

HIGHLIGHTS

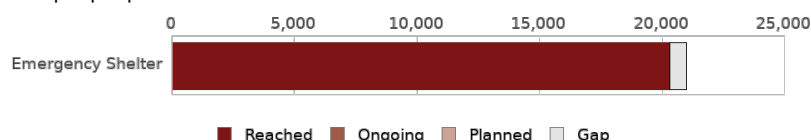
On 6th April 2020, TC Harold made landfall in Vanuatu as a category 5 cyclone, causing widespread destruction across Sanma, Penama, and Malampa Provinces as well as the northern islands of Shefa Province. The Vanuatu Shelter Cluster, led by the Public Works Department with support from IFRC (remote support from Fiji) was convened on 6th April 2020 to coordinate the shelter response.

The main outputs of the coordination support are as follows:

- Continuous support to partners and production of *3Ws, sitreps and maps*.
- Development of *Vanuatu Shelter Cluster Recovery Guidance*
- Redesign of guidance note for the *use, reuse, repair and disposal of tarpaulins*.
- Revision of the *Environmental Checklist for Shelter Response*
- Support and preparation of the *Shelter Cluster lessons learned presentation* for the NDMO Lessons Learned Workshop
- Development of the *Recovery Shelter Guidance* paper and input into the Vanuatu *Post Distribution Needs Assessment (PDNA)* report, and *Vanuatu Recovery Strategy 2020-2023*

COVERAGE AGAINST TARGETS

5.00 people per household



RESPONSE

Shelter Cluster agencies involved in this response through assessments, distribution of relief stocks, trainings/ awareness include CARE Vanuatu, Vanuatu Red Cross Society (VRCS), World Vision, International Organisation for Migration (IOM), The Butterfly Trust, Save the Children, Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), Vanuatu Skills Partnership (TVET), Caritas, Rotary Club, Vanuatu Climate Action Network (VCAN) and ShelterBox.

Based on information made available to the Shelter Cluster Coordination Team:

- **17,248 HH** have received emergency shelter assistance from Vanuatu Shelter Cluster member agencies in the form of tarpaulins plus:
 - shelter tool kits/ shelter repair materials including tools and fixings (*reaching 12,555HH*)
 - essential household items such as kitchen sets, sleeping mats, blankets, clothing & solar lamps (*reaching 8,676 HH*).
- Additionally, emergency shelter stocks for approx. **3,080 HH** were consigned to the NDMO from overseas government donations. The distribution of these items has not been reported to the cluster.

This brings the overall potential assistance of the Vanuatu Shelter Cluster in relief item distribution to **20,328 HH**.

The target # of HHs: **21,000 HH** (damage data)

KEY FIGURES

28 Cluster partners

KEY DATES

- **3rd April 2020:** TC Harold moved into Vanuatu's Area of Responsibility and onto Vanuatu's tropical Cyclone Tracking Map
- **5th April 2020:** IFRC TC Harold Shelter Cluster Coordination support (5th April - ongoing).
- **6th April 2020:** TC Harold made landfall as a Category 5 cyclone over the South-west coast of Espiritu Santo Island, and weaved a path of destruction through Vanuatu, affecting Sanma, Penama, Malampa, and Torba Provinces as well as the northern islands of Shefa Province.
- **8th April 2020:** NDMO situation update estimates 159,474 people have been affected by TC Harold.
- **10th April 2020:** Vanuatu COM approves for State of Emergency to be declared for the purpose of maintaining prevention and containment measures of COVID-19 along Vanuatu's international border and to respond to TC Harold impact in affected Provinces.
- **11th April 2020:** The President of Vanuatu declares a State of Emergency (SoE) for 30 days.
- **30th April 2020:** NDMO Director announces inbound Air Cargo Protocols for COVID-19.
- **7th May 2020:** COM decision to extend SoE for 30 days and for international cargo to be brought into the country.
- **11th June 2020:** Extension of the declaration of the SoE for a further 30 days
- **9th July 2020:** COM decision to endorse the Vanuatu Recovery Strategy. See Shelter Cluster Recovery Guidance link below.
- **13th July 2020:** SoE for TC Harold extended to 9th of August 2020, within the SoE for COVID-19 of 31st December 2020.
- **14-15th July 2020:** NDMO Inter-Cluster Lessons Learned Workshop
- **7th August 2020:** The final sitrep for all activities carried out by Shelter Cluster agencies till 7th August was published. Please find the link in the key links below.

KEY LINKS

- [Shelter Cluster Vanuatu Website](#)
- [Shelter Cluster Vanuatu Facebook Page](#)
- [National Disaster Management Officer \(NDMO\)](#)
- [Environmental Checklist for Shelter Response](#)
- [Shelter Cluster Vanuatu - Technical Guidelines v3.1 draft](#)
- [Technical guidance for use, reuse, repair, and disposal of tarpaulins](#)
- [Summary of Shelter Cluster Activities](#)
- [SCV Recovery Guidance \(v1 Jul 2020\)](#)

Estimated response gap: c. **672 HH**

Technical support has been provided to **1,230 HH** (*this includes safe shelter awareness, trainings, and coconut thatch workshops*).

In addition to supporting coordination of the emergency response, the Shelter Cluster Coordination Team also led the development of the Recovery Shelter Guidance (see link below), and contributed to the drafting of the Post Disaster Needs Assessment, and Vanuatu Recovery Strategy.

GAPS / CHALLENGES

In the 'Summary of Shelter Cluster Activities' (*find the link in the [key links](#) below*), there are still some significant gaps identified when comparing available damage data with the assistance provided. Shelter Cluster member agencies are encouraged to investigate the remaining gaps highlighted in this table to support the recovery of these households.

Shelter Cluster member agencies are also encouraged to continue with recovery activities and support communities with preparedness for the upcoming cyclone season beginning November 2020.

Listed below are a few challenges that were faced by Shelter Cluster member agencies during this response:

- Limited external support due to COVID-19 travel restrictions. Locally available human resources were stretched beyond their capacity, and relied somewhat on remote technical support.
- Reduced number of relief items available due to COVID-19 related restrictions and delay in getting them to the affected communities due to strict border controls.
- Challenging to source relief items in a time effective manner. Many agencies reported procuring items locally, which exhausted the local supply chain in some cases.
- Holistic approach to the emergency response, incorporating aspects of WASH, Gender & protection & social distancing was essential now more than ever, considering the COVID-19 pandemic.
- While there was community awareness and sharing of key resources to promote hygiene, practicing social distancing was difficult to implement during distributions.
- Accessibility to some remote rural communities was extremely challenging and resource and time intensive as they could only be reached by chopper or on foot.

- [Shelter Cluster Lessons Learnt Presentation at NDMO Lessons Learnt Workshop](#)
- [TC Harold 3Ws - Shelter Cluster Vanuatu](#)