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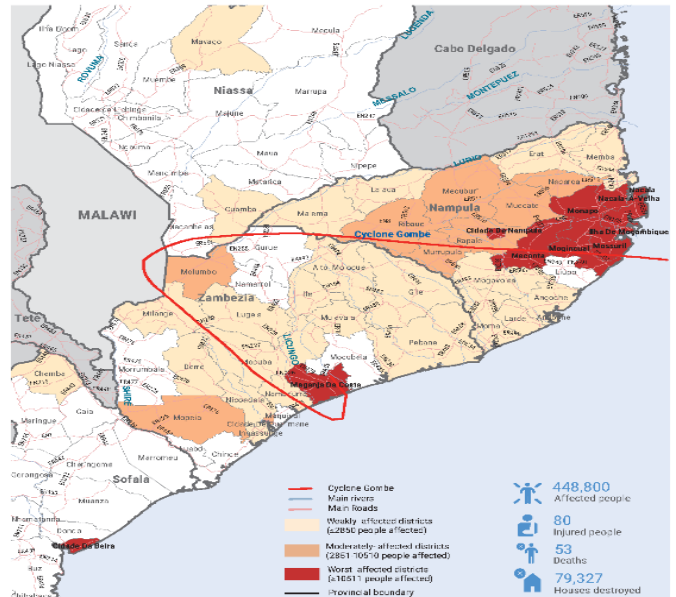
MOZAMBIQUE – TROPICAL CYCLONE GOMBE

Flash Update No. 4

As of 18 March 2022

HIGHLIGHTS

- Severe Tropical Cyclone Gombe made landfall over the coastal area of central Nampula province in the early hours of 11 March, with winds up to 190km/h and rains up to 200mm/24h.
- Latest data on the impact indicate that Gombe affected at least 448,800 people (87,392 families) caused 53 deaths and injured 80 people.
- Some 20,957 people have been displaced and are currently hosted in 44 accommodation centers and one resettlement site.
- Gombe recently weakened to the stage of low-pressure system, yet serious concerns remain as it could strengthen again in the next days.
- Initial response activities are currently ongoing, and they will be expanded in the coming days.



SITUATION OVERVIEW

Tropical Cyclone Gombe made landfall on 11 March in Mossuril district, Nampula province. Gombe hit Mozambique as a Category 3 Cyclone with heavy rains (200mm/24h) and strong winds (150-185km/h). The Cyclone heavily affected the provinces of Nampula and Zambezia, and to a lesser extent Niassa, Cabo Delgado and Tete (INAM).

According to the latest data from the Institute for Disaster Management and Risk Reduction (INGD), as of today Gombe has affected a total of 448,800 people (87,392 families) caused 53 deaths and injured 80 people. Some 20,957 people have been displaced and are currently hosted in 44 accommodation centers and one resettlement site. A total of 46,265 houses have been completely destroyed, while 41 health centers, 1,458 classrooms (143,904 students affected), 2,741 electricity poles, and 934km of roads have been severely damaged. On 17 March, satellite imagery by UNOSAT detected surface waters in Maganja Da Costa, Namacurra and Nicoadala districts in Zambezia province, estimating that within an area of 6,970 km², approx. 442 km² of lands appear to be flooded. Based on population data and the detected surface waters, about 36,500 people are potentially exposed or living close to flooded areas.

On 18 March, the National Institute of Meteorology of Mozambique (INAM) issued a warning for the provinces of Manica, Sofala, Tete and Zambezia on heavy rains over the coming 24hrs, as Gombe made again landfall hitting these provinces as a tropical depression.

Lack of electricity and communication is reported in several areas, besides serious physical access constraints (mostly in the coastal districts). Nampula's most affected districts are reported to be Mongicual, Liupo, Angoche, Larde, Moma, Ilha de Mocambique, Mossuril, Monapo and Meconta. Zambezia's most affected districts include Maganja da Costa, Nicoadala, Quelimane and Mocuba.

Multisectoral needs assessments have already been finalised in Mossuril, Monapo, Ilha de Mocambique, Meconta and Liupo districts in Nampula province. Four of the nine most affected districts in Nampula are currently inaccessible (Angoche, Mongicual, Moma, and Larde). However, teams are finding ways to access them, also through the use of drones. In-depth needs assessments will be initiated in Zambezia province in the coming days.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

INGD has been leading the needs assessments and initial response activities which include conducting search and rescue operations; evacuating stranded population; establishing temporary accommodation centers to host displaced people; prepositioning food and non-food items for distributions.

Similarly, humanitarian partners have undertaken a number of sectoral activities over the last few days.:

The Protection Cluster conducted rapid needs assessments in Corrane's IDPs site and in five accommodation centers in Monapo district, reiterating the importance of identifying vulnerable people, mainstreaming protection messages, and distributing PSEA awareness materials. The cluster, in coordination with the PSEA Network and the Forum for People with Disabilities of Mozambique has also developed protection messages in sign language to be shared and broadcasted with partners, authorities and responsible for managing the accommodation centers.



Figure 1: Physical access constraints on the road Nampula-Corrane. Credit: UNHCR

The Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster is ready to reach 48,500 displaced people with a 30-day food ration in the accommodation centers while it plans the delivery of nutrition supplies to treat approximately 300 severe acute malnutrition (SAM) cases in accommodation centers.

The Health Cluster will install some 50 tents in the most affected districts to provide health care services. Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) services, including antenatal care and GBV response will be provided to 74,000 women and girls of reproductive age.

The Education Cluster will be supporting training of teachers, installing tents in classrooms partially destroyed, and providing some 7,200 learning kits. To date, the cluster in Nampula has distributed ten learning kits, ten rolls of plastic sheets and tents to establish child friendly spaces.

The WASH Cluster is trucking water, distributing hygiene kits, and building emergency latrines while working to reestablish affected water supply systems. In Ilha de Moçambique, the cluster has transported some 25,000 liters of water to cover the needs of 2,000 people while an additional 25,000 liters and 1,000 hygiene kits were transported to Monapo district to reach 5,000 people. Additional interventions are being planned in the coming days to supply water to Liupo and distribute chlorine tablets, soap bars and dignity kits in Meconta, Mossuril and Mogovolvas districts, covering approximately 5,000 people.



Figure 2: IDPs in temporary accommodation center in Monapo district. Credit: UNHCR

In Ilha de Moçambique, Larde, Liupo, Meconta, Monapo and Mongicual districts, the Nutrition Cluster undertook some nutrition assessments and screenings at Temporary Accommodation Centers and in affected districts. The cluster and its partners are also replenishing stocks of supplies to support children under 5 years, pregnant and lactating women. In Monapo district, the cluster distributed six tents to set up space for consultations and distributed 650 mosquito nets.

The Shelter/NFIs Cluster and its partners have distributed 2,000 sleeping mats, 2,000 blankets and 2,000 plastic sheets in Monapo district to cover the needs of some 10,000 people. The cluster has also distributed 185 shelter kits in Ilha de Moçambique district to reach some 900 people.

Considering the ongoing humanitarian crisis in the northern region of the country and the limited availability of current stocks, only sufficient to cover the needs of about 100,000 people, further financial support to cover the unfolding needs is urgently needed.

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