

SOUTH PACIFIC – TROPICAL CYCLONE PAM

FACT SHEET #3, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2015

APRIL 13, 2015

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

11

Confirmed Fatalities in Vanuatu Resulting from Tropical Cyclone Pam

UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) – March 24, 2015

166,000

Estimated Number of People in Vanuatu Affected by Tropical Cyclone Pam
OCHA – April 3, 2015

4,600

Estimated Number of People in Tuvalu Affected by Tropical Cyclone Pam
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) – March 2015

30,000

Estimated Number of People in the Solomon Islands Affected by Tropical Cyclone Pam
IFRC – March 17, 2015

4,000

Estimated Number of People in Kiribati Affected by Tropical Cyclone Pam
IFRC – March 31, 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- Governments of storm-affected countries and the international community continue response and early recovery efforts in Kiribati, the Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu
- Donors have contributed nearly \$28 million—including \$13.6 million toward the \$29.9 million flash appeal for Vanuatu—for humanitarian activities in response to Tropical Cyclone Pam

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR TROPICAL CYCLONE PAM TO DATE IN FY 2015

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$1,176,717
USAID/FFP ²	\$1,000,000

\$2,176,717
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FOR TROPICAL CYCLONE PAM

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- As of March 31, the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian food security and agricultural activities, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders—estimated that Tropical Cyclone Pam had destroyed up to 96 percent of Vanuatu’s food crops, as well as food gardens, coconut and banana plantations, and livestock. Humanitarian actors anticipate the extensive agricultural destruction may result in long-term food insecurity and loss of livelihoods.
- According to OCHA, an estimated 110,000 people are in urgent need of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance, including access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities, in Vanuatu due to damaged rainwater tanks and infrastructure, and the contamination of groundwater sources.
- As of April 13, donors had contributed more than \$13.6 million toward the \$29.9 million flash appeal launched by the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu (GoRV) and the UN on March 24 for humanitarian relief efforts in Vanuatu. The plan aims to address the needs of 166,000 storm-affected people on 22 islands in Vanuatu and includes provision of immediate life-saving assistance; support for the restoration of livelihoods and self-reliance through food security interventions; shelter and community infrastructure repair; and the reestablishment and strengthening of basic services.
- To date, USAID has provided nearly \$2.2 million for humanitarian assistance in Kiribati, the Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu. The funding primarily supports the distribution of food assistance, emergency relief commodities, and shelter materials; WASH activities; and logistics support for humanitarian actors in Vanuatu.

¹ USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

² USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

VANUATU

- GoRV-led teams completed the first phase of assessments to identify residual humanitarian and early recovery needs in Shefa and Tafea provinces on April 2, OCHA reports. A second phase of multi-cluster needs assessments in Malampa, Penama, and south Torba provinces began on April 6. Assessment results are scheduled for release in conjunction with the post-disaster needs assessment on April 23, and will help to inform the GoRV's overall recovery plan.
- Following her visit to Vanuatu's Tafea Province on March 28, UN Humanitarian Coordinator Osnat Lubrani warned of a possible secondary humanitarian emergency resulting from the impact of Vanuatu's extensive agricultural destruction on food security and livelihoods. The Food Security and Agriculture Cluster estimates that Tropical Cyclone Pam destroyed up to 96 percent of Vanuatu's food crops, as well as food gardens, coconut and banana plantations, and livestock.
- In response to critical food and nutritional needs, the GoRV and the UN World Food Program (WFP) have distributed emergency food assistance, including canned fish and meat, high-energy biscuits, noodles, and rice, to populations on Vanuatu's 22 affected islands; additional food distributions to people on Shefa's Efate and Tanna islands, and Penama's Maewo and Pentecost islands, remain ongoing. As of April 8, WFP reported more than 160,000 people—including nearly 93,000 women and children ages five years and younger—were receiving emergency food assistance and relief commodities.
- The GoRV National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) estimates that Tropical Cyclone Pam damaged or destroyed at least 13,750 houses. In response, relief organizations have provided shelter support—plastic sheeting, tool kits, and kitchen supplies—to approximately 50,000 people.
- The NDMO estimates that 110,000 people continue to lack access to safe drinking water due to damaged rainwater tanks and infrastructure and the contamination of groundwater sources. To address critical WASH needs, the WASH Cluster is conducting emergency water supply interventions, including deploying generators, water treatment plants, and water trucks, to storm-affected families. The WASH Cluster has also provided approximately 25,000 people with hygiene kits, with subsequent distributions aiming to benefit more than 40,000 people.
- The NDMO is relocating approximately 50 women, children, elderly, and disabled individuals from Mataso Island to a community-organized support center in Vanuatu's capital city of Port Vila, while remaining residents will continue to clear debris and repair houses. The island—located approximately 34 miles northeast of Port Vila—is currently uninhabitable, reports the International Organization for Migration (IOM), due to significant damage to houses and infrastructure, as well as limited food and water supplies. In coordination with the NDMO, IOM conducted pre-departure health checks and administered measles vaccinations to children ages five years and younger.
- According to OCHA, nearly 11,000 children across Vanuatu have received measles immunizations following the passage of Tropical Cyclone Pam.
- USAID/FFP has contributed \$1 million to WFP's emergency operation (EMOP)—launched on April 3—to support the emergency food needs of more than 57,000 storm-affected people in Malampa, Shefa, and Tafea. WFP estimates that 166,000 people in Vanuatu are in need of food assistance and plans to provide approximately three months of food assistance to people most severely affected by the storm. USAID/FFP's contribution is funding nearly 17 percent of the EMOP.
- In addition to the EMOP, WFP has launched a special operation to provide logistics coordination, storage capacity, and telecommunications assistance in Vanuatu in response to Tropical Cyclone Pam. To reinforce humanitarian logistics capacity and coordination for the Vanuatu response, including augmenting storage capacity for relief items in country, USAID/OFDA has provided \$250,000 to WFP.
- USAID/OFDA has also contributed more than \$776,700 to CARE International, the French Red Cross (FRC), and World Vision to provide emergency relief supplies, implement WASH activities in evacuation shelters, and support the return of evacuees to their homes.

TUVALU

- The Government of Tuvalu (GoT) lifted the country's state of emergency on March 27.

- Humanitarian actors have completed rapid assessments on Tuvalu’s eight islands and found that the northernmost islands of Nanumanga and Nanumea and the southernmost island of Nukulaelae sustained the most significant damages due to the storm. According to OCHA, the storm damaged or destroyed 39 homes on Nanumanga, Nanumea, and Nui.
- To address the humanitarian needs of storm-affected populations, the GoT—with support from the Tuvalu Red Cross Society and international donors—continues to provide food assistance, safe drinking water, shelter support, and other humanitarian assistance to all eight islands.
- As of April 9, OCHA reported that critical relief needs across all islands have been met and that most storm-affected communities had returned to their houses.
- To date, USAID/OFDA has provided \$50,000 to IFRC to distribute emergency relief items and support the WASH needs of cyclone-affected households in Tuvalu.

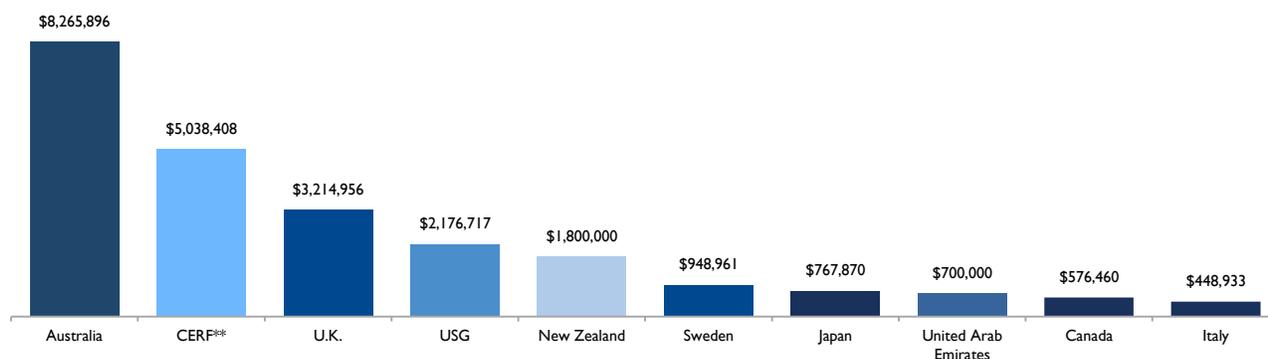
SOLOMON ISLANDS

- Between March 10 and 12, Tropical Cyclone Pam brought heavy rains, rough seas, and strong winds to the Solomon Islands, particularly in eastern areas. Tropical Cyclone Pam destroyed some houses and vegetation in the country’s easternmost province of Temotu, particularly affecting Anuta and Tikopia islands, according to international media reports. The cyclone may have affected as many as 30,000 people in Temotu and Malaita provinces, IFRC estimates.
- As of April 8, the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) reported that damaged and blocked roadways, as well as rough seas, continue to impede humanitarian access to affected islands.
- International and national humanitarian organizations, including IFRC, the Solomon Islands Red Cross, UNICEF, and World Vision, are providing assistance in the Solomon Islands. To date, USAID/OFDA has provided \$50,000 to World Vision for logistics support and WASH activities to benefit the country’s storm-affected households.

KIRIBATI

- In early March, wave activity and storm surges generated by Tropical Cyclone Pam—compounded by seasonal high tides—resulted in significant flooding in Kiribati’s capital city of South Tarawa, and in the country’s outer islands, according to relief organizations. The floods and strong winds damaged or destroyed houses, crops, and water, communication, and transportation infrastructure.
- Following assessments, the Government of Kiribati identified significant damage on the remote islands of Arorae and Tamana, where Tropical Cyclone Pam damaged or destroyed at least 85 houses and displaced approximately half of the islands’ residents. IFRC estimates that Tropical Cyclone Pam may have affected up to 4,000 people countrywide.
- To address the humanitarian needs arising from the storm, government authorities and the Kiribati Red Cross Society are providing affected communities with assistance, including emergency relief items, food rations, and WASH supplies. To date, USAID/OFDA has contributed \$50,000 to IFRC to support humanitarian response efforts.

2015 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING* PER DONOR



* Funding figures reflect contributions from the top ten donors as of April 13, 2015. All international figures are according to OCHA's Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the current calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect the most recent USG commitments based on the fiscal year, which began on October 1, 2014. The majority of funding is supporting the response in Vanuatu.

**The Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) is a pooled humanitarian fund established and managed by the UN to support underfunded emergencies.

CONTEXT

- Tropical Cyclone Pam formed in the South Pacific Ocean on March 9 and brought strong winds, heavy rains, storm surges, and floods to several island countries—including Kiribati, the Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu—as it tracked southward over several days. The storm passed over central and southern Vanuatu as a Category 5 storm on March 13 and 14, resulting in extensive damage.
- The USG declared disasters in Vanuatu, Tuvalu, the Solomon Islands, and Kiribati due to the effects of Tropical Cyclone Pam. On March 14, U.S. Ambassador to Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu Walter North declared a disaster in Vanuatu. On March 15, U.S. Ambassador to Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Tonga, and Tuvalu Judith Beth Cefkin issued a disaster declaration for Tuvalu. U.S. Chargé d'Affaires for Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu Melanie Higgins declared a disaster in the Solomon Islands on March 18, while U.S. Chargé d'Affaires for Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Tonga, and Tuvalu Douglas Sonnek declared a disaster in Kiribati on March 30.
- As the storm developed, USAID/OFDA deployed staff to the South Pacific in preparation for a potential humanitarian response. Due to the storm's impact on Vanuatu, two USAID/OFDA regional advisors traveled to Port Vila, Vanuatu, to assess humanitarian conditions and help coordinate USG response activities in collaboration with USG interagency staff, regional humanitarian actors, and other donors. USAID/OFDA staff based in the region remain in contact with U.S. mission disaster relief officers and other USG staff to continue tracking humanitarian developments in countries affected by Tropical Cyclone Pam.

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES AFFECTED BY TROPICAL CYCLONE PROVIDED IN FY 2015¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
VANUATU			
USAID/OFDA²			
FRC	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, WASH	Countrywide	\$100,000
CARE	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$244,604
WFP	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$250,000
World Vision	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$432,113
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$1,026,717

USAID/FFP ³			
WFP	Local and Regional Food Procurement	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$1,000,000
TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO VANUATU FY 2015			\$2,026,717

TUVALU			
USAID/OFDA			
IFRC	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, WASH	Countrywide	\$50,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$50,000
TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO TUVALU IN FY 2015			\$50,000

SOLOMON ISLANDS			
USAID/OFDA			
World Vision	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, WASH	Countrywide	\$50,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$50,000
TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO THE SOLOMON ISLANDS IN FY 2015			\$50,000

KIRIBATI			
USAID/OFDA			
IFRC	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, WASH	Countrywide	\$50,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$50,000
TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO THE SOLOMON ISLANDS IN FY 2015			\$50,000

TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES AFFECTED BY TROPICAL CYCLONE PAM IN FY 2015			\$2,176,717
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¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.
² USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of April 13, 2015.
³ Estimated value of food assistance.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at www.interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.821.1999.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>