

# La Soufrière Volcano

St. Vincent & the Grenadines

**Situation Report #14** 





















Office for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries

22 April 2021



#### **Situation Overview**

- The swarm of long-period and hybrid earthquakes continue but the rate of occurrence dropped significantly last night, April 16, 2021 around 8:00 pm and has remained near-constant since.
- Satellite images show that the new crater measures 900m x 750m and estimated to be 100m deep. New crater has several vents but only one is clearly identified.
- Another eruption occurred on April 18, 2021 at 4:49 pm. Ash clouds were moving towards the south and west of the island.
- Airport remains closed.
- The volcano alert level remains RED

NAME OF SHELTER <sup>1</sup>	TOTAL # OF PERSONS	MALE	FEMALE
Lodge Village Government School	140	53	87
Kingstown Government School	88	TBC	TBC
The Latter Day Saint Church shelters	45	24	21
New Adelthy Secondary School	51	34	17
New Ground Primary School	56	31	25
Diamond Primary	34	22	12
Kingdom Life Ministries Church and School	16	9	7
Barrouallie Learning Resource Center	76	34	42
Barrouallie Technical Institute	48	24	24
Barrouallie Government School	70	45	25
Petershope Central Leeward Secondary School	114	67	47

HIGHLIGHTS		
Estimated # of affected	16,000-	
persons/evacuees	20,000	
# of villages evacuated	30	
# of public shelters	85	
# persons in public shelters	6,208	
# displaced families	1,800	
# displaced persons in private shelters	6,567	
# Missing persons	0	
# Injured persons	0	
# Deaths	0	
# medevacs	0	
# evacuated health facilities	13	
(2 hospitals, all others are clinics)		
# COVID-19 isolation centres	3	
Capacity (beds) on main island <sup>1</sup> , at least	200	
Capacity (beds) in the Grenadines <sup>2</sup> , at least	21	
# Active COVID-19 cases	131	
Total vaccines administered	250	
14 April 2021		
Teams of four nurses visit the shelters daily to ad-		

minister COVID-19 vaccinations and tests; as well as carry out syndromic surveillance (Coughs, Fevers and Diarrhoea); none of these three symptoms were reported.

<sup>1 &</sup>amp; 2 Total capacity of beds, not # of available beds based on occupancy

<sup>1</sup> All shelters inspected by PAHO

#### **Health Situation**



- The Chief Medical Officer (CMO) outlined the following health service challenges resulting from ashfall:
  - About 200 (10%) of Ministry of Health staff (MOH) is displaced and either living with family or in shelter.
  - Significant loss of analytical, diagnostic and storage capacity at hospital located in red zone
  - Although incidental cases of coughs, fever and diarrhoea, the syndromic surveillance did not report increase in coughs, fever and diarrhoea
  - MOH needs better Emergency Operating Center (EOC) facility as well

## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

PAHO WASH advisor who conducted assessment of water quality reported:

- · Residual chlorine sampling in Kingstown is significantly improved.
- Trinidad laboratory returned analyses of water samples tested last week. Results show no detectible iron, arsenic, copper, manganese and zinc but very low levels of aluminium in the source and treated water. Fluoride varied between 0.12 and 0.59 ppm, well below the WHO health-based guideline of 1.5 ppm
- Additional 12 water samples have been shipped to Martinique for assessment of: pH, turbidity, fluorine, arsenic, aluminium, manganese, iron, zinc, copper, mercury and lead. The Lady Debbie, received the samples for departure Tuesday or Wednesday.
- Shipment of bulk water is posing a problem as there is no capacity to store the water on shore and distribute it to storage tanks in communities and shelters.
- Public water supply system is up and running and there is no need for bulk water for this present emergency .
- WASH advisor discussed with CMO improvements of water supply at heath care facilities following the Smart Hospitals concept: Installing large water storage at ground level to be filled by solar pump.

### **Response Actions**

- Continued coordination with Ministry of Health on health emergency actions
- Continued monitoring of water quality in health care facilities
- Finalization of joint proposal with WFP, to be submitted to ECHO
- Discussions with potential donors on PAHO Donor Alert and its priority lines of action on:
  - Ensure continued operation and surge capacity of essential health services island-wide
  - Strengthen local capacity for the prevention, timely detection, and control of infections
  - Ensure operational logistic support and efficient coordination of health emergency response operations



Photo credit: Solandnie Laborde Hooper

From left: Mr. Craig Williams - UNICEF, Mr. Didier Trebucq - UN Resident Coordinator, Mrs. Nicole Slack-Liburd - PAHO Country Program Specialist, Eng. Ton Vlugman - PAHO WASH Expert, Dr. Aloys Kamuragiye - UNICEF Representative for the Eastern Caribbean Area, Mr. Cuthbert Knights, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment, Hon. St. Clair Prince, Minister of Health, Wellness, and the Environment, and Dr. Simone Keizer-Beache, Chief Medical Officer



Photo credit: Alex Williams

Delivery of 10 - 450 gallon water tanks and 10 - water pumps provided by PAHO to the to the Ministry of Health

#### Reference

- 1. Ministry of Health Facebook
- 2. PAHO Situation Reports and Donor Alert
- 3. International Volcanic Health Hazard Network (IVHHN): a protocol for ash collection, IVHHN ash protection pamphlet, leaflet

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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## ANNEX

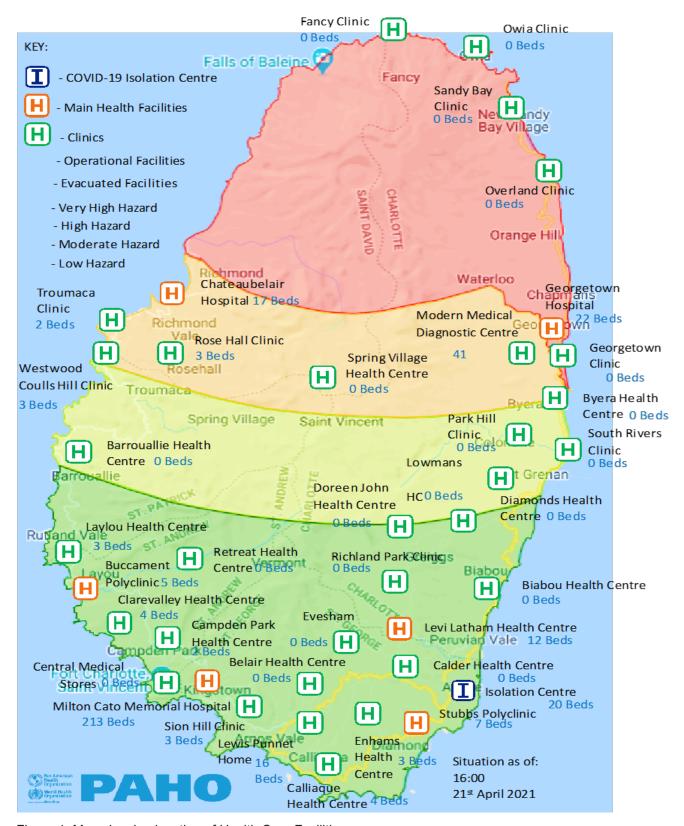


Figure 1. Map showing location of Health Care Facilities

# **Tracking Table of Health Needs (21 April 2021)**

PAHO is currently reviewing the revised health needs list of the Ministry of Health dated 18 April. Currently, PAHO has the following items delivered/available:

ITEM	QUANTITY	STATUS
Generator	1	In Stock
Mosquito nets	100	In Stock
Oral Hydration Salts (boxes)	3	In Stock
Aquatabs	40,000	Purchased (Expected delivery to MoH 24 April 2021)
Aquatabs 8.68g	24,480	Purchased (Expected delivery to MoH 24 April 2021)
Water testing kits	6	In Stock
Water testing kits	2	Delivered to CWSA 16 April 2021
Masks	100,000	Delivered to CWSA 16 April 2021
Streamline High-Wall Split NC System, DC Inverter 9000 BTU, 2.6KW (Installed) (OM)	4	Purchased (Awaiting installation by vendor)
Streamline High-WallSplit NC System, DC Inverter 24000 BTU, 7.0KW (Installed) (OM)	2	Purchased (Awaiting installation by vendor)
3M Dual Cartridge Respirator (Medium) (C12)	14	Purchased (Pending delivery)
3M Pre-Filter for 51P71 & 52P71 Respirator (pack of 10)	177	Purchased (Pending delivery)
3M Half Face Mask W/O Cartridges (EA) (B24)	10	Purchased (Pending delivery)
3M Multiple Gas Cartridge (Multi-Acid Gas/Organic Vapour) For 6200 1/2 Mask - Pair (B30)	10	Purchased (Pending delivery)
3M Filter Retainer for 51P71, 52P71, 53P71(B20)	20	Purchased (Pending delivery)
Bladder tank 10m3, distrib ramp, repair kit, cover	1	Purchased (Delivery to MoH 24 April 2021)
Surgical Mask	100,000	Purchased (Delivery to MoH 24 April 2021)
Face Shield	5,000	Purchased (Delivery to MoH 24 April 2021)
First responder's trauma backpacks	30	Purchased (Delivery to MoH 24 April 2021)
Jerry cans (collapsible)	1,000	Purchased (Delivery to MoH 24 April 2021)
O2 cylinders	50	Purchased (Delivery to MoH 24 April 2021)
Bladder tank 5m3 w/accessories, 6-point distrib.Ramp	2	Purchased (Delivery to MoH 24 April 2021)
Bladder tank 10m3 w/accessories, 6-point distrib. Ramp	1	Purchased (Delivery to MoH 24 April 2021)
Aquatabs 67 mg for 10 liters, box of 1,600 blister x 10 tablets	30	Delivered to CWSA 16 April 2021
Aquatabs 8.68 gr for 1,000 liters, bottle, x60 tablets	100	Delivered to CWSA 16 April 2021
Aquatabs 33 mg for 5 liters, box of 10,000 tablets	15	Delivered to CWSA 16 April 2021
450 Gallon water tanks	10	Purchased SVG (Delivery to MoH 24 April 2021)
Water pumps	10	Purchased SVG (Delivery to MoH 24 April 2021)
Respirator masks dual cartridge	200	Purchased SVG (Delivery to MoH 24 April 2021)