



Government of the Republic of Vanuatu

National Disaster Management Office

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NEOC Situation Update

Response Name	Tropical Cyclone Harold Novel Coronavirus (COVID19) Tanna Ash fall Teouma Flooding
Situation Report	06
Date	09 April 2020
Reporting period	07 April 2020 – 09 April 2020
Provinces affected	All
Attachment(s)	
NEOC Status	Activated - Wednesday 11 March 2020
Next SITREP	TBD

Situation Overview

The National Disaster Management Office (NDMO), is currently coordinating response to at least four (4) disaster events; Tropical Cyclone Harold, COVID-19, Tanna Ash Fall, Teouma Flooding.

TC Harold

The Vanuatu Meteorological & Geohazards Division has issued the last cyclone warning on 7th of April 2020.

The Vanuatu National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) advises that 'All Clear' is now given for all the northern and central provinces.

COVID 19

The National Disaster Management Office takes lead on the overall coordination of the COVID19 operation while the Health Cluster leads the medical aspects of the operation.

State of Emergency has ended as of 8th April mid-night. However the COVID-19 Advisory committee will still be active as per the National Disaster Committee decision. International Border control for COVID-19 measures is still maintained.

Tanna Ash fall

The Tanna Yasur Volcano is currently in Alert Level 2 according to Vanuatu Meteorological and Geo-Hazards Department (VMGD). An assessment on 31 March 2020 shows high impact on livelihood from the east to the central part of the island. The report shows that priority needs at the moment is food and water.

Teouma Flooding

The heavy rainfall throughout the last weekend has caused flooding and impacted the livelihood of people around Teouma Valley. The area has been assessed and a report will be produced for further response if necessary.

Highlights

COVID 19

- **No suspect and no confirmed cases in Vanuatu.**
- *Directive 40 from the NDMO has uplifted all previous domestic restrictions of air and sea operations subject to meeting normal safety and regulatory requirements.*

TC HAROLD

Preliminary impact reports (aerial assessment/ on-ground observations)

- At least 40% of Digicel coverage network restored in Banks and Santo while 40% of Vodafone coverage restored for Santo.
- At least 13 cargo vessels appear to be damaged, wrecked or beached.
- **Sanma**
 - o 2 deaths in Malo and a number of injuries reported at Northern Provincial Hospital. A woman who has been seriously injured was transferred to Vila Central Hospital (VCH).
 - o Power outage is still an issue in Luganville since 5th April 2020.
- **Pentecost**
 - o 90% of houses, evacuation centers, gardens, water systems, health facilities and classrooms are completely destroyed.
 - o Debris and overflowing rivers has caused major road blocks.
 - o 3 people with severe injuries have been transferred from Melsisi Clinic to VCH.
 - o At least 20% of the affected population has been seriously injured.
- **Ambrym**
 - o Unconfirmed report of a death related to TC Harold impact.
 - o A report from south east shows damage to buildings including houses and some classrooms.
- **Port Vila**
 - o Those who have been in evacuation centers have moved back to their houses once the all clear has been given.
 - o No damage or injury report
- **Epi, Tongoa and Shepherds Islands**
 - o 60% damage to gardens with possible contamination to all water sources including rivers and streams due to flooding and debris.
 - o Blockage to some roads due to fallen trees and overflowing rivers.
 - o Airports and Sea port access are in good condition.
 - o Networks communications and health facilities are in good condition
- **Efate and Offshore Islands,**
 - o 50% damage to food gardens (banana and manioc) with possible contamination to all water sources including rivers and streams due to flooding and debris.
 - o Networks communications and health facilities are in good condition
- **Torba**
 - o Severe damage is expected over the island of Merelava.

General Coordination

- The NEOC coordinates the four disaster events listed above with respective sectors, clusters and Provincial disaster committees.
- While Provincial Emergency Operation Centers (PEOC) throughout Vanuatu are working together with Health working groups at the provincial level to carry out awareness on COVID-19 measures Sanma, Penama, Malampa, Torba and Shefa are also coordinating response for tropical cyclone Harold.

- Initial preliminary assessments are being done by the PDCs and their respective CDCCCs. PDCs are reporting that the CDCCCs scheduled to report their finds to the PDCs tomorrow and reports should be made available to NDMO once compiled.
- 14 Rapid Technical Assessment Team are being deployed to support the PDCs and CDCCCs with their assessment to the severely affected areas within Sanma, Malekula, Ambrym and Penama. Other affected areas; Torba, Shefa and Paama awaits further preliminary assessments.
- NDMO is coordinating with in-country humanitarian partner for immediate relief supplies for the most affected areas.

Further Information

- **Health Update:** toll free: 119 | www.covid19.gov.vu
- **NDMO:** www.ndmo.gov.vu | m.facebook.com/ndmo.gov.vu
- **Prepared by:** NDMO Information Management Unit
- **Approved by:** Director, National Disaster Management Office

