

HIGHLIGHTS

- Flooding caused by the Tropical Cyclone Idai weather system continues to cause massive destruction, with heavy rains reported in Manicaland and Masvingo provinces.
- At least 82 deaths have been reported, 200 people have been injured and over 200 are missing in Manicaland and Masvingo provinces.
- Chimanimani and Chipinge remain the hardest-hit districts.
- Crops and livestock have been destroyed.
- Power supply and communication continue to be disrupted in affected areas.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

The flooding caused by the Tropical Cyclone Idai weather system since 15 March 2019 continues to cause massive destruction, with heavy rains ongoing in Manicaland and Masvingo provinces of Zimbabwe. The hardest-hit district of Chimanimani remains inaccessible as heavy rains have damaged roads and main access bridges have been washed away.

At least 82 deaths and over 200 injuries have been reported, mainly in Chimanimani, and 217 people are reportedly missing. Chimanimani mortuary is reportedly full. At least 923 homes have been destroyed in Chimanimani, Mutasa, Mutare, Chipinge, Buhera, Chikomba, Gutu and Bikita districts. In Chimanimani alone, eight bridges have been destroyed. In Buhera, the Marowanyati dam has overflowed and many families are displaced. Crops and livestock have been destroyed in all affected areas. Overall, more than 2,500 households (12,500 to 15,000 people) are estimated to be affected. However, an accurate assessment of the number of people impacted and displaced is difficult to establish at this point, as many district wards remain inaccessible.

Meanwhile, damage to the port in Beira and its access roads in neighbouring Mozambique may affect fuel and food supplies to Zimbabwe, as well as livelihoods of people in the eastern regions of the country that rely heavily on the Zimbabwe/Mozambique trading corridor.

RESPONSE

The Government-led response is being coordinated by the Department of Civil Protection (DCP) through the National, Provincial and District Civil Protection Committees, with support from humanitarian partners. Helicopter rescue operations are underway, and the police sub-aqua unit has been deployed to reach inaccessible areas.

Coordination meetings are ongoing at national, provincial and district level in Manicaland. Joint rapid needs assessment started today covering Chimanimani, Chipinge, Mutare, Nyanga and Buhera, and should report preliminary findings by the end of this week. The Humanitarian Country Team has met to prioritize response in support of the Government. Relief trucks carrying shelter, non-food items and WASH supplies left Harare today for immediate distribution. The Government has reportedly dispatched medical supplies to Mutare but access is hampering re-supply to district clinics. There is an increased risk of malaria, cholera and other diarrheal diseases, and there is concern regarding the potential for a communicable disease outbreak. The Tongogora refugee camp has been affected by flooding, and 49 households have been relocated within the camp.

