



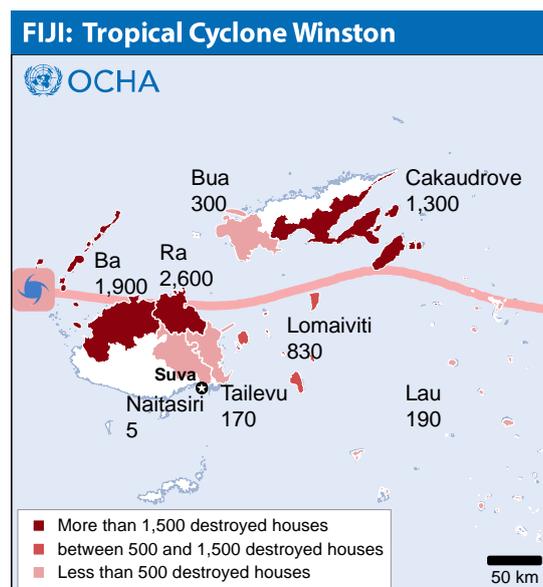
This report is produced by the OCHA Regional Office for the Pacific (ROP) in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 5 to 7 March 2016. The next report will be issued on or around 9 March.

## Highlights

- At least 18,000 houses have been damaged or destroyed by the cyclone.
- Emergency Relief Coordinator allocates US \$8 million to the response.
- The estimated number of people in evacuation centres has decreased to fewer than 20,000.
- Schooling for more than 72,000 primary and secondary school children has been disrupted.
- Initial assessment results and reports of open defecation from communities show an urgent need for emergency sanitation.

Sit Rep Sources: Fiji Government, Fiji NEOC/NDMO, PHT Partners, NGO Community, NZ Government.

Datasets available in HDX at <http://data.hdx.rwllabs.org>.



Map Sources: Fiji Ministry of Lands, NDMO  
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Map created on 7 March, 2016 -

**350,000**

people affected by the cyclone

**38.6mn**

US\$ requested in the Flash Appeal

**8mn**

US\$ allocated from the CERF

**63%**

of house damage is in Western Division

**618**

evacuation centres remain open

**12**

import requests for streamlined

## Situation Overview

With situational and response information becoming more comprehensive, a number of key figures have been revised since the last Situation Report was issued. According to the latest data available from the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO), just under 20,000 people remain in evacuation centres – down from 55,400 on 4 March. The number of schools functioning as evacuation centres has been reduced to 45. There is a lack of information about the reasons and modalities of return, but the Government and partners are working to obtain a clearer view. IOM, in partnership with the Fiji Bureau of Statistics, has rolled out the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) and is expecting to receive preliminary data this week.

Shelter remains an immediate humanitarian priority as extremely strong cyclonic winds and multiple tsunami-like storm surges caused widespread damage and destruction to the country's housing stock. The Government has finalised the damage assessment and there is ongoing work to aggregate the results. The current level of assessed housing damage indicates that at least 18,000 houses have been affected. However, this figure is likely to increase as the remaining forms are aggregated.

## Funding

International donors have already made in-kind donations and provided technical assistance worth nearly US \$22 million, and provided \$9 million in cash. Last week, the Chinese Government announced that it was donating an additional \$1 million to support the response.

The UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, is releasing some \$8 million from the UN's [Central Emergency Response Fund \(CERF\)](#) to immediate response projects in the appeal. CERF funds will specifically support the provision of urgent humanitarian assistance for shelter, health, nutrition, water and sanitation emergency education, nutrition and logistics which are among the priorities for the affected communities.

## Humanitarian Response



### Shelter

#### Needs:

- A total of 120,000 people—a third of the affected population—are estimated to need urgent humanitarian shelter assistance.
- Initial reports show varying levels of destruction, with up to 100 per cent in some smaller islands.

**120,000**  
people need urgent  
shelter assistance

#### Response:

- Shelter agencies are scaling up operations with a further 10,000 tarpaulins along with associated tools scheduled to arrive on 10 March, with more to follow in the coming days.
- Shelter Cluster partners continue providing immediate emergency shelter materials and on-the-ground technical support for safer construction techniques in both urban settlements and rural areas, targeting vulnerable families and communities.

#### Gaps & Constraints:

- While there has been a significant response by the Government, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and civil society actors, there is little overall consolidated data about the response.
- Relatively few agencies are responding in the shelter sector and relief items are only now beginning to arrive for distribution.
- A detailed damage assessment is not yet available, so needs, targets and priorities are difficult to ascertain.
- Logistics challenges, especially with regard to reaching the more remote islands in the Maritime Division, render humanitarian assessments and distributions difficult.



### Health & Nutrition

#### Needs:

- Of the 204 healthcare facilities, 8 have sustained major and 55 minor damages. The total cost to repair these facilities is estimated to be FJ \$596,500, or
- Of the 350,000 people affected by the cyclone, 87,500 are women of reproductive age. This includes an estimated 5,600 pregnant women, of which 1,600 are expected to deliver in the next three months. More than 200 of these deliveries are at risk of obstetric complications requiring emergency care.
- The five priority areas for medical response teams to visit remain the following: Koro Island, Ovalau, Vanuabalavu, Southern Taveuni, coastal Northern Tailevu to Ra.

**2,000**  
people are receiving  
psychosocial support

#### Response:

- The Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MoHMS) has deployed medical, surgical and public health teams to the affected areas. Seventeen Environmental Health officers are deployed to remote communities to inspect and support cleanup, vector control, water treatment and waste management for the next three weeks.

- WHO has deployed five experts to provide technical support and medical supplies to the MoHMS in the following areas: early warning and surveillance, vector control, mental health and psychosocial support, nutrition and risk communications.
- UNICEF has provided an information management expert to the MoHMS in support of the Health and Nutrition Cluster.
- AmeriCares has provided bleach, soaps, and other emergency supplies along with food packs in Ba.
- Direct Relief is providing medical supplies in Savusavu.
- The Fiji Red Cross Society is providing psychosocial support, including to survivors of gender-based violence, to 2,000 people in the most affected areas.
- Medical Services Pacific is providing health services in the area of reproductive, maternal, children and adolescent health in Tailevu and Naitasiri.
- The MoHS has issued an advisory stating that no travel restrictions to Koro Island were in place.

#### Gaps & Constraints:

- The MoHMS needs four-wheel vehicles to be used by medical and public health teams.
- With seven active Sub-Cluster working groups and low information management capacity to deal with fragmented data, delivering effective coordination is challenging.
- Following the initial rapid assessment of damage and loss of health facilities carried out during the first two weeks, a more comprehensive assessment of structural, non-structural and functional safety is needed to set the next steps of restoration and rehabilitation.
- There is a public health concern regarding the impacts of destroyed water supplies and sanitary facilities on increasing waterborne and foodborne fecal-oral infections.
- Coordination of suppliers of medical commodities is needed to provide guidance to donors.



### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

#### Needs:

- Up to 250,000 people are now without access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene services and need of WASH assistance, including people in evacuation centres and children in schools.

**250,00**  
are in need of WASH  
supplies

#### Response:

- Nothing to report.

#### Gaps & Constraints:

- Initial assessment results and reports of open defecation from communities show an urgent need for emergency sanitation. The MoHMS has released draft standards for sanitation facilities and is working through the NDMO and Commissioners offices to implement them.



### Food Security

#### Needs:

- An estimated 164,000 people need food security assistance.

#### Response:

- Nothing to report.

#### Gaps & Constraints:

- Debris-clearing for agricultural lands remains a priority to allow for a timely planting of currently distributed seeds. Delays in clearance represent a risk of pest infestation on affected lands and reduced recovery options.
- All seedling stocks available in-country are now almost completely depleted. The MoA continues to seek and procure fresh planting materials from non-affected areas.
- Veterinary staff are urgently needed to assist in cadaver disposal and treatment of injured livestock to prevent disease outbreaks.

**164,000**  
people need food  
security assistance



## Education

### Needs:

- Schooling for more than 72,000 primary and secondary school children, including over 35,200 girls, has been disrupted. An estimated 243 primary and secondary schools (27 per cent) have been damaged and 64 schools (7 per cent) have been destroyed.
- The cost of primary and secondary school repairs is currently estimated at FJ \$50.2 million (US \$23.8 million) and the cost of early childhood care and education (ECCE) repairs is estimated at FJ \$7.6 million (US \$3.6).

**72,000**  
children's education  
disrupted

### Response:

- UNICEF education in emergencies supplies for more than 32,000 children and their teachers have arrived in the country.
- Together with the Ministry of Education (MoE), Save the Children has delivered 500 schoolbag kits in the Ra area reaching 500 children.

### Gaps & Constraints:

- Forty-five schools are still functioning as evacuation centres.
- Although the MoE is the Education Cluster collecting who-does-what (3W) data, it is of paramount importance to ensure all members are reporting their activities if the response is to be coordinated effectively.



## Safety and Protection

### Needs:

- Ensure that assistance is delivered in a way that prevents violence against, and exploitation of, vulnerable community members.
- Support to host families in light of risk of community disharmony and growing tensions between evacuees and host communities. These tensions are likely to escalate in the coming weeks as the situation worsens.
- Mapping of existing village level GBV and Child Protection Committees
- Tracking of the particular vulnerabilities of older persons.

### Response:

- A newly issued Gender Snapshot highlights the gendered impact of lack of access to food and the potential risks to women and girls in particular, with some immediate actions for humanitarians to take into account. The Snapshot can be downloaded [here](#).
- The Safety and Protection Cluster is coordinating with the Psychosocial Support working group under the Health and Nutrition Cluster, particularly to align messages for communities.
- The Common Assessment Form is now in use. The focal point for data collection and analysis is the Social Welfare Department under the Ministry for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation (MWCPA).
- Tools are being developed for improved monitoring and assessment of persons with disability through Pacific Disability Forum.
- The GBV and Child Protection Sub-Clusters are working with the Police to assist with joint trainings on protection, child protection and GBV issues.

### Gaps & Constraints:

- National providers of crisis care for women, medico-legal services, and counseling have also been affected themselves, disrupting available services. They therefore require immediate support to be able to resume – and expand – their scope of services and activities in order to meet the anticipated increased demand for services.
- In order to tailor appropriate response to temporarily displaced people, a more comprehensive mapping of their needs and tracking of movement.



## Emergency Telecommunications

### Response:

- On 9 March, a senior ICT specialist from the Fast IT and Telecommunications Emergency Support Team (FITTEST) will commence a ten-day needs assessment in northern Lau Group Islands, Koro Island, and Yasawa Group Islands.
- The ETC continues to meet with its NDMO counterpart and national Mobile Network Operators – Digicel and Vodafone – to update the network status on a daily basis.
- The ETC plans to provide shared basic voice communications and internet connectivity services to the response community working in up to three common operating areas.



## Logistics

### Response:

- As of 6 March, 12 requests (340 metric tons; 1,163 m<sup>3</sup>) for the importation of humanitarian relief goods from the same number of organizations have been tracked through the streamlined relief import process, which is implemented by the NDMO with WFP assistance. The system supports operational planning by monitoring the quantity of humanitarian relief goods arriving in the country by air and sea.
- Nausori Airport in Suva is now reported to be fully operational. Sourcing additional forklifts and reduced aircraft traffic (as compared to the previous week) has so far prevented congestion.
- Following an NDMO push to maximize operations, storage and onward-transportation capacity at Nadi Airport has improved, and the airport is operating normally.
- Temporary storage capacity in remote affected areas is being augmented. This includes the establishment of a Mobile Storage Unit (MSU) on Koro Island with the support of the Australian Defense Force.
- The DHL Disaster Response Team is supporting the NDMO with receipt, sorting and documenting humanitarian relief at Nasouri Airport before it is shipped onwards to the affected areas.
- Australian, French, New Zealand and Tongan militaries continue supporting the Government and humanitarian partners by providing relief flights and vessels to transport humanitarian cargo.

### Constraints:

- Insufficient capacity at Nadi Airport limits the ability to handle large aircraft (B747) to one per day.
- A sudden increase in humanitarian relief arriving into Fiji by air and sea could overwhelm logistics capacity and interrupt the flow of humanitarian relief items.

## Humanitarian Civil-Military Coordination

The Republic of Fiji Military Forces (RFMF) and the Australian Defence Force (ADF) are providing engineering support to Koro Island, including the rehabilitation of community centres, hospitals, and schools. The work will continue in Koro over the next days, eventually transitioning to Taveuni and southern Vanua Levu and Ovalavu.

The New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) commenced operations in Vanua Balavu on 6 March. The HMZS Canterbury continues to deploy personnel and kit ashore. The NZDF operations are focused on Lomaloma, with activities encompassing engineering support and road clearing. The HMZS Wellington is due to disembark from Suva on 7 March and proceed to Vanua Balavu in support of HMZS Canterbury. The HMZS Wellington will deliver non-food items, shelter material, hygiene kits, medical supplies and agricultural seedlings. Assessments by the NZDF are being conducted in Munia and Yacata islands, as well as Dakui Loma Loma, Mualevu and Mavana communities in Vanua Balavu.

The French patrol boat is delivering food and water to Cicia and Natokalau. The French fixed-wing asset (CASA) will cease operations on 10 March.

A total of 35 Requests for Assistance (RFAs) were submitted to Future Operations, primarily by the Government Ministries. Three RFAs were submitted by humanitarian partners.

The UN-CMCoord team can provide detailed sector-specific information on deployment of foreign military assets, as well as relief operations undertaken by the RFMF and FRANZ partners. Contact: [cmcoordfiji@gmail.com](mailto:cmcoordfiji@gmail.com).

## General Coordination

The Fiji Government is leading the response to the emergency. The National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) is coordinating efforts and has activated National and Divisional Emergency Operations Centres (EOCs). [A 30 day State of Natural Disaster](#) has been declared and will expire on March 21. National Clusters have been tasked with identifying specific needs and working in cooperation with international and national partners to ensure gaps are covered. The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) is providing technical advice and support to the Fiji Government, agencies and partners.

The PHT, as well as new partners arriving in Fiji, are requested to work through the existing Fijian cluster structure to allow for a coordinated and effective response. It has been agreed that UNOCHA will be the conduit for communications between the NDMO and international humanitarian partners regarding offers of assistance within Fiji and internationally.

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Situation reports and other materials related to the TC Winston response are available on [UNOCHA's Humanitarian Response Info](#) page.

### **Background on the crisis**

Tropical Cyclone Winston, the most powerful cyclone to strike Fiji in recent time, cut a path of destruction across the country on 20 and 21 February 2016. The eye of the Category 5 cyclone packed wind bursts of up to 320 kilometers per hour. The cyclone tracked west across the country, causing widespread damage in all four divisions. It affected up to 350,000 people - equivalent to 40 per cent of Fiji's population. This includes 120,000 children and more than 3,100 people with disabilities. The hardest hit areas are the Lau group and Lomaiviti groups, which includes Koro Island, in the Eastern Division, Rakiraki and Tavua in Western Division and Taveuni and Cakaudrove in Northern Division. Fiji, like most Pacific countries, was already suffering from the impact of the strong El Niño event, which has caused drought and water shortages.

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