

PAHO

Pan American Health Organization
World Health Organization
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE AMERICAS

La Soufrière Volcano

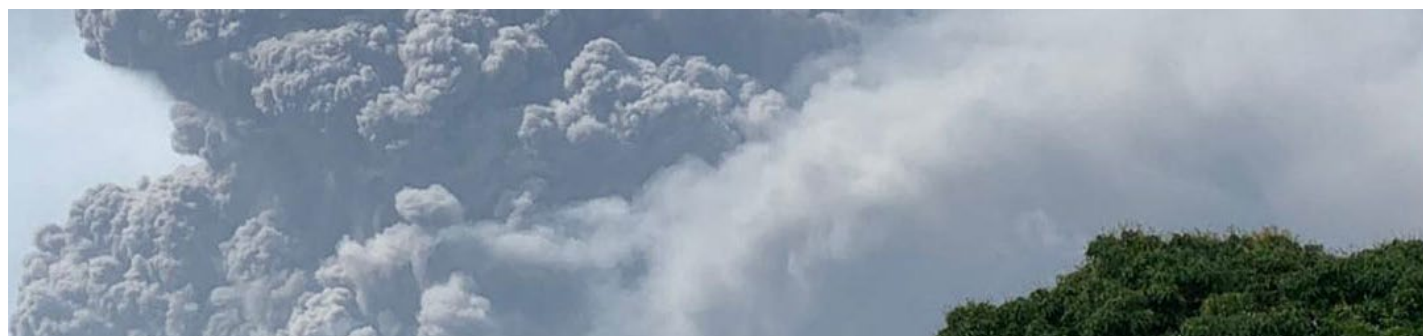
St. Vincent & the Grenadines

Situation Report #29



Office for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries

14 June 2021



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).

HIGHLIGHTS

| | |
|---|--------|
| Estimated # of affected persons/evacuees (total displaced) | 24,651 |
| # of villages evacuated | 30* |
| # of active public shelters | 64 |
| # persons in public shelters (government) | 2,254 |
| # displaced families (households) | TBC |
| # displaced persons in private shelters (private residence) | TBC |
| # of displaced vulnerable persons | TBC |
| # of displaced elderly | TBC |
| # 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 ¹ | 246 |
| Total vaccines administered - ¹ | 22,824 |

Health Situation



- 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.
- COVID-19 case reporting:

| Report Date | New COVID-19 Cases | # new cases in Shelters | Recoveries | Active Cases |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|------------|--------------|
| June 2 nd , 2021 | 7 | 0 | 9 | 206 |
| June 3 rd , 2021 | 6 | 0 | 4 | 208 |
| June 4 th , 2021 | 3 | *1 School hub link | 0 | 211 |
| June 5 th , 2021 | 8 | *8 School hub/shelter evacuees | 0 | 219 |
| June 6 th , 2021 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 218 |
| June 7 th , 2021 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 226 |
| June 8 th , 2021 | 7 | *2 School hub link | 9 | 224 |
| June 10 th , 2021 | 31* | 0 | 27 | 231 |
| June 11 th , 2021 | 15 | 3 | 8 | 238 |
| June 12 th , 2021 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 244 |
| June 13 th , 2021 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 246 |

- *On June 10, 2021, the Ministry of Health reported 31 COVID-19 cases, 19 of these case were identified in Bequia.
- The Ministry of Health 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.
- Hemodialysis services are being provided by Evesham Health Centre, from April 29, 2021. Hemodialysis services continue to be provided at the Milton Cato Memorial Hospital, as well as a private facility in the green zone in the immediate term.

PAHO Response Actions (currently in progress)

Health Coordination/Logistics/General Assistance

- An Additional shipment of 8000 N95 masks and 10 water testing kits from Barbados arrived in SVG on 11th June 2021.
- PAHO facilitated a meeting Friday, 14th June 2021 between MOH (PS)/Central Medical Stores (CMS)/PAHO consultant Derek Hardy to discuss the logistics of supplies being provided/facilitated by PAHO on behalf of MOH
- PAHO supports the communication plan implemented by MoH to decrease vaccine hesitancy.
- PAHO is ready to support:
 - The implementation of the Early Warning, Alert and Response System (EWARS),
 - The set-up of a short-term air quality monitoring system,
 - The cleaning of health care facilities
 - The implementation of WASH interventions in priority facilities (selected by MoH)

- PAHO facilitates the use of the Annex to the H-EOC, and has supplied the furniture and several appliances. This facility will also be used for temporary storage of PAHO donations.
- PAHO is working with the World Food Program (WFP) to facilitate the distribution of cash assistance vouchers to approximately 180 displaced health care workers and their families.
- PAHO has commissioned a videographer to produce three (3) Public Service Announcements (PSA's) to support MOH Risk Communication on hygiene and sanitation, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) and healthy eating for diabetics and hypertensives during disasters. PAHO has reviewed the scripts and will facilitate the production and airing of these PSAs.
- PAHO has facilitated the printing of posters (Ash cleaning and COVID-19 vaccines) for health care facilities and shelters.
- As requested by SVG government PAHO will support Post Disaster Needs Assessment (Health) conducted by UNDP.



PAHO consultant Mr. Derek Hardy receiving 8000 N95 masks and 10 water testing kits to be donated to MoH SVG. Transportation provided by UK Navy ship RFA Wave Knight from Barbados to SVG. Pictures taken by PAHO (Ms. Amina Williams)

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)

- PAHO is working with Ministry of Health on the implementation of the proposed MHPSS strategy.
- A mapping exercise to identify MHPSS support provided by supporting organizations was finalized to improve coordination. Report will be shared with MoH and health partners.
- MHPSS and Psychological First Aid (PFA): A capacity building session is being organized for front-line workers on the provision of psychosocial support and basic self-care principles. Participants will be required to complete an online Psychological First Aid (PFA) course, a 12-hour self-paced training before June 8, 2021. (PFA course is available at: <https://www.campusvirtualsp.org/en/course/psychological-first-aid-pfa-disaster-management-caribbean-second-edition-2020>) On successful completion of this course and the issuance of a certificate, a series of three webinars will be convened:
 - Monday, June 14, 2021, 2:30-3:30pm Webinar 1. Coordination and follow up session.
 - Wednesday, June 16, 2021, 2:30-3:30pm Webinar 2. Presentation on MHPSS intervention.
 - Wednesday, June 23, 2021, 10:00-11:00am Webinar 3 Presentation on Self-Care Training: Doing what matters in times of stress.

Non-communicable Diseases (NCD)

- PAHO purchases 3 Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) kits. Each kit is estimated to provide medicines and medical supplies for a population of 10,000 persons for 3 months for the management of diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular disease. The estimated date of delivery is 16 August 2021, for the first component.
- PAHO is supporting one month of transport of Public Health Teams. including support for the displaced Nutritionist who provided services at the Dialysis Unit in Georgetown. She has been provided temporary accommodation in the Argyle area, and now supports this service at Evesham. PAHO is facilitating transportation for Nutritionists to service antenatals, diabetics, hypertensives and persons with NCDs who are based in public and private shelters.

Water, Sanitation and Health (WASH)

- PAHO team continues to update the health care facilities database for WASH interventions. Results and priorities for WASH (and backup power) interventions are discussed with MoH SVG for approval.
- WASH working group meeting took place on 11th June 2021 at the Health-EOC Annex

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.
- UNFPA has been providing ongoing technical guidance to the Ministry of Health and the Family Planning Association on provision and access to SRH services and information for the affected populations
- UNFPA supported the Ministry of Health to map the health facilities to emergency shelters. An assessment report was prepared with key recommendations for further action
- UNFPA partnered with the OECS Commission to train 11 key personnel from health, gender, emergency and civil society on the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) for Reproductive Health in emergencies. An Action Plan was developed with key interventions to inform both response and recovery phases.
- UNFPA is supporting strengthening of the health system to provide comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services as part of the recovery phase
- 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, IOM and IFRC are also helping in MHPSS

Reference

1. Saint Vincent and The Grenadines [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](#)

ANNEX

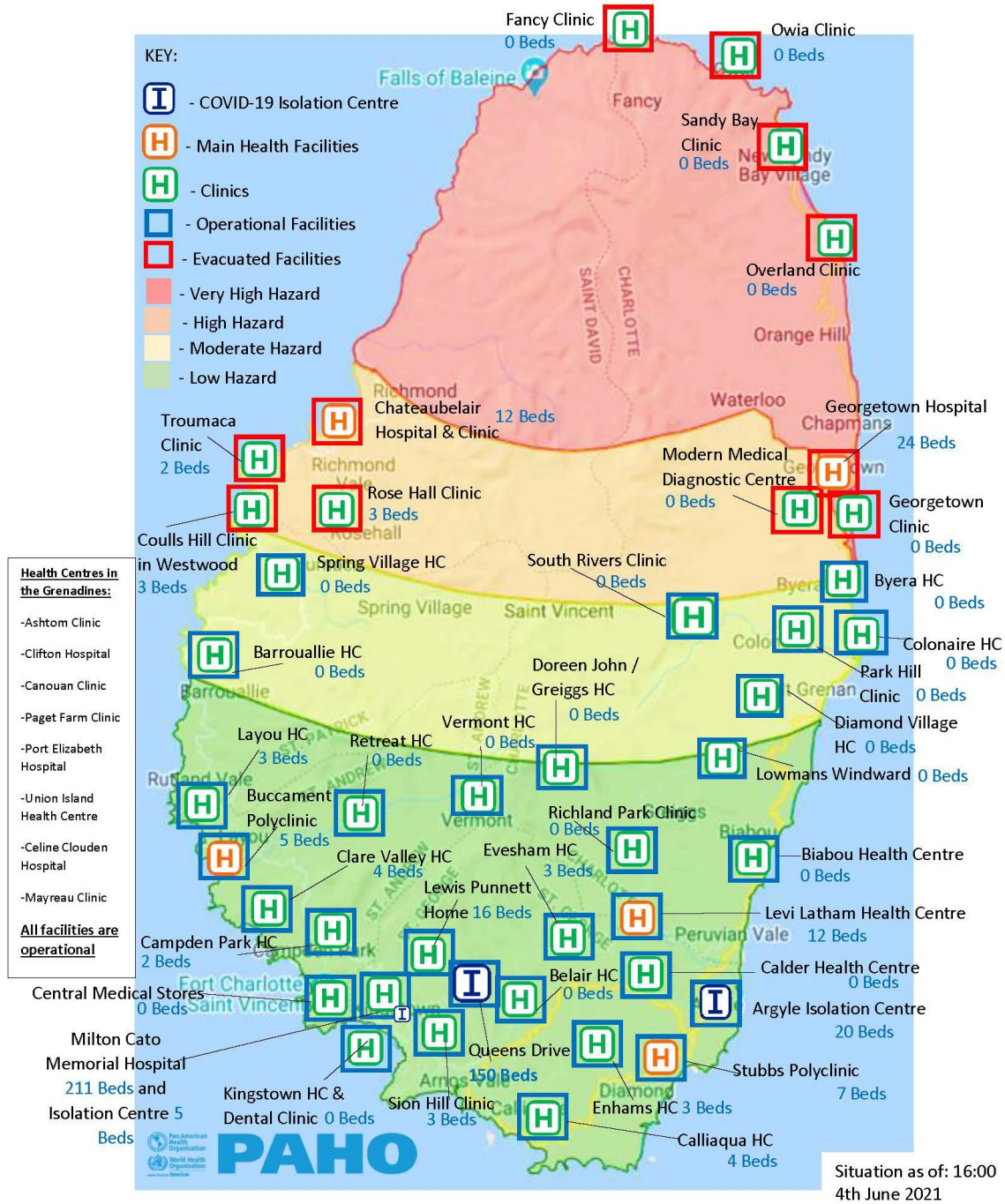


Figure 1. Map showing location of Health Care Facilities

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 or are pending delivery by PAHO.

| ITEM | QUANTITY | STATUS |
|--|----------|---|
| Aquatabs | 40,000 | Delivered to CWSA 24 April 2021 |
| Aquatabs 8.68g | 24,480 | Delivered to CWSA 24 April 2021 |
| Water testing kits | 2 | Delivered to CWSA 16 April 2021 |
| Surgical Masks | 100,000 | Delivered to MoH (50000) and Ministry of Mobilization (50000) for families in shelters on 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) |
| Face Shield | 12,000 | Delivered to Health EOC 24 April 2021 |
| Jerry cans (collapsible) | 1,000 | Delivered to Health EOC 24 April 2021 |
| O2 cylinders | 50 | Delivered to Milton Cato Memorial Hospital 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 VCT (Pending delivery) |
| Male urinals | 30 | Delivered to Health EOC 24 April 2021 |
| Buckets with covers | 125 | Delivered to Health EOC 24 April 2021 |
| Caution tape | 15 | Delivered to Health EOC 24 April 2021 |
| Reflective vests | 48 | Delivered to Health EOC 24 April 2021 |
| Working gloves | 143 | Delivered to Health EOC 24 April 2021 |
| PCR test kits | 10 | Delivered to Laboratory 30 April 2021 |
| Nitrile gloves | 2000 | Delivered to Health EOC 30 April 2021 |
| Rainboots (PVC) | 50 | Delivered to Health EOC 24 April 2021 |
| Gas masks with 30 filters | 15 | Delivered to Health EOC 24 April 2021 |
| Goggles | 200 | Delivered to Health EOC 24 April 2021 |
| Helmets | 80 | Delivered to Health EOC 24 April 2021 |
| Pulse oximeter, portable handheld, plug B | 2 | Delivered to H-EOC Annex 21 April 2021 |
| Pulse oximeters - fingertips | 32 | Delivered to H-EOC Annex 21 April 2021 |
| Gowns | 7520 | Delivered to H-EOC Annex 21 April 2021 |

| ITEM | QUANTITY | STATUS |
|---|----------|---|
| Surgical masks | 7500 | Delivered to H-EOC Annex 21 April 2021 |
| Face shields | 900 | Delivered to H-EOC Annex 21 April 2021 |
| Mask Respirators KN95 | 300 | Delivered to H-EOC Annex 21 April 2021 |
| Gloves examination, latex | 15,000 | Delivered to H-EOC Annex 21 April 2021 |
| Respirators face mate | 750 | Delivered to H-EOC Annex 21 April 2021 |
| Chlorine Test Kits, Model CN66 Hatch Kits | 10 | Arrived SVG with RFA Wave Knight 11 June 2021 |
| KN95 Respirators | 8,000 | Arrived SVG with RFA Wave Knight 11 June 2021 |

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