

**Final Decision**

**CEO/2020/06-02 – Allocation for an Accelerated Funding Grant to Vanuatu:** The CEO, in her delegated authority from the Board of Directors, approves an allocation for an Accelerated Funding Grant, as described in the application submitted and summarized in Table 1.

<b>Table 1 - Vanuatu</b>		
a.	ESPIG Accelerated Funding Allocation	500,000
b.	Allocation Requested (100%)	499,796
<b>c.</b>	<b>Allocation Recommended</b>	<b>499,796</b>
d.	Grant Agent	Save the Children UK
e.	Agency Fee % - Amount	7% or 34,985.72
f.	Grant Agent's Implementation Support Costs	54,886 <sup>1</sup>
g.	Period	12 months
h.	Expected Start Date	July 1, 2020
i.	Funding Source	GPE

Annex A – Secretariat quality assurance review phase III report

<sup>1</sup> This amount is to be funded from the grant and is not in addition to the grant amount

## ANNEX A – Secretariat QAR III Report

### Accelerated Funding – QAR Phase 3 - SECRETARIAT DELEGATED AUTHORITY

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**Program title:** TC Harold Vanuatu Accelerated Recovery Program

**Total program cost:** US\$499,796, of which US\$54,886 for Grant Agent’s Implementation Support Costs;

**Implementation period:** 12 months

**Projected implementation start date:** July 1, 2020

**Grant Agent:** Save the Children UK

#### 1. ELIGIBILITY FOR ACCELERATED FUNDING

##### 1.1 ELIGIBILITY FOR ACCELERATED FUNDING<sup>2</sup>

Vanuatu meets the three eligibility criteria for accessing accelerated funding.

- (i) Vanuatu is eligible for education sector program implementation grant program (ESPIG) funding, with its maximum country allocation, US\$ 2.5 million, approved by the GPE Board in December 2019.
- (ii) While a humanitarian appeal by the UN Office of Coordination for Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) has been expected (but not yet issued), OCHA has already released US\$ 2.5 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund on April 13 for immediate humanitarian relief to Vanuatu in response to the damage caused by the Tropical Cyclone (TC) Harold on April 6, thus confirming the level of the emergency.<sup>3</sup> Based on rapid assessment, the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) developed the Tropical Cyclone Harold Education Emergency Response Action Plan which was approved by the government’s National Disaster Management Office on April 21 and endorsed by the Education Cluster. Regarding the Secretariat’s assessment of eligibility, while an OCHA appeal has not yet been launched, OCHA’s explanation for the release of CERF funds indicates the nature of the crisis and the urgent need, both of which provide a strong case to approve this application even prior to publication of an OCHA appeal.<sup>4</sup> This approach was specifically communicated to GPC whose members did not provide any objection.
- (iii) The application demonstrates that GPE funds will not displace government and/or other donor funds but rather complement other funds to support implementation of the response action plan which estimates US\$25.7 million of financial needs.

#### 2. COUNTRY AND EDUCATION SECTOR EMERGENCY CONTEXT

##### 2.1 COUNTRY BACKGROUND

Vanuatu is a lower middle-income country in the southern Pacific Ocean with a total population estimated 272 thousand. Its human development index ranking was at 141 out of 189 countries in

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<sup>2</sup> [GPE Guidelines for Accelerated Support in Emergency and Early Recovery Situations](#)

<sup>3</sup> <https://reliefweb.int/disaster/tc-2020-000049-vutj>

[https://cerf.un.org/sites/default/files/resources/CERF\\_Vanuatu%20\\_2.5m\\_%20PR\\_13042020%20%28002%29.pdf](https://cerf.un.org/sites/default/files/resources/CERF_Vanuatu%20_2.5m_%20PR_13042020%20%28002%29.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> Public comment from CERF notes, “Tropical Cyclone Harold made landfall in Vanuatu on 6 April on the island of Espiritu Santo, before hitting the Solomon Islands, Fiji and Tonga. Initial assessments suggest as much as 90 per cent of the population in Sanma, the most affected province of Vanuatu, lost their homes, and more than half of all schools and almost a quarter of health centres were damaged.”

2019<sup>5</sup>. The country's economy is based on small-scale agriculture, which provides a living for about two thirds of the population. Fishing, offshore financial services, and tourism are other mainstays of the economy<sup>6</sup>. Vanuatu is highly exposed to different natural hazards and the impacts of climate change. Geographically, it is located on the "ring of fire" with frequent earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. It also faces severe climatic risks with an annual cyclone seasons and frequent droughts and floods<sup>7</sup>.

Amid the COVID19 global pandemic, the head of state declared a state of emergency (SOE) on March 26 for two weeks. The second SOE was declared on April 11, responding to TC Harold which hit Vanuatu on April 6 causing fatal damage and loss in the country. TC Harold was the second strongest cyclone which hit Vanuatu, after the TC Pam in March 2015, ranked as Category 5 which is the strongest level among five levels, with the wind speed more than 252 km/h. The most affected population is located in the northern provinces of Sanma, Malampa and Penama. Initial assessments show that, in the province of Sanma, about 80 to 90 percent of the population is displaced and 60 percent of the schools and almost 70 percent of the health centres are damaged. Furthermore, the cyclone severely damaged about 70 percent of the buildings in Luganville, the second-largest city in the country<sup>8</sup>.

## **2.2 EDUCATION SECTOR OVERVIEW**

### **2.2.1 Education Sector Context**

Vanuatu's education system adapts the system of 2 (ECE) - 6 - 4 - 3 plus post-secondary education. The MOET is the overarching authority of the country's education sector, supported by church education authorities. Over 98% of primary schools in Vanuatu are either public schools, or government-assisted church schools, the latter in which church-operators are designated as 'Education Authorities' and operate under an agreement (and regulatory framework) with MoET to administer schools on behalf of the government. A total of 92.6 thousand students were enrolled in 2019 served by 4,230 teachers at 1,453 schools<sup>9</sup>. The gross enrollment rate (GER) and net enrollment rate (NER) in primary education in 2018 were 125% and 92% respectively<sup>10</sup>. In view of the gross intake rate to the last grade of primary education reported to the UIS in 2013, which was 91.7%, Vanuatu is deemed to have achieved the universal primary education. Nonetheless, the rates in secondary education in 2018 were 48% and 42% respectively. This shows a significant number of students drop out during secondary education. In terms of gender, the gender parity index on GER in 2018 in primary and secondary education were 0.95 and 1.13. This trend remains over the past four years. This shows that more boys than girls drop out through primary and secondary education. Learning outcome is a challenge. The proportion of students meeting the minimum standards in the Vanuatu Standardised Test of Achievement (VANSTA) showed that 35 percent of Year 4 students did not achieve the minimum literacy standard in English in 2017, though results have been improving over the years.

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<sup>5</sup> <http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/2019-human-development-index-ranking>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/nh.html>

<sup>7</sup> Program document, p.6

<sup>8</sup> <https://reliefweb.int/report/vanuatu/republic-vanuatu-tropical-cyclone-harold-caused-widespread-damage-agriculture-sector>

<sup>9</sup> Program document, p.6

<sup>10</sup> Vanuatu Education and Training Sector Analysis (ETSA) updated in 2019, p.25 and 27

### **2.2.2 Education Sector Emergency Response Context**

The MOET assessment team revealed that a significant number of schools (approximately 885 schools) in Sanma, Penama and Malampa provinces were partly or close to entirely destroyed. Many schools may not be able to operate because some schools' classrooms are used as evacuation centres, while others are close to entirely destroyed<sup>11</sup>. The MOET with support from the Education Cluster has developed its TC Harold Response Plan covering the above-mentioned three provinces, identified the following activities under two objectives to address the situation:

Objective 1: To ensure educators/trainers, teachers and students well-being is addressed during and after disaster

- 1) Conduct rapid and impact assessment in schools affected by TC Harold,
- 2) Provide temporary shelters for teachers/trainers,
- 3) Provide psychosocial support to teacher/trainers and students,
- 4) Repatriation and relocation of students and teachers whose schools are badly damaged,
- 5) Rehabilitation of WASH facilities in schools,

Objective 2: To ensure education and training continuity during and after disaster by providing support to schools, students, teachers/trainers and their families in the affected areas/islands/provinces and by providing safe schooling environment

- 6) Provide temporary learning shelters/spaces for students,
- 7) Provide replacement of teaching and learning resources/materials,
- 8) Provide financial assistance (boarding & exams fee exemption) to schools and students,
- 9) Rehabilitation of damaged classrooms, and
- 10) Provide communications to provincial and school levels.

A total of 3,089,389,570 VUV (Vanuatu Vatu, US\$ 25.7 million equivalent) is estimated to implement this response plan.

### **2.2.3 Sector/ Emergency Response Coordination**

The MOET TC Harold Task Force consisting of national officers such as the Director General and other directors of MOET departments, as well as a national program coordinator for education in emergencies who leads the implementation of the response plan. The Education Cluster, consisting of key members of the local education group, such as MOET, Save the Children, UNICEF, Australia, New Zealand, France, World Vision, Live and Lean, and Vanuatu Department of Strategic Policy Planning and Aid Coordination (DSPPAC), provides coordination, support and advice to the MOET's task force.

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<sup>11</sup> MOET TC Harold Response Plan Annex 1, p.1

### 3. ACCELERATED FUNDING PROGRAM

#### 3.1 PAST PERFORMANCE OF PRIOR ACCELERATED GRANT, IF APPLICABLE

Not applicable.

#### 3.2 PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The program is designed to respond to the activities 6) and 7) in the TC Harold Response Plan mentioned above. It will procure and distribute 125 classroom tents to provide temporary learning centres (TLCs) in primary schools in Malampa, Penama and Sanma which were damaged or in use as emergency shelters. It will also procure and distribute 125 sets of teaching and learning materials such as Year 1-3 teacher guides, Year 4-6 syllabus, reading materials, stationary, waterproof box, and chalkboard materials. TLCs will be established in places where female students and those with disabilities could easily and safely access. In total, approximately 2,775 primary school students and 125 primary school teachers will benefit from the program.

The grant agent was selected on April 9, 2020, immediately after the disaster happened, by the MOET and endorsed by the Education Cluster, which consists of key LEG members.

The program will rely on the Program Support Unit (PSU) which will be embedded in MOET to provide additional technical advice and fiduciary support, including MEAL (monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning), but its costs (US\$ 121,652) are expected to be covered by the Accelerated Funding for COVID19, not through this program's budget.

**Table A: Program Components and Costs**

	GPE Financing US\$	% of total GPE
<b>A</b> TLCs are established at damaged schools	271,557	100%
<b>B</b> TLCs are equipped with teaching and learning materials	167,020	100%
<b>C</b> Program management (audit)	6,333	100%
<b>Grant Agent's Implementation Support Costs*</b>	54,886	100%
<b>GRAND TOTAL (with Grant Agent's Implementation Support Costs)</b>	<b>499,796</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Agency Fees**</b>	34,985.72	

\* Include Grant Agent's direct costs, such as Program Management, Administrative and other direct implementation costs.

\*\* Agency Fee is not included in the MCA and is calculated as percentage rate (agreed with each GA) from the Total