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# Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

## Solomon Islands: Tropical Cyclone Pam

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

<b>DREF operation n° MDRSB004</b>	
<b>Date of issue: 17 March 2015</b>	<b>Date of disaster: 10 March 2015</b>
<b>Manager responsible for this DREF operation:</b> Laura Holbeck Regional Programmes Coordinator, IFRC Pacific Regional Office	<b>Point of contact:</b> Joanne Zoleveke Secretary General, Solomon Islands Red Cross Society
<b>Operation start date: 17 March 2015</b>	<b>Operation end date: 17 June 2015</b>
<b>Operation budget: CHF 153,770</b>	<b>DREF allocated: CHF 153,770</b>
<b>Number of people to be assisted: 3,000 people (600 households)</b>	
<b>Host National Society:</b> The Solomon Island Red Cross Society (SIRC) has six staff members in its headquarters, who are responding to this disaster from the capital Honiara.	
<b>Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation:</b> The National Society is working with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) as well as the French Red Cross.	

## A. Situation analysis

### Description of the disaster

Tropical Cyclone Pam formed just east of Solomon Islands on March 6 and quickly gained strength on a southward path. It hit Vanuatu on Friday 13 March 2015 as a category V cyclone causing massive humanitarian needs across all of the provinces in Vanuatu, including Port Vila. Pam has been described as the strongest storm to make landfall since Typhoon Haiyan hit the Philippines in November 2013. Pam is turning out to be one of the worst cyclones to affect the Pacific in recent history.

While Vanuatu is the nation most affected by Tropical Cyclone Pam, the weather system's circulation over a wide area and its slow moving nature caused high rainfall, strong winds and wave-induced coastal flooding in several other countries, including the Solomon Islands. During 10 March and 11 March 2015, Tropical Cyclone Pam created strong winds, heavy rainfall, prolonged sea swells and storm surges impacting 2 provinces, Temotu and Malaita. In total it is estimated that more than 30,000 people in the two Provinces have been affected as a result of TC Pam, with more detailed figures available after initial assessments have been conducted. Damage was caused to fruit trees, food gardens, agricultural crops, houses, water supply, infrastructure and communications.

Solomon Islands Red Cross Society (SIRC) continues to monitor potential flooding from heavy rainfall in the Guadalcanal province.

In response to the impact of on the Solomon Islands, the SIRC have requested support from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). Based on an analysis of the situation, the IFRC is requesting an allocation from its Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to enable the Solomon Islands Red Cross Society to mount an immediate response. The funds will support assessment teams to quickly determine needs of the affected population, which is crucial to inform the development of a detailed action plan and support the distribution of non-food relief items including water, sanitation and emergency health needs and enable mobilisation of volunteers for assessments and distributions.

## Summary of the current response

### Overview of Host National Society

The Solomon Islands Red Cross Society (SIRCS) is a legally constituted association, officially recognized by the government as a voluntary relief society and auxiliary to the public authorities with the Solomon Islands Red Cross Society Act of 1983. The National Society has a clear role in the national disaster risk management plan.

The SIRC branch coordinator is working closely with provincial disaster branch management committees in the immediate response to the disaster. The Solomon Islands National Society will send two staff members from their headquarters to the 2 affected provinces, Temotu and Malaita, to assist the branch coordinators, who are both newly appointed.

After completing an inventory of national and branch preparedness stocks the Solomon Island Red Cross Society (SIRC) has requested additional disaster stocks of non-food items from the IFRC.

### Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in the region

The IFRC Zone based in Kuala Lumpur has a Regional Office in Suva, Fiji which supports the development of Pacific Island National Societies and regional cooperation and coordination during disaster and in outside of disasters. The IFRC has been closely supporting the operation in country with surge capacity in country and from its offices in Suva since the beginning of the operation. The French Red Cross (FRC) has delegates in country. The Australian Red Cross is a long-term partner of the SIRCS has supporting disaster preparedness activities. The ICRC supports SIRCS but has no presence in-country. Japanese Red Cross supports SIRCS through IFRC. All regular programs have been suspended to focus on the response operation.

Host National Societies in the Pacific, along with the IFRC Pacific Regional Office (PRO) and Partner National Societies, have been on high alert since this Tropical Cyclone was sighted and meteorological projections indicated its imminent impact on several countries. The IFRC PRO and the Asia Pacific Zone office continue to monitor the situation closely. On Sunday, 15 March 2015, the PRO organized a teleconference for partners present in the region, to better coordinate the response.

### Overview of non-Red Cross Red Crescent actors in-country

#### *Coordinating with the authorities*

The SIRC is coordinating its response with the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) and the provincial disaster offices. The SIRC participated in an emergency meeting of the National Disaster Committee, convened on 12 March 2015. Solomon Islands have now activated their National Disaster Operations Committee and there have been three meetings. SIRC has participated in these meetings, as well as national cluster meetings. SIRC have also activated their national Emergency Operations Centre.

#### *Inter-agency coordination*

The Solomon Islands Government (SIG) is actively involved in the disaster response along with the National Disaster Council and National Disaster Management Office. As members of the Pacific Humanitarian Team various ministries are hosting and involved in the daily management and coordination of the 5 permanently established clusters: internally displaced people (IDP) and Social Welfare, WASH, Emergency Shelter, Assessments, and Health.

The IFRC PRO is maintaining close coordination with UNOCHA and other regional partners in Suva, Fiji.

## Needs analysis, beneficiary selection, risk assessment and scenario planning

### Needs assessments

Strong winds and heavy rainfall from Tropical Cyclone Pam has caused extensive damage to houses, agriculture crops, water supply, communications and infrastructure in the two provinces of Temotu and Malaita. As such SIRC needs financial support to mobilize items and deploy volunteers to these provinces/islands. Initial assessments have indicated that beneficiary needs are mostly related to relief items, emergency shelter, emergency health, and water and sanitation.

## **B. Operational strategy and plan**

This operational plan is fully in line with IFRC policies, procedures, and commitments, and seeks to provide immediate support to families most affected by the weather systems and related events in Solomon Islands. At this stage, the SIRC will respond only to immediate needs and has not planned a post-relief intervention.

This DREF allocation aims to address the immediate needs of up to 600 households through the provision of essential household non-food items, emergency shelter materials and access to safe water. In order to deliver the assistance, operational support and assessment teams will be mobilized and deployed with support of the DREF allocation. **The operation will be implemented over three months, and will therefore be completed by 15 June 2015.** A Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation.

### **Overall objective**

This DREF operation will support immediate needs of up to 600 households through the provision of essential household non-food items, emergency shelter, clean water and hygiene promotion.

### **Proposed strategy**

The SIRC does not have sufficient disaster preparedness stocks in-country and this DREF allocation will supplement stocks already held by SIRC.

### **Operational support services**

#### **Human resources**

There are a number of SIRC volunteers located on-site and are already responding to the disaster in coordination with their local disaster committees. Further deployment of volunteers however is crucial for the effective delivery of assistance. The SIRC does not foresee a need to deploy regional delegates at this stage.

#### **Logistics and supply chain**

Considering the distances between islands and provinces, logistics costs tend to be high. Movement of supplies and human resources (staff and volunteers) will, therefore, take a considerable portion of the budget.

#### **Information technology and telecommunications**

New Zealand Red Cross supports telecommunication programmes across the region. Should support be required in this area, New Zealand Red Cross will be approached to assist.

#### **Communications**

Remote support will be provided by the IFRC Asia Pacific communication unit through the regional communications and advocacy manager for Southeast Asia Regional Delegation.

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

Reporting on the operation will be made in accordance with the IFRC reporting standards. A regional after-action review will be conducted at the end of the broader Tropical Cyclone Pam operation (outside of this DREF operation). A post-action survey is planned at the end of operation. One update will be issued during the operation's timeframe and a final report within three months of the end of the operation.

#### **Administration and Finance**

The IFRC, through the department of finance, provides the necessary operational support for review, validation of budgets, bank transfers, and technical assistance to the National Societies on procedures for justification of expenditures, including the review and validation of invoices. Most National Societies have been supported for many years by the IFRC and are accustomed to these financial procedures.



## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion

**Needs analysis:** Initial assessments have indicated that beneficiary needs are mostly related to access of safe drinking water and associated hygiene promotion activities. The response will focus on mobilising a SIRC NOMAD water treating module and associated hygiene promotion activities.

**Population to be assisted:** Some 600 households will be assisted with access to emergency water supply and associated hygiene promotion activities.

<b>Outcome 1: Immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities</b>													
<b>Output 1.1:</b> Daily access to safe water which meets Sphere and WHO standards in terms of quantity and quality is provided to target population													
<i>Activities planned</i>	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.1.1 Continuous assessment of water, sanitation, and hygiene situation is carried out.													
1.1.2 Mobilize and transport water treatment module (NOMAD)													
1.1.3 Continuous Treatment of safe drinking water to meet Sphere and WHO standards													
1.1.4 Demobilization of water treatment module (NOMAD)													
<b>Output 1.2:</b> Hygiene promotion activities which meet Sphere standards in terms of the identification and use of hygiene items provided to target population.													
<i>Activities planned</i>	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.2.1 Plan hygiene promotion activities and mobilize hygiene promotion volunteers													
1.2.2 Hygiene promotions sessions are attended by majority of beneficiaries identified in continuous assessment													

### ANNEX 1: ASSUMPTIONS AND RISKS TABLE TEMPLATE

<b>ASSUMPTIONS &amp; RISKS</b>	<b>LIST IF SPECIFIC AFFECTED SECTORS OR STATE 'ALL'</b>	<b>Likelihood</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>CAN CONTROL; MITIGATE / INFLUENCE; OR ONLY FACTOR-IN</b>
Access and logistics for travel of assessment teams as well as delivery of materials is not hampered by rough sea and/or bad weather conditions	All	H	H	Factor in response planning
Subsequent storms do not impact upon the same affected areas, distracting resources and implementation schedules	All	M	H	Factor in response planning

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## Contact information

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

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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 (NGOs) 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**.

# DREF OPERATION

17/03/2015

MDRSB004 Solomon Islands : Tropical Cyclone Pam

<b>Budget Group</b>	<b>DREF Grant Budget CHF</b>
Shelter - Relief	29,799
Clothing & Textiles	16,796
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	21,737
Utensils & Tools	10,836
<b>Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES</b>	<b>79,167</b>
Distribution & Monitoring	30,896
<b>Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE</b>	<b>30,896</b>
Volunteers	20,273
<b>Total PERSONNEL</b>	<b>20,273</b>
Travel	11,951
Office Costs	903
Communications	1,146
Financial Charges	50
<b>Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>14,049</b>
Programme and Services Support Recovery	9,385
<b>Total INDIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>9,385</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>153,770</b>