Tropical Cyclone Winston
Situation Update
24 February 2016

LOCATION: Fiji
DATE: 24/02/16

Background

- Category 5 Tropical Cyclone Winston hit Fiji on 20 and 21 February with sustained winds of around 230 kmph. Reports indicate 36 people have been killed. The current count of evacuees totals 34,629.

- The Fiji National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) is leading the response to the emergency, coordinating efforts and the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) has been activated.

- Although not formally activated for this response, the Logistics Cluster, through the lead agency WFP, is supporting relief efforts through logistics coordination and information management, on behalf of the government and humanitarian partners.

- Assessments missions are due to return from areas hit by the cyclone to further understand emerging needs and gaps and help the coordination efforts of the NDMO and National Clusters.

- The Fiji National Cluster System is working with partners and the NDMO to deliver relief items to affected areas.

- The Logistics Cluster has met with Fiji National Cluster System lead to offer assistance and to help identify logistics gaps.

Air Transport

- Nadi and Suva Airports are open and operating services.

- Local airports are now operating including: Kadavu, Labasa, Rotuma, Gau, Kadavu; and privately owned: Mago, Kaibu.

- Through the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFAT), one C130 and one B757 aircraft are scheduled to arrive today carrying Non Food Items (NFIs) on behalf of the Fiji NDMO. A daily C130 will continue to arrive into Fiji from New Zealand until Sunday 28 February 2016, supporting the national government led response to the emergency.

Overland Transport

www.logcluster.org
The Fiji National Cluster System is operating two trucks: one 3 ton and one 9 ton flatbed; tasked with moving items between airport and ports, and assisting with other NDMO tasks. It can request further transport capacities through its Vehicle Management Unit.

The Logistics Cluster has shared information on private sector transport and storage companies with partners through the Fiji-logs mailing lists. For company contact details, see the Fiji Logistics Capacity Assessment (LCA): [http://dlca.logcluster.org/display/public/DLCA/Fiji](http://dlca.logcluster.org/display/public/DLCA/Fiji) and contact the IM Officer for mailing list subscriptions.

**Customs**

- A ‘Customs Clearance Guidance’ document is still under review with the Government. This will include guidance on working with the NDMO to receive items into country.
- Logistics Cluster has provided guidance to shipping companies in regard to receiving Unsolicited Bilateral Donations (UBDs), including messaging around the problem of UBDs and information on the handling process.

**Sea Transport**

- The Fiji National Cluster System is working with a shipping company and has sent one vessel and one barge to Koro Island. Another shipment is planned for the coming days.

**Storage**

- The National Cluster is operating two main hubs in Lautoka (Nadi) and Walu Bay (Suva), humanitarian partners should work with the NDMO as lead of the response for support with storage needs:
  - Lautoka is roughly the size of two football pitches and will house 2 MSU’s.
  - Walu Bay has two sites close to each other, one houses the National Cluster operations office and contains two smaller size warehouses. The other has a larger warehouse space and covered area and will function as the main staging area.
- OCHA and the Logistics Cluster, on behalf of the Fiji National Cluster System raised the issue for the need for warehouse space and systems to manage UBDs as current capacities to cope will be inadequate should the UBD response increase.

**Other Logistics Gaps or Bottlenecks**

- Power outage at the National Logistics Cluster Hub is limiting certain tasks.
The Fiji National Cluster System are lacking communication equipment to share dispatch and arrival information between hubs.

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<tr>
<th>Contacts</th>
<th><a href="mailto:fiji-logs@logscluster.org">fiji-logs@logscluster.org</a></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Florent Chane</td>
<td>Head of WFP Pacific Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Young</td>
<td>Logistics Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robin Andrew</td>
<td>IT Manager and IM Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Fletcher</td>
<td>ETC Coordinator</td>
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