

Shelter Cluster Vanuatu – Meeting Notes

Meeting:	Shelter Cluster Vanuatu - Cluster Meeting		
Date:	27 Sept 2018	Time:	1400
Meeting Facilitator:	Harold Allanson, Lead	Location:	Public Works Department (PWD)
Minutes Prepared By:	Xavier Genot	SCV Website	https://www.sheltercluster.org/response/vanuatu-ambae-volcano-2018

Agenda

Attendance: See attached attendance sheet

Agenda:

- Action Items from previous meeting
- Extension of State of Emergency to 26th November
- Current situation Maewo – Cyclone shelters capacity
- Current situation Santo – Emergency shelter assessment
- Response update – partner updates for Maewo and Santo
- Emergency Shelter reinforcement technical guidance
- Update on long-term resettlement
- AOB

Notes, Decisions, Issues

Topic

Action items from previous meeting

- Most items complete, some addressed during the meeting.
- Pricelist for off-island materials: (Indicative)300 from Natangura, 200 for bamboo stock, 100 for shipping from Santo, but no clarity on stock available
- Request clarification from WASH cluster on tanks beside EOC on Maewo has not been actioned from the previous meeting but will be clarified in the next SHELTER Cluster Meeting. Alice (NDMO Officer) confirmed that WASH Cluster is currently implementing some of its activities on ground and might use some of the tanks as storage for supply of water but need to confirm with WASH Cluster.
- About environmental impact study in Maewo: Jeff (Resettlement coordinator) confirmed that Forestry department is on site to evaluate natural resources available. Jeff comfortable to ask to do the same after in Santo. Caroline (IOM) has prepared a questionnaire on environment impact of displacement. Focus group discussion have been conducted, report should be drafted early next week. IOM environment study would be done in Maewo and for area where MEND have been conducted. Francois (CARE) mention that a Japanese has developed process in Tanna to track material resources needed to build new dwelling; he tried to contact him to see if we could use such process for Maewo, without result for the moment.

Extension of State of Emergency to 26th November.

1. Extend State of Emergency for 2 months until 26 November
2. Approve Maewo Chiefs Plan **to adopt Ambae evacuated families on a case by case, family and community basis into Maewo tribes** .
3. Instruct State Law Office to draft an Agreement with conditions, detailing the strategy and conditions of Land use in the short term for the Government of Vanuatu and Maewo Chiefs to sign securing the livelihoods for Ambae families to be resettled in Maewo through customary adoption and integration.
4. COM calls on all Ambae chiefs and Ambae people currently living on the island of Maewo to cooperate with Government authorities and Maewo Chiefs supporting the Government to manage the situation and livelihood of Ambae families.

Current situation in Maewo

- Step Haiselden, from CARE international Shelter Team, has been deployed for 9-day field mission on Maewo from 23/08 to 01/09 to support Vanuatu Shelter Cluster. He met with shelter cluster partners and stakeholders in Maewo and Port Vila, NDMO (EOC), PWD, VRCS, Community leaders and Kastom chief. He conducted Field visit to 7 host communities from North to South Maewo focussed on assessing the current state of shelter support and needs: Settlements conditions (Family Temporary Shelters) & Evacuation Centres capacity. First feedback of his assessment in Maewo has been presented and shared during the last meeting. His Report is now available, it highlights strategy recommendations for the Shelter Cluster response in Maewo. CARE concept note on shelter response on Maewo that is looking at operational response to the recommendations from the report, is also available.

ACTION POINT 1: Both documents to be circulated to all partners after the meeting (are available [here](#))

- CARE International has small fund available, but need more funding from donor to respond to situation in Maewo. There is no money against the proposed action within concept note yet. Care international could only work in Maewo at this stage, but maybe could we see with other cluster partners could implement similar approach for Santo.
- Francois Sail is now working with Care international and will go for one week from this Saturday (if weather allows it) to support field team.

Strategy recommendations for Maewo – urgent priorities:

Outcome 1 – Temporary family shelter improvements

- Approx. 500 HH are living in temporary shelters (60-65% of the 800 HH)
- Temporary shelters need to be reinforced for the Cyclone season
- Self recovery approach (with technical support) is appropriate

Proposed action:

- Distribution of Shelter Upgrade Kits (500HH) + Community Tool kits (1 for 20HH)
- Technical support and TOT (CDCCC Shelter Focal Point to be identified and trained)
- Training package to be prepared based on 4-key messages and VRCS guidelines (with Shelter Cluster)

Francois: 500 HH are on light shelter (60 to 65% of the 800 displaced HH) and need to be reinforced, based on ARUP test from Cohx Bazard. This should come as ongoing support to self recovery approach, with delivery of HH and community kit and technical support. Training package to be prepared based on the 4 VSC key messages that are similar to the ones used by VRCS. There will be a technical meeting organised after this meeting or on Friday, to go deeper on this topic. To support communities, idea to have shelter focal point as part of CDCs as implemented by VRCS in Tanna and validated by NDMO. But as this role is bigger than the current one, and as this is voluntary role, maybe should be go this time in Maewo with emergency shelter team member, that would need some allowance as the expected work (looking at 50 HH) would need a lot of work.

Outcome 2 – Access to safe cyclone shelters

- A rapid assessment on evacuation centres capacity show a lack of 1,700 places based on NDMO standard
- Detailed mapping and technical assessment is needed (with potential blocks to access to be checked), followed by reinforcements
- Relocation and/or construction of additional cyclone shelters could be considered

Proposed of action:

- Technical assessment following NDMO guidelines to be carried + mapping
- Reinforcement works to be done in close partnership with buildings owners

		Maewo			Ambae			Total		Estimated cyclone shelter capacity (metres squared)											Maewo	Total		
		Pop	HH	P/HH	Pop	Disable elderly	HH	P/HH	populati on	househo lds	Church	Communi ty Hall	Nakamal	Tabu Nakamal	School	Chief's House	Rasa's House	Office	Guest House	Other house	People per m2	Total people	remainder	remainder
1	Namumu (includes Verue)	75	16	4,7	125	9	38	3,3	200	54	77	60									0,75	103	-28	97
2	Marino	219	50	4,4	215	7	69	3,1	434	119	98		104								0,75	152	67	282
3	Naone (includes Rembu, Takolava)	250	68	4,4	308	12	100	3,1	558	168	150			105	20						0,75	207	43	351
4	Kaivo (includes Matberingi, Naoneone, Narea, Nandunga, Ghantaroo and Keranambei)	326	74	4,4	361	13	112	3,2	687	186	150		160	100	200	25	15		140		0,75	593	-267	94
5	Lalvaru	105	29	3,6	123	9	38	3,2	228	67		105		814							0,75	690	-585	-462
6	Betarara	60	14	4,4	68		21	3,2	128	35	200										0,75	151	-91	-23
7	Kerebei (includes Rongnawo/Umlongo, Toss)	230	52	4,4	163	7	57	2,9	393	109			140				90	40	90		0,75	271	-41	122
8	Kwatiakwoli	30	7	4,4	28		11	2,5	58	18	40		60								0,75	76	-46	-18
9	Ngota (includes Naviso)	200	45	4,4	134	10	36	3,7	334	81			350						20		0,75	278	-78	56
10	Navenvene	70	16	4,4	76	3	19	4,0	146	35									100		0,75	76	-6	70
11	Talise	170	39	4,4	270	13	72	3,8	440	111				448							0,75	337	-167	103
12	Narovrovo	290	66	4,4	351	12	94	3,7	641	160	144			182					78		0,75	304	-14	337
13	Nasawa (includes Boskole, Vonda)	600	136	4,4	698	11	129	5,4	1298	265	162			527							0,75	517	83	781
14	Asanvari	250	57	4,4	23	1	9	2,6	273	66			240	150					60		0,75	338	-88	-65
	Total / average	2 875	669	4,4	2 943	107	805	3,4	5 818	1 474											4091	-1216	1727	

As discussed and agree last week during meeting organised by NDMO, these and other potential cyclone shelters will be assessed with NDMO form. NDMO with the support of IOM will coordinate this mapping (in Maewo and Santo). Following this assessment, we will better know the structure that should be reinforced/rehabilitated.

The previous mapping of cyclone shelter capacity has been revised with NDMO standards of 1.5 m2 for evacuation shelter and show that there would be a missing capacity for 1,727 people. This under capacity is even more problematic in some communities, as there would be problems of access due to river barriers in case of rain. These identified blockages are the red lines in the below table. If capacity is not sufficient we should look at maybe relocate some communities or build new cyclone shelters but resources are not available for that.

If some buildings needs reinforcements we should look at doing it in partnership with owners. On CARE project (pending on funding) there will be objective to look at 20 building with small work as for bracing, hurricane straps, conections from walls to carpentry. For schools it should be discussed with Ministry of education, that has already plan to build schools and setup temporary learning spaces. There is also need to discuss with church owners.

- There is a need to agree on names to be used when addressing safe shelter/ safe house / cyclone shelter / evacuation centre, as this might create confusion to the communities

Pamela (DFAT Representative) made a suggestion that the roads program implemented within PWD is currently undergoing project planning for 2019 and it is an opportunity for Shelter Cluster to share these information regarding the river barriers if it can be incorporated within their planning.

ACTION POINT 2: NDMO to clarify terminology around evacuation centres to be used by partners in English and Bislama.

- Sandra (oxfam) what about skilled and unskilled workers market in Maewo? Oxfam is exploring ideas at potential Cash Based Intervention (CBI) that could be done to support labour market on Maewo. There is no possibility to conduct Market assessment in Maewo for the moment as markets are not stabile at the moment, that would led to bad conclusions. Caroline (IOM) maybe could we add skilled/cvs in registration process by NDMO, to provide snapshot on this issue. Francois (CARE) goes in Maewo next week nad maybe Sandra could provide some questions on this, to be used in current assessments within communities

ACTION POINT 3: Sandra to send Francois key questions to inform labour market understanding.

Situation on Santo

- Shelter Cluster Team conducted a rapid assessment on 18 and 19 September (draft report already circulated and available [here](#). Please note that it might be revised soon with inputs around Gender & Protection, following request from the relevant cluster).

Key informant interviews 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.

The main objectives of this assessment were to better understand:

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

Key outcomes (from the report).

Access to Adequate Emergency Shelter & Household NFIs

Key findings:

- **Only 3 out of 10 communities** visited appeared to have adequate emergency shelter
- **None of the communities have access to essential household items** such as sleeping mats, cooking sets, mosquito nets, solar lights, etc.
- 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:

- 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**
- Government and Shelter Cluster partners to **mobilise their resources to provide immediate additional support**
- **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.

Land Tenure status of Ambae Evacuees

Recommendations

- **Emergency shelter and NFIs, and technical support to be prioritised for communities which don't yet have secure access** to resettlement land,
- 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
- **WASH Cluster assist communities to establish supply of water on evacuation and resettlement sites** as many

gaps have been highlighted by this assessment

Readiness of Ambae Evacuees on Santo for the Upcoming Cyclone Season

Recommendations

- NDMO and humanitarian partners consider **providing solar powered radios to communities without access to radio**
- NDMO liaise with UNELCO for **provision of electricity to all evacuation and resettlement sites**
- NDMO and humanitarian partners **plan with communities and CDCCs what to do and where to go during a disaster**
- NDMO ensures that the **recent extension of SoE is communicated to all communities to allow them time to adequately plan and prepare**
- 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**

ACTION POINT 4: Draft report to be recirculate with the minutes of the meeting

IOM will support NDMO for evacuation Centres mapping in Santo. NDMO has sent a team to circulate key messages in bislama this week in Maewo and next week in Santo, this include laminated posters within communities, but it seems that all partners are not aware of it and key messages content. Megan (CARE) it's important to connect with CDCs on this.

ACTION POINT 5: NDMO to circulate key messages circulated by NDMO and Maewo and Santo

ACTION POINT 6: NDMO to circulate information on evacuation centres mapping plan to allow partners to see how they can contribute

Response update – partner updates from Maewo and Santo

Unfortunately, the 2 Oxfam representatives had to leave the meeting before this item agenda, and could therefore not update and discuss with the other participants and incoming CBI plans.

ACTION POINT 7: To request brief relevant update by email to Oxfam on CBI plan intervention

Safe Shelter Awareness - Emergency Shelter reinforcement technical guidance

During TC Pam response, VSC agreed on 4 key messages top be used by all partners for recovery response. They were developed to be also used for emergency reinforcement community awareness. They were validated and translated in bislama by cluster partners, cluster lead PWD, DLA and NDMO. They have been used for radio show, VSC tshirts and other means.

These are the 4 key messages:

(1) **Build your house on a safe site** by identifying and trying to avoid potential hazards in your location and build as well as you can to resist them,

Bildim haos blong yu long wan ples we yu save se i sef gud mo yu tram blong kipim yu aot long ol Nara hazad we i stap happen long ples we yu lif long em mo yu save stanap strong akensem.

(2) **Deeply anchor your house to the ground with strong foundations**, setting the posts at least 1 meter deep in the ground
Mekem gud foundesen blong house blong yu i strong, traonem ol pos blo haos at lis 1 Meta i KO daon long kraon.

(3) **Ensure that you have strong connections at all joints** – the roof material to the roof timbers, the roof to the walls and the walls to the foundations. Strong connections can be made with cyclone straps, rope and vines.

Mekem sua se yu kat wan strong connection long every join, long ruf kasem ruf timba, ruf kasem wol mo ol wol kasem faoundesen, ol strong koneksen olsem yu save mekem wetem ol Saeklon strap, rope blo stoa mo lokol rop

(4) **To cross-brace your roof and walls, at least by creating triangles between the corners or junctions** of your house.

Blong cross bresem ruf mo wols blong haos blong yu at lis yu mas mekem ol traeanfels between long ol corners blong haos blo yu.

- Francois (CARE) and Robbie (VSC) have been doing a clean slate exercise to look at ARUP analysis in Bangladesh, pictures of recent assessments in Maewo and Santo, and these key message are really relevant to the current response.

ACTION POINT 8: VSC agreement to build safe shelter awareness strategy for current response and the 4 key messages

- Technical meetings and analysis will be led by PWD and partners to look at the outputs of the safe shelter awareness for current response:
 - Use of the key messages by partners for social media and programing
 - Potential Radio show by Cluster Lead
 - Development of VSC T shirt for VSC team, cluster partners and community shelter focal points. Megan (CARE) has proposed support of their communication team for the design
 - Declination of drawings related to the 4 key messages to provide guidance to communities, with an artist to ensure it would fit with ni van culture
 - This will inform Information, Education and Communication (IEC) material to be used by partners for distribution and other activities, as for trainings.

ACTION POINT 9: Call for identification of an artist to help transfer of technical drawings within ni van culture

Update on long-term resettlement

Jeff (resettlement coordinator NDMO/PMO). The attorney general is drafting detailed agreement acceptable by Government and chiefs regarding sites in Maewo for resettlement plans. Location should be safe before people move in. The resettlement process has been established to clarify the framework on how actions will be implemented.

- Xavier (VSC) It's foreseen that there would be no budget and elements on private housing, as it was the case for TC PAM. Therefore we might have gaps to support communities in establishing their dwelling, with limited capacity from humanitarian partners to support emergency shelter reinforcement of their shelter. This will exacerbate their vulnerability to natural disasters and humanitarian conditions.
- Megan (CARE) Based on experience from TC PAM, Government efforts will focus first at infrastructures that are needed. There is a need to see how actions from humanitarian partners could support communities that are going to be resettled.
- Shelter Cluster might look at providing recommendations on Nakamal as community buildings to support communities' resettlement. Nakamal models are similar in Ambae and Maewo, therefore this would help also to have more cyclone shelters capacities for the future.
- There are few existing documents on lessons learned from past resettlement in Vanuatu and in the region. We should extract some relevant inputs from ongoing crisis.

ACTION POINT 10: VSC to identify Lessons Learned from past resettlements in Vanuatu and regions, to inform ongoing response

AOB

1. It is important to notice that we see the first weather event TC Liua today, really early from the cyclone season that

projected to start in November.

2. The Gender & Protection as nominated partners to represent them in other clusters. Megan (CARE) is the one tasked to liaise with VSC on G&P issues. In this regard:
 - Request to PWD to look at G&P issues highlighted on assessment conducted in Santo. Harold and Megan will look on how this could be done. **(Action Point 11)**
 - PWD and G&P cluster to look on finding housing solutions for evacuees displaced on Santo terminal **(Action Point 12)**
3. Global Shelter Cluster Operational Guidance on recycling, reuse and disposal of plastic sheeting, will be translated in Bislama by PWD, to be used for ongoing response
4. Work will be conducted in coming weeks to finalize Vanuatu Shelter Cluster TOR, to look at scope, roles & responsibilities, DRM cycle (preparedness / emergency / recovery).

Action Items

Action	Owner	Due Date
Report and concept note about Maewo to be circulated to partners	Shelter Cluster Lead,	Done, available here
NDMO to clarify terminology around evacuation centres to be used by partners in English and Bislama.	NDMO	15/10/2018
Sandra to send Francois key questions to inform labour market understanding.	OXFAM	01/10/2018
Assessment for Santo Draft report to be recirculate with the minutes of the meeting	Shelter Cluster Lead	Done, available here
NDMO to circulate key messages circulated by NDMO and Maewo and Santo	NDMO	Done, available here
NDMO to circulate information on evacuation centres mapping plan to allow partners to see how they can contribute	NDMO	15/10/2018
To request brief relevant update by email to Oxfam on CBI plan intervention	Shelter Cluster Lead	15/10/2018
VSC agreement to build safe shelter awareness strategy for current response and the 4 key messages	Shelter Cluster Lead / partners	From 28/09/2018 on
Call for identification of an artist to help transfer of technical drawings within ni van culture	Shelter Cluster Lead / partners	As soon as identified
VSC to identify Lessons Learned from past resettlements in Vanuatu and regions, to inform ongoing response	Shelter Cluster Lead / CARE	For next meeting, tentatively 17/10/2018
Request to PWD to look at G&P issues highlighted on assessment conducted in Santo	Shelter Cluster Lead / G&P cluster	15/10/2018
PWD and G&P cluster to look on finding housing solutions for evacuees displaced on Santo terminal	Shelter Cluster Lead / G&P cluster	15/10/2018

Next Meeting

Date:	TBD	Time:		Location:	Public Works Department
Comment:	The next Shelter Cluster Vanuatu meeting will be held tentatively on 17/10/2018 at 10AM @PWD small conference room.				