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## DREF operation update

### Vanuatu: Tropical Cyclone Donna

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

<b>DREF n° MDRVU004</b>	<b>GLIDE n° TC-2017-000045-VUT</b>
<b>EPoA update n° 1, 9 June 2017</b>	<b>Timeframe covered by this update: 3 May 2017 – 31 May 2017</b>
<b>Operation start date: 5 May 2017</b>	<b>Revised operation timeframe: 6 months (ending 31 October 2017)</b>
<b>Overall operation budget: CHF 88,060 (Revised)</b> (2 <sup>nd</sup> allocation: CHF 32,126)	
<b>N° of people being assisted: 2,564 (Revised from 1,006)</b>	
<b>Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation:</b> VRCS works with the following RCRC partners: Australian Red Cross; French Red Cross; International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) Country Cluster Support Team – Pacific, IFRC as co-lead of the Vanuatu Shelter Cluster; and the New Zealand Red Cross.	
<b>Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation:</b> The Government of the Republic of Vanuatu through the Vanuatu National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) activated the National Emergency Operations Centre (National EOC) and has been coordinating the response. The Joint Police Operations Centre (JPOC) was also activated and the Vanuatu Police Force and Vanuatu Mobile Force have been on standby to support operations. Provincial Governments activated their respective Provincial Disaster Committees. In the Torres Islands, UNICEF has worked in partnership with the WASH Cluster to distribute water purification tablets to all islands except Hui where the tablets were distributed by VRCS.	

#### Summary of major revisions made to emergency plan of action:

This update informs the latest progress of the operation. This update also informs the budget revision with approval of DREF top-up (CHF 32,126) and timeframe extension for another 3 months to 31 October 2017.

Recent assessments data from the Provincial Disaster Committees (PDC) in the Banks Islands (Torba province), Malekula (Malampa province) and Santo (Sanma province) has revealed additional needs in communities on these islands due to the impact of Tropical Cyclone (TC) Donna. The Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) has been revised to include the following operational changes:

1. Distribution of selected shelter NFIs to 255 households in the affected communities of the Banks Islands, Malekula, and Santo;
2. Distribution of selected WASH NFIs, along with hygiene promotion messaging, to 138 households in the affected communities of Malekula, and Santo;
3. Replenishment of NFIs;
4. Inclusion of lesson learned workshop.

Response activities in the Torres Islands have made good progress in accessing hard-to-reach communities and operating in a resource poor setting and unpredictable weather patterns. Distributions in Santo and the Banks Islands are presently underway with distributions in Malekula expected to commence in early June. All distributions are expected to be completed within the next few weeks.

## A. Situation analysis

### Description of the disaster

On 2 May 2017, the Fiji Meteorological Service provided an early alert for a tropical disturbance (TD21F) forming to the north of Vanuatu. Over the ensuing 24 hours TD21F continued to strengthen and by midnight on 3 May 2017 had developed into TC Donna, a category 1 system. Moving in a westerly direction, TC Donna passed north of the Vanuatu group as a category 3 cyclone within 50-100km of the Torres Islands in the Torba province. The system continued west before turning south and passing to the west of Sanma, Malampa and Shefa provinces. TC Donna was later classified as a category 5 cyclone by the Vanuatu Meteorology and Geohazards Department as it tracked southwards towards New Caledonia sustaining wind speeds of over 215km/hr. TC Donna continued towards New Caledonia and was downgraded to a Tropical Low on 11 May 2017.

#### *Torba province*

The main impact of TC Donna was felt in the Torba province over 7-9 May 2017, especially the Torres Islands which has an estimated population of 1,320<sup>1</sup> and comprises the islands of Hiu, Metoma (an uninhabited islet), Tegua, Ngwel (an uninhabited islet), Linua, Loh and Toga. In Situation Report 02 issued on 5 May 2017, the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu NDMO reported a Red Alert in place for Torba province with destructive winds and flash flooding. The cyclone knocked out Torres Islands' only cell phone tower and caused widespread damage. On 6 May 2017, the NDMO contacted the islands, using a VRCS HF radio, and established that while there were no reported injuries, there had been widespread destruction of buildings and crops.

Situation Report 03 of the NDMO issued on 6 May 2017 reported a significant number of houses destroyed and most houses damaged across the Torres Islands. In addition, there was damage to schools, churches, water tanks and water sources. Most toilets had been destroyed and crops damaged. Authorities in the Torres Islands reported that there was enough food to last for approximately two weeks, however shop supplies were running out with no regular shipping service to replenish them and water sources were contaminated.

For the Banks Islands, the Torba PDC deployed a provincial working group technical assessment team, comprising the PDC and VRCS volunteers, to undertake initial rapid assessments over 10-11 May. A report compiled by the team at the end of the assessments indicated widespread damage to houses, toilets, infrastructure, garden crops, communication and water sources (also suspected to be contaminated).

#### *Malampa province*

TC Donna made landfall on the island of Malekula over 11-12 May 2017. The Malampa PDC arranged a coordination meeting with all provincial working groups including VRCS (an active member of the PDC) and other agencies based on the island. The working group was divided into groups to conduct initial rapid assessments once the all clear was declared by the NDMO. The Malampa province rapid assessment report completed on 13/15 May reported widespread damage to houses, toilets, roading and infrastructure, crops (with likely food shortages in the coming weeks) many gardens washed away and water contaminated.

#### *Sanma province*

TC Donna also made landfall on the island of Santo over 11-12 May 2017. Over 13-15 May the Sanma PDC deployed a provincial working group technical assessment team comprising the PDC and VRCS volunteers to undertake initial rapid assessments. A report compiled by the team at the end of the assessments indicated widespread damage to houses, toilets, infrastructure, garden crops, communication and water sources (also suspected to be contaminated).

### Summary of current response

#### Overview of Host National Society

Vanuatu Red Cross Society (VRCS) works through one headquarters office in Port Vila and six branches covering all administrative provinces of Vanuatu. It has 34 staff based in the national office and 9 staff in the provinces in addition to approximately 508 volunteers throughout the country. Following its experience of Tropical Cyclone Pam (TC Pam) in 2014, VRCS made significant investment in developing its capacity and experience in disaster response. Almost 100 volunteers received emergency response training and stocks of emergency relief supplies were pre-positioned in six depots/warehouses throughout the country. In its recovery operation following TC Pam, VRCS focused on building the resilience of local communities to be better prepared to face future disasters. This included establishing and training community disaster committees (CDC) and volunteers.

VRCS was well prepared for TC Donna. The Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) was activated on 3 May 2017 and a DMIS entry posted on 4 May 2017. Upon confirmation of the development of TC Donna, staff and volunteers in national headquarters and branches were placed on high alert to prepare for the storm and support the evacuation of vulnerable communities as

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<sup>1</sup> Increased from 1,022 based on information gathered during initial rapid needs assessment

required. A total 300 volunteers were on standby to respond to TC Donna many of whom are trained Emergency Response Team (ERT) members.

As of late May, the VRCS EOC was scaled down however, the VRCS disaster management (DM) team including logistics continues to liaise and coordinate with the NDMO, Provincial Governments, and VRCS branches on all aspects of the response.

### **Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country**

VRCS works with IFRC and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) through their regional structures, as well as with VRCS' in-country partners, Australian Red Cross (ARC) and French Red Cross (FRC) with whom VRCS have a long-term engagement.

### **Overview of non-RCRC actors in country**

#### ***National level***

At a national level the focus of the response has been on the Torres Islands where the greatest impact of TC Donna has been felt. The NDMO is coordinating the response and initially activated the National EOC on a 24/7 basis. This has now been scaled back to normal working hours. The coordination has consisted of all key humanitarian actors including the Joint Police Operation Centre where required. The Vanuatu Police Force and Vanuatu Mobile Force have also been on standby to support operations.

All Vanuatu humanitarian coordination groups ('clusters') were activated, and individually met for initial preparedness briefings (logistics, telecommunications, food security, health, education, shelter, and WASH).

Provincial EOCs in Torba, Sanma and Malampa provinces were also activated in coordination with the National EOC and are presently still operational.

For the initial assessment and response in the Torres Islands, the following coordination hierarchy was put in place and remains active:

1. National Emergency Operations Centre, Port Vila;
2. Secondary on-site hub at the Provincial Emergency Operations Centre in Luganville, Santo;
3. Onsite Coordination Centre, Loh Island, Torres.

Information gathered during an NDMO-led detailed sector assessment undertaken over 26-29 May 2017 will be used by the NDMO to draft a 'phase 2' relief plan. The plan will outline the support/relief supplies needed so that clusters and partner agencies can consider how best they can help. At the time of writing this plan had not been released.

#### ***Provincial level***

At a Provincial level, coordination meetings were held as part of early warning preparations for TC Donna and an EOC activated in each province to monitor the situation on a 24/7 basis. The Vanuatu Mobile Force was also mobilised to assist with evacuating households in low lying areas and in areas where housing infrastructure is weak. The PDCs were activated by their respective provincial governments during this time and undertook initial rapid assessments following the passing of TC Donna.

The provincial EOC's are presently still active however have been scaled back to normal working hours. It is expected that they will remain active until all distributions are complete. The PDC's are coordinating the distributions in partnership with VRCS, the relevant Area Council Secretary (ACS), CDCs, and other agencies involved in the provincial working groups. Logistics for the distributions are being provided by the PDC and the relief items by VRCS and the working groups.

## **Revised needs analysis and scenario planning**

An initial assessment report completed by the VRCS health officer (deployed to coordinate the assessment and distribution), VRCS WASH officer, VRCS hygiene promotion officer, and ACS for the Torres Islands, with the assistance of the community disaster committee (CDC), identified 177 affected households requiring assistance in the Torres Islands. This figure was rounded to 200 households based on the advice of the ACS and VRCS' experience in the area.

Due to the spread of communities affected by TC Donna, information on the number of affected households in the Banks Islands, Santo and Malekula has only become available in late May as teams have returned from remote and difficult to access locations in the field. As of 31 May 2017, assessments undertaken by PDCs and VRCS volunteers in the Banks Islands, Malekula and Santo have identified a further 255 affected households requiring assistance through the distribution of selected shelter NFIs and 138 affected households requiring assistance through the distribution of selected WASH NFIs.

#### ***Risk Analysis***

The primary risk to the operation is the remote location of the affected communities and potential for adverse weather conditions to affect the:

- ability of the assessment teams to reach all locations;

- timely distribution of NFIs to the affected households and communities.

VRCS is taking steps to mitigate these risks, including:

- Working through pre-established disaster committees that VRCS has been training for over 10 years;
- Maintaining close coordination with local authorities;
- Using the VRCS volunteer network.

## B. Operational strategy and plan

### Overall Objective

The DREF operation aims to address the needs of 2,564 (*revised*)<sup>2</sup> people through the mobilization of relief items and surge support from the VRCS headquarters and branches. It seeks to assist communities in addressing their immediate needs and preparing for the transition into a recovery phase in close coordination with public authorities, other stakeholders and partners; and with technical and funding support from the IFRC.

### Revision to strategy

In the early stages of the response and preparation of the EPoA, initial needs assessment data was only available for the Torres Islands where the greatest impact of TC Donna was felt and which has been the focus of the national level response.

Initial needs assessments undertaken by PDCs in the Banks Islands, Malekula and Santo have also now been completed and revealed WASH and shelter needs in areas similarly affected by TC Donna (refer Detailed Operational Plan).

Following requests received from the respective Provincial Governments, VRCS now extends the scope of the operation to include the distribution of selected shelter and WASH NFIs to the affected households of the Banks Islands, Malekula and Santo.

To achieve this objective VRCS will:

1. Assist the most affected population of the Banks Islands, Malekula, Santo and the Torres Islands with:
  - the distribution of selected shelter NFIs;
  - the distribution of selected WASH NFIs (Torres Islands and Santo only);
  - hygiene promotion (Torres Islands only);
  - the provision of clean, safe water (in VRCS' role as part of the WASH cluster).
2. Replenish those NFIs distributed in the response in preparation for any future disaster response.

All response activities continue to be closely coordinated and implemented with the relevant stakeholders and authorities including the NDMO, provincial governments, CDCs, PDCs, ACS, local authorities, and communities.

Gender, protection and inclusion (GPI) principles have been incorporated into the response through encouraging the involvement of women volunteers and ensuring vulnerable groups affected by TC Donna are also reached during the response. In the Torres Islands, the VRCS gender and protection officer and an expert from the gender and protection cluster formed part of the assessment team.

### Operational support services

#### Human resources

Technical experts from the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu, VRCS and various clusters were mobilized to provide support and expertise during the initial response mission to the Torres Islands. The first mission team comprised: 1 NDMO coordination officer, 2 VRCS staff (WASH and assessment), 1 agricultural expert from the food security cluster, 1 WASH expert from the Ministry of Land & Natural Resources, and 1 expert from the gender and protection cluster;

Also assisting the implementation of the EPoA are:

- 30 volunteers in the Torres Island group (many of whom are also CDC members);
- 10 volunteers in the Banks Island group;
- 15 ERT trained volunteers in Malekula;
- 15 ERT trained volunteers in Santo.

In addition:

<sup>2</sup> Original plan was 1,006 people

- The IFRC CCST Pacific communications manager was deployed for a one-week period during TC Donna to assist with coordination;
- Support with the planning and implementation of WASH initiatives has been provided by the French Red Cross;
- The IFRC CCST Pacific Shelter Officer was deployed to Vanuatu from 14-18 May 2017 to support shelter cluster lead Public Works Department and partners including VRCS with the coordination of the shelter cluster;
- The IFRC CCST Pacific information management support was deployed in late May/early June to assist with this operations update and revisions to the EPoA.

These supports have been coordinated by the IFRC office in Suva in close collaboration and communication with VRCS. 6 Australian Red Cross (ARC) delegates and 1 New Zealand Red Cross (NZRC) delegate were also in-country during TC Donna and provided support with early interventions, shelter cluster coordination and activation.

## Logistics and supply chain

Logistics activities aim to effectively manage the supply chain, including, procurement, customs clearance, storage and transport to distribution sites in accordance with the operation's requirements and aligned to IFRC's logistics standards, processes and procedures.

Affected community locations in the Banks Islands, Malekula, Santo and the Torres Islands are difficult to access with irregular sea-shipping services and small airstrips and airplanes reaching only a few islands of the Banks and Torres groups. Typically, local fiberglass 'banana boats' are used between and around the islands within the groups with limited carrying capacity and frequently turbulent seas. In many cases there are no roads and very limited logistics infrastructure available. However, VRCS has worked closely with the Vanuatu logistics cluster to identify the best solutions to reach and support affected communities; and in the case of the Torres Islands the Vanuatu Government has provided shipping for the NFIs aboard chartered cargo ships from Santo and Port Vila.

VRCS has NFIs stored in a newly built warehouse in Santo, that was officially opened earlier this year under the TC Pam operation, in Malekula, and a small number in Sola (Banks Islands). The Malekula, Santo and Sola storage sites can be supplemented and restocked from VRCS NFI stores in the capital, Port Vila. VRCS preference has been to replace distributed NFIs from IFRC through the Asia-Pacific Regional Logistics Unit (RLU). It is estimated that sea freight from the IFRC Asia-Pacific warehouse in Kuala Lumpur (KL) to Port Vila will take 45-55 days on sea (port to port). The Kuala Lumpur warehouse has all items identified available for dispatch, except for sleeping mats and 20L jerry cans which VRCS will procure locally.

VRCS have a small logistics team and logistics volunteers – who were trained during the TC Pam operation by the IFRC logistics delegate – and can provide administrative and logistics support to the operation. Furthermore the IFRC warehouse management software Logic was implemented during the TC Pam operation and is currently in use for supply chain management within the VRCS logistics system. VRCS logisticians in Port Vila will oversee local freighting, customs clearances for international replenishments and the local procurement of goods and services in line with IFRC procurement procedures and processes.

The IFRC logistics delegate based in the CCST Pacific office in Suva will assist and advise VRCS, supported by the Asia-Pacific RLU in KL.

## Information technologies (IT)

During TC Donna, access to the most affected areas was disrupted and communication by HF radio was the only means of receiving rapid assessment reports from the affected island groups. Phone calls to and from the IFRC office in Suva were also required for support.

## Communications

To provide in-country support to VRCS, the IFRC CCST Pacific communications manager based in Suva was deployed for a one-week period to work with the VRCS communications team and assist the coordination of media and communications. Through the work of the communications team, talking points were prepared to guide interviews and the consistency of messages shared with international and local media.

Throughout the operation VRCS has used social media to provide updates on the weather and disaster response for general viewers and followers of the [VRCS Facebook page](#). The [VRCS website](#) has also been used to update the public on actions taken by VRCS teams and disseminate important preparedness messages. On 27 May 2017, the VRCS disaster coordinator was interviewed 'live' by Radio Vanuatu to provide an update on VRCS' response to TC Donna in the Torres Islands.

## Security

There have been no security issues identified in respect of this response.

## Planning, monitoring, evaluation, & reporting (PMER)

The respective divisions of the VRCS headquarters in Port Vila including disaster risk management, WASH, finance and management, will guide and monitor the EPoA. Support for communications and coordination will continue to be provided by the IFRC CCST Pacific office.

Reporting on the EPoA will be carried out in accordance with IFRC minimum standards. Monitoring visits to the affected communities and interviews with beneficiaries, volunteers and others involved in the response will also be conducted to assess progress and guide any necessary adjustments. At the conclusion of the operation a lessons learned workshop will be held in Santo for VRCS staff and volunteers and the ACS or a PDC representative from each of the affected provinces.

## Administration and Finance

VRCS headquarters has a finance team supporting the disaster coordinator with all activities necessary to ensure the proper use of resource. The disaster coordinator is responsible for any expenditure or purchase that takes place during the operation, and resources will be utilized in accordance with standard VRCS and DREF guidelines and procedures. A finance officer from the IFRC CCST Pacific will also be made available to visit during the timeframe of the DREF and assist with monitoring and resolving any financial issues.

## C. Detailed Operational Plan

### Early warning & emergency response preparedness

A complete and effective people-centered early warning system to prepare VRCS Branches and volunteers was activated on 3 May 2017. VRCS utilized weather information from the Vanuatu Meteorology and Geohazards Division of the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu and Fiji Meteorology Service to inform the mobilization of the headquarters EOC. Due to power outage in Port Vila, additional costs were incurred to operate the EOC and mobile communications with standby power.

Activities completed:

1. The translation of updates for Branches (rostered standby team to translate and disseminate warning information).
2. Disseminating warnings through social media including the VRCS Facebook page, website and Twitter.
3. The use of mobile phones to maintain communication between VRCS Headquarters and Branches.

## Programming / Areas Common to all Sectors

Quality programming			
Outcome 1 Continuous and detailed evaluation and analysis to inform the operation's design and implementation	Outputs		% of achievement
		<b>Output 1.1</b> Initial needs assessments are carried out in consultation with beneficiaries and authorities  <b>Output 1.2</b> A comprehensive monitoring and assessment of the plan of action is conducted	
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
Rapid shelter and WASH assessment to determine the impact of the disaster	x		100%
Rapid emergency and sectoral evaluation	x		100%
Post distribution monitoring visits to affected communities	x		0%
Beneficiary satisfaction surveys	x		0%
Lessons learned workshop	x		0%
Progress towards outcomes			

### **Torres Islands**

Initial needs assessments were undertaken in the Torres Islands over 12-14 May by an NDMO led multi stakeholder rapid assessment and WASH intervention team consisting of eight representatives from the NDMO, Vanuatu Police Force, VRCS, gender and protection cluster, food security cluster, shelter cluster and WASH cluster. The assessments identified a total of 177 households requiring assistance. However, based on VRCS knowledge and experience in the area and the difficulty in determining the exact number of households in remote locations it was determined, in consultation with the shelter cluster, to round this number to 200 households. An NDMO led Detailed Sector Assessment (DSA) was also conducted over 26-28 May. The results of this assessment were not available at the time of writing.

### **Banks Islands, Malekula and Santo**

While the national level focus has been on the Torres Islands, the NDMO has provided some funding for the Provincial Governments of the other affected islands to conduct needs assessments. However, due to the remote location of most of the affected communities and the national level focus on the Torres Islands, there has been some delay in receiving data from the field to confirm the number of affected households and needs.

In Santo, assessment teams were divided per the Area Councils of Sanma. Initial needs assessments began on 11 May 2017 and were completed on 30 May 2017. Seven VRCS volunteers from the VRCS branch in Santo have participated in the assessments.

In the Banks Islands, initial needs assessments were undertaken by the PDC and provincial working group over 11-17 May 2017. Eight VRCS volunteers from the VRCS branch in Sola and several PDC members have participated in the assessments.

In Malekula, initial needs assessments were undertaken by the PDC and provincial working group over 13-15 May 2017. Four VRCS volunteers from the VRCS branch in Malekula have participated in the assessments.

As of 31 May 2017, needs in the Banks Islands, Malekula and Santo have now been confirmed and the EPoA revised to reflect further NFI distributions required to assist the affected communities on these islands.

### **Post distribution monitoring, beneficiary satisfaction surveys and lessons learned workshop**

Post-distribution monitoring visits and beneficiary satisfaction surveys will be completed in coordination with the ACS in each province and, will include, where possible, VRCS volunteers from the relevant branch. Due to the remote location of most the affected communities, monitoring visits and beneficiary satisfaction surveys will be completed in the most populous affected area of each province.

A lessons learned workshop will be held in Santo for VRCS staff, ERT volunteers, and the ACS or a representative of the PDC, from each of the affected provinces at the completion of the operation. Bringing together key people who have been involved in the response will be important for sharing and learning from each other's experiences and challenges, increasing coordination, information sharing and peer support amongst the northern VRCS branches, and agreeing ways to improve future disaster responses and interventions.

The post distribution monitoring visits, beneficiary satisfaction surveys and lessons learned workshop are planned for July.

## **Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion**

### **Needs analysis:**

The report of the NDMO-led multi stakeholder rapid assessment and WASH intervention team deployed to the Torres Islands over 12-14 May confirmed substantial damage to water supplies in the Torba province and that WASH and health assistance was a priority. Portable water was found to be lacking and most water in storage contaminated. Underground water was also found to be contaminated and many communities along the coastline reported that hand pumped water and the water from ground wells tasted salty.

During TC Donna, a gravity-fed system on Hui Island was destroyed and people left reliant on water from the tank and an underground well which were contaminated. Torres Island sanitation facilities were also destroyed posing a high risk of water-borne and vector-borne diseases.

### **Population to be assisted:**

#### **Torres Islands**

VRCS has targeted 200 HH for:

- access to safe drinking water and WASH NFIs;
- hygiene promotion;
- the purification of water (community water tanks) on Hui island; and the

- distribution of clean water during the initial response; this comprised sending 100 x 20L jerry cans filled with water by boat from Port Vila to the Torres Islands.

### **Malekula and Santo**

In accordance with needs identified by the PDCs, VRCS has targeted a total of 138 households for the distribution of selected WASH NFIs (hygiene kits and 20L jerry cans).



*Damaged school in Malekula (Photo: VRCS)*

<b>Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion</b>			
<b>Outcome 1</b> Adverse effects on the health of the affected population are reduced through access to safe water, sanitation facilities and hygiene promotion activities	<b>Outputs</b>		<b>% of achievement</b>
		<b>Output 1.1</b> Hygiene promotions have been conducted in target HH and communities in coordination with the MoH	
	<b>Output 1.2</b> Contaminated water sources are tested and treated		
	<b>Output 1.3</b> Affected HH have access to WASH NFIs		
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Is implementation on time?</b>		<b>% progress (estimate)</b>
	<b>Yes (x)</b>	<b>No (x)</b>	
Printing of VRCS WASH IEC materials	x		100%
Distribution of VRCS WASH IEC materials (integrated with NFI distribution)	x		100%
Treatment of rainwater tanks for safe drinking water	x		100%
Water source testing	x		100%
Distribution of WASH NFIs to target HH	x		75%
<b>Progress towards outcomes</b>			
<i>National level</i>			

At a national level outside of the Torres Islands, the VRCS branch in Tanna mobilised volunteers during TC Donna for a preparatory briefing on how to conduct a first community disaster assessment and complete the associated form; and on Efate, a VRCS team worked with local authorities to clean the rainwater tanks at six evacuation centres (including three in Port Vila), adding chlorine to the water to make it safe to drink.

### **Torres Islands**

Coincident with initial needs assessments undertaken over 12-14 May 2017 by the NDMO led multi stakeholder rapid assessment and WASH intervention team; VRCS team members travelling to the Torres Islands distributed 200 x 10L water containers to 100 HH (2 per household) and 395 locally procured handwashing and bathing soaps to approximately 198 HH (2 per household) in the affected communities. Hygiene promotion materials were also taken to promote hygiene awareness during the distributions. This consisted of 40 posters printed in Bislama with key messaging relating to handwashing, boiling water and the use of tippy taps. The posters were used to educate 12 communities (approximately 1,320 people) across the Torres group and afterwards provided for display in public areas such as the local meeting house, churches or classrooms. The Torres Islands CDC, comprising 10 members who are also VRCS volunteers, was part of the distribution team on each island and was trained to carry out these hygiene promotion activities in advance of their departure to the field by two VRCS staff on the ground.

During this time, VRCS volunteers, in partnership with the Vanuatu Government Water Resource Department, distributed 2,250 water purification tablets on the island of Hui where a gravity-fed water system had been destroyed and water from the tank and an underground well were contaminated. These were distributed to 50 HH (278 people) along with a briefing and demonstration on how to use them. The tablets were intended to last for one week while the community awaited further purification tablets from UNICEF. Outside of Hui, water purification tablets were distributed by the WASH cluster. Water source testing was also completed by the WASH cluster during this time with the support of one VRCS staff member. The testing indicated water source contamination throughout the Torres group.

Since TC Donna, there have been three cases of diarrhoea reported on the island of Hui. These cases have been treated and the situation is being monitored by the MoH health officer for Torres based in Loh.

On 30 May 2017, the second and final shipment of NFIs for the Torres Islands was dispatched from Port Vila. These NFIs are expected to be distributed to the affected households of the Torres Islands during the first two weeks of June 2017.

The following provides a summary of WASH NFIs dispatched to the Torres Islands by NDMO chartered boat from Port Vila and Santo respectively:

Item	Santo 16/05/2017	Port Vila 16/05/2017	Port Vila 24/05/2017	Port Vila 30/05/2017	Total dispatched
Hygiene kits <sup>3</sup>	2	175	0	23	200
Jerry cans (10L)	200	0	0	0	200
Jerry cans (20L)	0	100	0	100	200

**Note:**

1. The original EPoA indicated a requirement for 2 x 20L jerry cans per household however, this should have been 1 x 20L jerry can per household.
2. As VRCS have found that the demand for 20L jerry cans has been much greater than for 10L, an additional 100 x 20L jerry cans have been dispatched in place of the 200 x 10L jerry cans initially requested under the DREF. There are no further requirements for the distribution of jerry cans in the Torres Islands.

### **Malekula and Santo**

Given the remote location and challenges in reaching the affected communities of Malekula and Santo, distributions have taken place concurrently with needs assessments where possible.

In Santo, while some distributions have already taken place coincident with the initial needs assessment, the response is expected to take up to two months. Seven VRCS volunteers from the VRCS branch in Santo are involved in the distributions.

In Malekula, distributions have not yet been able to commence. Widespread damage to infrastructure has made transportation difficult in addition to a lack of available safety equipment such as life-jackets, and engine problems at sea with a dinghy used to transport the NFIs. Four VRCS volunteers are involved in the distributions which are now expected to commence on 5 June 2017.

The following table details the WASH NFIs identified for distribution to the affected households of Malekula and Santo:

Island	NFIs
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<sup>3</sup> The hygiene kits consisted of: 12x 100g body soap, 5 x 200g laundry soap, 40 x sanitary pads, 3x bath towels 70x30cm, 2x bath towel 130x60cm, 6x rolls of toilet paper, 2x toothpaste, 5 x toothbrushes, 4 disposable razors.

	Jerry can 20L	Hygiene Kits
Banks	0	0
Malekula	33	33
Santo	105	100
<b>Totals</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>133</b>

## Shelter and settlements

### Needs analysis:

Initial damage assessment data prepared by VRCS on 17 May 2017 indicated a total of 177 houses in the Torres Islands damaged or destroyed as a result of TC Donna.

The following table was compiled by the Area Council Secretary for the Torres Islands with the assistance of VRCS staff and volunteers:

Island	Total # of HH	# of houses damaged	# of houses destroyed
Hiu	50	24	26
Toga	65	47	18
Tegua	19	13	6
Loh	41	25	16
Metoma	2	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>67</b>

As of late May, information from VRCS branches and the initial damage reports for the Banks Islands, Malekula and Santo have now been received and indicate the following houses damaged or destroyed due to TC Donna.

Island	Affected population	Total # of HH	# of houses damaged	# of houses destroyed
Banks	3856	783	106	53
Malekula	1797	404	30	7
Northern Santo	1967	387	30	29
<b>Total</b>	<b>7620</b>	<b>1574</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>89</b>

### Population to be assisted:

#### *Torres Islands*

In accordance with the Vanuatu Shelter Cluster Response Plan for TC Donna, 9 May 2017, drafted following the Vanuatu Shelter Cluster meeting on that same day:

- VRCS agreed to carry out the first round of distributions of shelter NFIs to affected families in the Torres Islands.
- Considering that the VRCS assessment indicated that 177 houses sustained either total or partial damage, and that TC Donna passed relatively close to the Torres Islands, the Shelter Cluster recommended carrying out a blanket distribution (distribution to 100% of the island's population), of shelter NFIs. This recommendation also considered the remoteness of the islands, the high cost of transportation, and ineffectiveness of emergency shelter NFIs if they are received too late, i.e.: if delivered during a second-round of distributions due to needs not being met during the first round. Considering the challenges and high cost associated with transporting tools and materials, (which are considerably larger challenges for communities in the Torres Islands even during peacetime), blanket coverage during the first distribution was considered of significant benefit to the community.

#### *Banks Islands, Malekula and Santo*

Because of the amount of time that has now passed since TC Donna and the resilience and ability of the affected communities to self-recover, only selected shelter NFIs have been identified for distribution in the Banks Islands, Malekula and Santo. In accordance with needs identified by the PDCs, a total of 255 households have been targeted for the distribution of selected shelter NFIs (shelter toolkits, tarpaulins, kitchen sets, blankets and mats).



Landslide in Malekula (Photo: VRCS)

Shelter and settlements			
Outcome 1 Communities affected by TC Donna are supported to restore their homes through an owner-driven early recovery approach	Outputs		% of achievement
		<b>Output 1.1</b> Emergency shelter assistance (including NFIs and awareness on recommended usage) which promotes early recovery shelter activities is provided for the most vulnerable TC Donna-affected households in the Banks Islands, Malekula, Santo and the Torres Islands within the next 3 months	
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
Conduct inter-sectoral rapid assessment in Torres, coordinated with cluster leads and the Torres Area Council Secretary	x		100%
Analyse assessment data and select beneficiaries based on needs, capacities and vulnerabilities	x		100%
Establish distribution plan (distribution team) and coordinate shipping of shelter NFIs to affected areas	x		75%
Provide awareness sessions at distribution sites (before distribution) on recommended usage of shelter NFIs	x		75%
Carry out distributions of shelter NFIs with the support of VRCS and NDMO volunteers	x		75%

Replenishment of shelter NFIs

x

0%

**Progress towards outcomes****Torres Islands**

Initial shelter needs assessments were undertaken over 12-14 May 2017 by the ACS for the Torres Islands, CDC and NDMO led multi stakeholder rapid assessment and WASH intervention team. Information from these assessments has been used to determine the response which has comprised a blanket distribution of shelter NFIs to all affected households in Torres (refer: shelter and settlements: population to be assisted).

The distributions have been initiated by NDMO chartered cargo ships from Port Vila and are being completed using banana boats within the Torres Islands. Teams of three (a VRCS volunteer, CDC representative, and the ACS or a focal point for the community) are accompanying the NFIs on the banana boats to facilitate the distributions. The teams were trained by the VRCS health officer (deployed to coordinate the operation) in advance of their initial departure so that they may conduct awareness sessions on the recommended use of the shelter NFIs at the time of distribution.

One shelter tool kit and two tarpaulins are being provided to destroyed households and one tarpaulin to damaged households. In addition, to ensure that the proposed shelter NFIs are appropriate for the affected communities, two sample shelter tool kits, tarpaulins and kitchen kits were sent with the first assessment team for discussion with the affected communities

The following provides a summary of Shelter NFIs dispatched to the Torres Islands by NDMO chartered boat from Port Vila and Santo respectively:

Item	Santo 16/05/2017	Port Vila 16/05/2017	Port Vila 24/05/2017	Port Vila 30/05/2017	Total dispatched
Shelter toolkits	2	175	0	23	200
Tarpaulins	2	180	4	54	240
Kitchen sets	2	0	0	200	202
Blankets	0	0	0	400	400
Sleeping mats	0	0	0	400	400

**Banks Islands, Malekula and Santo**

Refer table for water, sanitation and hygiene promotion under the Detailed Operational Plan for details of the distribution progress.

The following table details the Shelter NFIs identified for distribution to the affected households of the Banks Islands, Malekula and Santo:

Island	NFIs				
	Tarps	Shelter Toolkits	Kitchen Sets	Mats	Blankets
Banks	212	53	0	0	0
Malekula	76	7	33	66	66
Santo	112	29	0	10	16
<b>Totals</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>82</b>

Note: The above figures include 32 tarpaulins in Malekula and 23 tarpaulins in Santo for distribution to schools damaged as a result of TC Donna.

## D. Budget

### REVISED DREF OPERATION

08/06/2017

MDRVU004 : Vanuatu Tropical Cyclone Donna

Budget Group	DREF grant budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	15,768
Clothing & Textiles	7,240
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	5,455
Teaching Materials	1,379
Ustensils & Tools	10,172
<b>Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES</b>	<b>40,013</b>
Storage, Warehousing	1,011
Distribution & Monitoring	9,795
Transport & Vehicle Costs	2,895
Logistics Services	4,450
<b>Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE</b>	<b>18,151</b>
National Society Staff	3,832
Volunteers	744
<b>Total PERSONNEL</b>	<b>4,576</b>
Workshops & Training	8,413
<b>Total WORKSHOP &amp; TRAINING</b>	<b>8,413</b>
Travel	10,568
Information & Public Relations	460
Office Costs	505
<b>Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>11,533</b>
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	5,375
<b>Total INDIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>5,375</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>88,060</b>



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## How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, **encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



**Save lives.**  
protect livelihoods,  
and strengthen recovery  
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**  
and **safe** living.



Promote social inclusion  
and a culture of  
**non-violence** and **peace**.