
COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF PROVINCIAL HEALTH EMERGENCY STRUCTURES THROUGHOUT VANUATU.

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VANUATU 2ND HEALTH RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

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INTRODUCTION

- Vanuatu is a country which experiences multiple natural hazards and outbreaks of various scales every year.
- Public health emergency preparedness sits at the core of the Asia Pacific strategy for Emerging Diseases (APSED).
- The National Health Plan for Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change (2021-2030) was launched in August 2021.
- The Public Health Emergency and Disaster Response Handbook has been developed (pending endorsement)
- Consultations were required to strengthen emergency response coordination between provincial governments and partners.



METHODS

- Five consultations were conducted in five provinces of Vanuatu (Sanma, Tafea, Malampa, Torba and Penama) from April – August 2021.
- Focus group discussions were held that focused on how to strengthened collaboration.
- Participants were provincial health officers, provincial partners and provincial government (incl, Provincial SG, Disaster officer and planner).
- Discussions were based on finding gaps and solutions to strengthen emergency response coordination and current systems in place.



RESULTS

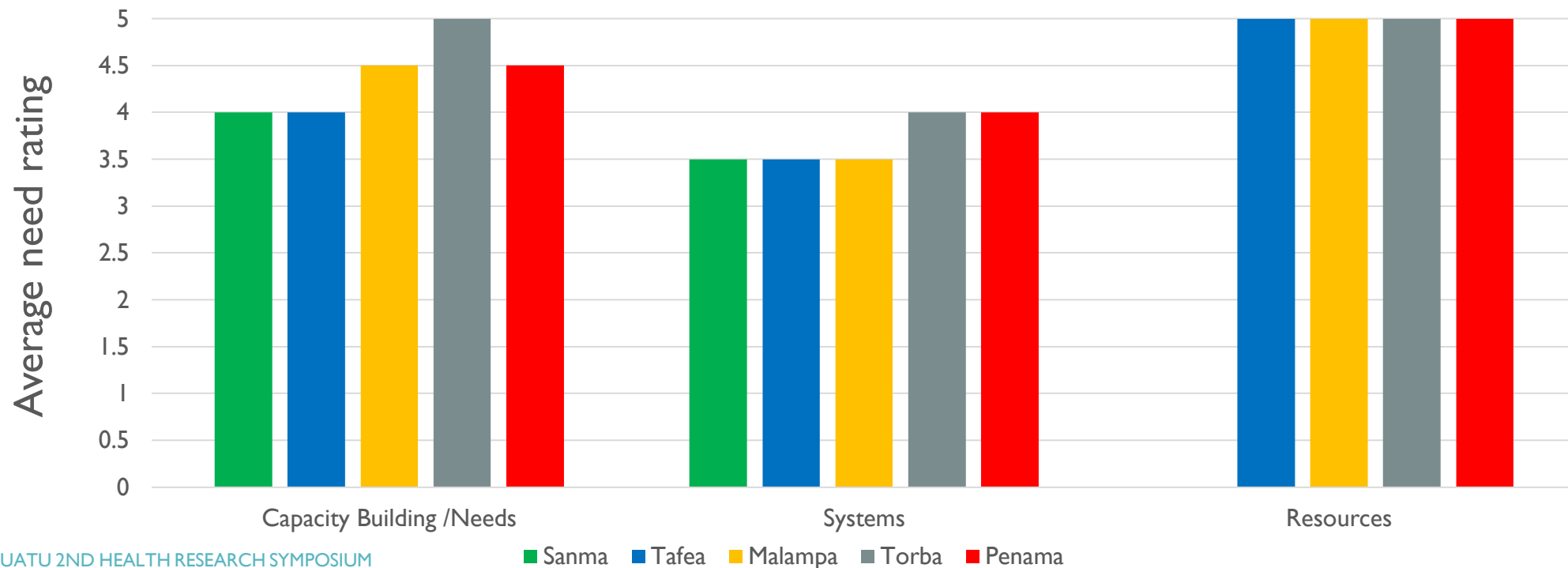
- The five focused groups identified common needs for all provinces as:
 - Capacity building across all areas
 - Emergency focal point to be based in province
 - Disaster budget allocated in all provinces
 - Collaboration and Coordination to be improved



RESULTS

Each provinces assessed based on criteria in 3 categories of concern, with rating from 0 (no need) to 5 (critical need)

Provincial GAP Analysis to identify key areas of need



RESULTS



DISCUSSION

- Results shows that more capacity building is needed in the 5 provinces.
- Systems established needs strengthening in all provinces.
- There is lack of resources in the provinces.
- Torba seems to be more vulnerable and needed more support in all categories of concern.
- All 5 provinces needs support with additional resources.



RECOMMENDATIONS / IMPLICATIONS

1. Run Simulation Exercise to test the Information Management System with EOC leads and co-leads.
2. Include separate budget center for Disaster Budget in all provincial business plans.
3. Provide additional Human Resources, including Emergency Focal Point in all provinces.
4. Ensure Emergency response deployment resources are in place in all provinces.
5. Provide more training on Disaster and Emergency response.
6. Develop SOPs for post-disaster assessments to prevent overlap and to ensure use of information.
7. Conduct AARs at the provincial level also.
8. Improve management of medical supplies and donations to meet needs (demand driven).
9. Establish warehouses to store medical and other supplies for response.



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THANK YOU!

