



Situation Report

Response Name	Volcanic Activity – Ambae & Ambrym
Situation Report	03
Time & Date	16.30 23 rd September 2017
Reporting period	22/09/2017 – 23/09/2017
Provinces affected	Penama, Malampa
Attachment(s)	VMGD Ambae Volcano Alert Bulletin 11
NEOC Status	Operational

Situation Overview

Volcanic activity from Monaro volcano on Ambae has increased overnight and the Vanuatu Meteorology and GeoHazards (VMGD) have raised the Alert Level to 4 'Moderate eruption state'. Ambrym remains at Alert Level 3. The National Emergency Operations Centre and the Penama Emergency Operations Centre are now both operational.

The Penama Provincial Disaster & Climate Change Committee (PDCCC) are taking lead in the coordination on-ground with support of the Provincial Disaster Officer and partner agencies. The NDMO and VMGD will undertake a mission to Ambae tomorrow 24th September departing Port Vila in the morning. Director NDMO and the Manager GeoHazards Department will meet with Provincial Authorities to advance coordination and planning before returning to Port Vila. NDMO specialists in evacuation management and provincial liaison will stay on to support provincial authorities.

The National Disaster Committee (NDC) met yesterday 22nd September for an information briefing. An inter-agency briefing is planned for Monday 25th September 2017. The NDMO has undertaken public awareness through the media including: live radio, targeted sms messages to Ambae and through facebook. The Vanuatu Red Cross have provided an update on available non-food items (NFIs) countrywide.

PENAMA

The PDCCC met this morning and has deployed two teams to ensure that the host communities within the Island are ready to host possible displaced persons with assistance from Area Secretaries and Police Officers. The PDCCC has identified a store house to store food and other basic need supplies.

Reports from the Penama Provincial authorities indicate that there is an increase in ashfall, thick smoke that clouds sunlight and gas smell. The PDCC has received reports that some individuals and families in the western part of Ambae are moving from higher to lower ground for evacuation and shelter.

The PDCC are informing people that live near the danger zone to prepare to move to safe zones. They have also informed the Penama Principal Education Officer to ensure that schools near the danger zones are closed.

MALAMPA

No further update from Situation Report 02, on the 22nd September 2017.

Further Information

Volcanic bulletins: <http://www.vmgd.gov.vu/vmgd/index.php/geohazards/volcano/alert-bulletin>

Weather: www.vmgd.gov.vu

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Next situation report: Monday 25th September or as required depending on the situation.

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Ambae Volcano Alert Bulletin N°11, 23th September 2017

Ambae volcano activity,

Ambae Island, 15°40'0"S, 167°83'0"E, Summit (1 496 m)

Volcanic activity at Ambae is continuing to increase. The Alert Level for Ambae volcano is raised from Level 3 to Level 4.

This means that the Ambae volcano is in a **moderate eruption state**. At this Alert Level, the volcanic activity is likely to continue to increase or decrease to its normal level of unrest at any time. **Danger is in the Red, Grey, Orange and White dotted Zones** (See map below).

With this situation, flying rock and volcanic gas will affect the **Red Zone which is about 6.5 km radius from Manaro Voui**. Villages located in the **Grey** and **Orange Zone** will expect unusual volcanic hazards and ash falls can be expected around the island especially in villages exposed to prevailing trade winds direction, **White Zone dotted**. Acid rain may also be expected in that zone. Acid rain cause foliage fumigation hence damage garden crops.

It's very important that authorities, communities, villages, visitors and travel agencies seriously consider this information.

The Vanuatu Meteorology and Geohazards Department will continue to closely monitor this volcano activity. More information will be provided as soon as necessary.

For further information, please contact Geohazards office at the Vanuatu Meteorology and Geohazards Department