

IOM PAPUA NEW GUINEA

EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE: NON-FOOD ITEMS POST-ASSISTANCE MONITORING

Southern Highlands Province
04 October 2018



*IOM distributing Non-Food Item kits to affected families in Urila, Southern Highlands Province
Photo: Andrew Lind/UN Migration Agency (IOM)*

Background

IOM has been providing assistance to people affected by the earthquake that hit the Highlands region in February 2018. Provinces highly impacted by the disaster were Southern Highlands and Hela. Response by IOM includes tracking human displacement through the Displacement Tracking Matrix as well as providing Non-Food Items (NFIs). In addition to NFIs (cooking pots, plates and bowls, water jerry cans and laundry soap), households displaced and requiring shelter related support received tarpaulins.

IOM administered a Post-Assistance Monitoring (PAM) survey¹ in selected wards in Nipa-Kutubu (Injua, Komea, Hepinja 1, Kware 1, Tindom 1, Merap 1 & 2, Soi, Soi 1 & 2 and Semin 2) and Mendi-Munihi (Humbra, Map and Puinz) following the distribution of NFIs. The PAM survey sought to verify that the correct recipients received the correct relief items, determine effectiveness of the assistance in relation to addressing the needs of the affected people, and improve on future distributions to meet the needs of the most vulnerable population. Survey findings reveal that the NFIs were delivered to the correct recipients and improved their welfare — improved collection and storage of water as well as protection through emergency shelter support among other benefits. This PAM report presents findings from the survey and highlights recommendations related to providing humanitarian support to disaster affected communities.

¹The PAM survey was administered in Southern Highlands Province.

CONTACTS

IOM Papua New Guinea
Emergencies and Disaster Management Unit

✉ lbonneau@iom.int, tsato@iom.int

🌐 <http://png.iom.int/>

☎ +675.321.3655



NFI PAM FINDINGS



DEMOGRAPHICS

The survey was administered to a total of 89 households (HHs). Overall, 87 per cent of HHs were headed by men and they constitute the majority of survey respondents (63%). Women constituted 13 per cent of HH heads and 37 per cent of respondents. Therefore, men headed HHs were the majority (84%) among beneficiary HHs, compared to HHs headed by women (16%). At least 10 per cent of HHs contacted during the survey were hosting individuals who form part the particularly vulnerable groups (chronically ill and/or persons living with disability – 46%, orphans – 34%, elderly persons – 14% and women heads of household – 13%), and many of them are from beneficiary HHs.



HOUSEHOLD WELFARE: INCOME AND FOOD SECURITY

Only a few HHs hosted a member who is formally employed receiving formal or wage labour (16%). Like in many other rural communities in Papua New Guinea, majority of HHs who participated in the survey rely on subsistence agriculture, largely agricultural crop production to get income (Figure 1). Other sources of income for the HHs a month before the survey were commercial farming (10%), casual labour (7%), gifts (7%), petty trade (4%), remittances (1%) and own business (1%) (Figure 1).

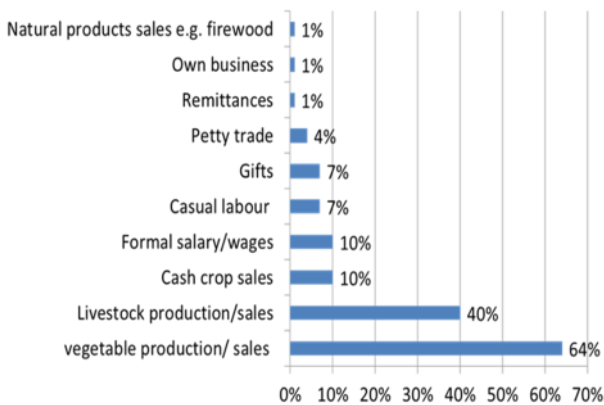


Figure 1: Main source of income for the household in past month before the survey

Similar to main their main source of income, subsistence farming was reported by majority of HHs as a main source of food (85%) (Figure 2).

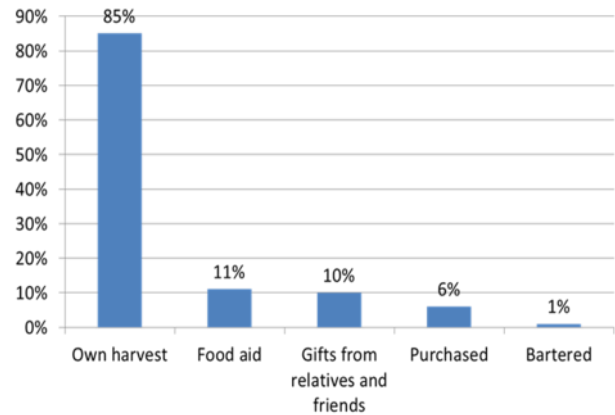


Figure 2: Main source of food for the household

Eleven per cent of HHs relied on food aid while a tenth mentioned

“90% of surveyed households had access to land for agricultural purposes.”

gifts from relatives and friends as their main sources of food a month the survey. This is likely to be the case for HHs whose gardens were destroyed by the earthquake or those displaced and living in care centres. Survey data shows that more women heads of HH relied on gifts, and had less options to provide food for the HH compared to HHs headed by men (Figure 3). IOM considered the particularly vulnerable groups in targeting and selection beneficiaries.

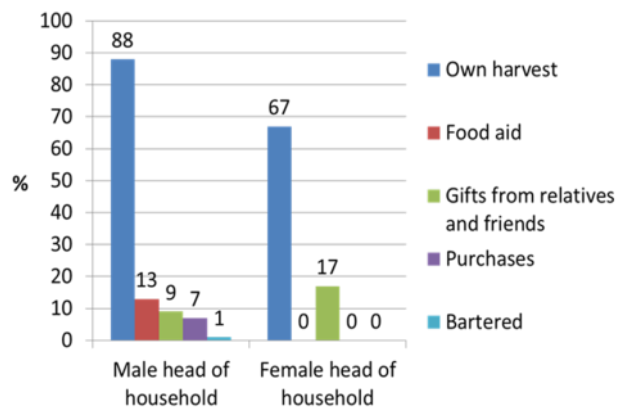


Figure 3: Main source of food by gender of head of household

With women headed HHs having fewer sources to provide food for the HH, it is important to consider them during humanitarian responses. Assessments previously done by IOM in the Highlands shows that a significant number of people earn low income from subsistence farming and this could be the reason why only a few HHs reported purchases as a means to provide food for the HH (6%). Survey data shows that most people (children and adults) consume two meals a day — and this is common several rural communities in the Highlands.

need to improve the quality of water jerry cans so they can last them long.



IOM distributing NFI kits in Southern Highlands
Photo: Simon Kafu/UN Migration Agency (IOM)

NFI IOM NFI ASSISTANCE

A total of 84% of HHs registered for IOM assistance reported that they received NFIs or items from IOM three months before the survey. Overall, most respondents highlighted that the most vulnerable HHs received items from IOM. Beneficiary HHs included those displaced and were living in care centres.

“Survey data shows that all women heads of household contacted during the survey received NFI assistance from IOM.”

“The tarpaulin came in handy because one of my family’s houses was partially destroyed by the earthquake. We used the tarpaulin to cover part of the roof destroyed during the earthquake.” - Woman survey respondent

Feedback from surveyed sites shows that the majority of beneficiary HHs were satisfied with the assistance they received from IOM. A Ward Councilor from one of the sites thanked IOM for its support saying, “We thank IOM for thinking of our community.” A community representative from another site noted, “We are grateful that you came to assist us.”

A few respondents mentioned that their HHs hosted several members and as a result they expected to receive more NFI packs while others highlighted the

Survey respondents highlighted the NFIs received from IOM assisted in the welfare of their HHs in the following ways:



Cooking made easy



Improved handling of food



Improved hygiene



Improved collection and storage of water



Protection through emergency shelter support



PROTECTION

One tenth of survey respondents mentioned that some people largely those in care centres felt unsafe to live in the community — with most women highlighting that the lack of lighting made them feel unsafe to use latrines during the night. To clear up problems in the community related to law and order, members apply various mechanisms including community leaders, law and order committees, village courts, police as well as religious leaders.

Survey data shows that 37 per cent of respondents received awareness related to HIV&AIDS and Gender-based Violence (GBV) in the last three months before the survey. Main sources of information on HIV&AIDS and GBV information were health centres and community meetings. Pamphlets and discussions were mostly used during the awareness raising and respondents found the information helpful to them.

RECOMMENDATIONS

A finding from the survey shows that a number HHs were in need of clothes for children and adults, blankets and tools for shelter construction. Inclusion of items such as blankets in the NFI pack is recommended. This PAM report also recommends for the provision of lighting especially to displaced HHs. Improving the quality of relief items especially jerry cans is recommended. Considering that some HHs had their gardens destroyed during the earthquake, distribution of agricultural inputs and tools will help improve the HH food security situation in some of the affected communities.



Children from IDP HHs with jerry cans received from IOM. Photo: Peter Muropera IOM/ UN Migration Agency

IOM operations are supported by :

