



**VANUATU PRIMARY PRODUCERS
AUTHORITY(VPPA)_FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURE
CLUSTER (FSAC) - TROPICAL CYCLONE LOLA
RESPONSE 2023**

Website: vppa.gov.vu

Facebook: Vanuatu Primary Producers Authority

INTRODUCTION

In response to the severe damages caused by Tropical Cyclone Lola that occurred on the 20th to 26th of October 2023, a joint effort was undertaken by Care International and the Vanuatu Primary Producers Authority (VPPA), through the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC) to collect and ship planting materials to the affected islands of Vanuatu. The response program was aimed at helping those who were affected by the cyclone to recover and rebuild their agricultural livelihoods.

The response program was funded by US AID, through Care International negotiation. CARE play a crucial role in supporting and facilitating the operations. VPPA, on the other hand, was responsible for coordinating the collection of planting materials from farmers and suppliers across Santo. The response funds received was only able to supply the Planting materials to Eight different Area Councils of Penama Province.

A team of eight officers, two from Care International and six from VPPA, went to Santo for a period of 9-10 days. With the help of a few Agriculture Field Officer on ground, the team collected planting materials such as Taro Fiji Suckers, Kumala cuttings, Manioc cuttings, and Island Cabbage cuttings. The team worked diligently, ensuring that only the quality planting materials were collected and in accordance with the regulation and requirements of biosecurity whilst prepared for shipment.

The team worked tirelessly to collect, package, and prepare the planting materials for shipment to the affected islands. They ensured that each package was properly labelled to make sure that the packages were delivered to the right recipients on the affected islands.

The response program was a great success, bringing much-needed relief to the affected communities in the Penama Province. It was a testament to the power of collaboration and the commitment of organizations like Care International and VPPA to help those in need.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This memorandum serves to acknowledge the contributions made by several organizations and government departments in the successful recovery efforts of islands in Penama Province, which were severely damaged by Tropical Cyclone Lola.

The efforts of Care International, VPPA, in collecting planting materials have been instrumental in the successful recovery of these islands. Their unwavering dedication and hard work in this regard is commendable.

This acknowledgement is also extended to the farmers and suppliers who have generously given their time and resources towards this cause. Their contributions have had a significant impact on the well-being of the community in Penama Province.

Furthermore, the agriculture department and biosecurity department have played a pivotal role in ensuring that the planting materials collected are compliant with the highest quality standards and free from any pests or diseases. Their commitment to safeguarding the safety and health of the community is laudable.

In conclusion, this memorandum expresses sincere gratitude towards all those involved in the recovery efforts of the islands in Penama Province. The success of this recovery would not have been possible without their diligent efforts and contributions. Thank you for your dedication, hard work, and commitment towards making a positive impact on the lives of those affected by Tropical Cyclone Lola.





QUANTITY OF PLANTING MATERIALS COLLECTED

Type of Planting Material	Number of Parachute Bags	Number of Cuttings per Parachute Bag	Number of Small Bags	Number of Cuttings per Small Bag	Total Number of Planting Materials Supplied
Taro fiji Suckers (30 cm minimum)	112	700	15	150	80,650
Manioc Cuttings (40 cm minimum)	28	3000	10	1000	94,000
Kumala Cuttings (40 cm minimum)	50	4000	Nil	Nil	200,000
Is. Cabbage Cuttings	32	2000	Nil	Nil	64,000
TOTAL					438,650



SUPPLIED AREAS

The collection of planting materials occurs across Sanma Province as listed below:

South Santo

- Cross-Road Station
- Vunahavia
- Araki Island
- Sarete Village
- Ebenezer Village
- Boyvok Station
- Wailapa Village
- Parisa Village
- Nasulesule Village
- Namalo Village
- Narango Village

Central Santo

- Monixhill
- Fanafo (Hydro)
- Fanafo (Clinic)
- Fanafo (Canal)
- Fanafo (Corner)
- Fanafo (Tower)
- Stonehill (Valevalet)
- Palon
- Jubilee Farm

East Santo

- Hog Harbour
- Natawa

East Malo

- Nalelikaivanua
- Amapelao

West Malo

- Avunatari
- Avunaleleo

POINT OF CONTACTS PER SUPPLIED AREA

The table below display the point of contacts for each supplied area, these individuals are members of the VPPA. List of suppliers from each area are submitted through these individuals and the payments were made to them as a representative of each area, to distribute the payments to other farmers.

<i>Point of Contacts</i>	<i>Areas</i>	<i>Contacts</i>
Grace Ella	Hog Harbour Village	5221583
Remy Tavue Tosu	Fanafo (Hydro)	7648450
Juba Siba	Monix Hill	5451230/7674064
Stanley Paul	Natawa	7777101
Jocelyn Paia	Fanafo (Tanmet)	5642932
Micheal Ollie	Fanafo (Tower)	5179219
Edwin Steven	Fanafo (Tower)	5672451
Silver	Hog Harbour	7110259
Phillip Mele	South Santo (Sarete)	5170925
Frank Garae	South Santo (Nasulesule)	7396949
Amzing (Agriculture Field Assistant Fanafo)	Stone Hill	7716923
Amzing (Agriculture Field Assistant Fanafo)	Palon	7716923
Amzing (Agriculture Field Assistant Fanafo)	Valevalet	7716923
Kathy	Market Vendors in Santo	7500085
Oso Vari (Agriculture Officer East Santo)	South Santo (Cross-road)	7659412
Alfred Joshua	Malo	5625865
Serge Dingi	Monix Hill	5467207
Felix Ato	South Santo (Area 1)	5308478
Luisa Newman	Fanafo (SDA)	7675315
Yia Driver	South Santo(Araki and Area 2)	5170925

COLLECTION DATES

Date	Time	Activities
Thursday – 30/11/23	Morning	• Arrive Santo • Briefing at DARD
	Afternoon	• Meet with market vendors • Collection of Manioc cuttings at Fanafo hydro to the storage site
Friday – 01/12/23	Morning	• Visit farmers of Fiji Taro south Santo • Inspect to verify and payments of cuttings • Transportation of planting materials from South Santo to the storage site
	Afternoon	• Still make an inspection to verify and payments of cuttings • Transportation of planting materials from South Santo to the storage site.
Saturday – 02/12/23	Morning	• Continue of transportation of planting materials from South Santo to storage site • Negotiating for a new storage site.
	Afternoon	• Location of new storage site and transporting some of the cuttings from the old storage site to new storage location

Sunday – 03/12/23	Morning	• 10am, one of the hired vehicles left for Hog Harbour to collect manioc cuttings • The second hired vehicle left for Fanafo and Stone Hill (Valevalet) to collect kumala and island cabbage cuttings
	Afternoon	• The first hired vehicle collected manioc cuttings from a farmer in

		Hog Habour, payment was made and manioc cuttings were transported back to the storage site. • The Second vehicle went to Fanafo and Stone Hill (Valevalet) to collect kumala and island cabbage cuttings, then waited for the other vehicle to return from its trip to make cash payments to the farmers.
Monday – 04/12/23	Morning	• The team was divided into three groups. One group went to Malo to collect cuttings and make payments, one group went to South Santo to observe the transportation of planting materials from South Santo to the storage site. The Last group went to Fanafo (Clinic) to collect kumala and island cabbage cuttings.

	Afternoon	• Deliver planting materials that arrived from Malo, South Santo and Fanafo (clinic) to the storage site at Sarakata Anglican church.
Tuesday – 05/12/23	Morning	• Collection of planting materials from South Santo, Fanafo and Palon till evening
	Afternoon	• Payments of cuttings, transportations and labour
Wednesday – 06/12/23	Morning	• Collection of planting materials from South Santo and Fanafo till the evening
	Afternoon	• Payments of cuttings, transportation and labour
Thursday – 07/12/23	Morning	• Collection of planting materials from South Santo till the evening
	Afternoon	• Payments of cuttings, transportation and labour
Friday – 08/12/23	Morning	• Last transportation of planting materials • Last payments of planting materials were done to farmers, plus transportation of parachute bags of planting materials to the wharf ready for shipping.
	Afternoon	• Transport parachute bags of planting materials to the wharf ready for shipping, plus the last payments of cuttings done.

Saturday – 09/12/23	Morning	• Transport parachute bags of planting materials to the wharf ready for shipping.
	Afternoon	• Went to the airport, checked in and ready to board the flight back to Port Vila.

CHALLENGES

○ LOGISTICAL CHALLENGES.

- Limited infrastructure and access routes to transport planting materials
- Inadequate storage facilities lead to spoilage or damage of materials.

○ COMMUNICATION BARRIERS.

- Poor connectivity in remote areas hinders effective farmer and response team communication.

○ COORDINATION AND PLANNING.

- Inadequate planning for unforeseen challenges in remote areas leads to inefficiencies.

RECOMMENDATION

○ ENSURE PROPER STORAGE AND TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES ARE IN PLACE TO MAINTAIN THE QUALITY OF THE COLLECTED PLANTING MATERIALS.

○ ESTABLISH A COMMUNICATION SYSTEM TO KEEP ALL INVOLVED PARTIES INFORMED ABOUT COLLECTION PROGRESS AND ANY ISSUES ENCOUNTERED.

○ DEVELOP CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR UNFORESEEN CHALLENGES SUCH AS LOGISTICS, WEATHER DISRUPTION, OVER CUTTINGS ISSUES AND SHORTAGE OF FINANCE.

