Zimbabwe

Nairobi, 20 March 2019

SITUATION

On the morning of Friday the 15 March 2019, the province of Manicaland in Zimbabwe was hit by Cyclone Idai, causing massive floods that destroyed houses, swept away fields, uprooted trees, and demolished bridges. Cyclone Idai has triggered a massive disaster in Southern Africa affecting hundreds of thousands of people, with widespread flooding and devastation affecting Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi. Cyclone Idai made landfall near the port city of Beira in Sofala province on Thursday with winds of up to 177 km/h (106 mph). In Zimbabwe, the government reported that 98 people have been killed and more than 200 missing as of today. Some rescuers said homes and bodies were washed away in the rivers to neighbouring Mozambique. At least 20,000 houses have been partially damaged in the south-eastern town of Chipinge, while 600 others were totally destroyed. The Government is struggling to cope with the huge influx of affected households as the country reels from economic problems. The affected households are now sheltered in churches and temporary structures set up by UN agencies. Several aid agencies are assisting government efforts in the search and rescue operations and in the distribution of food aid.

NEEDS

The cyclone has put the province of Manicaland in a state of crisis. The cyclone-affected persons find themselves in a desperate situation, with many unmet vital humanitarian needs such as access to food, clothing, blankets, sanitary wear, diapers, soap, bathing buckets, and toiletries.

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

The dire situation is further compounded for people with vulnerabilities, more specifically for women and girls as they struggle for access to sanitary wear and basic hygiene. There is a pressing need to provide immediate assistance to minimize loss of life and to ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable are covered first.

STAKEHOLDERS

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

☒ National government | Army is assisting in the rescue process
☒ UN Agencies | International Organization on Migration is assisting with the sheltering of the people
☒ INGOs | Needs assessments; Assisting with the provision of food items
☒ Red Cross Red Crescent Movement | Red cross is assisting with the provision of medical supplies to tend to the injured
☒ Military presence | Air lifting survivors
☒ National NGOs | Provision of safe shelter
☒ Faith based groups | Provision of safe shelter in churches
☒ Host communities | Provision of safe shelter

The emergency response is currently being coordinated by OCHA. To ensure that the humanitarian response is well coordinated and complementary, the ACT forum will take part in meetings with all relevant sector stakeholders (Government, National and International Organizations) and establish an
open line of communication with crisis affected persons and communities to ensure a humanitarian response based on participation and feedback.

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<th>ACT Alliance</th>
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<td>✔️ ACT Zimbabwe Forum (13 members) has been working in Zimbabwe since 2003, and now helping/planning to help people affected by the cyclone</td>
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<td>✔️ ACT Zimbabwe Forum works in areas affected by the cyclone, and is assessing the impact of the disaster to better understand the needs and vulnerabilities</td>
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<td>✔️ ACT Zimbabwe Forum is currently monitoring the situation and is preparing a rapid needs assessment to have an in-depth context analysis and better understanding of existing vulnerabilities.</td>
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<td>✔️ ACT Zimbabwe Forum is monitoring the situation and emergency teams are ready/preparing to respond according to the results of a contextual analysis and rapid needs assessment.</td>
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<td>✔️ In collaboration with relevant stakeholders, the ACT Zimbabwe Forum has identified a gap in blankets, dignity and hygiene kits, food clothes and diapers for children and has resolved that if funded, it will have the capacity to properly bridge the identified gap.</td>
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<td>✔️ The ACT Zimbabwe Forum is planning on submitting a funding proposal to provide blankets, dignity and hygiene kits, food clothes and diapers for children to ensure that the affected population’s basic needs are met with regards to WASH.</td>
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<td>✔️ ACT Zimbabwe forum is ready to respond, providing blankets, dignity and hygiene kits, food clothes and diapers for children to 6000 affected persons in the coming months.</td>
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<td>✔️ Furthermore, ACT Zimbabwe Forum will engage in advocacy on the national and international level to ensure that the voices of those affected by the cyclone are amplified.</td>
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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:

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