

Gender and Protection RESPONSE | Monaro Volcano

Monaro Volcano on Ambae Island remains at Alert Level 4. Under the coordination of the NDMO, a mass evacuation of Ambae to Maewao, Pentecost and Santo has been carried out. The majority of evacuees are in Santo, where relief efforts are being concentrated.

GENDER AND PROTECTION RISKS

Given the large numbers of people moving and congregating in evacuation centres, there are significant gender and protection concerns. These include:



An increase in Gender Based Violence (GBV) and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA)



An increased need for child protection



Lack of services for People Living with Disabilities (PLWD)



General safety, protection and dignity of displaced and host communities

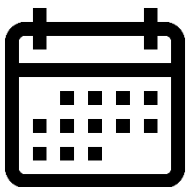


Overloaded or lack of health services, particularly Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) and Maternal and Child Health (MCH)

GENDER & PROTECTION CLUSTER RESPONSE SUMMARY

To ensure the safety, dignity and protection of vulnerable persons in displaced and host communities, the Gender & Protection Cluster proposes the following response actions:

- **Gender and protection monitoring, awareness raising and training** for displaced and host communities and humanitarian responders.
- **Establishment and training of Protection Committees** who are responsible for monitoring, reporting and referral of protection issues.
- **Deployment of Vanuatu Women Centre counsellors** to evacuation centres to manage the potential increase in referrals.
- **Distribution of safety and dignity kits** (lava lava, solar lights, underwear, nappies, Menstruation Hygiene Management) to displaced persons and host communities.
- Mapping and data collection to **identify unaccompanied minors and vulnerable groups** (including people living with disabilities and female headed households).
- **Establishment of Child Friendly Spaces (CFS)** and the mobilisation and training of youth to manage the CFS Data collection and vulnerability mapping of the displaced persons in evacuation centres.
- **Provision of psychological first aid (PFA) and psychosocial support (PSS)** in the affected areas.
- **Gender & Protection mainstreaming** support to other Clusters.



The Gender & Protection Cluster propose to conduct the above response **for one month**.



20 Evacuation Centres would be reached, with those with the highest populations prioritised.



The budget for this response is **VATU 77,773,850**.