



Situation Overview

- Seismic activity at La Soufrière, St Vincent has remained low since the tremor associated with the explosion and ash venting on 22 April.
- The Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has lowered the volcanic alert level at La Soufrière to ORANGE based on recommendation from The University of the West Indies Seismic Research Centre (UWI-SRC).
- Lahars (mudflows) continue to pose a dangerous threat in river valleys surrounding the volcano. (UWI-SRC)
- On May 6, 2021, NEMO announced that residents who evacuated from the Yellow and Orange Zones and residents who are in emergency shelters in Petit Bordel- Gordon Yard on the Leeward side of the island and communities as far as the Mt. Young River on the Windward side can now return to their homes.

HIGHLIGHTS

Estimated # of affected persons/evacuees (total displaced)	24,651
# of villages evacuated	30*
# of public shelters	84
# persons in public shelters (government)	4,339
# displaced families (households)	6,151
# displaced persons in private shelters (private residence)	21,153
# of displaced vulnerable persons	4,669
# of displaced elderly	2,992
# Missing persons	0
# Injured persons	0
# Deaths	0
# medevacs	0
# evacuated health facilities (2 hospitals, all others are clinics)	13
# COVID-19 isolation centres	3
Hospital bed Capacity on main island	200
Hospital bed Capacity in the Grenadines	21
# Active COVID-19 cases ³	154
Total vaccines administered - 15 May 2021	17,486

Teams of health personnel 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.

1 & 2 Total capacity of beds, not # of available beds based on occupancy
3 As of 15 May, 2021

Health Situation



- On May 15, 2021, eight (8) new COVID-19 cases were reported from samples processed on May 13, 2021. Five (5) of the total number of new cases are linked to emergency shelters. Five (5) recoveries were also reported.
 - The Ministry of Health (MoH) urges the public to exercise public health and social measures; to wear masks, practice hand hygiene, keep physical distance, and people with high-risk conditions and vulnerable for severe illness to receive vaccines to reduce the spread of COVID-19.
 - The Covid-19 outbreak in eight emergency shelters and relative increase in reported cases intertwined with vaccine hesitancy and refusal for SARS-CoV-2 screening at shelters is a great concern to PAHO as this fuels further spread. PAHO supports the communication plan implemented by MoH to decrease vaccine hesitancy.
 - 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.
 - With the closure/evacuation of the Modern Medical and Diagnostic Centre (Georgetown), hemodialysis services are now being provided by Evesham Health Centre, from April 29, 2021. Hemodialysis services are also being provided at the Milton Cato Memorial Hospital, as well as a private facility in the green zone in the immediate term.

PAHO Response Actions

- PAHO has commissioned a videographer to produce Public Service Announcements (PSA's) on hygiene and sanitation, mental health and healthy eating during disasters. PAHO will be reviewing the scripts and will facilitate the production and airing of these PSAs.
- PAHO has facilitated conversation between BRAGSA, IVHHN and UNEP, to identify options to use the ashes for construction purposes.
- In collaboration with MoH, PAHO is currently finalizing a proposal for WASH interventions in priority health care facilities, including the COVID-19 isolation centre.
- A follow-up meeting with the PS and CMO will be held on Wednesday May 19 to discuss surveillance, air quality monitoring short term proposal, results from ash sampling (related to health), cleaning of health care facilities, logistics, MHPSS, and planning of health working group coordination meeting.
- PAHO facilitates the use of the Annex to the H-EOC, including the provision of furniture and several appliances. This facility will also be used for temporally storage of PAHO donations.



Annex to Health EOC to support health disaster coordination



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- PAHO supported health care facility visits and WASH assessments (PAHO and SEHO) during the period 25 April -7 May 2021. Thirty (30) facilities were visited, 26 of which were assessed, including four (4) in the Yellow Zone and 22 in the Green Zone. The results showed that recommended residual chlorine levels were not met in six facilities and 18 facilities have water storage deficits. Greywater drainage was found inadequate in two facilities and five required additional tools for proper waste segregation and management.
- Recommendations based on the assessment included the installation of hand hygiene/hand sanitization stations at the entrances of all health facilities; additional storage tanks at the 18 health facilities; installation of soak away fields at 10 facilities; and drain trenches in two (2) facilities to improve greywater drainage; and the procurement of wheeled 50-70 gallon bins at five facilities. Additional facilities will be assessed as geographical locations are deemed safe and residents and businesses can return to those areas.

Health Partner Activities

- UNFPA has provided guidance tools for distribution of Dignity Kits and strongly advises all partners who are planning on distributing the kits to follow this guidance, as well as global guidelines and minimum standards.
- WFP is supporting PAHO logistics and providing food vouchers, cash transfers to displaced health care workers and vulnerable groups.
- IOM is supporting with providing accommodation for displaced health care workers and assistance in MHPSS.
- UNWOMAN, UNICEF and IFRC are also helping in MHPSS

Reference

1. [Ministry of Health Facebook](#)
2. [NEMO Facebook](#)
3. [UWI Seismic Research Unit](#)
4. [CWSA Facebook](#)
5. PAHO [Situation Reports](#) , Donor Alert and MoH VCT updated COVID-19 travel protocol.
6. International Volcanic Health Hazard Network (IVHHN): [a protocol for ash collection](#), [IVHHN ash protection pamphlet](#), [leaflet](#)
7. [Protocol for the Entry of Travelers to St. Vincent and the Grenadines – Revised 06/05/2021](#)

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ANNEX

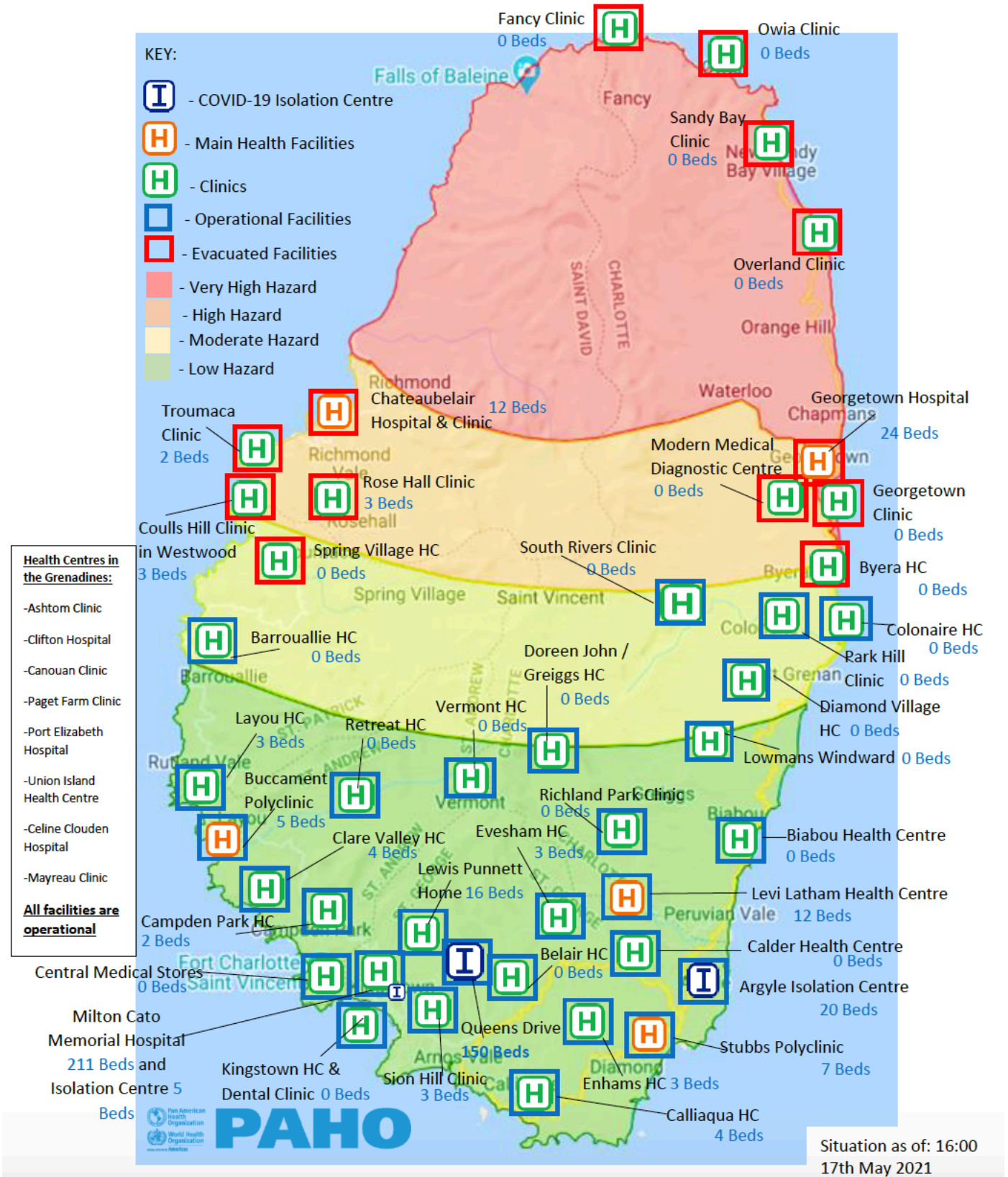


Figure 1. Map showing location of Health Care Facilities

Tracking Table of Health Needs

PAHO is reviewing the health needs list of the Ministry of Health dated April 18, 2021 and updating the UN/CDEMA tracking excel. The following items have been delivered by PAHO or available for delivery based on identified needs:

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 MoH and Ministry of Mobilization 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-Wall Split 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	In Stock PAHO Barbados
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	In stock PAHO Barbados
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 VCT (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	Delivered to MoH 30 April 2021
Nitrile gloves	2000	Delivered to MoH 30 April 2021
Rainboots (PVC)	50	Delivered to MoH 24 April 2021
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