry of Health and the Cluster. This will facilitate the tracking of needs and planning for future deployments.



Gender and Protection / Internally Displaced Persons

Needs:

- Increased communication with the affected communities, including women, children and persons with disabilities, with a particular focus on providing accurate information on avenues for accessing distributions, their timings and eligibility criteria.
- Improved access to protection services for affected population, specifically for survivors of gender-based violence and child abuse.
- Measures to clear remaining hazards in areas frequented by children, in particular for heavy debris in schoolyards.
- Targeted distribution of material assistance for persons living with disabilities, including the replacement of mobility devices and hearing and visual aids.
- Amnesty on fees for secondary school and for replacement civil documents, including birth certificates, land title documents and school transcripts, and communication of this to affected populations.
- Psychosocial support, particularly directed towards children and elderly people.

Response:

- The Protection Cluster has discussed avenues for protection mainstreaming with Health, Food Security and Agriculture, Shelter and WASH Clusters.
- Save the Children has also conducted an assessment of schools in Efate Island, and has noted a number of them having hazardous materials on-site, including corrugated iron debris and fallen trees.
- The Child Protection Working Group is working on messaging around children's vulnerability to hazards, which will be circulated through the churches

Gaps & Constraints:

- Protection Monitoring and complaints mechanisms which are not yet in place.
- Protection issues affecting Port Vila and peri-urban areas in Efate are not known
- Mainstreaming of protection needs to ensure that women, children, people with disabilities, female headed households and other vulnerable groups are able to access and benefit from humanitarian assistance.



Needs:

- The Shelter Cluster is targeting almost 68,000 people with assistance, although numbers of people in need may increase as a result of the ongoing census in Tanna Island and the urban areas in Efate. Completed, ongoing and planned distributions have or will soon reach an estimated 105,000 people with shelter items.

Response:

- Coinciding with the recent rains in Port Vila, an increasing number of individuals have been approaching the NDMO and requesting tarpaulins. Shelter Cluster partners are expediting the distribution of remaining tarpaulin stocks through the Area Councils in Port Vila to help meet the outstanding needs. Key messages have also been provided through various channels to improve the information flow to affected communities.
- The Shelter Cluster is working with Education, Protection and WASH Clusters to identify and address gaps, vulnerability and shelter-related hygiene and sanitation interventions. Partners have prioritised tarpaulin distribution to islands dependent on rainwater, so that they can be used for water harvesting as well as roofing.
- Shelter relief continues to arrive in Tanna Island to address key gaps in southern Vanuatu. The Shelter Cluster has been working closely with the NDMO and the Education Cluster to supply tents for school classrooms and temporary teacher accommodation.
- The harmonised assessment has been completed and has provided key informant insight into response and recovery trends. A shelter-specific assessment at the household level has finished in Efate and is still in process in Tanna Island. Erromango and the Shepherd Islands have been prioritised for this assessment.

Gaps & Constraints:

- The Shelter Cluster requires the updated census data and damage information in order to better define the remaining shelter assistance gaps, particularly in Port Vila and Tanna Island.
- Agencies are following emergency distributions with monitoring and gap-filling.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs:

- The results of the WASH sector assessments indicated that two thirds of communities surveyed had severe WASH needs requiring immediate attention.
- Communities report extensive damage to water systems, and more than half of the communities reported access to less than three litres of drinking water a day. Wind and debris destroyed rainwater catchment intake areas (roofs) and gutters. Fallen trees and landslides damaged piped water systems, especially older and poorly constructed or maintained systems. Debris, trees, rocks and sedimentation blocked spring water intakes. Power failure and mechanical damage caused failure of pumped water systems.
- Bacteriological water quality tests showed poor water quality in all sites tested outside of Port Vila, showing a need for water treatment prior to drinking. Less than half of households were reported to use some form of water treatment.
- Assessments also showed destruction of nearly all sanitation superstructures, especially those made of bush materials, with little availability of materials for rebuilding. Women, children, and vulnerable people now lack privacy, and in some cases, safe bathing facilities. There has been a substantial increase in open defecation and sharing of latrines by multiple people due to lack of private toilets.
- Nearly half of the households have access to soap, but less than 30 per cent are using it. Two thirds of communities did not have access to sanitary protection materials for girls and women.
- Based on assessments conducted by other clusters, damage is expected to have been similar on WASH services at schools and health care facilities.

47,000

people have received
emergency WASH
supplies

Response:

- Emergency distributions of water, sanitation, and hygiene supplies have reached almost 47,000 people.
- The WASH Cluster is working with the Shelter Cluster to prioritise tarpaulin distribution to the Shepherd Islands and Aniwa as a quick fix to restore rainwater harvesting. The NDMO will monitor their use.
- The Adventis Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is supporting 2,800 people in South East Ambrym with WASH and dignity kits supplied by UNICEF. UNICEF has released WASH supplies to Care International, who will support an estimated 19,000 people on Tanna Island this week.
- The WASH Cluster has agreed on key messages with the Health Cluster for use by health and hygiene promotion teams. UNICEF is supporting the development of information materials for printing and distribution through partners.

Gaps & Constraints:

- The Protection Cluster has requested for specific messages for children so that they do not drink unsafe water, as well as for greater attention to the restoration of latrine superstructures for privacy and protection. WASH services in schools and health care facilities will require greater attention to restore protective environments for children, women, and vulnerable groups.

Education

Needs:

- Approximately 60,000 school-aged children have been affected by the cyclone. The revised number includes boys and girls in early childhood and care education, as well as primary and secondary schools.
- Assessment data shows different levels of damage across the country. In Tafea province, 180 classrooms have been destroyed with another 75 classrooms severely damaged affecting close to 9,000 primary school children. In Shefa Province and the outer islands, 50 per cent of the schools have been affected, including one school totally destroyed and nine schools severely damaged. Damage in Malampa, Penama and Torba Provinces has been limited.
- More Education in Emergencies (EiE) supplies such as tents, tarpaulins and teaching and learning materials including plastic boxes to safely store these materials are urgently needed to support school reopening.

60,000

school-aged children affected by the cyclone

Response:

- EiE supplies for Tafea Province were dispatched on 13 April. Supplies for Tanna Island are expected to be transported and distributed later this week.
- The Salvation Army is planning to supply text books and food in the Teruja Boarding Secondary School in Tafea Province, supply text books and repair sanitation facilities in the Vila North School, as well as to provide exercise books to students living in the 21 Jump Street community in Port Vila.
- The Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) continues to liaise with the Food and Agriculture, Shelter and WASH Clusters to ensure the children in boarding schools have water, food and shelter.
- Satellite phones will be provided to the MOET and the Tafea Education Provincial Office by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Education Cluster members find it very difficult to secure funds to address EiE needs.
- Logistics and transport of EiE supplies to the schools in the outer islands is challenging.
- On Tanna Island, a number of schools are still being used as evacuation centres and steps are being taken to address this issue.

Logistics

Needs:

- The sourcing of locally skilled staff for the management of the Mobile Storage Unit (MSU) at Port Vila is still in progress.

Response:

- The NDMO is setting up a MSU in front of its headquarters to store government-owned NFIs; the MSU is expected to become operational on 17 April. The common storage MSU at the Tanna Provincial Disaster Committee is currently operating at 60 per cent capacity, primarily containing food items.
- A local manufacturer of pallets has been found in Tanna, resolving a long-standing gap.
- The Civil-Military Joint Task Force will continue providing cargo transport to the humanitarian community using the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu patrol boats, each with a carrying capacity of five metric tons. The Tonga patrol boat is no longer available for tasking, but the Solomon Islands patrol boat will be available to the Logistics Cluster until 23 April.
- A shortfall of trucking capacity in Tanna Island has been partially relieved by the arrival of two trucks rented by the World Food Programme (WFP) on 15 April. The Logistics Cluster is obtaining local quotations for additional trucking capacity.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Regular fresh water supply in North Tanna and the Shepherd Islands (Mataso, Tongariki, Puninga) remains problematic. The areas are covered temporarily by the supply of water-purification tablets. The Logistics Cluster is exploring mid-term solutions until water systems can be repaired.

**Emergency Telecommunications****Needs**

- The ETC has begun scaling down operations in Port Vila, as users can now turn to local providers. However, the Government of Vanuatu and humanitarian partners still require support in Tanna Island.

140

responders in Tanna
supplied with high-
speed internet

Response

- ETC partner *emergency.lu* installed satellite equipment on Tanna Island to provide high-speed internet connectivity to the humanitarian community. More than 140 users have already registered for this service, set up at the office of Samaritan's Purse. Also in Tanna, Ericsson Response continues to provide support and has connected UNELCO, the local power company, to the ETC network.
- NetHope has distributed ten satellite phones with free SIM cards to Save the Children, International Medical Corps and IsraAID. The NGOs will be able to use them for up to three months.

Gaps and constraints

- Power remains a challenge across Vanuatu, including Tanna Island.
- Logistics is a challenge due to the high cost of chartering aircraft, which can reach US \$10,000, as well as the length of time it takes to transport equipment by sea.

General Coordination

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. OCHA staff from Headquarters in Geneva and New York, the Regional Office for the Pacific (ROP) 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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