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Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

DFAT LESSONS FROM RECENT INTERNATIONAL RESPONSES; TONGA, VANUATU & TURKIYE

HUMANITARIAN CRISIS RESPONSE

DAVE VOSEN

Asst. Secretary

Humanitarian Response Risk and Recovery Branch

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

1. No Regrets



Australian Disaster Assistance response team "AUS-2" en-route to Türkiye aboard an ADF C-17 to provide humanitarian support in the aftermath of the Türkiye/Syria earthquakes



An Australian Army loader disembarks from a HMAS Canberra landing craft in Port Vila during Operation Vanuatu Assist 2023



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Royal Australian Air Force linguist Leading Aircraftman Alexander Andrews (right) talks to Japan Air Self-Defense Force officer Captain Otsuka Masato after two Japanese C-130H Hercules transport aircraft arrived at RAAF Base Amberley to support the international relief effort in Tonga

2. Speed Matters



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3. Support Local



Australian Defence Force Liaison Officer, Lieutenant Commander Glen Morrow (left) briefs Vanuatu Mobile Force and French Army personnel at the Joint Planning Operations Centre in Port Vila during Operation Vanuatu Assist 2023



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4. Preparation Pays Off



Royal Australian Air Force personnel load a C-17A Globemaster aircraft heading to Vanuatu as part of the Australian Government's response to the Tropical Cyclones Judy and Kevin



Australian Army and Vanuatu Mobile Force personnel unload stores in Port Vila during Operation Vanuatu Assist 2023



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5. Communicate Clearly



Australian High Commissioner to the Kingdom of Tonga, Ms Rachael Moore (right), talks with Republic of Fiji Military Forces soldiers during a tour of HMAS Canberra in support of Operation Tonga Assist 2022



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6. LOs Are Gold



Mr Jeffery Lee, Humanitarian Advisor, Australian High Commission Port Vila, speaks with residents of Aniwa Island, Vanuatu ahead of storing Australian Aid during Operation Vanuatu Assist 2023



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Australian Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) 'AUS-2' equipment cache is loaded onto an ADF c-17 for transport to Turkiye as part of the Australian government response to the earthquakes in Turkiye and Syria



The Australian Defence Vessel Reliant in Port Vila, Vanuatu before the unloading of the interim Pacific support Steber vessel, Emma Kate, on June 6 2023

7. Clarify Capabilities



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8. Consider Context



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Australian Humanitarian Emergency Response Supplies pre-positioned at the Blackrock Camp facility in Fiji



Lieutenant Eleanor Johnston assists a member of the NGO Action Aid organisation with the unloading of dignity kits for local Vanuatu communities in Port Vila during Operation Vanuatu Assist 2023

HLC Warehouse Manager inspecting a Lighting Tower in the Brisbane warehouse. Lighting Towers help improve night-time visibility and mobility in emergency locations, especially for people at greater risk of harm



9. Repair Networks

Essential Energy is a NSW Government-owned corporation. Essential Energy participate in an arrangement along with another Australian energy provider to deploy suitably qualified and trained power line workers into post-disaster environments in the Pacific, within days of a disaster



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Australian Army soldier Lance Corporal Ryan Davies speaks with Vanuatu Police Force members Private Georgette Kalorib (right) and Constable Simeon Samuel while training with the Barrett 4090 High Frequency Man-Pack Radio in Port Vila as part of the Vanuatu Government National Emergency Radio Network project

Turkish Red Crescent staff distribute meals to displaced people following the destructive earthquakes in Türkiye and Syria, February 2023



10. Last Kilometre



Residents of Aniwa Island, Vanuatu, unload Australian Aid goods and cargo from an Australian Army CH-47 Chinook helicopter during Operation Vanuatu Assist 2023



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