



**Tafea Province Emergency Operation Centre
Tanna**

Situation Report

Incident/ event	Severe Tropical Cyclone pam	Sitrep No.	5 Thursday 2nd April 2015
Date	18 March 2015	Time	
Event start	5.00am 14 Mar 2015	Event Finish	2.00pm 14 Mar 2015
Copies to: National Government National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) Tafea Provincial Government Tafea Provincial Disaster Committee (PDC)			

Disaster event details

- Severe Tropical Cyclone Pam Category 5 hit Tafea Province around 5.00am Saturday 14 March lasted 9 hours, until 2pm when winds began easing.
- Winds came first from the east then shifted north and finally from the west
- Rough seas with waves in excess of 10m persisted for the duration of the event and for the next 24 hours.

General situation update: Thursday 2nd April 2015

- **Food assistance has now reached approximately 27,000 people**
- The NDMO multi-cluster rapid assessment teams arrived via Port Vila aboard a Solomon Islands Naval patrol boat, for a two day mission. They were briefed by the Secretary General and Controller on the overall situation and the importance of their roles. The French military provided support with transportation around Tanna and to the islands.
- The East Coast area leaders, from the volcano ash and cyclone affected communities met the SG to discuss additional assistance to their areas.
- A group of West/Central Chiefs staged a protest stating they were not sufficiently involved in the distribution process. A meeting with all the Chiefs is scheduled for 3rd April, attending the SG, Controller, Inspector of Police and an invitation to the NGO's and ADF be present. With an increase in diarrhoeal cases the opportunity will be taken to re-enforce the hygiene message.
- **A shortage exist of Tarpaulin material to repair schools.** The NGO's have insufficient stocks to do both households (shelter cluster) and Schools (education Cluster).

- The delivery by outside groups of unsolicited donated goods has caused protests by areas not receiving. Police and Government met the leaders to calm and explain the situation.
- **The WHO disease surveillance team have reported** a noticeable increase in viral diarrhoea particularly amongst children under 1 year. The suggestion is that this is caused by poor water quality. The rapid surveillance assessment was carried out along the West Coast.
- Water. The lack of response from local water engineers has become an issue with the ADF and NGO water engineers. Who have been planning to repair water systems and installation of a high capacity water pump. Despite meetings being arranged the local guides have failed to turn up.
- **A serious lack of adequate road transport exists** to move supplies from the port, airport and support distributions. The Chinese have recently been providing 1-2 trucks but with the imminent start of road building this is likely to finish.
- Many Government, Project and Police vehicles are in urgent need of maintenance and spare parts. The ADF have repaired a Police and Provincial government vehicle
- A major task has started sorting, accounting and distribution planning of approximately 120mt of unsolicited donated goods (building supplies, clothing, bedding, food and NFI) which arrived 30th March from New Caledonia. NGO “Tanna Solidarity” are overseeing arrangements the distribution to East and West Tanna.
- The Community Radio station FM104, following the complete destruction of its building and equipment is now being re-established. This important facility broadcasts cyclone warnings , advice messages and health information around the province.
- Internet communication has slowly improved, Ericsson Rescue have over the last two days established a working Wi-Fi network in the PDC/NDMO and at two NGO base locations.
- The full compliment of ADF engineers personnel and equipment are now here and have established a presents on the East and West coast. (Lenakel to Own Sports Stadium and at Whitesands). The ADF have a small HQ near the PDC.
- **The final elements of the French Military and helicopter support will depart this Friday 4th April.**
- The Vanuatu Ferry eventually arrived 1600 1st April with 50mt + Rice, tinned tuna and High Energy Biscuits (HEB) this will allow many of the pending distribution points to be completed. The vessel is also carrying; NGO food and a significant range of NFI, Commercial supplies for the communities and we believe UNELCO have aboard the 60 electricity poles required to start repairing the grid. Two local communities (120 men) off loaded the vessel.
- World Vision have a chartered barge with mixed supplies arriving in the next days. A chartered barge with commercial goods has also arrived
- **The very limited ward space at the Lenakel hospital** particularly in maternity is causing an issue, separating young sick children from new born. The ADF have today just handed back one of three wards, completion of repairs for the other two is expected in the next 8-10 days.
- Lenakel hospital will work with reduced staff during the Easter break, the Samaritans Purse medical team are prepared to provide hospital out-patient support during Easter.
- Samaritans Purse continued NFI distributions to Launapikiko, provided on going medical team support to out patients at Lenakel hospital, currently seeing an average 80 patients per day. With tarpaulin material on long rolls SP would be prepared to assist providing it to damaged schools, but they would require approximately additional 700 tarpaulins to cover outstanding households.

- Work by the ADF is well under way repairing of 3 wards in the Lenakel hospital. Roof repair is completed at Isangel Central primary school. They are providing two water specialist teams and have repaired a police vehicle. ADF and French military have assisted in the delivery to communities of 45mt of relief material to Loanatom and Launapiko d Route clearance at Lam, and HR deliveries. A joint ADF/French team will assess engineering needs (medical facilities/schools/water system repairs) on the East Coast.
- Samaritans Purse are; completing food distribution at Lapkit (are finding more people than registered!). Leading on the bore hole assessments and providing the water pump.
- **Stationery material;** Printer inks, photocopy paper, PENS need urgent resupply.