



Timor-Leste: Floods

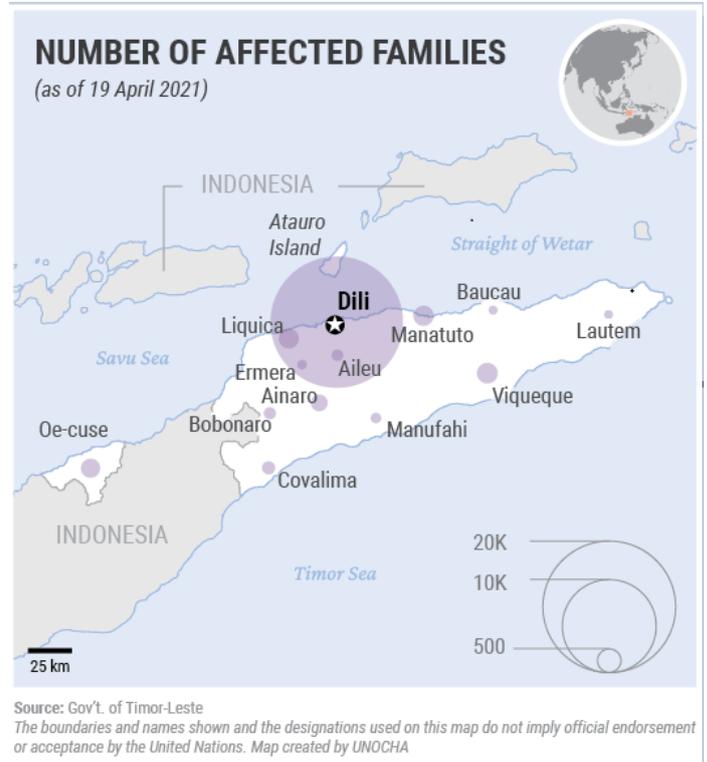
UN Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO)

Situation Report No. 6 (As of 21 April 2021)

This report is produced by RCO Timor-Leste in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It is issued by UN Timor-Leste. It covers the period from 16 to 21 April 2021. The next report will be issued on or around 28 April 2021.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Following the Government's declaration of a state of calamity in Dili on 8 April, several humanitarian donors have provided additional humanitarian support the flood response, equivalent to nearly USD 10 million.
- According to the latest official figures (21 April) from the Ministry of State Administration, which leads the Task Force for Civil Protection and Natural Disaster Management, a total of 28,734 households have reportedly been affected by the floods across all 13 municipalities. Of whom, 90% - or 25,881 households – are in Dili municipality.
- The same report cites that currently there are 6,029 temporary displaced persons in 30 evacuation facilities across Dili, the worst-affected municipality.
- 4,546 houses across all municipalities have reportedly been destroyed or damaged.
- According to the preliminary assessment by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries conducted in 9 municipalities to date, a total of 1,820 ha of rice crops and 190 ha of maize crops have been affected by the flooding.



13	28,734	4,546	30	41
Municipalities affected (out of 13 municipalities)	Total affected households across the country	Houses destroyed or damaged across the country	Evacuation facilities in Dili	Fatalities

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Heavy rains across the country from 29 March to 4 April have resulted in flash floods and landslides affecting all 13 municipalities in Timor-Leste to varying degrees, with the capital Dili and the surrounding low-lying areas the worst affected. To date, a total of 41 fatalities (including 10 missing, presumed dead) have been recorded in Dili (15), Aileu (1), Ainaro (10), Baucau (1), Bobonaro (1), Covalima (2), Liquica (1), Manatuto (5), Oecusse (1) and Viqueque (4).

According to the latest official figures, a total of 28,734 households across the country have been affected; of those, 90% - or 25,881 households – are in Dili municipality. 4,546 houses across all municipalities have been destroyed or damaged.

The latest official figures indicate a total of 30 evacuation facilities in Dili municipality, where 6,029 people – or 1,194 households – are temporary sheltered. This is 2,823 people less compared to the last reporting period. Many affected people are starting to return home, and there is need to provide support to the affected communities with essential food and non-food items, as well as ensure that essential services are uninterrupted in these communities.

According to the preliminary assessment by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries conducted in 9 municipalities (Ainaro, Baucau, Bobonaro, Covalima, Ermera, Liquica, Manatuto, Oecusse, and Viqueque) to date, a total of 1,820 ha of rice crops and 190 ha of maize crops have been affected by the flooding. Manatuto municipality is the worst-affected, with 1,167 ha of rice crops affected.

On 20 April, the National Parliament overall approved the amendment to the 2021 General State Budget, amounting to USD 293.9 million, which increased allocation to the COVID-19 fund. Discussions are currently ongoing in the National Parliament regarding additional allocation for the flood response and recovery.

On 21 April, the Council of Ministers decided to propose the renewing of the state of emergency for COVID-19 for another thirty days. As of 21 April, there are 749 active cases of COVID-19. The risk of further spread of COVID-19 remains high. The national COVID-19 vaccination programme – launched on 7 April - is ongoing and rolled-out in most of the municipalities, with 16,708 doses administered as of 21 April.

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

On 8 April, the Government declared a state of calamity in Dili for a period of 30 days and requested for international assistance. The Government – under the leadership of the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation – organized the Emergency Development Partners' Meeting on 13 April, with a follow-up meeting being planned shortly.

The Secretariat of State for Civil Protection and the Ministry of State Administration – with support from humanitarian partners - are conducting a multi-sectoral assessment and household assessment in 36 *sucos* in Dili municipality. As of 19 April, the assessments have been completed in 18 *sucos* and all data submitted to SIMILIE for analyses. Data collection in 13 *sucos* is ongoing, and data collection in additional 5 *sucos* in Atauro is also being planned. It is expected that the findings of these assessments will be available next week (Week of 26 April).

In addition, with support from IOM and other humanitarian partners, the data collection for the assessment of 25 evacuation facilities were completed, using the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) Rapid Site Assessment Format. The dataset has been shared with the Secretariat of State for Civil Protection, and the full report is expected to be finalized shortly.

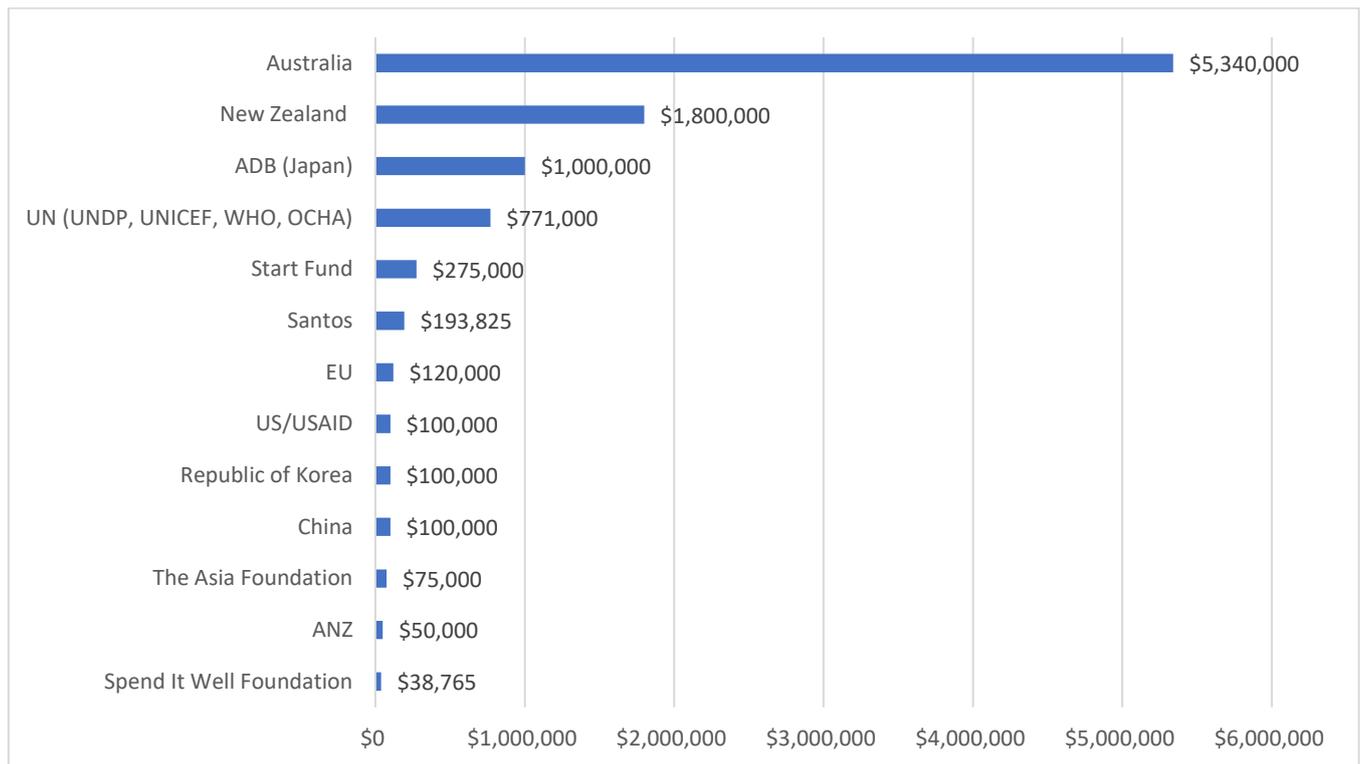
The findings of these assessments will further inform the response priorities of the Government and humanitarian partners. The importance of disaggregated data (by gender, age, disabilities, etc.) is stressed, for the response to address the specific needs of groups particularly vulnerable to the impact of disasters.

The Government – through the Minister of State Administration – have requested support for a Household and Building Damage Assessment (HBDA) and a Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PNDA), to provide more comprehensive information to inform longer-term recovery and reconstruction of flood-affected households, communities and agricultural land.

FUNDING

Many humanitarian partners and donors have been supporting the flood response through humanitarian funding and/or repurposing existing resources. In solidarity with the affected people of Timor-Leste, more donors, including the private sector, have been mobilizing resources in support of the flood-affected people.

To date, nearly USD 10 million of additional humanitarian funding has been mobilized, including:



In-kind contributions include relief items from Australia, New Zealand and others including 5,000 blankets from Japan through JICA.

Many partners have repurposed existing resources to enable the flood response. The UN humanitarian agencies have repurposed existing resources and mobilized additional resources through corporate emergency response funds. To date, over USD 1.6 million have been repurposed (USD 830,800) and newly mobilized (USD 771,000) from the UN system for the flood response.

As additional resources are mobilized by various stakeholders (public, private, bilateral and international), regular and systematic monitoring of humanitarian funding and information sharing with the Government of Timor-Leste is important to ensure efficient and coordinated humanitarian response.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

In support of the Government efforts, the humanitarian partners continued to provide humanitarian assistance to meet the lifesaving needs of the affected people in Dili municipality and other parts of the country. As more affected people started to return home from the evacuation facilities, the focus of the humanitarian assistance started to expand from the temporary displaced in the evacuation facilities to supporting safe returns, as well as support to affected communities.

The humanitarian partners have also started to support flood-affected households in municipalities outside of Dili. Preliminary analyses of damages and losses – including using satellite imageries from EU Copernicus Emergency Mapping and UNOSAT maps (see Annex for links) – are ongoing in these municipalities.

CCCM / Emergency Shelter

Sector Lead & Members:

Secretariat of State for Civil Protection, Ministry of Social Solidarity and Inclusion, IOM, CVTL, IFRC, Mercy Corps, CARE, Caritas, Plan International, Oxfam, UNICEF, UNFPA

Needs:

- Based on the preliminary findings of the Secretariat of State for Civil Protection Evacuation Centre Assessment of 25 evacuation facilities, the most urgent needs include food, followed by bedding and kitchen sets.
- There is a need for supplies including non-food items for safe temporary shelter, for people whose houses were partially damaged or totally destroyed.
- There is a need for cleaning materials for houses that have been flooded.
- Construction materials are needed to repair or rebuild houses.
- There is a need to ensure that the toilets in the evacuation facilities are safe and well-lit.
- There is a need for support to monitor and assist the returns; close evacuation facilities; and, address the living conditions and needs of those facing protracted displacement in evacuation facilities.
- There is a need to identify and strengthen coordination with Evacuation Centre focal points.

Response:

- CCCM/Emergency Shelter sector partners supported the Secretariat of State for Civil Protection to identify ways to strengthen coordination of the response and capture the immediate needs at each evacuation facility, with the aim to identify priority needs that are yet to be met. The CCCM/Emergency Shelter sector met on 21 April to discuss the current situation in the Evacuation Centres; coordination mechanisms; use of monitoring tools; planned activities and the way forward.
- CCCM/Emergency Shelter sector partners continued to distribute non-food items and supplies for safe temporary shelter to people whose houses were partially damaged or totally destroyed.
- CCCM/Emergency Shelter sector partners continued to distribute cleaning materials to affected people to clean their flooded houses.
- The Secretariat of State of Youth and Sports (SSYS), in partnership with the Alumni Association of the Youth Parliament (APFTL) and other youth organizations, has set up a Youth Action Posku that has mobilized adolescents and youth to clean the streets and help families clean their houses. Both UNICEF and UNFPA have provided support (including cleaning kits, masks and sanitizer, as well as other non-food items for vulnerable families in affected communities).

Gaps & Constraints:

- Absence of gender and age disaggregated data.
- Women not always included in the administration structures of the evacuation facilities.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Sector Lead & Members:

Ministry of Health, Ministry of Public Works/BEE Timor-Leste, Dili Municipality, UNICEF, CVTL, Mercy Corps, Plan International, Partisipa, UNDP, WFP, WHO, Private Sector, WaterAid, JICA, ADRA, FHTL, EWB

Needs:

- There is a dire need for clean water to the affected population, both in displacement sites as well as in communities.
- There is need for improved sanitation and hygiene by ensuring the displaced population have access to proper toilet facilities and sensitization on good hygiene practices.
- In the longer-term, there is a need to maintain the flood-affected people's access to routine WASH services.

Response:

- WASH sector partners provided emergency WASH services and increased access to water and sanitation of flood-affected people, including installation of water tanks, handwashing stations and mobile toilets in the evacuation facilities and in public areas. Over the reporting period, with WASH sector partners' support, the displacement sites and

25

Evacuation Facilities assessed as a part of Secretariat of State for Civil Protection Evacuation Centre Assessment

52+

Water Tanks installed in evacuation facilities and in water-stressed affected communities

communities were provided with access to clean water (refilling installed water tanks, re-establishment of water supply systems to affected communities etc.).

- WASH sector partners provided emergency WASH supplies.
- WASH sector partners strengthened communication for behavior and social change around good hygiene practices.
- WASH sector partners provided support to BEE TL, EP to construct a floating raft, a solution to bring clean water to the marooned communities in Tasi Tolu.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Insufficient data and information on the affected population, including lack of disaggregated data.
- Inconsistencies and changes in data and information on the needs in evacuation facilities, making it difficult to allocate resources.
- Limited availability of required WASH supplies in the local market and high cost of those that are available.
- Funding gap for both immediate and longer-term response, including for disaster mitigation measures.

Food Security

Sector Lead & Members:

WFP, FAO, UNDP, UNICEF, World Bank, Mercy Corps, CRS, World Fish, Care International, TOMAK, Oxfam, World Vision, Plan International, Blue Ventures, AVANSA, Child Fund, Caritas, CCT, The Asia Foundation, ADRA, MDF, AI-Com, Ministry of Agriculture, Secretariat of State for Civil Protection, SAPIP, NLC, Embassy of New Zealand, Embassy of Australia, JICA, USAID, Embassy of Portugal, GIZ, EU, ADB, Embassy of Japan, KOICA, Embassy of China

Needs:

- There is an urgent need to meet the food and nutrition security needs of the vulnerable groups – namely under-5 children and pregnant and lactating women – who are temporary displaced.
- According to the preliminary data and assessment by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries conducted in 9 municipalities (Ainaro, Baucau, Bobonaro, Covalima, Ermera, Liquica, Manatuto, Oecusse, and Viqueque) to date, a total of 1,820 ha of rice crops and 190 ha of maize crops have been affected by the flooding. Manatuto municipality is the worst-affected, with 1,167 ha of rice crops affected. This would have a negative impact on the prevalence of food insecurity during the next lean season.
- The mapping of Food Security sector partners identified the need for coordination, information dissemination, and beneficiary selection. Top priorities identified included assessments to better address the ongoing food security situation, food distribution, distribution of NFIs for cooking, market intervention (rice), and improvement on movement restrictions.

Response:

- AHP partners (CARE, CARITAS, Oxfam, Plan International, World Vision) continue to distribute food, cooking items and other NFIs by repurposing their existing resources to the flood-affected households in Dili and other municipalities.
- With support from the START Fund, Mercy Corps will provide nutritional food and NFI assistance to 200 households in Dili and Manatuto.
- MSSI and KNDL provided snacks to children, as well as hygiene kits and water tanks.
- Food Security sector partners provided UNTL students, people with disabilities and vulnerable families (as identify by MSSI) with food support.
- Secretariat of State for Civil Protection and MSSI distributed food (rice) to the flood-affected (and COVID-19 lockdown affected) households in Dili and selected municipalities, with WFP providing logistics and operational support.
- Planning is ongoing for FAO and WFP to support MAF to conduct a Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CFSAM) in 12 municipalities.

Gaps & Constraints:

- COVID-19 “sanitary fences” and restriction on movement between municipalities, and its impact on movement of food commodities.
- Shortage of super cereal and nutritional supplements for pregnant and lactating women.
- Better coordination and information sharing among sector partners, and shared understanding on targeting for beneficiary selection.
- Current support focused on Dili and the need to identify vulnerable affected households in other municipalities.

Nutrition

Sector Lead & Members:

Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Maluk Timor, Fundsaun Alola, PHD, TOMAK, Hiam Health, HAI, CWS, World Vision, Child Fund, WHO, WFP, UNICEF

Needs:

- The priority need is to provide access to quality curative nutrition services through the most appropriate modalities, systematic identification, referral, and treatment of acutely malnourished cases in collaboration with the Health sector.
- There is a need to strengthen the quality and scale of preventative nutrition services for most vulnerable groups through promotion of appropriate infant and young child feeding practices, micronutrient supplementation and optimal maternal nutrition.
- With cases of diarrhea starting to be reported in the evacuation facilities and the impact of temporary displacement on food and nutrition security, there is an immediate need to establish a referral system for severe/critical cases of malnutrition.

Response:

- During the reporting period, a total of 236 children in seven evacuation facilities were screened, of whom four children were identified to suffer from severe acute malnutrition (SAM). Treatment was provided by the relevant Community Health Centers.
- Nutrition sector partners continued to support the Nutrition Department/MoH to distribute local food stuff for preparation of diversified complementary food for children 6-59 months and pregnant and lactating women in the evacuation facilities. The food was distributed to 18 evacuation facilities, and distribution to the remaining evacuation facilities are ongoing.
- UNICEF, WFP, WHO and Fundasaun Alola supported the Nutrition Department/MoH to promote, protect and support infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices in 18 evacuation facilities with established IYCF corner and continue to distribute cooking utensils and materials for establishment of an infant and young child feeding (IYCF) corner to promote, protect, and support IYCF practices in additional 10 evacuation centers.
- Nutrition sector partners continued to support MoH to monitor adherence to the statement on appropriate support for infant and young child feeding (IYCF) during emergency signed by DGPS MoH in the evacuation facilities and take necessary actions including onsite counseling.
- The first Nutrition in emergency working group meeting was conducted chaired by Head of Nutrition Department MoH.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Concern over private donations of bottles, breastmilk substitute and highly processed food items that are high sugar, salt and fat content).

Health

Sector Lead & Members:

Ministry of Health, WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, IOM, Maluk Timor, PRADET, HAI, CVTL, MSTL, DFAT, EU

Needs:

- According to the reports from the temporary health facility managed by the National Army Forces (F-FDTL) in Tasi Tolu and the mobile health clinics in ten evacuation facilities managed by the Dili Municipality Health Services during the period of 10-14 April 2021, out of a total of 769 consultations, there were cases of: ARI (31%); skin diseases (19%); acute gastritis (15%); diarrheal diseases (8%); and, other diseases (27%).
- Between 8 and 21 April, WHO supported the Health Emergency Operations Center (HEOC) of the National Services of Ambulance and Medical Emergency (SNAEM) to conduct rapid health facility assessments in 25 healthcare facilities in Dili. The rapid assessments revealed that there was prevalence of: ARI (in 95% of the healthcare facilities), diarrheal diseases (in 86% of the healthcare facilities), skin diseases (in 82% of the healthcare facilities), dengue (in 26% of the healthcare facilities) and other diseases (in 65% of the healthcare facilities), while there were no recorded cases of malaria or measles.

25

Healthcare facilities rapidly assessed to identify immediate needs and inform response

- Above data demonstrated the need for prevention of acute respiratory infections, water-borne diseases, vector-borne diseases (in particular dengue) and skin diseases.
- There is an urgent need to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in evacuation facilities and amongst other temporary displaced people.
- With loss of medicine and medical supplies due to the floods, there is a need to replace emergency medical supplies.

Response:

- The HEOC/SNAEM, with support of Health sector partners, continues to provide essential health services to the affected population through healthcare facilities and mobile health clinics including referral services.
- The National Army Forces (F-FDTL) have completed providing a one-week temporary health to the worst-affected communities in Tasi Tolu. The health services in Dili are managed by the Dili Municipality Health Services through existing Community Health Centers and Health Posts as well as mobile clinics in evacuation facilities.
- WHO continued to strengthen surveillance of communicable diseases prone to outbreaks after a disaster and of other health events.
- WHO together with other Health sector partners continued to conduct rapid health facility assessments in 25 healthcare facilities in Dili. Rapid health facility assessments were completed in 95% of healthcare facilities and 70% of evacuation facilities in Dili.
- Ministry of Health and the Health sector partners continued to distribute masks and hand sanitizers to evacuation facilities to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other disease outbreaks.
- WHO and UNICEF provided vehicles for operational activities of SNAEM and Dili Municipality Health Services.
- UNICEF is supporting the Ministry of Health and Dili Municipality Health Services in implementation of the emergency health response at the evacuation facilities for flood-affected children and mothers.
- UNICEF is also providing technical support to flood-affected municipalities outside of Dili to assess the critical needs of children and PLW. All municipalities – with the exception of Ainaro - have shared updates via phone and WhatsApp.
- UNICEF and UNFPA are finalizing the safe mother kits distribution plan to the evacuation facilities. The kits contain essential supplies for mothers including sanitary items.
- UNFPA provided 150 dignity kits to 6 evacuation facilities in Dili and Hera.
- UNFPA in collaboration with Community Health Centers and Fundasaun Alola provided essential SRH and child health services such antenatal care, post-natal care, family planning counseling and breastfeeding counseling; out of the 38 pregnant mothers that received care, 4 with complications were referred to hospital for further management; 26 breastfeeding mothers received breastfeeding counselling and were provided with maternity package; 60 children above 6 years old were given deworming tablets; and, 20 girls received folic acid.
- HAI continued to distribute maternity packs to pregnant and breastfeeding women in evacuation facilities.
- HAI midwives were on stand-by to support with mobile clinics or with health assessments.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Lack of medicines, supplies, reagents and equipment to maintain essential services
- Lack of COVID prevention information in the camps and community affected raised the concerns of bridging of COVID-19 pandemic protocols.
- Lack of safe drinking water and improper handling of sanitation and waste management which will trigger increased number of water-borne diseases, vector borne diseases, acute respiratory infections and skin diseases.
- Funding gaps in priority areas.
- Assessment data and information from other flood-affected municipalities being awaited.
- Information on children and mothers who have returned home from evacuation facilities.

Gender & Protection

Sector Lead & Members:

MSSI, SEII, UNICEF, UN Women, UNFPA, UNDP, IOM, Rede Feto, CARE, Mercy Corps, Plan International, Arcoiris, Oxfam, Commission on the Rights of the Child, Alola Foundation, Ba Futuru, FOKUPERS, World Vision, Plan International, ChildFund, Scouts, Black Angels, Alumni of Youth Parliament, Fundacao Oriente, The Asia Foundation (Nabilan), TLPDP, Maluku Timor, PRADET

900+

Children benefited from the Child Friendly Spaces

Needs:

- There is a need to ensure that disaggregated data collected in rapid needs and damages assessment, including data on children, women, men, pregnant mothers, elderly people, and persons with disabilities (PwDs). Data privacy in assessments must be ensured, as well as safe information sharing to inform needs and responses.
- There is a need to ensure that the diverse needs of children, women and other vulnerable groups (e.g. women and girls with disabilities, pregnant women & lactating women, single-parent mother, survivors of gender-based violence, persons living in shelters/ institutional facilities, LGBTIQ persons) are taken into consideration in the emergency response e.g. relief supplies distribution, accessibility and safety of the evacuation sites and healthcare support, as well as in the plan for recovery from floods disaster. The flash floods disaster affects women, men, girls and boys of all age in different ways. Gender inequalities increase vulnerability of women, girls and vulnerable groups as they limit the equal access to information and resources including clean water, food, menstrual hygiene products, healthcare services, etc.
- There is a need to provide basic sanitation facilities at evacuation centers, it was reported that the individuals staying in an evacuation site at High School of Technology in Hera were not allowed to use the toilets. Besides, there is a need to ensure that facilities at evacuation centers are safe and easily accessible by all individuals including girls, women, elderly and people with disabilities. For example, there is a need to provide separate bathrooms and toilets for women and men, with clear signs at the entrance and adequate lighting (particularly at night). Some evacuation centers are not equipped with lighting devices or with adequate lighting e.g. evacuation centers at Tasi Tolu, although some individuals are provided with rechargeable lighting devices, they run out of battery very soon when there is a power failure. There is a need to provide adequate lighting in the evacuation centers. Privacy protection is essential, and each bathroom or toilet should be able to be locked from the inside. There is also a need to provide a breastfeeding area with adequate privacy at evacuation sites.
- Disasters can have devastating effects on children's lives, and there is a need to ensure that the response takes into consideration the specific needs of children.

Response:

- UN Women, UNICEF and UNFPA provided technical support to ensure that the rapid site assessment of evacuation facilities is gender-sensitive and addresses the protection concerns.
- UNFPA distributed 165 household dignity kits in 9 evacuation facilities to support 825 persons from 16 to 20 April 2021.
- Health Alliance International distributed 115 maternity kits to pregnant and postpartum women in the evacuation facilities.
- Plan International is installing 4 toilets in the evacuation facility at High School of Technology in Hera. UNDP and UNICEF will install lighting devices at the school to make it safer.
- UNICEF provided cleaning kits, shovels, masks and hygiene supplies to the Associação Deficientes de Timor-Leste (ADTL) to support seven of its member organizations to clean up their offices, and to further distribute cleaning kits and hygiene supplies to 150 families of persons living with disabilities.
- UNICEF has been supporting the MoH on the operation of the national hotline for mental health. A series of trainings for the operators (MoH staff and external staff contracted by MoH) are being conducted.

Child Protection Sub-Sector

Led by MSSSI and UNICEF

Members: MSSSI, UNICEF, UN Women, UNFPA, CARE, Plan International, Arcoiris, Oxfam, Commission on the Rights of the Child, Aloia Foundation, Ba Futuru, FOKUPERS, World Vision, ChildFund, Maluk Timor, PRADET, Nabilan Program, Scouts, group of volunteers Black Angels, Alumni of Youth Parliament.

Needs:

- Evidence often shows that violence is exacerbated in emergencies due to disruption of services and community life, destruction of infrastructure, separation of families and displacement, and limited access referral services. There is a need to take actions from the earliest stages of the emergency to adequately mitigate all forms of violence and safely respond to the needs of potential survivors. Disasters can have devastating effects on children's lives, and there is a need to ensure that the response takes into consideration the specific needs of children.

Response:

- The Child Protection sub-sector held its first meeting on 15 April, with 26 Child Protection actors working on the emergency response. A task force for the Mental Health and specialized service was created.
- UNICEF and the MSSSI established Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) in 13 evacuation facilities, where children can access free and structured play, recreation and leisure designed for psychosocial support for children. These activities are

implemented with the coordination, support, and participation of Plan International, World Vision, ChildFund, Alola foundation, Fokupers, Ba Futuru, Scouts, Mane ho Vizaun Foun, and youth groups as Alumni Youth Parliament and Black Angels. In the first two weeks of activities, over 900 children have benefited from CFS, and additional partners such as Maluku Timor and Fundacao Oriente joined to support the activities. 58 volunteers were trained in weekly psychosocial support activities to be developed with the children.

- In preparation for the provision of life-skills based education (LSBE) to adolescents in 12 evacuation facilities, UNICEF briefed 26 youth from APFTL and the Youth Parliament on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), referral of adolescents who need specialized services, and prevention of COVID-19.
- UNICEF and partners supported MSSSI to deliver non-food items to the most vulnerable families and to evacuation facilities, such as cleaning kits, masks and hygiene supplies, toddlers' supplies blankets, mats, mattress, drinking water. In addition, MSSSI - with UNICEF support - provided NFIs to 8 Institutional Care Facilities.

Gender-Based Violence Sub-Sector

Led by UNFPA and UN Women

Members: SEII, UNFPA, UN Women, UNDP, IOM, Rede Feto, The Asia Foundation (Nabilan), World Vision, Plan International, Arcoiris, FOKUPERS, Alola Foundation, TLPDP, Maluku Timor.

Needs:

- There is a need to provide separate toilets (with locks from the inside, clear signs at the entrance) and adequate lighting at evacuation facilities to address safety concerns.
- There is a need to provide separate rest spaces for women and men at evacuation centers.
- Evidence shows that violence is exacerbated in emergencies due to disruption of services and community life, destruction of infrastructure, separation of families and displacement, and limited access referral services. There is a need to take actions from the earliest stages of the emergency to adequately mitigate all forms of violence and safely respond to the needs of potential survivors. The advocacy on ending gender-based violence is needed, with messages on support or referral services available. The referral of essential services for survivors of violence and the information on relevant services hotlines is needed and should be shared widely.

Response:

- On 16 April, the GBV Sub-Sector had its first meeting to identify needs in evacuation facilities and coordinate modalities of support in relation to GBV prevention and response. A 4W mapping was done (who is doing what, where, and when) with regards to GBV-related activities both within the evacuation facilities and in the affected communities.
- UNICEF and UNFPA developed IEC materials with contact information and hotline numbers of referral services. The posters have been shared widely with the Gender & Protection Sector members and in social media platforms, and they are displayed in the evacuation facilities and in the communities.
- World Vision is recruiting one GBV case referral facilitator based in evacuation facilities.
- The PNTL Vulnerable Persons Unit (VPU) are staffed by specialized investigators who are trained to investigate sexual assault, child abuse and domestic violence incidents. There is a VPU in every district. The PNTL VPU investigators will visit the evacuation facilities and provide information and brochures advising how to report GBV cases to the police.

Education

Sector Lead & Members:

Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, UNICEF (co-lead), Plan International (co-lead), Child Fund, Care International, HANDS, Portuguese Embassy, Oxfam, World Vision, Timor-Leste Coalition for Education (TLCE)

Needs:

- There is an immediate need to address the psychosocial and learning needs of affected children.
- There is an immediate need to provide learning materials and WASH materials to schools affected by the flooding.
- In the longer term, there is a need to reconstruct and renovate affected schools.

Response:

- Education sector partners are participating in the multi-sectoral rapid needs assessment to conduct the education sector component.
- UNICEF provided 26 recreational kits, 8 ECD kits and learning materials to be used for psychosocial support and learning activities in Child Friendly Spaces in 11 evacuation facilities.

50

Volunteers trained to implement learning activities in 8 evacuation facilities

- Education sector partners agreed on a plan to initiate learning activities in the Child Friendly Spaces already set up by the Child Protection sub-sector using materials already available from different organizations.
- UNICEF and partners mobilized 50 volunteers from UNTL and schools in Dili to support the learning activities at 8 evacuation facilities. The volunteers, who were trained to implement structured learning activities in the evacuation facilities, have started implementing these activities in 8 evacuation facilities three days a week. The activities include play, painting and drawing, number games, show and tell, songs and activities about hand-washing with soap and COVID-19 prevention as well as mindfulness exercises.
- UNICEF provided UNICEF backpacks for 360 children in 8 evacuation facilities and for 50 volunteers who will be implementing learning activities in these evacuation facilities. Each backpack for children contained plastic folders, notebooks, pens, reusable face masks and crayons. Volunteers were provided with hand sanitizer, face shields, notebooks, pens and plastic folders.
- Each of the 8 evacuation facilities were provided with an ECD kit and a USB with children's songs. 80 cloth bags containing materials for learning activities such as comparison blocks, geometrical shapes, matching numbers and pictures were also distributed. A total of 192 children's story books was provided to the 8 evacuation facilities, each facility receiving 24 books. In addition, 5 of these facilities have been set up with a television and speakers with a USB containing video lessons for various grades from the previously aired distance learning programmes.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Data gaps on the numbers of school-aged children and teachers affected.
- Detailed information on damages and losses in schools not yet available.
- Funding gap for immediate response and for reconstruction and renovation of school buildings and materials.
- Difficulties to mobilize teachers to support flood response interventions in schools due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation.
- Difficult access to some schools in the outskirts of or outside of Dili, due to damaged roads and the sanitary fence.

Early Recovery & Livelihoods

Sector Lead & Members:

UNDP, Secretariat of State for Civil Protection, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of State Administration, SEFOPE, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, UN Women, JICA, Plan International, Oxfam, Mercy Corps, Catholic Relief Services, Child Fund Australia, Adventist Development and Relief Agency, CARE

Needs:

- According to latest official figures, 4,546 houses were destroyed or damaged, 74% of which are in Dili municipality. Nearly 2,163 hectares of agricultural areas were affected and numerous public infrastructures such as roads, bridges, schools etc. were seriously damaged.
- There is a need to support the households whose livelihoods have been affected, including houses that were either partially or totally destroyed.
- There is a need to conduct further assessments on livelihoods needs to support the Government's recovery planning.

4,546

Houses were destroyed or damaged

Response:

- A household assessment is ongoing to collect information on household-level damage and needs, led by the Government with support of humanitarian partners.
- Preparatory work is underway for a cash/food-for-work programme in Dili municipality, which will aim to provide flood-affected populations with food and immediate employment opportunities, stimulating local recovery and resulting in cleaned up and livable *aldeias*.
- Discussions are ongoing with the Government for a possible Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) in multiple sectors (livelihoods, housing, and others) to inform priorities for recovery planning. UNDP secured funding for assessments such as a Household and Building Damage Assessment (HBDA), which will input into PDNA.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Demands of various assessments that are simultaneously ongoing, putting a strain on coordination and capacity of various institutions.
- Absence of baseline data.

Logistics

Sector Lead & Members:

WFP, Secretariat of State for Civil Protection, MSSSI, CARE, World Vision, Oxfam, Plan International, UNICEF, UNFPA

179

Metric tons of flood relief items transported to the affected population

Response:

- With support from Mission Aviation Fellowship in Timor-Leste, WFP and in conjunction with the Government, United Nations agencies and Defense Cooperation Partners organized a series of aerial assessments between 16 to 21 April with the aim of assessing flood damage to logistics infrastructure and agricultural land to help determine strategic interventions related to flood response and rehabilitation activities.
- Assessments took place across Viqueque, Manatuto, Baucau, Manufahi, Ainaro, Covalima, Oecussi, Bobonaro and other municipalities.
- WFP humanitarian flight arrived in Timor-Leste on 21 April, bringing in PPE and medical items for WHO for COVID-19 response, as well as for a COVID-19 safe floods response. A supplementary flight is being planned for 28 April due to increased demand from humanitarian partners.
- Following the agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of Timor-Leste to preposition a helicopter for a period of 28 days to support in transport of humanitarian relief items and humanitarian workers, the helicopter arrived in Dili from Australia. The helicopter operations will be implemented with the Secretariat of State for Civil Protection, and WFP has been requested to provide technical support in managing the operations.
- WFP continues to support the Government and humanitarian partners with transportation services, including leading the logistics sector in conjunction with the Government in Timor-Leste.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Compiling information related to access constraints outside of Dili as a result of the flooding.

GENERAL COORDINATION

The operational coordination of the flood response is led by the Secretariat of State for Civil Protection, who holds daily operational coordination meetings. The UN (IOM, RCO & WFP), AHP partners, and Mercy Corps are supporting the operational coordination role of the Secretariat of State for Civil Protection.

Humanitarian coordination is undertaken through the following sectors, with UN sector focal points as follows:

Sector	Sector Lead / Focal Point	E-mail
CCCM/Emergency Shelter	Luis Pinto, IOM Cecilia McIntosh, IOM	lppinto@iom.int cmcintosh@iom.int
WASH	Apolonia Barreto, UNICEF Alvaro Ribeiro, Partisipa Ali Saikal, Partisipa	Apbarreto@unicef.org alvaro.ribeiro@partisipa.tl ali.saikal@partisipa.tl
Gender & Protection	Wai Shan (Flora) Chan, UN Women Gizela Moniz Da Silva, UNICEF	Wai.Chan@unwomen.org gmdasilva@unicef.org
1. GBV Sub-Group 2. Child Protection Sub-Group	Katya Castillo, UNFPA Gizela Moniz Da Silva & Paula Vargas, UNICEF	kcastillo@unfpa.org gmdasilva@unicef.org pvargas@unicef.org
Food Security	Ash Rogers, WFP Benjamin Banda, WFP Paula Lopes da Cruz, FAO	Ash.Rogers@wfp.org Benjamin.Banda@wfp.org Paula.LopesdaCruz@fao.org
Nutrition	Faraja Chiwile, UNICEF	fchiwile@unicef.org
Health	Luis dos Reis, WHO	reisl@who.int

<i>Sector</i>	<i>Sector Lead / Focal Point</i>	<i>E-mail</i>
Education	Ameena Mohamed Didi, UNICEF	amdidi@unicef.org
Livelihoods / Early Recovery	Lazima Onta Bhatta, UNDP Youngchan Kim, UNDP Domingos (Leqsi) Siga Maria, UNDP	lazima.ontabhatta@undp.org youngchan.kim@undp.org domingos.sigamaria@undp.org
Emergency Logistics	Louis Boshoff	louis.boshoff@wfp.org

Sector coordination meetings are being held. Humanitarian partners are encouraged to contact the Sector Lead/Focal Point, should they wish to be engaged in the sector coordination mechanism.

The UN Resident Coordinator is providing strategic coordination of the UN humanitarian response to the floods, as well as high-level engagement with the Government senior leadership, diplomatic community including humanitarian donors, civil society and the media.

ANNEX - ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

EU Copernicus Emergency Mapping: <https://emergency.copernicus.eu/mapping/list-of-components/EMSR507>
UNOSAT Maps related to Timor-Leste floods: <https://unitar.org/maps/countries/102>

For further information, please contact:

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