

Mozambique

Flood Response Update (as of 24 March 2019)



Overview

- InterAgency Standing Committee (**IASC**) on 22 March activated the Scale-Up protocol for 3 months.
- The United Nations World Food Programme on Friday declared the Mozambique flood crisis a Level 3 emergency, putting it among a handful of top response priorities for the organisation. The designation will accelerate the massive operational scale-up now underway to assist victims of last week's cyclone and subsequent large-scale flooding.



Logistics Cluster: Access Constraints, as of 23 March

- Satellite imagery shows numerous floodplains, including an "inland ocean" 125 km by 25 km the size of Luxembourg where water levels surged as high as 11 metres, submerging almost everything in their path. WFP-funded drones continue supporting rapid assessments with INGC and support rescue teams with locating victims trapped in the flooded areas in Sofala.
- An MI-8 transport helicopter contracted by the WFP-run United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) continued to airdrop food including WFP high-energy biscuits (HEBs) and micronutrient-rich peanut paste used to prevent and treat malnutrition as well as tents, medicines and other essentials for stranded communities outside Beira.
- WFP airlifted 40 metric tons of high energy biscuits (HEBs) into Beira and Chimoio from a WFP-run UN emergency response depot in Dubai. The fortified biscuits are often used in emergencies as they are nutritious, easy to transport and do not need cooking.
- Another 20 metric tons of biscuits airlifted from a WFP-operated UN emergency response depot in Dubai is due to arrive in Beira on Saturday.
- To date, **more than 100,000 affected people** have received WFP food assistance.
- Two UNHAS MI-8s helicopters are currently operational in Beira. A C295 cargo plane joined today this relief effort.



General updates

- Currently the Cahora Bassa Dam in Tete province is discharging water quantities below 3,000 m3/s. An increase in the discharge would depend on the level of water that is flowing upstream, including rainfall. If larger (up to 5,000 m3/s) are discharged from the dam then flooding would affect all districts along the margins of the Zambeze river (downstream) in Tete, Manica, Sofala and Zambezia provinces (approx. 10 districts).
- Pungue and Buzi river levels are decreasing and dams levels are reducing in volume lowering alerts and reducing the risk of opening dams. However, Zambezi and Save river levels have a higher probability to increase based on the hydrological forecasts received from INAM with alerts.
- Electricity from the power grid in Beira continues to be non-functional with 80% of the electrical infrastructure in Dondo district is reportedly damaged. Electricity is reportedly back at Beira hospital and in other pocket areas of the city. Radio Mozambique is back online.
- Government reports indicate that the Beira-Maputo and Beira-Chimoio road will be reopened by early next week. Caia-Beira road is now passable but with significant limitations as the road poses the most challenges between Muanza and Inhaminga in Chingoma district. 15mt trucks managed to pass through the road without problems, while a 30mt truck also managed to pass but with serious difficulties. The Logistics Cluster recommends experienced drivers and robust trucks for this road, as well as a front-end loader available to accompany the trucks.
- The European Commission's Copernicus Emergency Management Service has been activated for Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi and several maps have already been produced to assist the response (report was already shared with the cluster). Analysis of satellite imagery was made difficult due to clouded weather.
- INGC-led multi-agency and multi-sectoral rapid assessment is challenged as most affected areas are still completely flooded. The assessment will take place once the waters will be receding. Partners are invited to work with INGC and local authorities and use the related forms. A team from UNDAC (United Nations Disasters Assessment and Coordination) has also arrived in country in support of the government of Mozambique and the humanitarian community during the first phase of the emergency.
- Due to the lack of electricity, there has been an increase in fuel demand in Sofala provinces to operate generators, but fuel trucks are stuck in Inchope on their way to Beira as the road is inaccessible. There are reports of long queues at petrol stations.

WFP Response

- WFP is scaling up food operations to affected communities and has reached more than **100,000** people in Sofala, Zambezia, Tete and Manica provinces. Distributions are taking place both in accommodation centres and to isolated populations that remain trapped in the floods.
- WFP will work with national and international NGOs with selection of partners undertaken on the basis of their experience in emergency response, their knowledge of the districts of intervention and their readiness to deploy.
- WFP is also scaling up its commodity voucher assistance through its contracted retailer in Beira to provide food parcels/rations enough to feed number of 250,000 affected people for a full month full rations of rice, pulses, oil and complemented with WFP stocks of Corn Soya Blend.
- A WFP team is establishing an operation hub in Chimoio to support the response in Manica. A 20MT consignment of High Energy Biscuits (HEBs) arrived in Chimoio to be distributed to populations in isolated areas.



WFP HEB cargo arrival in Chimoio

Affected Province	Number of beneficiaries reached
Sofala (Beira, Dondo, Buzi)	94,849
Tete (Tete City)	5,545
Manica (Chimoio - Dombe)	1200
Zambezia (Namacura, Nicoadala)	6,115
Total	107,709

Shortfalls

• WFP can assist approximately 600,000 people with current resources for a 2-week to a 30-days period only. However, the full impact of Tropical Cyclone IDAI is still to be determined and in accordance shortfall scenarios based on a longer time span and higher beneficiary numbers are under development to give a broader and longer-term picture.

Humanitarian Coordination

Food Security Cluster

- FSC partners have agreed that during the relief phase of the emergency response, all food assistance will be channelled through the pipeline set up by WFP.
- Partners are working together to ensure that the distribution of NFIs/cooking kits will be coordinated with upcoming inkind food distributions.
- Field Clusters Focal Points have been designated for each sector.
- A dedicated coordinator for Mozambique has arrived in Maputo, deployed from the global Food Security Cluster (gFSC).

Logistics Cluster

- UNHAS is setting up operations in affected areas in central Mozambique. The Logistics Cluster will facilitate access to the following WFP-contracted aircrafts:
 - 1x MI-8 (3-4 mt capacity) helicopter started humanitarian air operations on 21 March. On 22 March, two rotations were conducted between Beira and Nhamatanda for passenger and cargo transportation of food and non-food items;
 - 1x C-295 cargo plane (8-10 mt capacity) arrived in Maputo on 21 March. It will transport humanitarian cargo to Beira on 23 March.
 - 1x MI-8 (3-4 mt capacity) arrived in Beira on 23 March.
 - UNHAS routes and schedule will be shared with humanitarian partners as soon as air operations are established. An online booking system will be launched shortly.
- Storage capacity remains limited in Beira, the Logistics Cluster is currently facilitating access to four 40-foot containers at Beira airport.
- The Beira-Chimoio railway link is not operational. The Beira-Caia railway link is fully of operational as of today (23 March).
- The Government has reported that the Beira-Maputo and Beira-Chimoio road will be re-opened by early next week.
- Standard Operating Procedures for the provision of common logistics services have been shared with partners and uploaded on Logistics Cluster website.

Nutrition Cluster

- Treatment of moderate acute malnutrition in children 6 59 months and pregnant and lactating women has started in Accommodation Centres in Beira. The Head of Medical Assistance agreed and authorized taking nutrition technicians from Central hospital and from SDSMAS Beira to be set the settled in equipped ACs to provide nutrition services.
- The DREAM programme run by the Community of Sant'Egidio, is active in Mozambique for the support and the treatment of the HIV/AIDS patients since 2001. It runs two big HIV AIDS Treatment Centres with almost 11.000 patients on treatment and a Nutritional Centre in Praia nova for 300 children. A request for food support for the most vulnerable population attending the DREAM centres and the nutritional centre has been made by the DREAM programme. WFP nutritionist is following-up on the request in Beira to assess needs.

ETC WG/Cluster

• The ETC is conducting immediate assessments to better identify the ICT needs of the humanitarian partners operating in the affected areas.

- Since the activation of the ETC Cluster the Crisis Connectivity Charter to support humanitarian communications in Mozambique, satellite industry companies, Eutelsat SA, Inmarsat and SES have so far been selected to provide services.
- Connectivity services are operational at the operations centre at Beira airport. ETC Partners Ericsson Response, ITU, the Government of Luxembourg (emergency.lu) and Télécoms Sans Frontières (TSF) are working together to provide data connectivity services to the humanitarians deployed to Beira. This enable them to coordinate their activities effectively.
- Vodafone Foundation has also sent a team of responders to support with connectivity requirements.