



Cyclone Gita batters Tonga

With destructive winds of 230 km/h, category four Cyclone Gita has ripped roofs from houses, brought down trees and caused widespread flooding.

Emergency authorities said approximately 70 per cent of the population had been affected with food and water supplies a significant problem. 40 per cent of homes are damaged and many landmark buildings are extremely badly damaged or even destroyed. Gita has also levelled fruit trees and crops vital to the island's livelihood.

Tonga's emergency response team said they were struggling to assess damage around the capital and the islands due to debris blocking roads and downed power lines, and were not likely to have a comprehensive assessment of the disaster until Wednesday PM.

"Crawford's priority as the situation develops is to help policyholders and maintain a constant line of communication with clients to keep them informed," said Andrew Bart, CEO Asia Pacific. "Damage to such a widespread geographical area presents logistical challenges but our team is well versed in managing under similar conditions and able to deal with these challenges."

If you have claims that require our attention or need more information on this event, please contact any of the Crawford team members listed.

Image: Twitter: @VDakaSini

Andrew Bart
Crawford & Company Australia
Chief Executive Officer
Asia Pacific & Australia

T: +61 2 8202 7447
M: +61 418 978 065
E: andrew.bart@crawco.com.au

Dean Garrod
Crawford & Company New Zealand
Chief Executive Officer

T: +64 9 374 0881
M: +64 274 424 055
E: Dean.Garrod@crawford.co.nz

Global Markets & London Market
Benedict Burke
Chief Client Officer, Global Markets

T: +44 207 265 4041
M: +44 7919 552624
E: benedict.burke@crawco.co.uk

crawfordandcompany.com

crawford.co.nz