



FIJI — CYCLONE WINSTON

IOM EMERGENCY RESPONSE

SITUATION REPORT • 22 March 2016



Highlights

Distribution of shelter, NFIs commences in Tailevu District. IOM 2016 (Photo: Robyn Ormerod)

- Distribution of 81 tonne shelter, NFI consignment through partner organizations began on 18th March.
- Focus group discussions (FGDs) commence to further position IOM's understanding of evacuation patterns and appropriate reintegration strategy.
- Communication with Communities rolls out to build the platform for community-driven recovery planning.

Situation Overview

Almost a month after Tropical Cyclone Winston hit Fiji, the Government-led response has delivered life-saving assistance to hundreds of thousands of affected people. Many people whose lives have been affected by the Cyclone are showing resilience, coping well in the face of extreme adversity. Shelter, health, food, water, sanitation and hygiene, education and protection services have been identified as the most urgent needs for affected people. Humanitarian actors have appealed for US\$38.6 million to address these life-saving needs in the next three months. At this stage access to safe drinking water has been restored to 150,000 people, however almost 4,600 people remain in 237 evacuation centres.

The Shelter Cluster has developed a strategy for response and recovery. The strategy focuses on supporting owner-driven recovery through the provision of non-food items (NFIs), tarpaulins and other roofing materials, construction tools, fixing kits, information, education and communication materials. It will also include training on building back safer, laying the foundations for long term shelter recovery. In line with this strategy, IOM, through a tripartite partnership with the Government and the NGO 'Habitat for Humanity' started distributions of shelter and NFIs on 18th March. The remainder of IOM's 81 tonne consignment will be distributed over the coming three weeks. The 30-day state of emergency has been extended for another 30 days (20th April) by the Fijian Government. IOM, in close coordination with the Government and humanitarian partners will remain committed to delivering emergency relief to affected communities most in need.

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IOM RESPONSE



Shelter and NFI

A total of 28,000 households (131,000 people) need emergency shelter assistance. More specifically, 11,000 families whose houses were destroyed need early recovery and transitional assistance, including shelter kits and tool kits, as well as training, cash assistance and disaster risk reduction interventions. The FGDs which IOM has facilitated in affected communities confirmed this as people in the villages identified fixings and tarpaulins as the materials they need most urgently.

As of 16th March, around 6,500 tarpaulins, 1,400 shelter kits and over 200 tents have been distributed to people in need of assistance from the humanitarian community. The Shelter Cluster has reported that a further 5,500 shelter kits will be distributed soon.

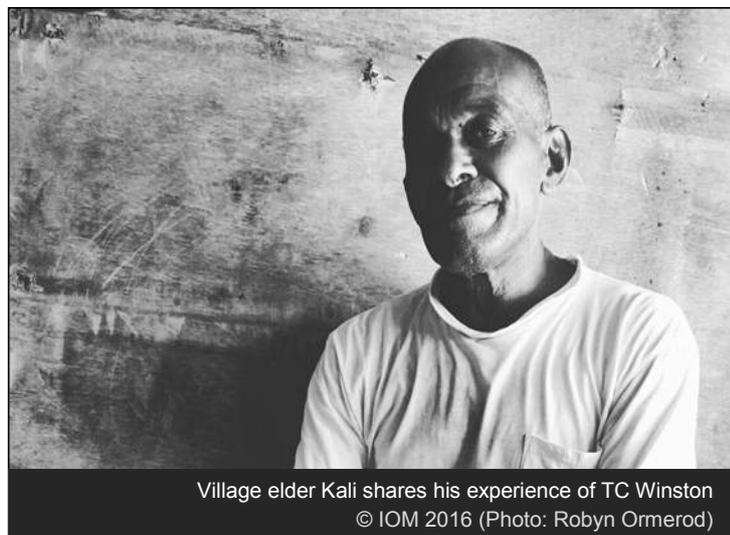
Tarpaulins from the IOM consignment were distributed to 56 families within the Tailevu District to the villages and settlements of Delaikuku, Veicorocoro, Nadranu and Nabau on the 18th March. IOM partner organization Habitat for Humanity facilitated the distribution of shelter to these villages, and along with Care Australia and Live and Learn are rapidly re-packaging the IOM consignment into hundreds of shelter kits to be distributed over the coming three weeks. This response will be targeted based on findings from IOM’s evacuation tracking and monitoring surveys, in order to meet the specific shelter needs of those affected and allow communities to drive their own recovery process.



Finding refuge under available debris
© IOM 2016 (Photo: George Gigauri)



Evacuation Centre Coordination and Management



Village elder Kali shares his experience of TC Winston
© IOM 2016 (Photo: Robyn Ormerod)

During the distribution to Delaikuku Village, Kali’s story (as featured in the picture) of community spirit and resilience resonated with the IOM team. As Kali and his wife Wati’s home was the only house in the village to partially withstand the 320km winds of TC Winston, everyone from the village came together to take refuge in the relative security it provided.

Standing on top of a fallen roof, Kali *“I have experienced many cyclones here, but nothing like this one. Nothing could have prepared us. We will need to build a strong evacuation centre that can absorb the entire community during such times. For now we are just grateful to receive your (IOM and partner agency) support. At least we can start to put our lives back together.”*

As part of the Evacuation Tracking and Monitoring (ETM) roll-out, IOM has conducted field visits to affected communities, FGDs with those that have sustained severe damages. The discussions have been critical in helping IOM to understand the detailed reality of the situation faced by evacuees. Corroborated through these discussions and the preliminary findings of the ETM, evacuation patterns and the needs of evacuees have emerged clearly. Going forward targeted assistance should not only be based on the needs at the household level but also needs at community level because communal efforts will steer the recovery process.

IOM’s Emergency Response Operations are supported by:

