



Situation Overview

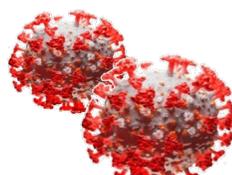
- Seismic activity at La Soufrière, St Vincent has remained low since the tremor associated with the explosion and ash venting on 22 April.
- The Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has lowered the volcanic alert level at La Soufrière to **ORANGE** on 6th May 2021, based on recommendation from The University of the West Indies Seismic Research Centre (UWI-SRC).

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.
- The Ministry of Health (MoH) continues its campaign to urge 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.
- PAHO continues to support MOH in its vaccination campaign, including through the use of social media and other assistance as requested.
- Hemodialysis services continue to be provided by Evesham Health Centre, as well as at the Milton Cato Memorial Hospital, and a private facility in the green zone in the immediate term.
- Barrouallie Health Centre has re-opened for health services.

HIGHLIGHTS

Estimated # of affected persons/ evacuees (total displaced)	24,651
# of villages evacuated	30
# of active public shelters	40
# persons in public shelters (government)	1,740
# of adults in public shelters	665
# of displaced children (under 18)	538
# evacuated health facilities (1 hospital, all others are clinics)	7
# COVID-19 isolation centres	3
Hospital bed capacity on main island	200
Hospital bed capacity in the Grenadines	21
# Active COVID-19 cases (as of July 27, 2021) ¹	66
Total vaccines administered (as of July 27, 2021) - ¹	25,603



- COVID-19 case reporting:

Report Date	New COVID-19 Cases	Recoveries	Active Cases
July 19, 2021	0	0	54
July 20, 2021	3	1	56
July 21, 2021	2**	1	60
July 22, 2021	3	-	60
July 23, 2021	0	0	60
July 24, 2021	8	0	68
July 25, 2021	1*	3	66
July 26, 2021	8	-	-
July 27, 2021	0	8	66

* 1 emergency shelter case **2 imported cases

PAHO Response Actions

Health Coordination/Logistics/General Assistance

- PAHO is supporting the MOH through a collaborative effort with CARPHA to establish an Early Warning Alert and Response System (EWARS-in-a-box) to aide in rapidly detecting and responding to outbreaks and other public health events in the shelters and other areas affected by the volcanic eruption or future disasters.
 - The deployment of EWARS-in-a-box field-based system will benefit MOH with real-time reporting and analysis of early warning data related to the emergency. It will also support the more systematic registering of alerts and strengthen the role of rapid response teams in the verification, risk assessment and response.
 - PAHO facilitated the EWARS training for Ministry of Health staff, conducted by Ms. Tshewang Dorji (PAHO-WDC).
 - 22nd July 2021 - 7 persons participated, including Surveillance Unit staff, a Physician Registrar, 3 PAHO staff and 1 team member from CARPHA.
 - 26th July 2021 - 11 attendees including 6 persons from Surveillance Unit, PAHO and CARPHA team members
 - 27th July 2021 - 15 persons participated including 9 Nurses, Surveillance staff, PAHO and CARPHA personnel.
 - 28th July 2021 - 19 person participated including 14 Nurses, 3 PAHO personnel, 1 CARPHA staff and 1 Physician Registrar.
 - The week of activities will culminate with the handover of the EWARS equipment to the Ministry of Health on Friday, 30th July 2021.
- Air Quality monitoring project which received MOH approval is in the planning stages. The company will ship the equipment to SVG on 21st August 2021 and installation is planned for 23rd-26th August 2021. MOH is working with PAHO and the company in the selection of monitoring locations. PAHO will provide on-the-ground support to this project as necessary. The next meeting is scheduled for 11th August 2021. This project will also be duplicated in Barbados to monitor air quality in that location.
- PAHO has budgeted **US\$178,000** to support the procurement of equipment to re-establish hemodialysis at the Georgetown Modern Medical Clinic.



- PAHO to procure 4 dialysis machines, 8 dialysis chairs, and pre-dialysis equipment to operationalize the unit
- PAHO continues to support the MOH is researching solutions for medical/surgical supply management. PAHO is assisting to identify additional temporary and, for the longer term, permanent storage solutions.
- PAHO is providing support, along with UNICEF, through a social media campaign to decrease vaccine hesitancy as part of the MoH Communication Plan to decrease vaccine hesitancy.
- PAHO has commissioned a videographer who produced 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 facilitated the production and airing of these PSAs. All videos are airing on the Ministry of Health Facebook page and as of July 19th, 2021 the hygiene and sanitation video has been viewed 1.7K times, the MPHSS viewed 5.3K times, and healthy eating 1.9K times.
- UNEP representative from PANAMA supported Post Disaster Needs Assessment (Health) conducted by UNDP. The representative arrived in SVG on 6th July, 2021 and has meet with MOH staff to collect the necessary information and data. The preliminary report is being drafted.



These communication materials include videos, social media cards, and radio public service announcements. The main topics covered are:

- How vaccines are developed
- How vaccines work
- Vaccine safety
- Side effects of vaccines
- The benefits of vaccines
- PAHO facilitates the use of the Annex to the Health Emergency Operations Center (H-EOC) for coordination of the health response and has supplied the furniture and several appliances.



H-EOC Photo credit: Brenda Lashley

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MPHSS)

Media campaigns for MHPSS are ongoing. PAHO continues to support the airing of PSAs adopted from the Stronger Together Campaign.

Non-communicable Diseases (NCD)

- PAHO purchased 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 16th August, 2021 for the first component and PAHO will provide necessary training for MOH.
- The Russian Federation has donated WHO NCD kits and Interagency Emergency Health Kits (IDA Foundation, The Netherlands) (total shipment 4,616 Kg) to the Ministry of Health SVG. These kits also provide supplies for 10,000 persons for 3 months.

Water, Sanitation and Health (WASH)

PAHO team has completed the update to the health care facilities database for WASH. MOH Team identification of priorities for WASH (and backup power) interventions remains outstanding.

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.
- UNWOMAN, UNICEF, IOM and IFRC are also helping in MHPSS
- USAID Representative Doug Mercado made a site visit to SVG, met with health officials and PAHO staff, and visited the Evesham Health Facility.

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	2,000	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	7,520	Delivered to H-EOC Annex 21 April 2021
Surgical masks	7,500	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

ITEM	QUANTITY	STATUS
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
Surgical Masks	100,000	Delivered to H-EOC Annex 17 July 2021

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

CONTACT INFORMATION

Incident Manager, Mr. Clemens Buter | butercle@paho.org | (246) 826-5808
Health Working Group Lead, Dr. Yitades Gebre | gebrey@paho.org | (246) 836-5497
Senior Advisor Coordination Support, Dr. Dana van Alphen | vanalphd@paho.org | (+31) 683426260
PAHO Contact in St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Mrs. Nicole Slack-Liburd | slacklnic@paho.org | (784) 526-6000
Communication Contact, Ms. Brenda Lashley | lashleyb@paho.org | (246) 836-2671