



Ambae Volcano Response

EMERGENCY SHELTER CONDITIONS OF EVACUEES IN SANTO

Shelter Cluster Team Vanuatu

Rapid Assessment 18 & 19 September 2018

Report V2

DRAFT

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1. Introduction

On the 28th of August 2018, the Council of Ministers (CoM) approved the provision of emergency support in terms of food and relief items to displaced Ambae people who have voluntarily moved to Santo and advised NGOs to cooperate with NDMO to streamline their efforts to address the humanitarian needs of these people.

The National and Provincial Shelter Cluster coordination team conducted key informant interviews for 2 days from the 18th to 19th of September 2018 in 10 displacement sites (approximately 15% of the total number of displacement sites) where evacuees are living in host communities, host families, new settlements and public buildings, to better understand their current situation and future plans. Unfortunately, resources (funding) to visit the entire displaced population were not available, so this assessment provides only a snapshot of the overall situation on Santo.

According to NDMO registration data dated 8th of September 2018, there are 1,712 households (HH) in total who have moved from Ambae to Santo. It is estimated that about 10% of these households have so far received some form of emergency shelter support, including 150 Family Kits distributed on Santo by Vanuatu Red Cross, contributions from host families and communities, and some displaced households carried emergency shelter items received from Vanuatu Red Cross while still on Ambae.

Capacity of the shelter sector in Santo is now critically low, with shelter partners reporting they have exhausted all emergency shelter and household non-food item stocks. Considering the significant emergency shelter gaps on Santo, further mobilisation of resources by Government and humanitarian shelter partners will be necessary to ensure the immediate safety and dignity of the displaced families on Santo.

2. Objectives of the assessment

The main objectives of this assessment were to better understand:

1. Gaps around emergency shelter and household non-food items (NFIs)
2. Evacuee's security of land tenure and future intentions
3. Evacuee's level of access to services and support
4. Evacuee's level of disaster preparedness considering the upcoming cyclone season

3. Assessment result

3.1. Access to Adequate Emergency Shelter & Household NFIs

Item	Community	Situation	Community have adequate shelter?	Community have adequate NFIs?	Comment(s)
1	Bombua	Host Community	No	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community left many items in Ambae expecting short State of Emergency (SoE) Tents and tarps are not adequate for cyclone season More emergency shelter required
2	Teproma	Host Family	No	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No assistance received Emergency shelter crowded & small Need more tarps (20HH = 105 people)
3	Banban	New Settlement	Yes	No	
4	Banban	New Settlement	No	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Big & small tarps and NFIs are needed No privacy in the shelter
5	Banban	Host Community	No	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restriction to access of local materials Sun is okay but during rain the shelter situation is bad
6	Fire Station	Host Family	Yes	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solar lights needed
7	Sarakata	Host Family	No	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shelter overcrowded with no privacy
8	Chapuis	Host Community	No	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Everyone sharing one space/shelter, no privacy Additional Emergency Shelter requested
9	Apostolic Sarakata	Church Hall	No	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No privacy Need tarps Nothing brought from Ambae
10	Lopelope	Host Community	Yes	No	

3.2. Land Tenure Status of Ambae Evacuees on Santo

Item	Community	Situation	Community own this land?	Planning to stay for how long?	Agreement with host community/land owner	Has this community purchased a new land on Santo?	Comment(s)
1	Bombua	Host Community	No	Some until the end of SoE and some want to stay longer	Chief agrees to host community until the end of SoE	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paid the deposit already for a new land
2	Teproma	Host Family	No	Until end of SoE	Can stay until the end of SoE	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No water access Preference to return to Ambae Bought land as a 2nd home
3	Banban	New Settlement	Yes	Long-term	N/A	Yes	
4	Banban	New Settlement	Yes	Some until the end of SoE and some long-term	N/A	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New settlement is 2nd home
5	Banban	Host Community	No	Some until the end of SoE and some want to stay longer	Flexible	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Looking for land
6	Fire Station	Host Family	No	Until the end of SoE	Flexible	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Return to Ambae Looking for land as 2nd home
7	Sarakata	Host Family	No	Until the end of SoE	Flexible	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Return to Ambae Looking for land as 2nd home
8	Chapuis	Host	No	Not sure	Until the end of SoE	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing land dispute

		Community					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inform & planning of purchasing a land
9	Apostolic Sarakata	Church Hall	No	Until the end of SoE	No date	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Return to Ambae ▪ Looking for land as 2nd home
10	Lopelope	Host Community	No	Until the end of SoE	No date	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Return to Ambae ▪ Looking for land as 2nd home ▪ Site exposed to flooding

3.3. Access to Support & Services

Item	Community	Situation	Receiving support from families?	Access to construction materials for emergency shelter construction?	Access to work/livelihood?	Access to water & sanitation?	Comment(s)
1	Bombua	Host Community	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Food Support from Sarolokamu Vila Community, Church of Christ & Individual Family ▪ Livelihood through building houses and transportation (Moved to Santo with vehicles) ▪ Poor water quality ▪ 1 bush toilet ▪ Food is a challenge
2	Teproma	Host Family	Yes	No	Some access	Some access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Food Support received from Vila Community ▪ Toilet is required ▪ Has means of transportation (1 Vehicle) ▪ Finance and food is a challenge
3	Banban	New Settlement	Yes	No	Some access	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Church of Christ supporting with food ▪ Restrictions on cutting woods/trees ▪ 1 Teacher teaching at Banban School ▪ No water ▪ Food and water is a challenge
4	Banban	New Settlement	Yes	Yes	No	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Individual family and AoG Church for Food and money support ▪ Toilet issue ▪ Water and Food is a challenge
5	Banban	Host Community	Yes	Not sure	No	Some access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Church for food support ▪ No family link in Santo ▪ Poor sanitation ▪ No access to electricity ▪ Food and Water is a challenge
6	Fire Station	Host Family	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Individual family support ▪ Seeking work ▪ Requested for funding support for education
7	Sarakata	Host Family	Yes	Yes	No	Very poor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Individual family and Anglican Church Support ▪ Access to materials from Jubili Farm ▪ Food is a challenge; Drinking water is not suitable ▪ Request access for free health care ▪ Water & Light Bill is expensive including food ▪ Request for Return funding support for families to go back to Ambae
8	Chapuis	Host Community	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Individual Family Support ▪ Community works and builder ▪ Some kids are not able to go to school
9	Apostolic Sarakata	Church Hall	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Individual Family, South Santo and Walaha Community Support ▪ Family assistance, building and transportation ▪ Community did not expect extension to SoE ▪ Food is a challenge

							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pay for own bills ▪ Lack of education
10	Lopelope	Host Community	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Individual Family Support; Building, Saw-mill and gardener ▪ Poor water quality ▪ Swampy area ▪ Food is a challenge ▪ Difficulty in school fees

3.4. Readiness of Ambae Evacuees on Santo for the Upcoming Cyclone Season

Item	Community	Situation	How are Hazard Alerts received?	Are there safe shelters available?	Can evacuees access them?	Comments
1	Bombua	Host Community	Radio and Internet	Yes	Not sure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1 Church Building (Windows require shuttering)
2	Teproma	Host Family	Radio	No	N/A	
3	Banban	New Settlement	Mobile SMS	No	N/A	
4	Banban	New Settlement	Mobile SMS Families	No	N/A	
5	Banban	Host Community	Internet and Mobile SMS	No	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No Radio ▪ Requested for electricity supply to charge phones
6	Fire Station	Host Family	Radio and Mobile SMS	Yes	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Limited space inside the house
7	Sarakata	Host Family	Radio	No	N/A	
8	Chapuis	Host Community	Radio	No	N/A	
9	Apostolic Sarakata	Church Hall	NDMO, Radio and Internet	Not sure	Not sure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community stay inside the church but think it is not safe ▪ Roof leakage
10	Lopelope	Host Community	Radio, Mobile SMS	Yes	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Church hall

4. Key findings and recommendations

4.1. Access to Adequate Emergency Shelter & Household NFIs

Key findings:

- a. Although many evacuees reported bringing their emergency shelter items received from Vanuatu Red Cross while still on Ambae with them to Santo, and 150 families received a family kit containing tarps, toolkit and HH NFIs from Vanuatu Red Cross in Santo, only 3 out of 10 communities visited appeared to have adequate emergency shelter
- b. None of the communities have access to essential household items such as sleeping mats, cooking sets, mosquito nets, solar lights, etc.
- c. In the response budget submitted to NDMO on the 17th of September, an allowance was made for only 300 households on Santo but based on the findings of this rapid assessment many more families will require support.

Recommendations:

1. Shelter Cluster to update the response plan and budget to allow for support to 1,000 HH for emergency shelter and 1,600 HH for NFIs
2. Government and Shelter Cluster partners to mobilise their resources to provide immediate additional support
3. Government support families to travel back to Ambae to check their properties and livestock and bring back to Santo additional supplies required to sustain themselves during the period of the extended SoE (until 26 November) and beyond.

4.2. Land Tenure status of Ambae Evacuees

Key findings:

- d. 2 out of 10 communities visited have purchased new land and are building new shelters and are intended to stay on Santo over the long-term.
- e. 1 community visited has purchased the land as a 2nd home but plans to return to Ambae after the end of SoE.
- f. 1 community visited has purchased the land but is hesitant to move there until water is available
- g. 6 communities visited are still saving their money to purchase land

Recommendations:

4. Emergency shelter and NFIs, and technical support to be prioritised for communities which don't yet have secure access to resettlement land, such as the 6 communities mentioned above
5. Communities who have purchased new land to resettle and have started to build new shelter / houses to be supported with different kinds of shelter assistance e.g. iron roofing, cash and technical support
6. WASH Cluster assist communities to establish supply of water on evacuation and resettlement sites as many gaps have been highlighted by this assessment

4.3. Access to Support & Services

Key findings:

- h. Most communities visited have received support from families, churches and Santo communities
- i. Most communities visited have access to building materials to construct emergency shelters, but several communities don't
- j. Only half of the communities visited have access to work or livelihood
- k. Less than half of the communities visited have access to adequate water and sanitation
- l. Most communities visited mentioned food as a major challenge

Recommendations:

- 7. Shelter Cluster partners to consider communities with no access to building materials to be supported with additional building material plus the standard emergency shelter and NFI package
- 8. Shelter Cluster partners as well as other clusters to provide livelihood opportunities for evacuees as a part of their sectoral programs
- 9. NDMO to address the immediate needs around food
- 10. WASH Cluster to assist communities to increase their access to water and sanitation facilities

4.4. Readiness of Ambae Evacuees on Santo for the Upcoming Cyclone Season




- m. Most of the communities visited have radios and almost all the communities have mobiles to access information regarding a disaster or cyclone
- n. Some communities visited reported not having electricity to charge their phones
- o. Only 3 of 10 communities visited reported having access to safe shelters, and only 2 of them can access these during an emergency
- p. Most of the communities visited were not informed that the SoE has been extended so they have not considered what to do during a cyclone





Recommendations:




- 11. NDMO and humanitarian partners consider providing solar powered radios to communities without access to radio
- 12. NDMO liaise with UNELCO for provision of electricity to all evacuation and resettlement sites
- 13. NDMO and humanitarian partners plan with communities and CDCCs what to do and where to go during a disaster e.g. cyclone will require mapping of existing safe shelters / evacuation centres closer to evacuation and resettlement sites
- 14. NDMO ensures that the recent extension of SoE is communicated to all communities to allow them time to adequately plan and prepare
- 15. NDMO and humanitarian partners engage owners of existing safe houses / evacuation centres such as churches (VCC) and schools (MoET) to encourage them to reinforce these building in preparation for the cyclone season, e.g. installation of cyclone shutters

5. Appendices

Pictures

Item	Community Location	Ambae Community	Image
1	Bombua	Saralokamu	 
2	Teproma	Namberngwele	
3	Banban	Lovutiala	

			
4	Banban	Natalangele/ Vilakalaka/ Saranamund u/ Apopo	
5	Banban	Natalangele/ Apopo / Tavala	
6	Fire Station	Wailinge	
7	Sarakata	Navonda	

			
8	Chapuis	Nambulu	
9	Apostolic Sarakata	Walaha	
10	Lopelope	Vilakalaka	

			
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Guiding questions for key informants interview

Emergency Shelter

1. Name of location where evacuees are staying
2. In which situation are evacuees staying?
 - a. host community (staying inside an existing community on separate land but sharing resources with host community)
 - b. new settlement
 - c. host family (staying inside another family's house or land)
 - d. renting
 - e. evacuation centre
3. Do the evacuees own the land where they are settled?
4. how many households don't have adequate emergency shelter? 17.5m2 covered area for a family of 5.
5. Why do some households not have adequate emergency shelter?
6. Do families have access to adequate essential household items such as sleeping mats, kitchen set, cooking fuel, construction tools, solar light, mosquito net? How many do not have access? Provide details.
7. For how long are evacuees planning to stay in the above locations?
8. How long is the host community willing to host evacuees in these locations?
9. What are their plans immediately after 26th nov?
10. Is the site exposed to potential hazards? Yes/no. Provide details.
11. Main challenges being faced by the evacuees

Access to support and services

1. Are evacuees receiving support from their families?
2. Do evacuees have access to materials from construction?
3. Do evacuees have access to work / livelihoods?
4. Do evacuees have access to water and sanitation?

Disaster Preparedness (shelter)

1. How do people receive notifications about incoming cyclones and other hazards?
2. Are there evacuation centres / safe shelters available in the community? Yes/no
3. Can evacuees access these evacuation centres / safe shelters during an emergency? (is there an agreement with host communities?) Yes/no
4. Capacity of evacuation centres (m2)?
5. Describe structural condition of evacuation centres?
6. Is the site exposed to potential hazards? Yes/no. Provide details

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