

This report was issued by OCHA New York, with inputs from OCHA Fiji and the OCHA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. It covers the period from 16 to 21 October. This is the last situation report in this series.

I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- **All immediate humanitarian needs are being addressed in Samoa and Tonga.**
- **Water and sanitary facilities for the displaced population remain a priority in Samoa.**
- **In Samoa, a shelter/housing design was agreed and the first shelter-building phase for 425 extended families will start by 23 October.**
- **As the immediate needs of the affected population have been met, the Government of Tonga is moving from emergency response to recovery. A draft Early Recovery Strategic Framework will be presented on 23 October.**

II. Situation Overview

Samoa

The official death toll stands at 143, with five people missing. An estimated 4,500 people have been directly affected by the tsunami, most of who are displaced. The situation is gradually shifting from emergency phase to early recovery. In the meantime, access to sufficient water for the displaced population is identified as a problem by the water sector. Strategic planning is underway to address this issue. Sanitation also remains a concern and building of pit latrines is ongoing as a priority short-term intervention. The early-recovery cluster is currently finalizing the Early Recovery Framework for final submission to the Government on 26 October, integrating comments from Government ministries.

Tonga

Nine people died and seven were seriously injured as a result of the tsunami that struck the northern island of Niuatoputapu. The Government has released its disaster assessment report and estimates the total cost of damage as Tongan Pa'anga 18.2 million (approximately US\$9.5 million).

The emergency response is now in its final phase of moving to the recovery phase. The National Emergency Management Office (NEMO) reports that sufficient emergency shelter, food, water and clothing have been delivered to meet the immediate and short-term needs. The New Zealand vessel HMNZS Canterbury has delivered additional relief supplies to Niuatoputatu. Personnel from the Canterbury supported the clean-up on shore and provided health support.

A draft Early Recovery Strategic Framework will be presented to the Government on 23 October. The Government established four thematic working groups to facilitate strategic planning: livelihoods; health, water and sanitation; early-warning systems; and resettlement.

III. Humanitarian Needs and Response

Assessments

Samoa

- The final Early Recovery Framework will be presented to the Government on 26 October. The Framework was developed by a multidisciplinary team led by the United Nations Development Programme and is based on key findings from an Early Recovery Needs Assessment in which line ministries, Samoan corporation and association, I/NGOs, International Financial Institutions, the Red Cross and donors participated. The final Framework will include inputs and comments from Government ministries.
- A draft report of a Damage and Loss Assessment, undertaken by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, World Bank and other partners will be completed by 23 October.

- A UN Habitat senior advisor on recovery and reconstruction will undertake a mission to Samoa next week to look into reconstruction and resettlement issues.
- Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) initiated a needs assessment survey for reconstruction and rehabilitation on 19 October. JICA also started a pilot project to collect bulky waste at four sites in the affected areas.

Tonga

- A team from the Ministry of Lands and Survey will conduct a risk assessment and evaluate possible new sites for the rebuilding of houses.
- Consultation with community members on the preferred location to rebuild houses and other issues has commenced. The consultation will be completed by 27 October.
- The Tonga Defence Service and the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) are assessing building damages.

Logistics

Samoa

- The logistics coordination mechanism will be formally handed over to the Disaster Management Office and the logistics cluster will cease its operation on 24 October.

Emergency Shelter

Samoa

- Emergency shelter needs have been met, but transitional and semi-permanent shelters are urgently required (see the Early Recovery section below).

Tonga

- Latest reports indicate that 79 dwellings on Niuatoputapu were completely destroyed and 56 dwellings damaged. This equates to more than 60 percent of residential homes on the island being completely destroyed or damaged.
- The immediate emergency shelter needs of the affected population have been met.

Education

Samoa

- Grade 8 students resumed schooling on 14 October. The lower primary-grade students are returning to schools. Priority was given to the higher-grade students who need to prepare for the annual examination, which starts on 2 November. This phased approach allows the education cluster to assist the Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture (MESC) to address needs such as establishment of temporary learning space, WASH facilities and transportation of affected students to host schools.
- MESC is providing stationery, five tents, five water tanks and hired vehicles to transport relocated students.
- All needs, including school furniture, a classroom tent, water tanks, latrines and first aid kits, are assumed to have been met through education cluster partners' commitments. The coordinated support will ensure the full resumption of schooling for approximately 1,000 affected students.
 - United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) will provide 15 tents; 12 latrines; 14 recreational kits; 14 first aid kits; 2,000 bottles of drinking water; and 7,000 Information Education, Communication materials.
 - Save the Children and Tear Fund committed to support furniture procurement.
 - Asian Development Bank, NZAID and AusAID will provide eight water tanks for schools.
- UNICEF is supporting a two-day assessment of Early Childhood Education Centres from 21 October. It is estimated that 11 pre-schools were completely destroyed and four others damaged.

Tonga

- Schooling is continuing with temporary accommodation.

Food and Nutrition

- Immediate needs of the affected population in terms of food have been met in Samoa and Tonga.

Health

Samoa

- No immediate health risks are identified. Health authorities continue to monitor the situation.
- The Ministry of Health (MoH) will conduct an assessment of the special needs of disabled people.

Tonga

- The hospital is temporarily based at the Church of Latter-Day Saints as a short-term solution. It has sufficient basic supplies and medicines to meet immediate needs. However, general equipment such as beds, drug cabinets and examining tables are required for the hospital to become fully functional.

Protection

Samoa

- The Samoa Red Cross compiled a list of the referral hotline for counseling and debriefing services, which is available in Samoan and English.

Tonga

- The Tonga Red Cross continues to provide psychosocial support.
- NEMO reports that Caritas is providing trauma counseling to affected families.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

Samoa

- Sanitation remains a major concern and a top priority for the water sector.
- The Samoa Water Authority (SWA) reports that 80 percent of the water distribution network has been reconnected.
- The main problem is the provision of sufficient water to the displaced population, especially to those who have moved inland. This is due to limited water delivery capacity, insufficient on-site water storage capacity and high consumption. Water is currently delivered by six water trucks of 5,000-litre capacity. It is expected that the water delivery operation needs to continue for three to six months.
- In consultation with SWA, Oxfam New Zealand and Red Cross are preparing a detailed plan to position additional 5,000-litre water tanks for the displaced population (30 litres per person per day). This will maximize the potential filling of water tanks from piped supply, rainwater harvesting or other sources.
- Oxfam and Women in Business and Development are currently reviewing WASH needs and livelihood issues on Manono island.
- MoH and the Samoa Red Cross are conducting a household education programme, which includes hygiene and water conservation messages and encourages the building of latrines.
- World Vision donated 57 molded plastic pit latrines. The use of pit latrines is encouraged as a short- to medium-term solution while plans are in place for building toilets in coordination with the Shelter Sub-Committee. Related to this, the National Disaster Council reported that due to the inefficient water supply, all mobile toilets are to be removed from the areas.
- There appears to be no system in place for collecting and disposing waste from displaced people living inland.
- JICA started a pilot project to collect bulky waste in Lalomanu, Ulutogia Village, Satittoa Village and Malaela Village.

Tonga

- Immediate needs of the affected population in terms of water have been met.
- Long-term water supply systems could be installed once relocation sites have been identified.
- The Tonga Defense Service and the NZDF have located and covered 27 septic tanks.

Early Recovery

Samoa

- A Shelter Sub-Committee meeting held on 20 October addressed the urgent need to build shelters. The Government aims to start building shelters by 23 October. It was clarified that the average unit cost of Samoa tala 18,000 per unit (approximately \$7,500) only includes building materials and not labour or other related costs.

- The cabinet decided that 425 shelters will be built in the first round of construction. This number is based on the list of affected families jointly compiled by the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development, Disaster Management Office, Red Cross and Electricity Power Corporation. Although a family constitutes an extended family that may consist of many nuclear families, the extended family will be provided with only one shelter during the first round of construction.
- The shelter design has been agreed among all related agencies and endorsed by the Government.
- Habitat for Humanity (HFH) will support the building of 325 shelters. The following have also committed support: Caritas (50 shelters); LDS (40 shelters); Samoa Umbrella for Non-Governmental Organizations (seven shelters); and Tear Fund/ILEM Church (five shelters). HFH will provide human resources to build the shelters.
- The Ministry of Finance prepared a special form for signature by village authorities to verify that people are resettling on their own properties.

Tonga

- A draft Early Recovery Strategic Framework will be presented to the Government on 23 October for its endorsement.

IV. Coordination

Samoa

- Health and WASH clusters have been officially handed over to the Government. Early-recovery, education and logistics clusters are operational and planning their emergency response and recovery actions with their Government counterparts.

Tonga

- To facilitate the recovery strategizing and detailed planning, the Government established four thematic working groups: livelihoods; health, water and sanitation; early-warning systems; and resettlement.

V. Funding

Tonga

- United Nations Development Programme has provided \$300,000 for the tsunami recovery programme.

All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform FTS of cash and in-kind contributions by sending an email to: fts@reliefweb.int

VI. Contact

OCHA Pacific: Mr. Peter Muller, Regional Disaster Response Adviser
Email: peter.muller@undp.org Tel: +679-331 6761, Mobile: +679 999 1664

OCHA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific: Ms. Yindee Lertcharoenchok, Humanitarian Affairs Analyst (Disaster Response), Email: lertcharoenchok@un.org Tel: +66 (0) 2288 2437

OCHA New York: Ms. Akiko Yoshida, Associate Humanitarian Affairs Officer
Email: yoshidaa@un.org Tel: +1 212 963 1149