



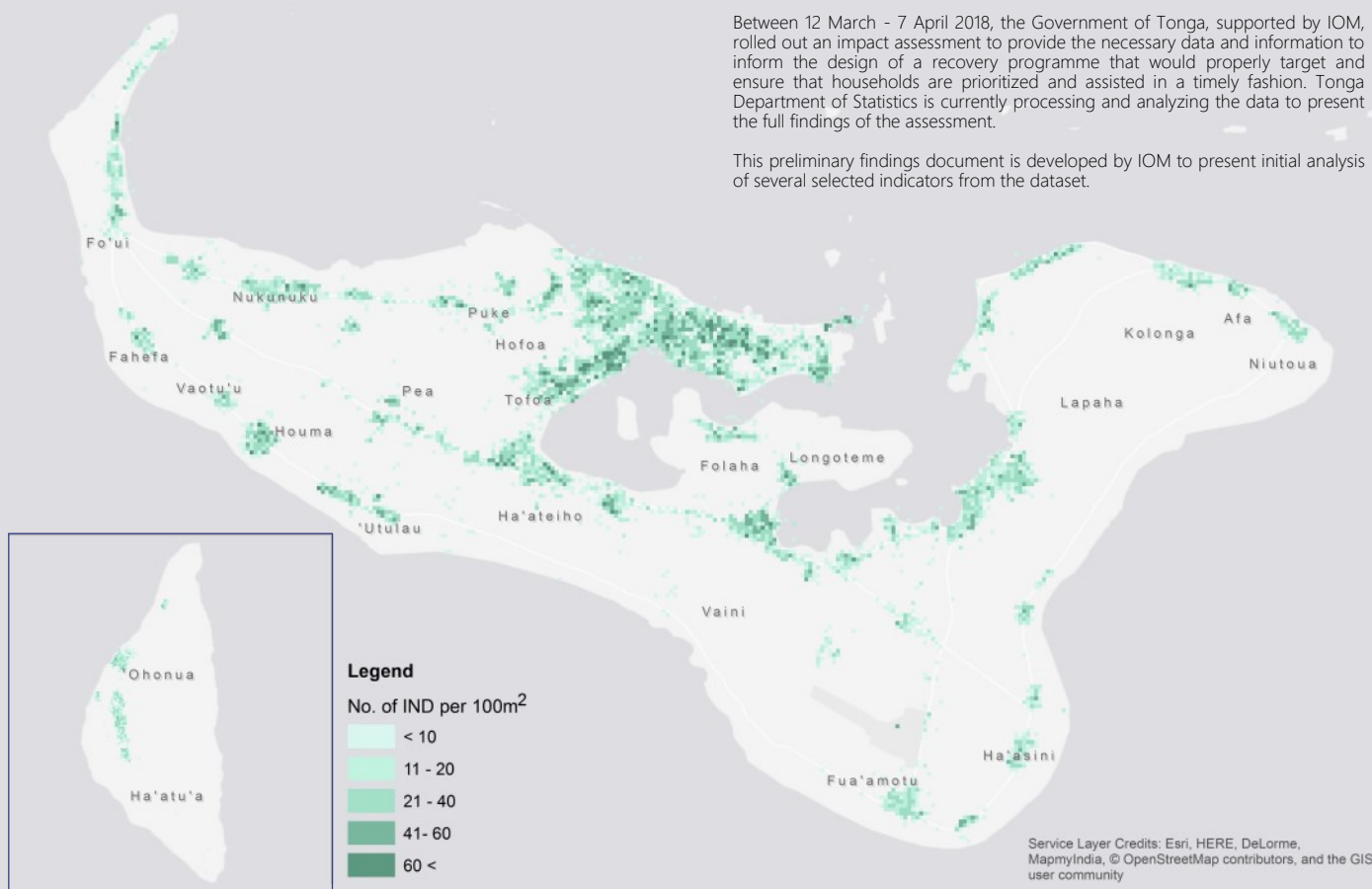
International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

TROPICAL CYCLONE GITA IMPACT ASSESSMENT (12 MAR — 7 APR 2018)

PRELIMINARY RESULTS

1 MAY 2017

DISPLACEMENT Population Density Map



Tropical Cyclone (TC) Gita hit Tonga on the night of 12 February 2018 as a Category 4 system, and it is the strongest storm that Tonga has been struck by in the last 60 years.

Between 12 March - 7 April 2018, the Government of Tonga, supported by IOM, rolled out an impact assessment to provide the necessary data and information to inform the design of a recovery programme that would properly target and ensure that households are prioritized and assisted in a timely fashion. Tonga Department of Statistics is currently processing and analyzing the data to present the full findings of the assessment.

This preliminary findings document is developed by IOM to present initial analysis of several selected indicators from the dataset.

Preparedness and Evacuation

Out of the 13,480 households surveyed, 98.5% received warnings about the cyclone. Of the households who received warnings, 88% cited the radio as their primary source of information, 5% the internet, and 5% word of mouth from friends or family.

In terms of evacuation, 4,261 households reported evacuating before, during and after the cyclone, while 9,219 households reported not evacuating (with 97% citing that there was no need to evacuate). However, 1.1% of households cited no place to go, 0.7% cited a lack of transport and 1.2% mentioned other reasons that prevented their evacuation. Among the households that evacuated, 94% have returned to their dwellings, while 6% have yet to return. The reasons for not returning were mainly due to destroyed houses (58%) as shown in Figure 2.

Figure 1: Gender and age distribution of households

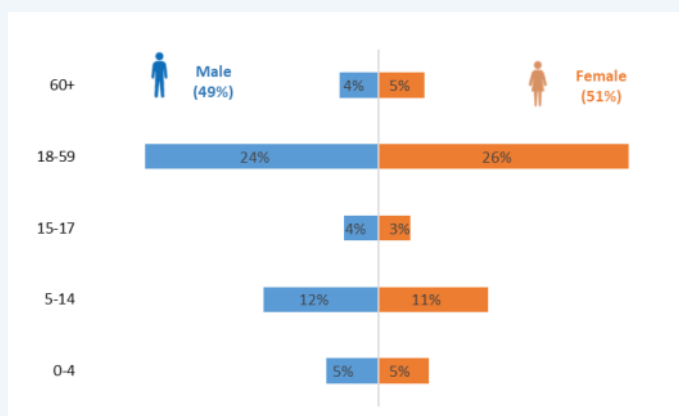
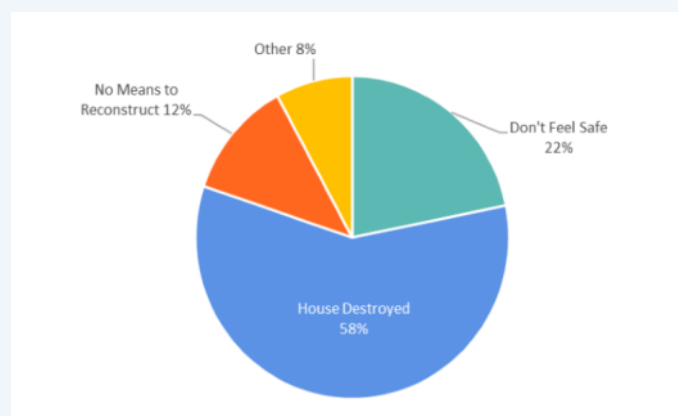


Figure 2: Reasons for not returning home





Of the 4,261 households that reported evacuating before, during and after the cyclone, the majority indicated that they had evacuated to either stay with relatives or friends (35.8%), found shelter in a church (32.4%), or stayed with neighbours (21.7%). The remaining households that evacuated reporting evacuating to community halls (4.6%), other non-specified locations (2.9%), schools (1.7%) or guest houses or hotels (.9%).

VULNERABILITIES

Five per cent the interviewed population (3,561 individuals) reported a disability defined in this context as difficulty either seeing, hearing, walking, remembering, self care, communication or a combination of the above. Approximately four per cent of the individuals interviewed that reported evacuating (1,057) reported a disability.

DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

6,527 households (48%) reported damages to their primary dwelling and 469 households (3%) reported that their primary dwelling was destroyed. Meanwhile, 1,785 households (13%) reported that their secondary dwelling was damaged, and 310 households (2%) reported that their secondary dwelling was destroyed.

For households that experienced damage to either their primary or secondary dwelling, 50% cited damage to the roof covering, 20% cited damage to the roof structure and 14% cited damage to the walls.

The primary reason for those who had yet to begin repairs was a lack of materials (39%), followed by a lack of tools (25%). Meanwhile, 79% of households are currently residing in partially fixed residences, 7% with friends and family, 5% in tents and 5% in other forms of shelter.

HOUSING

12,737 households or 94% of households surveyed indicated that they were currently living in the same location that they were in prior to Tropical Cyclone Gita, with 660 households reportedly hosting displaced families, neighbors or others.

In terms of the land tenure of dwellings, 78% of the households surveyed reported that the dwellings they were currently situated in were owned by one of the members of the household, while 12% indicated informal arrangements, 6% had leases and 4% reported other arrangements. Besides that, 8,140 households (60%) reported that the dwelling they are in is owned by a household member without any loans. 20% reported that they were occupying the dwelling without payment, 15% reported owning the dwelling with a mortgage or loan and the remaining 5% reported renting the dwelling.

Moreover, a majority of households, namely 11,947 households (89%) reported that their houses were not covered by cyclone insurance, while 1,533 households (11%) stated that they were covered by cyclone insurance.

Figure 3: Reasons for not repairing dwellings

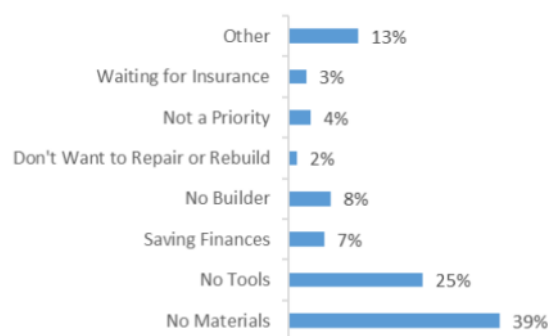


Figure 4: Reasons for not repairing dwellings

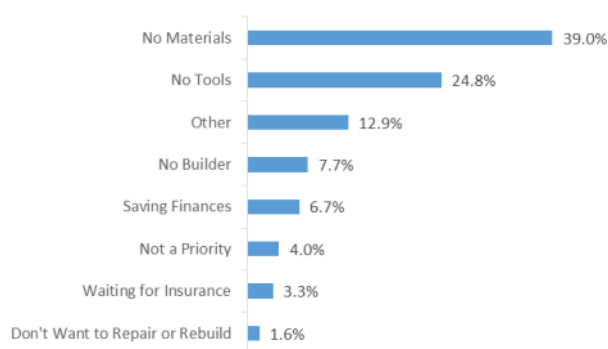
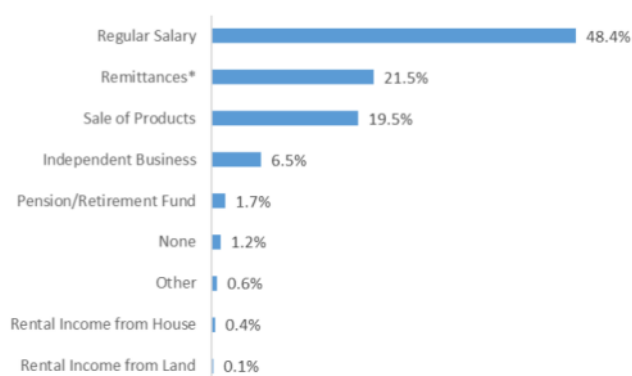


Figure 5: Main sources of income households received since tropical cyclone Gita hit and for the next 12 months



* from any individual not on the household Roster