



BUSINESS GUIDE

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN FOR VANUATU TROPICAL CYCLONE PAM

MARCH - JUNE 2015

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OVERVIEW OF THE CRISIS

On 13 March Tropical Cyclone Pam struck Vanuatu, a country of more than 80 islands. More than half the country's population of 270,000 people have been affected.

Food and safe drinking water have been identified as the most urgently needed commodities for affected people. About 65 per cent of the people in Shefa and Tafea provinces have no access to safe drinking water. The outer islands, particularly Tanna, are relying on water deliveries as groundwater sources are contaminated and rainwater harvesting systems have been destroyed. Food and safe drinking water are also urgently needed to prevent the outbreak of disease.

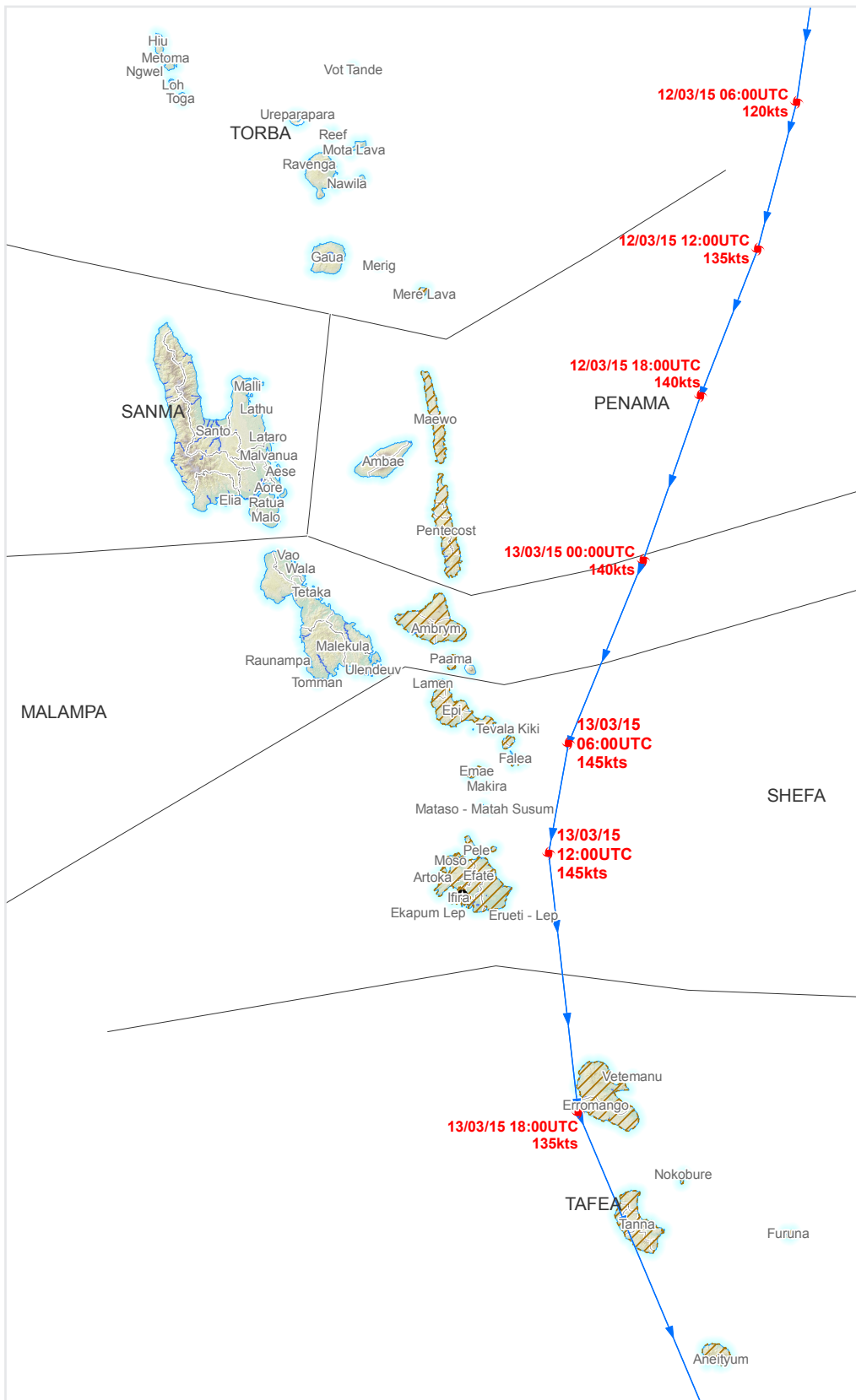
Vanuatu's population is highly reliant on subsistence farming for food security and livelihoods. The destruction of food gardens and loss of livestock leave households with no alternative food source. The loss of food crops as well as coconut and banana plantations has destroyed the main source of income for the population. This will have a significant long term social and economic impact. In Tongoa, Emae and Erromango Islands, up to 90 per cent of shelters have been wiped out.


HOW CAN BUSINESSES HELP? [Write to: pss@un.org](mailto:pss@un.org)

- 1 CONTRIBUTE TO THE VANUATU FLASH APPEAL**
In the early stages of the humanitarian response, financial contributions to experienced and reputable aid agencies are considered the most valuable and effective form of immediate response. For more information on how to contribute to the appeal, write to pss@un.org.
- 2 IN-KIND AND SERVICE SUPPORT**
UN and national authorities have urged the donation of cash for maximum speed and flexibility. Businesses wishing to contribute to the relief efforts by providing in-kind goods or services should do so in consultation with the authorities who will help assess whether they are appropriate. For more information, write to pss@un.org.
- 3 WORK THROUGH EXISTING PARTNERSHIPS**
Companies that have employees, suppliers, customers in the region, or those with existing agreements with responding humanitarian organizations, should reach out to and provide support to these groups directly.

WHERE TO FIND THE LATEST INFORMATION?

For an updated list of maps, situations reports, events and the **Vanuatu Flash Appeal** please visit the humanitarian response **Vanuatu page**. The Flash Appeal, launched on 24 March, provides a detailed list of responding organizations and projects seeking financial support.




166,600
PEOPLE AFFECTED


75,000
PEOPLE IN NEED
OF SHELTER


110,000
PEOPLE WITHOUT
ACCESS TO SAFE
DRINKING WATER


\$29.9 MILLION
REQUIRED (USD)

This document is produced by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in collaboration with humanitarian partners in support of the Government of Vanuatu. It covers the period from 24 March to 24 June 2015 and is issued on 24 March 2015.

The designations employed and the presentation of material on this report do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

CRITICAL REMINDERS

- The UN Secretary-General encourages companies to coordinate their response efforts with the United Nations and the Government of Vanuatu in order to ensure coherence with priority needs and to minimize gaps and duplications with the other responders.
- All response activities should be guided by the humanitarian principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence. Stakeholder engagement is key to corporate engagement in humanitarian response. Relief efforts succeed when they collaboratively mobilize civil society.
- Business contributions to the UN response efforts must comply with the Guidelines on Cooperation between the UN and the Business Sector <http://business.un.org/en/documents/guidelines>

MAIN HUMANITARIAN ISSUES

Existing information and field observations suggest that the most immediate threats to life are:



LACK OF SAFE DRINKING WATER

Water sources have been destroyed or contaminated. Soon, remaining water sources will be depleted, leaving people reliant on unsafe drinking water.



INSUFFICIENT ACCESS TO FOOD

The population of Vanuatu largely relies on subsistence farming. The cyclone has destroyed up to 96 per cent of crops, leaving people with no alternative food stocks.



NEED FOR EMERGENCY SHELTER

Significant damage to housing leaves people either crowded into houses still standing, in evacuation centres or without shelter and at increased risk of disease.



NEED FOR MEDICAL FACILITIES AND SUPPLIES

Health facilities have been destroyed and supplies have been stretched thin, leaving health workers with limited means for emergency care and disease control.



INSUFFICIENT ACCESS TO PEOPLE IN NEED

The affected population is spread over 22 islands. This represents a logistical challenge to rapid assessments and to delivering aid to affected people. Telecommunications outside the capital are in need of restoration.

RECOGNIZING YOUR CONTRIBUTION

OCHA manages the Financial Tracking Service (FTS), which records all reported humanitarian contributions, including cash and in-kind donations from businesses. Its purpose is to give credit and visibility to donors for their generosity and to show the total amount contributed to an emergency, regardless of source or recipient. This reporting also allows for the pinpointing of gaps in the response.

To report your contribution write to fts@un.org or go to <http://fts.unocha.org> to see how other businesses are responding.



OCHA

United Nations Office
for the Coordination of
Humanitarian Affairs