

Vanuatu - Cyclone Pam

ETC Situation Report #08

Reporting period 22/05/2015 to 4/06/2015

ETC Vanuatu Sitreps are distributed every two weeks. The next report will be issued on or around 18/06/15.

Highlights

- In line with the request from the Government of Vanuatu, the ETC has extended its support until 15 June. Decommissioning of equipment will be finished by 20 June.
- All BT satellite kits have been decommissioned and are being prepared to be shipped back.
- The ETC continues to provide connectivity to the government and humanitarians in 1x location on Tanna Island.
- ETC equipment not in use, and that does not belong to partner organisations, has been donated to the Government of Vanuatu.

Situation Overview

During the third month of the operation, the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster's (ETC) support continues to be vital in Vanuatu due to a delay in the restoration of the national network backbone, as the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) has indicated.

The ETC has extended the operation until mid-June, continuing to work closely with the Government of Vanuatu to provide internet connectivity at key government sites and humanitarians operating on Tanna with equipment from emergency.lu and Ericsson Response.



Ericsson Response WIDER and emergency.lu satellite kit continue to provide connectivity at the Samaritan's Purse office on Tanna. Photo: Ericsson Response/ Michael Duffin



Response

- The ETC has extended its support until 15 June, in line with the request from the Government of Vanuatu. An additional five days will be needed for decommissioning the equipment.
 - ETC members, emergency.lu and Ericsson Response, have confirmed the extension of support until mid-June.
 - 1x new Ericsson Response team member has arrived in Vanuatu to support the operation until closure.
- The ETC continues to provide connectivity in 1x location in Vanuatu:
 - emergency.lu and Ericsson Response continue to support internet connectivity for the humanitarian community on Tanna at the Samaritan's Purse office with over 80 active users.
 - All BT equipment has been decommissioned and it is ready to be shipped back.
- ETC equipment not in use and not belonging to partner organisations, including 9x generators, 10x satellite phones and 10x solar panels, has been donated to the Government of Vanuatu.

Planned Response

- No further ETC deployments are required.

Challenges

- Shipping demobilized equipment to Port Vila from remote islands and then internationally remains a major challenge due to the high logistics costs and lengthy transport time.

Meetings

- The next Global ETC Vanuatu teleconference will take place Tuesday 9 June at 06:30 UTC.

Information

- ICT responders operating on the ground in Vanuatu are encouraged to share their contact details with Vanuatu.ETC@wfp.org to facilitate local coordination.
- Dedicated information-sharing space has been created on the ETC website: <http://ictemergency.wfp.org/web/ictopr/emergencies2015/cyclone-pam>. Organisations involved in the ICT response are encouraged to share updates with the ETC community to support the overall humanitarian response.



Shared ICT Services

ISLAND	LOCATION	PROVIDED BY	SERVICES	EQUIPMENT	CUSTOMER
Espiritu Santo	Luganville	ETC services decommissioned			
Vanua Lava	Sola	ETC services decommissioned			
Efate	Port Vila (Hotel Kaiviti)	ETC services decommissioned			
	Port Vila (Airport)	ETC services decommissioned			
	Port Vila (NDMO)	ETC services decommissioned			
	Port Vila (Hotel Melanesian)	ETC services decommissioned			
Tanna	Isangel (Samaritan's Purse)	emergency.lu, WFP, Ericsson Response	• Internet connectivity	VSAT, WIDER	Humanitarian Community
	Isangel (NDMO)	ETC services decommissioned			
Aoba/Ambae	Saritamata	ETC services decommissioned			
Malekula	Lakatoro	ETC services decommissioned			



Contacts

Vanuatu.ETC@wfp.org

Acronyms

BT	British Telecom
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
NDMO	National Disaster Management Office
VSAT	Very Small Aperture Terminal
WFP	World Food Programme
WIDER	Wireless LAN in Disaster and Emergency Response

All information related to ETC operations can be found on the ICT Emergency website: www.ETCluster.org

For more information, or to be added or deleted from the mailing list, please contact: Vanuatu.ETC@wfp.org

Background on the crisis:

Severe Tropical Cyclone Pam struck Vanuatu (population 234,000), affecting the capital of Port Vila, as an extremely destructive category 5 cyclone on the evening of 13 March at around 11 p.m. local time. The cyclone's eye passed close to Efate Island, where the capital is located, with winds estimated to have reached 250kmph and gusts peaking at around 320kmph.

On behalf of the humanitarian community, the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) is responding in Vanuatu in close cooperation with the government National Disaster Management Office (NDMO).

Sources: OCHA Vanuatu Tropical Cyclone Pam Situation Report, Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)