ALERT CYCLONE





Mozambique

Geneva, 20 March 2019

SITUATION

Heavy rains caused by powerful tropical Cyclone Idai hit the central and northern regions of Mozambique from 14th March 2019, leading to massive floods and leaving at least 202 people dead, according to the President of Mozambique, Filipe Nyusi. The death toll is expected to rise in the coming days. The situation is likely to deteriorate and the number of people affected is likely to increase, as weather experts predict heavy rainfall in Sofala and Manica provinces from 19 to 21 March. Flood waters may rise up to around eight metres and at least 350,000 people are at risk (OCHA Flash Update, 19 March). There are also growing concerns regarding the potential effects of the overflow of the Marowanyati Dam in Zimbabwe on water levels in Mozambique.

Most of the affected population are located in the provinces of Zambezia (districts of Chiunde, Luabo, Inhassugue, Mopeia, Nicoandala, Maquaival, Mocubela. Mulevala, Mocuba, Milage, Dere and Qualimane), Niassa (districts of Cuamba and Madimba), and Sofala Province (districts of Buzi, Chemba, Caia, Cherigoma, Chibabava, Dondo, Gorongosa, Morremeu, Marrigue, Muaza amd Nhamantanda).

Based on initial assessments from ACT member Comité Ecuménico para o Desenvolvimento Social (CEDES)/Ecumenical Committee for Social Development, 683 of those affected in Zambezia by the floods have been identified as orphans and vulnerable children, and 165 have been identified as elderly. Moreover, 286 classrooms have been total destroyed forcing more 2,450 children out of schools. The damage to agricultural lands is also very significant, with at least 83,813 hectares of crops such as maize, cassava, sorghum and millets flooded, affecting 53,318 small farmers whose livelihoods depends on farm produce.

NEEDS

CEDES, local churches and local authorities conducted a rapid assessment in the districts affected by the floods. The report revealed a dire situation that would need a multi-sectoral response to support the affected population. The affected people in the assessed regions have lost everything including homes, crops, and livestock. The assessment identified that the most primary needs are immediate safe drinking water; food; non-food items such as hygiene kits, kitchen kits, and candles. The priority will be at least 5,000 female-headed households (25,000 individuals) that also include the elderly, sickly, and children. There is also a great need to provide emergency shelters (tents) for at least 500 families whose houses were completely destroyed in the districts of Caia, Cheringoma, Chemba and Chibabava and Nicoandala and Mopeia.

\boxtimes	sufficient food		
\boxtimes	safe shelter and basic non-food items		
	basic health services and facilities		
\boxtimes	safe drinking water, as well as sanitation and hygiene		
	infrastructure		
\boxtimes	livelihood activities		
\boxtimes	protection services		
	adequate nutrition		

STAKEHOLDERS

The following national and international entities are present and doing their best to respond to the crisis:

×	National government	Search and rescue operations, assisted by the Indian Navy and South African airforce
\boxtimes	UN Agencies	Cluster system planning for full activation. WFP distributing food, high-energy biscuits, with DFID providing support to WFP for 2



		months of food for 120,000 people. Emergency telecommunication partners activated
	INGOs	Needs assessments; NGOs advocating activation of Scale Up mechanism
\boxtimes	Red Cross Red Crescent	
	Movement	
\boxtimes	Military presence	Search and rescue operations
\boxtimes	National NGOs	
\boxtimes	Faith based groups	Needs assessments; mobilization of local churches
\boxtimes	Host communities	

UN Clusters, in coordination with the government, have been meeting regularly to share information and monitor the situation as it unfolds. INGOs will take the signal for scaling up operations from the full activation of the cluster mechanism or the possible activation of the Scale Up mechanism (formerly L3).

ACT Alliance				
\boxtimes	ACT Mozambique Forum (1 active national member) has been active in Mozambique since			
	1997, and now planning to help people affected by the cyclone in coordination with ACT			
	Secretariat and other ACT members			
\boxtimes	ACT Mozambique Forum works in areas affected by the cyclone, and is assessing the impact			
	of the disaster to better understand the needs and vulnerabilities			
\boxtimes	ACT Mozambique Forum has conducted a rapid needs assessment to have an in-depth			
	context analysis and better understanding of existing vulnerabilities.			
\boxtimes	The ACT Mozambique Forum has submitted an RRF proposal to provide food, non-food			
	items, WASH, emergency shelter, and protection services. Funding will be mobilized through			
	the RRF to ensure ACT response is operational as early as possible.			
	The ACT Secretariat is in discussion with ACT Mozambique and Zimbabwe forums about			
	launching an ACT Appeal depending on needs, member capacity, and funding interest			
	Furthermore, ACT Mozambique Forum will engage in advocacy on the national and			
	international level to ensure that the voices of those affected by the cyclone are amplified.			

Any funding indication or pledge should be communicated to the Head of Finance and Administration, Line Hempel (Line.Hempel@actalliance.org).

For further information please contact:

ACT Mozambique Forum Coordinator (CEDES), Venancio Nhandime (vanhandime@emilmoz.com) ACT Regional Representative, Africa-Elizabeth Kisiigha Zimba (Elizabeth.Zimba@actalliance.org) ACT Regional Programme Officer, Caroline Njogu (caroline. njogu@actalliance.org)

ACT Website: http://www.actalliance.org