

Volcanic Activity Continues at La Soufrière, St. Vincent Alert Level Remains at Orange

A scientific update by the UWI Seismic Research Centre on 17 May 2021 reported the following:

- Seismic activity at La Soufrière, St Vincent remained low since the tremor associated with the explosion and ash venting on 22 April.
- In the last 24 hours, only a few long-period earthquakes have been recorded.
- When the cloud is high enough, there is persistent steaming observable from the observatory.



Caption: View of La Soufriere volcano from leeward (west) coast.
Photo: Nadia Huggins

ALERT LEVEL ORANGE

- Thermal anomalies, indicating high temperatures inside the new crater, continue to be detected by the NASA FIRMS alert system.
- The volcano continues to be in a state of unrest. Escalation in activity can still take place with little or no warning.
- Caution should be taken in traversing river valleys on the volcano due to the increased risk of lahars (mudflows) during periods of rainfall on the volcano.
- The volcano is at alert level ORANGE.

Updates from Impacted CDEMA Participating State

NEMO EMERGENCY: (784) 458-6366

nemosvg@gov.vc

NEMO HOTLINE: (784) 526-3000

Situation Report by the National Emergency Management Organisation (NEMO) issued on 15 May, 2021 stated the following:

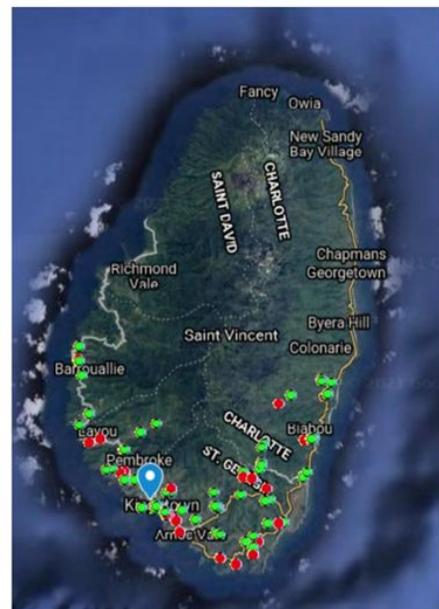
- A Stakeholder meeting was held on Wednesday 12 May, 2021 to address issues to improve the efficiency related to items entering and leaving Arnos Vale Hub to final distribution point.
- The World Food Programme (WFP) oriented the NEOC staff on the CDEMA Logistics System (CLS).
- The operations team made a visit to the orange zone on Thursday afternoon to get a first-hand view of the effect of the explosive eruption on the communities from Cumberland to Petit Bordel.
- The Royal St. Vincent and the Grenadines Police Force Continue to provide security in emergency shelters.
- Granting of red zone passes has been suspended as the area remains restricted.
- Approximately 30 cases of COVID-19 in shelters.
- The Nutrition Unit in the Ministry of Health met with the World Central Kitchen on Friday 14 May, 2021 to discuss the preparation and distribution of food.
- 95 members of the NEOC and the Call Centre were tested for COVID-19. All tests have been negative and testing will be undertaken every two weeks.
- The Relief Supplies Sub-Committee continues to service the shelters with relief items and the Ministry of National Mobilisation with relief items to be distributed to the private shelterees.
- Psychosocial support centred around "The Return to Happiness Program" is being conducted in 71 shelters and targets children 0 to 17 years old.
- The Buildings Roads and General Services Authority (BRAGSA) continues routine maintenance activity at the Emergency Shelters.
- Clean up in the orange zone continues on the Leeward side of the island in the areas where evacuees are expected to return home.
- The Ministry of Transport and Works transferred 87 persons from various shelters to their homes.

THE FOLLOWING WAS REPORTED BY NEMO ON 15 MAY, 2021:



- 84 public shelters with 4,361 evacuees
- Displaced families in private homes – 6,771
- Number of displaced vulnerable persons – 5,324
- Number of persons in private homes is 18,350
- Total number of displaced persons – 22,759
- These numbers continue to fluctuate due to the movement of persons returning home and others arriving to shelters from private homes.

A TOTAL OF 84 ACTIVE SHELTERS



Map showing location of shelters

Coordination of the Regional Response Mechanism (RRM)

- The COST team will continue to provide direct support to the NEMO operations, particularly the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC), coordination and Logistics management.
- The CDRU continues to provide support towards the management of the Arnos Vale Hub. With the support of the CDRU, the CDEMA Logistics System (CLS) was able to be utilised on Saturday 15 May, 2021.
- The public is being advised to coordinate relief supplies with their National Disaster Offices in country, cash donations are strongly recommended and banking details are provided on page 5.
- For further information please contact the Regional Coordination Center via rccuser@cdema.org



Watch a short clip on the Arnos Vale Logistics Hub via <https://www.facebook.com/cdemacu1/videos/2921229668152337>
 Video by World Food Programme (WFP)



WASH

- CWWA and UNICEF continue to work with the Ministry of Health on the WASH Program.
- The Perseverance Water Plant is operable; therefore, Georgetown's water supply has been restored.
- WASH interventions are also being put into effect for Private residences, to support their needs.
- Special attention being placed on identifying the needs of the most vulnerable, specifically pregnant women, elderly and young children.



HEALTH

Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO)

- Mental health support being provided particularly for persons staying in shelters as well as those returning to their homes.
- A vaccine education campaign is being undertaken to address any hesitance across communities, as SVG continues to battle COVID-19 during this time as well.
- The Republic of Malta joins in solidarity with PAHO to assist with the emergency response to the La Soufriere volcano eruption, as such they have donated approximately US\$30,000.

Coordination of the Regional Response Mechanism (RRM)



WOMEN AND CHILDREN

UN WOMEN

- Approximately 280 hygiene and dignity kits distributed over the course of late last week and this weekend.
- Schools have re-opened as at 17 May and resumed for face- to-face interactions.
- Psycho-social support is being provided through the “Return To Happiness Programme” targeting children.



FOOD

- ADRA is working with local churches to provide hot meals to 600 people every day and is looking to extend for one more month.
- The WFP in collaboration with the Ministry of National Mobilization, to implement the Soufriere Relief Grant, commenced the distribution of funds from Friday 14 May. The grant provides cash transfers to those most impacted by the volcanic eruption based on targeting through a combination of the registration processes for people in shelters and those in private homes as well as the ongoing household verification exercise for those in private homes. The registration and verification processes are led by the government with support from WFP to digitalize the various data collection tools and processes.
- The UNDP continues discussions with the government on the planned emergency employment programme tied to cash for work and ash removal. The programme will provide small stipends for workers. Ongoing discussion with government on focus areas and targeting are ongoing.



PSYCHO SOCIAL

United Nations (UN)

- The psycho-social support programme established in April continues to be implemented in joint collaboration with guidance counselors, social workers, and counselors from the Ministries of Education, Health, and National Mobilization. While the “Return To Happiness Programme” forms the base of the programme, other tenets and activities have been incorporated to cater to the beneficiaries and contexts.
- A blended programme is being implemented in shelters. It includes providing psycho-social support on Mondays and Wednesdays, and the Continuity of Learning programme is conducted on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

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 La Soufriere Donation Facility 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