


1,667 water purification tablets to the beneficiary. This provided aid to 12,705 households. The team also implemented vector control activities with source reduction targeting hot spot and high-risk areas with the removal of mosquito breeding sites, anti-mosquito fogging and larviciding.

Conclusion: The FEMAT response assisted in minimizing of potential outbreaks in communities post-disaster during COVID-19 outbreaks.

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Emergency Medical Team Deployment in Response to Cyclones Judy and Kevin in Vanuatu: Coordination, Challenges, and Outcomes

Jimmy Obed¹ , Sharin Vile¹, Sandy Moses¹, Samuel Kemuel¹, Philippe Guyana²

1. Vanuatu Ministry of Health, Port Vila, SHEFA, Vanuatu
2. World Health Organization, Port Vila, SHEFA, Vanuatu

Background/Introduction: In March 2023, Vanuatu faced severe impacts from twin tropical cyclones Judy and Kevin. This state of emergency necessitated the activation of the National Health Emergency Operations Centre (NHEOC) and the Emergency Medical Team Coordination Cell (EMTCC) to coordinate deployment of both national and international EMT responses.

Objectives: The primary objectives were to provide life-saving services, ensure essential medical support, maintain minimum standards of healthcare, and improve coordination among the various health teams and sectors involved in the disaster response.

Method/Description: The EMTCC managed the deployment of over five National EMTs and four International EMTs. Reception and Departure Centers (RDCs) were set up at entry ports for team verification and briefing. Daily Minimum Data Set (MDS) reporting facilitated consistent monitoring and planning. The EMTCC coordinated logistics, transport, ration supplies, and implemented a medivac process for patient referrals.

Results/Outcomes: Over five National EMTs, including medical officers, midwives, psychosocial support, logistics, and nurses, were deployed, serving at least 1,638 patients. RDCs efficiently processed international teams, and daily MDS reports supported informed decision-making. Collaboration with international partners was effective, and a medivac process ensured timely patient transfers. Despite logistical delays, financial constraints, and human resource shortages, the coordinated efforts led to significant positive outcomes.

Conclusion: The EMT deployment in Vanuatu highlighted the importance of well-coordinated emergency responses. Key lessons include the need for standardized tools and procedures, continuous training, improved financial processes, and stronger logistical arrangements. Future recommendations emphasize dedicated budgets, pre-positioned resources, clear

SOPs, and enhanced coordination to improve EMT resilience and efficiency in disaster scenarios.

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An Emergency Within an Emergency – Ability to Provide HR Health Surge Supports to Flood-Affected Areas Following the Kakhovka Dam Breach

Tetyana Timoshenko

WHO, Kyiv, Ukraine

Background/Introduction: In the context of war in Ukraine, a simultaneous emergency struck following the breach of the Kakhovka dam on 6 June 2023 and acutely stressed the health system. Extensive flooding, water shortages, drought and widespread environmental damage in several regions occurred. Over 4,000 people were evacuated from their homes and several hospitals transferred patients elsewhere.

Objectives: To explore if the HR health surge needs of the flood affected health facilities in Kherson, Mykolaiv and Zaporizhzhia were met over the 6-month period.

Method/Description: The Ukrainian Scientific and Practical Center for Emergency Medical Care and Disaster Medicine (CDMU) of the Ministry of Health (MoH) of Ukraine, centrally managed the recruitment, onboarding and deployment of all HR health staff and surge requests over the 6 months project implementation period. Several meetings were held with the MoH regarding national regulation and a mechanism to deploy healthcare workers was established.

Results/Outcomes: A total of 340 healthcare staff (216 doctors and 124 nurses) were identified through the Regional Departments of Health (according to MoH Order. 1597) or through self-referrals. In order of demand, 165 requests (120 doctors, 45 nurses) were submitted by healthcare facilities from (1) Kherson, (2) Mykolaiv and (3) Zaporizhzhia. All requests were met, aside from certain specialisms (i.e. neurosurgeon). The length of time for surge ranged from 3 to 6 months.

Conclusion: Despite the lack of regulatory documents and mechanism for engaging and deploying healthcare workers, the surge needs were successfully met for the Kakhovka dam breach emergency, although future efforts are required to attract certain specialisms to deploy.

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Fiji Emergency Medical Assistance Team - Tuvalu COVID-19 Surge Support

Marica Boleia Mataika MBBS¹, Jese Rokalevulevu Vatukela Msc¹, Litia Vatuvoka BEH², Larwata Nukutalai Leone¹, Viliame Nasila MBBS²

1. FEMAT, Suva, Suva, Fiji
2. MOHMS, Suva, Suva, Fiji

Background/Introduction: Tuvalu was one of the last countries in the world to experience widespread COVID-19