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Emergency appeal

Vanuatu: Tropical Cyclone Pam

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Emergency Appeal n° MDRVU002

60,000 people to be assisted

Appeal launched 16 March 2015

CHF 132,996 DREF allocated

Glide n° [TC-2015-000020-VUT](#)

CHF 3.9 million Appeal budget

Ends 31 March 2016

Summary

This Emergency Appeal seeks a total of some CHF 3.9 million on a preliminary basis to enable the IFRC to support the Vanuatu Red Cross Society (VRCS) to deliver assistance and support to some 60,000 people (10,000 households). The operation focuses on the sectors of assessments and coordination, relief, shelter and settlements, water and sanitation, emergency health and restoring family links. The overall budget includes CHF 1.69 million for the deployment of emergency response units (ERUs) and a shelter cluster coordination team. The planned response reflects the current situation and information available at this point of the evolving operation, and will be adjusted based on further developments and more detailed assessments.

The detailed Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) will be made available soon.

The disaster and the response to date

11 March 2015: Tropical Cyclone Pam moving in the South Pacific Ocean east of Solomon Islands, heading south towards the east of Vanuatu. In preparation, the VRCS completed an inventory of its preparedness stocks and alerted emergency response team (ERT) volunteers. VRCS participated in Cluster Coordination Meetings with the Vanuatu National Disaster Management Office.

13 March: Tropical Cyclone Pam made landfall in Vanuatu. An [Information Bulletin](#) issued for Pacific Tropical Cyclones. A [DREF Operation](#) issued. The Operations Coordinator from IFRC Asia Pacific Zone deployed.

14 March: The VRCS team undertook an ocular survey around Port Vila to assess the immediate impact and the status of evacuation centres. They also assisted in the registration of people sheltered in the centres and distributed basic relief supplies.

15 March: IFRC Pacific Regional Office (PRO) organized a teleconference for Movement partners present in the region, to better coordinate the response. IFRC FACT and ERU deployed.

16 March: A [DREF Update](#) issued. An Emergency Appeal launched for CHF 3.9 million.



The operational strategy

Needs assessment and beneficiary selection

Based on the information that has emerged so far, the humanitarian needs wrought by Tropical Cyclone Pam are massive. They cover all sectors including relief, shelter, emergency health, water and sanitation and livelihoods. Shelter is clearly a priority as thousands of families have been displaced after their houses were damaged or destroyed. A detailed needs assessment will be undertaken by VRCS with support of IFRC's FACT. The assessments will inform the revision of this plan and appeal.

Risk assessment

Most roads are flooded or blocked by debris. Teouma bridge has been badly damaged and affected by a flash flood, blocking access to the most affected areas of Efate province. Estimated 80% of power lines are down throughout Port Vila and may not be fully restored until a few weeks with only one cellular communications tower remains operational. This could hamper the humanitarian response and information sharing.

Logistical challenges could delay efforts to meet the needs of affected populations, especially those living on remote and faraway islands. The logistical challenges will be significant, particularly in terms of communications, transportation, and needs assessment. More emergency supplies are needed urgently as the pre-positioned stocks in-country are likely to have been damaged.

Selection of beneficiaries

The prioritized beneficiaries include the sick and people with special needs, the elderly, female headed households and women and children that are the most vulnerable categories during disasters. These groups will be considered according to level of impact and more priority will be given to those who have lost their houses.

Further assessments will identify others who are vulnerable in this particular context, especially when taking coping mechanisms, socio-economic status and geographically remoteness into account.

Operational strategy

The operation focuses on the sectors of assessments and coordination, relief, shelter and settlements, water and sanitation, emergency health and restoring family links. Please see the sections below for the specific details.

Proposed sectors of intervention



The Vanuatu Red Cross Society is leading the Movement's coordination with the government and other actors.

The IFRC is coordinating the Movement's international assistance in close liaison with the leadership of VNRC. An IFRC Country Team leader has been appointed to support VRCS with the management of all IFRC's international support and global response mechanisms. A five-person Field Assessment and Coordination Team (FACT) has been deployed to complement the regionally deployed assets. IFRC is actively participating in meetings of the Pacific Humanitarian Team (PHT). IFRC's shelter cluster coordinator is supporting the authorities in the coordination of the overall emergency shelter response and providing technical advice to all shelter actors including VRCS.

The IFRC PRO is maintaining close coordination with UNOCHA and other regional partners based in Suva, Fiji. It is also responding to humanitarian needs in Tuvalu, Kiribati and the Solomon Islands in coordination with affected national societies and national societies of Fiji, Samoa, Australia and New Zealand. VRCS and IFRC are coordinating with the ICRC with regard to providing services for restoring family links (RFL).

In order to fulfil the IFRC's commitment to the Inter-Agency Standing Committee cluster mechanism, the IFRC has made a provision for the deployment of a Shelter Coordination Team. In this regard, IFRC has initiated dialogue with a number of Global Shelter Cluster partners in preparation for the deployment of a Shelter Cluster assessment team should a request come in the coming hours/days, as well as the deployment of additional technical capacity as required. Even though it will be supported via this appeal, the Shelter Coordination Team would be independent of the IFRC-VRCS operation.

Areas common to all sectors (Assessments and Coordination)

Outcome 1: Continuous and detailed assessment and analysis is used to inform the design and implementation of the operation.

Output 1.1: Initial needs assessment are updated following consultation with beneficiaries.

Activities planned:

- Conduct needs assessment
- Update sectoral plans in the EPoA



Relief

Outcome 2: Essential household needs of 7,000 affected families met within three months.

Output 2.1: Affected families have access to essential non-food items to meet immediate needs.

Activities planned:

- Identify, register, verify and mobilize beneficiaries for distributions.
- Mobilize and transport non-food items to affected areas.
- Distribute non-food items including blankets, water containers, kitchen sets and hygiene supplies.
- Monitor and report distributions



Shelter and settlements

Outcome 3: The immediate shelter needs of 4,000 cyclone-affected families are met within four months.

Output 3.1: Emergency shelter assistance is provided to families affected by the typhoon, following the guidelines provided by the shelter cluster in country.

Activities planned:

- Mobilized volunteers are provided with orientation on assessment and beneficiary selection and validation processes and distribution protocols with proper personal protective equipment
- Provision of appropriate training for staff and volunteers to be involved in distribution of emergency shelter materials
- Mobilization and procurement of the most appropriate emergency shelter materials
- Distribution of emergency shelter materials to the identified beneficiaries
- Provision of technical assistance to the beneficiaries on the safe and most effective use of the shelter materials provided
- Monitoring and evaluation of the distribution and use of the shelter materials provided (including beneficiary satisfaction)



Health and Hygiene promotion

Outcome 4: Immediate health and psychosocial risks of 7,000 affected families reduced.

Output 4.1: Community-based disease prevention and health promotion are provided to the affected population.

Activities planned:

- Mobilization of VRCS and community health volunteers
- Undertake surveys to determine baseline and end-line levels of awareness on priority infectious diseases in affected communities
- Produce and distribute information, education and communication (IEC) materials relevant for disease prevention and health promotion, and distribute to families in target communities alongside awareness/education campaigns
- Mobilize disaster affected families and communities for the dissemination of relevant disease prevention, health and hygiene messages, and conduct activities to promote health

Output 4.2: Target population is provided with rapid medical management of injuries and diseases.

Activities planned:

- In coordination with health cluster, Ministry of Health and WHO, deploy a basic health care unit, with stationary and/or mobile clinics
- Undertake assessments for mobile outreach in affected communities



Water; Sanitation

Outcome 5: Immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water-related diseases in targeted communities

Output 5.1: Continuous assessment of water, sanitation, and hygiene situation is carried out in targeted communities.

Activities planned:

- In coordination with the WASH cluster, conduct initial assessment of the water, sanitation and hygiene situation in targeted communities.
- In coordination with national WASH cluster, continuously monitor the water, sanitation and hygiene situation in targeted communities
- Coordinate with other water and sanitation actors on target group needs and appropriate response

Output 5.2: Daily access to safe water which meets Sphere and WHO standards in terms of quantity and quality is provided to the target population

Activities planned:

- Subject to assessment results deploy one WatSan kit 5 or parts there of
- In coordination with national WASH cluster, distribute safe water to targeted affected population
- In coordination with national WASH cluster, conduct sessions on safe household water storage and treatment with follow up monitoring on use of distributed items.

Output 5.3: Adequate sanitation which meets Sphere standards in terms of quantity and quality is provided to target population

Activities planned:

- In coordination with national WASH cluster, conduct assessments to determine the sanitation needs for the targeted communities.
- Select design for toilets based on consultation with targeted communities with considerations for safety, access for children and disabled, anal cleansing practices, national standards, and menstrual hygiene as well as environmental impact and sustainability.
- Construct or rehabilitate toilets in targeted communities.
- Support the national WASH cluster and health authorities to ensure that toilets are clean and maintained, equip them with hand-washing facilities, anal cleansing material or water and menstrual hygiene disposals, and ensure they remain functional

Output 5.4: Hygiene promotion activities which meet Sphere standards in terms of the identification and use of hygiene items provided to target population.

Activities planned:

- In coordination with national WASH cluster, undertake needs assessment to define hygiene issues and assess capacity to address problems related to the same.
- Select target groups, key messages, and methods of communicating with beneficiaries (mass media and interpersonal communication).
- Develop a hygiene communication plan, and train volunteers to implement activities from the communication plan.
- Design/Print IEC materials.
- Assess progress and evaluate results.

Output 5.5: Hygiene-related goods which meet Sphere standards are provided to targeted families within three months.

Activities planned:

- Mobilize volunteers and provide them with orientation on assessment and beneficiary validation processes and distribution protocols with proper personal protective equipment
- Identify, register, verify and mobilize beneficiaries for distributions
- Distribute hygiene kits
- Distribute 10-litre jerry cans
- Work with the national WASH cluster to determine whether additional distributions are required and whether changes should be made
- Monitor use of hygiene kits and water treatment products and user's satisfaction through household

surveys and household water quality tests



Restoring Family Links (RFL)

Outcome 6: Restoring Family Links (RFL) needs emerging from Cyclone Pam are assessed and cases are being followed up within a month.

Output 6.1: VRCS is supported to conduct an assessment of RFL needs and implement first-stage responses on behalf of people who have lost contact with family.

Activities planned:

- Conduct RFL needs assessment and assess current capacity of VCRC to provide RFL.
- Assess RFL related activities and provide advice on processes and systems undertaken by relevant the Movement and the authorities.
- Assess ongoing needs in RFL capacity development of VRCS



National Society capacity building

Outcome 7: National society capacity to deliver sustainable services is strengthened.

Output 7.1: VRCS volunteer, staff and institutional capacity to deliver sustainable services is increased through provision of training

Activities planned:

- Disaster management capacity development
- Information management capacity development
- Logistics capacity development
- Technical skills training for staff and volunteers by each ERU deployed

Output 7.2: VRCS capacity for timely and effective disaster response in health, water and sanitation is strengthened through provision of equipment

Activities implemented planned:

- Technical skills training for staff and volunteers by each ERU
- Essential office equipment for 6 provincial branches
- Rehabilitate damaged branch offices/ pre-positioned storage
- Vehicles for emergency response operations



Programme support services

- **Communications:** Communications will be an important element in this operation in order to ensure that target audience, including the media and donors, is aware of the situation and needs on the ground. Materials such as photos and key messages are being issued via the IFRC Newswire.
- **Gender and diversity:** All interventions will take into account gender and diversity. For instance, targeting and selecting female-headed households, pregnant or lactating women, and men and boys made vulnerable by the disaster and who have been forced to migrate for work.
- **Human Resources:** Prior to PAM, IFRC had no in-country presence and support to VRCS was provided by PRO. There is a need to ensure that a structure that will guarantee an effective and efficient technical coordination to the NS in delivering the commitments under this operation. As such, a significant portion of the budget is factoring the need for recruitment and/or deployment of international and national staff as well as mobilization of volunteers. As much as possible, peer-to-peer collaboration among the Pacific is encouraged.
- **Logistics:** Procurement will be principally regional. However the coordination for the delivery of the relief items with donors or suppliers internationally will be done by the Zone Logistics Unit. The local procurement of goods, services and transport will be carried out in line with IFRC procurement standards and procedures. Logistics ERU may be considered based on analysis of logistics assessment by FACT.

- **Reporting, monitoring and evaluation:** Monthly monitoring visits in the first six months of operations and quarterly thereafter. Reporting on the operation will be made in accordance with the IFRC minimum reporting standards. One update will be issued within the first month. A Real Time Evaluation (RTE) is being considered, to be initiated within the first three months. A Final Evaluation will be conducted to assess lessons learned, followed by a final report is expected within three months of the end of the operation.
- **Security:** All international staff receive an advanced security briefing prior to deploying to Port Vila. Overall security of the IFRC team is the responsibility of the IFRC Country Representative. There have been no security incidents in country to date.

€ Budget

See attached [IFRC Secretariat budget \(Annex 1\)](#) for details. It is important to note that due to the geographical location of Vanuatu in regards to regional shipping centres and the complexities and costs of in-country transport, especially by sea (due to the large distances between islands), the running costs for the operation are significantly elevated in comparison with other operations.

Walter Cotte
Under Secretary General
Programme Services Division

Elhadj Amadou As Sy
Secretary General

Reference
documents
Emergency Plan
of Action (EPoA)

Contact Information

**For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:
In the National Societies**

Vanuatu Red Cross Society (phone +678 272 58):

- Jacqueline De Gaillande, chief executive officer, email: ceo@redcrossvanuatu.com
- Augustine Garae, disaster management officer, email: disaster-redcross@vanuatu.com.vu

IFRC Pacific regional office, Suva (phone +679 3311 855):

- Aurélia Balpe, head of regional office, email: aurelia.balpe@ifrc.org
- Vuli Gauna, regional disaster management programme coordinator, email: vuli.gauna@ifrc.org
- Nicolas Verdy, country representative, mobile: +60 19 620 0357, email: nicolas.verdy@ifrc.org

IFRC Asia Pacific zone office, Kuala Lumpur (phone: +60 3 9207 5700):

- Martin Faller, head of operations, email: martin.faller@ifrc.org
- Necephor Mghendi, operations coordinator; +6012 224 6796, necephor.mghendi@ifrc.org
- Nathan Rabe, humanitarian diplomacy coordinator; mobile: +60 19 620 0758, email: nathan.rabe@ifrc.org

IFRC Geneva:

- Pierre de Rochefort, operations support; phone: +41 22 730 4529, email: pierre.derochefort@ifrc.org

For Resource Mobilization and Pledges:

- Emilia Koski, relationship manager; mobile: +60 12 230 7548, email: emilia.koski@ifrc.org

For In-Kind donations and Mobilization table:

- Alka Kapoor Sharma, head of zone logistics unit, mobile : +60 12 225 1160, email : alka.kapoorsharma@ifrc.org

For Performance and Accountability (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)

- Peter Ophoff, head of planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER), email: peter.ophoff@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**.

EMERGENCY APPEAL

16/03/2015

MDRVU002 Vanuatu : Tropical Cyclone Pam

Budget Group	Multilateral Response	Inter-Agency Shelter Coord.	Bilateral Response	Appeal Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	329,000			329,000
Clothing & Textiles	42,000			42,000
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	246,296			246,296
Utensils & Tools	147,000			147,000
Emergency Response Units			1,500,000	1,500,000
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	764,296	0	1,500,000	2,264,296
Vehicles	50,000			50,000
Computer & Telecom Equipment		6,000		6,000
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	13,300			13,300
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	63,300	6,000	0	69,300
Distribution & Monitoring	60,698			60,698
Transport & Vehicle Costs	11,166	15,300		26,466
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	71,864	15,300	0	87,164
International Staff	499,821	66,750		566,571
National Staff		5,500		5,500
National Society Staff	7,320			7,320
Volunteers	330,741			330,741
Total PERSONNEL	837,882	72,250	0	910,132
Professional Fees		63,300		63,300
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0	63,300	0	63,300
Workshops & Training	254,736			254,736
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	254,736	0	0	254,736
Travel	113,337	5,750		119,087
Information & Public Relations	4,193			4,193
Office Costs	28,885	2,300		31,185
Communications	18,514	2,750		21,264
Financial Charges	450			450
Other General Expenses		10,600		10,600
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	165,379	21,400	0	186,779
Programme and Services Support Recovery	140,235	11,586		151,821
Total INDIRECT COSTS	140,235	11,586	0	151,821
TOTAL BUDGET	2,297,692	189,836	1,500,000	3,987,528