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Information bulletin

Pacific: TD03F and Tropical Cyclone Penny

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Glide n° TC-2018-000427-FJI	Date of issue: 4 January 2019
Date of disaster: 31 December 2018 (ongoing)	Point of contact: Cameron Vudi, Disaster Risk Manager
Operation start date: 31 December 2018	Expected timeframe: -
Host National Society(ies): Solomon Islands Red Cross Society (SIRCS)	
Number of people affected: -	Number of people to be assisted: 1,250
N° of National Societies currently involved in the operation (if available and relevant):-	
N° of other partner organizations involved in the operation (if available and relevant):-	

This bulletin is being issued for information only and reflects the current situation and information available at this time. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is continuing coordination and discussion with National Societies of the countries affected by TD03F and TC Penny and continue to monitor the evolving situation and the Solomon Islands Red Cross is considering DREF to be the main source of assistance.

The situation

Fiji Meteorological Services shared early warning on Tropical Disturbance 03F on 29 December 2018 located about 500 nautical miles/ 926km east of Honiara Solomon Island. The global models picked up the systems gradually move it southeast with further intensification. Both Fiji Meteorological services and Solomon Islands Meteorological Services (SIMS) had issued heavy rain and strong wind warnings to the public. The system was later upgraded to a Tropical Depression on 31 December and continued its predicted track south southeast heading towards Fiji waters.

Reports of localised flooding occurred in the Central Province, and Malaita with mostly gusty winds and heavy rain causing floods and affecting food gardens in the two areas mentioned above.

Additionally, Solomon Islands is also facing heavy rain and flash flooding in some of its provinces due to Tropical Cyclone (TC) Penny. TC Penny lies over the Coral Sea, of Australia, well away from the Queensland coast as a category 2 system. TC Penny is expected to remain off the coast throughout the weekend and into the early part of next week.

There has been reports that more than 200 homes and properties in Malaita were reportedly damage when strong wind and heavy rain pounded the province on New Year's night.



Rapid Assessment conducted by Volunteers. (Photo: SIRCS)

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Solomon Islands:

The Solomon Islands Red Cross Society through its Disaster Risk Management, logistics and Branch teams have been on standby with emergency operations centres being set up at headquarters and two branches namely Malaita and Western provinces. Reports received from both branches and volunteers around the country have indicated destruction and damages to dwellings and food gardens with the latter being more widespread. The National HQ emergency operations centre has been in constant communication with the Meteorology Service and National Disaster Management Office regarding information received and possible response collaboration. SIRCS has drafted a plan of action that is currently being adapted to DREF template and the request for allocation will be made soon.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, **encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



Save lives,
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.



Promote social inclusion
and a culture of
non-violence and **peace**.