



# GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

## National Disaster Management Office

Phone: +678 22699/ +678 33366 VoIP: 5353 Email: ndmo@vanuatu.gov.vu

Private Mail Bag 9107, Port Vila, Vanuatu

Web: www.ndmo.gov.vu



### INTER-CLUSTER SITUATION REPORT

<b>Disaster Type:</b>	Earthquake	<b>Situation Report #:</b>	09
<b>Date:</b>	3 January 2025	<b>Provinces Affected:</b>	SHEFA
<b>Reporting Period:</b>	24/12/2024 - 02/01/2025		

#### KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- State of Emergency (SOE) concluded on December 24, 2024 with the coordination of operations transitioning to the Recovery Operations Centre (ROC) under the Prime Minister's Office.
- The NDMO, National Cluster Partners and Pacific Humanitarian Team (PHT) members are coordinating ongoing distribution of relief items to meet needs identified under the SOE including shelter, WASH, Protection, Health, Food and other essential supplies.
- Power, Water and phone service has been largely restored though internet services are still under repair.

#### SITUATION OVERVIEW

A 7.3 magnitude earthquake near Port Vila on December 17, 2024, resulted in at least 14 fatalities and over 200 injuries. The National Disaster Management Office has been coordinating search and rescue, needs assessments and the delivery of assistance by partners from relevant Clusters. The State of Emergency concluded on December 24, transitioning leadership of ongoing operations to the Recovery Operations Centre (ROC) under the Prime Minister's Office. Humanitarian actors have been working in support of the Government of Vanuatu collaboratively to address immediate humanitarian needs, restore essential services, and support long-term recovery in affected areas.



**80K**  
Affected People



**14**  
Fatalities



**265**  
Injured



**1473\***  
Displaced

\*DECM data reported on 28/12/2024



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## HUMANITARIAN NEEDS AND RESPONSE



### Shelter Cluster

1954

*People received emergency shelter supplies*

#### Needs

- **Immediate Needs for Displaced and Non-Displaced Families:** Displaced families in evacuation centers, host households, or open displacement areas, as well as those in damaged or unsafe houses, require Essential Household Items (e.g., sleeping items, cooking tools, solar lamps) and Emergency Shelter Kits (tarpaulins and toolkits) to restore adequate living conditions.
- **Support for Damaged Homes:** Families in damaged houses need urgent risk assessments to determine safety, with those in structurally repairable homes requiring repair or retrofitting support to return safely. Verified damage assessments are critical for targeted distribution of Shelter Kits and household items.
- **Increased Housing Damage Reports:** As assessments expand beyond Port Vila into peri-urban and rural areas, reports of house damage are rising, necessitating ongoing evaluations and awareness campaigns to build back better.

#### Response

- **Emergency Shelter Assistance:** Shelter support has been provided to 348 households in 13 locations, including Kokoreko Manples, Wan Smolbag Evacuation Centre, and Blacksands, with assessments and distributions ongoing in the 8 most affected area councils.
- **Coordination and Targeting Efforts:** The Shelter Cluster / DECM, is coordinating assistance in displacement sites and refining household and community-level distribution targeting based on verified damage assessments to address gaps and prevent duplication.
- **Adjusting to Emerging Needs:** Needs assessments by Shelter Cluster partners have revealed previously unreported levels of house damage, leading to updated assistance packages that include support for households with damaged homes.

#### Gaps & Constraints

- **Housing Repairs and Reconstruction:** A large number of houses still require repairs or rebuilding, leaving affected families in need of temporary shelter solutions.
- **Technical Expertise:** A shortage of skilled personnel to conduct detailed structural assessments to determine the safety of returning to damaged homes.
- **Resource Limitations:** Insufficient funds, staff, and logistical support (e.g., vehicles) hinder the ability to conduct assessments and distributions effectively.
- **Weather Risks:** The ongoing cyclone season poses additional challenges, with heavy rain and strong winds exacerbating existing damage and delaying recovery efforts.





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#### Health & Nutrition Cluster

28

#### Health Facilities Assessed and Operational

##### Needs

- **Health Services:** Urgent restoration of water supply to all eight assessed health facilities, including Vila Central Hospital (VCH), to stabilize operations in operating theaters and dialysis units. Psychological support is required for healthcare workers and patients.
- **Disease Prevention:** Monitoring and intervention are critical to address rising cases of influenza-like illness and watery diarrhea, exacerbated by water shortages and contaminated water sources in locations including Teouma.
- **Facility Safety Assessments:** Structural evaluations are needed for health facilities, including SHEFA Provincial Health Emergency Operations Center, which has been flagged for relocation due to compromised integrity.

##### Response

- **Operational Health Facilities:** VCH, Eton, Teouma, and Kalwat Memorial Health Centre's, remain functional with surge outpatient services established in priority areas. SHEFA PHEOC continues coordinating health responses and cold chain management.
- **Mental Health and Psychosocial Support:** PACMAT specialists have conducted 51 consultations, including 36 earthquake-related cases, with outreach at sites including Mele Health Center.
- **Medical Team Support:** International and national medical teams, including AUSMAT, NZMAT, and PACMAT, are deployed at VCH and other sites, providing mental health, midwifery, and logistical support.

##### Gaps

- **Water and Sanitation:** All eight assessed facilities, including rural clinics and dispensaries, face critical water shortages, disrupting operations. Pending installation of water filters for dialysis and dental services exacerbates the issue.
  - **Resource Shortages:** Medicine supplies at VCH are nearing minimum thresholds, and additional vehicles, staff, and funding are urgently needed for effective health service delivery and outreach.
  - **Weather and Structural Risks:** The ongoing cyclone season and aftershocks present risks to health infrastructure, further complicating recovery efforts at facilities in peri-urban and rural areas.
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### Displacement & Evacuation Centre Management Cluster

1473

*People Displaced*

#### Needs

- 275 people sheltering in four evacuation centres and 1198 people sheltering in host households with assistance required to support safe returns home.
- Displaced populations in evacuation centres in need of medicine and medical supplies, food, water, shelter kits, and toiletries to support basic living conditions and hygiene.
- Populations displaced into host households require access to clean water, food, lighting, medicine, shelter kits, tarpaulins, and toiletries.

#### Response

- FSAC, supported by the DECM cluster, reached 2,417 people with food distributions across areas including Mele, Pango, and Blacksands.
- Donors, including private sector contributors, provided dry rations and jerry cans, with France donating nearly 3 metric tonnes of rice and Indonesia supplying additional dry rations.
- VRCS supported 200 families with food rations, and FAO delivered rice and child-friendly tents for 30 households.
- Chinese Christian Mission Australia donated 150 boxes of crackers, 15 cartons of baked beans, 25 cartons of canned tuna, and 100 solar lights.
- The Shelter Cluster distributed shelter kits to 96 households in Teouma Valley, with plans for further distributions to other displaced communities.
- World Vision verified host families in Manples and Ohlen, preparing to distribute tarps, repair kits, and hygiene items.
- UNFPA distributed hygiene kits, dignity kits, and WASH items, with additional distributions planned.
- The WASH cluster provided jerry cans and supported field assessments and monitoring.
- IOM, World Vision, and Save the Children coordinated delivery of shelter and hygiene kits to displaced communities, focusing on Manples and Ohlen.

#### Gaps & Constraints

- Security of personnel at distribution sites has been reported by several DECM Cluster members.
  - Ongoing displacement tracking and verification of current numbers is a challenge given limited available human resources.
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#### Logistics Cluster

13,794

*Relief Items handed over  
Clusters since the earthquake*

#### Needs

- **Coordination of Relief Supplies:** Effective allocation and monitoring of incoming relief supplies to ensure equitable distribution among clusters and affected communities.
- **Timely Delivery:** Streamlined logistics to distribute critical items, such as food, hygiene kits, and emergency shelter materials, to priority areas promptly.

#### Response

- **Government of France:** Donated 3,400 units of rice distributed through the FSAC Cluster.
- **Wilco Hardware:** Contributed 221 items, including generators, solar buckets, water containers, and gardening kits, distributed to the WASH and FSAC Clusters.
- **New Zealand Government:** Provided 615 non-food items (NFIs) distributed to WASH, Gender & Protection, and Shelter Clusters, including shelter toolkits, mother and infant kits, hygiene kits, taps, and collapsible water containers.
- **Indonesian Government:** Donated 1,768 items, including food, flexible tanks, hygiene kits, blankets, kitchen sets, sleeping pads, and solar lights, distributed to Health, Gender & Protection, Shelter, FSAC, and WASH Clusters.
- **Chinese Government:** Delivered 2,809 items, including folding beds, food, and tents, allocated to FSAC, Health, Shelter, and WASH Clusters.
- **Japanese Government:** Provided 823 items, including jerry cans, water purification tablets, and generators, distributed to the WASH Cluster.

#### Gaps

- **Storage and Distribution:** Limited storage facilities and logistical capacity could delay the timely distribution of incoming supplies.
  - **Resource Challenges:** Additional resources, such as transport and personnel, are needed to manage and deliver the large volume of relief items efficiently.
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### Food Security & Agriculture Cluster

1300

*Households surveyed for food security, livelihoods & nutrition*

#### Needs

- **Food Security:** Immediate assessment and replenishment of dry ration stocks to ensure consistent food aid delivery to affected households.
- **Livelihood Restoration:** Support for agricultural recovery, including assessments of damage and availability of essential farming supplies.
- **Nutrition Support:** Address the need for healthy food donations to prevent long-term malnutrition among vulnerable populations.

#### Response

- **Food Distribution:** Ongoing fish donations include 31 tonnes of frozen fish available for distribution, with plans to process these into family-sized portions.
- **Warehousing:** VCBN warehouse power has been restored, enabling improved storage and distribution of dry rations.
- **Assessments:** The World Food Program (WFP) has conducted surveys covering 1,300 households to assess food security, livelihoods, and nutrition.
- **Transition to Recovery:** FSAC transitioned to the recovery phase, focusing on integrating agriculture and food security into long-term recovery plans.

#### Gaps

- **Resource Limitations:** Insufficient clarity on the current stock levels of dry rations and funding availability to procure additional supplies.
- **Operational Challenges:** Many staff members remain traumatized and are unable to return to work, impacting assessment and recovery operations.
- **Capacity Building:** Training and tools for data collection and analysis, including the use of Kobo, need to be expanded to enhance monitoring and response planning.



### Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)

98%  
*Telecoms Service Restored*

#### Needs

- 2% of telecommunications networks for voice calls are still unavailable with work underway to restore power to tower sites.

#### Response

- Interchange Limited fibre has been restored.
- Government broadband network has been fully restored.





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### Gender & Protection Cluster

52

*Solar Lights distributed to support Protection outcomes*

#### Needs

- **Shelter Support:** Additional shelter assistance is required to support families in evacuation centers, including 10 families residing in Ingar Church, to facilitate return home.
- **Dignity and Hygiene Kits:** More dignity and hygiene kits are needed to meet the ongoing demand in affected communities.
- **Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Awareness and Services:** Strengthen awareness and accessibility of GBV services across affected communities.
- **Psychosocial Support (PSS):** Continued support is needed for children, caregivers, and vulnerable groups, with targeted resources for faith leaders and earthquake responders.

#### Response

- **Dignity and Hygiene Kits:** Save the Children distributed 30 dignity kits to VSPD and 26 hygiene kits to Wan Smol Bag, along with 72 hygiene kits to Rangorango in collaboration with the WASH Cluster. ActionAid distributed 66 dignity kits at Melemaat Zone 3.
- **GBV Awareness and Services:** The Vanuatu Red Cross provided GBV awareness to affected communities and distributed 52 solar lights to improve safety for 260 individuals. Vanuatu Women's Centre's free line (161) and MOJCS's referral phone tree were promoted for GBV case management.
- **Child Protection in Emergencies (CPIE):** Save the Children, UNICEF-supported VFF Just Play Programme, and World Vision provided play-based psychosocial support in Child Friendly Spaces and via mobile outreach to children and caregivers in evacuation centers.
- **Psychosocial Support (PSS):** World Vision provided MHPSS and pastoral care for correctional detainees and distributed resources to faith leaders in Pango, Teouma, Malapoa Estate, Blacksands, Beverly Hills, and Nambatu. Mind Care provided MHPSS for earthquake responders through coordinated mobile support. teams or persons needing support in this emergency can email [earthquakemhps171224@gmail.com](mailto:earthquakemhps171224@gmail.com) for the team to coordinate mobile support to responders.
- **Disability Inclusion:** Disability data verification conducted in Mele, Tanvasoko, Northern Ward, Erakor, and Eratap councils to inform PSS activities and distribute disability kits.

#### Gaps

- **Supply Shortages:** Insufficient dignity and hygiene kits remain a challenge, leaving vulnerable groups underserved.
- **Service Integration:** Ongoing service mapping for child protection and GBV services requires more active agency participation to streamline response and ensure comprehensive coverage.
- **Community Safety:** Additional efforts are needed to address lighting and other safety measures in displacement areas to reduce GBV risks.



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#### Key Links

- [Building Assessment Link](#)
- [International Deployed Assets](#)
- [ReliefWeb Dedicated Page](#)

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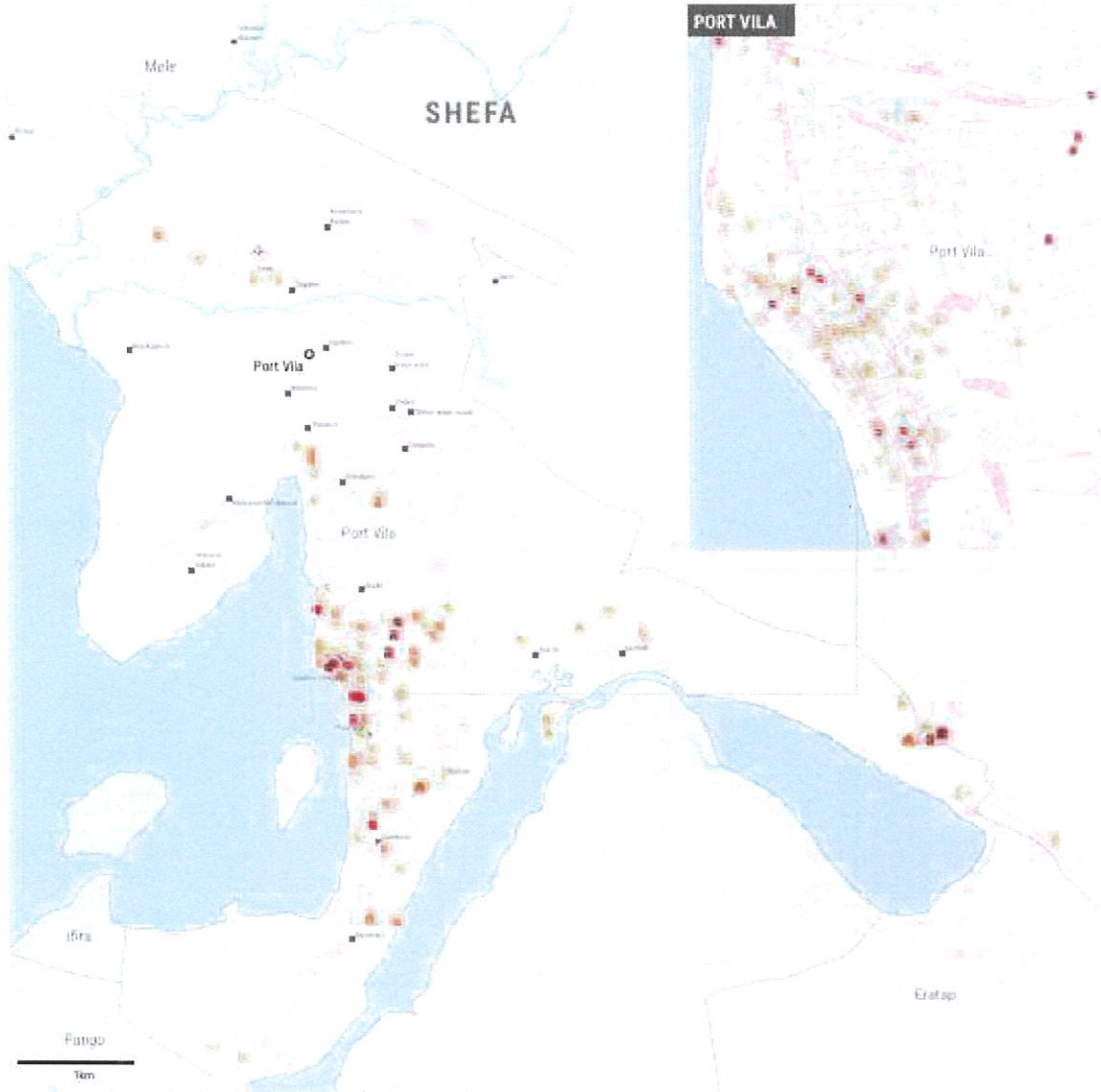


### VANUATU

### Earthquake - Rapid building assessment (level 3)

As of 02 Jan 2025

(18:00 Vanuatu time)



**199**

Total Public Buildings Assessed (and in progress)

**10** R2

**12** R1

**22** Y2

**28** Y1

**126** W

#### Building rapid assessment

	Public Assembly	Commercial Office	Housing	Industrial	Critical facility	Other
<b>R2 ENTRY PROHIBITED</b> (Severe damage to building)	1	3	0	3	0	3
<b>R1 ENTRY PROHIBITED</b> (At risk from external factors)	0	9	0	0	0	3
<b>Y2 RESTRICTED ACCESS - SHORT TERM ENTRY ONLY</b> (with or without upper levels)	2	12	2	0	0	6
<b>Y1 RESTRICTED ACCESS TO PARTS OF THE BUILDING ONLY</b>	3	21	1	1	0	2
<b>W ACCESS TO THE BUILDING UNRESTRICTED</b>	5	79	6	7	4	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>39</b>

Created on 01/01/2025. Source: National Ministry of Infrastructure and Public Utilities, National Disaster Management Office, UNICEF.

[Building Assessment Link](#)