



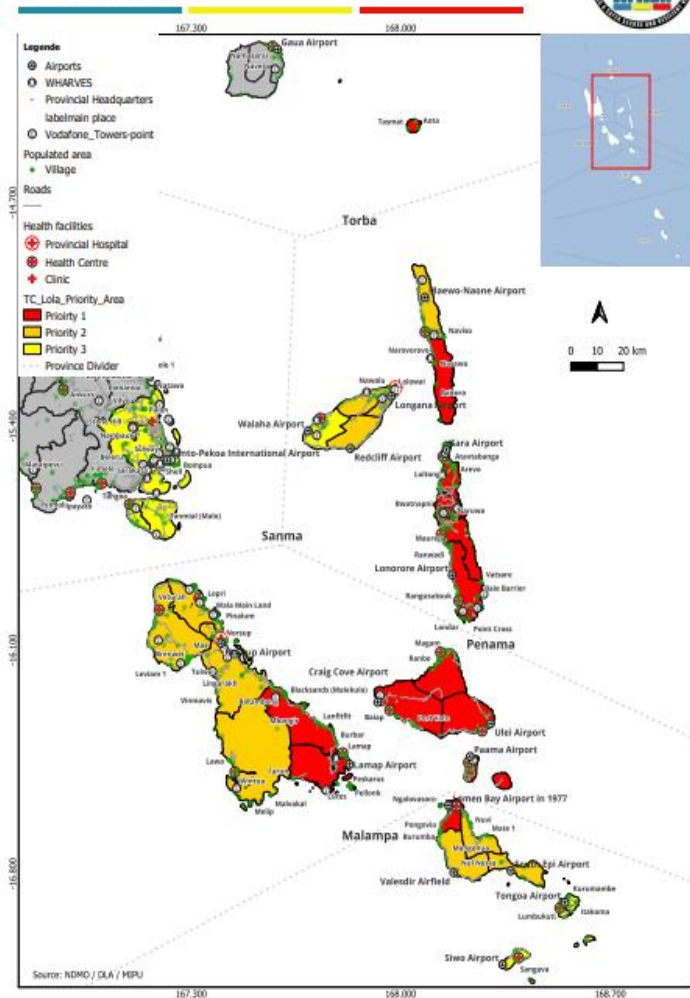
Shelter Cluster Vanuatu

Lessons Learn, Best Practices and Way
forward on TC Lola 2023

21st March 2024 @ VMGD, Port Vila

Assesment priority area

TC Lola october 2023



TC Lola Overview

Tropical Cyclone Lola, a Category 4 storm with winds of 205 kilometers per hour, struck the eastern coasts of Maewo and Pentecost islands on the night of October 25th, causing flooding and coastal inundation.

An estimated 200,000 people were affected by the cyclone, with 107,500 people (21,500 households) directly impacted, representing nearly half of Vanuatu's population.

The Vanuatu government declared a six-month state of emergency for the heavily impacted provinces of Torba, Penama, Malampa, and Shefa. The National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) co-leads the Shelter Cluster with the Vanuatu Red Cross Society to coordinate relief efforts.

TC Lola was the third cyclone to hit Vanuatu in 2024, occurring outside the cyclone season. This increased cyclone activity places pressure on regional response teams.

Needs Analysis

NDMO designated Pentecost, South Maewo, Ambrym, North Epi, and East Malekula islands as needing the most urgent assistance (Priority One).

Assessments revealed a devastating impact on housing, with **3750 houses destroyed and 3910 severely damaged.**

Shelter Cluster Achievements

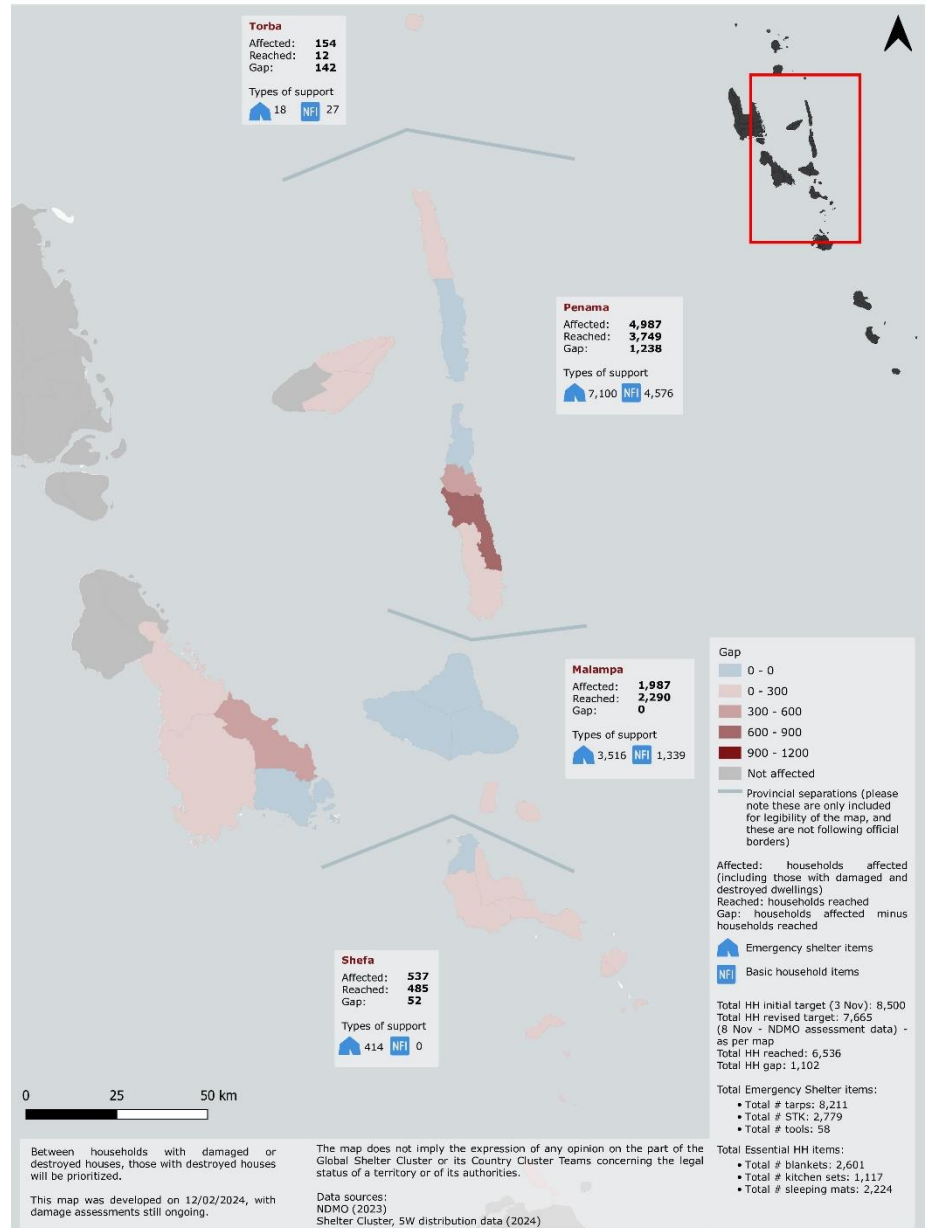
- **38,300 people (7660 HH)** affected with houses destroyed or damaged
- **32,680 people (6,536 HH)** reached (85% of affected population)

11,048 emergency shelter items (including tarpaulins, rapid tool kits and shelter tool kits) along with safe shelter awareness, key build back safer messages and EIC material on *Use, re-use and disposal of tarpaulins*.

5,942 Essential HH items (kitchen sets, blankets and mats) distributed

EMERGENCY SHELTER ASSISTANCE As of February 2024

PROVINCE	AFFECTED HH	REACHED HH	% Reached
PENAMA	4,987	3,749	75%
MALAMPA	1,987	2,290	115%
TORBA	154	12	7%
SHEFA	537	485	90%



Shelter Cluster Achievements

- Shelter cluster coordination support provided by VRCS and IFRC in the form of three shelter cluster coordinators.
- Timely Shelter Cluster Response plan, based on NDMO ISO
- Improved coordination and information sharing with Logistics and DECM cluster during response. (IOM-ADRA)
- The Cluster partners have been able to provide a range of emergency shelter assistance, essential household items and shelter awareness (information, education and communication materials, and demonstrations on how to use the materials to build).
- Coordination within cluster members and implementing agencies for prioritization and distribution
- Communication with AA and PEOC on lack of stocks in country and prioritization of assistance
- The Cluster has developed a strong partnership with the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) and other key stakeholders.

MORNING TEA (15 min)

Recommendations and next steps from TC Judy & Kevin

The following recommendations were made at the workshop held in May 5th, 2023:

- Assessment data on houses damaged and destroyed needs to be received sooner. **Assessment processes** at inter-cluster (NDMO) and Shelter Cluster levels to be reviewed to better integrate community assessment information.
- NDMO should support the **activation of initial response** activities with **"best guess" information** immediately following a disaster. This figure should be revised up or down when assessment data is available to enable decision making / strategy development / response planning.
- The Shelter Cluster should review **minimum standards** – emergency shelter and essential household items assistance.
- Training on how to use the STOCKHOLM platform to **map pre-positioned** emergency shelter and essential household items stocks. (Sept 23)

Recommendation & next step from TC Judy & Kevin

- The Shelter Cluster should continue to strengthen its **intercluster coordination**, starting during preparedness times.
- The Shelter Cluster should continue to strengthen its **Information Management** capacity during preparedness and response. A dedicated IM focal point should be in place, and trainings offered to partners, e.g., GIS mapping
- **Datasets** need to be agreed during preparedness times. e.g., a 5W template should be designed using correct/agreed area council boundaries and names. All cluster coordinators and partners should be trained on how to use it. This will ensure consistent data between clusters during the response.
- Explore **shelter coordination training opportunities** for the shelter coordination team members.



LESSON LEARNED & BEST PRACTICES TC LOLA RESPONSE

TOPIC 1. Coordination at national/subnational level down to CDCCC (Assessment process; Intercluster coordination; Relevancy of NDMO response tools used; Coordination with provinces PEOC; Working groups at provinces; Coordination at community level)

TOPIC 2. Preparedness activities prior to response (Minimum preparedness actions; assessment processes; minimum standards for distribution; Prepositioned stocks; Inclusion of NGOs, Civil society, private sector, faith-based organizations; AA messages)

TOPIC 3. Information management (Shelter cluster coordination team to members): Support to CDCCC and AA for assessments; Sharing of assessment results; 5W template; Infographics distribution and overview of response; Dissemination key information

TOPIC 4. Information Education and Communication (IEC) material (Key IEC materials and messages disseminated to the affected communities; Relevancy of the materials; Challenges on disseminating and accessing the IEC materials).

TOPIC 5. Protection, Gender and disability inclusion and Accountability to Affected Population (Coordination with G+P cluster; Vulnerability criteria and prioritization; Guidelines on protection shared and adequate?; Feedback mechanisms in communities; How can we include the voices of communities in the shelter cluster decision making?)

TOPIC 6. Transition from response to Early Recovery (Damage assessment data shared with DSPACC; Recovery strategy from cluster; Since when is considered recovery?; Detailed shelter cluster assessments included ?)

LESSON LEARNED & BEST PRACTICES TC LOLA RESPONSE

GROUP DISCUSSIONS AROUND KEY TOPICS:

What were the main successes during the response?

What were the main challenges?

What could agencies do differently/better next time?

What could the Shelter Cluster do differently/better next time?

LUNCH BREAK (1 Hour)

NDMO ASSESSMENT REVIEW PROCESS

Presentation and updates on NDMO Assessment review

Definition of HH (VNSO)

Discussion of Shelter Cluster Inputs into the Assessment review

- Impact/Damage categories
- Inclusion of Essential HH items in the assessments
- Minimum assistance package per category of damage :
 - what the family need/wants.
 - Thinking beyond tarps distribution
- Shelter cluster Detailed assessment: Recovery from the start of response

SHELTER ASSISTANCE TO ENSURE RETURN TO A SAFE HOME

FOCUS EN OBJECTIVES RATHER THAN IN MATERIALS

Emergency Shelter assistance: Sphere minimum standards



Blong mekem haos blong yu
i save stanap akensem eni najural disasta, emi impoten blong

1. Bildim haos blong yu long wan sef ples blong save kipim yu aot long denja

A diagram illustrating shelter location and settlement planning. It shows various scenarios of shelter placement on a hillside, near the sea, and in a settlement. Red 'X' marks indicate unsafe locations, while green checkmarks indicate safe locations. The diagram also shows a plan view of a settlement with a central area and surrounding areas, with a red 'X' mark indicating an unsafe location and a green checkmark indicating a safe location.

Arenjmen blong ol haos long wan vilej (lukluk blong antap)

STANDARD 1: PLANNING

- Assess shelter and settlement needs and capacities and plan the response with affected communities and authorities.
- Consider specific needs of at-risk groups including people who are unwell, lactating mothers, pregnant women, people living with disabilities, elderly, children, etc.

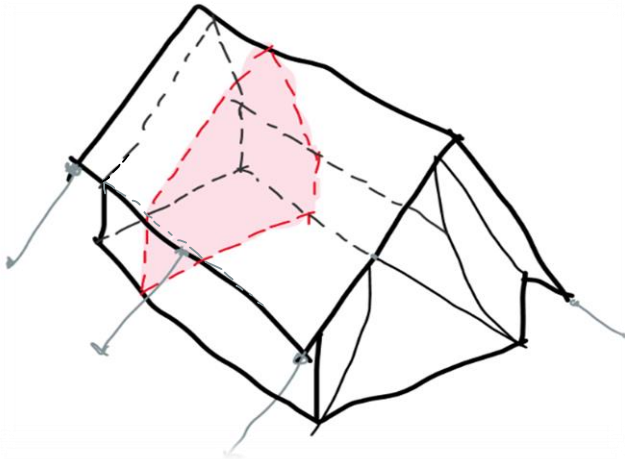
STANDARD 2: LOCATION AND SETTLEMENT PLANNING

Choose a safe site away from hazards. Avoid areas too close to the seaside, on steep hills, and low-lying areas which are easily flooded.

A good shelter needs access to services including toilet, handwashing facilities, bathing facilities, menstrual hygiene and management facilities, lighting (safety and security), food storage and processing, healthcare facilities, solid waste disposal, schools, places of worship, recreational areas, safe spaces for children, space for rituals, growing food, livestock accommodation and grazing.

Minimum standards for Emergency Shelter

STANDARD 3: LIVING SPACE



- The shelter must have enough living space for daily life. **During an emergency, a minimum of 3.5m² covered space is needed per person. Some people may require more space, e.g. persons with disabilities.**
- Ensure access around and to the shelter is possible for all members of the family. People with limited mobility may require ramps, rails, and wider doorways in and around the shelter.
- To increase privacy, divide the inside of the shelter into several rooms for changing etc.

Minimum standards for Emergency Shelter

STANDARD 5: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Provide technical assistance to the affected population as a part of the shelter response.

To keep the shelter cool inside use the tarp to make a ceiling (min. 2.6m high), put windows on each side towards the breeze and use natural materials for walls to increase cross-ventilation, put shutters on windows to keep direct sunlight out, make a good roof overhang to shade walls from the sun, put local materials like banana or coconut leaf on top of the roof, make a veranda or other shady place around the shelter for during the day if the inside of the shelter becomes too hot.



To keep people healthy, avoid leaving objects around the shelter which can collect stagnant water, attracting mosquitoes.

To avoid flooding choose a good site, make a steep roof pitch (not flat) with good overhang so the water can drain off and away from the shelter, dig drainage channels and slope the ground away from the shelter to direct water away from the shelter, and raise the floor inside the shelter.

Minimum standards for Emergency Shelter

STANDARD 6: SECURITY OF TENURE

Security of tenure means that people can live in their homes without fear of forced eviction, whether in communal settlement situations, informal settlements, host communities, or after return.



STANDARD 7: ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Assess and minimise the impact of shelter projects on the environment. Encourage selection of sustainable, recycled, reused or salvaged materials where possible.

Encourage tree planting projects to replenish natural resources in communities. Ensure no rubbish is left in communities by shelter teams. Promote safe, reliable, affordable and environmentally sustainable energy systems such as solar power.

AFTERNOON TEA (15 min)

NEXT STEPS AND WAY FORWARD

Proposal of Shelter Cluster workplan according to recommendations / action plan developed and prioritization

NDMO Assessment review:

- Finalization of Assessment forms (end April)
- Design of Assessment guidelines and training for AA
- Detailed assessment for Shelter Cluster: guiding questions

TOR for Shelter Cluster Vanuatu:

- First draft by the Cluster Lead
- Dissemination with SCV members for feedback and inputs
- Finalization of draft and endorsement by all SCV members

Acknowledgements

- ❑ NDMO
- ❑ National & provincial Level
- ❑ World vision
- ❑ Care International
- ❑ Butterfly Trust
- ❑ IOM
- ❑ Save the Children
- ❑ ADRA
- ❑ Vanuatu Red Cross Society
- ❑ IFRC
- ❑ USAID
- ❑ DFAT
- ❑ World Bank
- ❑ MFAT
- ❑ Australia High Comm
- ❑ New Zealand High comm

We extend the acknowledgment to all other partners & actors who contributed during the response, and who are not included in the list above.
