



**Australian High Commission**  
**Vanuatu**

Thursday 3 May 2018

**Media Release**

**Australia announces additional assistance to Ambae**

On 3 May, Australia's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Julie Bishop, and Minister of International Development and the Pacific, Senator Concetta Fierravanti-Wells, announced an additional 24.4 million vatu (\$300,000) in humanitarian assistance to support the Vanuatu Government respond to the situation on Ambae, bringing Australia's total assistance to date to 288 million vatu (\$3.55 million).



*Distribution of dignity kits to women in Ambae.*

Responding to a request from the Vanuatu Government, the additional support will go towards providing logistics to transport people and supplies, along with emergency shelter and hygiene kits to assist communities to relocate. Australia will also provide essential health



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care for mothers and infants. Australia's assistance will have a particular focus on the needs of women, children and people with disabilities.

A disaster risk management expert and logistics officer from Australia are currently supporting the Vanuatu National Disaster Management Office to manage the evacuation. An Australian resettlement expert will be deployed in May to support relocation efforts.

Australia is working closely with the Government of Vanuatu and partners, including Australia's FRANZ partners, New Zealand and France, to support affected communities.

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