

August 2016



OVERVIEW

- Vanuatu has one of the highest exposures to natural hazards in the world. Cyclones historically cause the greatest damage and mortality and are seasonal and frequent. Earthquakes also historically cause significant destruction and mortality and are frequent. Four major volcanoes are located on populated islands. Tsunamis, landslides and drought are also present.
- Overall population is small and densities. High population densities and significant infrastructure only on Santo, Efate and Tanna. Over 80% of population still live on traditional land and vernacular modes of resilience and preparedness are vital, most importantly those that are linked with tropical cyclones.

NEED ANALYSIS

Support self-recovery primarily through distribution of tarpaulins and tools during the relief phase, and activities complementing the recovery initiatives undertaken by the affected households in order to repair, retrofit or rebuild their dwellings and make those safer, stronger and more resilient to future cyclones and other types of natural hazards.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PREPAREDNESS

- Training on shelter coordination for Public Works Department, Department of Local Authorities and NDMO, national, provincial and community levels.
- SCV developed "Technical guidelines for emergency shelter response to future natural disaster in Vanuatu" document
- IFRC continues support Vanuatu Shelter Cluster nationally and regionally
- NDMO strengthening (1) emergency response with the support of IOM, regarding internal displacement and evacuation centres (2) Humanitarian logistic capacity, including warehousing construction/rebuilding, NFIs distribution capacity building and operationalization at provincial level (3) Community resilience through reinforcement of Community Disaster Committees (CDCs), mitigation measures and safer housing promotion.

GAPS / CHALLENGES

- Need to support identification, repairing, retrofitting and reconstruction of cyclone-resistant community-led traditional buildings
- Important to identify the traditional individual and community cyclone-proof buildings that resisted well to cyclone PAM so to learn from traditional knowledge principles that could inform modern building and settlement practices and even be integrated into the national building code

KEY FACTS & FIGURES

The Latest Crises: March 2015
Activation of Cluster: February 2015 (pre-crisis)

Cluster management arrangements:
Strategic Advisory Group

Frequency of cluster meetings: MONTHLY

16 Total cluster partners

8 IOs & INGOs with permanent presence in the country

8 Local NGOs

CLUSTER TEAM - Contacts

Cluster lead agency:
Vanuatu Public Works Department
Co-lead: IFRC
Cluster coordinator: Luke Johnston
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Information Management Officer: N/A

KEY DOCUMENTS (hyperlinks)

- [Vanuatu Shelter Document Index](#)
- [Strategic Framework Executive Summary](#)
- [Technical guidelines for emergency shelter response to Natural Disaster in Vanuatu](#)
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KEY LINKS

[Vanuatu page on sheltercluster.org](#)

[Vanuatu page on humanitarianresponse.info](#)

[Vanuatu page on relief.web](#)