HIGHLIGHTS

- A cholera outbreak has been confirmed, with 14 cases reported in the provincial capital, Pemba, and Mecufi district, as of 3 May.
- A total of 43,367 houses had been recorded as damaged or destroyed in Cabo Delgado (38,067 houses) and Nampula provinces (5,291 houses), including 17,164 totally destroyed and 26,203 partially destroyed by 3 May.
- At least 18,169 displaced people are sheltering in accommodation centres in Cabo Delgado (17,856 people) and Nampula (313 people).

SITUATION OVERVIEW

More than 241,100 people had been affected by the impact of Cyclone Kenneth in northern Mozambique as of 3 May, according to the National Disaster Management Institute (INGC). Some 92 per cent of people affected (208,361) are in Cabo Delgado province, while another 18,636 are in Nampula province, according to the Government. At least 18,169 people are sheltering in Cabo Delgado (17,856 people) and two sites in Nampula (313 people).

A cholera outbreak has been reported, with at least 14 cases reported in the port town of Pemba and Mecufi district, according to the Provincial Health Director. Pemba is one of the most cholera-endemic areas in Mozambique and malaria is prevalent. At least 19 health facilities have been damaged and there has been severe damage to water and sanitation facilities in multiple locations, heightening the risk of water-borne diseases. Over 7,000 women are estimated to be at risk of childbirth complications across areas impacted by Tropical Cyclone Kenneth, according to UNFPA.

More than 31,400 hectares of crops have been destroyed – during the main harvest - and an unknown number of fishing boats and facilities have been either swept away or damaged, according to the Government. This has negatively impacted communities’ livelihoods and is likely to increase food insecurity in the months ahead.

The river basins of Messalo, Montepuez and Megaruma remain on red alert and flooding has been reported in the districts of Metuge and Mecufi. Water is receding in Pemba, but parts of the city remain with high levels of water. On 3 May, a response team comprising INGC, IOM, COSACA and Helvatas conducted an aerial assessment in southern parts of Cabo Delgado and northern Nampula. The team observed that river levels were subsiding, with flooding only visible in the coastal areas. Areas of concern include Milapane, Nimandro, and Natuco.

Many areas in the most affected districts remain without electricity, telephone and internet communication, hindering communication and information flow on the full extent of the humanitarian impact in the affected districts. On 3 May, there were unverified reports of a security incident in the village of Nacate, near Macomia.

Cyclone Kenneth – which was the second Cyclone to hit Mozambique in a span of just six weeks - is yet another deadly warning of climate change, hitting the world’s poorest people hardest, according to Oxfam. Mozambique’s carbon emissions are 55 times less than the United States. This is the first time that a cyclone has made landfall this far north in Mozambique.

RESPONSE

The Cholera Response Plan for Beira will be adapted for the response in Pemba, with targeted WASH interventions. Cholera Treatment Centres have been established in Pemba and Mecufi and Cholera Treatment Units are being established in both districts. A WHO team of epidemiologists, public health specialists and logisticians in Beira to respond to Cyclone Idai have been requested to re-deploy to Cabo Delgado to assess cyclone Kenneth’s impact on people’s health. WASH partners are ramping-up action to prevent the spread of cholera. In Ibo district, community mobilization and
sanitation activities are ongoing, together with support for the cleaning of water wells. Food for the Hungry, in collaboration with SDC, will reportedly cover the WASH needs in two collective accommodation centres in Pemba.

Relief supplies are arriving into Pemba for dispatch to the hardest-hit areas. Thousands of tarpaulins have been brought in to provide life-saving shelter to people in need, and many more are on the way. Some 10,000 bottles of certeza – a water purifier produced in Mozambique – have arrived for distribution.

WFP has deployed two Mi8 helicopters (3 mt capacity) to airlift life-saving cargo to remote and isolated locations. Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) is providing a Caravan aircraft for cargo and passengers to Ibo islands. Storage facilities are, however limited and the Logistics Cluster is exploring options to expand storage capacity.

Private sector companies, working under the umbrella of the Conselho Empresarial Provincial – Cabo Delgado (CTA) have provided financial and in-kind contributions, including providing relief items to people affected by Cyclone Kenneth. In Pemba, private sector partners distributed cooked meals to about 1,000 people Centro de Congresso (600 people) and Complex Esportivo (400 people) on 2 May and will continue for the next seven days. In Church Maria Euxiliadora, food supplies were provided on 1 May.