

<b>Subject:</b>	Tropical Cyclone Harold
<b>Situation Report</b>	05
<b>Date:</b>	11.04.2020

## 1. VANUATU

- The Vanuatu Council of Ministers (COM) on 10 April, 2020, decided on the following:
  - Declaration of a State of Emergency (SoE) for the purpose of maintaining prevention and containment measures of COVID-19 along Vanuatu’s international border and to respond to TC Harold impact in affected areas of Torba, Penama, Sanma, Maampa and Shefa Provinces. This SoE shall be for a period of 30 days and shall be extended subject to advice of the National Disaster Committee (NDC).
  - Upgrade of NDMO capacity in Luganville to coordinate the TC Harold response.
  - Instruction to the Minister of Climate Change to ease restrictions on cargos especially international relief suppliers whilst still imposing COVID-19 control measures.
  - Instruction to the Minister of Climate Change and NDMO through FRANZ partners New Zealand and Australia to assist with helicopters.
- Initial Damage Assessments continue to be conducted in affected areas under the coordination of NDMO. (see details under respective cluster headings)
- Biggest challenge for now is to finalize initial assessments, analyse data quickly and develop and implement a government-led comprehensive needs-based response plan in close cooperation with national and international partners.

## LOGISTICS

- Top priorities is to gain a better understanding of the procedures of shipping relief items domestically and particularly internationally (by air and sea) given on one side COVID-19 restrictions and on the other the decision made by COM on creating a more conducive environment to allow cargo to enter the country.
- Ports in the affected areas are operational. There is some damage, but they are functioning.
- Pre-positioned stocks available <https://palm.logcluster.org/#/public/home>

## PROTECTION

- Gender and Protection Cluster (GPC) led by the Department of Women’s Affairs (DWA) has deployed an emergency responder as part of every NDMO inter-cluster assessment team. 16 GPC partner staff (from DWA, MJCS, MoYSD, ADRA, CARE, Save the Children, TVET, UN Women, VCC, VSDP, VWC, World Vision) have been deployed across 4 provinces, with another 10 joining in the provinces. The GPC successfully advocated for gender representation and the integration of gender and protection into the multisector assessment teams with 8 women GPC members leading assessment teams in Ambrym, Malakula, Ambae, Pentecost and Santo. All members were briefed in the tools, self care and psychological first aid before they deployed.
- GPC is ensuring good coordination between provincial and national level assessments and responses with GPC emergency operations centres set up in Sanma, Malampa, Shefa, Torba, Penama and national level.
- GPC is ensuring gender and protection is mainstreamed into all sectoral responses especially strong risk-mitigation and response for gender-based violence, child protection, disability inclusion and access for other at risk groups. Faith and resilience based approaches have been integral to preparedness and response.

- NDMO has requested all first responders to sign the GPC Code of Conduct for Emergency Responders before they deploy to the field.
- UN Women through *Australia Assists* and RedR have a Gender and Protection Technical Advisor supporting DWA, MJCS and GPC with coordination and response.
- DWA and CARE in partnership with the GPC is finalizing a Rapid Gender Analysis of Tropical Cyclone Harold.
- DWA and UN Women in partnership with the GPC developed a guidance note on Gender, Protection and Social Inclusion Considerations for Frontline Responders: Tropical Cyclone Harold, Evacuation Centres and COVID-19; as part of preparedness
- UNFPA has 1,000 dignity kits and 01 Sexual Reproductive Health tent available for distribution and use. The items are ready to be shipped from Australia. Clearance with the authorities is being sought.
- The Vanuatu Women's Centre is providing essential prevention and response services (counselling, survivor support, case management) for gender based violence in Shefa, Sanma, Malampa, Torba and Tanna. Communications with Pentecost are still down.
- CARE is providing support for emergency response as GPC Co-Lead, GPC focal point in the Shelter Cluster and Co-lead of the Communications and Community Engagement Sub-Cluster. CARE has seconded staff to DWA to assist with provincial GPC Emergency Operations Centre activation in Malampa
- Save the Children is providing support as GPC Co-Lead, GPC focal point in the Education Cluster child friendly spaces, temporary learning spaces, PSS and school in a box kits when items are available in the country

#### WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

- The WASH cluster already developed a response plan for the next six months.
- All Provincial Water Officers are coordinating with Provincial Development Officers to carry out initial assessments within their respective provinces.
- Rapid needs assessments in affected communities underway since 10 April.
- 40,000 people in Sanma province to benefit from quick fixes to water system and TC Harold broader response
- WASH cluster is also requesting partners to submit their WASH NFI stocks listing.

#### SHELTER

- Teams consisting of members of various government entities and IOM are currently conducting assessments of evacuation centers on Malo and Pentecost.

#### FRANZ PARTNERS

##### New Zealand:

- A C-130 transport plane of the NZ Defence Forces landed today in Port Vila bringing with it a Robinson R66 helicopter to be used by the government for surveillance flights and a limited amount of relief items (agriculture kits, shelter kits, chain saw kits, water gallons).
- In its latest COM meeting, the Government of Vanuatu decided to ask New Zealand and Australia for helicopters to assist in the relief effort.

#### OTHER PARTNERS:

- On 10 April, the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) allocated € 38,111 to the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). This initial operation implemented by the Vanuatu Red Cross Society (VRCS) will reach 20,000 people and contribute to early warning messaging, to mobilise stocks and assist in securing shelter for affected communities.

## 2. FIJI

- One confirmed casualty due to TC Harold from the Eastern Division.
- Initial Damage Assessments have been completed in Central, Northern and Eastern Divisions, while Western Division is continuing.
- There are currently 154 active evacuation centres and 1,964 evacuees in three divisions (Central, Western Eastern).

### WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

- Distribution of 200 WASH kits is underway and will benefit 1,000 people (5 persons per 1 kit).
- WASH kits were distributed in Korovou and Nausori areas.
- The WASH Cluster is also requesting partners to submit their WASH NFI stock listings.

### FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOOD

- An agricultural IDA estimates the damage to field and crops to be around FJD 5.5 m (USD 2.4m) in the Central Division alone.
- Food ration distribution for evacuees who have been in evacuation centres for more than 48 hours in the Central and Western Division currently in process.
- The Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) has highlighted shortage of vegetable supply due to heavy rain and flooding and disruptions in local agriculture supply chain. Details yet to be announced.
- Awaiting national initial damage reports for comprehensive understanding of the impact of TC Harold. MoA informed that the cyclone has affected more than 300 communities in Kadavu, Lau and Viti Levu.

### SHELTER

- The Fiji Red Cross Society (FRCS) has continued to issue relief items (blankets, jerry cans, tarpaulins etc.) to needy families in Wailevu West, Kubulau and Vaturova areas.
- FRCS also prepared 258 packs of NFIs for Vatuelele Island.
- In the Central Division, FRCS has supplied 135 people (24 households) with Disaster Eergency Kits.

### EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS

- Mobile service providers are still restoring services, however, some parts of Southern Lau and Kadavu still have no communications.
- The regional ETC cluster is working with the Fiji national ETC cluster and NDMO to ensure assessment teams are equipped with the necessary communication gear (HF/UHF radio and satellite communications).
- Assessment teams will use a combination of HF/UHF radio and satellite communications for this mission:
  - HF to be provided and operated by the Republic of Fiji Military Forces (RFMF).
  - UHF to be provided by a private company and operated by RFMF.
  - satellite terminals and connectivity to be provided by ETC/WFP and ETC partners under the Crisis Connectivity Charter (see <https://www.etcluster.org/document/crisis-connectivity-charter>)
- Planning for and testing of telecommunications equipment is ongoing.
- The Ministry of Communications (co-lead of the Fiji national ETC) is investigating availability of deployable satellite dish antenna equipment within Fiji.
- Emergency telecommunications planning for post-IDA/DDA phases has commenced.

### **3. TONGA**

- The National Emergency Management Committee reports the following:
- In Vava'u, no major damages to people's properties. Plantations also remained unharmed. Evacuation centre was not activated. Initial Damage Assessment ongoing.
- In Ha'apai, no serious damage to individual buildings and properties throughout island group. Some roads and infrastructure damaged due to storm/sea surge combined with high tide. About 40 people moved to evacuation centres but are back home now.
- 'Eau was the most affected area in Tonga. A total of 180 people moved to 11 evacuation centres. The wharf and the road leading to have suffered serious damage. The road connecting Tufuvai village to Mata'aho village has been completely destroyed. Some houses had their roofs blown away. Assessment teams are on the ground to do house IDAs.

#### **SHELTER**

- NEMO provided tarpaulin and mobilized teams to temporarily cover the roof blown away of Vaiola hospital in Nuku'alofa.
- House IDAs being conducted on 'Eau.

#### **EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

- No major damage to telecommunications and communications equipment in Tongatapu.
- Some damage to the Tonga Communication Corporation's (TCC) Office in 'Eua.
- Some water damage to the HF/VHF radio system. However, back-up power supply helped ensure the system remained in use.

### **4. SOLOMON ISLANDS**

#### **FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOOD**

- The national cluster is prioritizing to renovate Kukum Market and start mobile market initiative.
- Preliminary reports of TC Harold damage on Guadalcanal, Makira, Rennel, Western Province and Temotu show extensive damage to agriculture due to flooding and water logging.

#### **OTHER PARTNERS**

- The United States provided USD 100,000 for relief efforts of NGOs.