

VANUATU

<http://www.operationworld.org/vanu>

Vanuatu is a tropical island group in the South Pacific. It is around 1,100 miles east of northern Australia.

The population is around 268,000. The economy is based on agriculture, tourism, offshore financial services and raising cattle. English, French and a Pidgin English are spoken. Past missionary efforts led to a Christian population of around 94%. About 70% is Protestant. Revival has occurred on some of the islands but some are spiritually stagnant.

A week ago cyclone Pam slammed the islands with 155mph winds. Over half of the population has been affected. 16 are known to be dead. About 65,000 people need temporary shelter. From 50% to 90% of houses were damaged by the storm that hovered over the islands for 4 hours! Coconut and Banana plantations were devastated. The loss of livestock such as pigs and chicken will threaten the food supply.