

**Completed by:** Associação Luterana para o Desenvolvimento de Angola – Lutheran Association for Development of Angola (ALDA), CICA Secretariat (lead), and ACT Angola Forum members (NCA, Bread for the World, CICA)

**Date completed:** 15 April 2026

**Forum:** Angola ACT Forum

**Type of emergency:** Rapid-onset natural disaster – Severe flooding

**Date of emergency (if rapid onset):** From 8 April 2026 onwards

### 1. The nature of the emergency

Heavy and persistent rainfall since 8<sup>th</sup> April 2026 has caused severe flooding across Benguela Province, Angola. The situation escalated significantly following the collapse of a protective dike on 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> April 2026 along the left bank of the Cavaco River between Calomanga and Seta, resulting in a severe humanitarian crisis. Over the next 48 hours, further moderate to isolated heavy rainfall is forecast across Angola ([ReliefWeb](#)).

The breach resulted in uncontrolled flooding affecting densely populated urban and peri-urban areas, particularly low-income settlements with fragile housing structures and limited drainage systems.

### 2. The impact and scale of the emergency

The floods in Benguela, Angola, represent a serious and rapidly evolving humanitarian crisis with large-scale displacement, loss of shelter, and high risk of secondary public health emergencies. This would be a medium to large-scale emergency as it has the potential to escalate if the rains continue. The most affected region is the Benguela Province – particularly Benguela City, Lobito, and Catumbela municipalities. Key affected neighbourhoods include, Calomanga, Seta Antiga, Massangarala, Compão, Capiandalo, Cawango, Cotel, Calomburaco, and surrounding areas of Benguela city.

According to preliminary assessments, ([Reuters](#)), and from reports from provincial authorities, CICA member churches and humanitarian field teams, over 34,000 people are affected, at least 4,500 people are displaced and approximately 800+ families initially confirmed displaced (rapid assessments ongoing). The death toll is now at 45 confirmed deaths ([ReliefWeb](#)), and more than 100 houses have been extensively destroyed, with extensive damage also to infrastructure.

The most affected areas are the low-income, high-density neighbourhoods that are located near riverbanks and drainage channels, where housing is predominantly made of non-durable materials.

The impact of the floods includes massive destruction of homes, health facilities, and household assets, loss of food stocks and livelihoods (informal economy heavily affected). There is also displacement into churches, schools, relatives' homes, and open spaces, and contamination of water sources. As a result of the heavy rains and floods, and the damage to infrastructure and roads, the government of Angola has postponed the return to schools ([ReliefWeb](#)).

The most affected groups include Children, Women-headed households, Elderly persons, and Persons with disabilities.

The short-term consequences include acute shelter needs, food insecurity, risk of waterborne diseases, protection risks, lack of safe drinking water, while the long-term consequences include increased poverty, prolonged displacement, school interruption, loss of livelihoods, and psychosocial distress

**Sources of information:**

- Provincial Government of Benguela (Press release, 12 April 2026)
- CICA member churches' field reports (12–13 April 2026)
- Local media: Jornal de Angola (<https://www.jornaldeangola.ao/>)
- ALDA rapid field assessments (MIRA ongoing)

**i. Local and national capacity**

The affected are residing in various church compounds, and the council of churches of Angola (CICA) member churches have opened their church compounds and other centres (the Centro do Lobito) as temporary shelters. The Council of churches of Angola has active volunteer networks (youth, women, Diakonie teams who can support the response.

The local government civil protection services are responding in the following ways, but are overstretched

**Government response:**

- National Civil Protection and Fire Service activated initial response
- Provincial authorities conducting damage assessments and providing limited assistance
- Full implementation of the national contingency plan not yet confirmed

**Humanitarian coordination:**

- No confirmed formal activation of UN clusters as of 14 April 2026
- Coordination is currently ad hoc between the government and civil society
- CICA acting as a coordination hub for faith-based response
- ACT Alliance coordination mechanism engaged

**ii. Key needs and gaps**

**Priority humanitarian needs:**

- 1. Shelter & NFIs:**
  - Emergency shelter kits (tarpaulins, blankets, mattresses)
  - Clothing and basic household items
  - Temporary shelter space expansion
- 2. WASH:**
  - Safe drinking water supply
  - Hygiene kits
  - Emergency sanitation facilities
  - Disease prevention (cholera, diarrhoea)
- 3. Food Security:**
  - Immediate food assistance (non-perishable items)
  - Emergency food distribution
  - Cash-based support (where feasible)
- 4. Health:**
  - First aid supplies
  - Support to overwhelmed health facilities
  - Disease surveillance and prevention
- 5. Protection:**
  - Safe spaces for women and children

- GBV risk mitigation
- Psychosocial support
- 6. Gaps identified:**
  - Insufficient emergency shelter capacity
  - Lack of large-scale WASH intervention (water trucking not confirmed)
  - Limited health system capacity in affected areas
  - Absence of coordinated protection response
  - Lack of disaggregated data (age, gender, disability)
- 7. Current response coverage:**
  - Churches providing shelter and initial food support
  - Small-scale community donations ongoing
  - Government support is limited and insufficient to meet the scale of needs

Please indicate whether you are considering:

	Indicate your intention with an X below
Rapid Response Fund ( <i>intended for small and medium-scale emergencies</i> )	X
Appeal ( <i>intended for large-scale emergencies</i> )	

*If you indicate an intention to launch an appeal, the secretariat will activate an Emergency Steering Committee meeting within two working days on receipt of this alert.*

### iii. Forum Capacity and members intention to respond

ACT Member	Geographical focus	Sectors of expertise and experience
ALDA	Benguela Province Luanda	Coordination, emergency response, logistics, assessments.
CICA	Benguela, Lobito, and Catumbela municipalities	Shelter (churches), NFI distribution, wash, food security, psychosocial support
Bread for Word	Angola	technical and financial support

### iv. Potential responses

The ACT Angola Forum, led by ALDA in coordination with CICA, proposes a 3-month emergency response targeting 3,000 – 5,000 people and requests USD 100,000-150,000 to respond to this crisis in the following sectors.

**Shelter, and non-food (30%), and Food Security (25%)**- to activate support churches and Centro do Lobito as emergency shelters, giving priority to vulnerable households, distribution of relief items through the local churches (food, blankets, mattresses, clothing, and hygiene kits).

**WASH 35%**- through hygiene promotion campaigns, distribution of water purification kits, and coordination with local authorities for safe water access

**Health**- provision of basic medicines distribution (ORS, paracetamol, malaria prevention items), referring the sick to health facilities, and conducting community health awareness campaigns.

**Protection & Psychosocial Support**- provision of safe spaces in churches, pastoral care, and psychosocial support to identified vulnerable households.

**Coordination and logistics (10%)**- with ALDA acting as the lead of this response, they will provide coordination and coordinate the reporting hub (providing updates every 48–72 hours. ALDA will also liaise with ACT, the government, and other humanitarian actors.

**Forum Capacity Needs**

To implement the response, the forum requires:

- Financial support (RRF funding)
- Technical guidance (WASH, Shelter, Health, Protection)
- Emergency supplies (NFIs, hygiene kits, medicines)
- Logistics support (transport and distribution costs)
- Capacity building for safe distribution and accountability to affected populations