

EXPLOSIVE ERUPTION AT LA SOUFRIÈRE VOLCANO, ST. VINCENT

SITUATION REPORT No. 13

AS OF 8:00 PM ON 14 APRIL, 2021

Volcanic Eruptions Continue at La Soufrière, St. Vincent

LOCATION:

La Soufrière Volcano, Saint Vincent and The Grenadines

PRESENT ACTIVITY:

Ongoing Explosive Eruption

ALERT LEVEL: RED

Red	Eruption is in progress or may occur without further warning	Measurements as permitted by safety condition. Civil authorities advised continuously.	Coordinate continued evaluation as necessary. Organize regular radio and television announcements.
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Evacuation Orders have been issued. Access to the volcano is strictly prohibited.



Explosive eruption at 11:32 AM 14/4/21. Photo Credit: T. Christopher of UWI-SRC

SITUATION OVERVIEW

The latest Scientific Advisory from the UWI Seismic Research Centre (SRC) issued at 6:00 AM on 14th April, 2021, reported the following:

- Seismic activity at La Soufrière continued the pattern established yesterday (Tuesday 13th April),
- Small long-period earthquakes continued to gradually increase in number after the explosive activity at 6:30am on 13th April. These continued until another episode of explosive activity started at 8:30 pm on 13th April. This generated continuous seismic tremor which lasted for four to five hours.
- The latest explosive eruption occurred today 14th April at 11:21 am.
- The explosions which occurred pulsed for >40 minutes and produced pyroclastic density currents (PDCs) which, appears to have gone down valleys that drain towards the Rabacca River on the east coast of the island.
- Its current pattern of explosions appears to be episodic with increasing intervals noted over the past 24 hours.
- Explosions and accompanying ashfall, of similar or larger magnitude, are likely to continue to occur over the next few days.

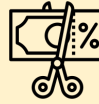
Updates from Impacted CDEMA Participating State

The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) has been in regular contact with NEMO St. Vincent and the Grenadines and the following was reported:

St. Vincent & the Grenadines Actions



- 89 Shelters activated
- 4,021 housed in shelters
- 2,045 (850 families) evacuees sheltering with friends/family



The Government of SVG has approved 100% waiver of ALL import taxes and fees for relief supplies, water and barrels from April 12 to June 30, 2021. See details on www.cdema.org

- The **National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC)** is activated and operational 24 hrs.
- The Hon. Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves held a press briefing on 14 April 2021 to update the nation on the situation.
- Prime Minister Gonsalves pleaded with persons to leave the red zone. Over the last five days, 127 people have been rescued in Owia, a community located in the red zone, despite evacuation orders given last week.
- The Government has been in discussions with regional and global tourism entities as well as international Governments including Canada, USA, France and England.
- Fifty (50) security personnel from Trinidad and Tobago are currently on the ground. An additional 40 personnel via the Regional Security System (30 from the Barbados Defence Force plus 10 others) and 10 personnel from Grenada are expected.
- Water supply systems are about 65% restored in four (4) areas in the red zone: Owia, Sandy Bay, Fancy and Hermitage.
- Water has been received via vessels from Barbados, Dominica, Venezuela and private sector entities/donors.
- The Ministry of Mobilisation et al is facilitating a cash voucher programme to support displaced families.
- A dedicated hotline number is established 784-526-3000 to facilitate calls into the EOC.
- A satellite EOC is established next to the main EOC to facilitate relief and shelter management.
- Families living overseas are encouraged to send monetary donations rather than small packages to avoid putting undue stress on the ports to process multiple small packages. Bulk shipping should be done where possible.

The National Emergency Management Organisation (NEMO) continues to coordinate the response to this emergency and will continue to provide updates to the public.



Coordination of the Regional Response Mechanism

- Detailed Damage Sector Assessment (DDSA) Team is scheduled to arrive in St Vincent on Wednesday 14th April. The team comprises specialists from CARPHA, CARDI, CARILEC, RSS, FAO, PAHO and UNICEF.
- CARICOM Disaster Relief Unit (CDRU) being mobilized to assist with relief management at the Port and other humanitarian assistance needs on the ground.
- Coordinating pledges and donations from CDEMA PS, regional and international partners; daily partner coordination briefings. Please contact the Regional Coordination Center via rcuser@cdema.org
- The public is being advised to coordinate relief supplies with their National Disaster Office in country
- Accounts established for direct donations to St. Vincent relief efforts and the regional disaster response fund (see page 4 for details)

NEEDS LIST (as of 14th April 2021)

RELIEF ITEM	PRIORITY (HIGH, MEDIUM, LOW)	QUANTITY	COMMENTS/REMARKS
Water Tanks 800 gallons	H	100	Target – shelters No. of shelters : 100
Water Tank 1,000 gallons	H	100	Target for agriculture sector – farms and livestock
Water bladders collapsible	H	50	200 gallon
Water bladders collapsible	H	50	100 gallon
Water bladders collapsible	H	20,000	To be provided in minimum quantities of 5 gallon bottles
Buckets (5 gallons)	H	5,000	Target – shelters laundry and shower
¹ Water - Drinking and domestic hygiene (gallons)	H	12,774,194	Water for full population of the country, 110,000 for 30 days
Drinking water 24x500 ml	H	40,000	
Drinking water 12x1 litre (7 days supply)	H	28,000	
Drinking water 4x4 litre	H	45,000	
Portable Potties (Toilets)	H	150	For Shelters
Blankets	H	10,000	For shelters
Respirator masks with filters	H	10,000	Target - front line and first responders
Hygiene Kits	H	Hygiene Kits	For Shelterees/evacuees

NEEDS LIST cont'd (as of 14th April 2021)

RELIEF ITEM	PRIORITY (HIGH, MEDIUM, LOW)	QUANTITY	COMMENTS/REMARKS
Mattresses	H	1000	54 x 75 double
Mattresses	H	1000	Single
Disposable Food Containers Paper or biodegradable	H	20,000	Plates, Forks,Cups, Spoons, Soup bowls
Wheelchairs	H	600	
Walkers	H	1,000	
Field Tents (20ft x 20ft)	M	30	For shelters
Field Tents (10ft x 10ft)	M	20	For shelters
Field Kitchen	M	2	Provide meals to the shelters
Reflective Vests	M	2,000	First responders and volunteers
Caution Tape (100ft roll)	M	100	Cordoning of emergency sites
Generators	M	100	7,500 W
Sleeping Mats	L	1,000	Contingency for shelters (in lieu of cots)
Food items (for impacted population 20,000)			
Water pumps		50	3-5hpa
¹ Notes to the drinking water calculations: 15 litre per day; 30 days; pop 110,000;convert to gallons at 3.875l per gallon			

Support being provided by RRM and other Partners as at 14 April



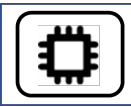
LOGISTICS SUPPORT

- JetBlue Airways has offered to aid in the transporting of volunteers and limited supplies in accordance with the capabilities of the airline's aircraft.



RELIEF SUPPORT

- The French Military vessel 'Ventose', shipped on 13th April relief items including: water, cleaning kits, hydroalcoholic gels, surgical masks and FFP2 masks
- UNICEF providing one box containing 100 x 10L collapsible water containers to be shipped on 14 April 2021
- USAID is providing an immediate \$100,000 in disaster relief for people affected by violent eruptions of La Soufrière Volcano on the island of Saint Vincent.
- The LASCO Chin Foundation and Lasco Manufacturing in Jamaica have pledged to provide water in support of relief efforts.



ICT SUPPORT

- Digicel has pledged to support connectivity for the deployment teams on the ground in St. Vincent.



WASH

- FAO deployed a WASH expert on 11th April to provide essential WASH support to the Caribbean Water and Wastewater Association and Ministry of Health (MoH).



EVACUATION

- The US Embassy is coordinating with Royal Caribbean Cruises for a maritime evacuation of US citizens from St. Vincent on Friday, 16 April to Dutch Sint Maarten. Boarding on the Celebrity Reflection will begin at 7:00 A.M. It will depart Kingstown Port, St. Vincent at 1:00 P.M.



COORDINATION

- UN System: Meeting of the UNST convened on 14 April. The UNETT mechanism will facilitate consolidation of information on the various sectors pre-identified to present UN agencies' various interventions.

List of preparatory actions being undertaken by RRM and other Partners



DONATIONS (*monetary donations rather than relief supplies are encouraged at this time*)

The Office of the Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines has provided banking information for donations to be made for disaster relief.

For further credit to:

Bank of America
SWIFT Code: BOFAUS3M

Name: Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines
Accountant General - Disaster Relief Fund

Bank of New York
SWIFT Code: IRVTUS3N

Bank: Bank of St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Address: Bedford Street, Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Account No.: 137741

Swift Code: NCBVVC22

Donations may also be given through CDEMA Emergency Assistance Fund via the banking details below:

Company Name and Address

CARIBBEAN DISASTER EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT AGENCY (CDEMA)
Address: Resilience Way, Lower Estate,
St. Michael, Barbados, West Indies

For persons outside of Barbados:

Intermediary Bank: Wells Fargo Bank, NA
SWIFT Code: PNBUS3NNYC
ABA Routing #: 026 005 092
Account Number: 2000192003913
Bank Address: 11 Penn Plaza, 4th Floor, New York, NY

For persons in Barbados:

Beneficiary Bank: CIBC FirstCaribbean International Bank
Bank Address: Warrens, St. Michael, Barbados
Swift Code: FCIBBBBB
Name of Beneficiary: CDEMA La Soufriere Relief
Account Number: 1001206239
Currency of Account: BARBADOS DOLLARS

Beneficiary Bank: CIBC FirstCaribbean International Bank
Bank Address: Warrens, St. Michael, Barbados
Swift Code: FCIBBBBB
Name of Beneficiary: CDEMA La Soufriere Relief
Account Number: 1001206240
Currency of Account: UNITED STATES DOLLARS