Severe tropical cyclone PAM caused damage also in other Pacific islands, including Solomon islands, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Fiji, New Caledonia and New Zealand.

Government - led Initial Rapid Assessments are now completed. Main needs remain water, shelter and food assistance.

OCHA reports around 166,000 people have been affected by Tropical Cyclone Pam across five provinces (Shefa, Tafea, Penama, Malampa and Torba). The confirmed fatalities are 11 people.

Approximately 14,000 homes are reported to be destroyed or damaged (destruction ranging from 20% - 90%). 65,000 people are in need of temporary shelter. There are nearly 3,400 people sheltered in 30 evacuation centers in Efate.

162,000 people in Tafea, Shefa, Malampa and Penama provinces are in need of food assistance. So far, approximately 50,000 people have already received emergency food assistance.

A Flash Appeal is being drafted (based on a 3-month timeframe) and expected to be launched tomorrow. At present OCHA’s Financial Tracking Service records a total of USD 10 million in financial contributions (mainly Australia USD 3.9 million, United Kingdom USD 2.46 million, New Zealand USD 1.8 million, EU USD 1.12 million). This amount excludes USD 7.71 million outstanding pledges.

Sources: ECHO, UN OCHA, GDACS

Relevant Past Tropical Cyclones in Vanuatu

- VANIA – Jan 2011: Vania passed between Erromango and Tanna island, without making landfall, with winds around 140 km/h and caused a complete destruction of crops in many parts of Tafea province, leaving families without food or income for up to 6 months. Government struggled to provide food to around 32,000 affected people.

- JASMINE – Feb 2012: Jasmine passed close to the Tafea province with winds of around 165 km/h, without making landfall, but still affected severely the southern islands. It caused damage to crops and infrastructure and lack of clean water.

- LUSI – Mar 2014: Lusi affected the central provinces of Vanuatu, with winds of around 90 km/h, causing 12 deaths, extensive floods, damage to crops and water facilities.

Sources: ECHO, UN OCHA, Media