



Children at St Joseph's Primary School on the outskirts of Port Vila, Vanuatu return to class in a tent supplied by UNICEF. Credit: UNICEF/2015/McGarry

Cyclone Pam Humanitarian Situation Report 12

unicef 

29 March – 1 April 2015

Highlights

- US\$ 1.7 million received by UNICEF from The UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to support life-saving response activities
- 9,968 children on Shefa Province reached in UNICEF-supported measles vaccination campaign.
- 1,800 households have received distribution of water purification tablets and 380 households have access to hygiene and dignity kits in Shefa Province with support from UNICEF and partners
- 500 children and their families reached with access to safe water in a school and surrounding communities through provision of a generator to pump water in Shefa Province.
- 407 children have access to temporary learning spaces on the first day of school opening with UNICEF education supplies.
- 35 pre-school and primary school teachers to be orientated in psychosocial support to children with UNICEF and line Ministries.
- 150 backpacks including school supplies to support the most affected children in the northern islands of Tuvalu, have been sent, with free transport provided by a French charter flight.

Appeal:

UNICEF needs US\$ 7.72 million over the next 9 months

Vanuatu:

166,600 people on 22 islands affected, including **82,000** children

30,000 people affected on Tanna Island with 50% of homes destroyed

30,000 children targeted by Education Cluster (Early Childhood, Primary and Secondary)

At least 22,000 children need temporary safe learning spaces

9,968 children aged under 5 have been reached by immunization teams

Solomon Islands: Communities in Temotu Province most affected

Overview

UNICEF currently has about 50 per cent of the funds required to deliver life-saving aid to thousands of children and their families in Vanuatu and other affected countries. While UNICEF is calling for US\$4.8 million as part of the wider United Nations Appeal for Vanuatu for immediate relief assistance over the next three months, an additional US\$2.9 million is needed to provide access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene, lifesaving health and nutrition interventions, and education and protection until the end of 2015.

Given the logistical constraints of this emergency, ensuring that the logistics pipeline is maintained and strengthened over the coming weeks is critical if life-saving assistance is to reach all people in need. Shipping, allocation and distribution of supplies are a priority. Governments continue to support the cyclone response, through measures including military air and sea assets and personnel. The Australian Defence Force, New Zealand Defence Force and French Military, among others, play important roles in the response.

Humanitarian partners continue to work closely together under Government leadership via the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) to implement the Government's immediate response plan. Rapid assessments of infrastructure by the Multi Sector Working Group are ongoing and data is being collated. Emergency repairs are prioritised and costed in consultation with Government ministries.

Relief stocks including food, shelter, water and health supplies continue to be dispatched to the worst-affected areas. Simultaneously, planning is ongoing for detailed sectoral assessments in all affected areas. The results will complement those sourced through Government-led joint initial rapid needs assessments conducted with UNDAC in the week after the cyclone and allow adjustments to ongoing relief operations.

UNICEF is currently developing the 30, 60 and 90-day plans for WASH, Health and Nutrition, Education and Child Protection with attention to strengthening resilience for mitigating the impact of future natural disasters integrating. UNICEF will support the rehabilitation efforts through various channels including the Post Disaster Needs Assessment requested by the Government of Vanuatu.

UNICEF received a total of US\$ 1.7 million from The UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to support life-saving response activities in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene; Health and Nutrition; and Education and Protection, for children and their families affected by Tropical Cyclone Pam on 31 March.

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

The NDMO is coordinating the response with support from various agencies, Governments and major partners, and it is expanding its coordination structures and systems to provide support to the Government and responding relief agencies. The United Nations has set up a Humanitarian Response Page as the central repository of documents generated in support of the coordination effort related to Tropical Cyclone Pam.

The Government finalised an initial distribution plan, mapping targeted populations by district, and listing the quantities and type of food, WASH, health and shelter materials required in each district for the next 15 to 20 days. This informs the ongoing distribution of food and shelter materials, with WASH items being distributed where possible through existing transport channels.

A number of Ministries and Clusters are collecting data through a wide variety of methods with support from partners including OCHA: the Ministry of Health is collecting information on the status of health facilities and equipment; the Ministry of Education is collecting information on learning materials, learning equipment and facilities; the Ministry of Agriculture is carrying out assessment of crops, fish, livestock, fruit trees (fisheries through Secretariat of the Pacific Community); the Department of Public Work is carrying out a public assets assessment with support from engineers from France, Australia, New Zealand and Fiji; the World Food Programme has almost completed a food security assessment to inform its ongoing food distribution and planning; and the Shelter Cluster is carrying out a household-level shelter assessment.

NDMO, with support from OCHA, is coordinating a harmonised multi-disciplinary assessment approach through Clusters and Ministries. Teams will be dispatched simultaneously on 1 April to affected islands in the Tafea and Shefa Provinces. Each Ministry supported by Cluster members has developed sectoral assessment forms and has nominated its own members to each team. The predominant methodology will be key informant interviews.

Each Ministry supported by Cluster members is conducting training for assessment team members on 30-31 March in Port Vila.

Estimated Affected Population 166,600 (Source: Flash Appeal launched on 24 March 2015)			
Start of humanitarian response: 14 March 2015			
	Total	Male	Female
Total Affected Population	166,600	83,300	83,300
Children Affected (Under 18) ¹	82,000	41,000	41,000
Children Under Five ²	29,332	15,282	14,050
Children 6 to 23 months ³	8,800	4,580	4,220
Pregnant women ⁴	7,650	N/A	7,650

UNICEF's response



Education

The Ministry of Education announced that schools re-opened throughout Vanuatu on Monday, 30 March. Schools that could open were ready for children to return. On the first day of school opening, 407 children have access to temporary learning spaces with UNICEF education supplies. In Port Vila, a UNICEF tent was used at St. Joseph's Primary School for two grade 6 classes, in Kawenu School for grades 1 and 2. UNICEF supplies, including school tents and learning materials have started reaching children who are back at 7 schools in Tongoa.

UNICEF support will include resumption of education for 22,500 affected children through the establishment of temporary and safe learning spaces and the provision of teaching and learning materials.

UNICEF is supporting school restarts and getting children back into education with the supply of tents and education supplies to Tafea this week. The Ministry of Education reports that 180 classrooms have been destroyed in Tafea, and another 75 classrooms have sustained major damage. Some 8,727 primary school children have been affected.



Health and nutrition

The UNICEF-supported measles vaccination campaign has so far reached a total of 9,968 children. Six teams of nurses from the Ministry of Health (MoH) are currently deployed in communities in North Efate and the Shepherd Islands in Shefa Province to provide vaccination against measles, polio and tetanus. UNICEF met with the Provincial Health Office and Save the Children to discuss preparations for the micro-planning meeting and team briefing for measles vaccination in Sanma Province on 30 March.

¹ The estimated number of affected children by NDMO is about 70,000. However, the total # of children reside in the affected provinces exceeds this estimate.

² Number of children aged under 5 in five affected provinces (SOURCE: NDMO projected figures in 2013).

³ Number of children aged 6-23 months in five affected provinces (SOURCE: NDMO projected figures in 2013 & WHO Emergency tool 6.3 Ref Values, March 2012).

⁴ Number of pregnant women in five affected provinces (SOURCE: NDMO projected figures in 2013 & WHO Emergency tool 6.3 Ref Values, March 2012).

Joint meetings were held between UNICEF, UNFPA and WHO to coordinate the requisitioning by MoH of additional medical supplies needed to support immediate needs. UNICEF will immediately allocate to MoH 100,000 Oral Rehydration Salts (ORS) sachets and Albendazole 50 packets (for deworming) in stock and is expecting a new shipment of medical supplies and cold chain equipment in the next few days. UNICEF has ordered additional Newborn Kits for Community and for Primary Health Care Facilities. UNFPA will contribute delivery bundles/kits for Primary Health Care facilities to the Kits.

UNICEF is providing technical support to a World Vision International (WVI) nutritionist overseeing WVI's nutrition response in Tanna. UNICEF is coordinating with WHO for inclusion of measurement of mid-upper arm circumference in sentinel site surveillance. Three hundred children were measured for wasting in North Efate and the caregivers of the three found to be moderately malnourished were counselled. A stand-by partner (RedR) surge staff member has arrived to support the UNICEF nutrition response for the next two months.



Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

UNICEF is directly targeting 70,000 people with access to safe water, sanitation facilities, improved hygiene practices, and identification of alternate water resources. This will be delivered through a combination of direct implementation, support through Government and via NGO partners on-ground.

Also, UNICEF liaised with Ministry of Health to coordinate standard health messaging that will be used by the Health and WASH cluster.

UNICEF signed a small scale funding agreement with Save the Children for WASH supplies to be distributed in Shefa Province targeting 15,000 beneficiaries.

UNICEF has supplied Ulei Junior Secondary School, on the North Western side of Efate with a generator to power the water pump for the school and surrounding communities. The school has 186 students and 25 staff including family members, and about 500 people benefit from the school water supply. Reopening of this school was contingent on restoration of water supplies.

UNICEF has drafted a WASH Cluster response plan with the Department of Geology, Mines and Water Resources (DGMWR) and key WASH cluster partners, which includes details of minimum standards for hygiene kits. This response plan was shared with the WASH cluster for feedback.

Gaps identified include delays in information management and data flow from WASH Cluster partners, resulting in an unclear picture of the situation on the ground. UNICEF will support DGMWR in strengthening Cluster information management capacity by placing dedicated capacity within the cluster. The Information Management Officer will assist the National Coordinator to capture and reflect the activities and challenges in the sector to the NDMO and other audiences. UNICEF supported the Tafea Provincial Government with WASH cluster activities, including distribution and information management.

UNICEF, with support from Akvo Flow, has conducted a briefing with the WASH Cluster members conducting the multi-sectoral field assessments. In coordination with the Australian Defence Force, UNICEF is working to improve the effectiveness of the desalination plant at Lenakel, Tanna. UNICEF has developed a distribution tracker with the partners in WASH.

UNICEF in partnership with Save the Children have supported the distributions of hygiene and dignity kits to benefit 380 households in Epi. In addition water purification tablets were distributed with IEC materials to 1300 households in Epi and 500 households in Tongoa.

There is currently a shortage of fuel on Tanna, which is impacting on distribution. Restricted access to adequate transport means that water trucking to peri-urban areas remains a challenge. NDMO has been requested to prioritise access to fuel via Government channels.



Child protection

An orientation on 'Psychosocial First Aid and Child Protection' is taking place on 30-31 March with the support of the Ministry of Justice, UNICEF and Save the Children to harmonize psychosocial support to be provided to children in communities and school environments. The audience is comprised of 30 caregivers and service providers.

UNICEF is collaborating with the Ministry of Education and Training and the Ministry of Justice and Community Services to finalize the agenda and logistics for in depth orientation on psychosocial support for primary school aged children scheduled for 7 – 10 April. The event targets 35 pre-school and primary school teachers.

UNICEF is also providing financial and technical support to the Ministry of Justice & Community Services for a Child Protection in Emergencies orientation scheduled for 13 – 15 April. The event is targeted at community and NGO facilitators and provides orientation on the use of kits. UNICEF, with the Ministry of Youth, Development and Training, is supporting another Child Protection in Emergencies and Peer Educators' orientation from 9 – 10 April.

These orientations will directly help thousands of children in and out of school across the five affected provinces to access information on psychosocial care and support.

Communications for Development

An integrated communications package including videos, a press release, photographs and human interest stories is being developed for the first week of April. This will form part of the back-to-school campaign as schools across Vanuatu reopen and classes resume. Communication for development (C4D) components are also being incorporated into sectoral response plans, and the development, dissemination and broadcast of key messages will be coordinated with all Clusters in collaboration with line Ministries.

External Relations

Emergency fundraising campaigns by the National Committees are ongoing. UNICEF will be partnering with Oceania Football Confederation's 'Just Play' programme, which is supported by the UK National Committee and Fiji Airways, to raise more funds for the Cyclone Pam emergency response through the Champions' League Tournament in Fiji in April.

Supply and Logistics

A consignment of hygiene and dignity kits for 1,400 people that was airlifted from Auckland has arrived in Port Vila. Eighteen packages of measles and rubella vaccines airlifted from Copenhagen through Brisbane were received and immediately transferred to the Ministry of Health cold room. On 29 March, 24 local volunteers repacked 2,000 student kits in the UNICEF warehouse in Port Vila.

UNICEF continues support the WFP-led logistics cluster and operations in both Port Vila and Tanna. UNICEF is offering the humanitarian stakeholders further support through a transit warehouse to facilitate breakdown of bulk imports into smaller shipments for inter-island freight forwarding.

Funding

UNICEF Pacific and its field office in Vanuatu are very grateful to have received funds from: Australia; France; Japan; the United Kingdom; UNICEF National Committee for Australia; UNICEF National Committee for New

Zealand; UNICEF National Committee for the United Kingdom; Japan Committee for UNICEF; the United States Fund for UNICEF; UNICEF National Committee for France and UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). These contributions have made the current response possible to reach children and their families who need immediate support.

	Cluster 2015 Target ⁱ	Cluster Total Results	UNICEF 2015 Target ⁱⁱ	UNICEF Total Results
NUTRITION				
Number of targeted caregivers of children 0-23 months with access to IYCF counselling	6,500	Activity in progress	6,500	Activity in progress
Number of children 6-59 months receiving micronutrient supplementation	12,500	Activity in progress	12,500	Activity in progress
HEALTH				
Number of children 6-59 months vaccinated for measles	25,000	9,968	25,000	9,968
Number of national cold room and cold chain equipment restored	31	Procurement ongoing	31	Procurement ongoing
Number of affected primary health care facilities with adequate new-born care kits and services	60	Distribution in progress	25	Distribution in progress
WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE				
Number of emergency-affected population provided with access to safe water as per agreed standards	110,000	500	70,000	500
Number of emergency-affected population provided with sanitation and hygiene supplies	110,000	Procurement	70,000	Procurement
Number of emergency-affected population benefiting from hygiene and sanitation promotion	110,000	Standardising message	70,000	Standardising message
Percentage of affected communities dependent on only one water source with back-up source	70%	Mapping	70%	Mapping
CHILD PROTECTION				
Number of children provided with access to safe spaces for trauma relief through counselling, socialization, play and learning	20,000	Planning	20,000	Planning
Number of parents/caregivers provided with information on reducing psychosocial stress	6,400	Planning	6,400	Planning
Number of youth, girls and boys trained as peer educators on prevention of violence	100	Planning	100	Planning
Number of service providers trained on child protection in emergencies	350	Planning	350	Planning
Number of children provided with replacement birth registration documentation	6,400	System restoration	6,400	System restoration
EDUCATION				
Number of affected preschool and primary school children with access to temporary learning spaces (TLS)	22,000	407	16,000	407
Number of education service providers (ECE and Primary) trained in psychosocial support	N/A	Planning	6,000	Planning
Number of emergency-affected young and adolescent children accessing psychosocial support	30,000	Planning	22,500	Planning
Percentage of psychosocial counselling sessions that include lessons learned for DRR through improved preparedness and response	50%	Planning	50%	Planning

Tuvalu, Solomon Islands and Kiribati

TUVALU

Early reports suggested that the impact was severe on some islands (particularly Nui and Nanumaga), largely due to the storm surge. There are an estimated 900 school-aged children on the affected islands. Funafuti, with about 4,500 people the most populous island, was comparatively unscathed by the cyclone.

Most displaced people have returned home, with only 10 families residing near the coast still in temporary accommodation. Of the 270 families on Nui island, 90 were displaced. On Nanumea island, 28 houses were damaged or destroyed, 14 families (50 people) are still in the community hall and 21 families are staying with relatives. According to NZ MFAT, Nanumaga Island initially reported that up to 60 families had arrived at evacuation centres and a further 27 families had fled to other houses at the height of the cyclone. The island Health Clinic has been largely destroyed. The female ward must be rebuilt, while the children's ward just needs to be cleaned up. Medical supplies were moved to safety before the cyclone hit.

Initial rapid assessment reports from the central islands of Nui, Vaitupu, Nukufetau, Nanumaga and Nanumea indicate that life is normalising, with power returning, a low prevalence of communicable diseases, sufficient water supplies (except for those of destroyed households and clinics) and adequate current food and fuel stocks to meet immediate needs. Medium- and long-term recovery measures will become increasingly important as relief supplies reach the islands. Agricultural recovery will be particularly important because of the almost total loss of crops and extensive loss of livestock.

International assistance included an Australian emergency technical and coordination team, OCHA staff, a UNDP recovery specialist, and WHO environmental health specialists. Seven additional FNU personnel (a midwife, two medical officers, a trauma counsellor, an intensive care nurse, a public health officer and a pharmacist) arrived to support relief operations on 26 March.

In addition to the Government accessing the national contingency budget for emergency response, and initial contributions from DFAT and MFAT, a number of important contributions were registered, including: a pledge of euro 0.5 million from the Government of the Netherlands; AUS\$80,000 from Taiwan for the recovery effort; and US\$150,000 from the United Arab Emirates in addition to their initial contribution of US\$ 60,000. Italy has also pledged euros 100,000; and Japan has contributed US\$ 30,000 for education-related relief supplies to UNICEF to procure backpacks for children in the outer islands as part of its early recovery efforts.

UNICEF health and WASH supplies were delivered to Funafuti on 19 March. A New Zealand C130 charter flight arrived on 22 March carrying the remaining medical and shelter supplies, including an additional 2,000 ORS packs to supplement the 2,000 UNICEF had already supplied. A French Air Force aircraft from Nadi arrived on 29 March with relief and recovery supplies, including UNICEF supplies. Around 70 school back packs with stationery supplies including pens, pencils, notebooks, water bottles, and lunch boxes as well as for approximately 80 early childhood care and education centers were procured using the Japanese Government's contribution to UNICEF.

Further release of education in emergencies supplies will depend on the collection and analysis of school-level data expected to be completed with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports over the next couple of days.

SOLOMON ISLANDS

Tropical Cyclone Pam brought widespread heavy rain to most provinces in Solomon Islands. Temotu province experienced hurricane force winds as the cyclone intensified and moved out of Solomon Island territory. Some vulnerable families have been displaced and food gardens destroyed.

Accessibility to communities has been difficult or impossible due to flooding, fallen trees and very rough seas. Initial assessments confirm important damage to houses, food gardens and fruit trees, flooding and contamination of water sources. Agriculture, fishing, health and infrastructure have all been severely affected.

The Ministry of Health and Medical Services assessment team left by sea for Temotu province on 20 March, carrying relief supplies, including UNICEF WASH supplies. The boat arrived in Temotu on 21 March and distributed relief supplies for the remote outer islands of the province. Although Anuta Island in Temotu was the worst affected, it is not heavily populated and the Government has indicated the situation is under control. NDMO hired the private vessel *Florence* to take supplies and initial rapid assessment teams to affected islands including Tikopia, the Duff Reef islands, and Anuta. The boat left for Temotu on 28 March.

The Initial Rapid Assessment was partially completed for the central eastern and southern divisions of Malaita. A total of 631 houses suffered partial damage and 105 were totally destroyed, while 447 kitchens were partly damaged and 16 destroyed as reported by the provincial emergency operation centers in Malaita. Landslides and flood water have damaged water supply pipes, storage tanks and dams. The RWSS division in Malaita is finalising a response plan.

The Solomon Islands Government has approved approximately US\$450,000 to support the emergency response. The funds cover the operations for all the affected provinces. The Government of New Zealand's initial contribution is about \$50,000 NZL dollars, and the Australian Government has covered logistical costs for the response mobilisation.

UNICEF is supporting the WASH cluster in responding to the impact on water and sanitation. It has provided non-food items including soap, chlorine tablets and collapsible containers for use in Temotu Province. It is also providing WASH containers and soap to WVI for use in the preparation of 305 household kits for other affected areas.

KIRIBATI

Four metre high waves were experienced in Kiribati on 13 March (where the highest point is 3 meters above sea level), causing extensive damage to the Dai Nippon Causeway, and to many sea-walls on the main atoll of Tarawa. The impact of the cyclone was strongest on the southern islands, particularly Tamana and Arorae. The disaster management committee is monitoring progress of the emergency response and assisting communities to build or strengthen sea walls with local contractors.

According to initial assessments from joint teams dispatched by Government, in which a UNICEF staff member participated, twenty houses along the shore of the southern island of Arorae (estimated population 1076, including 33 children under the age of 5) were destroyed, and families have found temporary shelter in schools and community centers. Some have started rebuilding their houses further inland. A Government boat arrived to Arorae on 26th March from Tarawa bringing cargo, food and household relief supplies as well as government officials from Office of President and Ministry of Public Works and Kiribati Red Cross to further assess the needs. The Ministry of Health has sent extra supply of ORS, Zinc, and essential drugs to respond to an increased number of diarrhea cases.

On the southern island of Tamana, (estimated population 857, including 72 children under the age of 5), almost 60% of households were affected, and 65 houses completely destroyed. The affected families are relocating inland to rebuild and are staying with other families. The Government relief boat delivered a water pump and 5 big tanks for water collection and distribution, shovels, wheel barrows, electric saw, tarpaulins, mosquito nets, and household relief items. The Ministry of Health has sent extra supply of ORS, Zinc, and essential drugs.

A small amount of UNICEF emergency supplies are available from pre-positioned stocks in Tarawa, and an additional consignment arrived in Tarawa on 24 March. A UNICEF child protection officer has been deployed from Fiji to Tarawa for two weeks.