

Pacific Islands Consolidated Emergency Report 2018



Adolescent girls displaced from Ambae island in Vanuatu provided with their water bottles and hygiene kits in a temporary learning space in Maewo. ©UNICEF Pacific/Olul/2018

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UNICEF Pacific

March 2019

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Contents

A. Abbreviations and Acronyms.....	3
B. Executive Summary	4
C. Humanitarian Context.....	5
a. Kiribati ferry disaster (18 January 2018)	7
b. TC Gita in Tonga (12–13 February 2018)	7
c. Meningococcal infection outbreak in Fiji (20 March 2018)	8
d. TC Josie and TC Keni in Fiji (March–April 2018)	9
e. Manaro Voui Volcano eruption in Vanuatu (April–November 2018)	9
f. Results achieved in relation to World Humanitarian Summit and Grand Bargain Commitments	11
g. Cluster/Sector leadership	12
h. Case study: Designing WASH in School Kits, including menstrual hygiene management, for emergencies	12
E. Results Achieved from Humanitarian Thematic Funding	16
Case study: Support to “Get Ready: Disasters Happen” communication package.....	18
F. Assessment, Monitoring and Evaluation	20
G. Financial Analysis.....	21
Table 1: Funding status against the appeal by sector	21
Table 2: Funding received and available by donor and funding type	21
Table 3: Thematic Humanitarian Contributions Received in 2018	22
H. Future Workplan.....	23

A. Abbreviations and Acronyms

BSRP	Building Safety and Resilience in the Pacific
C4D	communication for development
CHF	Common Humanitarian Fund
COM	Council of Ministers (Vanuatu)
CSO	civil society organization
DOWR	Department of Water Resources (Vanuatu)
DWSSP	drinking water safety and security planning
ECCE	early childhood care and education
ECD	early childhood development
GRDH	Get Ready: Disasters Happen
IDP	internally displaced persons
ICG	International Coordinating Group
Men-C	meningococcal C-containing
MHM	menstrual hygiene management
MOEHA	Ministry of Education, Heritage and Arts (Fiji)
MOET	Ministry of Education and Training (Tonga and Vanuatu)
MOH	Ministry of Health (Tonga and Vanuatu)
MOHMS	Ministry of Health and Medical Services (Fiji)
MOIA	Ministry of Internal Affairs (Tonga)
NDMO	National Disaster Management Office (Fiji and Vanuatu)
NGO	non-governmental organization
PHT	Pacific Humanitarian Team
PICT	Pacific Island Country and Territory
PSS	psychosocial support
SIB	school-in-a-box
SPC	Pacific Community
TC	Tropical Cyclone
TLS	temporary learning spaces
USD	US dollar
UN	United Nations
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WASH	water, sanitation and hygiene
WHO	World Health Organization
WinS	WASH in Schools
WinSie	WinS in Emergencies

B. Executive Summary

UNICEF Pacific responded in 2018 to five emergency events in four Pacific Island Countries, including two hydro-meteorological emergencies, one geological, one disease outbreak and one ferry accident. Two of these events happened in Fiji and emergencies also occurred in Vanuatu, Tonga and Kiribati. None of these emergencies were part of the Humanitarian Action for Children appeal nor did any necessitate inter-agency appeals. From a global point of view, these events were considered small- or medium-scale primarily because of the relatively small size of the population affected. However, in the national context, these events were devastating because of the high proportion of total population affected, the narrow and fragile economic bases of the countries where they occurred and the cumulative impact of frequent small-scale emergencies. Tropical Cyclone (TC) Gita in Tonga, for example, affected 79,000 people, which is about 79 per cent of Tonga's total population.

UNICEF's response to all these emergencies was integrated into Government plans through all relevant ministries and clusters. UNICEF provided funding and material support for critical activities as well as technical advice in the assessment, planning and implementation of humanitarian responses related to WASH, education, health and nutrition and child protection, where appropriate. The UNICEF Pacific response team was composed of the emergency unit and emergency focal points from each section. Efforts to pre-position emergency supplies and build the capacities of Government cluster leads were crucial to ensuring UNICEF could swiftly launch its immediate response to these disaster events.

UNICEF 2018–2022 Multi-Country Programme for the Pacific mainstreams disaster and climate risk management across all sectors. Building resilient systems and strengthening the disaster risk reduction capacities of Governments and communities are integral to UNICEF Pacific's development programming. Humanitarian thematic funding supported some of these initiatives in 2018, including the pre-positioning of emergency supplies, strengthening cluster coordination at the national level, production of communication tools for key messaging to communities and development of practical guidelines for community resilience. Humanitarian thematic funding also allowed UNICEF to immediately respond to all requests for humanitarian assistance by Governments while contributions from the New Zealand Committee for UNICEF and the Republic of Korea enabled UNICEF Pacific to level up critical interventions.

C. Humanitarian Context

The Pacific region averaged about three major disasters a year in the past decade¹ and even more disasters than average struck the region in 2018. A ferry disaster in Kiribati on 18 January 2018 claimed the lives of 81 people, including 22 school children. A few weeks later, on 12 February 2018, category 4 TC Gita slammed into the capital city of Nuku'alofa in the Kingdom of Tonga. It was the strongest and most destructive storm to hit the Kingdom in 60 years. On 20 March 2018, Fiji's Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MOHMS) declared a meningococcal disease outbreak following the emergence of cases on four of the country's islands. Fiji also had to contend with severe flooding in late March and April 2018 triggered by two serious tropical storms that struck over a period of 10 days – TC Josie and TC Keni. Finally, repeated Manaro Voui Volcano eruptions forced the Vanuatu Government to order in April 2018 the mandatory evacuation of all Ambae Island residents to nearby islands. Damage from a 7.6-magnitude earthquake that occurred in December 2018 near southern Vanuatu's Aneityum Island was initially feared to have generated a powerful tsunami but caused only minor damage.

The loss of 81 lives, including 22 school children who were on their way to start a new school term, on a ferry that sunk in January 2018 devastated Kiribati, a nation of about 114,000 people. Authorities did not realize the ferry was missing until a week after its departure from the atoll of Nonouti, which has 2,000 inhabitants, on what is normally a routine two-day 260-kilometre trip to the capital city of Tarawa. An international search for survivors was launched and seven survivors rescued, among them a 14-year old girl who was found adrift on a dinghy. The Government established a commission of inquiry to review the disaster but has not made public its findings. Early media reports suggested that the ferry was not seaworthy and overloaded.

TC Gita initially affected Fiji as a tropical depression and then gathered strength as it neared Samoa before slamming into Tongatapu and Eua group of islands in Tonga as a category 4 cyclone. An estimated 79,556 people² (about 39,619 females and 39,937 males), or 79 per cent of the country's total population, were directly affected by the TC Gita, which destroyed 819 houses and damaged 3,889 necessitating the evacuation of more than 4,500 residents to evacuation centres. The health, nutrition and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) cluster estimated that support was required to provide access to clean water for 45 per cent of the affected population and sanitation for 25 per cent.

Approximately 40 per cent or 31,882 of the affected populace were children, including an estimated 15,887 girls and 15,995 boys. TC Gita affected the education of some 25,000 learners after destroying or damaging 109 schools, including 28 early childhood care and education (ECCE) centres, 53 primary schools, 20 secondary schools, three schools that offered ECCE, primary and secondary classes and 5 tertiary schools. The safety and protection cluster under the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MOIA) noted that a significant number of children were likely in need of psychosocial support (PSS) after witnessing TC Gita's destruction that completely disrupted their lives. The Pacific Humanitarian Team (PHT) responded to a request of the Kingdom of Tonga for humanitarian assistance. The response to the TC Gita emergency was in the recovery phase as of the end of the reporting period.

The Fiji MOHMS declared a meningococcal infection outbreak on 20 March 2018 following four deaths reported from 24 confirmed and nine suspected cases of meningococcaemia

¹ Pacific Humanitarian Team, *The Pacific Humanitarian Team: From Commitment to Action*, PHT, Suva, Fiji, September 2018, https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/PHT_220917_1_to_print.pdf, accessed 5 March 2019.

² Kingdom of Tonga, 'Tropical Cyclone Gita Immediate Response Plan: Collaborative efforts of the National Emergency Management Committee (NEMC) and partners', Kingdom of Tonga, 23 February 2018, https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/tc_gita_immediate_response_plan.pdf, accessed 5 March 2019.

during the first 12 weeks of 2018. From 1 January–21 October 2018, 35 laboratory-confirmed meningococcaemia cases were recorded, 36 cases were suspected and 10 probable cases were reported.³ More than 90 per cent of the reported cases affected children and young people under 19 years of age and 38 per cent affected children younger than 5 years. The infection rate was highest in the Northern Division at 14.8 cases per 100,000 people followed by the Central Division at 9.4 cases per 100,000. Cases were also recorded in the Western and Eastern Divisions. The MOHMS launched on 20 May 2018 a nationwide meningococcal vaccination campaign to prevent the spread of the infection that targeted all children and young people aged 1–19 years. The vaccination drive effectively slowed the spread of meningococcaemia as only 8 confirmed and 20 suspected cases were recorded in the 16-week period after the launch of the immunization campaign compared with 29 confirmed and 12 suspected cases recorded in the 16-week period prior to the start of the campaign. No new cases were recorded from the third week of September until the end of the reporting period in the second week of October 2018.

TC Josie was a relatively weak category 1 cyclone that didn't make landfall in Fiji but passed near the country's largest and most populated island of Viti Levu from 31 March–1 April 2018. Heavy rainfall from the storm inundated most of the western and northern parts of Viti Levu. TC Josie was followed 10 days later by the much stronger TC Keni, which followed the same basic path as TC Josie but made landfall as a category 3 cyclone on Kadavu Island destroying 119 houses and damaging 449 others, affecting 2,147 families.⁴ More than 30,000 families were affected by widespread flooding caused by TC Josie on Viti Levu. The agriculture sector was the most severely impacted because of damage to crops. No structural damage to schools or medical facilities was reported. An initial damage assessment made by the Ministry of Education, Heritage and Arts (MOEHA) indicated that 30 of Kadavu Island's 34 schools had sustained damages. No international appeal for assistance was issued but the Fiji Government requested specific support such as WASH supplies for the MOHMS and school tents for the MOEHA.

Six months after residents of Ambae Island returned to their homes after having to evacuate following a minor eruption of Manaro Voui Volcano in September 2017 they were forced to evacuate a second time when volcanic activity escalated anew. The Council of Ministers (COM) of Vanuatu declared a state of emergency on Ambae Island for three months starting on 13 April 2018, ordering the immediate and compulsory evacuation of all residents of Ambae Island to nearby Maewo Island. The emergency declaration subsequently was reinstated twice during the reporting period. The COM confirmed that the Government would continue to provide emergency assistance to Ambae Island evacuees who had relocated on Santo and Maewo Islands and made available approximately US\$1.77 million to support their immediate needs. Based on the registration of Ambae Island evacuees between August to September 2018, 6,438 individuals (1,712 households) had relocated to Santo Island while 2,662 individuals (780 households) resettled on Maewo Island. Some 1,253 children (639 boys and 614 girls) made up 47 per cent of Ambae Island evacuees on Maewo Island.⁵ Ambae Island residents evacuated to 65 displacement sites on Santo Island located in and around the provincial capital city of Luganville, while 39 communities hosted evacuees on Maewo Island. The Government envisaged the development of Maewo Island as a safe and secure site for the permanent resettlement or a second home for Ambae Island residents affected by the volcanic activity. Land negotiations were conducted with Maewo Island village chiefs for the free use of land for food production and shelter in five identified sites.

The Vanuatu National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) led a composite team to assess the situation on Ambae Island after the state of emergency lapsed late in November 2018.

³ Fiji Ministry of Health and Medical Services data.

⁴ National Emergency Operation Center (Fiji), 'Tropical Cyclone Keni Situation Report No. 19 of 13 April 2018'.

⁵ Government of the Republic of Vanuatu NDMO, 'NEOC Situation Update Nos. 19–21, 24–31 August 2018'.

The assessment team's report cleared the return of residents to and revitalization of Ambae Island. The COM approved the restoration of basic government services and utilities for health, education, telecommunications, water, airports and banking. Ambae Island residents have since started to return to their communities.

D. Humanitarian Results

a. Kiribati ferry disaster (18 January 2018)

For a small and closely-knit country like Kiribati, which has an estimated population of 114,000, the ferry disaster in January 2018 that claimed 81 lives, including 23 children, was a serious national tragedy. Particularly devastated was the Nonouti Island community and its estimated population of 2,000, where most of the victims resided. UNICEF supported the Ministry of Women, Youth, and Social Affairs in extending PSS and grief counselling to the affected communities. UNICEF sent a child protection specialist to deliver a refresher training course on PSS to a group of counsellors and provided recreation kits for PSS activities. Individual PSS was provided to 33 families, including 58 children (32 females), who lost loved ones while community gatherings held in 12 villages were attended by 436 adults, including 167 women. PSS activities were also conducted for 89 students (50 females) in the primary school where most of the children victims were enrolled.

b. TC Gita in Tonga (12–13 February 2018)

TC Gita devastated the two islands of Tongatapu and Eua in the Kingdom of Tonga, where an estimated 108,000 reside accounting for nearly 80 per cent of Tonga's total population. The capital city of Nuku'alofa is located on Tongatapu Island. Following a Government of Tonga request for UN support through the PHT, UNICEF Pacific immediately deployed a composite team of programme and logistics staff members to coordinate with and assist the Government in its emergency response to TC Gita.

Through an existing partnership with Oxfam New Zealand and deployment of a WASH specialist, the UNICEF Pacific WASH section provided technical support to the Ministry of Health (MOH) – the Tonga Health, Nutrition and WASH Cluster lead – in their rapid assessment, information management, cluster coordination and in development of the Government's emergency response plan.

WASH supplies mobilized for the response benefited 1,100 households and 5,500 individuals. The supplies included 10-litre collapsible containers, tarpaulins, collapsible water tanks, purification tablets and chlorine testers.

UNICEF also provided technical assistance to Tonga's MOET required to organize and coordinate the Tonga Education Cluster. UNICEF introduced the use of computer tablet software for the collection of field data for the damage and needs assessment. The timely collection of data, in turn, ensured timely development of a response plan based on accurate and updated data. A contribution from the New Zealand Committee for UNICEF boosted the emergency response related to meeting immediate educational needs through the procurement of school tents to establish temporary learning spaces (and teaching materials. These materials reached 11,725 school children (5,745 girls) and enabled the resumption of classes within two weeks of the storm hitting.

Results of these interventions are summarized in the accompanying table.

Indicators	Cluster Target ⁶	UNICEF Results
Education		
Number of children accommodated in temporary learning spaces (TLS)	4,590 (includes students to be relocated during reconstruction)	1,700 (students accommodated in TLS 2 weeks after TC Gita)
Number of children with access to teaching-learning materials	11,000 (5,390 girls)	11,725 (5,745 girls)
WASH		
Number of people directly affected by the cyclone provided with access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene facilities	59,667 people	5,500 (2,695 females) benefited from WASH supplies; 25,000 (12,250 females) provided with appropriate hygiene awareness

A child protection specialist assisted the MOIA in providing leadership support to the Tonga Safety and Protection Cluster. UNICEF supported the MOIA in establishing child-friendly spaces in 22 affected villages, where PSS was provided to 573 children (290 girls), including one child with a disability. Nine families with members suffering from more profound psychosocial distress were referred to mental health services for more intensive support. Sessions to increase awareness on psychosocial and mental health issues were conducted in communities that were attended by 212 youth aged 18–24 years (108 females) and 324 adults (216 females).

Through the FRANZ Arrangement, UNICEF delivered to Tonga five days after the Government requested assistance emergency supplies that had been pre-positioned in Fiji were. The FRANZ Arrangement is a tripartite agreement between France, Australia and New Zealand to coordinate relief assistance in the Pacific region when requested by partner countries. The UNICEF supplies were delivered by a Royal New Zealand Air Force cargo plane and a French Navy vessel. This successful collaboration sparked a subsequent UN discussion to develop a similar institutional arrangement with the PHT.

c. Meningococcal infection outbreak in Fiji (20 March 2018)

The Fiji Government declared a meningococcaemia infection outbreak in February 2018 and planned to launch a massive vaccination campaign targeting those aged 1–19 years to control the outbreak. Carrying out the campaign required a significant volume of vaccines and the provision of those vaccines was a daunting challenge. Due to global supply constraints, most commercially-available meningococcal C-containing (men-C) vaccine had been allocated to an outbreak stockpile managed by the International Coordinating Group (ICG). UNICEF, together with World Health Organization (WHO), provided technical support to Fiji MOHMS in the submission of its application to the ICG for the vaccines, which was subsequently approved. An initial 124,830 doses of men-C vaccine with injection equipment were secured through this mechanism. UNICEF helped secure an additional 200,000 doses of men-C vaccine through the Vaccine Independence Initiative mechanism. Vaccine costs were covered by the Government of Fiji. UNICEF provided support related to procurement and logistics processes.

Moreover, UNICEF provided technical support to MOHMS before and during the campaign related to planning, supply chain management and communications. A communication package was developed to support MOHMS prevention efforts against men-C and other types of meningococcal diseases. Around 300,000 children aged 1–19 years were

⁶ UNICEF adopted Government cluster targets from Tonga's Ministry of Education and Training 6 March 2018 TC Gita Education Cluster Response Plan and the Ministry of Health's 22 February 2018 TC Gita Health, Nutrition and WASH Cluster Response Plan.

vaccinated during the men-C campaign, which resulted in a coverage rate of around 90 per cent. The campaign was highly successful as no new meningococcaemia infection cases had been recorded after the third week of September 2018.

d. TC Josie and TC Keni in Fiji (March–April 2018)

Category 1 TC Josie and category 3 TC Keni struck Fiji over a period of 10 days in March and April 2018 that followed the same basic path grazing the islands of Kadavu and Ovalau. Eighteen of 71 ECCE, primary and secondary schools on the two islands were damaged by the cyclones, affecting 3,020 learners (1,455 girls and 1,565 boys) and 254 teachers. UNICEF provided the MOEHA with 39 tents to set up as temporary classrooms for some 1,764 students (829 girls and 935 boys) in the damaged schools. The provision of the education in emergency supplies enabled the affected schools to resume classes as scheduled for the second term thereby preventing the loss of school days of students.

UNICEF responded to a request from the MOHMS for WASH support by providing supplies that included family WASH and dignity kits, 10-litre collapsible containers, purification tablets, tarpaulins and collapsible water tanks for storage and trucking. In addition, some 16,000 leaflets and brochures were provided to support MOHMS hygiene promotion activities in affected areas. A total of 8,546 people (4,708 males and 3,838 females) from 73 affected villages benefited from these supplies.

e. Manaro Voui Volcano eruption in Vanuatu (April–November 2018)

UNICEF applied a flexible and adaptable humanitarian approach to the Manaro Voui Volcano emergency response because of the fluidity of the situation and shifting Government priorities. When the residents of Ambae Island were repatriated back to the island on October 2017, UNICEF support was focused on rehabilitating essential facilities in the communities, including cleaning up and repairing water collection tanks and learning centres. However, when the volcanic activity escalated a few months later, prompting the Government to order the compulsory evacuation of all residents, these rehabilitation activities were suspended and response activities shifted to supporting Ambae Island residents in evacuation centres who had primarily relocated to the nearby islands of Santo and Maewo. The Government envisaged the establishment of “second homes” or permanent relocation sites on Maewo Island and mobilized its national clusters to establish or improve basic services in this area. The termination of the Government state of emergency in November 2018 allowed the return of residents to Ambae Island and reinvigoration of services on the island. The focus of the emergency response subsequently shifted back to the island. UNICEF’s response targeted the following three areas during the reporting period: communities on Ambae Island; evacuation centres on Santo Island; and, resettlement sites on Maewo Island.

UNICEF provided support to the Government to lead and coordinate education, health and gender and protection clusters and particularly the WASH cluster, which is co-led by UNICEF and the Vanuatu Department of Water Resources (DOWR). UNICEF provided technical support for various assessments, helped the clusters develop emergency responses and recovery plans and provided funds and supplies required for critical interventions.

UNICEF support to the DOWR enabled it to deploy personnel on the ground to initiate and coordinate emergency response actions. UNICEF WASH and dignity kits were distributed by the WASH cluster to some 2,625 households on Ambae Island, including 36 families that included persons identified with disabilities. These kits were vital to meeting the immediate needs of families who endured multiple displacements over a period of a few months. When residents were repatriated back to Ambae Island in October 2017, the WASH-related emergency response was initially geared towards rehabilitating water systems and

improving sanitary facilities in the most severely-affected communities of Ambae Island. The WASH cluster completed an assessment and design of six gravity-fed systems on Ambae Island and was set to conduct drinking water safety and security planning (DWSSP) and install first flush systems in 29 villages when volcanic activity forced a second mass evacuation. All WASH projects were suspended and humanitarian assistance and support redirected to meet the needs of those displaced on Maewo and Santo Islands.

Through UNICEF's assistance, the WASH cluster constructed 250 ventilated improved pit latrines at evacuation sites on Santo and Maewo Islands, which provided access for some 8,136 internally displaced persons (IDP) to sanitary latrines (3,987 females and 4,149 males). UNICEF provided soap for handwashing stations that were installed and supported hygiene awareness sessions that were conducted by the WASH cluster in all evacuation centres. On Maewo Island, UNICEF supported a WASH assessment of affected communities that included schools and health facilities. Quick fixes were made to 16 existing direct gravity-fed community water systems near relocation sites and new water systems were designed at two relocation sites that initially were intended to be developed as "second home" relocation sites for displaced Ambae Island residents. The water systems in three health care facilities on Maewo Island were improved, including the installation of rainwater harvesting systems. These water systems benefited some 6,139 people (3,008 females and 3,131 males), including residents of host communities and Ambae Island evacuees.

Funding contributions for the Ambae Island volcanic emergency allowed UNICEF to initiate WASH in Schools (WinS) activities at evacuation centres. UNICEF Pacific's WASH team developed WinS in Emergencies (WinSiE) kits that were distributed to 51 ECCE centres and primary schools along with delivery of handwashing awareness-raising sessions. Some of the WinSiE kits contained menstrual hygiene management supplies that reached 1,020 adolescent girls and female teachers in schools on Maewo and Santo Islands that hosted displaced Ambae Island students.

UNICEF provided 35 tents for use as TLS on Maewo Island, which were erected with support from Vanuatu Red Cross Society volunteers and officers from Vanuatu Mobile Force. Fifteen tents were used by secondary school students, 19 by primary school students and one by ECCE learners, which allowed 2,760 (1,352 girls and 1,408 boys) children and youth to resume schooling. UNICEF also supplied these TLS with school-in-a-box kits, recreation kits, bars of handwashing soap, school bags and early childhood development (ECD) kits.

The evacuation of Ambae Island residents to Maewo Island doubled the population of the host islands, which necessitated increases in capacity and supplies at health facilities to adequately meet increased demand for health services. Six health centres and dispensaries on Maewo Island were provided with essential health and nutrition supplies and equipment including nebulizers, baby dressing and equipment tables, mid-upper arm circumference measuring tape, weighing scales, height measuring boards, and vitamin A, among other items. These supplies allowed health personnel to conduct nutritional screening of 436 children under the age of 5 years on Maewo Island. Six children were found to be moderately acute malnourished and subsequently were treated by MOH staff.

UNICEF supported the Ministry of Justice and Community Services related to coordinating the gender and protection cluster and provided technical guidance, funds and supplies for some of its activities. One such activity was the training and deployment of 34 (18 males and 16 females) youth volunteers who helped vulnerable groups during their evacuation and relocation to evacuation centres. These volunteers provided orientation on child protection to 84 community leaders (36 females) including church, women and youth leaders and teachers. PSS activities were conducted in 36 affected communities, reaching 1,299 people including 709 adults (352 females) and 509 children (282 females) as well as 43 people with disabilities, including nine children.

Another gender and protection cluster activity that UNICEF supported was the provision of mobile registration services for Ambae Island residents. Mobile teams issued at evacuation centres identification cards to all displaced Ambae Island residents and made available birth registration services. Some 7,638 identification cards were issued, including for 3,540 children (1,700 girls and 1,840 boys). The identification cards helped track the movements of IDPs and facilitated the provision of appropriately targeted social services.

f. Results achieved in relation to World Humanitarian Summit and Grand Bargain Commitments

Humanitarian cash-based transfers: UNICEF Pacific has not been involved in cash-based transfers but is building its programming capacities to include cash-based transfers as an additional tool for humanitarian response. Preparedness actions are being pursued in selected countries that are consistent with its policy, evidence and social protection programme. UNICEF Pacific is an active member of the PHT's Pacific Cash Working Group that seeks to strengthen collaboration on cash-based initiatives in disaster response and preparedness.

Community engagement, two-way communications and/or feedback and complaint: UNICEF has initiated engagements with NDMOs in Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Kiribati to establish community feedback mechanisms for preparedness and response using RapidPro, a free and open-source framework designed to send and receive data using basic mobile phones, manage complex workflows, automate analysis and present data in real-time. These were the Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) that initially expressed interest in using this innovative framework to send and receive information on the ground for disaster management purposes.

Localization and working with first responders: Humanitarian assistance is always provided by UNICEF to the PICTs in support of emergency responses by national authorities. UNICEF's response plans contribute to Government-led cluster response plans that are integral to overall Government emergency response plans. While government ministries have been the primary implementing partners in development and humanitarian situations, UNICEF has also collaborated with international and local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) based in these countries. Thus, UNICEF's delivery of humanitarian assistance in the Pacific region has always been localized.

With humanitarian thematic funding support, below are some efforts that have contributed to longer term resilience, shrinking humanitarian needs over the long term through increased prevention, mitigation and preparedness that connect to development outcomes:

- In Fiji, the UNICEF WASH team facilitated a first-ever National WASH Summit that brought together all WASH government and NGO/civil society organization (CSO) stakeholders to finalize the national policy, develop a sectoral implementation plan and achieve consensus on the formulation of a national steering committee. The Summit brought together 11 Government ministries and seven NGOs/CSOs and donors.
- In Vanuatu, the response to localized emergencies revealed a need to strengthen the capacities of communities to manage water resources. Hence, UNICEF provided support to deliver training on cluster coordination and improve water information management at the provincial level. The training focused mainly on the introduction of an existing coordination framework, development of relevant operational documents and defining the specific roles and responsibilities of key national and provincial agencies and focal persons. The training was delivered to the Vanuatu DOWR in Shefa, Tafea, Torba, Malampa, and Sanma Provinces.

- The UNICEF Pacific WASH team developed best practice documents for WASH in emergencies and WASH resilience. These documents build on lessons learned and existing best practices in the region, inform preparedness and planning and integrate climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction into WASH programming. These documents include the Pacific WASH Resilience Guidelines and Pacific WASH in Emergencies Coordination Handbook.

g. Cluster/Sector leadership

UNICEF is an active member of the PHT, which is a network of humanitarian organizations in the Pacific that is co-led by the UN resident coordinator and the head of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. UNICEF leads the PHT regional cluster for WASH and co-leads the education cluster with Save the Children and the health and nutrition cluster with the WHO. UNICEF is also active on the PHT gender and protection cluster and working groups for communicating with communities and humanitarian cash transfers.

At the country level, national authorities are responsible for leading clusters or committees, the configuration of which may differ from global architecture and from country to country. UNICEF provides cluster leadership support to various ministries related to WASH, education, health and nutrition and protection.

Support provided for cluster coordination on an ongoing basis, including during non-emergency times and as part of development efforts is a significant factor in effective emergency response. The provision of this support provides an opportunity to build the capacity of Governments to coordinate emergency responses and develop information management systems required to create vital “who is doing what, where and when” organograms and maps. Partnerships that have been forged with international NGOs to provide ongoing cluster support in PICTs without a UNICEF presence have proven effective as well, as was the case in support provided by Oxfam to the WASH cluster in Tonga, which ensured critical emergency preparedness and response support was available as needed and led to the emergence of a sustainable network of WASH in emergencies practitioners in the country.

h. Case study: Designing WASH in School Kits, including menstrual hygiene management, for emergencies

Top level results: Following successive mass evacuations of Ambae Island triggered by volcanic activity, UNICEF supported the MOET in designing and distributing WinS kits and delivering interactive hygiene promotion activities to displaced and host students and teachers. A local microenterprise, Mamma's Laef, was contracted by the MOET to distribute the WinS kits, which benefited 4,468 students (2,230 girls), and deliver menstrual hygiene management (MHM) education sessions to 60 female teachers and 673 adolescents (337 girls). UNICEF's support for the emergency WASH activities was provided through humanitarian thematic funding, funds from the New Zealand National Committee for UNICEF and Republic of Korea, and a partnership with Colgate Foundation, which donated items.



Volunteers unload WinS kits on Vanuatu's Maewo Island. © UNICEF Pacific/ 2018/ Shanks.

Issue/Background: Unstable volcanic activity on Vanuatu's Ambae Island in late 2017 and throughout 2018 resulted in the evacuation of the Island's more than 11,000 inhabitants. The evacuation included 796 secondary students from eight schools; 2,090 primary students from 28 schools; and approximately 900 students from over 45 ECCE centres. ECCE and primary students relocated with their families to Maewo or Santo Islands to establish a temporary or permanent second home while most secondary school students evacuated with their boarding school communities, staying in tents provided by UNICEF at host schools. UNICEF worked with the MOET and other education cluster partners, including Save the Children, to ensure continuity of educational services throughout the ongoing evacuation, repatriation and resettlement activities.



Marise from Mamma's Laef delivers an MHM session to Ambae Island girls displaced to Bombua school on Santo Island. © UNICEF Pacific/ 2018/Olul.

The MOET requested UNICEF's support to ensure children not only had safe access to WASH in their schools, but also the supplies and knowledge required to effectively use WASH facilities.

Resources required/allocated: Since none of the hygiene kits that had been pre-positioned in Vanuatu by UNICEF and partners were specifically designed for school students, UNICEF worked with Government partners to define student WASH needs and subsequently assemble WinS kits that included the items listed in the accompanying table. To address the hygiene needs of females, one set of reusable sanitary pads was included for each adolescent girl and female teacher.

Given the preference in Vanuatu for cost-saving reusable sanitary pads, the MOET and UNICEF agreed to include 5 pads and 2 reusable inserts in each WinS kit. International MHM research suggests menstrual supplies can include individual buckets, underwear, flashlight, laundry detergent, clothespins, storage bag, toilet paper and instructions. However, funds were not available to include all these items in the locally-assembled WinS kits.

Items included in WinS kits		
Item	Recipient	Quantity
Aluminium drinking bottle	Students & teachers	1 per person
Reusable sanitary pad	Adolescent girls & female teachers	1 set per person
Soap bar	Students & teachers	1 per person
	School	# students
Bucket with tap & lid (for handwashing)	Class	1 per class
	School	2 per school
Toothpaste & toothbrush	Students & teachers	1 set per person
Handwashing poster (MOH)	Class	2 per class
2019 WASH Calendar	Class	1 per class
50l storage container	School	1 per 50 students

The following funds were provided to support the assembly and distribution of locally designed WinS in emergency kits: US\$30,000 from the humanitarian thematic funds, US\$22,500 from the contribution of New Zealand Committee for UNICEF and US\$6,200 from the contribution of the Republic of Korea. Colgate Foundation donated items in kind like sets of toothbrush and toothpaste.

Progress and results: To ensure students could wash their hands, drink water, brush their teeth and manage menstruation, UNICEF and MOET agreed to distribute WinS kits to students. To ensure all recipients of WinS kits items understood how to use them safely and appropriately, the MOET arranged to deliver education sessions with WinS kit distribution. MOET partnered with a private sector gender-focused microenterprise – Mamma’s Laef – to support the distribution of WinS kits to schools and lead MHM education sessions for female teachers and adolescent boys and girls. Mamma’s Laef comprises a small group of women and men in a village just outside Port Vila that makes and sells reusable sanitary kits and had previously been trained by Days for Girls International⁷ to deliver MHM education to both girls and boys. Mamma’s Laef provided in 2016 MHM solutions and education to adolescent girls and women in Tanna as part of the TC Pam recovery effort via a UNICEF partnership with CARE International.⁸ The group’s proven and unique set of skills and services therefore made ideally suited to support emergency WASH response activities for those affected by volcanic activity on Ambae Island.

A team of four women and one man from Mamma’s Laef staff led MHM and reproductive health awareness and education discussions that included how to use reusable menstrual hygiene napkins included in the WinS kits along with structured conversations with both boys and girls on MHM and reproductive health. A male Mamma’s Laef team member delivered “Men Who Know” sessions to adolescent boys on Maewo Island. The Mamma’s Laef team trained MOET provincial staff members to deliver the sessions to girls. One school improvement officer was so impressed with the session that he learned how to run the sessions and replicated the activity on Santo Island. The distribution of WinS kits was included interactive games and activities to encourage healthy handwashing habits and the use of improved methods to keep drinking water safe. To encourage equity, items were distributed to displaced people as well as the host communities.

With humanitarian thematic funding, funds from the New Zealand Committee for UNICEF and Republic of Korea, and a partnership with Colgate Foundation, the following results were achieved.

- 4,468 students received WinS kit supplies, including 1,146 and 1,107 displaced girls and boys, respectively, and 1,084 and 1,131 host girls and boys, respectively on Santo and Maewo Islands.
- 337 girls participated in MHM education and awareness discussions led by a Mamma’s Laef team.
- 336 boys participated in “Men Who Know” MHM and reproductive health discussions led by a Mamma’s Laef male facilitator.
- 1,000 adolescent girls and female teachers received MHM supplies as part of the Ambae Island emergency WASH response activity.

The WinS kits were designed to meet WASH and menstrual hygiene needs identified in a survey carried out in 2016 by CARE International on a southern island in Vanuatu that found 94% of adolescent female students continued to regularly use the distributed reusable kits (fabricated by Mamma’s Laef with 6 pads), with 78% finding them easy to wash and 84% finding them sufficiently thick.

⁷ [Days for Girls](https://www.daysforgirls.org/) is an international non-government organization dedicated to providing quality menstrual care solutions, health education, and income generation opportunities.

⁸ For more information, a short film *Nomo Fraet* produced by CARE International, with support from UNICEF and the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, to investigate how Menstrual Hygiene Management is helping girls stay in school in Vanuatu is available at: <https://www.sista.com.vu/nomo-fraet-short-film-by-care-international/>.

Research conducted by Mamma's Laef during the Ambae response distributions and education session found that:

- 92 per cent of adolescent girls surveyed expressed a preference for reusable sanitary pads over other materials even though only 15 per cent regularly used them compared with 62 per cent of girls who used disposable sanitary napkins and 23 per cent used pieces of cloth or napkins. The girls who were surveyed stated they preferred reusable washable sanitary napkins because they were reusable and long-lasting and therefore cheaper over the long term than disposable menstrual hygiene products.
- 69 per cent of recipients claimed that soap was difficult to access under normal circumstances and 54 per cent said soap was even more difficult to access during an emergency.
- 55 per cent of girls surveyed staying home (or in their dorm room) at least one day during menstruation.
- 54 per cent of survey respondents stated soap, washing bucket and spare underwear were the most commonly needed MHM support supplies.
- Girls who were surveyed reported missing an average of 1.44 school days because of menstruation.

Discussions with students, teachers and Mamma's Laef staff following distribution found the WinS kits had been well-received. Students found the items helpful and requested that items be distributed again in the future. Of all items distributed, the buckets, reusable menstrual hygiene napkins, and aluminium drinking bottles were most liked by recipients.

Criticality and value addition: The assembly of WASH in School kits that include menstrual hygiene management is a local initiative owned by the government that taps into local partners and uses locally-procured materials. Hence, the initiative not only addressed the needs of WASH in schools, especially of adolescent girls, but it built a partnership between the government, civil society organizations and UNICEF that also helped the local economy. UNICEF has no such kit available yet in its supply catalogue and this may inspire to develop a standard kit for global use. The inclusion of menstrual hygiene set preceded the new WASH kit which now also contains MHM items.

Challenges and lessons learned: Transport of personnel and supplies is a challenge in the Pacific because of the vast distances separating countries and islands; limited sea and airport capacity; and irregularity and affordability of transport services. Logistical capacity is weak in most PICTs and support is required for Governments to effect timely movement of resources. Many of the items required to assemble the WinS kit were available in Port Vila, Vanuatu's capital city, but supplies of these items were limited and prices were high. For example, a set of locally-sewn reusable menstrual hygiene napkins cost US\$15–\$20 compared with sets produced overseas that cost as little as US\$4, including shipping. The disadvantage of procuring reusable menstrual hygiene napkins from overseas is they take up to six months to arrive once ordered due to lengthy supplier and shipping lead times and customs clearance procedures.

Even several months into the prolonged emergency response, limited time was available for meaningful discussions during the distribution of the WinS kits and the settings for these discussions were not always conducive to discussions because the logistics of distribution took priority.

MHM is a sensitive and personal topic about which some feel uncomfortable talking. This ought to be considered in the design of educational sessions on MHM and adequate time allocated for meaningful discussions on the topic. During the delivery of MHM educational sessions for this intervention, facilitators did not have enough time to answer all the questions posed by participants.

Moving forward: The WinS kits and the hygiene promotion sessions, including on MHM, have been integrated as components of the regular WinS development programme of UNICEF with the MOET. More work needs to be done to determine which educational sessions are most appropriate to deliver the menstrual material distribution and hygiene promotion.

E. Results Achieved from Humanitarian Thematic Funding

From a global perspective, most of the emergency events in the 14 PICTs that UNICEF Pacific serves are considered small- or medium-scale, mainly because of the relatively small size of the population affected by the emergencies that occur in these countries. Most of these events garner scarce coverage by the international media and are barely noticed by the most generous donor nations. However, these events can be devastating at the national level when a range of factors are considered such as the proportion of total population affected, the narrow and fragile economic bases of the PICTs and the cumulative impact of frequent small-scale emergencies.

Since its mandate is to ensure that “no child is left behind,” UNICEF is duty bound to work with Governments and humanitarian partners in the provision of humanitarian aid to those who need them and especially to children in inaccessible areas. Humanitarian thematic funding has enabled UNICEF Pacific to respond to all types of emergencies in its area of responsibility, including “small-scale” disasters. All assistance from UNICEF following TC Josie and TC Keni was provided because of humanitarian thematic funding. WASH and education supplies that were released in support of the Government’s emergency response were pre-positioned emergency supplies that had been procured using humanitarian thematic funds. UNICEF released 39 tents to the MOEHA that provided TLS for 1,764 students (829 girls and 935 boys) and allowed the provision of uninterrupted educational services in schools on the most severely-affected islands of Kadavu and Ovalau, which resumed second term classes as originally scheduled. WASH supplies ensured access to safe water and hygiene materials for some 8,546 people (4,708 males and 3,838 females) in 73 affected villages, mostly on these two islands.

Humanitarian thematic funding provided critical support for those affected by TC Gita in Tonga during both the immediate relief phase and recovery phase of the emergency. During the immediate response, funding supported the deployment of a composite team of UNICEF emergency staff members who helped the Government coordinate and plan its response through the cluster system and deliver urgently needed emergency supplies. The team was composed of an emergency officer, child protection officer, WASH specialist, education specialist and logistics consultant. Within five days of the arrival of the team, initial damage and needs assessment had been completed, sector response plans drafted, immediate interventions initiated and an initial batch of UNICEF emergency supplies dispatched from a Fiji warehouse and received in Tonga. Thematic funding also supported a partnership with Oxfam New Zealand to provide continuous and ongoing technical support to the Tonga Health, Nutrition and WASH Clusters to bolster longer-term recovery efforts.

Humanitarian thematic funding enabled UNICEF to deliver an integrated response to the Ambae Island volcano emergency in Vanuatu as it was used to support sectors that are critically and chronically underfunded and augmented the provision of programmatic

interventions by other sectors. All child protection interventions provided in response to the Ambae Island volcano were supported through humanitarian thematic funding. These included the deployment of mobile registration teams that issued identification cards and processed birth certificates to all Ambae Island residents and PSS teams that initiated PSS activities in evacuation centres and cared for families with members who were sick and/or disabled. The identification cards were used to track the movements of IDPs, facilitated the provision of appropriately targeted social services and ensured PSS teams were able to identify vulnerable people in need of special assistance. Some 7,638 identification cards were issued, including to 3,540 children (1,700 girls and 1,840 boys) while PSS activities reached 1,299 people, including 709 adults (352 females) and 509 children (282 females) and 43 people with disabilities, including nine children.

Humanitarian thematic funds were used to augment the WASH-related emergency response to the Ambae Island emergency through the provision of water quality equipment to the DOWR, which was used to ensure that the water available at evacuation and relocation sites on Santo and Maewo Islands was safe for drinking. These funds also supported the implementation of community DWSSP on Ambae Island and at evacuation sites on Santo and Maewo Islands. About 8,136 (3,987 females and 4,149 males) Ambae Island evacuees on Maewo and Santo Islands, including 3,502 children aged 0–14 years old (1,716 girls and 1,786 boys) benefited from these plans.

Humanitarian thematic fund helped UNICEF Pacific maintain minimum levels of preparedness through the procurement of emergency supplies that were pre-positioned at its facilities, which enabled UNICEF to immediately respond to requests for humanitarian assistance by Governments in the PICTs. All WASH and education supplies distributed during the emergency response to TC Josie and TC Keni in Fiji and WASH supplies distributed following TC Gita in Tonga were provided from pre-positioned emergency stocks that UNICEF Pacific procured using humanitarian thematic funds and regular resources. The distribution of 39 UNICEF tents provided temporary classrooms for some 1,764 students (829 girls and 935 boys) while 8,546 people (4,708 males and 3,838 females) benefited from WASH supplies distributed on Fiji's Kadavu and Ovalau Islands. In Tonga, WASH supplies provided safe water and hygiene materials that reached 1,100 households and 5,500 (2,695 females and 2,805 males) individuals.

In addition, activities carried out during the reporting period that strengthened longer-term resilience mentioned on pages 11-12 were all supported by humanitarian thematic funding.

Case study: Support to “Get Ready: Disasters Happen” communication package

Top level results: To

strengthen strategic communication for development (C4D) during emergencies, a cross-sectoral, integrated and inclusive emergency preparedness and response multimedia C4D package, “Get Ready: Disasters Happen” (GRDH) 2.0 was developed for Fiji. The package was adapted and translated into languages for the local Fijian context and for use with children in communities frequently affected by disasters. As a member of the PHT Communications Working Group and through its respective partnerships, UNICEF initiated the package in Fiji as a pilot. The package of consolidated key evidence-based messages for disaster preparedness and response scenarios included the following: 54 radio spots, 9 animated broadcast quality television commercials, 1 booklet, 1 emergency contact card, 1 poster and a website hosted by Fiji Government at <http://www.getready.gov.fj/>. The package was developed with humanitarian thematic funds and reached approximately 780,300 people⁹.



Issue/Background: The Pacific region is arguably the most at-risk region in the world for natural hazards. Thus, getting the right information to communities before, during and after a disaster is critical in helping families prevent or mitigate the harm that might befall them and to foster their quick recovery. Governments in the Pacific region already know what families and communities should do in times of disasters. However, the information is not systematically shared to those who need it or if it is, it is disseminated in a manner that is not easily understood by children and their families, does not reach them or is limited in reach. In response to this gap, the GRDH 2.0 communication package was developed first in Fiji to provide accurate information to minimize the adverse impact of natural hazards on families.

Resources required/allocated: Approximately US\$11,000 from the 2018 humanitarian thematic funds were used to support the production and dissemination via mass media of communication products. These included pre-approved integrated key messaging materials designed for three distinct phases of an emergency – preparedness, response and recovery – and provided practical steps to promote key health-seeking behaviours for preparedness related to personal and family safety, WASH, nutrition and food safety as well as PSS. Dissemination of the UNICEF-developed messages complemented airtime that the NDMO was using for mass media campaigns during the cyclone season as part of efforts to raise

⁹ This is the approximate number of Fijians who have likely heard at least one of the 6,354 radio spots and 580 television commercials extrapolated from the figures from the 2014 Fiji Media Survey report on Fijians who have access and listen to radio regularly.

awareness and encourage disaster preparedness, particularly with a child focus and in areas most likely to be affected during a disaster.

Progress and results: The GRDH multimedia C4D package was designed to be simple, practical, engaging, relevant and appropriate for mass communication channels that are easily reached by children and regular folks. The package included a variety of products with messages appropriate for the basic stages of disaster management – preparedness, response and early recovery. The package was used extensively in NDMO and MOHMS disaster preparedness campaigns carried out during the 2017–2018 and 2018–2019 cyclone seasons. Key messages from the C4D package were featured in broadcasts on national radio and television stations, social media platforms and in print materials that were disseminated. The radio and television broadcasts had a nationwide reach through partnerships with the Fiji Broadcasting Corporation and Communications Fiji Limited. The GRDH included approximately 6,354 thirty-second radio spots and 580 television commercials that were aired during cyclone seasons from 2017–2018. Most of the communication products were translated into common Fijian vernacular (iTaukei, Hindi and English). An estimated 780,300 people have been reached by these multi-media communication materials.

Criticality and value addition: The GRDH multi-media campaign materials addressed the lack of strategy to communicate key messages to communities to help them better prepare for and mitigate the impact of hazardous events. While UNICEF initiated and helped develop the GRDH campaign, the government, particularly the MOHMS and NDMO, has effective ownership of the entire process and it is now integral to their preparedness and response actions. The GRDH has also become the template for replication by other PICT governments in the communication with communities component in their preparedness plans.

Challenges and lesson learned:

- Development of the multimedia C4D package required intensive consultations with multiple stakeholders and consensus was required for every decision, which prolonged the process. Consensus on key messages, for instance, required consultations with multiple government ministries and partners. The time required for stakeholders to vet the contents of the C4D package took longer than the creative process of transforming the key messages into communication products. Competing priorities and high staff turnover among partners contributed to delays. Rather than attempting to achieve consensus through a general review of multimedia C4D package contents, the review process and consensus ought to be achieved via the compartmentalization of tasks based on the expertise of stakeholders.
- Sustaining radio and television broadcasts on an ongoing basis is difficult because even though broadcasters offer significant discounts and free airtime as part of corporate social responsibility policies, the regular airing of the radio spots and TV commercials even during the cyclone season requires substantial resources. UNICEF and partners are advocating the allocation by Fiji NDMO of regular operational funds to support these communication activities.

Moving forward: The GRDH campaign, which provides a general framework for the development of communication products for disaster preparedness and response in the Pacific region, is now led by the NDMO and the MOHMS with support from UNICEF in collaboration with the Building Safety and Resilience in the Pacific (BSRP) Project, implemented by the Pacific Community (SPC). The Fiji NDMO plans to expand the

existing package to cover other hazards like earthquakes and tsunamis and is considering developing more child-friendly content and media products for ECD and school-aged children that are engaging and inclusive. Discussion is ongoing to link GRDH with a locally-produced animation series called Bula Kids that is being produced by the Fiji MOEHA with support from UNICEF.

Other PICTs also have shown an interest in using the GRDH as a comprehensive disaster template for emergency preparedness and response. Samoa and Nauru made such request and UNICEF is now supporting the adaptation and translation of the GRDH package in collaboration with their respective NDMOs and the BSRP. The GRDH also could be replicated and adapted in Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Tonga where disaster risks are high.

F. Assessment, Monitoring and Evaluation

National authorities in the PICTs are responsible for leading damage and needs assessments following emergencies and tend to invite external agencies to participate in these assessments only in the event substantial international assistance will be required to adequately respond. In Vanuatu, UNICEF supported assessments, analysis and planning carried out by the WASH cluster and led by the DOWR in the humanitarian response to the Ambae Island evacuation. Assessments were completed at evacuation sites on Santo Island, proposed “second home” relocation sites on Maewo Island and communities on Ambae Island.

UNICEF deployed staff to Tonga following TC Gita to help Government-led clusters for WASH, education and protection carry out assessments, prepare response plans and facilitate immediate response activities. UNICEF staff members also helped organize after action reviews of respective sectors and participated in an overall review facilitated by National Emergency Management Operation Centre and an independent consultant.

UNICEF Pacific relied on partner reporting and field visits by staff to monitor implementation and results of its humanitarian response activities in 2018. The scope and magnitude of the disaster events described in this report and subsequent emergency response activities did not necessitate the deployment of third party monitors. A tool for humanitarian performance monitoring is available in the form of questionnaires that have been programmed into AkvoFlow software loaded onto computer tablets that are used in gathering field data for WASH and education during emergencies. The questionnaires include sectoral response and can be tailored to capture specific details as required.

UNICEF is supporting a PHT initiative to develop a country preparedness packages (CPP) for each of the PICTs through a process that was launched in 2017 by which consensus is achieved among national and international actors on the development of country-specific approaches to working together in the event of a disaster. The process is undertaken jointly by the PHT and Governments and consists of two phases. Disaster risk management and response structures and relationships are defined in the first phase followed by the development in a second phase of contingency plans for each country. As of the end of 2018, the following five PICTs had completed the first phase of the process: Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Cook Islands and Tuvalu.

G. Financial Analysis

For 2018, UNICEF Pacific received humanitarian funds from the thematic humanitarian and from the New Zealand Committee for UNICEF. The thematic humanitarian funds were unearmarked while those from the New Zealand Committee were in support of the emergency response for Ambae volcano in Vanuatu and TC Gita in Tonga. There were also carry-over funds from previous years from the thematic humanitarian as well as contributions from the New Zealand Committee and the Republic of Korea.

Unearmarked funds allowed UNICEF to strengthen its preparedness posture which enabled it to respond to any emergency in any of the 14 PICTs at any time. A prime example was the pre-positioning of emergency supplies in several countries most at risk. Particularly in the Pacific context where logistics is a big challenge, this strategy proved to be most economical, as these supplies were delivered in advance by ship instead of by air; efficient as they can be mobilized and made available to governments and partners as soon as they are needed and effective as they address the basic needs of affected children and their families.

Table 1: Funding status against the appeal by sector

Sector	Requirements	Funds Available Against Appeals as of 31 December 2018*		% Funding Gap
		Funds Received in 2018	Carry-Over	
Health and Nutrition				
Education				
Water and Environmental Sanitation				
Child Protection				
Coordination and Support Services				
Total				

Table 2: Funding received and available by donor and funding type

Donor Name/Type of funding	Programme Budget Allotment reference	Overall Amount*
I. Humanitarian funds received in 2018		
a) Thematic Humanitarian Funds		
See details in Table 3	SM/18/9910	211,018
b) Non-Thematic Humanitarian Funds		
New Zealand Committee for UNICEF	SM/18/0209	167,471
	SM/18/0462	104,801

Total Non-Thematic Humanitarian Funds		272,272
c) Pooled Funding		
(i) CERF Grants		
(ii) Other Pooled funds - including Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF), Humanitarian Response Funds, Emergency Response Funds, UN Trust Fund for Human Security, Country-based Pooled Funds etc.		
d) Other types of humanitarian funds		
Total humanitarian funds received in 2018 (a+b+c+d)		483,290
II. Carry-over of humanitarian funds available in 2018		
e) Carry over Thematic Humanitarian Funds		
Thematic Humanitarian Funds	SM/14/9910	1,721,878
f) Carry-over of non-Thematic Humanitarian Funds		
Republic of Korea	SM/17/0632	92,593
New Zealand Committee for UNICEF	SM/17/0660	117,248
	SM/15/0361	8,157
Australia	SM/16/0300	18,248
Total carry-over non-Thematic Humanitarian Funds		236,246
Total carry-over humanitarian funds (e + f)		1,958,124
III. Other sources		
Total other resources		

* Programmable amounts of donor contributions, excluding recovery cost.

** 2018 loans have not been waived; COs are liable to reimburse in 2019 as donor funds become available.

Table 3: Thematic Humanitarian Contributions Received in 2018

Thematic Humanitarian Contributions Received in 2018 (in USD): Donor	Grant Number⁴	Programmable Amount (in USD)	Total Contribution Amount (in USD)
New Zealand Committee for UNICEF	SM/18/9910/0361	11,028	11,580
Allocation from global Thematic Humanitarian*	SM189910	200,000	214,000
Total		211,018	225,580

H. Future Workplan

UNICEF Pacific will continue in 2019 to support the early recovery efforts in two countries hit by major disasters in 2018 – Vanuatu and Tonga. In Vanuatu, residents of Ambae Island have begun returning to their communities following de-escalation in Manaro Vouli Volcano activity. Meanwhile, communities on Tonga's Tongatapu and Eua Islands are rebuilding in the aftermath of TC Gita. Part of ongoing UNICEF support will be the implementation of DWSSP and installation of first-ever flush systems in Ambae Island communities and the establishment of additional TLS on Tongatapu and Eua Islands once the reconstruction of schools begins.

UNICEF is continuing to build its capacity to provide a more effective and efficient humanitarian response in the Pacific region. Starting in 2019, UNICEF will have access to an Australian Government-funded Humanitarian Emergency Response Supplies warehouse in Brisbane. UNICEF has been allocated, free of rental fees, 400 pallet places and 100 square metres of storage volume for a duration of five years, which effectively doubles UNICEF Pacific's current regional storage capacity to 800 pallet spaces that can accommodate a minimum caseload of 56,000 beneficiaries.

UNICEF, together with partners in the Pacific Cash Working Group, will actively advocate Governments and help lay the groundwork for the use of cash transfers for humanitarian assistance, where feasible. UNICEF will support partners in preparedness activities like market assessments and feasibility analyses in selected countries.

UNICEF is also in discussion with government partners in Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Kiribati and Tonga to develop systematic and participatory digital communication systems that collect data from communities for the purposes of disaster preparedness and response. The systems, to be designed with the participation of users and stakeholders, aim to enable communities to provide input and Governments to analyse data to guide their actions and will build on existing open-source technologies such as RapidPro, a free framework designed to send and receive data using basic mobile phones, and Ona enterprise data warehouse.

The GRDH multimedia communication package, which was successfully used for cyclone preparedness and response in Fiji, will be adapted for Samoa and Nauru in partnership with the SPC's BSRP Project. UNICEF is also in discussion with the Fiji NDMO to expand the communication package for other natural hazards such as earthquakes, tsunamis, and drought.

UNICEF Pacific needs continuous support of humanitarian thematic funds to carry out these activities.

I. Expression of Thanks

UNICEF acknowledges and sincerely appreciates the generous support from all donors who contributed to emergencies in PICTs in 2018, which allowed for rapid and comprehensive interventions that included components of disaster risk reduction and resilience.

The critical importance of flexible funding provided through thematic funding cannot be overstated. After emergencies, UNICEF interventions are planned and implemented jointly with Governments, other UN agencies and NGO partners. Humanitarian thematic funding is not earmarked, which means it can be applied where it is most needed according to the on-the-ground context and capacity of partners and other actors.

UNICEF Pacific wishes to thank all donors who provided funding to meet the needs of children affected by other emergencies in the Pacific region and particularly the New Zealand Committee for UNICEF and the Republic of Korea.

J. Donor Feedback Forms

Donor feedback form (English version) is available through this link:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=IQFBd-EUuE-QS6sYkgI2Z1EJsLcYAJBHh2bCnwnIhtZUOEY3NTBQVUIFMU9TTzVCQ1A4MDNNTERHSy4u>