



## MINISTRY OF RURAL AND MARITIME DEVELOPMENT AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT

### PRESS RELEASE 11/2022

Date: 28/01/2022

**\*\* For Immediate Release \*\***

## Packaging of relief supplies for Tonga continue

**SUVA** - Packaging of humanitarian relief supplies for Tonga following the aftermath of the Hunga Tonga–Hunga Ha‘apai volcanic eruption continue at Laucala Bay in Suva today.

The Fijian Government, through the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) is organising the collection of relief supplies from humanitarian partners, non-government organisations (NGOs) and civil society organisations (CSOs) for the last two days.

Director NDMO Ms. Vasiti Soko says the people of Tonga are in need of some relief supplies following her initial discussions with the country’s National Emergency Management Office (NEMO) last week.

“On behalf of the Fijian Government we would like to extend our appreciation to all our partners who have supported us in this worthy course,” Ms Soko said.



**Caption: A staff of the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) loads water into a container as part of the Fiji-Tonga Relief mission.**

“During TC Winston response, the Tongan Government provided the much needed assistance to Fiji and now more than ever before, given our close proximity to Tonga – we stand in solidarity with them and we hope that the humanitarian relief items that will be shipped across in the next couple of days will help them as they slowly recover from the recent disaster.”

An Expression of Interest (EOI) was sent out last week for humanitarian intending to send relief supplies to Tonga and the NDMO was overwhelmed with the response from members of the public and our humanitarian partners.

“No one has to go through this alone. So, we are stepping in to help in the best way we can, and we are thankful for the many kind hearts who have spared sharing their resources to help our Tongan brothers and sisters get the help they need,” she said.

The NDMO will release details on the transportation of the humanitarian relief supplies later this week.



Caption: ***An aerial shot of the humanitarian relief supplies being coordinated by NDMO team on the ground.***

**-ENDS-**

For press enquiries:

Aqela Susu, MRMDDM, Tel. +679 3216456/+679 9985670 , [aqela.susu@govnet.gov.fj](mailto:aqela.susu@govnet.gov.fj)