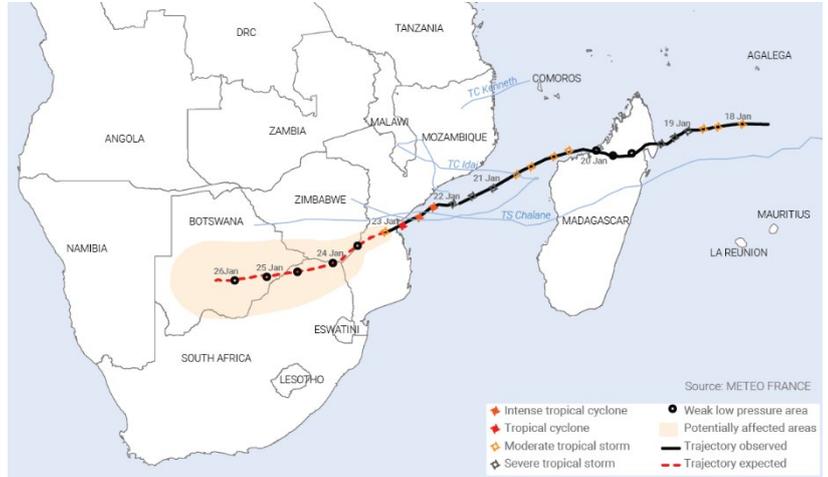


### HIGHLIGHTS

- Tropical Cyclone Eloise made landfall near Beira City in Sofala Province, Mozambique in the early hours of 23 January.
- After landfall, Eloise downgraded to a Moderate Tropical Storm bringing heavy rains and strong winds in Sofala Province.
- The most immediate concern is the potential for significant flooding, including in the days ahead.
- Eloise is expected to continue to move inland, bringing heavy rains to southern Zimbabwe, northern South Africa and far eastern Botswana.



### SITUATION OVERVIEW

Tropical Cyclone Eloise made landfall in central **Mozambique** on 23 January at around 2 a.m., near the coastal city of Beira, with winds of 140 km/h and gusts up to 160 km/h, according to Mozambique’s National Institute of Meteorology (INAM). Beira received 250 mm of rain in 24 hours, according to INAM, while other areas that were flooded ahead of Eloise’s landfall—including Buzi and Nhamatanda—also received additional heavy rains. After landfall, Eloise downgraded to a moderate tropical storm with a maximum wind speed of 83 km/hr. The weather system continues to move in a westerly direction, bringing high amounts of rainfall in its wake, according to the [South Africa Weather Services \(SAWS\)](#).

Luisa Meque, President of Mozambique’s National Institute for Disaster Risk Management and Reduction (INGD), has noted that it is too early to quantify the extent and scale of the destruction, but that the damage in Beira appears to be mild. Electricity was down in parts of the city and communications networks were damaged. However, teams were out assessing pylons and transmission lines on 23 January with a view to beginning repairs as soon as possible. The Munhava barrio and Praia Nova are both areas of concern in Beira, with provincial authorities reporting damages and flooding in both locations. Prior to making landfall, Eloise brought heavy rains and strong winds to Zambezia Province, reportedly uprooting trees and damaging some buildings, including in the provincial capital, Quelimane.

The predominant concern remains the risk of severe flooding. Many rivers in Mozambique’s central and southern regions, which Tropical Storm Eloise will impact, are already above alert levels. According to the National Directorate of Water Resources Management (DNGRH), the Buzi basin alert level is increasing, with the risk of more floods, and the water levels in the Save River basin are rising, posing a flood risk to the villages of Nova Mambone, in Govuro, Inhambane Province, and Machanga, in Sofala Province. Alerts continue to indicate the potential for significant flooding in the Limpopo River basin from next week.

After crossing Mozambique, the Eloise weather system is expected to bring heavy rains over the weekend to southern Zimbabwe, Eswatini, northern South Africa and far eastern Botswana, according to [Meteo France](#).

In **Zimbabwe**, Manicaland and Mashonaland East Provinces have experienced light rains since 22 January, which are predicted to intensify and spread throughout Matabeleland South, southern areas of Midlands, Masvingo and Manicaland provinces from 23 to 24 January, according to the Department of Civil Protection (DCP). In Manicaland Province, Chipinge and Chimanimani Districts, which were hardest-hit by Cyclone Idai in 2019, have received heavy rainfall. In Chipinge district, the Chisengu meteorological station has recorded 140 mm of rain, while in Chimanimani district, rain and wind have been reported since 22 January. In Masvingo Province, there are reports that some areas of Chiredzi, Bikita, Chivi and Masvingo districts received significant rain from the evening of 22 January to the morning of 23 January. At the same time, multiple dams are either at, or exceeding, capacity. The Tokwe Mukosi dam in Mazvingo Province is 97.25 per cent full and is expected to spill in the next couple of days, while Manyuchi Dam—located in Mwenezi District of the same province—has already started spilling. Ward 24 of Masvingo district is the most affected by the flooding of the Tokwe Mukosi Dam.

In **South Africa**, the South African Weather Service (SAWS) has issued an [alert](#) for disruptive rain over northern Limpopo from the evening of 23 January, spreading to additional areas of Limpopo, Mpumalanga and KwaZulu-Natal from 24 to 25

January. Limpopo municipalities on orange alert for 23 January are Ba-Phalaborwa, Greater Giyani, Makhado, Maruleng, Musina, New Collins Chabane and Thulamela.

## HUMANITARIAN PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

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In **Mozambique**, the National Institute for Disaster Management and Risk Reduction (INGD) President, INGD teams and humanitarian partners have deployed to Beira, in support of the provincial capacity. More than 3,000 people have been evacuated from Buzi, including with support from the [Mozambican Red Cross](#). In Beira, provincial authorities have evacuated hundreds of affected people to temporary accommodation centres, and humanitarian partners are preparing to assess preliminary damages and carry-out rapid response where possible, in support of INGD. At the same time, discussions are ongoing to ensure preparedness for the risk of flooding in the Limpopo Basin next week.

In **Zimbabwe**, efforts are focused on evacuations of people in high-risk areas. In Manicaland Province, some 267 people have been evacuated to temporary accommodation centres in Chimanimani District, according to DCP. With the flood risk rising in Masvingo Province, Bikita District has identified four evacuation centres and three buses have been dispatched to Chivi District for evacuation of 210 households. Gweru district has identified 11 evacuation centers. Authorities have established two evacuation centres on high ground to receive people impacted by the overflow of the Tokwe Mukosi dam and are providing transportation to the centres. In Midlands Province, Gweru district has identified 11 evacuation centres, while Beitbridge in Matabeleland South Province has identified 10 evacuations centres. Humanitarian partners, together with DCP, are planning for rapid needs assessments to take place in the coming days.

In **South Africa**, the Limpopo provincial disaster management structures are on high alert and provincial authorities have informed media that the Office of the Premier, South African Police Service (SAPS), South African National Defence Force (SANDF), Social Development, Health, Red Cross, Public Works, Eskom and Salga have all been activated. People in Vhembe, Capricorn, Sekhukhune and Mopani have been advised to stay indoors, according to media reports quoting the Member of the Executive Council (MEC) for Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs, Basikopo Makamu, who is also responsible for disaster management in Limpopo Province.

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