

Research and resources for humanitarian response in real time

Research and resources to guide humanitarian response are not always at our fingertips at the moment we need them most – when a crisis hits. Working with our partners, we want to support the sector with at-a-glance information and links that can play a small part in ‘closing the loop’ between research and practice in real time.

QUICK SNAPSHOT

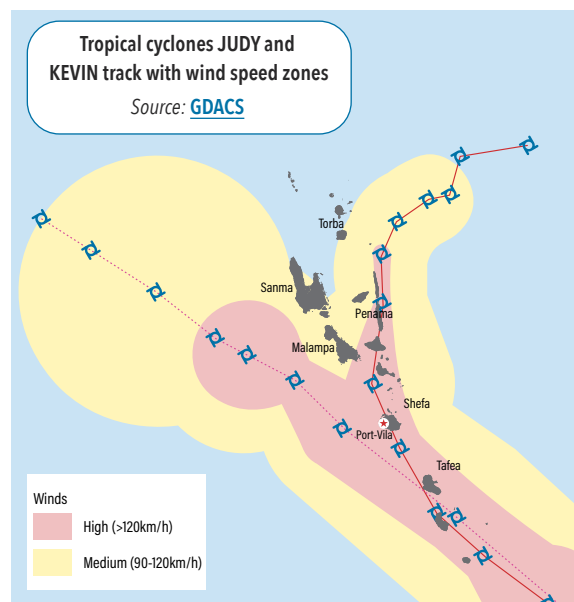
- ▶ Vanuatu has been impacted by **two category four Tropical Cyclones (TC)**, and **two earthquakes** of 6.6 and 5.4 magnitude.
- ▶ Approximately **80% of the population** or 251,319 people have been impacted. About half of these or 125,500 are children.¹
- ▶ Running water is not available in the main affected areas and rivers have been contaminated by debris.
- ▶ **Hospitals and other medical facilities** have been damaged affecting the availability of medical supplies and access to medical care.²
- ▶ **Electricity and communications systems** have been severely damaged by winds and floodwater.³
- ▶ Farmers have reported **major damage to crops** which is likely to cause long-term food shortages.⁴

1 Save the Children <https://www.savethechildren.net/news/vanuatu-estimated-125500-children-impacted-back-back-tropical-cyclones>

2 UNICEF <https://reliefweb.int/report/vanuatu/unicef-vanuatu-humanitarian-situation-report-no-2-02-04-march-2023>

3 UNOCHA - <https://reliefweb.int/report/vanuatu/vanuatu-tropical-cyclones-judy-kevin-international-deployed-assets-08-march-2023>

4 ABC News <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-03-06/vanuatu-in-recovery-mode-after-cyclone-disaster/102058182>



‘Storms are a part of our life, how we decide to put ourselves back together again is important’

William Nasak, Chairman - VANGO

RESPONSE AND COORDINATION

Overall response being led by Government of Vanuatu coordinated by the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO). A State of Emergency is in effect for the entire country to enable response and coordination.

Pacific Humanitarian Team, comprising of UN agencies, INGOs and the IFRC supporting and working with NDMO to deliver support.

Local NGOs and CSOs along with [Vanuatu Red Cross](#) have been responding on the ground through available resources and networks.

The [FRANZ arrangement](#) has been activated with Australia, France and New Zealand deploying naval and aerial assets and personnel to support with immediate response activities in coordination with the Government of Vanuatu.

Multi-sectoral rapid assessments have been completed and response plan is being finalised.

RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

Lessons from TC Pam (2015) and TC Harold (2020)

- ▶ **National Disaster Management Office (NDMO), Vanuatu** [Tropical Cyclone Harold Lessons Learned Workshop Report](#) (2020). This report presents key findings from the lessons learned workshop convened by the NDMO with humanitarian and development partners to evaluate the response to TC Harold.
- ▶ **Pacific Community (SPC)** [Tropical Cyclone Pam Lessons Learned Workshop Report](#) (2015). Report presents key findings that emerged from the lessons learned workshop organized to review the response to TC Pam.
- ▶ **Humanitarian Advisory Group (HAG) and Vanuatu Association of NGOs (VANGO):** [No Turning Back: Local Leadership in Vanuatu’s Response to Tropical Cyclone Harold](#) (2020). Discusses lessons and opportunities from the locally led response approach for TC Harold in 2020.
- ▶ **Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and HAG:** [Humanitarian assistance in the Pacific: An evaluation of the effectiveness of Australia’s response to Cyclone Pam](#) (2017). This evaluation reviewed Australia’s response to Cyclone Pam to identify how DFAT can better support Pacific countries to prepare for, respond to, and recover from rapid onset emergencies.

Other relevant sector-level research and resources:

- ▶ **HAG, VANGO and PIANGO** [Localisation in Vanuatu: Demonstrating change](#) (2019). This report provides a baseline snapshot of localisation in Vanuatu and identified opportunities for partners to take a more localised approach to response.
- ▶ **HAG, CBM Global Inclusion Advisory Group, People with Disabilities Solomon Islands, Vanuatu Disability Promotion & Advocacy Association, Pacific Disability Forum** [Organisations of persons with disabilities: making a difference in Vanuatu and Solomon Islands](#) (2022). This report explores the roles and impact of OPDs in each country and identifies key challenges and enablers constraining and supporting OPDs’ contributions to the disaster preparedness and response sector.

For more information, please get in touch with us via info@hag.org.au