

# La Soufrière Volcano

St. Vincent & the Grenadines

**Situation Report #16** 















Office for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries

24 April 2021



## **Situation Overview**

- Volcano continues to erupt. Another explosive eruption was reported around 11:09am on April 22, 2021
- Argyle International Airport to reopen on Saturday April 24, 2021 with Cargo Terminal returning to normal operations from Friday April 23, 2021
- 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	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	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	6,790	
# 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 <sup>2</sup> , at least	21	
# Active COVID-19 cases	131	
Total vaccines administered	250	
14 April 2021		
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Teams of four nurses visit the shelters daily to administer COVID-19 vaccinations and tests; as well as carry out syndromic surveillance (Coughs, Fevers and Diarrhoea); none of these three symptoms were reported.

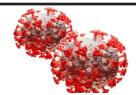
<sup>1 &</sup>amp; 2 Total capacity of beds, not # of available beds based on occupancy

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

#### **Health Situation**











#### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Central Water and Sewerage Authority (CWSA) announced that beginning today (April 22), a nightly reduction of water supply to 12 villages, including Kingstown, due to reduction in river flows and increased demand.
- Public water supply is being restored to about 90% capacity and shelters are at least getting daily but intermitted water, either through the supply system or by truck.
- PAHO WASH expert met with CWSA to discuss collaboration between PAHO/UNICEF/Water Mission on strengthening resilience and operation efficiency of CWSA, specifically through:

- Purchase of new WaterTruck (UNICEF/Water Mission)
- 2. Laboratory Capacity in collaboration with HACH (UNICEF/PAHO)
- 3. Reduction in unaccounted for water (Water Mission)
- 4. Groundwater exploration (Water Mission)
- 5. Turbidity actuator (automatically closing intake when turbidity is in access of threshold level.) (Water Mission)
- 6. Sludge management from sedimentation chamber at water treatment plant (Water Mission)

#### **Environmental Health**

- PAHO met with UNEP team to discuss:
  - Plans on safe removal of the ashes and waste management, including the recycling of PET bottles.
  - Future collaboration between the health sector and the UNEP team.
- PAHO visited <u>All Islands Recycling (AIC) Ltd</u> which can recycle 250000 PET bottles per day (8 hrs workday) and exports about one 40ft container with shredded PET bottles every six weeks. Unfortunately, PET collection has halted during COVID-19.

#### **Health Needs**

- Evacuate Dialysis and oncology services from Modern Medical Centre (Georgetown) to a facility in the Green zone in the immediate term. Plans by MoH to decentralize these services in the long term so they are not concentrated in one location.
- Improve Health Information Systems
- Support H-EOC and coordination of (international) health support
- Health Risk communication
- Vector control
- Cleaning of health care facilities

## **PAHO Response Actions**

- Continued coordination with Ministry of Health on health emergency actions. Prepare transportation for Ms. Lealou Reballos to travel to VCT with RSS on 24-4-2021.
- · Continued monitoring of water quality in health care facilities and shelters
- Provided regular health update at the Caribbean Development Partnership Group (CDPG)
- Participated 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
- Facilitated the meeting on air quality, which included participation from MoH, CARPHA and IVHHN
- Delivery of medical supplies and materials according the MoH health needs list. Supplies will be transported from Barbados with WFP vessel Admiral Bay. ETA in VCT is April 24, 2021 at 8:00 am. Supplies will be stored in logistic hub WFP at the old airport. Urgently needed supplies such as the SARS-CoV-2 PCR test kits and laboratory supplies will be directly delivered to MoH and the Laboratory manager.



Photo credit: Adrianus Vlugman
PAHO and MoH Personnel reviewing delivered medical supplies and materials, supplied by PAHO according to the MoH needs list (see annex).



Photo credit: Adrianus Vlugman
Medical supplies and materials, supplied by PAHO according to the MoH
needs list (see annex), arrived in VCT 24 April 2021.

#### Reference

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

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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## ANNEX

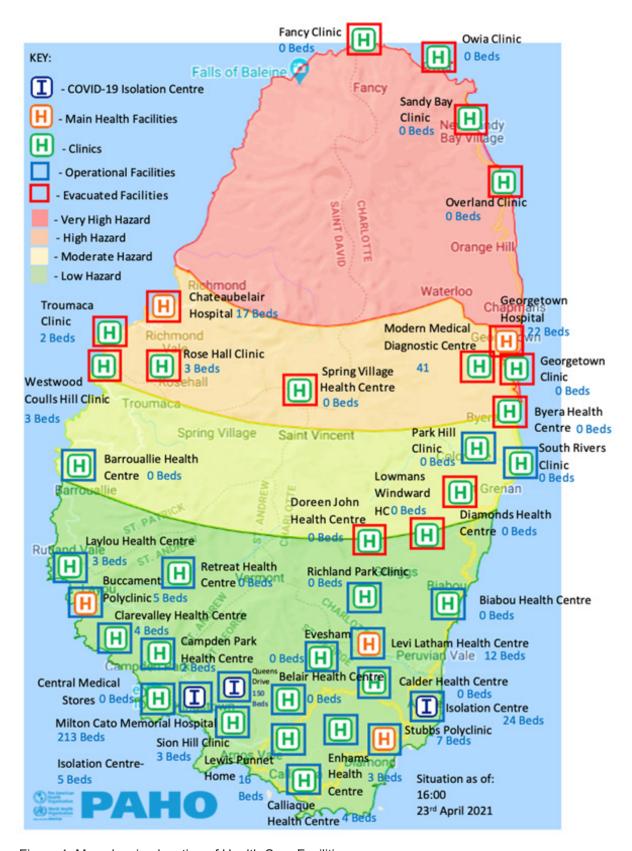


Figure 1. Map showing location of Health Care Facilities

# **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	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)