A Low Pressure Area brought heavy rainfall on the Solomon Islands over 1-3 April, causing flash floods and river overflows. After crossing the Solomon Islands, it moved towards south Papua New Guinea, intensifying into a Tropical Cyclone named ITA.

Worst affected was the island of Guadalcanal, where the overflow of river Mataniko, as well as sea level rise, caused extensive damage and casualties in the capital Honiara. Damages have also been reported in Makira, Malaita and Isabel provinces.

As of 9 April, according to the Solomon Islands National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC), a total of 23 people (21 in Guadalcanal and two in Isabel province) are confirmed dead, while several are still missing. Guadalcanal, including the Capital Territory Honiara, have been declared disaster areas.

As of the same day, all rivers in the province of Guadalcanal have subsided and waters are returning to normal levels.

More than 10 000 people are being sheltered in evacuation centres in Honiara and 50 000 people have reportedly been affected by floods across the country.

The Government is leading the response with the support of the Red Cross, NGOs, UN agencies and donor partners. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) has mobilized an international team to support the Solomon Islands Red Cross and will be releasing funds from its Disaster Relief Emergency Fund.

The Pacific Humanitarian team personnel and supplies are deployed to support response efforts.

Sources: GDACS, ECHO, IFRC, WMO, NASA, OSM