

Information Bulletin n° 1 Glide n° [TC-2018-00037-FJI](#) 10 April 2018

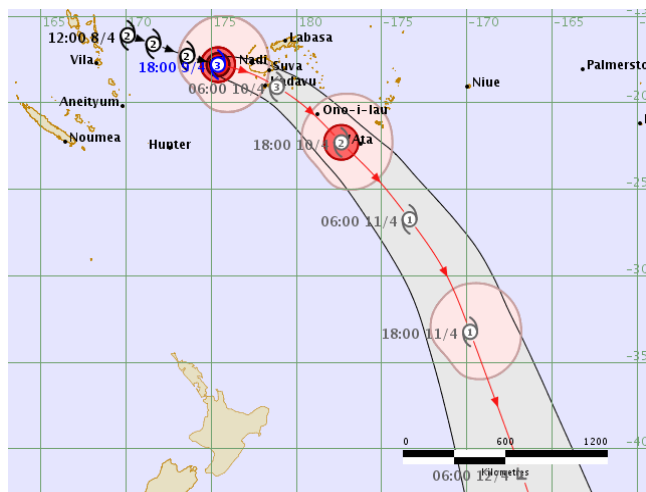
This bulletin is being issued for information only and reflects the current situation and information available at this time. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is coordinating discussions with National Societies of the countries affected by Tropical Cyclone Keni, and monitoring the evolving situation.

< [click here](#) for detailed contact information >

The situation

Tropical Cyclone (TC) Keni was initially monitored over the Pacific waters as a Tropical Disturbance 13F (TD13F) analyzed far West of Fiji. TD13F was later upgraded to a Tropical Cyclone Category 1 as it moved East South East towards Fiji.

According to the Fiji Meteorological Services website¹, TC Keni was upgraded to Category 2 as it moved towards the Fiji Group on the 9 April 2018. On the morning of 10 April 2018 TC Keni was again upgraded to Category 3 and was located near 17.8 South 175.4 East. Close to its centre the TC is expected to have average winds up to 100 km/hr with momentary gusts up to 150 km/hr. TC Keni is currently moving East Southeast at 20 km/hr. The system is expected to track south-eastwards in the next 12 hours and intensifying further as it moves towards Fiji. Meanwhile a rain band associated with TC Keni affects the Fiji Group. On this track Keni's centre is expected to be located 100 km southwest of Nadi at 3pm and about 130 km West of Ono I Lau and 260 km southeast of Kadavu at 3am 11 April 2018.



TC Keni Forecast Track Map issued by Fiji Meteorological Services on 09 April 2018.

A tropical cyclone warning is in effect for the whole Fiji Group. Strong wind and heavy rain warnings have been issued for all land areas of the western part of Viti Levu, Yasawa and Mamanuca Group, Vanua Levu, Taveuni and nearby smaller islands and Northern Lau Group. A heavy rain alert is in effect for the rest of Fiji.

A flood warning and alert has also been issued for low lying areas, small streams and areas adjacent to the rest of major rivers of Vanua Levu and Taveuni.

¹ http://www.met.gov.fj/aifs_prods/65661.html

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Fiji

In its response to TC Keni, the Fiji Red Cross Society has activated its National Emergency Operating Centre (EOC) as well as the Northern Divisional EOC whereas the Western Divisional EOC have continued its support in response to TC Josie which affected the Western part of Fiji only a week ago

All branches in the western division have allocated skeletal team in Branch EOCs. A briefing with the National Office and the Western Divisional EOC Office was conducted on the morning of 9 April to update staff and volunteers of the current weather conditions and the proposed Emergency Plan of Action for TC Keni. A total of 37 volunteers remain on standby as skeleton EOC teams in all Western Branches and their homes, including ERT trained volunteers. Preparedness on water, sanitation & hygiene issues continues to be prioritized in initial plans of the Western EOC and all Western Branch EOCs in the aftermath of the TC Josie response and in the lead up to preparations for TC Keni. Prioritization of updating stocks for key NFIs such as jerry cans/water containers, hygiene kits and dignity kits in branches is ongoing. Stocking and purchasing of personal protection equipment for volunteers for protection from diseases easily spread in affected communities.



Fiji Red Cross Society, Sigatoka Branch in the Western Division prepositioning relief items (Source: Fiji Red Cross Society Facebook Page, April 2018)

IFRC CCST Suva has activated its Business Continuity Plan and was moved from Orange to Red phase today while the country cluster is also on standby to support Fiji Red Cross including with communication needs on the current situation. The crisis management group of the CCST has been activated and actions in accordance with orange and red phases have been carried out. Staff based in Suva are advised to limit movements to within Suva during the next two days. IFRC APRO operations coordinator is also on standby.

On 9 April 2018 the Government of Fiji has activated a total of 43 evacuation centres in the Northern and Western Division with 9 and 34 evacuation centres respectively in these two divisions. So far, a total 2,060 evacuees are seeking shelter in the evacuation centres, with most of the evacuees coming from the Western Division (with 1,793 evacuees or 87 per cent). Schools have been closed for 9 and 10 April, and bus services are suspended today. The Fiji National Disaster Management Office advised civil servants to stay home today except those working in essential services.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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How we work

All FRC assistance seeks to adhere to the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) 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**.