



## NEOC Situation Update

Response Name	TC Hola & Ambae Volcanic Activity
Situation Report	11
Date	25 April 2018
Reporting period	23/04/2018 - 25/04/2018
Provinces affected	Malampa, Sanma, Penama
Attachment(s)	
NEOC Status	Operational

### Situation Overview

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The Ambae Volcano activity maintains level 3 and is likely to continue at this level for a while. A state of emergency is currently in force in the whole of Ambae since 13 April until 13 July and the whole island is now declared a disaster zone.

The government's priority is to move families to safe locations on-island and is working with provincial authorities to explore all options with the community and in close consultation with traditional in Maewo and Pentecost. Approximately 650 people have already moved to safe location (on island).

On ground reports state that the Volcano is only giving out white smoke but no ash fall activity has been reported recently. Plants and crops that were resistant to the ash fall, are now starting to grow back.

The reports also state that the flash flood that was reported in Lombaha area was rather two creeks that joined together, causing overflow and huge noise that caused panic. Despite that, the Penama Province continues to evacuate the people from the area to the Vureas High School and Torgil Training Center given that Lombaha area is already desert like and very far from the provincial headquarter, which makes logistics arrangements for relief distribution very difficult.

### General Coordination

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#### Ambae Volcano Operation

The National Disaster Management Office has organized an Inter-Cluster coordination meeting on the 24th of April 2018 and has encouraged the Cluster leads and Co-leads to suspend all recovery activities in Ambae following the Council of Ministers' decision to move all people off the island. Consequently, the National Disaster Management Office has advised Inter-Cluster to work on re-adjusting project timelines.

Cluster capacity assessment teams deployed to Ambae to assess the potential transitional sites and advise on their suitability have sent back preliminary findings that are currently being summarized at the NDMO. These findings will then be presented to the National Disaster Council and will form the basis for response planning. The teams are then scheduled to proceed to the off island relocation sites beginning 25 April to conduct similar assessments in the identified sites for permanent relocation in Maewo and

Pentecost. The registration team will continue with the registration in the North of the Island today 25<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

A huge quantity of WASH supplies will arrive in Port Vila this week via HMS Canterbury (New Zealand Royal Navy Vessel) to support the displaced population of Ambae. The logistics team is working on securing a Warehouse in Luganville, Santo to store the supplies.

The Penama Provincial Emergency Operation Center (PEOC) team is having difficulty hiring vehicles on-ground. As a result, the Logistics team will be sending some Government -vehicles and a Military vehicle to Ambae this week to support on-site operations.

### TC Hola Operation

The first part of relief supplies distribution has been completed. Clusters are now preparing for the intermediate phase of the operation.

### Penama Provincial Coordination

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The Chiefs Forum that the Penama PEOC has organised has ended today in Pentecost. On 24th April 2018, the Ambae chiefs along with the Government Taskforce met with the Maewo Chiefs and landowners to discuss possible permanent off-island relocation sites in Maewo. The discussions led to four uncleared sites identified. The names of these locations have not yet been confirmed. The delegation moved to Pentecost today 25th April 2018 to discuss the same matter with the Chiefs and land-owners.

The on-island evacuation continues. The Penama PEOC and JPOC (Joint Police Operation) are assisting with the movement of people. The team is currently moving four Wards in Lombaha area to Vureas High School and Torgil Training Center. (see movement detail & population below)

<b>LOMBAHA AREA - movement of people in still ongoing</b>				
<b>WARD</b>	<b>NUMBER OF VILLAGE(S)</b>	<b>HH</b>	<b>POPULATION</b>	<b>EVACUATION STATUS</b>
Kamaltambe	5	69	319	ongoing
Maloitamata	1			yet to move
Lakalakabulu	3	147	566	yet to move
Sarutalai	4	87	314	yet to move
Vusibulu		72	341	yet to move

### Further Information

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**VMGD Volcano Update:** [www.vmgd.gov.vu](http://www.vmgd.gov.vu)  
**NDMO:** <https://ndmo.gov.vu>  
**Prepared by:** NDMO Information Management Unit  
**Next Sitrep:** Friday 27th April 2018