

Mozambique: Flooding

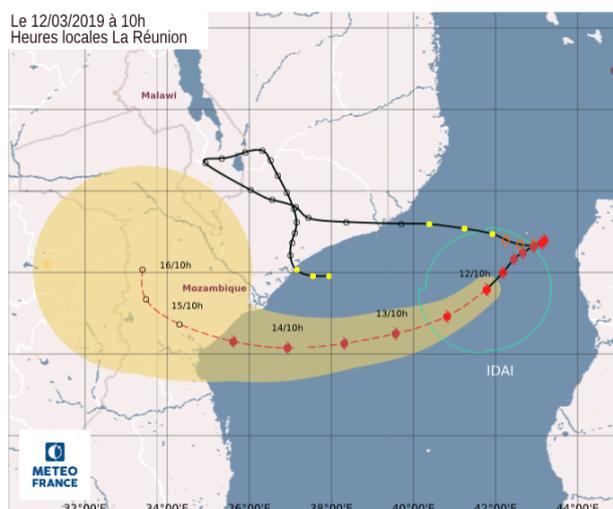
Office of the Resident Coordinator – Flash update No. 4

(as of 12 March 2019, 09:00 AM)



Highlights

- The Coordinating Council of Disaster Management activated on 11 March the Institutional Red Alert for the central region of the country;
- Government estimated US\$ 18 million for food and non-food items that might be needed for the potential response of population at risk;
- At least 15 deaths reported, and 103,169 people were affected by the floods in Zambézia, Tete and Niassa provinces;
- At least 17,095 people are displaced in Zambezia, Tete and Niassa sheltered in 15 transit centers;
- At least 84,993 ha of crop area are flooded affecting 57,819 smallholder farmers;
- Intense Tropical Cyclone IDAI active in Mozambique channel and land fall expected on 15 March;
- National water resources authorities alert that at least 160,000 people are at risk of flooding and heavy rains in the coming days in Zambezi, Licungo, Buzi and Pungoe river basins;



<http://www.meteofrance.re/cyclone/active-cyclonique-en-cours/dirre/IDAI>

Situation Overview

On 11 March 2019, the Government convened the Coordinating Council of Disaster Management (CCGC-the highest political level of emergency coordination in Mozambique) chaired by the Prime-Minister to analyze the impact of the recent floods and the cyclone foreseen to make the landfall on 15 March 2019. This meeting was extended to Provincial Governors of affected provinces, Humanitarian Country Team and National directors of different sectors.

In the CCGC meeting the National Institute of Meteorology (INAM) informed that in the next 14 days it is foreseen weak to moderate and locally heavy rainfall in several areas of the country mainly in Sofala, Zambézia and Manica where the rainfall will be between 200-300 mm due to Tropical cyclone IDAI. The cyclone will approach the Mozambique channel and will landfall through Sofala province with Intense Tropical Cyclone category most likely on 15 March 2019. The speed wind will be between 188-220 km/h and rainfall above 150 mm in 24h.

Moreover, the Water resources authorities indicated that due to flood wave caused by heavy rains in the upstream part of the Zambeze region it is expected water levels of 8m in Caia and Marromeu districts in Sofala province resulting in flooding in the area. The authorities prepared three flood scenarios depending on the rainfall and discharge to be recorded which the population at risk varies from 85,000 to 221,000 people in the Zambezi basin.

Therefore, in the next 3 days it is expected the rise of water level that may overcome the alert level in the Licungo, Zambeze, Pungoe and Buzi river basins. The operation status of the defense dykes in these basins is very bad which makes the area more vulnerable. It is also foreseen moderate to high urban flooding in Quelimane, Beira and Dondo where about 13,000 people are at risk. Based on the forecast, the Pungoe river basin might reach the peak of 5,000 m³/s causing floods in the districts of Nhamatanda, Muanza and Dondo where an estimated 25,250 people are at risk. The authorities also expect damages in at least eleven road sections in these four river basins.

Given the current and expected situation after the floods and cyclone, the National Institute of Disaster Management estimated a total funding requirement of about US\$ 18 million for food and non-food items that might be needed for the potential affected people. This funding estimate does not include the funds needed for emergency road work (estimated at US\$ 13.9 million) to reset the road network which is 31% damaged in Zambézia and 50% damaged in Cabo Delgado.

As the situation is complex and resources are limited, the Government activated the Institutional Red alert (the maximum alert level for emergency response in the country) to enable operation at full capacity, mobilize additional resources, compulsory withdrawal of population at risk among other activities.

Impact and Response

According to **Zambezia** provincial authorities, 48,045 people are affected by floods, 5,438 houses were totally destroyed and 201 classrooms affected. There are in Zambézia, 13,125 people displaced and hosted in 12 accommodation centers in five districts namely Maganja da Costa, Nicoadala, Molumbo, Namacurra and Morrumbala. In the agriculture sector, about 78,621ha of crop area is flooded affecting 52,210 smallholder farmers and the estimated needs in terms of seeds (rice and maize) vary from 3.8 – 60 ton. The Education sector estimated the needs in terms of learner kits (25,042), school tents (8) and teacher kits (607).

As of 11 March, about 584 people were assisted (22 are pregnant women) with the health professionals and there 194 cases of Malaria and 14 of diarrhea. The health authorities in the province have stock material for the first 100 cases of Cholera in case this occur.

In **Tete** province, there are 51,241 people affected by the floods, 7,031 houses totally destroyed and reported death toll of 11, most of them in Tete city and Macanga district. The floods also affected the Education sector where 42 schools in the 6 districts of Tete (Tete city, Doa, Mutarara, Macanga, Angonia and Tsangano) are affected, 77 classrooms were destroyed (none in Tete city), among which 36 totally and 41 partially destroyed (Angonia with the highest rates, with 17 schools affected, 21 classrooms totally and 27 partially destroyed), affecting 16,302 students. Water supply in vila de Moatize restored at 50% with new water capture area-old system is out of service. FIPAG to provide water in alternated days and tap in FIPAG office established to supply water trucks.

Still in Tete, in the Agriculture sector, 6,372 ha of crops are flooded affecting 5,609 smallholder farmers. About 3,110 people are displaced in Tete and hosted in one accommodation center (AC) - 71 tents were set up and shelter 240 families; 54 families were sheltered in the AC Instituto Industrial de Matundo; porches (alpendres) being built to shelter 327 families and 11 families already returned to their homes.

Affected people identified as part of vulnerable groups in the ACs amounts to 170, being: 55 female-led households, 58 people with disability, 41 households with orphans and 16 elderly people. In the accommodation center, the health post registered 471 cases of different diseases such as Malaria (50), diarrhea (29), respiratory infections (75) among others.

In Niassa province, the provincial Governor informed during the CCGC meeting that there are 3,883 people affected, 59 classrooms destroyed affecting 4,225 students.

In both provinces the Government and partners are providing assistance to affected people with food and non-food items. Access is still a challenge with a number of road sections damaged, in all provinces there are needs on food, water, shelter, education, seeds and health.

The table** below shows a summary of the impacts of the floods in three provinces.

Province	People affected	People displaced	Transit centers	Death toll
Zambézia	48,045	13,125	12	4
Tete	51,241	3,110	1	11
Niassa	3,883	860	2	N/A
Total	103,169	17,095	15	15

**The source of information in the table is the Provincial Emergency operating Center

The humanitarian country team is analyzing the needs and in the coming days will be able to complement the assistance provided by the Government. There is some capacity to provide food assistance (50,000 people for one month), support in Education sector where about 50,800 students can be assisted, on WASH and shelter which there is already ongoing response, logistic, health and protection.

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