UNICEF PACIFIC CYCLONE WINSTON SITUATION REPORT

Reporting Period 17-22 March 2016

Cyclone Winston
Fiji
Humanitarian Situation Report #9

Photo: UNICEF Regional Goodwill Ambassador for East Asia and the Pacific Ms Agnes Chan plays with children attending UNICEF’s mobile playgroup in cyclone-affected Nauto Community, Viti Levu.

Highlights

- The ‘State of Natural Disaster’ has been extended for 30 days until 19 April 2016
- UNICEF Regional Goodwill Ambassador, Ms. Agnes Chan, visited and met with affected children in Rakiraki and Ovalau
- Ships from Vanuatu and Solomon Islands have arrived in Fiji with additional educational, health and WASH-related supplies to cover the remaining needs in affected areas.

UNICEF’s response with partners

US$1.6 million of UNICEF supplies (including logistics costs) have been provided to the Government of Fiji and are being distributed to the most affected areas.

A Cold Chain equipment specialist has been deployed by UNICEF to provide technical support to the Ministry of Health and Medical Services for the restoration of cold chain services and replacement of equipment in affected healthcare facilities.

Nutrition sub-cluster partners are ensuring no supply of formula milk is distributed to health facilities and that efforts are focussed on supporting breastfeeding.

As of 24 March 2016

150,000
Estimated # of people who have restored access to safe water

6,200
Estimated # of children and their teachers who are back to school using temporary learning spaces

UNICEF Appeal (within the UN Flash Appeal)
US$7.1 million
Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

From 19 to 21 February, Tropical Cyclone Winston went straight through Fiji as a Category 5 system with sustained winds of 230 kmph, gusting up to 325 kmph. 40% of the population is estimated to live within 50km of the centre of the Cyclone, the range defined by the Fiji Meteorological Service as experiencing ‘very destructive hurricane force winds’. The number of confirmed deaths is 44.

The number of evacuees has been declining rapidly over the last few weeks. As more than 30,000 houses have been damaged or destroyed, many people have relocated with relatives or have made informal arrangements. Since 12 March, only the Western and Eastern Divisions still have active evacuation centres. On 21 March, the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) reported there were around 2,161 evacuees in 122 evacuation centres.1 Distribution of relief food rations, shelter materials, WASH supplies and seeds and Kumala cuttings (variety of sweet potatoes) continues through government authorities in all affected areas. In addition, MoHMS mosquito spraying campaign has continued.

Approximately 55% of schools and early childhood care and education centres were damaged or destroyed, disrupting schooling for almost 86,000 students. At least 88 health facilities were damaged as a result of the cyclone, including over 60 facilities with immunization cold chain equipment (vaccine refrigerators). Critical needs also include water supply, particularly in those areas that were earlier affected by low rainfall due to the El Niño phenomenon. Water carting is being organised and coordinated by the Government.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimated Distribution of Affected Population by UNICEF Target Groups in 20152</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Source: Fiji Flash Appeal: Tropical Cyclone Winston – using population projections calculated by the Pacific Community, Statistics for Development Division)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Affected Population</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children Affected (Under 18)</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td>62,000</td>
<td>58,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Under Five</td>
<td>36,000</td>
<td>19,000</td>
<td>17,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Under One</td>
<td>7,300</td>
<td>3,800</td>
<td>3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnant and Lactating Women</td>
<td>7,600</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>7,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

On 20 March, the Official ‘State of Natural Disaster’ (initially announced on 20 February) was extended for an additional 30 days to 19 April 2016. The NDMO continues to provide operational coordination, while the Pacific Humanitarian Partnership, a group coordinated by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), is supporting Government Ministries with Humanitarian Cluster Coordination, information management and technical assistance roles. A United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination team supported overall coordination for three weeks and has now left Fiji. The UN Resident Coordinator is serving as Humanitarian Coordinator for the duration of the response.

On 4 March 2016, the Fijian Government and the United Nations jointly launched the Fiji Flash Appeal: Tropical Cyclone Winston.3 US$ 38.6 million is sought, including US$ 7.1 million for UNICEF, to meet immediate relief needs of the affected population between February and May 2016. UNICEF’s urgent financial needs are presented in the Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Education, Health and Nutrition, and Safety and Protection sectors. Cross-cutting areas of support requested by Government through UNICEF include coordination, information management, monitoring and reporting, and logistics.

The Fiji Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MoHMS) leads the WASH Cluster, with UNICEF as lead cluster support agency. The Ministry of Education Heritage and Arts (MoEHA) leads the Education Cluster, with UNICEF

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2 Estimate is based on the zone between 0 and 50 kms from the center of Cyclone Winston (the range defined by the Fiji Meteorological Service as experiencing ‘very destructive hurricane force winds’) and the 2007 Fiji Census with population projected to 2015.
3 [https://docs.unocha.org/sites/dms/Documents/Fiji%20TC%20Winston%20Flash%20Appeal%20FINAL.pdf](https://docs.unocha.org/sites/dms/Documents/Fiji%20TC%20Winston%20Flash%20Appeal%20FINAL.pdf)
and Save the Children as joint lead cluster support agencies. The Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation leads the Safety and Protection Cluster, with UNICEF and UN Women as joint lead cluster support agencies. UNICEF also supports the Ministry and the National Coordinating Committee on Children with the Child Protection Sub-cluster. UNICEF is an active member of the Health and Nutrition Cluster led by the MoHMS, with WHO as lead cluster support agency. UNICEF collaborates within other relevant clusters and technical working groups. Other Clusters include Food Security, Shelter, Emergency Telecommunications, and Logistics. Updates on distribution data and infrastructure repairs are reported through Government mechanisms.

UNICEF response

UNICEF continues to provide much-needed supplies, such as WASH kits, water purification tablets, school tents and learning supplies, to ensure people have access to safe water and children can return to education. All supplies are distributed by the Government, in the Government’s Priority Response Geographic Areas, with special attention to children in the hardest-to-reach areas. UNICEF is also supporting Government partners to strengthen supply tracking and monitoring systems.

UNICEF and its partners have initiated key activities, such as psychosocial support and broadcasting public health messages. UNICEF is continuing to build on its partnerships to implement a multi-sector package of interventions including Education, WASH, Child Protection, and Communication for Development (C4D), Health and Nutrition. The programme delivery strategy combines technical assistance to Ministry Cluster Leads for assessment, planning, information management, coordination and knowledge sharing with Cluster members. UNICEF staff are also assisting with emergency procurement, logistics, technical and cash assistance to strengthen service delivery. Monitoring, reporting and other assurance activities are built into all activities, including monitoring for equity. As of 23 March, UNICEF staff have accompanied 11 government missions relating to assessment, response as well as receiving, warehousing and distributing supplies.

Humanitarian Performance Indicator Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>UNICEF Target</th>
<th>Cumulative results</th>
<th>Cluster Target</th>
<th>Cumulative results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td># children accessing education at ECCE, primary and secondary schools</td>
<td>30,500</td>
<td>6,256</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>7,576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td># children benefiting from learning materials</td>
<td>23,000</td>
<td>7,931</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>12,403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td># people with access to safe water</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>15,233</td>
<td>250,000</td>
<td>149,452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td># of people provided with sanitation or hygiene kits or key hygiene items</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>19,475</td>
<td>250,000</td>
<td>56,987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td># of children in school/learning programmes with access to sufficient water</td>
<td>22,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>65,000</td>
<td>1,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td># of children with access to appropriately designed, gender segregated toilets</td>
<td>22,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>65,000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td># health facilities with cold rooms/cold chain equipment restored or improved</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td># of children aged 6-59 months reached by Vitamin A and deworming campaigns</td>
<td>25,000**</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health and Nutrition</td>
<td># children provided with psychosocial support</td>
<td>60,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td># youths trained as peer educators</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety and Protection</td>
<td># prime time radio spots on health and hygiene messages</td>
<td>19,000</td>
<td>4,157***</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communicating with Communities</td>
<td># personnel embedded into the ministries that are leading Clusters</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Including UNICEF
** Correction from previously published target of 24,000.
*** 2,457 between 24 February and 10 March plus an estimated 1,700 between 11 and 20 March based on 170 messaged per day for 10 days.
**Education**

A total of 497 primary and secondary schools (55%) have been damaged or destroyed, disrupting schooling for 85,972 students (44,751 female). It is estimated that 115 early childhood education centres (13%) have been damaged or destroyed affecting more than 4,100 young children. The cost of repairs to schools and ECCE centres is currently estimated by the Government at around FJD 60 million (US$28.6 million).

As of 22 March, 12,403 students have received learning supplies (student backpacks with stationery materials) from various sources. This includes 7,991 primary and secondary school children who have received UNICEF-funded student backpacks with stationery materials. Over 6,200 primary and secondary children and their teachers are using temporary learning spaces (including tents and school-in-a-box kits). In addition, 656 young children (323 female) in 46 kindergartens in Ba-Tavua, Eastern, Nadi and Ra educational districts are benefitting from tarpaulins and early childhood development kits, in part supported by the Government of New Zealand. Save the Children has also contributed temporary learning spaces to cover educational needs in the Northern Division (Vanua Levu, Taveuni). An estimated 38,435 (45%) children still need to be accommodated in temporary learning spaces.

UNICEF is supporting the MoEHA to provide counselling to students and teachers in the affected areas. Group counselling, with follow-up visits and referrals if needed, has commenced on Koro, Ovalau and Vanuabalavu Islands in the Eastern Division and UNICEF funding will support scaling-up. In addition UNICEF has provided an information management officer (IMO) based in the MoEHA to collect and analyse data on the distribution of emergency education supplies to support the work of the Education Cluster.

The Government of Australia has announced an additional AUD 2 million (US$1.5 million) to support a package of Education Cluster emergency interventions including the provision of temporary learning spaces, teaching and learning materials, school water sanitation and hygiene as well as psycho-social support. To meet the gaps in the sector, UNICEF has also initiated offshore procurement worth over US$900,000 of educational supplies. In addition, two ships carrying pre-positioned stocks are en route from Vanuatu and Solomon Islands and are expected in Fiji on 24 March with complementary educational, health and WASH-related supplies.

**WASH**

As of 22 March, MoHMS and its partners have reached 39,000 people with supplies to provide safe drinking water, including WASH and Hygiene kits, and water purification tablets delivered by the Government of Fiji and funded by UNICEF, the Australian and New Zealand Governments. This includes approximately 15,000 people reached with supplies provided by UNICEF in Eastern Division (Lomaiviti and Lau islands), Northern Division (Cakaudrove and Bua), and Western Division (Ba and Navosa). UNICEF provides technical assistance and support to the MoHMS in the targeting, distribution and tracking of supplies.

UNICEF is providing safe sanitation and bathing facilities to affected communities, and has supported the MoHMS and partners to develop joint standards for emergency sanitation. Coordination with the Health and Shelter Clusters is ongoing on joint messaging. In response to verified typhoid cases in Central Division, the MoHMS (with the Fiji Centre for Communicable Diseases Control and WHO) has expanded monitoring for outbreaks of communicable diseases and is focusing on prevention through safer WASH practices.

MoEHA, UNICEF, and Save the Children have identified over 280 priority schools across the country for immediate WASH support and coordinated with partner agencies to make sure that all students access sufficient safe water, gender-segregated temporary sanitation facilities, and items for handwashing and tooth-brushing. UNICEF is procuring US$90,000 worth of additional WASH-related supplies for distribution in these priority schools.

**Health and Nutrition**

WHO and UNICEF are supporting the Fiji Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MoHMS) in monitoring Typhoid prevalence. The MoHMS is actively developing contingency plans to respond in the event of an outbreak. UNICEF is providing cross-sectoral WASH and health operational and technical support on prevention of water contamination, and Typhoid vaccine procurement and outreach (up to 20,000 doses).
More than 60 healthcare facilities with immunization cold chain equipment (vaccine refrigerators) were badly affected during the cyclone. Replacement equipment has been ordered using an Australian Government contribution of AUD 1 million (US$753,000) to support the restoration and improvement of vaccine cold chain. Between 20 and 30 March 2016, a technical expert in solar power cold chain is working with MoHMS officials in healthcare centres in the Northern, Eastern and Western Divisions to assess and map solar power utilization. The consultant will also provide training for cold chain technicians to prepare for the installation of solar powered equipment.

Nutrition assessments for children under 5 in Koro, Batiki, Nairai and Vanuabalavu were completed. The Cluster is monitoring the nutrition situation, including cases of severe and moderate acute malnutrition and issues affecting pregnant and lactating mothers. Nutrition sub-cluster partners are ensuring no supply of formula milk is distributed to health facilities and that efforts are focussed on supporting breastfeeding. As at 17 March, therapeutic milk and therapeutic food to treat approximately 400 children for malnutrition, and Vitamin A for an estimated 40,000 children aged 6 to 59 months have been provided to the MoHMS. UNICEF is also providing technical support to the MoHMS to revise and update information provided to caregivers and health staff on Micronutrient Powder. Distribution of Multiple Micronutrient Powder for 10,000 children is expected to start next week in the islands of Koro and Ovalau. Additionally, UNICEF has provided 750 breastfeeding posters and 50 Infant and Young Child Feeding flipcharts to promote good practices. On 23 March, the NDMO announced the opening of feeding centres for children on Koro Island.

**Safety and Protection (including Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence)**

UNICEF is continuing to work in partnership with the Department of Social Welfare to strengthen Child Protection systems at the community level, to better protect children and prevent Violence, Abuse and Exploitation, including during Emergencies. The technical and financial support for psychosocial activities and related activities are being scaled-up to meet the increased demand in the wake of Cyclone Winston.

As part of its support for psychosocial response, UNICEF and Oceania Football Confederation are expanding the ‘Just Play’ programme to reach 15,000 children. This will promote psychosocial recovery through sports and help children aged 6 to 12 years to learn life skills. In March, 36 Just Play coordinators/volunteers (25 female) were trained in in psychological first aid and will be deployed to most affected areas. The coordinators will engage with local community-based volunteers to conduct mini-festivals of sports events and activities for children.

Refresher training for first respondents in receiving complaints of abuse, violence and exploitation of women and children is planned for Fiji Police Operations Uniform Branch. UNICEF is also supporting the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages Office to provide reissued birth certificates and birth registration free of charge in the worst-affected areas. This will enable affected people to access health, housing and education relief services. UNICEF is supporting the Pacific Disability Forum, in partnership with the Fiji Disabled People’s Federation, which has commenced an assessment of support to persons with disability. Over the next 3 months the needs of 1,000 adults and children (600 female) will be assessed as part of the Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction.

The Child Protection sub-Cluster is working with the Ministry of Education to identify schools that are temporarily enrolling additional students from damaged schools. This information will help to address these children’s needs, such as psychosocial support.

**Communicating with Communities**

UNICEF continues to support the MoHMS in the broadcasting of daily Public Service Announcements (PSAs) on 11 radio stations. The announcements cover issues such as boiling drinking water, food safety, nutrition and breastfeeding, and destroying mosquito breeding sites. An estimated 2,457 PSAs had been broadcast by 20 March, at which point broadcasting has been paused for one week so that messages could be revised to reflect the changing needs of communities.

UNICEF has provided over 40,000 brochures, posters and leaflets, with information on issues such as hand-washing and water purification to the WASH and Education Clusters for dissemination in affected areas. A further 12,800 brochures and posters on issues such as breastfeeding and infant feeding have been provided to the MoHMS. UNICEF is also working with the Health and Nutrition Cluster to produce flyers on micronutrient powders.
for home fortification. UNICEF continues to work with the Government and other members of the inter-cluster Communication with Communities working group to develop and coordinate mechanisms for communicating with communities.

**Supply and Logistics**

As of 22 March, US$1.64 million of UNICEF supplies (including logistics costs) had been provided to the Government of Fiji and are being distributed to the most affected areas. This included US$82,527 of Australian Government supplies donated through UNICEF (excluding logistics) and US$61,993 of New Zealand Government funded UNICEF supplies (including logistics).

UNICEF is supporting the Government to improve tracking systems for the distribution of supplies. This includes the three IMOs placed into the MoHMS and MoEHA. In addition, dedicated supply field monitors are being recruited who will be placed with divisional MoHMS offices.

**Media and External Communication**

UNICEF Regional Goodwill Ambassador Ms. Agnes Chan visited and met with affected children in Rakiraki and Ovalau on 20-21 March. This was Ms. Chan’s first official visit since her appointment as a UNICEF Regional Goodwill Ambassador for the East Asia and Pacific Region. The objective of her visit was to raise awareness and mobilise support from the people of Hong Kong and Japan.

UNICEF is working closely with the UN Communications Partnership Group, Public Information Working Group and the Ministry of Communication and IT to ensure alignment of messaging and joint advocacy where needed. Thirteen communications field missions have been deployed to outer islands and affected areas of Viti Levu. Across all sectors, UNICEF and its partners have provided information with special regard to children and other vulnerable people, on UNICEF social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

**Funding**

The Fiji Flash Appeal: Tropical Cyclone Winston includes US$7.1 million for UNICEF. The Government of Australia has contributed AUD 1.5 million (US$ 1.08 million). The Government of Sweden has contributed SEK 5 million (US$ 586,304). The Government of Canada has contributed US$561,798. The UK contributed through funding of Standby Partners to strengthen UNICEF cluster coordination capacity in the Education, WASH, Safety and Protection clusters, and for technical assistance in maternal and child health and operational areas. The Government of New Zealand confirmed a contribution of NZD 246,165 (US$164,659) through the Disaster Response Partnership for the provision of additional tents. Pre-positioned contingency stock was funded by the Government of New Zealand and the UNICEF global emergency fund. United Nations Central Emergency Response Funds of US$2.4 million have also been received.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appeal Sector</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Funds received*</th>
<th>Funding gap</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>US$</td>
<td>US$</td>
<td>US$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>2,284,000</td>
<td>1,311,309</td>
<td>972,691</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>2,714,585</td>
<td>1,689,742</td>
<td>1,024,843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>1,148,019</td>
<td>1,094,530</td>
<td>53,489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>308,880</td>
<td>168,630</td>
<td>140,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Protection</td>
<td>415,800</td>
<td>385,857</td>
<td>29,943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cluster Coordination</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>194,195</td>
<td>5,805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,071,284</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,844,263</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,227,021</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*‘Funds received’ does not include pledges.
Next UNICEF Situation Report: 30 March 2016

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