

Mozambique: Flooding

Office of the Resident Coordinator, Situation Report No. 5

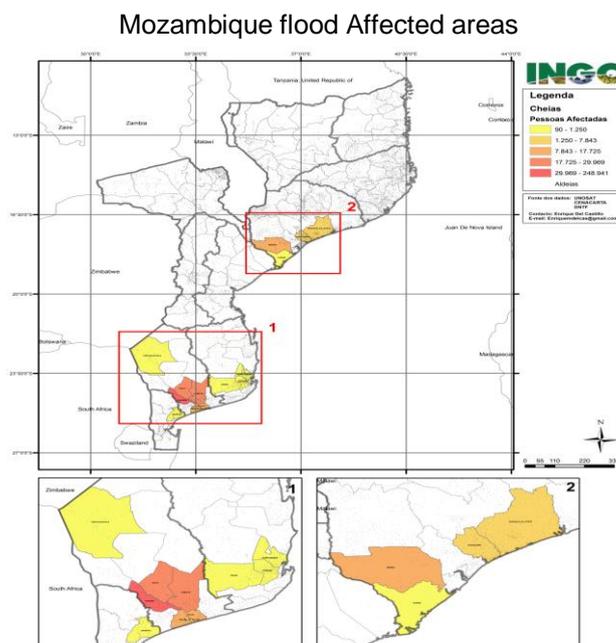
(as of 20 March 2013)



This report is produced by Office of the Resident Coordinator in Mozambique in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 20 February to 20 March 2013. This should be the last Situation Report on Mozambique floods 2013.

Highlights

- On 12 March the Council of Minister has lifted up the institutional red alert, as a result of the improvement of the situation in flood affected areas of Gaza and Zambezia provinces. However, the lift up of red alert does not mean that all needs were covered on the contrary there are still humanitarian relief needs in the return and resettlement sites.
- Temporary camps in Gaza and Zambezia were closed and people had returned to their places of origin or resettled as water had mostly receded and risk of new flooding or natural shocks is at this moment minimum. In those areas there is an urgent need to prevent that affected population get to use extreme coping strategies for survival as their livelihoods have been totally or partially affected.
- In the agriculture sector preliminary assessment indicates about 266.698ha were affected by floods of which 210.587ha of cultivated land have been destroyed. Therefore, seeds and agricultural tools are urgently needed.
- Government and partners are now conducting in-depth sectoral assessment in Gaza and Zambezia Provinces to look at environment impact and early recovery needs.



Map Source: INGC, as of 12 March

240,827

flood-affected people assisted

117

deaths

1,352

Cholera cases in Cabo Delgado, Niassa and Nampula city in northern Mozambique

\$ 19.9 million

required to cover humanitarian and recovery needs

Situation Overview

Following the analysis of the hydro-metric situation and continued improvement of the situation in flood affected areas, the Council of Ministers decided, on 12 March, to cancel the institutional red alert. Water had receded and many people begun to return to the origin sites or were being resettled by the Government in new highland areas. However, there is a mixed adherence to resettlement by the target population reflected in the number of people resettled to date. Out of the 6,376 plots demarcated, in all flood affected areas, only 3,550 were occupied. Currently these sites lack basic services such as potable water, health services and secure source of livelihoods. Ongoing in-depth analysis should bring up the reason behind the low adherence to resettlement process and the needs required to provide support families that have chosen to resettle.

Though weather conditions have improved, and affected populations have returned with the closure of temporary centers, there is still a need for humanitarian assistance, both in return and resettlement sites. On the one hand, there are vulnerable people that do not yet have the capability to return to origin sites, while in resettlement sites there is still a risk as affected population learn to adapt and may resort to extreme coping strategies for survival as their livelihoods have been totally or partially lost. This was confirmed during the last CTGC held on 15 March, by INGC Deputy Director, who stated that the end of the red alert does not mean that all concerns have been fully attended. There are still unresolved issues that require humanitarian relief intervention, to prevent people to use extreme coping strategies for survival. The destruction of agriculture crops and the loss of livestock have been

+ For more information, see “background on the crisis” at the end of the report

especially high in affected areas, where farmers are urgently needing seeds and tools for the 2nd planting season, expected to finish by end of April. To date, limited funds have been secured and little has been done to revamp agriculture production in the flood affected areas.

In relation to health, as flooding water had receded, health centers in Gaza continue clean-up efforts in order to fully resume all health services to assist the communities, particularly services interrupted during the red alert. In terms of malaria and diarrhea cases, mainly in Gaza province, there is a clear reduction of numbers reported per day from 100-115 to around 10-12 cases. Yet, these reports may only reflect a reduction of visits per day by health officials. A similar situation is observed in the nutrition area. Although monitoring is ongoing, most of the children that were screened were now back home, hence follow-up will remain a challenge, though it was said that new cycle of screening will commence in origin sites. The major challenge now is to ensure that all health centers resume the in-patient services, restore more than 80% of documents damaged by floods as well as supplies of routine medicines and/or replacement and repair of destroyed or damaged equipment and materials.

Meanwhile health promotion sessions are ongoing providing invaluable information and services to the population in areas affected. With UNICEF's support, an ICS mobile unit has been on the ground in Chokwe district (with an initial focus in the main accommodation centers and now in the resettlement areas) since the 25th of January promoting key messages with loud speakers and organizing community video debated sessions on HIV prevention, Hygiene and Sanitation, Malaria, Nutrition and Child protection. Local activists and health officers have participated in the debates providing valuable information to communities.

In relation to the recent cholera outbreak, the Ministry of Health reports cases in the Provinces of Cabo Delgado – districts of Pemba City, Mecufi and Metuge – Niassa – Cuamba district – and Nampula city. A cumulative total of 1,352 cholera cases and 5 deaths were reported from the 28th of January to 10th March, of which 482 cases and 2 deaths were reported in Nampula City, the most recently affected province. The cholera week 10 recorded 127 cases, half of the 254 cases of the previous week. This suggests that there is a downward trend in the cholera outbreak in the northern region. The local health authorities are closely monitoring the situation.

The recent monitoring to flood affected areas indicates that about 266.698ha were affected. Out of them, 210.587 ha with diverse cultures (maize, rice, beans and vegetables), were lost, representing about 4% of the total area sown in the country. The Gaza province was the worst affected with 30% of crop area lost, followed by Inhambane (9%) and Maputo (4%). It is estimated that 128.367 producers were affected in the 10 provinces (39 districts). Immediate support with seeds and agricultural tools is necessary to ensure the next plantation period that goes up to end of April. All three provinces are in southern Mozambique. However, information relating to Zambezia is being assessed to determine further needs if required.

To have an overall view of the damage and impact of the flood affected areas, joint government and partners multi-sectoral teams are in the field conducting in-depth assessment since 13 March. The assessment covers social sectors (food security, health and nutrition, education and protection) and infrastructure sectors, and includes cross-cutting areas of environment, disaster risk reduction, gender and HIV and AIDS. It is expected from the multi-sectoral needs assessment to deliver clear indications of service and infrastructure requirements required in return and resettlement sites to ensure population recovery.

Funding

The Government of Mozambique (GoM) is leading the coordination and continues to mobilize fully resources at its disposal for response to recent natural disaster events in the country. Following the Government allocation of a total MT 300 million (approx. USD 10 million), additional MT 100 million (approx US\$ 4 million) were made available as of 12 March to reinforce the already depleted response capacity to address existing gaps.

While the response was ongoing during the red alert and following the GoM request to an immediate assistance from in-country humanitarian partners, in accordance with the National Contingency Plan for Rain and Cyclone Season of 2012-2013, it was possible to mobilize, as of 4 February 2013, Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) amounting to USD 5,133,300 to cover part of the immediate needs of the affected people in the hardest-hit province of Gaza. To complement this request, the Humanitarian Country Team shared in the same day a comprehensive Response and Recovery Proposal (RRP) seeking US\$ 30.6 million to enable the International Community to support the GoM in addressing the needs of 150,000 flood-affected people in Gaza Province for a period of six months (it is important to note that, the number of people affected and assisted was above the planned figure). As a result of this, the bi-multilateral partners contributed with about US\$ 11,035,813, corresponding to 36.1% of the overall needs (see details of contribution available at: <http://fts.unocha.org/pageloader.aspx?page=emerg-emergencyCountryDetails&cc=moz>). There remains a gap of

US\$ 19,582,877 (corresponding to 63.9%) to cover the remaining humanitarian relief and address the early recovery needs.

Humanitarian Response



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs:

- With the removal of the red alert and closure of accommodation centres in Gaza province, the WASH response is focusing on assisting to re-establish services in communities of return. In Chokwe city, the large challenge has been the logistics related to clean-up and removal of huge amounts of spoiled rice and solid waste to the designated disposal site.
- 138 wells and boreholes in flood affected rural communities need to be inspected and repaired.
- Community 'activists' require training and support to continue carrying out hygiene promotion activities.
- Rehabilitation of water and sanitation systems in damaged schools and health centers. In Gaza 41,400 people with rural water points needing repairs;
- In Chihaquelane and other new resettlement areas, assistance to government in establishing long-term WASH services.

41,400

People in Gaza with rural water points needing repair

Response:

- In Chokwe city, WASH partners are cleaning the hospital and removing debris.
- The overall cleaning-up process continues in Chokwe as a priority activity of local authorities to address sanitation and health concerns
- In rural areas, WASH partners continue disinfecting and repairing community wells and handpumps.
- UNICEF shipped 200 boxes of soap, 2,000 buckets and 500 jerricans from Beira to the provincial authorities in Zambezia for distribution. .
- To reduce the risk of cholera, DNA working with PSI sent 10,000 bottles of liquid chlorine water treatment product (Certeza) to Cabo Delgado.

Gaps & Constraints:

- The details of WASH needs in new re-settlement areas in Gaza are still not available but the WASH Cluster assessment estimated an overall need for 30 new water points at a cost of USD 600,000.
- 150 schools and health centres need to be inspected for water and sanitation facility damage and for possible interventions.



Shelter

- Shelter Cluster monitoring activities indicate that 17,574 family shelters were affected, with the total destruction of at least 6,289 homes.
- In some areas (i.e. Chicualacuala), the floods destroyed most of the temporary homes that were built in the fields for use during the crop production season as well as several bridges knocked off by floods, including some of them along the road linking the district with Chokwe.
- Floods also swept away about 30km of the railway line linking the district with Chokwe. This has left the district inaccessible by rail and deprived of many services and markets.
- More basic services (health, water, energy) are operational in Chokwe, with the cleaning up efforts ongoing.
- Infrastructure destruction – particularly roads – could indicate that mislaid infrastructure, with badly designed water flow options, may have caused areas that had not flooded before to be flooded this year (to be confirmed).
- Concerns in new resettlements areas (i.e. Chihaquelane and Malehice), where long distances to family farms makes expensive the transport and there is a lack of basic public services available for support.

17,574

Families shelters were affected

Response:

- The sector has established Information Management systems to track distribution by implementing partners in the field to gain better control and establish beneficiary verification and tracking mechanisms.
- Displaced people in temporary sites in Gaza Province continue receiving NFIs including 3,000 blankets, 5,723 shelter kits, 5,793 sticks/poles and sanitation kits.
- IFRC deployed a shelter cluster team to reinforce the shelter cluster coordination and CVM operations.
- Save the Children and Samaritan's Purse both deployed rapid response Shelter teams since January 2013.

- More than 10,000 families in total have received basic coverage kits (composed of 2 tarpaulin and 30m rope) through support from the Government, IOM, Save the Children, Samaritan's Purse, Red Cross Mozambique, World Vision and WFP Logistics Support.
- Approximately 10,000 shelter toolkits will be deployed and distributed with training to families before the end of April to support family return and resettlement.

Gaps & Constraints:

- In Zambezia, some displaced people only received very limited NFI and shelter assistance.
- Distributions of hygiene kits and partial family kits (blankets, sleeping mats and mosquito nets) took place in Zambezia, but in very limited quantity.



Food Security

Needs:

- According to the Agro-meteorological Bulletin of the Ministry of Agriculture (MINAG), published on 26 February 2013, preliminary data (up to 18.02.2013) indicates that about 266.698ha were affected. Out of them, 210.587ha with diverse crop (maize, rice, beans and vegetables), were lost, representing about 4% of the total area sown in the country. The Gaza province was the worst affected with 30% of area lost, followed by Inhambane (9%) and Maputo (4%). It is estimated that 128.367 producers were affected in 39 districts, all over the country.
- In the livestock sector, a total of 890 head of cattle, 1,986 goats, 211 sheep, 540 pigs and 11.863 birds were lost, in province of Gaza.
- FAO is mobilizing resources to assist 13,000 households in Gaza Province with agriculture kits composed of seeds (75% of farmers that lost all planted crops and seeds) and tools (30-40%) in the affected areas.
- The results of the Rapid Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) indicates that food assistance is still needed to 40% of the population in all flooded districts to cover, at least, the next three months. This should be in the form of general food distribution and afterwards, until the next harvest, in the form of food for work or cash for work; if no second harvest can be done people may be at risk of food insecurity for a much longer period.
- Around 30% of the population of affected districts (only fields affected) should receive food at least for the three months in the form of general food distribution. Afterward a re-evaluation of the livelihood situation should be carried out;
- Support affected households to rebuild their productive assets in order to establish their income generating activities.

13,000

Households in need of seeds and tools to ensure the 2nd plantation period

Response:

- WFP and partners distributed 1,406 tons of food, mainly maize and beans as well as Corn-Soya blended (CSB) and salt to **152,860 people** affected in Gaza province from 17th February to 18th March 2013. In total, since the onset of the emergency on 25th of January, 2,388 tons of food was distributed to 230,000 people affected;
- MINAG is in the process of acquiring 480 tons of maize seed, 135 tons of regular beans; 50 tons of cow peas, 7,500 kg of vegetables, 35,000 hoes, machetes 35,000, 440 and 437 sprayers, to be distributed throughout the country in order to maximize the 2nd agriculture season, especially in the provinces affected by floods;
- The governments have allocated to the affected provinces, about 141.1 tons of maize, 32 tons of beans and 911kg of vegetables;

Gaps & Constraints:

- Seeds are a high priority now, population needs to plant to avoid long term food insecurity.



Health

Needs:

- According to the Agro-meteorological Bulletin of the Ministry of Agriculture (MINAG), published on 26 February 2013, due to the occurrence of drought, pests and excessive rains, combined with the rise and overflow of major rivers flow, preliminary data (up to 18.02.2013) indicate that about 266.698ha were affected. Out of them,

210.587ha with diverse cultures (maize, rice, beans and vegetables), were lost, representing about 4% of the total area sown in the country.

- The Gaza province was the worst affected with 30% of area lost, followed by Inhambane (9%) and Maputo (4%). It is estimated that 128.367 producers were affected in the 10 provinces (39 districts).
- In the livestock sector, a total of 890 head of cattle, 1,986 goats, 211 sheep, 540 pigs and 11.863 birds were lost, especially the province of Gaza.
- FAO seeks to assist 13,000 households in Gaza Province with agriculture kits composed of seeds and tools

Response:

- MINAG is in the process of acquiring 480 tons of maize seed, 135 tons of regular beans; 50 tons of cow peas, 7,500 kg of vegetables, to be distributed throughout the country in order to maximize the 2nd agriculture season, especially in the provinces affected by natural disasters;
- The governments have allocated to the affected provinces, about 141.1 tons of maize, 32 tons of beans and 911kg of vegetables;
- The HCT WG is currently mobilizing resources to rapidly respond to the needs in the agriculture sectors.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Seeds are a high priority now, population needs to plant to avoid long term food insecurity.
- To secure the 2nd plantation season, the agriculture sector needs immediate financial support to provide the affected people with seeds and tools.



Health

Needs:

- In Cabo Delgado Province, northern Mozambique, a cumulative number of 413 cholera cases have been reported as well as 2 cholera deaths. Pemba City is the most affected with 227, followed by the districts of Mecufi (77 cases) and Metuge (54). An in-depth analysis of the situation is required and prevention measures, the surveillance system and medical care should be reinforced.

5

cholera deaths in Cabo Delgado, Niassa and Nampula Provinces

Response:

- In general the sector is working with government and partners to improve in-patient and referral health services and continue collecting information about communicable diseases in displacement centres;
- In Cabo Delgado, the provincial inter-sector working group for cholera response, chaired by the Provincial Health Department (DPS) has been activated, including the participation of the Water and Sanitation Department (DPOPH) and the health cluster partners. DPS reinforced surveillance and control measures, raise awareness on hygiene and health education, is distributing *certeza* to treat water, and strengthen medical response to detected cases.
- Health authorities and health cluster are monitoring cholera suspected cases in Gaza Province and Nampula but up to date all laboratory analysis were found negative.
- IFRC deployed two Emergency Response Units (ERUs), a Mass Sanitation Module (MSM20) and a Community Health Module (CHM) to Gaza Province.
- In Chihaquelane site (Gaza Province) HIV/AIDS response has been mainly through provision of condoms (male condoms), HIV Counseling and Testing (apart from testing at the Health Facilities within the PMTC program, a tent was set in the camp for HIV CT), and through the work of National Institute of Communication that has been providing information with mobile Units. Furthermore, HIV IEC has been provided by activists from different Organizations and local youth associations.



Protection

Needs:

- Protection-specific coordination at field level is a priority to strengthen protection approach across sector response;
- Identification of vulnerable people outside of traditional groups, such as female-headed families, girls, unaccompanied minors, persons with disabilities, the elderly, people living with HIV and AIDS, etc.
- Support for family reunification;
- Establishment of prevention of and response mechanism to violence and abuse cases.

Response:

- Protection cluster developed cross-cluster guidelines to take into account protection issues in sector assessments and activities.
- Family tracing and reunification, including database and data collection, in collaboration with the police, community radios and the Red Cross.

- In Maputo City, distribution of 570 kits dignity to vulnerable women and girls, including women head of household, pregnant women, elderly women, disable women and girls head of household in Gaza province.
- 5,000 dignity kits were distributed among vulnerable women and girls, including women head of household, pregnant women, elderly women, disable women and girls head of household.
- UNICEF and Mozambican Red Cross distributed 3,660 torches with batteries in Chihaquelane displacement site to women with newborn babies and children in general, as well as 296 mattresses also to women with children.
- Activities on reproductive health are present in Chihaquelane displacement site (Chokwe District), especially with the girls and boys as well as women and men in disseminating information and providing sexual and preventive education including the distribution of male and female condoms and contraceptive pills.
- Temporarily Child-friendly spaces were created in the accommodation centers for displacement families.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Lack of reliable information on violence against women and girls (VAWG) from both the sites managers and the organizations providing services in the sites.
- There is no specific support planned to assist the resettlement of women heads of households in the new areas.
- Limited psychosocial support services to affected communities through school councils, community activists and community leaders with a special focus on children.
- No systematic re-registration of children and their families, who lost registration documents during the emergency.
- Support to government departments from Social Action, the Institute of Social Action, the Provincial Registry Department and the Police in terms of rehabilitating their departments and archives to become effective and operational again; construction of two Victim Support Units of the police to better assist female and child victims of violence.
- Establishment of child-friendly spaces in the affected and in new communities where displaced families are settling.



Logistics

Needs:

- While the government works on improving priority roads in Gaza is ongoing, there are still logistical challenges to an efficient humanitarian response.
- The closure of the temporary camps means that deliveries of relief items and food are now done directly to communities. In consequence, destinations have multiplied with smaller loads to more destinations.
- Some roads and other infrastructure are still damaged and there are still a substantial number of organizations responding to the situation requiring coordination of the logistics response to avoid duplication of efforts.
- A number of organizations are still procuring relief cargoes for response in Gaza but also for Zambezia.

3,152m3

Of relief items has been transported by the Logistics Cluster

Response:

- In order to support the efficient and effective delivery of the humanitarian and early recovery assistance, the Logistics Cluster continues to provide common transport services from Maputo and Beira to Gaza, intermediate storage in Chihaquelane and Xai Xai, and onward transport in Gaza to final delivery point.
- Since the start of the operation, the Logistics Cluster has received and processed 148 requests for services and has transported 3,152m3 of relief cargoes on behalf of the cluster members (equal to app. 100 twenty foot containers).
- The cluster services have been requested by 10 users, including INGC, Save the Children, IOM, COSACA, Plan International, Samaritan's Purse, UNICEF, CVM/IFRC, and UNFPA.
- With respect to the road and infrastructure situation, the Logistics Cluster continues to work with partners to gather and consolidate information on the conditions of key routes in Gaza. Some roads are still cut, mainly the ones crossing the Limpopo (e.g. Guija to Chibuto), forcing the population and relief assistance to access the areas by detouring mainly through Chokwe.
- The Logistics Cluster Cell in Maputo continues to ensure coordination of the logistics operation together with colleagues at field level.
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Gaps & Constraints:

- The Logistics Cluster is responding efficiently to requests put forth by the humanitarian community.
- The main gaps and constraints at the moment are: (i) a shortage of small trucks for secondary deliveries, which are sufficiently established to be able to perform transports according to requirements; (ii) timely information

from cluster members on transport and customs clearance needs in order to allow for timely planning and support and; (iii) sufficient funding to continue provide adequate and timely support to cluster members.

Early Recovery

Needs:

- The sector has conducted an assessment to flood affected areas of Chokwe, Chibuto, Guija and Xai Xai, during 19-25 February focusing on livelihoods, disaster risk management, environment, HIV/AIDS, and governance.
- The loss of livestock and crop harvest may increase the vulnerability of affected rural communities.
- There is need of income generation diversification through promotion of novel livelihood strategies like bee keeping, fish farming, poultry farming, making of energy saving stoves, etc.
- Rehabilitate damaged community infrastructures (access roads, agricultural dams and dykes, etc) Water testing for rivers especially those suspected of being contaminated;

Response:

- Conducted environmental impacts assessments and the recommendations should be incorporate into the recovery and development interventions;
- Work with other humanitarian cluster and GoM counterparts to prepare and implementation of early recovery activities;

Gaps & Constraints:

- Lack of basic social services (schools, markets, health services, etc) in resettlement sites, which is a major disincentive for displaced persons to move from accommodation centers to the resettlement sites;
- Lack of disaggregated/detailed infrastructure data (e.g. by types of floods damages). The same applies to health/agricultural/community infrastructures;
- Lack of design/construction standards for community housing and infrastructures, to be incorporated in mandatory community construction norms.



Nutrition

Needs:

- The nutrition situation of returnees in resettlement areas needs to be closely monitored in relation to evolution of the recovery–rehabilitation assistance. For instance, delayed distributions of agricultural inputs (especially seeds), by end of April latest, would impact negatively the long-term situation of both food security and nutrition in affected communities.
- The availability/reporting and reliability of nutrition data received through local MOH services, need improvement, which is possible through staff capacity building under community settled conditions.
- Screening of children constitutes a major need in order to make referrals of malnourished children to supplementary and therapeutic feeding interventions in health centers. The latter will have to strengthen their services as affected communities are getting resettled.
- In addition to malnutrition curative services, preventive measures of malnutrition have to be continued and further reinforced e.g. promotion and support of appropriate breastfeeding and infant and young child feeding practices.

Almost
1,000

Children under-five
screened with MUAC

Response:

- The sector has provided supplementary feeding (BP-5) to an estimated 16,000 children under five and pregnant and lactating women in the initial response phase, to prevent under nutrition in these vulnerable groups.
- The sector has provided pre-screening services to almost 1,000 children under-five using MUAC, and then screened for weight for height, in Chihaquelane area: 59 children were identified as having moderate acute malnutrition, and received ready for use therapeutic food (RUTF), while 7 children were diagnosed with severe acute malnutrition, and referred to health center for further assessment and appropriate treatment.
- Vitamin A supplementation and de-worming was also started.
- These activities were however considered as routine activities, thus data will be part of the routine health information system.
- Distributions of RUTF are being done through health centers in Xai-Xai, Macia and Chihaquelene; and distributions of other complements are ongoing in other affected areas.

- Support was also provided for the promotion of breastfeeding, in Chihaquelane mainly via mobile units and in Guijá and Chibuto also via community based volunteers.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Presently there are no response gaps, but it is foreseen that unless additional funding is made available within a few weeks, the nutritional response may be discontinued in most affected communities, with consequent risks of worsening situation



Education

Needs:

- In the general, according to MINED response Plan, the total needs across the country will be estimated as follows: 233 school tents, 221 school kits, 70,322 student kits, 302 blackboards and 116,886 school books, mainly in Zambezia and Gaza Provinces.
- Gaza Province- In Gaza, the needs were estimated at 111 school tents, 181 school kits, 65,472, student kits, 242 blackboards and 116,886 school books.
- Zambezia Province- In Zambezia, the needs were estimated at 120 school tents, 40 school kits, 4,850 student kits and 60 blackboards.

233

School tents needed

Response:

- The community mobilization for the rehabilitation of classrooms, the use of warehouses and churches as temporary classrooms.
- Students and teachers in accommodation centers were immediately integrated into existing schools in these locations.
- According to MINED, as of 4 March 2013, 42 school tents, 125 school kits, 51,500 student kits, 86 blackboards and 116,886 school books have been provided, mainly in Zambezia and Gaza Provinces. However, some needs are still not covered.
- In Gaza province, 15 school tents, 100 school kits, 42,500 student kits, 86 blackboards and 116,886 school books have been provided. However, some needs are still not covered.
- In Zambezia, 21 school tents and 4,540 student kits have been provided, with the support of MINED and the Cluster. However, some needs are still not covered.

Gaps & Constraints:

- As of 4 March 2013, 191 school tents, 121 school kits, 23,282 student kits and 216 blackboards are still needed, mainly in Zambezia and Gaza Provinces.
- In Gaza, 96 school tents, 81 school kits, 22,972 student kits and 156 blackboards are still needed.
- In Zambezia, 99 school tents, 40 school kits, 310 student kits and 60 blackboards are still needed.



Telecommunications

Needs:

- The sector is procuring a more powerful antenna for the Radio Repeater installed in Chibuto; With this the sector expects to have coverage in Chihaquelane, Macia, Chokwe and Xaixai area;

Response:

- Provided support to INGC to set a HF radio Communication in COE Quelimane;
- Installed a Radio repeater in Chibuto and provided support to configure UN Agencies and NGO Radios;
- Provided mobile data connectivity to UN Staff in the field;

Gaps & Constraints:

- The sector need more radio equipment to expand the existing Radio network in Limpopo. This should be read to be used or deployed for long period use such as early recovery and next preparedness activities;
- An assessment is needed to identify the best location to install Radio communication and also to map out the network coverage;

General Coordination

The Government of Mozambique (GoM) continues to lead the coordination and continues mobilizing fully resources at its disposal to address the exiting gaps resulting from recent natural disaster events as well as leading the assessments and preparation of recovery intervention.

During the first Disaster Management Technical Council (CGTC) meeting, held on 15 March, after the lift up of the red alert, the authorities stressed again the need to strengthen monitoring and response measures in return as well as in the resettlement sites which is critical to prevent future disasters.

The Humanitarian Country Team Working Group (HCTWG) met on 6 March 2013 to agree on the phase out approach, which should focus on providing assistance in the resettlement and origin sites as well as monitoring the situation of those most vulnerable in view of accelerating their rapid return to normal life. The HCT WG also agreed that sectors which still face information gaps to move to the field for assessments. The assessment results, should the used to inform the early recovery plan aimed at support the build back better of the floods affected areas.

The next HCT meeting should be held on 20 March to evaluate the assessment results to date and agreed on early recovery approach as well as the resettlement alternatives in support of the GoM efforts.

Background on the crisis

The Mozambique Disaster Management Technical Council (CTGC) activated the orange alert on 12 January 2013, following heavy rains that caused an increase of hydrometric levels in main river basins in southern regions (Limpopo, Incomati, Inhanombe and Save) and in the central part of the country (Zambezi, Pungoe and Buzi). Since then, Government and humanitarian partners have scaled up monitoring measures and strengthen preparedness for response in most affected areas and others at high risk. On 22 January 2013, the Disaster Management Coordination Council (CCGC) declared an institutional red alert to strengthen Government and partners' actions to respond to the humanitarian needs of affected people.

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