

Speaking with one language for Humanitarian assistance: uniting the different voices during disaster relief operations.

Cyclone Pam, a category five storm struck with devastating effect on Vanuatu on Friday 13 March 2015. The international Humanitarian Community, (HC), was quick to respond, as were the military forces of France. New Zealand, Australia and other Pacific nations, to the Government of Vanuatu's (GOVU) call for Humanitarian Assistance, (HA), with Disaster Relief, (DR).

Uniting the efforts of International Organisations, (IOs), Non-Government Organisations, (NGOs), and various militaries with agencies of the GOVU under the auspices of a United Nations, (UN), led operation required that specific attention was required to bridging and uniting the cultural and sub-cultural differences embodied in this mix of organisations into a coherent and effective 'language' for the benefit of the people of Vanuatu.

This paper presents on side of a story which unfolded in response to a significant natural disaster in the South Pacific nation of Vanuatu; constructing order from chaos in more ways than one.