

La Soufrière Volcano

St. Vincent & the Grenadines

Situation Report #17





















Office for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries

26 April 2021



Situation Overview

- Last explosive eruption was reported around 11:09 am on April 22, 2021.
- Seismic activity at La Soufriere has remained low since the tremor associated with the explosion and ash venting around noon on April 22, 2001. The volcano continues to erupt. Its pattern of seismic activity over the last few days is typical of the growth and destruction of lava domes. Explosions with accompanying ashfall, of similar or larger magnitude, can occur with little or no warning. The volcano is at alert level RED.
- Argyle International Airport reopened on Saturday April 24, 2021 with Cargo Terminal returning to normal operations from Friday April 23, 2021. Some airlines (incl. American Airlines) postponed their services until May 1, 2021

NAME OF SHELTER	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	19	11	8
Barrouallie Learning Resource Center	76	34	42
Barrouallie Technical Institute	48	24	24
Barrouallie Government School	61	34	27

Petershope Central Leeward Secondary School	114	67	47
Brethren Grace and Truth Bible Camp	42	21	21
TOTAL	774	355	331

HIGHLIGHTS		
Estimated # of affected persons/evacuees	16,000- 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	6,790	
# 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 island¹, at least	200	
Capacity (beds) in the Grenadines ² , at least	21	
# Active COVID-19 cases ³	122	
Total vaccines administered 22 April 2021	13,852	
Teams of health personnel visit the shelters daily to admin-		

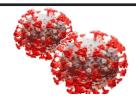
ister COVID-19 vaccinations and tests; as well as carry out syndromic surveillance (Coughs, Fevers and Diarrhoea); none of these three symptoms were reported.

^{1 &}amp; 2 Total capacity of beds, not # of available beds based on occupancy 3 As of 26 April, 2021

Health Situation











- Three (3) new cases of COVID-19 were reported from a total of 317 samples processed by the laboratory between April 20 22, 2021, bringing the total number of active cases to 109. Eight (8) new recoveries were recorded on April 22, 2021. The Ministry of Health (MoH) urges the public to continue to wear masks, sanitize, physical distance, and get vaccinated to reduce the spread of COVID-19.
- MoH also informed the public that outpatient Clinics and Community Mental Health Services outside the
 red zone continue. Persons who were displaced without their medication are advised to contact the Mental
 Health Rehabilitation Center or nearest health center. MoH urges the public to keep children safe while in
 shelters, and to protect their homes from ash.
- A team from BRAGSA removed volcanic ash from the roof of the Modern Medical Complex in Georgetown.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- WASH experts determined that the shipping of bulk water is inappropriate and unnecessary as there are no facilities to offload and store bulk water from vessels at the harbour or elsewhere.
- · There is very limited infrastructure to transport bulk water.
- According to CWSA (water authorities in VCT) the water supply system is 90% restored.

Health Needs

Hemodialysis services are currently not available at the Modern Medical and Diagnostic Centre (Georgetown) due to its evacuation. Services are being provided at the Milton Cato Memorial Hospital, as well as a private facility in the Green green zone in the immediate term. The Ministry of Health is exploring plans to decentralize these services in the long term so as not to concentrate in one location.

- Improve Health Information Services with respect to Supply Chain Management
- Support HEOC and coordination of health support
- · Health Risk communication
- Vector control
- Clean-up operations in health care facilities
- Damage assessments of health care facilities
- WASH expertise
- Air quality evaluation (by UNEP with support from PAHO and IVHHN)

PAHO Response Actions

- Continued coordination with Ministry of Health on health emergency response interventions.
- Arrival in VCT on April 24, 2021 with support from RSS: Ms Lealou Reballos, PAHO response team member, to support health sector coordination.
- The VCT PAHO response team met with the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) on April 26, 2021 to review priority health needs.
- Visited Evesham Health Centre to have a better understanding of plans to relocated dialysis services in this facility.
- Provide regular health update at the Caribbean Partners Development Group (CPDG)
- Participate in the inter-agency shelter meeting which discussed immediate and long-term housing requirements. PAHO Wash advisor provided further input on assessments and medium-term interventions to improve functionality of shelters
- Receipt of medical supplies and materials according the MoH health needs list. Supplies (see last page SITREP) were transported from Barbados with WFP vessel Admiral Bay and arrived in VCT on April 24, 2021 at 8:00 am.
- PAHO continues to meet with UNEP team and other partners to develop a plan on safe removal of the ashes and waste management, including the recycling of PET bottles.



Assessment of Chateaubelair Smart Hospital Photo credit: Lealou Reballos

Reference

- 1. Ministry of Health Facebook
- 2. NEMO Facebook
- 3. UWI Seismic Research Unit
- 4. CWSA Facebook
- 5. PAHO Situation Reports and Donor Alert
- 6. International Volcanic Health Hazard Network (IVHHN): <u>a protocol for ash collection</u>, <u>IVHHN ash protection pamphlet</u>, <u>leaflet</u>
- MoH VCT COVID-19 travel protocol: COVID-19 Protocol for the working quarantine Humanitarian Updated 16 April 2021 (www.gov.vc)
- 8. COVID-19 Protocol for the WORKING QUARANTINE Humanitarian-UPDATED 16APR2021 (www.gov.vc)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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ANNEX

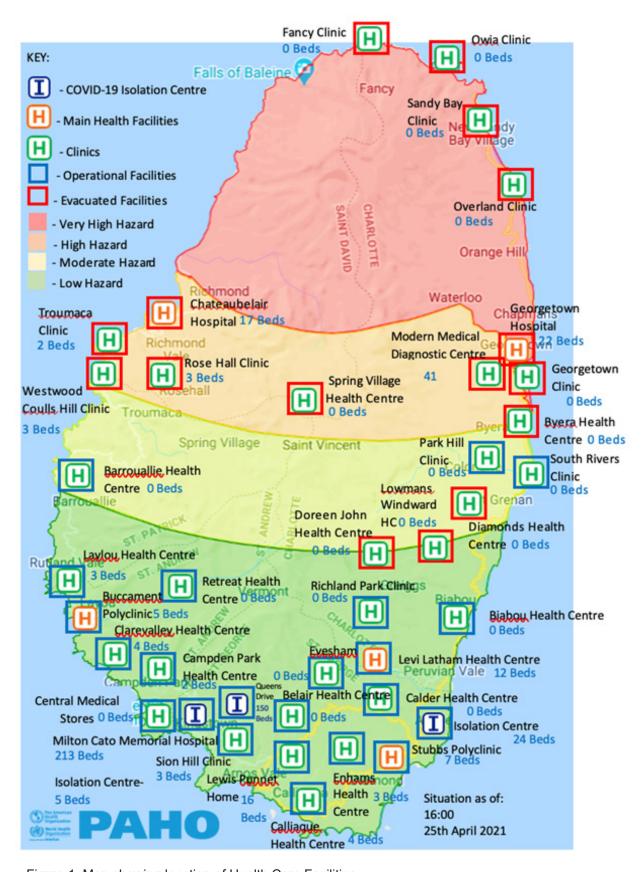


Figure 1. Map showing location of Health Care Facilities

Tracking Table of Health Needs

PAHO is currently reviewing the 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	Arrived 24 April 2021, pending delivery
Aquatabs 8.68g	24,480	Arrived 24 April 2021, pending delivery
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	Delivered to MoH 24 April 2021
Surgical Mask	100,000	Delivered to MoH 24 April 2021
Face Shield	12,000	Delivered to MoH 24 April 2021
First responder's trauma backpacks	30	Delivered to MoH 24 April 2021
Jerry cans (collapsible)	1,000	Delivered to MoH 24 April 2021
O2 cylinders	50	Delivered to MoH 24 April 2021
Bladder tank 5m3 w/accessories, 6-point distrib.Ramp	2	Delivered to MoH 24 April 2021
Bladder tank 10m3 w/accessories, 6-point distrib. Ramp	1	Delivered 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	Delivered to MoH 24 April 2021
Water pumps	10	Delivered to MoH 24 April 2021
Respirator masks dual cartridge	200	Purchased (Pending delivery)