# 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


## NEOC SITUATION REPORT

| | |
|---|---|
| **Disaster Type:** | Earthquake |
| **Situation Report #:** | 06 |
| **Date:** | 22 December 2024 |
| **Provinces Affected:** | SHEFA |
| **Reporting Period:** | 21 December (1600Hrs) to 22 December (1600Hrs), 2024 |

## SITUATION OVERVIEW:

**7.3** Magnitude **1251 HRS** Occurrence time
**80,000** Estimated Affected Population
Earthquake Location: Latitude: **17.7** Degree South,
Longitude: **167.8** Degree East
(**34 Km** West of Efate and **150Km** West of Erromango)
*Confirm source: Vanuatu Meteorology and Geohazards Department (VMGD)*

A State of Emergency is declared throughout the worst affected areas of Vanuatu on the 17th of December 2024. This declaration of State of Emergency is for a period of 7 days from the date on which the order is made.

## IMMEDIATE IMPACT:

The majority of the damage from the earthquake occurred in Port Vila, Efate, with the main downtown area now closed to the public. Vila Central Hospital (VCH) has confirmed 14 deaths, while 8 survivors have been reported, and over 210 people are injured, with numbers expected to rise. Key infrastructure, including the Tagabe and Teouma bridges, sustained significant damage, with Tagabe bridge partially at risk, currently allowing only temporary access. There was also damage to power lines, the water supply, and two major water reserves in the Ohlen area, which supply Port Vila. Communication remains intermittently disrupted, and while Port Vila's main wharf and Lapetasi are operational, access is currently blocked due to a major landslide, with nearby villages and offshore islands also affected by minor landslides.

## IMMEDIATE NEED:

The key needs identified include the restoration of energy, safe water, cleared infrastructure, communication services, as well as search and rescue efforts and emergency medical support.

**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

# SECTOR UPDATES

## NEOC

- NEOC coordinates with Shefa Provincial Government Council through Area Administrators to conduct Community Assessment and Area Council Assessment. Assessment on-going.
- NEOC is compiling a list of Cluster meeting times. All Clusters meeting times can be found here National Cluster meeting Schedule
- NEOC is compiling a list of surge capacity teams. All incoming response teams are to contact NEOC IM at ndmo.im@gmail.com

## Infrastructure Update

Road access is 99% restored, with full access to Mele/Bauerfield International Airport and the Efate Ring Road, except at Kem's Hill (one lane).

Key ports and wharves, including Main wharf, Lapetasi is operational but not accessible while Sinovan, Emelee Wharf, and all seafront jetties, are operational, rapid assessment conducted to 39 buildings, with 5 recommended for demolition. Clean-up is 95% complete at the Domestic & International Terminals and 53 out of 202 schools have been assessed.

The Bauerfield terminal buildings have received Certificates of Occupancy, and 95% of cleanup is complete at the domestic and international terminals.

## JOINT POLICE OPERATION CENTRE (JPOC)

- The search and rescue operation at the Billabong building has been completed, but access remains restricted due to ongoing road clearing efforts.
- The Search and Rescue team's primary focus has now shifted to clearing landslide debris on the main road leading to Lapetasi Wharf.
- Daily curfew restrictions are still in place from 6 PM to 6 AM. The road from Town Hall to the Child Care School has been sealed off due to a high risk of landslides.
- The medical facility at Cooks Barracks continues to provide medical assistance, with serious cases being referred to Vila Central Hospital as needed.

## Water

**Water Restoration Update (Efate)**: 75% of water restored

- Water restored but some interruption may occur due to leaks require quick fix a
- 59,107L water trucking in Mele, Melemat, Malapoa Estate, Tebakor, Taeouma Ville and Siviri.
- Water Quality Test confirmed safe at all Unelco Distribution points
- ongoing key messaging for clean and safe water

## Energy

**Electricity Restoration Update (Efate)**: 69% of electricity line restored

**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

## Health Cluster

Fourteen deaths have been confirmed by VCH, and four nurses from Sanma Province are providing surge support. Public health outreach has been completed at Eton, Teouma, and Kalawat Memorial Health Centres. Earthquake response services are available at the Children's Outpatient Department (COPD) clinic on Mondays and Fridays from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Non-earthquake related surgical clinics are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the same location.

## Emergency & Telecommunication Cluster (ETC)

Currently, 80% of public access telecommunication services are providing voice communication, while 20% offer limited data services. The government broadband network is fully operational with 100% access.

## Food Security & Agriculture Cluster (FSAC)

Relief efforts for 37 stranded Solomon Islanders include 3 bags of rice (25kg, 20 Jerry Cans, 2 buckets of biscuits, 4 Peanut Butter and 5 cartons of water

## Education Cluster

Assessment covers the following schools, 18 ECCE, 21 primary schools, 13 secondary schools & 1 PSET Schools. 25 school detailed structural assessment completed

## Displacement Evacuation Center Management (DECM) Cluster

A total of 2806 people were displaced from 17th to 22nd Dec 2024.

## Gender & Protection Cluster

World Vision has provided pastoral care for both adults and children, while Save the Children established friendly spaces for over 100 evacuee children. ADRA has distributed 66 household dignity kits and menstrual kits at Britano.

## INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT

- Surge capacity support from Australia, New Zealand and France continuous provide support to clusters through JPOC
- The China Red Cross has contributed 100,000 USD to assist emergency operations.
- 48 humanitarian personnel including IFRC, IOM, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), OCHA, Oxfam, SPC, SPREP, UNFPA, UNDAC, UNICEF, WFP,WHO and emergency environment specialists supporting the response.

Mr. Jimmy Naura
Acting Director – National Disaster Management Office

NATIONAL DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT OFFICE
PMB 9107
Port Vila
Vanuatu
Tel: 22699
Gov: 5353