Joint National Disaster Management Office – Vanuatu Humanitarian Team

Needs Assessment Mission to Pentecost Island

18 March 2015

Introduction:

The assessment team consisting of DARD, ADRA Vanuatu, and MOE conducted in Lonorore captured reports for central Pentecost and east Pentecost where some damage have been made by cyclone PAM. The aim of the initial rapid assessment is to obtain a more detailed overview of the situation on the ground in order to reach a common understanding of the scale and severity of the response to Cyclone Pam and target the response accordingly.

Due to geographical location, damaged infrastructure and time and financial constraint, the team was not able to make it to the central and eastern side which was reported to be more affected than the other areas of Pentecost. The respondents of the assessments are not from the damaged area, however, they are representative of World Vision and two agriculture field assistant officers and Department of Public Works Officer who have received reports and

Key Findings/Observations:

Infrastructure & Logistics

1.1 Roads have been damaged and blocked by fallen trees from south to the Eastern side. Public works have cleared the roads from Melsisi to Lonorore only. The rest of the road to the Eastern side is partially damaged and not accessible for vehicles. Local NGOs are equipped with vehicles that can make it on the repaired roads only. Boat Transport are accessible to Lonorore Airport.

WASH

2.1 Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) is a concern to Central Pentecost (Lonorore). Though they had flushed toilets, observations showed that no tools such as soap and other sanitation tools were used and flash toilets were not of hygiene standards.

2.2 Due to lack of communication, no reports have been received on the status of eastern Pentecost.

2.3 Reports indicate that there are 2 full water tanks central Pentecost but are now contaminated after the cyclone.

2.4 Lonorore have water supply system but still reported to be still contaminated.

Evacuation Centre

3.1 It was observed that the majority of the people are living in very good condition in the assessed areas.

3.2 Rongon people have been reported to have used their Nakamal as their evacuation centre.
Health
4.1 Report from health worker of Lonorore Aid Post showed that there has not been a reported injury or sickness in the Aid Post including Melsisi Hospital due to the cyclone.
4.2 No outbreaks of communicable diseases are reported to date.
4.3 There is also no infrastructural damage to the Aid Post buildings in the central area.

Food Security
5.1 The majority of the farmlands observed in the central parts have not been damaged, however, hearsay reports say the eastern side have had a lot of damaged farmland and vegetation with significant impacts to the livelihoods and agriculture.
5.2 Food is not an immediate concern, however sustaining food security, particularly on rice availability maybe an issue in the longer term due to the vast damage to agricultural crops and farmlands.

Communication
6.1 Communication has also been disrupted and yet to be restored.

Education –
7.1 Schools that have been damaged at the moment are:
   - Santari school, south east
   - Melsisi school, central
   - Ranwadi High school, central
   - Upiku school, central

   The team was not able to receive school reports from the eastern side.

Recommendations
a. Schools that have been affected must be rebuilt so that children are able to convene normal classes.
b. A detailed assessment to be carried out on the eastern side of Pentecost to gain a true report of the damage.

Pentecost (Penama) Team
Team Leader: Mathias Bule

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<tr>
<th>Cluster</th>
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<tr>
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<td>DARD</td>
<td>Mathias Bule</td>
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<td>Protection</td>
<td>ADRA Vanuatu</td>
<td>Tina Ilo NOKA</td>
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<td>Education</td>
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<td>Virana Lini</td>
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Communications
1. Communication has also been disrupted and yet to be restored. Due to lack of communication no reports have been received from eastern Pentecost.

Food and livelihood
1. The majority of the farmlands observed in the central parts have not been damaged, however, hearsay reports say the eastern side have had a lot of damaged farmland and vegetation with significant impacts to the livelihoods and agriculture.
2. Food is not an immediate concern, however sustaining food security, particularly on rice availability maybe an issue in the longer term due to the vast damage to agricultural crops and farmlands.

Health
1. No outbreaks of communicable diseases are reported to date.
2. There is also no infrastructural damage to the Aid Post buildings in the central area.

Schools
1. 4 Schools have been damaged
2. No reports from eastern side of the island.