

**NEWS FLASH**



# Get behind our efforts to help Banaban community on Rabi Island, Fiji devastated by Cyclone Tomas

**16 March 2010**

**NATURE PACIFIC has set up a CYCLONE TOMAS DISASTER FUND for our Banaban community back in Rabi Island Fiji.**

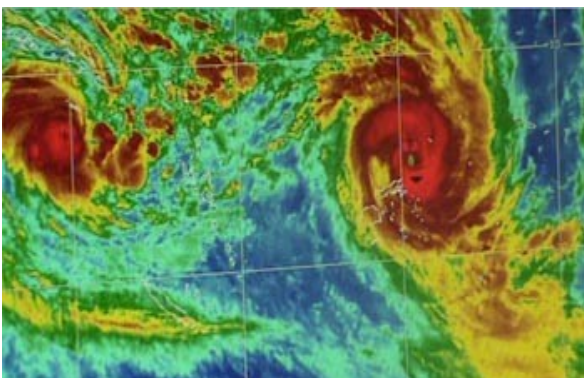
We are also mounting an emergency assessment trip lead by Ken Sigrah to try and get to the island and provide much needed help and assistance as soon as possible.

He will fly out for Fiji on Friday and arrive on Taveuni Saturday morning. He will be visiting our coconut farm first to assess damage before trying to get a boat to take him across the treacherous Somsomo Strait to Rabi.

It is important that Ken gets on the ground in Rabi as soon as possible as we know from our last phone conversation with his brother Biniati that the situation was extreme mid Monday with the main eye of the cyclone due to impact later that night.

You can listen to our last phone conversation we had with him posted on You Tube at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wVlwJeY>



While cyclones are a part of life in Fiji, TC Tomas has been listed as the most devastating to ever hit Fiji and unfortunately Rabi was right in its path.

All of us here at Nature Pacific feel it is our duty and responsibility to help our people as much as we can and

make sure that the Banabans are not FORGOTTEN as a minority people in the Fiji system.

We are hoping that our customers will also support our efforts by either donating or offering assistance through our main fundraising page on the main Banaban website at:

<http://www.banaban.com>

We have very good people on the ground in Rabi including Ken's brother—Biniati Sigrah who is a retired UN Fiji peacekeeper

and Fiji Police corporal. We also have our Rabi Council Chairman, Paulo Vanulailai on the island, who happened to be on Rabi at the time the cyclone hit.

Nature Pacific will be co-ordinating all aid efforts through them directly and 100% of all money raised will go direct to the community.

So now we are calling on all our coconut lovers and supporters to please get behind us. Updates will be broadcast via:

[http://twitter.com/Nature\\_Pacific](http://twitter.com/Nature_Pacific)

Terimoa (our Banaban daughter) and Stacey will be manning the office in Australia to keep things flowing smoothly from their end.

Luckily for the business another full 20 foot container of virgin coconut oil (16,000 litres arrived) safely on Saturday and is just going through clearances now. As long as the plant has not been damaged we should have no interruptions to supply.

Any assistance forthcoming for our aid efforts will be much appreciated.

*Ken and Stacey*



*Biniati Sigrah (Ken's brother) Rabi Island Fiji retired UN Fiji peacekeeper, last contact on Monday before TC Tomas hit the Island*