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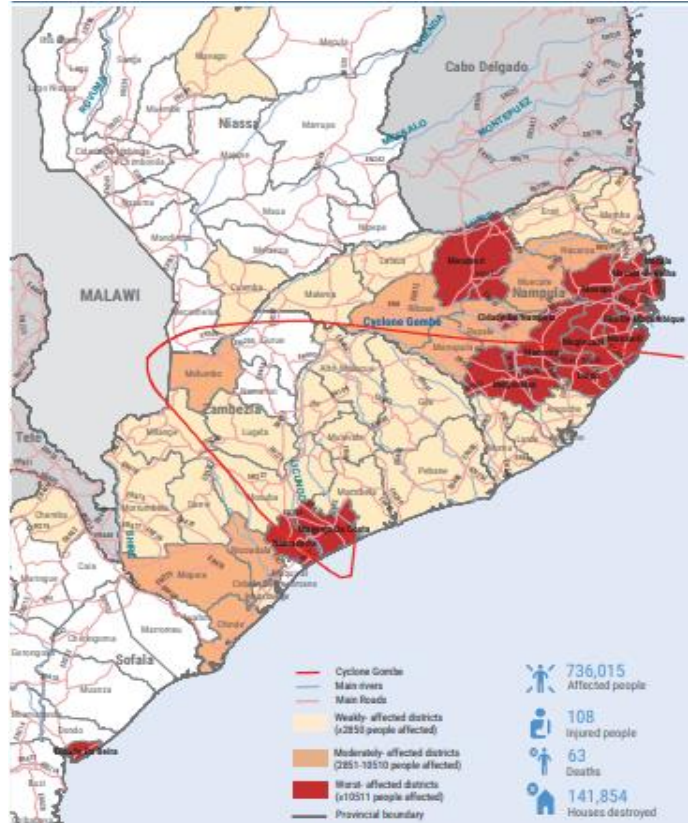
MOZAMBIQUE – TROPICAL CYCLONE GOMBE

Flash Update No. 9

As of 13 April 2022

HIGHLIGHTS

- Final data on the impact indicate that the Tropical Cyclone Gombe affected at least 736,015 people (148,253 families), caused 63 deaths and injured 108 people, mostly impacting on Nampula and Zambezia provinces and, to a lesser extent, Sofala, Tete and Niassa provinces.
- A total of 6,457 people remain displaced and are being hosted in five resettlement sites in Nampula and Niassa provinces.
- Inter-agency assessments have been completed in Nampula and Zambezia provinces, and multisectoral response is now ongoing.
- In line with the assessed humanitarian needs on the ground, humanitarian partners are finalising a Flash Appeal to mobilize urgent resources to respond to the emerging needs. Meanwhile, an allocation of US\$ 4 million from the CERF Rapid Response Window has allowed humanitarians to kickstart the response.



SITUATION OVERVIEW

On 12 April, the Institute for Disaster Management and Risk Reduction (INGD), released the final figures on the impact of Tropical Cyclone Gombe which affected a total of 736,015 people (148,253 families), caused 63 deaths, and injured 108 people.

A total of 6,457 people remain displaced and are being hosted in five resettlement sites in the districts of Maganja da Costa and Namacurra in Zambezia province and one in Cuamba in Niassa province.

A total of 141,854 houses have been partially damaged or totally destroyed along with 69 health centers, 21 water systems and 2,764 electricity poles. A total of 2,265 classrooms were damaged/destroyed, affecting a total of 216,003 pupils and 4,421 teachers. A total of 91,177 hectares of crops have been lost while a total of 1,243 km of roads have been severely damaged.

Rains, from weak to moderate, are forecasted to continue until 24 April along Mozambique's southern coast, mainly affecting Maputo, Gaza, Inhambane, Cabo Delgado and Niassa provinces. While a minor increase is reported in the water level of the Zambezi river, there is a general reduction in the water basins and no risk of additional flooding is expected.

Since the beginning of the rainy season, a total of 1,020,519 people (206,082 families) were impacted. Moreover, authorities reported a total of 367 people injured and 142 deaths. Moreover, a total of 183,3156 houses have been partially damaged or totally destroyed along with 103 health centers, 5,422 classrooms (affecting 609,297 students), 2,981 electricity poles and 159 water systems. A total of 220,425 hectares of crops have been lost with grave concern for the food security outlook of the affected areas. A total of 6,297 km of roads have been severely damaged. Overall, the most impacted provinces have been Nampula, Zambezia, Maputo and Tete. Finally, according to INGD, in the last 16 years, the country has recorded ten tropical systems, among them cyclones and storms. In the last two seasons, Gombe was the most devastating, in terms of deaths, affected population and damaged infrastructures.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

INGD has been leading needs assessments and preliminary response, including distributions of food and non-food items. Moreover, INGD has been conducting search and rescue operations, evacuating stranded population and establishing temporary accommodation centers to host displaced people. Humanitarian organizations have been closely coordinating with the authorities at national and provincial levels with regards to needs assessments and response activities.

The humanitarian team in Zambezia reports that the operating environment remains complex, access to the most remote areas of Maganja da Costa district requires a motorboat. However, only three motorboats are available with a maximum capacity of 12 passengers or less than 1 MT with no passengers. INGD has limited stocks left and humanitarian partners have also limited capacity on the ground.



Figure 1: a flooded community in Maganja da Costa, Zambezia
(Credit: RCO)

A gap analysis is ongoing, and it should be completed by the beginning of the next week. However, preliminary indication that most of the 15,000 families affected by Gombe were also affected by Tropical Storm Ana and Tropical Depression Dumako. There are families who have lost their homes, their crops and domestic animals that report difficulties in rebuilding their homes due to lack of tool kits. Availability of drinking water has decreased significantly due to the destruction of water supply systems, and a significant increase in cases of diarrheal diseases and malaria as well as a shortage of essential medicines is reported. A large number of people are also reported to have lost their identity documents.

The humanitarian team in Nampula reports that the administrative post of Lunga, in Mossuril district, remains isolated as a result of damage caused by Gombe which destroyed several access roads connecting the village of Lunga to the rest of the province. At the moment, the only way to reach Lunga is by sea. The Governor of Nampula and the INGD Provincial Delegate visited the location on 8 April to assess the needs and assistance provided and confirmed that a company has been hired to restore access to the village. Until the repair work is completed, humanitarian partners will continue to coordinate with local authorities to support the delivery of relief supplies by boat.

While the response in Nampula has been stepped up, significant gaps remain, particularly in the areas of Shelter/NFIs, Education infrastructure, and WASH. In terms of activities implemented, the Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster completed distributions in Monapo, Ilha de Moçambique and Namialo targeting approximately 2,800 households while the Shelter cluster completed distribution of 900 shelter kits including kitchen sets on 12 April in Mongicual. On 12 April, FAO began conducting damage and loss assessments across seven districts in Nampula which will be concluded by 17 April. UNDP is conducting an early recovery scoping mission looking at livelihoods and women empowerment, infrastructure rehabilitation and reinforcing capacity of the Government.

The humanitarian team in Sofala reports that a preliminary evaluation conducted by INGD indicates that there are 22,000 people affected by Gombe and a total of 30,000 in total for the rainy season so far. Main needs are reported in the sector of Education, Shelter/NFIs and Agriculture. The initial response to Gombe included the provision of Shelter/NFIs to affected people in transit centres, which were vacated after a week, when water receded. No further assistance has been provided after the initial response. INGD has been depleting its stock and there are only a few partners on the ground to assess and respond to needs. The team reported that there are still people displaced due to Cyclone Idai in 2019 living in resettlement centres, who are currently in need of humanitarian assistance.

A total of \$4 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) Rapid Response Window has been recently allocated to kick start the response in support of 130,000 people. However, the Humanitarian Country Team in Mozambique is currently finalising a Flash Appeal to mobilize additional financial resources to respond to the emerging humanitarian needs. The Flash Appeal will target the most impacted districts in Nampula, Zambezia and Sofala provinces with lifesaving, life-sustaining and protection activities over the next six months.

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