



OCHA

KINGDOM OF TONGA

Hunga Tonga Hunga Ha'apai Volcanic Eruption: International Deployed Assets

As of 03 February 2022

OVERVIEW

Following Hunga Tonga Hunga Ha'apai (HTHH) Volcanic eruption on 15 January 2022, international humanitarian support was faced with an additional challenge of keeping Tonga Covid free. Tongan authorities put in place COVID-19 protocols by which all vessels are required to abide. Delivery of relief items are made entirely contactless and cargo has to complete a 72 hours quarantine. Despite strict protocols, Tonga has recorded five COVID-19 community cases. Tonga entered a snap 48 hours lockdown commencing at midnight on 2 February.

FRANCE



This emergency operation is supported by the governments of French Polynesia and New Caledonia and is implemented with the support of the European Union Civil Protection Mechanism (MPCU).

Patrol boat **Arago** and **La Glorieuse** - on an assistance mission to the Tonga Islands, have completed the unloading at Nuku Alufa of 40 tons of emergency cargo.



1x Gardian Falcon 200



Conducted reconnaissance flights on 25 January.

2x CASA



Two flights carrying cargo, first arrived on 25 January, the second arrived on 28 January.

UNITED KINGDOM



HMS Spey - has supplied aid to Tonga. HMS Spey has remained in Tongan waters and has been supporting a mission to restore the islands' communications network, working closely with the New Zealand and Australian navies.



AUSTRALIA



HMAS Adelaide - As of 1 February, is still in country and continues to support operations.



Royal Australian Air Force C-17A aircraft - 5 flights arrived in Tonga on 20 and 21 January. The Australian Government's supplies include shelter materials, hygiene supplies, PPE for people clearing ash and water containers, as well as communication equipment. Equipment also included a skid-steer loader with a sweeper to support runway operations.



ADF P-8 - on 17 January, surveillance flight, for damage assessment.



JAPAN



3x C-130 Three flights have landed and provided relief items through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Third flight arrived on 29 January providing additional two tons of water and 3.5 tons of canned tuna.



CHINA



Two Naval Ships are currently incoming to supply second batch of aid supplies to Tonga as requested by the Tongan Government. Previous two vessels have supplied aid and departed.



Two military aircraft carrying emergency supplies arrived in Tonga on 27 January. Supplies being delivered included food, drinking water, water purifiers, tents, prefab houses, tractors and radio communication equipment.



NEW ZEALAND



HMNZS Wellington - is back in Nuku'alofa after transiting to Niuaotupapu, to the north, where specialist Navy hydrography and dive teams checked shipping channels and harbour entrances, and also located a navigational marker that had moved in the natural disaster.

HMNZS Canterbury - asset is in country and continues to facilitate water production.

HMNZS Aotearoa - has left Tonga, after assisting relief efforts for about a week.



4x C-130 Hercules Four flights have arrived to date, delivering essential supplies.



P-3K2 Orion



Provided imagery to understand the impact of the events, and damage to infrastructure to inform response.

UNITED STATES



Destroyer USS Sampson - has arrived on 19 January to assist with disaster assessment and relief efforts. **LMH-60R Seahawk** helicopter from the Sampson assessed damage to the isolated islands of Niuafo'ou, Fonualei, Ofu and Fonuafo'oufor.



FIJI



Lomaiviti Princess 1 - departed Fiji on 29 January and delivered 11 containers, carrying more than 200 tons of humanitarian supplies.

