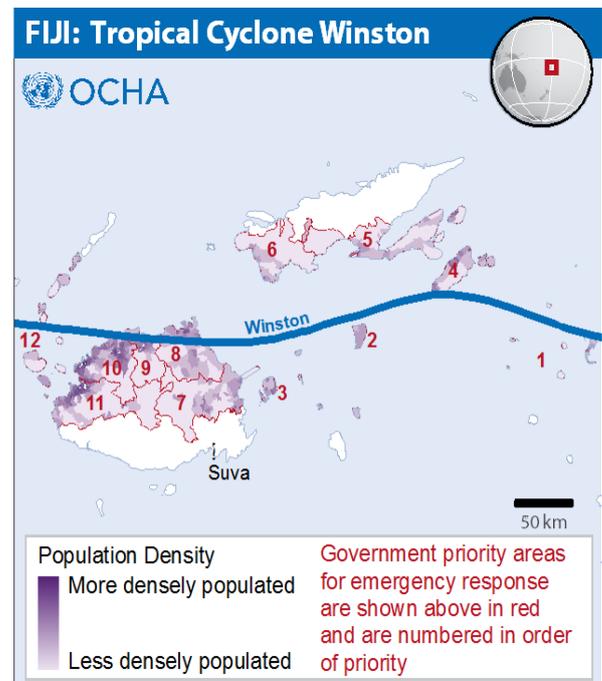




This report is produced by the OCHA Regional Office for the Pacific (ROP) in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 26 to 27 February 2016. The next report will be issued on or around 28 February 2016.

Highlights

- On 20 and 21 February Category 5 Severe Tropical Cyclone Winston cut a path of destruction across Fiji.
- The cyclone is estimated to be one of the most severe ever to hit the South Pacific.
- The Fiji Government estimates almost 350,000 people living in the cyclone's path could have been affected (180,000 men and 170 000 women).
- 42 people have been confirmed dead.
- 1177 schools will re-open on Monday around Fiji.
- Around 100 of the most badly damaged schools will remain closed for 3-6 weeks to allow for repairs.
- The total damage bill is now estimated at more than FJ\$1billion or almost half a billion USD.
- Aid, including food rations, is arriving in cyclone affected communities and assessments are now underway across the country.
- A 30 day State of Natural Disaster has been declared.



42 Confirmed fatalities	30,000 people still sheltering in evacuation centres	2/3 of schools set to open on Monday
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Sit Rep Sources: Fiji Government, Fiji NEOC/NDMO, PHT Partners, NGO Community. Datasets available in HDX at <http://data.hdx.rwlab.org>.

Situation Overview

Two thirds of Fijian schools are set to re-open on Monday but the damage to around 100 schools is so severe that they won't be able to open for up to six weeks. In its response, the Fiji Government is targeting 350,000 people living in the path of the cyclone. 120,000 of those are projected to be children. Food security is becoming an issue with markets in affected areas either destroyed or inaccessible because of the cyclone. Women comprise the majority of those engaged in agricultural sectors and as market vendors, providing food for their families and whole communities. Food security and early recovery efforts are needed to offset any potential safety and protection concerns, including sexual exploitation and abuse. Partners are seeking further clarity on the distribution of food rations in order to assess need as the response continues. The Fiji Government estimates the damage bill from Tropical Cyclone Winston will be almost half a billion US dollars. The Government is launching a campaign to encourage international tourists to continue to come to parts of the country not seriously affected by the cyclone to provide much needed income and jobs. Relief supplies, including food rations, are being distributed as teams assess needs and priorities across the country. There remains an urgent need for the Government to develop a clear strategy for the closure of evacuation centres with almost 30,000 people still sheltering in hundreds of facilities across the country. The humanitarian community stands ready to guide the government in international best practice in evacuation centre management. The provision of safe transitional accommodation for those leaving shelters must be a top priority. The Pacific Humanitarian Team has highlighted the need for more detailed sex, age and disability disaggregated data, particularly regarding evacuation centres, in order to ensure the needs of vulnerable people are being addressed. Intermittent essential services, as well as poor road access and communications difficulties, remain a constraint for both assessments and the delivery of relief.

General Coordination

The Fiji Government is leading the response to this emergency. The National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) is coordinating efforts and has activated the National and Divisional Emergency Operations Centres (EOCs). [A 30 day State of Natural Disaster](#) has been declared and will expire on March 21. The Fiji Government has established three levels of planning to guide their cyclone response – current operations, future operations, and planning and international coordination. The Government has identified 12 priority zones for its response.

National Clusters have been tasked with identifying needs and working in cooperation with international partners to ensure gaps are covered. All Fiji National Clusters are now activated and collaboration with the international community is expanding. The second Fiji Inter-Cluster Coordination meeting was held on 26 February at the NDMO. A meeting schedule has been agreed for the response. Cluster coordinators and co-leads only will be invited to attend. The meetings will be held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and will be chaired by the Permanent Secretary for Rural and Maritime Development and National Disaster Management moving forward.

In recognition of the enormity of the disaster, the Fiji Government has officially requested international assistance. As agreed by the Fiji Government, planning has begun for the development of a Flash Appeal to rapidly secure international funds for urgent projects related to this emergency. UNOCHA, on behalf of the Pacific Humanitarian Team, is liaising with the NDMO and Fiji National Clusters on what expertise, personnel, supplies and equipment are most urgently needed and where. OCHA also has personnel embedded in the NDMO and Minister's office. In addition to its role in supporting coordination of humanitarian partners with the Fijian Government, OCHA has deployed a UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team to support emergency response. The UNDAC team is working to ensure good linkages between incoming international assistance and the Government-led response efforts and priorities. The team is setting up coordination hubs in disaster-affected areas and providing support to needs assessments, information management and response coordination. A Reception Departure Centre (RDC) has been established at Nadi airport in coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to facilitate the arrival of international relief teams.

The Pacific Humanitarian Team (PHT), as well as new partners arriving in Fiji, are requested to work through the existing Fijian cluster structure to allow for a coordinated and effective response. It has been agreed that UNOCHA will be the conduit for communications between the NDMO and international humanitarian partners regarding offers of assistance within Fiji and internationally.

Humanitarian Civil-Military Coordination

As part of the TC Winston response, a dedicated humanitarian-military operations coordination function has been established under the leadership of the NDMO. The objective is to provide a predictable humanitarian-military coordination engagement and facilitate the interaction between humanitarian and military actors supporting the Government-led response efforts in Fiji.

The humanitarian-military coordination function will facilitate information-sharing, task division and coordination of operational planning between humanitarian needs and gaps (actual, anticipated or projected) and available military capacity on the ground. An important focus of the coordination function will be geared towards optimising the use of available military assets to support humanitarian priorities in critically affected locations. In order to achieve this objective, a Request for Assistance (RFA) process flow, led by the NDMO, has been proposed to proactively address anticipated humanitarian-military operational coordination needs. The RFA process is outlined on the [HR.info/Humanitarian Civil-Military Coordination \(UN-CMCoord\) webpage](https://hr.info/Humanitarian-Civil-Military-Coordination-(UN-CMCoord)-webpage).

For further information or support please contact CMCOORDFIJI@gmail.com.

OCHA has prepared a snapshot on foreign military assets currently deployed in support of the Government-led response efforts. The snapshot can [be accessed here](#).

Overall Response



Logistics and Telecommunications

Needs

- Communications with many affected areas remain interrupted, hampering efforts to get a clear picture of needs on the ground. Improved communications links and unfettered road access will improve this situation.
- There is a need for greater clarity on the processes and rules surrounding the arrival of unsolicited donations and emergency relief consignments in Fiji in order to ensure an efficient distribution of goods.

Response

- The National Logistics Cluster is operating two main hubs in Lautoka (Nadi) and Walu Bay (Suva) and has found an additional warehouse with hard stand for approximately 30 containers
- Main airports and a number of local airports are now operating.
- The ICT Working Group met on 27 February in order to form a nucleus of ICT-centric agencies and resources, in advance of the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster getting up and running.
- Digicel coverage is anticipated to back 90 per cent coverage by Sunday
- Vodafone coverage is anticipated to be between 91-95 per cent in the next 2 days.
- The Logistics Cluster has shared information on private sector transport and storage companies with partners. For company contact details, see the Fiji Logistics Capacity Assessment (LCA): <http://dlca.logcluster.org/display/public/DLCA/Fiji>

Gaps and Constraints

- There is a recognized need to augment the current warehouse capacity in Nadi including hard stand for container freight and the NDMO is currently assessing options.
- It is anticipated that there will be an influx of unsolicited bilateral donations in both Nadi and Suva and space to store, sort and handle these need to be secured. Systems and resources to sort and manage these goods also need to be defined.
- Tarmac space at Nausori Airport is reportedly becoming congested.
- The NGO community is anxious to see a simplification of the process for consigning and receiving goods for distribution to the community.
- Partners would like greater visibility on the range of goods arriving in the country and their destination to ensure a fair distribution based on need.



Evacuation Centres

Needs

- Almost 30,000 people remain in more than 700 evacuation centres. The official number of people in these centres has halved since the previous situation report and the IDP Working Group is looking into the reasons behind this.
- Support is needed to assist the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation to coordinate and manage information to establish evacuation centre needs and gaps.
- Registration and monitoring of Internally Displaced Persons in evacuation centres and other informal sites is required.
- Immediate assistance should be given to IDPs in terms of WASH, Food, Health and Shelter support.
- Monitoring and referral mechanisms for protection cases and people with special needs need to be enhanced.
- A durable solutions roadmap must be developed to support IDP rights as evacuation centres in schools begin to close.

More than **700**
evacuation centres
across Fiji

- Displaced families sheltering in evacuation centres lack basic hygiene materials, such as soap and sanitary pads for women. The lack of adequate emergency sanitation facilities also places individuals, particularly women and children, at increased risk of violence of abuse.

Response

- The Fijian Police are planning to increase their presence in evacuation centres and conduct community visits.
- An IDP Working Group is being developed under the Protection and Safety Cluster to support IDPs in evacuation centres and other informal sites.
- Information sharing through NDMO and Ministry is increasing.
- IOM has now been accepted as a partner who will work with the Ministry and Cluster lead to improve information flow and provide guidance on best practice in managing evacuation centres.

Gaps and Constraints

- The living conditions of evacuated persons are of significant public health and protection concern.
- Arrangements for food distribution to evacuation centres require further clarity.
- The majority of evacuation centres are schools and the government has expressed a desire to see students return to classrooms without delay.
- The Government has not yet provided a timeline or plan for the management of evacuation centres.
- Greater access to evacuation centres is needed for experts to assess needs and conditions.



Shelter

Needs

- With almost 30,000 people now sheltering in hundreds of evacuation centres, development of a plan to transition people to safe alternative accommodation is a critical need.
- The Government is expecting thousands of houses are likely to require demolition and many of those sheltering in centres may not have homes to return to.
- In Central Division, Shelter assessment teams carried out 10 needs assessments of a total of 131 houses - 85 of these were completely destroyed, 32 sustained significant damage, 11 were partially damaged, and 3 had minor damages. This damage affected 634 people (324 men and 310 women).
- In the Western Division, an assessment is currently ongoing in Nadi.
- In the Eastern Division, an assessment is currently ongoing on Koro Island. Assessment data is being analysed.
- The Fiji Government has identified the following immediate Shelter needs:
 - ❖ Tarpaulins
 - ❖ Tents of all sizes
 - ❖ Construction tools
 - ❖ Building materials
 - ❖ Clothing
 - ❖ Sanitary items for women

Response

- As a priority, OCHA is working to facilitate greater inter-cluster coordination on evacuation shelter management and planning for these facilities to close.
- The global shelter cluster will arrive in Fiji tomorrow and support line ministries, leading on operations and planning of the shelter cluster.
- In the Central Division, Red Cross and Habitat conducted 12 distributions of non-food items were made to 31 families including tarpaulins, 10ltr water containers, blankets, black packs, dignity kits, hygiene kits and kitchen sets.
- In the Western Division, two distributions were done in schools being used as evacuation centres including black packs, hygiene kits and soap.
- In the Eastern Division, four distributions were done in Koro – items included tarpaulins, blankets, black packs and kitchen sets.
- In the Northern Division, three distributions were carried out in Savusavu including tarpaulins, black packs, cooking sets, blankets, dignity kits, hygiene kits and baby kits.

Gaps and Constraints

- Poor communication with Red Cross branches in isolated areas is hampering information flow.



Health & Nutrition

Overview

- 42 people have been confirmed dead.
- At least 126 people are injured.
- Many hospitals, health centres and nursing stations sustained structural and functional damage.
- The damage varies from complete destruction to roof damage, leaks, power and water outages and loss of medical supplies.
- Patients from severely damaged facilities are being transferred to functioning major hospitals.
- In Central Division, Nausori and Wainibokasi Hospitals relocated patients.
- In Western Division, Lautoka Hospital sustained damage to the medical incinerator requiring transfer of medical waste to CWM Hospital.
- Ba Hospital sustained major damage.
- Communication with Rakiraki Subdivision Hospital in Western Division has not been established.
- In Eastern Division, there has been no communication with Vanuabalavu, Lakeba and Lomaiviti (Levuka, Koro and Gau) slowing down damage assessments.
- Labasa Hospital in Northern Division sustained minor damage.

126
people injured

Needs

- The following immediate needs have been flagged:
 - ❖ Restoration of power supply to major hospitals and affected health centres and nursing stations
 - ❖ Emergency health kits and water purification tablets
 - ❖ Water-borne disease vaccines & medicines
 - ❖ Mosquito spray
 - ❖ Sanitary Packs
 - ❖ Psychosocial support (PST)
 - ❖ Food safety
 - ❖ Social inclusion approach to the persons with disabilities
 - ❖ Tetanus vaccinations
- Major anticipated medical concerns:
 - ❖ Trauma and injuries - Wound infection.
 - ❖ Water and food-borne disease – Informal settlements and evacuation centres can become hotspots of typhoid fever and diarrhea.
 - ❖ Vector borne disease – Mosquito density will rebound a few weeks after the cyclone. WHO has flagged a need to step up surveillance for Dengue, Chikungunya, and Zika Virus.
- It is estimated that there are nearly 100 cold chain storage facilities used to house vaccines in the areas affected by the cyclone. It is expected that many of these have been damaged (including solar panels used to provide backup power) and that several heat sensitive vaccines will be unusable. Both the equipment and spoiled vaccine stocks will need to be replaced.
- It is likely that health services for maternal and newborn health, especially at the community level have been interrupted. Already malnourished children will be especially vulnerable due to limited access to nutritious food.

Response

- The Ministry of Health and Medical Service (MHMS) deployed mobile medical teams to provide urgent care of injuries in hospitals and health centres that have been severely damaged.
- The Ministry has deployed ten Environmental Health officers to the affected areas for the assessment of environmental health risks including water supply, sanitation and food safety.

- MHMS is preparing an assessment and response plan focusing on clinical services and public health services. This assessment will be the basis for the support activities of NGOs and humanitarian partners.
- WHO is working with the MHMS to develop a public health risk assessment which will provide a basis for the strategic health response plan of MHMS and partners.
- WHO plans to deploy experts on EWARS, health resource availability mapping (HeRAMS), a risk communication, information management officer, and food safety by next week.
- WHO received a request from MHMS to provide Inter-Agency Emergency Health Kits (IEHKs), and will deliver them on Monday.
- MHMS is convening national health and nutrition cluster meeting on 29 February.
- UNICEF is providing support for community health communication; assistance for pregnant women, mothers and children; including immunisation and vitamin distribution; maternity and neonatal assistance, infant and young child feeding, and the prevention, identification, referral and treatment of severe acute malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies.
- Seven UNICEF basic health kits (each servicing a population of 1,000 people for 3 months), zinc, ORS and vitamin A have been delivered to Rakiraki Hospital, Rakiraki Maternity, Qarani, Gau, Nasau, Koro, Nabasovi, Koro, Lomaloma Hospital, Vanua Balavu.
- 30,000 measles and rubella vaccines are pre-positioned by UNICEF in Nadi in case there a need for mass campaign.
- UNICEF also has malnutrition treatment supplies prepositioned in Suva for up to 5,700 children. UNICEF is standing by for supply orders from the MHMS.
- UNFPA is providing technical assistance in Reproductive Health, Maternal Health, Mental Health and Gender Based Violence as well as midwifery services.
- UNFPA will provide guidance on psychosocial support, and contribute to the Sexual and Reproductive Health assessment
- UNFPA has released the following supplies to the government: Supplied Dignity and Reproductive Health Kits, Condoms, Procurement of EmONC Equipment
- An Australian Medical Assistance Team (AusMAT) was deployed to Rakiraki and provided urgent medical services.
- New Zealand MFAT has deployed a team of health assessment specialists to support the rapid health assessment conducted by the Ministry of Health and Medical Services.
- In recognition of the impacts of disaster on mental health, the Fiji Government has launched a toll-free National Crisis Intervention Helpline, operated by Lifeline Fiji.

7

Basic health delivered to worst hit areas

Gaps and Constraints

- Systematic assessment of loss and damage to health and healthcare facilities is needed to prioritize the response activities of partners.
- Partners are waiting for the Ministry of Health to release its assessment report and response plan.
- There is a lack of health data from evacuation centre populations.
- There is a need for clear communication and support on breastfeeding in evacuation centres. Powdered milk is provided in government food packages, and it is critical that these packages clearly communicate that powdered milk should be used to enrich family meals and not to feed infants, and also that the water mixed with the milk must first be treated to ensure it is safe to drink.



Infrastructure and Utilities

Needs

- Damage to the Fiji Electricity Authority network and Water Authority infrastructure is extensive. Full restoration is expected to take weeks in some of most affected areas. In some of the worst hit areas assessments have not yet been possible. Power remains out in Rakiraki. A large number of locations in Labasa and Savusavu have had power supply restored.
- A tower has fallen on the Wailoa to Vuda transmission line, cutting supply from the Wailoa station to the Western Division.
- The Fiji Government has identified the following immediate infrastructure and utilities needs:
 - ❖ Electricity: Generators, water pumps
 - ❖ Water: Water tanks, water pipes
 - ❖ Roads: Machinery/equipment for debris clearance. Repair works to infrastructure (roads, jetties, bridges, airstrips)
 - ❖ Communication: satellite phones

- A key enabler of public service activation in severely impacted areas will be the rapid provision of temporary accommodation for affected staff.

Response

- Repair crews are working overtime to reconnect power and water services which remain cut in many parts of the country.
- The FEA has started constructing temporary road access to the tower which has cut off power supply from Wailoa station to Western Division.
- After extensive repair and maintenance work, the main roads (Kings Road and Queens Road) on Viti Levu have re-opened increasing access to damaged areas.

Gaps

- Many small roads remain blocked by flood waters and debris hampering the free movement of relief and assessment teams.
- Sea access to many islands remains blocked or limited by cyclone damage. Savusavu and Nabouwalu jetties on Vanua Levu island are now open but two jetties on Taveuni, located at Blackpoint and Waiyevo, remain closed.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

- Total estimated people in need of WASH assistance: up to 350,000.
- Though damage and needs assessments are still on-going, due to service disruptions and destruction of household sources, many families are dependent on unsafe and unprotected water sources and have complained of diarrhea.
- Water quality testing will be important moving forward to prevent outbreaks of water-borne diseases such as typhoid which is endemic in Viti Levu and the Cluster is already looking at this issue.
- The Ministry of Health and Medical Services is receiving reports of open defecation since families have lost access to sanitation facilities due to destruction of superstructures, and flooding of pits.
- WASH assistance is urgently needed for an estimated 300 schools to allow children to return to safe schools in line with the Government's schedule.

Up to **350,000**
people in need of
WASH assistance

Response

- The Water Authority of Fiji has restored service in most of Central Division, and parts of Northern and Western Division. No assessment has been carried out in Eastern Division.
- The Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MoHMS), with supply assistance from Australia, New Zealand, and UNICEF, has responded by sending WASH supplies to ensure safe drinking water and sanitation for 20,000 people in the most affected areas of: Koro, Vanuabalavu, Ovalau and Tailevu Province.
- District Environmental Health Officers are conducting rapid assessments that include WASH information.
- An Information Management Officer provided by UNICEF is set to arrive in country on 27 February 2016.
- Trained assessment teams are already going out into the field and are reporting using mobile data collection.

WASH supplies sent to
20,000
people in the worst hit
areas

Gaps and Constraints

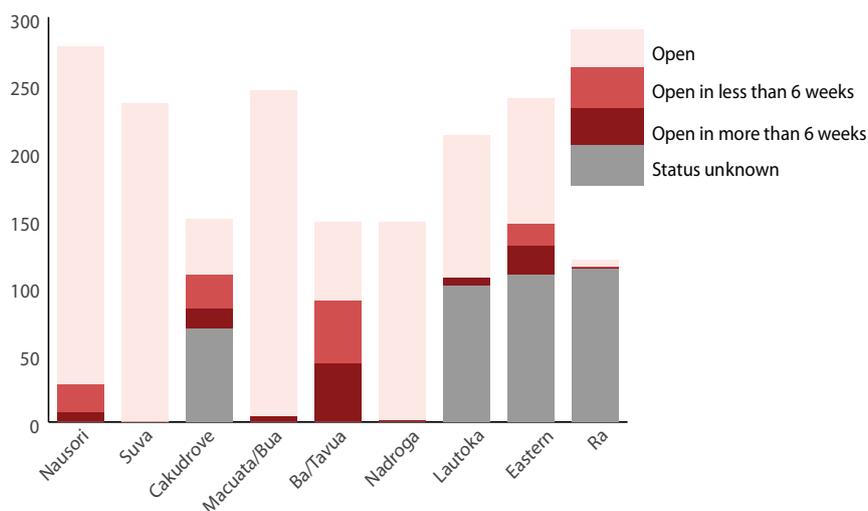
- Open defecation and poor hygiene behaviours may become serious issues if not urgently addressed to prevent outbreaks of water-borne diseases, including typhoid.
- Current stock of immediate response WASH supplies such as WASH / Hygiene kits, purification tablets, and water containers in the country are inadequate to meet needs.
- The Cluster has noted a need for WASH issues to be considered in partnership with shelter and education to ensure evacuation centres have proper sanitation and schools can safely re-open. There is consideration of a WASH in Schools Working Group being established to fill this gap.

- There is an information gap regarding water in rural areas where supplies are not the responsibility of the Water Authority of Fiji.

Education

Needs

- Of the almost 350,000 people being targeted under the Government's cyclone response, 120,000 are projected to be children under 18 years. Of these, 36,000 are thought to be children under 5 years.
- On Monday, 1,177 schools and Early Childhood Education (ECE) facilities will open across Fiji. This represents 66 per cent of all schools and ECE facilities across Fiji.
- 12 per cent of schools will remain closed due to damage and 22 per cent are still to be assessed.
- In Western Division alone, it is now estimated that the education damage bill is almost FJ\$6.5 million (US\$3 million)



- The Ministry of Education has requested support for tents to fill gaps and facilitate opening of schools. The provision of tents and other emergency supplies to establish temporary learning spaces is a priority of the Government of Fiji.
- Other needs identified by the Fiji Government include:
 - ❖ Building materials for classrooms, boarding dormitories and teachers quarters
 - ❖ Distribution of learning materials (textbooks, stationary, desks, chairs)
 - ❖ Psychosocial support

Response

- The Cluster has been accompanying the Ministry of Education, Heritage and Arts team to the Western Division to support the use of mobile phone technology for collecting data and assessing damage to schools.
- Locations being assessed include Korovou, Rakiraki, Tavua and Ba looking at school damage, the need for the establishment of child friendly spaces, WASH and Child Protection issues.
- Assessments are also underway by the Ministry in other affected locations including Koro, Taveuni, Labasa, Bua, Ra, Ovalau, Motoriki, Gau and other small islands in the Eastern Division.
- UNICEF has responded to official requests from the Government to support them with tents for temporary learning spaces, learning materials and tarpaulins to selected affected areas.
- 2,115 children and their teachers at 23 primary schools on Koro Island, and Lautoka and Ba areas will be able to access temporary learning spaces (TLS) dispatched from prepositioned supplies that have been released by UNICEF. The supplies provided included 60 tents (10 supported by the Government of New Zealand) and 60 school-in-a-box kits.

Gaps and Constraints

- Further assessments are needed to establish the Temporary Learning Space, WASH and protection requirements for schools used as evacuation centres.

Needs

- The 30,000 people currently in more than 700 evacuation centres and those who have recently left these facilities have safety and protection needs. Those who are displaced and are living in other informal arrangements are also vulnerable.
- Of particular concern are men, women and children with disabilities who are not able to access the evacuation centres.
- Lack of information on the sex, age, disability and other vulnerability factors is impeding analysis and identification the most vulnerable for assistance.
- Food security is a growing concern as gardens and farms are damaged, impacting women's ability to provide for their families and communities.
- The Police Commissioner has noted the potential for an increase in sexual and domestic violence particularly in and around the evacuation centers.
- Gender impact analysis is needed to highlight the impact, needs of different population groups of women, men, children, the elderly, persons with disabilities, persons living with HIV/AIDS and other health issues, and LGBTI communities.

Response

- The Cluster is targeting its support to people living in evacuation centres, from informal settlements and staying with extended families.
- UN Women has conducted an assessment of the female market vendors. Around 1,750 market vendors whose livelihoods support an estimated 9,915 individuals, and provide food for the wider community, are affected by destruction of markets in Ba, Levuka, Rakiraki, Tavua and Savusavu.
- An IDP Working Group of the Safety and Protection Cluster has been established to support government to develop guidelines and management plans to support IDPs in evacuation centres and other informal sites.
- UN Women and UNFPA are reactivating networks with recent trainees on gender-based violence in emergencies and UNICEF is reaching out to government welfare officers trained in Child Protection in Emergencies to provide psychosocial support and to establish child-friendly spaces for children affected by Cyclone Winston.
- Psychosocial support to help children through the extensive country wide network of the Just Play programme and youth peer volunteers from Ministry of Youth and Sports to ensure children both in-school and out of school receive support.
- A more in depth Safety and Protection Cluster assessment is planned to assess the impacts on and respond to the support needs of women, children and their families, to ensure victims and survivors of violence, and the needs of people with disabilities are highlighted.
- Additional support to existing local organisations providing counselling and support to victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence, and child abuse. Lifeline Crisis Hotline and Child Help Line are up and running.
- Through the cluster, Habitat for Humanity is conducting preliminary assessments in informal settlements across the country.
- A protection code of conduct for the humanitarian community is under development.
- The Fiji Red Cross Society is presently responding to the restoring family links needs in the wake of Cyclone Winston. If people have not yet been able to re-establish contact with a family member, or if people wish to register as safe, they can visit <http://familylinks.icrc.org/fiji/>. Alternatively they can contact the Fiji Red Cross on +679 3314 133 ext. 112, or +679 873 8803.

Gaps and Constraints

- Referral pathways for issues identified through assessments in evacuation centres need to be better defined.
- Determination of a support package for host families is needed to alleviate the stress and pressure of supporting displaced community members.
- Shelter and 'return' packages to assist families rebuild and exit evacuation centres where safe and feasible.
- Food security support is needed for women and communities to re-establish gardens and farms.
- Tents for Child-Friendly Spaces and recreations kits are needed in the worst affected areas.
- Gaps currently exist in information about the needs and safety of persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups of women and children, from informal settlements.

- Sex and age disaggregated data about the affected communities, in evacuation centres, and in host families.



Food Security and livelihoods

Needs

- The Food Security Cluster reports that initial assessments of most affected areas suggest 100 per cent crop damage in some locations.
- The Fiji Government currently estimates the cyclone caused around US\$60 million (FJ\$120 million) in damage to agriculture.
- Meat, fruits and vegetable supplies are limited in many areas, affecting nutritional status of affected populations.
- The Protection Cluster has particular concerns about the impact food insecurity might have on women.
- Essential food items are being distributed by the Fiji Government. The food basket provided includes rice, flour, dhal, fish, milk, sugar and oil.
- Partners have identified a need for a clear food security plan explaining the Government intentions once evacuation centres close.
- The Northern Division reports a dire need for additional food rations and staff to distribute them in the worst affected areas.
- Tourism is an increasingly important driver of the Fijian economy and local livelihoods. The Government is supporting an international campaign to encourage tourists to return to parts of the country not affected by the cyclone. The Tourism Advisory Group (TAG), which is made up of key representatives from each sector within the tourism industry will focus on immediate actions to reduce booking cancellations due to the impact of Tropical Cyclone Winston to parts of Fiji.

Response

- Seed distributions started today in Dawasamu, Tailevu North, Silama where 161 family packages were sent, each including 10 different types of vegetable seeds.
- In Ra, 93 Family packages have also been delivered by the Ministry of Agriculture.
- Further distributions are scheduled next week in Matuata, Nairai, Batika and the Lau Group.
- The Prime Minister will travel to Koro on 28 February and will deliver seeds, as well as 15-thousand sweet potato cuttings.
- The Ministry has already purchased 20,000 more kumara cuttings for distribution in other parts of the country.
- Assessments are underway in all divisions using mobile data collection technology which has been rolled out.
- Preliminary results were expected back in Suva on 27 February. These will be used as the basis for work plans.
- FAO is on standby to review the assessment results.
- Final assessment results will be available on 1 March.

Gaps and Constraints

- Ministry of Agriculture staff were badly affected by the cyclone with many of their homes destroyed. The Ministry has made temporary accommodation for these officers a priority.

Donations

The Government has launched an [appeal for public donations](#) to assist victims of the cyclone. Humanitarian donors are providing a range of military assets and financial contributions to support priority tasking from the Government of Fiji.

Australia

- Has offered an overall \$5 million assistance package which includes military assets to assist in surveillance and distributions, as well as funding for relief supplies and the deployment of personnel.

New Zealand

- Total Cyclone Winston aid to Fiji from New Zealand is more than NZD \$2 million which includes the deployment of personnel and extensive military assets to assist with surveillance and air lifting of supplies.

France

- The French Government has provided two military aircraft and sent 40 engineers to assist with the provision of medical services and the transport of relief items. They have also mobilized 22 hours of helicopter flight time for humanitarian missions.

Japan

- The Japanese Government has pledged US\$90,000 in relief assistance. Japan used commercial flights to Nadi to send food items such as wheat, rice and potable water.

US and China

- The United States Government and the People's Republic of China have each pledged US\$100,000 through the Red Cross.

India

- The Indian Government has pledged US\$1 million as a cash grant to the Fijian Government for relief efforts and recovery activities, along with medicine, food, tents and transportation helicopter to deliver relief materials. India has sent one C-17 with relief items including 45 tons of food items such as rice, Milk, sugar and medical items such as emergency health kits, sanitary packs, etc.

French Polynesia and Tonga

- The Governments of French Polynesia and Tonga have both contributed food rations for affected Fijian communities.

Nauru

- The Government of Nauru has provided a cash grant of AUD \$100,000 to the Fijian Government for relief efforts and recovery activities.

Asian Development Bank

- The Asian Development Bank has pledged USD \$2 million in response to a letter of request sent by the Fijian Government.

South Korea

- South Korea has pledged US\$ 50,000 in humanitarian assistance

Italy

- EUR 100,000 to be channeled through the Red Cross.

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Situation reports and other materials related to the TC Winston response are available on [UNOCHA's Humanitarian Response Info](#) page.

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