

La Soufrière Volcano

St. Vincent & the Grenadines

Situation Report #18



















Office for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries

29 April 2021



Situation Overview

- NEMO issued warning for red and orange zones for mud flows within river system on April 27.
- 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	133		
Total vaccines administered 27 April 2021	13,998		
Teams of health personnel visit the shelters daily to admin-			

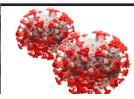
ister COVID-19 vaccinations and tests; as well as carry out syndromic surveillance (Coughs, Fevers and Diarrhoea); none of these three symptoms were reported.

^{1 &}amp; 2 Total capacity of beds, not # of available beds based on occupancy 3 As of 27 April, 2021

Health Situation











- Five (5) new cases of COVID-19 were reported from a total of 89 samples processed by the laboratory on April 27, 2021, bringing the total number of active cases to 133. One (1) new recovery was recorded on April 27, 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 the Roads, Buildings & General Services Authority (BRAGSA) removed volcanic ash from the roof of the Modern Medical Complex in Georgetown.

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 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. The Dialysis Services from the Modern Medical Centre were recently transferred to the The Evesham Health Centre, which will be open to the public from April 29, 2021. Other health needs include the following:
 - Improve Health Information Services with respect to logistics and 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 monitoring with the lead agency (UNEP) and technical support from the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and International Volcano Health Hazard Network (IVHHN).
 - Support Surveillance data collection

PAHO Response Actions

- Proposed location for temporary Health EOC visited. PAHO will pay for the rental of the building and support health emergency coordination with CMO and MoH Health Disaster Coordinator.
- Additional storage capacity for MoH is being explored, to be located next to Health EOC.
- Delivered 400 bottles of 60 Aquatabs (8.68 a.i.) to CWSA.
- PAHO donated 90.000 Aquatabs 3mg/l to MOH Environmental Health, for household use.
- On April 27, 2021 a meeting was held with Stewart Engineering (contractor for smart hospital project) to discuss a project proposal to increase resilience of Health Care Facilities with focus on WASH.
- Visited 11 Health Care facilities (HCF) with Stewart Engineering along the east coast from Georgetown to
 Evesham to assess water supply situation and water storage capacity. Findings will provide input for the
 selection of facilities to increase water storage capacity.
- On April 27, 2021, a coordination meeting of the WASH LAC (UNICEF) group was held. It was the first time that CWSA and DEHS participated as well as many international NGO's, some on the ground.
- Supported deep clean operation at Evesham Health Centre to facilitate opening on April 29, 2021
- In collaboration with MoH, first Health Sector coordination meeting set up in VCT to be held on April 29, 2021 at 2:00 pm
- Purchasing vector control items for shelters
- Continue damage assessments of health care facilities according to priorities of the MoH
- PAHO/WHO Representative for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries, Dr. Yitades Gebre, arrived in VCT on 28 April, will stay until 2 May 2021. His trip will include visiting selected health care facilities, discussions with PM, PS and CMO and hand over critical supplies.
- Facilitate the transportation of ash samples in coordination with UNEP and IVHHN
- Promoted health communication messaging, including printing of posters (COVID-19 vaccination, use of water, cleaning of ash) for health care facilities and shelters
- PAHO to provide MHPSS services coordination in St Vincent and the Grenadines. Plans for short visit of PAHO MHPSS Advisor being made.
- Organized logistics of PCR test kits and laboratory supplies, to arrive with RSS on April 30, 2021. Facilitated donation by CDEMA of 40,000 medical gloves.

Reference

- 1. Ministry of Health Facebook
- 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>, leaflet
- 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

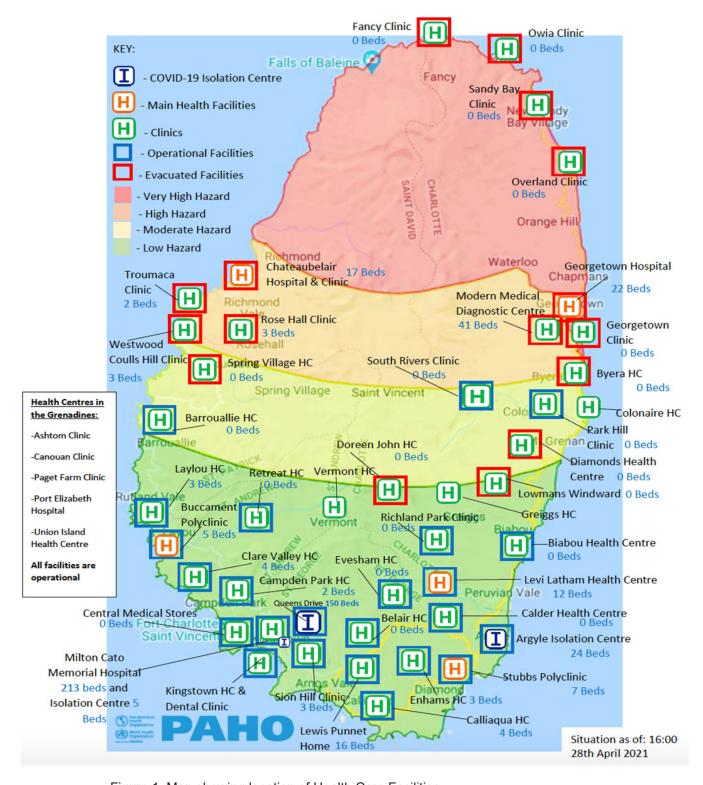


Figure 1. Map showing location of Health Care Facilities

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 PAHO Barbados
Mosquito nets	100	In Stock PAHO Barbados
Oral Hydration Salts (boxes)	3	In Stock PAHO Barbados
Aquatabs	40,000	Delivered to MoH 24 April 2021
Aquatabs 8.68g	24,480	Delivered to MoH 24 April 2021
Water testing kits	6	In Stock PAHO Barbados
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 VCT (Awaiting installation by vendor)
Streamline High-WallSplit NC System, DC Inverter 24000 BTU, 7.0KW (Installed) (OM)	2	Purchased VCT (Awaiting installation by vendor)
3M Dual Cartridge Respirator (Medium) (C12)	14	Purchased VCT (Pending delivery)
3M Pre-Filter for 51P71 & 52P71 Respirator (pack of 10)	177	Purchased VCT (Pending delivery)
3M Half Face Mask W/O Cartridges (EA) (B24)	10	Purchased VCT (Pending delivery)
3M Multiple Gas Cartridge (Multi-Acid Gas/Organic Vapour) For 6200 1/2 Mask - Pair (B30)	10	Purchased VCT (Pending delivery)
3M Filter Retainer for 51P71, 52P71, 53P71(B20)	20	Purchased VCT (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	In Stock PAHO Barbados
Bladder tank 10m3 w/accessories, 6-point distrib. Ramp	1	In Stock PAHO Barbados
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)
Male urinals	30	Delivered to MoH 24 April 2021
Buckets with covers	125	Delivered to MoH 24 April 2021
Caution tape	15	Delivered to MoH 24 April 2021
Reflective vests	48	Delivered to MoH 24 April 2021
Working gloves	143	Delivered to MoH 24 April 2021
PCR test kits	10	Purchased (Delivery to MoH April 30th)
Nitrile gloves	2000	Purchased (Delivery April 30th)
Rainboots (PVC)	50	Purchased (Pending delivery)
Gas masks with 30 filters	15	Delivered to MoH 24 April 2021
Goggles	200	Delivered to MoH 24 April 2021
Helmets	80	Delivered to MoH 24 April 2021