



Situation Report

Response Name	Tropical Cyclone Cook
Situation Report	02
Time & Date	14:00, 11 th April 2017
Reporting period	10/04/2017 – 11/04/2017
Provinces affected	All Provinces
Attachment(s)	N/A
NEOC Status	Operational

Situation Overview

Tropical Cyclone Cook has passed over Vanuatu resulting in destructive winds, heavy rainfall, flash flooding and rough seas with heavy swells over northern, central and southern provinces. Malampa and Shefa are the most affected provinces. Over 250mm of rain was recorded on Efate between Friday 7th and Sunday 9th April. The system has widely affected fruit trees, crops and gardens across the country. The most significant damage to crops have been reported in parts of Malampa that are likely to affect food security in the coming weeks.

Over 1,000 people were formally evacuated by the National Disaster Management Office on Efate most of whom have returned to their place of origin. Other community led evacuations took place. There are reports of isolated cases of damage to schools and housing. Most damaging effects were from flooding. Airports countrywide were temporarily closed but have since reopened, except for Emae and Tongoa. Mobile phone networks have experienced outages. Reports of minor damage to roads and crossings is widespread.

The Government of Vanuatu activated the Emergency Fund and the National Disaster Management Office remains operational and has responded to immediate needs. Line ministries, Provincial authorities and partner agencies are working with the NDMO and staff have been seconded from these agencies to support the NDMO in the National Emergency Operations Centre. Offers of surge support have been made by international partners, but are not required at this time. Many areas of the country are returning to normal as the effects of the Cyclone have passed. Clean up operations are ongoing. Food security, WASH, infrastructure, displacement assistance and health will continue to be assessed and monitored in the coming days and weeks.

Sector Updates

Food Security & Agriculture Cluster (FSAC)

Damage to food and vegetables crops were reported from five provinces: SANMA, PENAMA, MALAMPA, SHEFA and TAFEA. In some areas there were reports on cash crops that were severely damaged. The most affected areas are on Malampa and Shefa. The following information is provided FSAC from contacts within the province but is yet to be formally assessed.

Malampa

Lamap: Extensive damage to banana crops in south Malekula and gardens. People can still manage to find food and cope with available food supply.

Lakatoro: The damage is not so much intense. Overall people can still cope with food and access to food in retail shops is unaltered, gardens however will have to be made again.

South East Ambrym: Food crops and fruit trees damaged however the extent of damage is unknown. Cash crops are okay. They have stated that retail food outlets have limited or no supply and food sourcing maybe a concern in the coming 2 to 3 weeks. Coconut for copra has been damaged making income from this commodity unavailable.

West Ambrym: Extensive damage to garden crops, staple garden crops such as bananas, manioc, taro and yams are damaged. People are salvaging damaged food crops to eat. There is major concern for future food security and a need for planting materials to be supplied (ACS west Ambrym) . Initial damage reports for west Ambrym area will be sent over on Friday 14/4/2017 by CDCCC. There are two major retail outlets with very few smaller ones but will not be enough to sustain food supply.

South East Malekula: Citrus, fruits, nut trees, food and cash crops (manioc/water taro/banana/coconut) are extensively damaged due to strong winds, landslide, flooding and water-logging. The resources they have will only last them for the next 2-3 weeks as the damaged crops will take a long period to recover.

South West Malekula: cash crops are okay, bananas and manioc are mostly damaged. Other root crops are fine. Overall SWB area are okay with no major Food security concerns.

Paama: Local Staples, Banana and Manioc are destroyed including fruit trees. With current situation, Retail shops have 1-2 week supply of dry rations.

Shefa

Buninga: staple root crop is manioc, all stems have fallen in the gardens. There has been no damage to livestock. People are harvesting damaged crops.

South Epi: Staple foods; banana and manioc in the gardens are all damaged. Fruits have fallen off trees; however few vegetables such as cabbages are still okay. Local retail shops with food are very limited.

Meten/Malavao – Mosso: Food crops such as manioc, yam, taro and banana are damaged by strong winds and excessive flooding and water depths which vary from 80 cm - 1 metre in depth

Mele / Waisisi: food crops such as manioc, yam, taro, banana, island cabbage, sweet potatoes and vegetables which were mostly affected by flooding and strong winds.

Ifira: Reported small damage of food crops: Banana, Island cabbage, Manioc

Mate village (Epi): Fruits/Crops destroyed such as bananas, taro, manioc, wild yam, pawpaw and oranges. There were also reports on community cash crops such as coconuts that were destroyed. Reports also being received that the cyclone has caused a lot of damage on one of their main cash food crop - peanuts

Makira: manioc, island cabbage and banana destroyed. Food situation needs to be monitored in the coming months.

Matasso: manioc, island cabbage and banana within 2 weeks time there will be shortage of food due to soil structure --lan Kalsuak

Emae island: food/fruit crops such as bananas and manioc are damaged - but can be managed in the coming days.

Efate: Reported damage to crops : fruit trees, Banana, Manioc, corn

Epau: Banana, manioc are destroyed by strong wind. Water cress which is one of the main source of income was washed away to the river bank.

Vermaul: 12 communities Banana, Wota Taro Fijian Taro were blown down by strong winds. Manioc was uprooted by the strong wind.

Tongoa: banana, manioc are destroyed by strong winds, there is concern for food security.

Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH)

Reports of contaminated underground water (well) and water system outages over areas around the Shefa and Malampa Province since yesterday due to strong gale force winds and flooding. Isangel Provincial HQ has also reported water outage since Sunday 09th of April 2017. Other provinces have not reported any major concerns to the NEOC, except that rainwater catchment over the TC Cook period could also be contaminated. WASH Assessments of evacuation centres and places of origin were conducted on Monday 10th April 2017. Key messaging to communities on WASH were delivered over the radio by the NDMO and WASH Cluster pre-cyclone on Friday 7th April.

Gender & Protection

Gender and Protection cluster has been working with the NDMO to support the evacuations in and around Port Vila. Disaggregated information has been collected to inform any interventions and child safe spaces have been set up where a large number of children were identified.

Evacuation and Displacement

Over one thousand (>1,000) people have been registered out of total number of evacuees into 13 evacuation centres on the 8th of April in Shefa and Tafea provinces. NDMO/ CCCM unit led the registration by using the standard DTM tool. This includes men, women, children, pregnant, and people living with disability. This registration was carried out by a joint team of NDMO, IOM Red Cross, Shefa province and Protection cluster/department of women.

As of yesterday 10/04/2017; out of 31 registered evacuation centres only three hosting the few household of the evacuation centres : Eratap 97 people; Mormon 27 people; Wan Smol Bag 40 people.

NDMO CCCM unit is going to carry out the next round of registration on Tuesday 11th April 2017 to capture the number of evacuees, their expected length of stay, and the return solutions. The situation will be updated in the next Sitrep.

Shelter

Feedback from affected communities is showing very limited damage to shelter. Damage from flooding is the main issue reported, this has led to evacuations in several islands in Shefa province.

Logistics and Telecommunications

Airports are operational as of Monday 10th April except for Emae and Tongoa. Sea ports are operational, subject to prevailing sea conditions for access. Two boats were reported damaged, MV Island Claws and MV Freedom. UNELCO reports that all their supply networks are fully functional. Digicel reports that all services are operational. TVL is working to restore Narpow, Eton, Mangaliliu, Emau, Pango, Pango Nah and Erakor Telsat 2G/3G sites on Efate, and all Northern and Southern islands.

Education

Feedback from Area secretaries reported that schools are resuming back to duty as from today Tuesday 11/4/2017 most of the school do not sustain a lot of damage except for a Primary school on Emae was reported to have two classroom buildings damage and they will not be able to resume classes until further Notice.

General Coordination

The National Disaster Management Office is coordinating the response and liaising closely with line government ministries, provincial authorities and partner agencies. The National Emergency Operations Center remains operational. The NDMO with partners is leading a systematic process of making hundreds of calls to Provincial authorities, extension officers, partner agencies, the private sector and communities to gather information. The NDMO led an inter-agency briefing on Monday 10th April to summarising findings from initial data gathering. Agencies remain on standby to provide assistance if required. Affected sectors are having cluster meetings. A meeting of the National Disaster Committee (NDC) will take place today at 3pm.

Further Information

Weather: Meteo website

Prepared by: NDMO Information Management Unit

Released by: Mr Peter Korisa, Acting Director, National Disaster Management Office

Next situation report: Wednesday 12th April