

Humanitarian funding analysis: Vanuatu – Cyclone Pam

Figures are correct at time of writing but are subject to frequent change. Updates of funding can be found on the [OCHA Financial Tracking Service](#) as they become reported to its system.

1. Key points

- Vanuatu’s government declared a nationwide state emergency in the aftermath of Cyclone Pam, which hit the pacific island and neighbouring islands on 13 March 2015. [The UN has confirmed that 24 people have died and 3,300 displaced](#) and the death toll is expected to rise sharply as rescuers reach outlying islands. It is thought that almost [half of Vanuatu’s population](#) has been affected by Cyclone Pam.
- The President of Vanuatu, Baldwin Lonsdale, suggests that [90% of the buildings and houses in the capital city Port Vila have been destroyed or damaged](#).
- Press releases from donor governments show that the international community has started to respond, however none of this funding has yet been reported in international reporting mechanisms.
- No UN-coordinated appeals have been launched to date. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) launched an appeal on 16 March 2015, appealing for CHF3.9 million (almost US\$3.9 million) to support the Vanuatu Red Cross to deliver assistance.
- A recent [ACAPS briefing note](#) details the extent of humanitarian need.

2. Recent funding to the crisis

As of 16 March 2015, no humanitarian funding has been reported to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)’s Financial Tracking Service (FTS) in response to Cyclone Pam. Data from the International Aid Transparency Index (IATI) shows a small contribution of US\$1,630 from [GlobalGiving](#) to support relief and recovery efforts in Vanuatu. This does not mean that more funding has not been pledged, committed or disbursed, as there is often a timelag between funding and reporting.

Funding announcements in response to Cyclone Pam

A number of donor governments have made funding announcements in recent days in response to the disaster. These include:

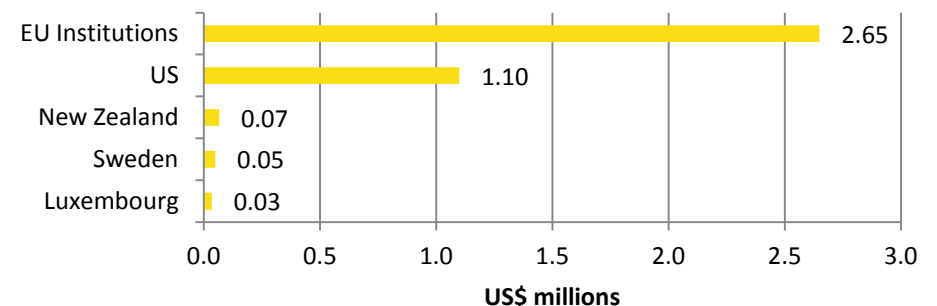
- [Singapore](#) will offer US\$50 million to Vanuatu for immediate humanitarian assistance in the wake of Cyclone Pam

- [Australia](#) has pledged US\$5 million to assist Australian non-governmental organisations (NGOs), the Red Cross and UN partners, and provided in-kind donations (humanitarian supplies, including water and sanitation and shelter kits). Australia has also deployed a medical team and an urban search and rescue assessment team.
- [The UK](#) has sent shelter and relief supplies (1,640 shelter kits and more than 1,900 solar lanterns). Following a request from the Government of Vanuatu, the UK made up to £1 million available to UN organisations and international aid agencies in the region. The UK will send a further £1 million through the UK’s Rapid Response Facility. This totals US\$3.0 million in pledges from the UK.
- The European Commission’s Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection department (ECHO) has released US\$1.1 million in funds for the immediate response to the devastation caused by Cyclone Pam in Vanuatu.
- [New Zealand](#) has announced an initial contribution of US\$1.8 million. [The Japanese Government](#) has pledged US\$165,000 including sleeping bags and waterproof sheets.

3. Historic humanitarian funding to Vanuatu

Donors have committed or contributed **US\$3.9 million of humanitarian funding to Vanuatu** since 2011 – **81% (US\$3.1 million)** of which was channelled to disaster prevention and preparedness projects.

Figure 1: Top five humanitarian donors to Vanuatu, 2011–2014

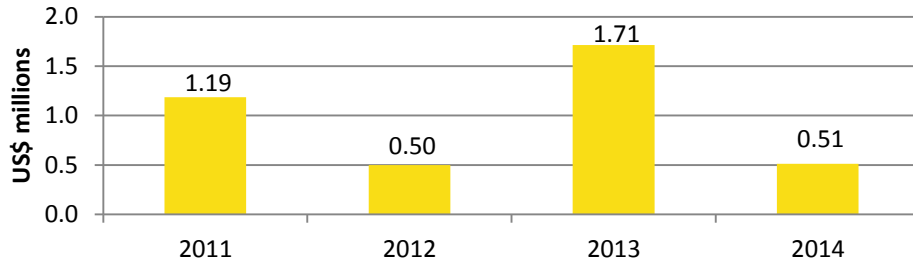


Source: Development Initiatives based on UN OCHA FTS. Data downloaded 16 March 2015.

Note: US: United States. EU: European Union.

EU Institutions are the largest donors to the country, followed by the **US and New Zealand**. Between them, these three donors have given 98% of total humanitarian funding.

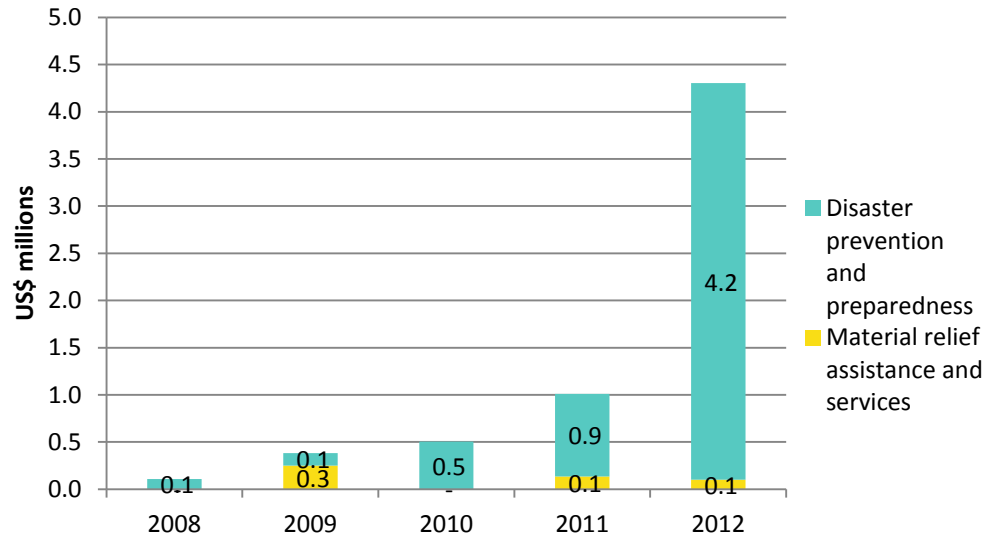
Figure 2: Humanitarian assistance to Vanuatu, 2011–2014



Source: Development Initiatives based on UN OCHA FTS data. Data downloaded and compiled 16 March 2015.

The majority of humanitarian assistance given to Vanuatu since 2008 was for disaster prevention and preparedness.

Figure 3: Humanitarian assistance to Vanuatu, by sector 2008–2012



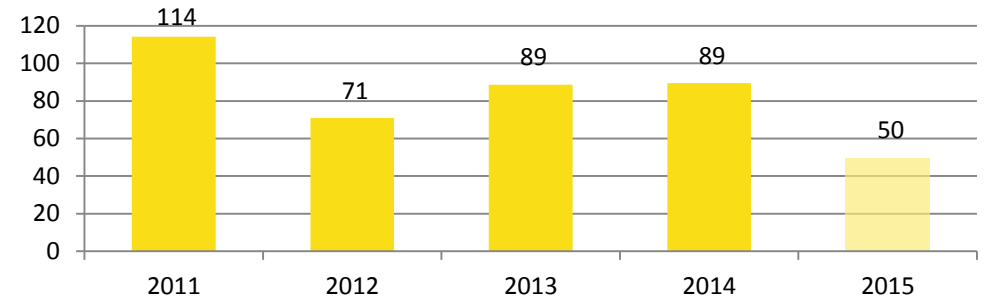
Source: Development Initiatives based on OECD DAC CRS data

Note: Humanitarian assistance reported to the OECD DAC can differ from contributions reported to the UN OCHA FTS. Reasons for this may include the quality of each individual agency’s reporting to each mechanism and because a large proportion of the humanitarian assistance reported to the OCED DAC CRS was for disaster prevention and preparedness.

4. Development assistance to Vanuatu

Since 2011 Vanuatu has received US\$413 million in development assistance; however, Baldwin Lonsdale, President of Vanuatu, has said that the storm has “wiped out all development of recent years and his country would have to rebuild everything”.

Figure 4: Development assistance to Vanuatu, 2011–2015



Source: Development Initiatives based on IATI data. Data downloaded and compiled 16 March 2015.

The largest donor over the period was **Canada**, contributing **US\$178.6 million**, followed by **Australia (US\$157.9 million)** and **New Zealand (US\$31.7 million)**.

5. Climate financing

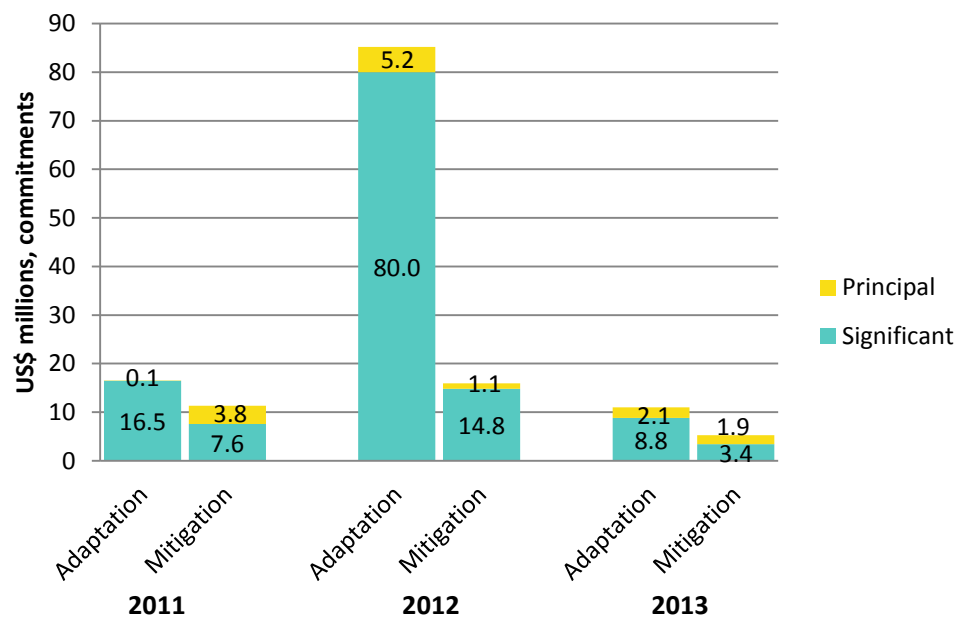
In April 2013 Vanuatu established the Ministry of Climate Change under which the National Disaster Management Office exists. Vanuatu is also a member of the Pacific Disaster Risk Management Partnership Network.

The president of Vanuatu says climate change is contributing to more extreme weather conditions and cyclones seasons. According to EM-DAT Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED) data, 106,014 people in Vanuatu have been affected by tropical cyclones between 2004 and 2014. Almost exactly a year before Cyclone Pam hit (9 March 2014), 12 people died and 20,006 were affected by Cyclone Lusi.

In 2013, bilateral DAC donors committed to provide US\$11 million in official development assistance (ODA) marked for climate change adaptation to Vanuatu and US\$5.3 million for climate change mitigation. This is a significant decrease from 2012, when these donors

committed US\$85.2 million in ODA marked principally or significantly for climate change adaptation and US\$15.9 million for climate change mitigation.

Figure 5: Bilateral climate-related ODA from DAC donors, 2011–2013 (current prices)



Source: Development Initiatives based on OECD DAC CRS data.

Note: Adaptation and mitigation cannot be summed because some projects will contribute to both climate change mitigation and climate change adaptation. Data in text above quotes OECD DAC upper bounds; which include both the principal and significant scores of the Rio markers. The peak in 2012 is attributable to a large single development project in the capital city funded by a Japanese loan.

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