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## Operation Update Report Vanuatu, Volcano Yasur

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

<b>DREF n°</b> MDRVU009	<b>GLIDE n°</b> <a href="#">VO-2021-000174-VUT</a>
<b>Operation update n° 2;</b> 31 March 2022	<b>Timeframe covered by this update:</b> 19 November 2021 to 18 February 2022
<b>Operation start date:</b> 19 November 2021	<b>Operation timeframe:</b> 5 months <b>End date:</b> 30 April 2022
<b>DREF amount allocated:</b>	CHF 88,383
<b>N° of people being assisted:</b> 3,586 people/ 755 households	
<b>Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation:</b> The Vanuatu Red Cross Society (VRCS) has been working closely with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) Country Cluster Delegation in Suva to ensure response activities meet Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) requirements.	
<b>Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation:</b> The Tafea Provincial Government and Tafea Provincial Disaster Committee, Vanuatu National Disaster Management Office (NDMO), World Vision, Save the Children, CARE, and Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA).	

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

This DREF Operations Update no. 2 extends the operation timeframe by one month until 30 April 2022 to accommodate further shipment delays in the international procurement of replenishment items. These items are scheduled to arrive in Vanuatu in Mid-March but have been delayed until end of March. The items procured include 226 tarps, 807 hygiene kits, 1,616 jerry cans (10L) and will replenish stocks at VRCS headquarters and the Tafea branch.

## A. Situation analysis

The Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-Hazards Department (VMGD) issued an update on 22 October 2021, indicating that the Yasur volcano alert was on Level 2<sup>1</sup> and activity had intensified to the level of major unrest. According to observations on the ground, Yasur volcano had emitted massive plumes of volcanic ash and gas from approximately 1400hrs till late. With this volcanic activity, the danger zone had increased to one km around the volcano cone, and the danger zone for life safety had moved to Danger Zone B (see a picture on scenario planning).

The Emergency Operation Center (EOC) was activated to monitor and report on the acid rain that occurred on 21 October 2021, followed by the heavy ashfall on 22 October 2021. Heavy rainfall caused a landslide to fall into the volcano's crater, triggering the eruption. There was ashfall towards the island's southeast, which consists of one Area Council. The southeast Tanna Area Council comprises 14 different tribes and has 30 communities.

The Yasur volcanic activity analysis was conducted on 28 October. The volcano monitoring system confirmed that Yasur volcano was at major unrest, with



Volcanic ash and gas plumes at Yasur Volcano, Tanna Island. Source: n/a

<sup>1</sup> Vanuatu Volcanic Alert Level (VVAL) Lv..0 Normal, Lvl.1 Signs of Volcanic Unrest, Lvl.2 Major unrest, Lvl.3 Minor eruption, Lvl.4 Moderate eruption and Lvl.5 Very large eruption

explosions accompanied by gas plumes and volcanic ash. The level of risk for visitors accessing areas from the crater rim to the parking area (Danger Zone A) was high. Depending on wind direction, villages near the volcano risked exposure to volcanic gases and/or ashfall impacts. Since October 2021, no further official updates from the Vanuatu authorities have been reported, but the needs of families affected by ashfall remained<sup>2</sup>.

## Summary of current response

### Overview of Host National Society Response Action

The VRCS attended meetings organized by the provincial government to coordinate response since 22 October 2021. The assessment team, including two volunteers of VRCS, was deployed to Tanna, where the Tafea provincial government office sits. On 28 October 2021, through the assessment with the provincial government, VRCS outlined steps to collaborate with stakeholders and planned a response with international support, applying for a DREF request. As of 4 November 2021, VRCS decided to focus on water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), health, shelter and settlements, protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) support, considering the capacity of the National Society and in response to the request for sectoral focus from the Vanuatu Government. Cluster coordination meetings at the provincial level were conducted regularly for shelter, WASH, health, gender, and protection. The VRCS provided support to the provincial government of Tafea. Tafea branch staff have continued to visit the red zone of Tanna around the volcano with provincial government staff to monitor the situation of affected communities.



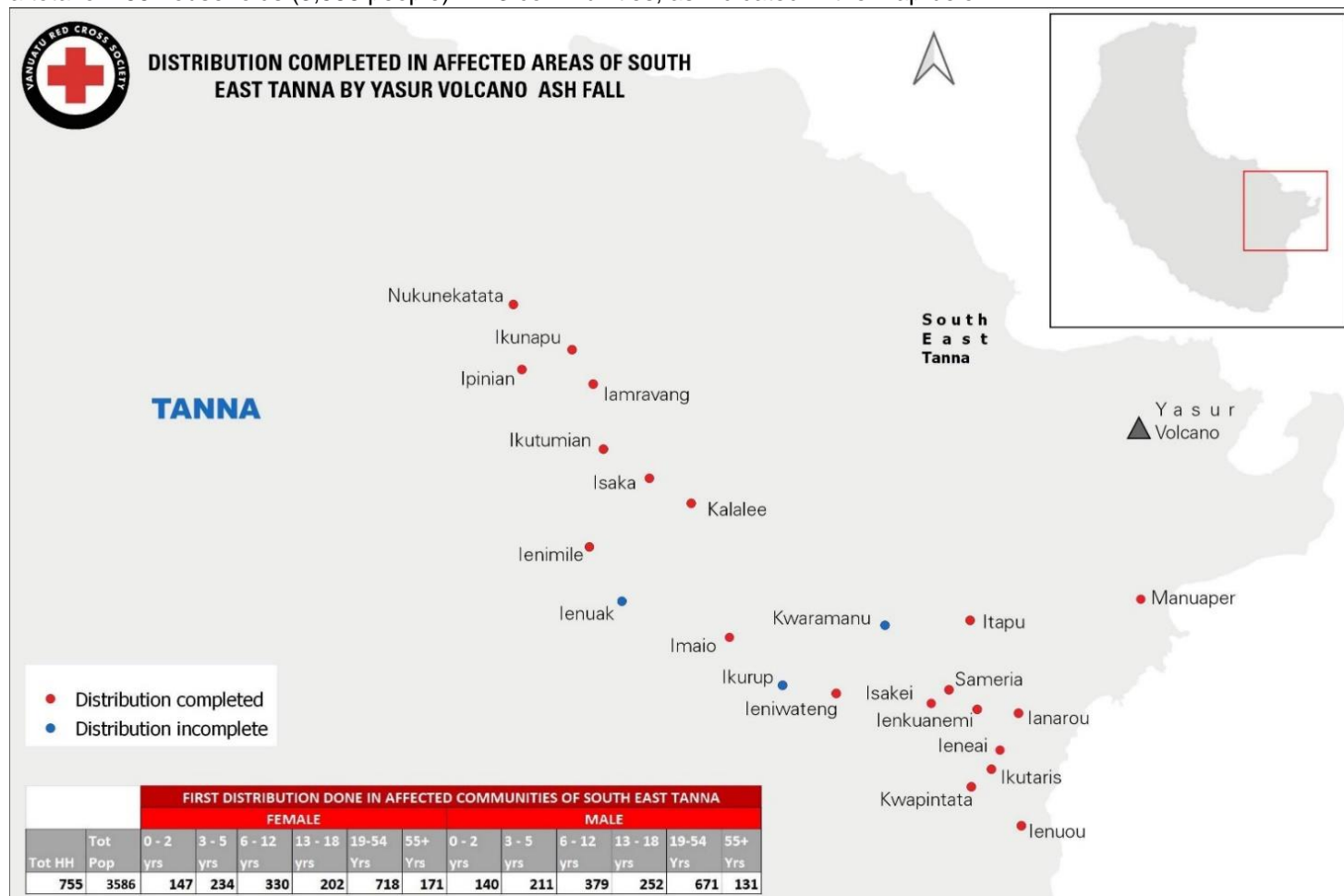
*The active Mt. Yasur Volcano. Photo source: VRCS*

Following experiences with past disasters, VRCS has made a significant investment in developing its capacity in disaster response. Over 120 volunteers received emergency response training, and stocks of emergency relief supplies are prepositioned in six hubs/warehouses throughout the country. This has strengthened VRCS's position to respond with local volunteers on the ground, well-versed with response procedures. Volunteers are trained in aiding evacuees, assessing and distributing supplies to affected areas, providing first aid support, including psychological first aid (PFA), in coordination with other partners. These volunteers have recently received training in technical guidance for the distribution of shelter items and simultaneous psychosocial support (PSS).

<sup>2</sup> Vanuatu Meteorology & Geo-Hazard Department (VMGD) bulletin: <https://www.vmgd.gov.vu/vmgd/index.php/geohazards/volcano/alert-bulletin>

VRCS Tafea branch had activated its EOC with this DREF fund and responded in coordination with the local government. Two staff and 20 Emergency Response Team (ERT) trained volunteers based in Tafea province were mobilized.

The first distribution of household items (HHIs) conducted in the affected communities in southeast Tanna had reached a total of 755 households (3,586 people) in 23 communities, as indicated in the map below:



VRCS response summary (photo: VRCS)

FIRST DISTRIBUTION DONE IN AFFECTED COMMUNITIES OF SOUTH EAST TANNA													
		FEMALE						MALE					
Tot HH	Tot Pop	0 - 2 yrs	3 - 5 yrs	6 - 12 yrs	13 - 18 yrs	1y-54 yrs	55+ Yrs	0 - 2 yrs	3 - 5 yrs	6 - 12 yrs	13 - 18 yrs	19-54 yrs	55+ yrs
755	3,586	147	234	330	202	718	171	140	211	379	252	671	131

The total of HHIs that have been distributed included tarpaulins, jerry cans (10L), hygiene kits, menstrual hygiene management (MHM) kits, psychosocial support (PSS) kits.

The second round of distributions to households and communities affected only involved the distribution of water filtration units. Below is the schedule of the activities:

Dates	Detailed Activities completed	Responsible
18 February 2022 19 February vessel departed for Tanna Island	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Volunteers mobilized at headquarters</li> <li>Transportation of HHI transported from the main wharf to headquarters</li> <li>HHIs loaded on board the arranged vessel</li> <li>The vessel departed to Tanna</li> </ul>	Logistic team – Completed successfully
20 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HHIs arrived at Tanna Lenakel wharf</li> <li>HHIs unloaded on Tanna</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HHIs transported and stored safely at Tafea branch storage site.</li> </ul>	Nicholson and Tafea branch volunteers – Completed successfully as planned
21 - 22 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HHI's distributed to the beneficiaries in south Tanna</li> </ul>	Nicholson and Tafea branch volunteers – Completed successfully as planned
24 - 28 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conducted post distribution monitoring (PDM)</li> </ul>	Nicholson and selected volunteers – Completed successfully as planned
1 - 4 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conducted lesson learned workshop (LLW)</li> </ul>	LLW was cancelled due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Will look to include an LLW for all operations in 2022 at a later date
1 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Headquarters staff departed to Tanna, LLW</li> </ul>	Logistic and staff - cancelled due to COVID-19 outbreak
4 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff return to headquarters</li> </ul>	Logistic and staff - cancelled due to COVID-19 outbreak. Staff in Tanna to remain until able to travel safely
7 - 20 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final DREF Report</li> </ul>	DM and team, IFRC - rescheduled to end of April

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

IFRC CCD in Suva has been very supportive in finalizing the DREF application to implement activities. This operation was seen as an anticipatory action to future ashfall events and volcanic eruptions in Vanuatu.

- A readiness and response manager had provided technical support to the VRCS emergency operations team. The CCD shelter focal point has also shadowed the DRM coordinator once the readiness and response manager were remotely deployed to another operation.
- The logistics capacity development delegate has worked closely with the VRCS DM and logistics team, ensuring that proper procedures are followed under a procurement plan. The delegate has also sought approval from IFRC APRO for the possibility of locally sourced household items for distribution and prepositioning.
- The logistics manager CCD has been working very closely with VRCS logs team and IFRC APRO for the international procurement of items.
- CCD health manager has been working with VRCS health officer coordinator to provide briefings to teams prepared for deployment to affected areas.

### Overview of other actors' actions in country

The NDMO had activated the following mechanisms to manage the emergency response:

- National level:
  - Provincial Emergency Operations Centre
  - Provincial Disaster and Climate Change Committee
- Provincial level:
  - Area Council Secretaries
  - Line Ministries represented in the province
  - Provincial health coordinator
  - Working groups
  - Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Livelihoods were affected, although not severely, and the NDMO coordinated with the Tafea Provincial Government for food distributions to the population.

The government is developing national contingency plans for all volcanic activities in Vanuatu that will be finalized at the end of this year. The following provincial level clusters have been mobilized for response: 1) WASH; 2) Health; 3) Food security and agriculture; 4) Gender and protection; 5) Education; 6) Logistics and 7) Shelter.

NDMO has covered food security, agriculture, education, health and protection, and gender and inclusion (PGI), although the Health and PGI cluster role is divided between NDMO and VRCS. NDMO has also provided medical and technical assistance, while VRCS provided psychological first aid (PFA) support. VRCS has followed through on the government meeting with a contingency planning meeting of its own. It is anticipated that IFRC will be involved in this process.

Apart from VRCS and NDMO responding directly to the population affected by the ash fall, partner organizations such as World Vision, Save the Children, and Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) are also present. These organizations are currently working in Ambae through other community programmes unrelated to this DREF operation, and the National Society collaborates and coordinates with them to ensure coherence.

## Needs analysis, targeting, scenario planning and risk assessment

### Needs analysis

The initial assessment conducted by NDMO found that the roofs of the traditional houses built in the Tanna region had collapsed due to the weight of the ashfall. Although traditional housing structures are quite strong, the roofs are made of natural materials and cannot withstand the weight of the ashfall.

Reports from the Provincial Disaster Office confirmed that acid rain and ashfall contaminated water sources and affected people's access to clean water early in the disaster. Furthermore, ashfall and the threat of potential eruptions can prolong problems for livelihoods and health. Respiratory, skin irritation and eye problems may arise from contaminated water sources and air pollution. Livelihoods may be affected in the long-term, as people in Tanna rely on Kava, cash crops and livestock to provide income, food, household needs and school fees.

Needs identified by the cluster assessments which VRCS had focused on are:

- Support the protection of crops and families by distributing essential household items.
- Psychosocial support to address the emotional stress arising from the extended and ongoing risk of continued ashfall and eruption.
- Protection of water sources and remediation of contaminated water sources.

Special considerations were given to persons with disabilities, the elderly, women and children to ensure that they were safe in their shelter, water access, sanitation, health and basic needs. Access to referral pathways and information for health or protection was provided. Protection messaging and psychological first aid IEC materials were disseminated during distributions. Additionally, support was provided to those requiring special assistance with their tarp installation.

Based on early assessments, VRCS initially planned to support 807 households/3,383 people with WASH, health and shelter and settlements interventions. This number has changed to 755 households/3,586 people following detailed assessments. The number of communities remains the same.

Name Of Tribe	Community	Total Population	Female population	Male Population	Total # of households
Reiunitata	Kwapitata (Iakuariting)	58	26	32	12
	Leneai	101	50	51	21
	Ianarou	27	12	15	6
	Ienuou	33	19	14	7
	Iakutaris	175	82	93	37
Nasipmine	Ienkuanemi	94	51	43	20
	Sameria	38	20	18	8
Naraimine	Manuapen (Etarip)	269	134	135	57
Karumine	Iatapu	336	170	166	71
	Kwaramanu (Iakoutapounga)	325	171	154	68
	Imaio (Ioknatahi)	369	173	196	78
Warumanaki	Ikurup (Iakrine)	164	78	86	35
Naurarimine	Ienvateng	243	123	120	51
Niamine	Isarkei	90	49	41	19
Iasuruvi	Kalalee	146	78	68	31
	Ienimilen	242	126	116	51
Narpai 1	Isaka	301	153	148	63
	Ikutemian	173	86	87	36
Narpai 2	Ikunapu	85	40	45	18
	Iamravang(Nazareth)	209	107	102	44
	Nukunekatata (Nazareth)	30	15	15	6
	Ipinian	78	39	39	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>23 communities</b>	<b>3,586</b>	<b>1,802</b>	<b>1,784</b>	<b>755</b>

## Scenario planning

The government is in the process of developing national contingency plans for all volcanoes in Vanuatu. A national contingency planning workshop has been rescheduled to the end of the year. The VRCS had followed up with a contingency planning meeting of its own, supported by IFRC. Several different scenarios require consideration: in the absence of a complete plan, the highlighted scenarios will help determine the potential needs of the affected population.

- Scenario 1: Worst affected populations in Red Zone (Permanent Exclusion Zone)
- Scenario 2: Population in the Yellow Zone (Danger Zone A + Car Park) and
- Scenario 3: Population in the Blue Zone (Danger Zone B)



As identified, the only areas affected are within the 5km radius. It is anticipated that the Yellow and Blue zones may be impacted if the situations escalate.

Scenario	Humanitarian consequence	Potential Response
Continued eruptions of Tanna-Yasur Volcano affect the population in the Yellow Zone at the alert level 2-3, and the funds required exceeds the resources available through the DREF.	Medium/High	Expand the operation under this DREF operation, including an increase in funding requirement and timeframe through coordination with the government according to the developing contingency plan
Further intensification of volcanic activity severely affects populations in Red Zone at level 4-5. The funds required exceeds the resources available through the DREF.	High	Expand the operation under this DREF operation, including an increase in funding requirement and timeframe, coordinated with the government according to the developing contingency plan

Needs will likely evolve with the situation and VRCS will remain flexible to ensure an efficient and effective response by monitoring the affected areas and coordinating with NDMO and the Met Service.

## Targeting

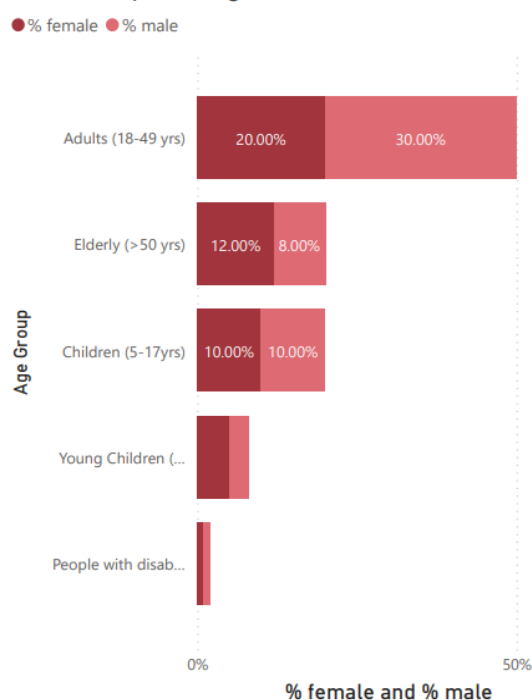
In line with planning coordination advised by the provincial government through NDMO, VRCS had mainly targeted populations of the south and east area of Tanna. The response was based on the household level.

VRCS had initially targeted 807 households in priority areas in the south and southeast of Tanna Island. However, upon detailed assessments, VRCS decided to support 807 households with WASH and provide shelter assistance to only 113 households. According to the assessment result, these 113 households had traditional homes and used thatched roofing, and families were provided with temporary shelter assistance. The VRCS has the latest population data that enabled targeted assistance, including vulnerable households. Vulnerability assessment criteria also included female-headed households, seniors, and people with disabilities.

### Estimated disaggregated data for population targeted

Category	Estimated % of target group	% female	% male
Young Children (under 5 years)	8%	5%	3%
Children (5-17yrs)	20%	10%	10%
Adults (18-49 yrs)	50%	20%	30%
Seniors (>50 yrs)	20%	12%	8%
People with disabilities	2%	1%	1%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>52%</b>

Estimated disaggregated data of people to be assisted in percentages



### Operation Risk Assessment

Heavy ashfall poses significant health and safety risks for VRCS staff and volunteers deployed to the field. Health risks include respiratory illness, contaminated water and lack of food. In response, staff and volunteers were provided with personal protective equipment and with sufficient water and food daily. The volcano's activity and its effects were closely monitored by liaising with the VMGD and staff and volunteers on the ground to ensure their safety.

On 4 March 2022, an active COVID19 case was confirmed at Vila Central Hospital, and the country has subsequently seen widespread community transmission of COVID-19. All provinces in Vanuatu are now on Alert Level 3 (very high), given reports of cases or movement close contacts in the six provinces. As of 22 March, 1,373 confirmed cases have been reported since the beginning of the year. New case numbers continue to be high (279 in the last 24 hours) and likely under-reported given testing limitations. The COVID-19 outbreak will likely result in limitations to the movements of the VRCS teams. The NS is now heavily involved in the MOH's COVID-19 response, consuming much of the staff and volunteers' time.

## B. Operational strategy

### Overall Operational objective:

Based on the request from the provincial disaster officer to assist with shelter, water and health activities, the disaster-affected population's needs were met through:

- Emergency shelter assistance for 113 households
- WASH support to 807 households
- Psychological first aid to all households visited during the assessments and distributions.

The assessment results in the emergency response mechanism by NDMO with VRCS showed more detailed needs for support.

### Proposed strategy

VRCS's early action and readiness strategy focuses on two main areas of support:

1. Supplying the affected population with essential household items (emergency shelter, hygiene kits and water filtration units)
2. Ensuring essential information reaches the affected population based on the needs through PSS messages and the PSS kits

This PSS kit includes a volleyball, a volleyball net for adults, and board games for young kids. VRCS' activities are managed jointly by the headquarters and the Tafea branch.

The following essential items have been distributed to 755 households in the first distribution phase to the affected population. The second round of distribution is currently being conducted for the rest of this month. Due to current stock levels, VRCS will coordinate with other agencies if required to fill any gaps. The National Society has utilized disaggregated population data and beneficiary registrations to target the most vulnerable in the initial distribution.

Items	Qty to be distributed	Qty for replenishment	Local/International Replenishment
Tarpaulins	226	226	International replenishment
Hygiene kits	807	807	International replenishment
Jerry cans (10L)	1,616	1,616	International replenishment
Water filtration (20L)	350	350	Local procurement
MHM kits	350	350	Local procurement
PSS Kit	30	30	Local procurement

*Planned distribution for 755 households affected by the Tanna-Yasur Volcano*

### Information and communication

Through the volunteer networks in Tafea province, the affected population is kept informed of updates on the evacuation process and planning. Awareness activities have also been conducted on water filtration and hygiene promotion to

reduce the health risks in the communities. IEC materials and safe shelter awareness have been provided to affected households that received tarpaulins.

The VRCS has worked off the best information available to plan its response. It regularly contacts government agencies and clusters to ensure a coordinated and effective response. The VRCS designed this response after briefings with the provincial government and relevant clusters. Food and water trucking was another significant need and covered under the response by the provincial government and NDMO. All activities are closely implemented with, and facilitated by, volunteers from the VRCS trained Community Disaster and Climate Change Committees (CDCCCs), local authorities, Area Council Secretary (ACS), and communities.

## **Operational support services**

### **Human resources**

The following human resources have been mobilized within VRCS for the response activities: VRCS DRM coordinator, headquarters logistics officer, headquarters database officer, Tafea branch officer, twenty volunteers in Tanna, twenty volunteers at headquarters and other specialized volunteers.

### **Logistics and supply chain**

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

VRCS has a logistics team and logistics volunteers trained during the TC Pam operation by the IFRC logistics delegate, who could share in administrative and logistics support. The IFRC warehouse management software, Logic, was implemented in the TC Pam operation and is currently used for supply chain management within the VRCS logistics system. The VRCS logisticians in Port Vila will oversee local freighting customs clearances for international replenishments. Local goods and services procurement followed VRCS practices and IFRC Procurement Procedure to purchase Menstrual Hygiene (MHM kits), water filters, psychological first aid kits (sports equipment), and IEC materials' printing. The Tafea branch has a VRCS vehicle used to transport HHIs to the affected areas and is supported by the local Government vehicles to transport HHIs if needed.

The international procurement was processed upon confirmed numbers reflected from distribution. These NFI's must be replenished for future operations as we are still in the disaster period. However, looking at the DREF timeline, the duration of good transit, and freight challenges, more time is needed for the operation. The internationally procured items was scheduled to arrive in Vanuatu in mid-March. However, shipment delays have pushed their arrival date to the end of March, not including clearance procedures, which has necessitated an extension of the operation.

### **Information technologies (IT)**

Internet connectivity is an issue in the affected areas, but mobile communications are mostly reliable at this stage.

### **Communications**

The IFRC supports the VRCS communications team to communicate with external audiences focusing on the volcano disaster and the Red Cross humanitarian action assisting people affected. The communications have generated visibility and support for the humanitarian needs and the Red Cross Red Crescent response. Close collaboration continues between the Asia Pacific IFRC regional communications unit, IFRC CCD, and the National Society, ensuring a coherent and coordinated communications approach.

Communications content is promoted on regional and global IFRC channels and shared with National Societies in the IFRC network. VRCS uses social media to update the volcano's status and disaster response for general viewers and followers of the VRCS Facebook page and post updates on the website. The communications officer has worked on composing press releases for the local media. The following staff was also delegated to handle media inquiries: OD coordinator, DM coordinator, and the Secretary-General, supported by the IFRC Pacific communications manager with media and social media scanning.

### **Security**

The main security threat to staff and volunteers working on this response is the ongoing volcano ashfall. Volcanic gases and ashfall may impact health, given the current alert level. The VRCS had supplied deployed staff and activated volunteers with protective equipment, including masks, to minimize these risks to individual safety and security. Staff deployed to affected areas also needed to travel with food and water to limit strain on local resources. The VRCS continues to monitor updates and advice from the VMGD and other authorities and adapt their activities accordingly.

### **Planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER)**

The departments of the VRCS headquarters in Port Vila, such as disaster risk management, WASH, PMER, finance, and management, continue to monitor the Plan of Action. The IFRC CCD Pacific's disaster risk management (DRM) team supports communications and coordination.

Reporting on the emergency plan of action is carried out according to IFRC minimum standards. Monitoring visits to the affected communities are ongoing to regularly conduct, assess progress and guide any required adjustments to the proposed response. Monitoring includes a beneficiary satisfaction survey and interviews with staff, volunteers and others participating in the response. At the end of the operation, a PDM and reflection workshop will be carried out by VRCS staff, volunteers and relevant stakeholders.

Phases of PMER are undertaken as per usual VRCS processes:

- Planning a response scenario should the impact of drought intensify, based on the analysis of the assessment
- Daily team monitoring with the VRCS headquarters to ensure data quality
- Pre and post-tests for all training to monitor learning and impact for all volunteers on all islands
- PDM after the distribution of all response items
- A final lesson learned workshop to reflect on the intervention and generate reflections on volcano early warning early action plans, procedures and processes for the future.

### **Community Engagement and Accountability**

CEA has included a detailed community assessment that helped VRCS revise the number of targeted households. Special considerations are given to persons with disabilities, the elderly, women, and children to ensure that they are safe in their shelter, water access, sanitation, health, and basic needs and not further exposed to harm.

Community awareness activities have included water filtration and hygiene promotion to reduce the immediate health risks in the communities, community messaging on protection, and psychological first aid IEC materials dissemination to affected communities during distributions. Community access to referral pathways and information for health or protection was provided.

Through the volunteer networks in Tafea province, the affected population is kept informed of updates on the evacuation process and planning. Staff and volunteers are regularly deployed to the field to monitor the situation on the ground.

There will be a PDM exercise after the second round of distribution and a lessons learned workshop conducted with staff, volunteers, and stakeholders at the end of the operation.

### **Administration and Finance**

VRCS headquarters has a finance team that supports the logistician/administrator in the field with all activities necessary to ensure the proper use of resources. The logistician/administrator coordinates with the operations manager for any expenditure or purchase during the operation, and resources are utilized following standard VRCS and DREF guidelines and procedures.

## C. Detailed Operational Plan



### Shelter

People reached: 1330 (252 households)

Male: 657

Female: 673

**Outcome 1: Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, well-being and longer-term recovery through shelter and settlement solutions**

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i># households reached with shelter assistance</i>	113 (567 people)	252 (1330 people)

**Output 1.1: Shelter and settlements and basic household items assistance is provided to the affected families.**

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i># households provided with emergency shelter items, to have a space that meets the minimum living conditions</i>	113	252

**Output 1.2: Technical support, guidance and awareness raising in safe shelter design and settlement planning and improved building techniques are provided to affected households**

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i># of households provided with technical guidance appropriate to the type of support they receive</i>	113	252

**Progress towards outcomes**

- Data provided in this report are activities implemented from the start of the operation till 15 February 2022.
- The initial target was to reach 113 households with 226 tarpaulins, providing each household with two (2) tarpaulins. During the assessment and distribution, it was considered to distribute one tarpaulin to each of the 252 households in affected communities in the southeast of Tanna Island as the need for tarpaulins was greater.
- A half-day refresher training with VRCS volunteers was facilitated by the VRCS headquarters staff who travelled down to Tanna. This training included emergency safe shelter awareness for the proper use and reuse of tarpaulins and guidance on fixing of tarpaulins. This focussed on an existing Vanuatu Shelter Cluster IEC material<sup>3</sup>.
- The shelter IEC material mentioned above was printed and distributed to all the households receiving tarpaulins.

Name of Community	Number of Households
Lenkuanemi	35
Sameria	18
Iatapu	13
Kwaramanu (Iakoutapounga)	73
Imaio (Ioknatahi)	49
Isarkei	64
<b>Total</b>	<b>252</b>

The table lists down the six communities and the number of households reached with the distribution of tarpaulins and technical guidance on the proper use, reuse and disposal of tarpaulins.



Half-day refresher training with VRCS volunteers facilitated by the VRCS HQ Staff Photo: VRCS



## Health

People reached: 3,586

Male: 1,784

Female: 1,802

### Outcome 1: The immediate risks to the health of affected populations are reduced

#### Indicators:

# of people reached by NS with services to reduce relevant health risk factors

Target

Actual

807

3,586

### Output 1.1: The health situation and immediate risks are assessed using agreed guidelines

#### Indicators:

Target

Actual

<sup>3</sup> Use, reuse, repair and disposal of tarpaulins (v1 Jun 2020): <https://www.sheltercluster.org/vanuatu/documents/use-reuse-repair-and-disposal-tarpaulins-v1-jun-2020>

# of assessments conducted based on standard IFRC and/or WHO assessment guidelines	1	1
# of people reached by community-based health activities	3393	3,586
<b>Outcome 6: The psychosocial impacts of the emergency are lessened</b>		
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
# households reached by psychological first aid	807	755
<b>Output 6.1: Psychosocial first aid (PFA) support provided to the target population as well as to volunteers and staff</b>		
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
# of people reached by psychosocial support specifically for survivors of sexual and/or gender based violence	3,393	3,586

**Progress towards outcomes**

Children in one of the 22 communities that received the PSS kits. Photo: VRCS

- A half-day refresher briefing for volunteers has ensured they are equipped with health messaging and awareness of the health impacts of the volcanic eruption. From this, 3,586 people across the affected communities in southeast Tanna have been reached with awareness and relevant health IEC materials with the provision of psychosocial support. Community messaging on protection and psychological first aid IEC materials have been disseminated to affected communities. Awareness of hygiene promotion to reduce the immediate health risks in the communities has also been conducted during distributions.
- A total of 755 households have received psychological first aid. This was delivered in several ways – face to face in group settings and targeted at a household level to those assessed as most vulnerable and/or with special needs (specifically seniors, the disabled, those with medical conditions, and single female-headed households or with small children).
- During the assessments and distribution, it was determined that only 22 PSS kits were needed to be distributed to 22 communities. The contents of the PSS kits are in the table.

Items in the Community PSS kit	Quantity
Soccer ball	23
Volleyball	23
Small soft ball	23
Soccer ball pump	23



## Water, sanitation and hygiene

People reached: 3,586

Male: 1,784

Female: 1,802

### Outcome 1: Immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households provided with safe water services that meet agreed standards according to specific operational and programmatic context	807	755

### Output 1.1: Daily access to safe water which meets Sphere and WHO standards in terms of quantity and quality is provided to target population

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people provided with safe water (according to WHO standards)	3,393	3,586

### Output 1.4: Hygiene promotion activities which meet Sphere standards in terms of the identification and use of hygiene items provided to target population

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached with awareness materials	3,393	3,586

### Output 1.5: Hygiene-related goods (NFIs) which meet Sphere standards and training on how to use those goods is provided to the target population

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households provided with a set of essential hygiene items	807	755

### Progress towards outcomes

- Hygiene promotion IEC materials were printed and distributed to the beneficiaries in the affected areas. A half-day training was held between VRCS headquarters staff and VRCS Branch volunteers which covered health, PSS and hygiene promotion to ensure that volunteers were well equipped with awareness messaging to be disseminated to communities. This was done through community visits and household visits to the most vulnerable (e.g. those with physical or mental disabilities, the elderly etc). Topics included safety within earthquakes and mudflows, actions if additional eruptions, safety around lava flows, as well as health messaging on volcanic gas, acid rain and ash. Advice was also given on how to protect water supplies, and what to do if water is contaminated.
- A total of 755 hygiene kits were distributed to the 755 affected households in the 23 communities. 1,316 jerry cans (water containers) were distributed to the affected households in 18 communities.
- Up to 350 MHM kits have also been distributed to affected communities. The contents of the MHM kits are as follows (see table).
- A total of 322 water filtration units have now been distributed to affected households. Some missing parts of the filtration units or damage meant that 28 of the units could not be distributed at this time. The VRCS team is following up on this.

Items in the MHM kit	Quantity
Ladies underwear (large)	1
Ladies underwear (XL)	1
Towel	1
Laundry soap	1
Body soap	1
Sanitary pads (disposable)	1 pkt
Clothesline	1
Clothes peg	1 pkt

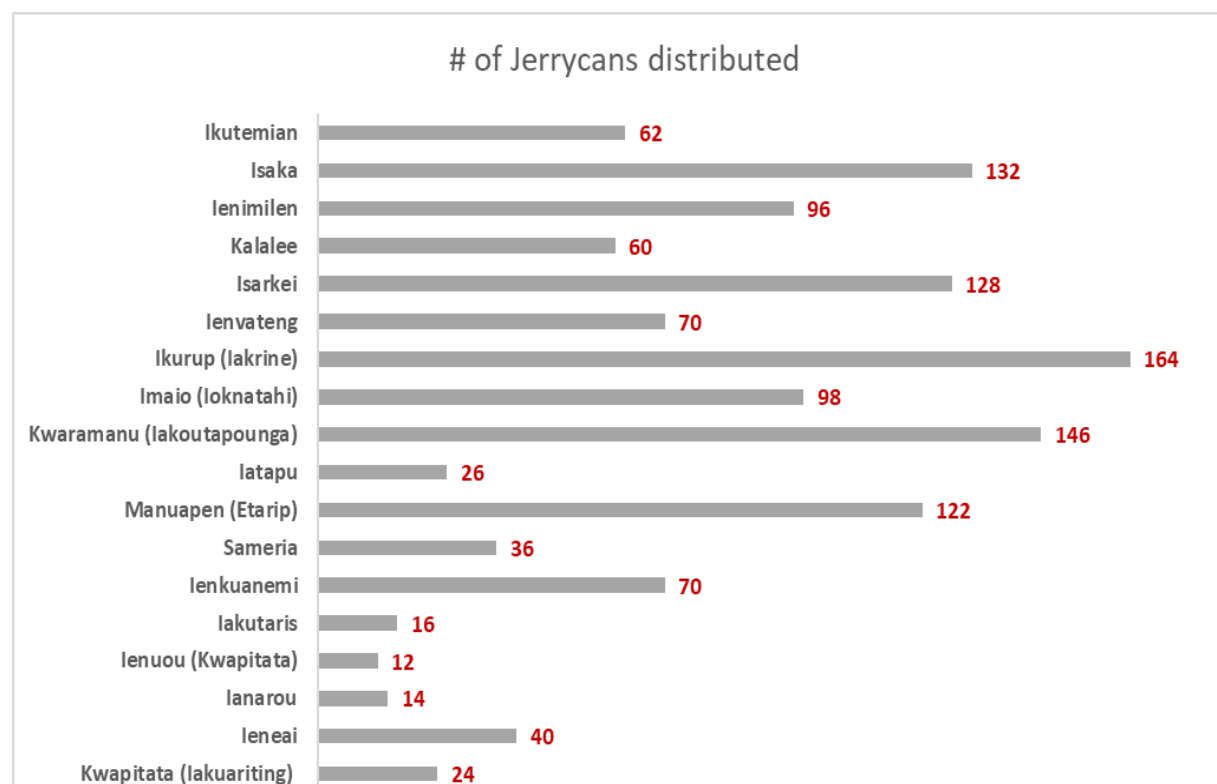
The image below depicts a member of the affected community in Tanna who was reached with relief items, IEC materials and technical guidance.



*Communities affected by the ashfall have been reached with tarpaulins, hygiene kits, jerry cans, MHM kits and PSS kits. IEC materials and technical guidance was also provided to affected households on emergency shelter, WASH, PSS and PGI. Photo source: VRCS.*

The table and graph below illustrate the number of jerry cans distributed to 18 affected communities in Tanna.

Community	# of jerry cans distributed
Kwapitata (Iakuariting)	24
Ieneai	40
Ianarou	14
Ienuou (Kwapitata)	12
Iakutaris	16
Ienkuanemi	70
Sameria	36
Manuapen (Etarip)	122
Iatapu	26
Kwaramanu (Iakoutapounga)	146
Imaio (Ioknatahi)	98
Ikurup (Iakrine)	164
Ienvateng	70
Isarkei	128
Kalalee	60
Ienimilen	96
Isaka	132
Ikutemian	62
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,316</b>





## Protection, Gender and Inclusion

People reached: 3586

Male: 1784

Female: 1802

### Outcome 1: Communities become more peaceful, safe and inclusive through meeting the needs and rights of the most vulnerable.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Does the operation demonstrate evidence of addressing specific PGI needs?</i>	Yes	Yes
<b>Output 1.1: Programmes and operations ensure safe and equitable provision of basic services, considering different needs based on gender and other diversity factors.</b>		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Does the operation meet minimum standards for PGI in emergencies?</i>	Yes	Yes
Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Does the operation demonstrate evidence of addressing the specific needs to ensure equitable access to disaster response services?</i>	Yes	Yes
<i># of children reached with protection or educational activities</i>	n/a	n/a

### Progress towards outcomes

- PGI considerations were integrated into the operations. Community messaging included violence against women, child protection, sexual and gender-based violence in emergencies, and referral pathways to local service providers. VRCS distributed PSS kits which included volleyball sets and softballs. Both forms of PSS intervention have been engaged by all community members, boys, girls, seniors and children.
- National Society faced challenges in gathering people together due to COVID-19 restrictions. Thus, they had to rethink innovative ways of working in the community. VRCS provided IEC materials which included safety and protection messages above; instead of gathering beneficiaries in one location, beneficiaries listened in from their respective homes whilst awareness was done through a megaphone hailer.

## Strategies for Implementation

Requirements (CHF): 23,280

### Strengthen National Society

**Outcome S1.1: National Society capacity building and organizational development objectives are facilitated to ensure that National Societies have the necessary legal, ethical and financial foundations, systems and structures, competences and capacities to plan and perform**

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>NS have prepositioned masks and other PPE (not relevant)</i>	N/R	N/R
<b>Output S1.1.4: National Societies have effective and motivated volunteers who are protected</b>		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i># of volunteers insured (not relevant)</i>	N/R	N/R
<i>% of staff and volunteers are provided with necessary PPE (not relevant)</i>	N/R	N/R
<b>Progress towards outcomes</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As the preposition masks and other PPE were not covered in this DREF response but under the COVID-19 Appeal response, and the NS other budget covered the insurance of volunteers, the indicators above become void and will be removed. The initial plan was to procure PPEs such as medical masks and goggles for the VRCS volunteers locally. Medical masks were to be distributed to communities to minimize risks from volcanic gaseous ashfall. However, due to internal IFRC processes for the procurement of PPEs, this had to be done under international procurement. During the assessment and distribution by the VRCS team, the PPEs were determined to be of a lesser need for the current operation since the volcano was active but no longer spewing ash. It was determined that it is necessary to preposition it for future volcano responses, especially since it cannot be procured locally.</li> <li>The operation was slightly delayed due to bad weather and office closures of shipping companies and shops (for local procurement) in December and January. The significant delays in international procurement have brought about a need to extend the DREF.</li> <li>The delays in the distribution of the water filtration units were because there was no existing framework agreement with the sole supplier of these units. Proper procurement procedures had to be followed, guided by the IFRC logistics capacity building delegate. Unfortunately, a framework agreement could not be drawn up since the supplier would not be supplying the water filtration units anymore. It was then discussed to have the remaining units procured and prepositioned at VRCS headquarters. The costs of having it prepositioned would be covered under a different pledge.</li> </ul>		
<b>Outcome S2.1: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured</b>		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>NS coordinated international disaster response effectively</i>	Yes	Yes
<b>Output S2.1.3: NS compliance with Principles and Rules for Humanitarian Assistance is improved</b>		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>DREF procedures are applied during the implementation of the operation</i>	Yes	Yes
<b>Progress towards outcomes</b>		
Results of this outcome and outputs shall be determined from the lessons learned workshop that will be held after PDM activity.		
<b>Outcome S4.1: The IFRC enhances its effectiveness, credibility and accountability</b>		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Lessons learned workshop findings endorsed by NS</i>	Yes	Not started

<b>Output S4.1.2: IFRC staff shows good level of engagement and performance</b>		
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
<i># of lessons learned workshops that involve staff/volunteers</i>	1	Not started
<b>Progress towards outcomes</b>		
The lessons learned workshop will be held at the end of the operation. The PDM activity will be carried out after all the distributions.		

## D. Financial Report

The financial report is available at the end of the DREF Operations Update.

### Reference documents



Click here for:

- [Appeals and updates](#)
- [Emergency Plan of Action \(EPoA\)](#)

**For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:**

#### In the Vanuatu Red Cross Society

- Secretary General: Name- Dickinson Tevi, email: [sg@redcrossvanuatu.com](mailto:sg@redcrossvanuatu.com), phone: (678) 7747847
- DM Coordinator: Name: Augustine Garae, title: DM Coordinator, email: [disaster.coordinator@redcrossvanuatu.com](mailto:disaster.coordinator@redcrossvanuatu.com), phone: (678) 7743029

#### In the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation in Suva

- Katie Greenwood, Pacific CCD Head of Office, email: [katie.greenwood@ifrc.org](mailto:katie.greenwood@ifrc.org); Phone: (679) 9992485
- Carla Taylor, title: DRM coordinator, email: [carla.taylor@ifrc.org](mailto:carla.taylor@ifrc.org), phone: (679) 9987843
- Esaroma Ledua, title: Readiness and Response Manager, email: [esaroma.ledua@ifrc.org](mailto:esaroma.ledua@ifrc.org); phone: (679) 9992470
- 

#### In the IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office, Kuala Lumpur

- Alexander Matheou, regional director; email: [alexander.matheou@ifrc.org](mailto:alexander.matheou@ifrc.org)
- Joy Singhal, Head of HDCC unit; email: [joy.singhal@ifrc.org](mailto:joy.singhal@ifrc.org)
- Yuki Masuda, Operations Coordinator; email: [OpsCoord.Pacific@ifrc.org](mailto:OpsCoord.Pacific@ifrc.org)
- Fadzli Saari, PMER Manager; email: [Fadzli.saari@ifrc.org](mailto:Fadzli.saari@ifrc.org)
- Siokkun Jang, Logistics Manager; email: [siokkun.jang@ifrc.org](mailto:siokkun.jang@ifrc.org)
- Antony Balmain, Communications Manager; email: [antony.balmain@ifrc.org](mailto:antony.balmain@ifrc.org)
- Alice Ho, Partnerships in Emergencies Coordinator; email: [PartnershipsEA.AP@ifrc.org](mailto:PartnershipsEA.AP@ifrc.org)

#### In IFRC Geneva

- Christina Duschl, senior officer, operations coordination; email: [christina.duschl@ifrc.org](mailto:christina.duschl@ifrc.org)

## 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.

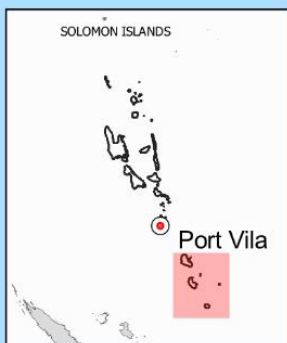


Promote **social inclusion**  
and a culture of  
**non-violence** and **peace**.



# Vanuatu: Tanna-Yasur Volcano Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

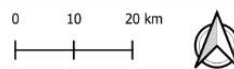
15 November 2021



**Legend**

	National Capital		Affected Province
	Volcano		Province Boundary
			Other Country

The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of territory or its authorities. Map data sources: OCHA, OSM Contributors, ICR, IFRC, GDACS (5 April 2020)



# DREF Operation

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2021/11-2022/2	Operation	MDRVU009
Budget Timeframe	2021/11-2022/3	Budget	APPROVED

## INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Prepared on 30/Mar/2022

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

### MDRVU009 - Vanuatu - Volcano Yasur

Operating Timeframe: 18 Nov 2021 to 31 Mar 2022

## I. Summary

<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Funds &amp; Other Income</b>	<b>88,383</b>
DREF Allocations	88,383
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>-58,460</b>
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>29,923</b>

## II. Expenditure by area of focus / strategies for implementation

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction			0
AOF2 - Shelter	9,993	4,310	5,684
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs			0
AOF4 - Health	11,957	3,128	8,830
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	31,416	11,794	19,622
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion	10,224	3,105	7,119
AOF7 - Migration			0
<b>Area of focus Total</b>	<b>63,590</b>	<b>22,337</b>	<b>41,254</b>
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	14,143	35,800	-21,656
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	10,650	324	10,326
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners			0
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC			0
<b>Strategy for implementation Total</b>	<b>24,793</b>	<b>36,123</b>	<b>-11,330</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>88,383</b>	<b>58,460</b>	<b>29,923</b>

# DREF Operation

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2021/11-2022/2	Operation	MDRVU009
Budget Timeframe	2021/11-2022/3	Budget	APPROVED

## INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Prepared on 30/Mar/2022

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

### MDRVU009 - Vanuatu - Volcano Yasur

Operating Timeframe: 18 Nov 2021 to 31 Mar 2022

### III. Expenditure by budget category & group

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
<b>Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>	<b>52,830</b>	<b>15,679</b>	<b>37,151</b>
Shelter - Relief	2,983		2,983
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	44,406	13,564	30,843
Teaching Materials	5,440		5,440
Other Supplies & Services		2,115	-2,115
<b>Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>13,840</b>	<b>4,640</b>	<b>9,200</b>
Distribution & Monitoring	7,000	2,619	4,381
Transport & Vehicles Costs	3,840	1,635	2,205
Logistics Services	3,000	385	2,615
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>4,240</b>	<b>3,077</b>	<b>1,163</b>
National Society Staff	1,200	1,517	-317
Volunteers	3,040	1,560	1,479
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>4,000</b>		<b>4,000</b>
Workshops & Training	4,000		4,000
<b>General Expenditure</b>	<b>8,080</b>	<b>2,551</b>	<b>5,529</b>
Travel		68	-68
Information & Public Relations		1,808	-1,808
Office Costs	1,200	267	933
Communications		382	-382
Other General Expenses	6,880	26	6,854
<b>Operational Provisions</b>		<b>28,946</b>	<b>-28,946</b>
Operational Provisions		28,946	-28,946
<b>Indirect Costs</b>	<b>5,394</b>	<b>3,568</b>	<b>1,826</b>
Programme & Services Support Recover	5,394	3,568	1,826
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>88,383</b>	<b>58,460</b>	<b>29,923</b>