

This report was issued by OCHA Sub-Regional Office for the Pacific in Fiji. This is the sixth and final situation report unless there are any major new developments around this emergency.

I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- Based on detailed damage assessments, the Fiji National Disaster Management Officer estimates the total damages caused by Tropical Cyclone (TC) Tomas at almost FJ\$84 million (US\$43.6 million), including the cost of damaged and destroyed houses.
- In total, two lives were lost, 649 houses were destroyed and 1,387 damaged, 72 schools and various health facilities were damaged or destroyed. The agriculture sector suffered major damages.
- Communities vulnerable to outbreak of typhoid and other faecal-oral diseases will be targeted by the Ministry of Health, as well as Health and WASH partners, through a typhoid vaccination programme in the coming months. AusAid will fund this programme with AU\$ 1 million. An additional WASH emergency intervention is planned and will require more funding.
- A Government Taskforce for the harmonization of recovery and rehabilitation efforts and donor coordination, chaired by the National Planning Office, will lead the recovery process and will liaise closely with the Early Recovery cluster.

II. Situation Overview

Emergency operations are transiting into recovery activities by government line ministries and development partners. During a coordination meeting of the Pacific Humanitarian Team (PHT) on 12 April, it was agreed that the Department of Planning would coordinate with international organizations on issues of recovery as well as shelter and reconstruction of houses. Coordination will take place through a Government led Task Force and in close liaison with the Early Recovery Cluster.

Based on detailed damage assessments, the Fiji National Disaster Management Officer estimates the total damages at almost FJ\$84 million (US\$43.6 million), including the cost of damaged and destroyed houses. In total, 649 houses were destroyed and 1,387 damaged.

The Government and the Fiji Red Cross Society (FRCS) relief teams have assisted over 8,000 people directly through the provision of food and basic non-food relief items, including clothes, blankets, tarpaulins, water, cooking sets, hygiene sets and first aid kits and an additional 2,200 through the provision of tents for shelter and classrooms. NDMO estimates that the total affected population in the area has been 39,101.

Estimated damages in the main sectors are as follows:

- Education: FJ\$ 4.05 million (US\$ 2.1 million)
- Agriculture and livestock: FJ\$ 49 million (US\$ 25.4 million)
- Road repair: FJ\$ 9.1 million (US\$ 4.7 million)
- Rural water supply system: FJ\$ 500,000 (US\$260,000)
- Health: FJ\$ 1.41 million (US\$ 732,700)
- Electricity : FJ\$ 1 million (US\$ 520,000)
- Telecom: FJ\$ 800,000 (US\$ 415,743)
- Housing: FJ\$ 10.2 million (US\$ 5.3 million)

The French frigate "Vendémiaire", which arrived from Noumea, has assisted with the transportation of relief supplies to the Eastern division and off-loaded cargo on several islands in the Lau group, before returning to New Caledonia.

III. Humanitarian Needs and Response

Early Recovery

- A Task Force comprising of Permanent Secretaries had already been set up for the recovery from Tropical Cyclone Mick (December 2009) under the chair of the National Planning Office. This Task Force will also coordinate the recovery activities from TC Tomas. The taskforce has already met and, after a review of damage assessments and a presentation of proposed strategy to the Cabinet, will engage with development and donor partners on the next steps. The Early Recovery cluster will liaise with the Taskforce as its counterpart for partner coordination.

Education

- According to the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO), the education sector rehabilitation cost is now FJ\$ 4.05 million (US\$ 2.1 million), the vast majority of which will be used for repair of damaged school buildings.
- The European Union has committed FJ\$ 2 million for the rehabilitation of schools. The Embassy of Japan has a small grant programme for the rehabilitation of primary schools.
- As the need for temporary class rooms (tents) is now met, priority needs to shift to the rehabilitation of schools. Particularly in remote islands, many schools also provide housing to children during the week because of distances to home villages, although these are not officially classified as boarding schools.
- UNICEF provided an additional 27 tents (24 m2) for emergency classrooms.

Food, Nutrition and Agriculture

- Almost 60 percent of all damages were caused in the agriculture sector, particularly due to extensive damage to cash and export crops (e.g. dalo (taro), yaqona (kava) and copra) on Taveuni Island.
- In its immediate response the Ministry of Agriculture distributed vegetable seeds of fast growing crops to target sufficient food security. In addition, the provision of a one month food ration to affected communities, as well as to boarding schools, is being proposed.

Health

- The Ministry of Health, in collaboration with WHO, UNICEF and AusAID, has agreed to undertake an innovative typhoid vaccination campaign in the coming months in vulnerable communities that are likely typhoid hotspots, including Taveuni where five new cases have emerged in recent days.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

- In addition to the above, the Ministry of Health and the WASH cluster have developed a strategy for a WASH emergency intervention for the prevention of faecal-oral disease outbreak in 40 affected villages and 15 schools cyclone affected in remote parts of Napuka, Rabi, Taveuni, Karoko and Koro.

Shelter

- Based on a standard house design, including toilet and bathroom, the cost of reconstructing 649 houses at FJ\$ 16,000 per house would be FJ\$ 10.4 million. In addition, the repair of damages to dwelling houses at FJ\$1,300 per house would total FJ\$1.8 million for 1,387 damaged houses.
- The detailed implementation strategy for reconstruction of houses, as well as a coordination mechanism, will be decided under the guidance of the Government Taskforce for recovery and rehabilitation from TC Tomas in the coming weeks

IV. Coordination

- A Government Taskforce for harmonization of recovery and rehabilitation efforts and donor coordination, chaired by the National Planning Office, will lead the recovery process now that emergency operations are winding down and the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) has been stood down.
- This Taskforce will liaise closely with the Early Recovery cluster led by UNDP. A first meeting of the Early Recovery cluster of the Pacific Humanitarian Team will be called as soon as the Taskforce has presented its proposed strategies to cabinet.

V. Funding

- No updates

All humanitarian partners including donors and recipient agencies are encouraged to inform FTS of cash and in-kind contributions by sending an email to: fts@reliefweb.int.

VI. Contact

OCHA Pacific: Mr. Peter Muller, Regional Disaster Response Adviser
Email: peter.muller@undp.org, Tel: +679-331 6761, Mobile: +679 999 1664

OCHA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific: Ms. Yindee Lertcharoenchok, Humanitarian Affairs Analyst (Disaster Response), Email: lertcharoenchok@un.org, Tel: +66 (0) 2288 2437

OCHA New York: Ms. Pia Hussein CRD Asia-Pacific Section
Email: husseinp@un.org, Tel: +1 917 602 0212.

For more information, Pacific Disaster Net (<http://www.pacificdisaster.net/>) has created a wiki-page for TC Tomas at <http://pdn.appspot.com/CycloneTomas/>