



This report is produced by OCHA Regional Office for the Pacific (ROP) in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It was issued by OCHA ROP and covers the period from 25 April to 8 May 2014. The next report will be issued on or around 16 May 2014.

Highlights

- US\$13.6 million is needed to meet the needs of affected people over the next three months, with US\$11.6 million unmet.
- Evacuation centres are being consolidated down to three, with an estimated 4,000 people still displaced.
- Funding for ongoing food aid distributions at evacuation centres is low, with only two containers of rice out of 15 remaining.
- Increasing cases of diarrhea, influenza-like-illness and malaria are being reported.
- 99 per cent of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in China Town, Vara Creek, Koa Hill and Tuvarughu report severe damage.
- 369 assessed households in Honiara are destroyed or damaged, with 15 per cent badly damaged in Guadalcanal Province.
- IFRC has launched an emergency appeal.



Map Sources: ESRI, UNCS, FAO.
Reference: OCHA, OCHA Flash Update 1: Solomon Islands Flash Floods, 4 April 2014.
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 on 4 Apr 2014.

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| \$11.6m Needed to support response over the next 3 months | 4,000 IDPs remain in 5 evacuation centres | 369 Households assessed in Honiara are either destroyed or damaged |
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Source: NDMO, OCHA ROP

Situation Overview

Five weeks after flash flooding in the Solomon Islands, the internally displaced persons (IDP) return process continues to be coordinated and executed by the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) with support from Honiara City Council (HCC) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

Evacuation centres (ECs) have been consolidated down to three main sites with an estimated 4,000 IDPs remaining. The three main evacuation centres are Festival of Pacific Arts (FOPA), Holy Cross, and Rove Police Club. Numbers in two other temporary centres are being reduced as the process of consolidating and facilitating the return of IDPs continues. All schools used as ECs have been vacated, except for Mbokonavera Community High School, and will need refurbishment before reopening to students. The Panatina Pavilion centre next to FOPA is predominantly composed of people from Burns Creek, an area assessed and identified as safe to return to for the majority of the population. The NDMO has renewed efforts to negotiate with leaders and facilitate returns to Burns Creek, as well as move verified IDPs with lost homes to FOPA.

There are increases in diarrhea, influenza-like-illness (ILI) and malaria cases across Honiara and Guadalcanal Province (GP), and three cases of acute fever and rash (AFR) in HCC. Both the National Referral Hospital (NRH) in Honiara and the Good Samaritan Hospital (GSH) in GP are struggling to meet the surge in patient demand. A six-week-old baby died at Panatina Pavilion on 2 May and a full report on the infant's death is being prepared by the Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MHMS) to be submitted to the NDMO.

Cases of sexual assault and violence have been reported in ECs and increased security and protection of both women and children is required.

Food aid has become a priority as the NDMO has no more funding to support the distribution of food supplies, and has only two 20 foot containers of rice out of 15 remaining. Taiwan has donated 50 tonnes of rice, but the stock has

[+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report](#)

been designated for affected people in Isabel Province.

The ILO and NGOs are working together on the roll-out of cash-for-work programmes and the standardisation of livelihood kits. Assessment data on impacts to businesses in Honiara is starting to emerge, with an estimated 99 per cent of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) reporting severe damage in China Town, Vara Creek, Koa Hill and Tuvarughu.

A Humanitarian Action Plan has estimated US\$13.6 million is needed to meet the needs of affected people over the next three months, with US\$11.6 million unmet. Priority areas identified are Health, WASH, Shelter, Protection and Food Security.

Funding

The Humanitarian Action Plan (HAP) identified 68 activities across seven national clusters and was endorsed by the National Disaster Council on 24 April to facilitate the coordination of humanitarian response efforts.

Requirements over the next three months are estimated to be SBD 99.5 million (US\$13.6 million) of which SBD 85.1 million (US\$11.6 million) remains unmet. Priority areas are Health, WASH, Shelter, Protection and Food Security.

Three clusters also identified medium-term requirements over the next 12 months which include recovery and reconstruction needs in Infrastructure, Shelter, and Livelihoods and Food Security. The total medium-term requirements are SBD 113.2 million (US\$15.5 million), of which SBD 105.5 million (US\$14.5 million) remains unmet. The total immediate and medium-term needs are SBD 212.7 million (US\$29.1 million), of which SBD 190.6 million (US\$26.1 million) remains unmet.

The HAP can be downloaded at <https://pht.humanitarianresponse.info/document/honiara-and-guadalcanal-flash-floods-humanitarian-action-plan>

Requirements per cluster are summarised below:

| Cluster/Sector | Requirement (SBD) | Met (SBD) | Unmet Requirement (SBD) | Activities |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| IDP and Social Welfare / Protection | 9,870,500 | 5,649,700 | 4,220,800 | 15 |
| Health | 25,783,500 | 1,200,932 | 24,582,568 | 11 |
| Education | 8,950,000 | 200,000 | 8,750,000 | 6 |
| WASH | 18,297,000 | 1,150,000 | 17,147,000 | 18 |
| Shelter | 20,200,000 | 1,700,000 | 18,500,000 | 4 |
| Food Security and Livelihoods | 14,670,000 | 4,446,765 | 10,223,235 | 6 |
| Logistics | 1,715,000 | - | 1,715,000 | 3 |
| IMMEDIATE Subtotal | 99,486,000 | 14,347,397 | 85,138,603 | 63 |
| Shelter | 16,500,000 | 700,000 | 15,800,000 | 2 |
| Livelihoods and Food Security | 59,730,000 | 7,065,600 | 52,664,400 | 3 |
| Infrastructure (Immediate and long-term) | 37,013,314 | TBC | 37,013,314 | (72) |
| MEDIUM-TERM Subtotal | 113,243,314 | 7,765,600 | 105,477,714 | 5 |
| TOTAL | 212,729,314 | 22,112,997 | 190,616,317 | 68 |

The Republic of China (Taiwan) has donated 150 hospital beds and 50 tonnes of rice during a naval visit to Honiara.

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) has launched an Emergency Appeal in support of the flood operation: <http://adore.ifrc.org/Download.aspx?FileId=58558>.

Humanitarian Needs and Response

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



Logistics

Response:

- NDMO continue to return displaced people from ECs to their place of origin using locally hired vehicles.
- NGOs are continuing to distribute non-food items (NFIs) to areas of GP.
- Solomon Islands Red Cross (SIRC) and NGOs continue to distribute water to ECs and affected areas, and UNICEF is distributing WASH kits.
- The NDMO and Logistics Cluster warehouse at the dock in Honiara remains in use.
- Solomon Islands Tobacco Company offered two trucks for two weeks to assist in water deliveries.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Shelter Cluster analysis of the pipeline shows shortfalls in blankets and sleeping mats.
- SIRC requires more trucks for transporting water.
- NDMO has determined a need to distribute food to the Weather Coast in Guadalcanal, as well as Malaita, Isabel and Choiseul Provinces, with plans to charter a landing craft.



Shelter

Needs:

- Around 4,000 IDPs remain in five evacuation centres: FOPA, Holy Cross, Rove Police Club, Mbokonavera and Panatina Pavilion at the Solomon Islands National University.
- Multi-sector assessment in Honiara identified 260 houses completely destroyed, with significant damage in Koa Hill, and an estimated 109 houses damaged which will require further repairs.
- World Vision International (WVI) and SIRC are conducting shelter assessments in GP, with 15 per cent of 2,615 households (14,533 people) assessed as badly damaged (Category 3-4).
- Initial feedback from assessments in GP suggest 10 to 25 per cent will require emergency shelter kits for repairs, and 50 per cent will require household non-food items.

369

Households assessed in Honiara are destroyed or damaged

Response:

- Return process continues to be coordinated by NDMO with support from HCC and NGOs.
- Evacuees who are unable to return to their homes and communities are being relocated to three main evacuation centres for longer-term shelter: FOPA, Holy Cross and the Rove Police Club.
- Shelter kit and NFI distributions by SIRC and WVI are continuing in GP, with support from Oxfam, Save the Children Australia (SCA) and ADRA. Total items distributed as at 8 May is 78 shelter tool kits, 133 tarpaulins, 1,765 blankets, 5,426 mosquito nets, 738 sleeping mats and 128 bed sheets.
- A rapid technical shelter assessment was conducted at FOPA on its suitability for longer term IDPs and found total capacity for 1,500 people.
- Shelter kit training was conducted on 26 April with approximately 45 people.

Gaps & Constraints

- Shelter gap analysis of stock available and projected needs has been undertaken with Logistics cluster, with the main gap sleeping mats.
- Camp coordination and management support is needed for people displaced in evacuation centres for extended periods until relocation or repair/rebuild.
- Permanent relocation sites will not be ready for possibly 18 months to two years.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- No report received from UNICEF cluster lead.



Health & Nutrition

Needs:

- Investigation of clinical malnutrition and improvement of nutrition assessment procedures, following reports of malnutrition in children at the NRH in Honiara.
- 40 to 60 diarrhea cases per day presenting at the NRH, with the MHMS Post-Disaster Early Warning and Response Network (EWARN) reporting a total of 1,508 cases of diarrhea in Honiara and GP for the period 21 April to 4 May.
- There are increases in Acute Fever and Rash (AFR), with 14 cases reported in Honiara and GP.
- After a decrease in Honiara, influenza-like-illness (ILI) cases are increasing again in both Honiara and GP with 754 cases reported.
- Malaria cases are increasing, mainly in Honiara, with 277 cases reported in Honiara and GP, and the number of prolonged fever cases has significantly increased at the GSH in GP.
- A 6-week old baby boy died in Panatina Pavilion on 2 May.

1,508
Cases of diarrhea

Response:

- The death of a six-week-old baby at Panatina EC is being investigated by MHMS.
- NRH is managing the diarrheal desk triage system, and plans to address increasing AFR and diarrheal cases.
- Normal services at HCC health clinics have almost resumed, with the Pikinini clinic still needing renovation. The clinics continue provision of daily outpatient services and EWARN surveillance, and mobile clinics continue to visit ECs.
- In GP, health services continue to be provided through five teams, one of which is continually based at the GSH while the other four are deployed to the field.
- The health promotion team continues to visit ECs to carry out health, WASH and hygiene awareness, with a health communication package finalised for roll out by trained WVI volunteers.
- Nutrition management training has been completed in Honiara and GP, and UNICEF will set up acute malnutrition centres with MHMS and WHO, including a stabilization program at the NRH.
- The mosquito-borne disease control team has conducted indoor residual spraying and mosquito net distribution at Tamboko and Selwyn College in West Guadalcanal and at the Areata or Guadalcanal Plains Palm Oil Limited site in East Guadalcanal.
- The integrated Maternal and Child Health/Clinical Team were deployed to Marara Area Health Centre, GSH and to IDPs in makeshift/temporary homes.
- Cold Chain process for vaccinations has been established, with vaccines stored at Rove, Mbokonavera and Kukum.
- A new batch of burette and intravenous cannulas arrived to meet increasing demands in chronic patient care.
- Taiwan has donated 150 hospital beds during a naval visit to Honiara.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Bed availability is a challenge at NRH and the hospital is stretched in its ability to meet the surge in demand, with 120 to 160 contacts per day in the emergency department (ED) over the past 2 weeks. The overall NRH bed occupancy rate continues to be high at 90 to 150 per cent, with highest rates in the labour and pediatric wards, and the ED.
- The total number of consultations has also increased by 30 per cent at GSH.



Food Security & Livelihoods

Needs:

- Ministry of Commerce, Industries, Labour and Immigration (MCILI) has conducted an initial rapid assessment of 30 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and 10 large enterprises in Honiara. The worst affected area was China Town, Vara Creek, Koa Hill and Tuarughu with 99 per cent of MSMEs and 20 per cent of large enterprises reporting severe damage.
- Similarly 75 per cent of MSMEs and 5-10 per cent of large enterprises temporarily lost employees during the floods. While Burns Creek/Lungga and White River report lower rates of damage to MSMEs (five per cent and 10 per cent respectively), they also had high rates of lost employee time with 50 per cent reported.
- Ministry of Fisheries has finalised its initial rapid assessment for Honiara and found most damage in Honiara relates to loss of canoes (36), boats (14), fishing nets (32) and lines/hooks (42), with Koa Hill and Patmos most affected.

99%
MSMEs report severe damage in China Town, Vara Creek, Koa Hill and Tuarughu

- Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock initial rapid assessment has been finalised for Honiara and most of GP, with initial analysis indicating significant impacts to food gardens and livestock.
- Oxfam is still conducting price monitoring of vegetable markets in Honiara and reports an increase in vegetable prices and a decrease in availability.
- Mapping of various stakeholders' recovery activities is needed to ensure adequate coordination and coverage of affected areas, including a harmonisation of cash-for-work rates.
- Distribution of Livelihood kits is urgently needed to support households who have lost food gardens and major sources of food supply and income.
- Ongoing food aid is needed for disaster affected people until food crops are reestablished.

Response

- The NDMO continues to distribute food aid to Honiara and accessible areas of GP, with the Taiwanese Government donating 50 tonnes of rice to be allocated to Isabel Province.
- Agreement on a Livelihoods Kit was reached by cluster partners and endorsed by the NDMO.
- ILO is implementing a cash-for-work programme in Roroni and Papago with wage rates of SBD5 per hour or SBD40 per day, and future expansion into community garden nurseries.
- Tear Fund/Ola Fou have completed household surveys in four target communities and are currently distributing seeds, with the estimated per household support package valued at SBD1400.
- Live and Learn is planning to distribute Livelihood kits in Burns Creek and Koa Hill, and will also support communities with healthy food preparation promotions.
- Oxfam and WVI are gathering inputs (seeds and tools) for Livelihoods Kits and are identifying priority areas to be covered by each NGO. WVI will distribute 612 Livelihood kits and Oxfam will distribute 1,500.
- ADRA is planning to also distribute Livelihood kits and will support communities through training on vegetable production and the promotion of healthy food preparation.

Gaps & Constraints

- NDMO food purchased earlier in the emergency is running low and there are no funds approved to replenish. Out of SBD 5 million allocated for NDMO food aid, over SBD 2.7 million has already been spent, and only two 20 foot containers of rice out of 15 remain.
- MCILI notes that a more comprehensive assessment is required in disaster areas to obtain better numbers on damages and losses to businesses and the type of assistance required.
- There is a current gap in information on whether supplementary incomes are being used as a coping mechanism for families when their crops are destroyed, and if supplementary income sources were also adversely affected by floods.
- No agriculture baseline data is available that would provide information on food garden average size plot, type of production and use (cash crop or home consumption) to better quantify levels of impact.

Education

Needs:

- All schools used as ECs have been vacated by IDPs, except for Mbokonavera, and need to be refurbished before reopening to students.
- The Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development (MEHRD) has identified 85 schools affected, either from flood damage or from being used as evacuation centres.
- 12 schools have serious flood damage and 28 schools need curriculum materials replaced.
- Children and teachers need targeted services and support at school sites.
- Teachers need to be trained on how to support school feeding programmes and how to monitor child nutrition levels.

28

Schools need curriculum materials replaced

Response:

- OCHA emergency cash grant to support a school feeding programme at nine primary schools has been transferred to MEHRD for roll out. A half-day orientation training by MEHRD and UNICEF is to be held on 9 May for teachers and community members helping out in the feeding programme.
- MEHRD with HCC are organising with HCC Environmental Health Division and MHMS to fumigate all vacated schools in Honiara.
- Detailed technical assessment and repair work for 12 schools contracted out by MEHRD.
- MEHRD has distributed tools and equipment (shovels, spades and buckets) to 12 schools in Honiara and GP for clean up of mud and debris.

- MEHRD has shared its distribution plan for the supply of early childhood development kits, School in a Box, tents and recreation kits supplied by UNICEF to 12 schools and two ECs (FOPA and Rove Police Club).
- A list of all 28 schools that need curriculum materials replaced has been forwarded to the Education Resources Unit to organise reprinting, replacement and distribution.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Curriculum materials, mainly for high schools, are printed outside the country which will take time to arrive.
- MEHRD is yet to identify contracts to repair remaining schools.



Needs:

- More than 50,000 persons displaced or otherwise affected need protection, including those residing in ECs, those who have returned to their place or usual residence, and those who remained in place of usual residence.
- Total numbers of children unavailable, but all are in need of safe spaces, psychosocial support and other basic health and support needs.
- Several cases of sexual gender-based violence (SGBV) in ECs have been reported and further information on the overall incidence of SGBV in communities and informal displacement situations, such as with host families, is required.
- Instances of IDPs wanting to return home from evacuation centres are being requested to pay individuals associated with “IDP leaders”.

Response:

- Inter-agency training on protection monitoring by Oxfam and child protection (CP) monitoring by UNICEF, WVI and SCA.
- Complaints mechanisms and committees established.
- Child-friendly spaces (CFS) in Honiara ECs have been set-up by UNICEF, SCA, WVI, Caritas with MEHRD and Ministry of Women, Youth and Children's Affairs, and are being used to provide targeted services to children.
- Agencies are coordinating on training, distribution of tents, School in a Box, early childhood development, recreation kits and hygiene kits for CFS.
- Outreach to ECs on adolescent reproductive health and GBV prevention and response has been carried out by SafeNet member organizations, including Christian Care Centre and the Solomon Islands Planned Parenthood Association (SIPPA) with support from UNFPA.
- Continued advocacy of protection principles with the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Surveys in discourse with IDPs and ongoing assessments/analysis of affected areas.

Gaps & Constraints

- Gap in protection presence and overstretched capacity for CP.
- Lack of information sharing and/or collection, particularly sex and age disaggregated data.
- Protection principles need to be integrated, including genuine community engagement or consultation related to return and relocation.
- Security in ECs and in areas of return needs improvement.
- Referral pathways for inter-agency CP/GBV case management, as reporting and referrals in ECs and communities of return are not adequate.

General Coordination

The National Disaster Council (NDC) continues to lead response and early recovery activities with the support of national clusters. The NDC is holding disaster management stakeholder meetings each week to provide an overview of response efforts and gaps, and the planned transition to recovery.

The UN Resident Coordinator for the Solomon Islands and the Head of OCHA's Pacific office redeployed to Honiara on 7 May to support UN and Pacific Humanitarian Team coordination efforts.

UNICEF has deployed three staff members and one consultant from Australia, Bangkok, Fiji and India to support logistics, nutrition and WASH clusters. A WVI staff member took over logistics support after the departure of the WFP logistician on 6 May.

UNDAC

The United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team has assessed the impact of heavy rains and earthquakes on the Gold Ridge tailings dam. After assessing the dam's integrity and stability, the team assessed the impacts of a potential controlled water release into the Matepono River. The final report and recommendations have been shared with the Government.

Background on the crisis

Three days of heavy rain from a tropical depression (Tropical Cyclone Ita) caused severe flooding in the Solomon Islands. There are 22 confirmed deaths, and over 50,000 people affected, mainly across Honiara and other areas of Guadalcanal Province. The worst affected area was the capital, Honiara, after the Mataniko River burst its banks on 3 April, washing away houses, damaging infrastructure, and affecting an estimated 12,000 people. At the peak of the crisis, there were around 10,000 people displaced in nearly 30 evacuation centres. Other affected provinces include Malaita and Isabel, with reports of damage to infrastructure, food gardens and water sources. On 3 April, the Government declared Honiara and other areas of Guadalcanal a disaster zone and, on 5 April, the Government requested the regional support of the Pacific Humanitarian Team. Aid personnel and supplies began arriving from 6 April after Honiara International Airport reopened. The Government is leading the response with the support of Red Cross, national and international non-governmental organizations, UN agencies and donor partners.

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