

Mozambique: Flooding

Office of the Resident Coordinator, Situation Report No. 2

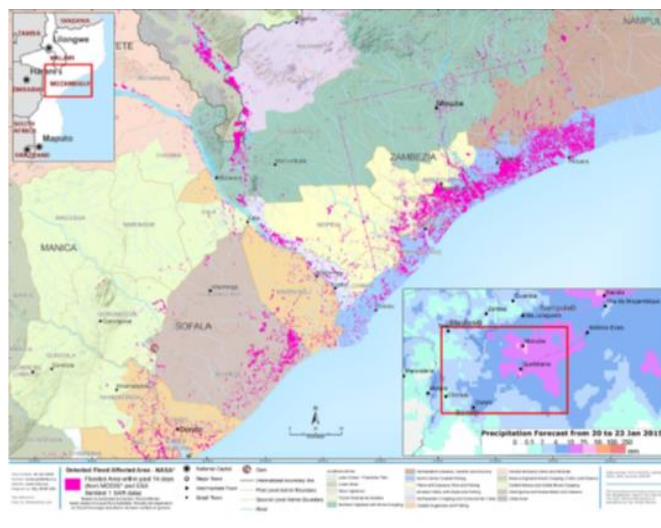
(17:00 of 22 January 2015)



This report is prepared by the Humanitarian Country Team/Office of the Resident Coordinator in Mozambique. It covers the period from 17 to 21 January 2015.

Highlights

The Council of Ministers of Mozambique declared an institutional **red alert** on 12 January **for the Central and Northern parts of the country** after heavy rains resulted in severe flooding. Around 144,330 people (32,285 families) have been affected, and an estimated 11,000 houses were destroyed. Zambézia province remains the worst hit, with 119,564 people (24,278 families) affected, of which 50,481 people (11,662 families) are hosted across 49 accommodation centers. Rescue operations are still underway, and as the weather improves and river levels drop, major transport links are also beginning to be reestablished. Assessment teams are still in the field (INGC and partners) to collect more accurate information regarding immediate needs.



144,330 Affected
people

86
Deaths

51,689
people in accommodation
centers

11,000
Houses destroyed

433
classrooms affected

Situation Overview

Ten days after the declaration of a red alert for the Central and Northern region of the country, government and HCTs are being met with increased calls for humanitarian assistance

- The Licungo river basin continues to register a reduction in the runoff volume, although some areas remain flooded, particularly in lower Licungo in the Maganja da Costa and Namacurra districts. The reduction in water levels has allowed for road and bridge reconstruction on the N1 (main national road), which connects the central with the northern part of the country. Boating people across the Licungo can now occur more safely.
- Limited access to affected areas continues to hinder effective response. Flooding in the Licungo river basin has seriously damaged the road network in Zambézia province, with an estimated 70% of the province unreachable by land. Authorities and HCTs are thus forced to rely more on air to transport medicine, food items, and to conduct search and rescue operations. At present, authorities have 5 helicopters (3 from the South African government and the remaining rented by the Mozambique Government) and 3 aircraft (1 from the SA government and 2 from the Mozambican air force) at their disposal.
- According to INGC, since the declaration of the red alert, the total number of people affected by floods, heavy rains and strong winds in the country is 144,330 people (32,285 families). **Zambézia province**

[+ For more information, see “background on the crisis” at the end of the report](#)

itself, as the most affected province, has 119,564 people (24,278 families) affected by floods and 17,629 people (6,355 families) in Nampula province. In Cuamba district in Niassa, 8 accommodation centers are hosting 1,208 people. The current death toll due to flooding, lightning strikes and house collapse is 86 in total, of which 64 in Zambézia and the remaining in Cabo Delgado, Niassa and Nampula.

- Damage to roads, bridges, classrooms, individual houses, health units and water supply systems is severe. About 11,000 houses and 413 classrooms were destroyed. In Zambézia alone, 5,319 houses, 398 classrooms, 6 health centres and 57 bridges were destroyed and 4,048 houses partially destroyed. Ten electricity towers ensuring electricity to the north of the country have toppled, leaving thousands of people without electricity for 10 days now.
- In Zambézia, 50,481 people (11,662 families) are currently hosted in 49 accommodation centres, most of them concentrated around Mopeia, Nicoadala, Maganja da Costa and Mocuba. The number of vulnerable groups hosted in the centres is quite significant, with 836 orphaned children, 286 newborns, 252 elderly people, and 114 pregnant women. Health issues are increasing, and so far 287 cases of malaria and 86 cases of diarrhea have been recorded, the majority in Mocuba and Nicoadala.
- The emergency response operations and coordination are being led by Government with HCT support. HCT teams deployed to Nampula and Zambézia are still in the field and integrated in different government sectors for response planning, inventory of the available stocks (response capacity), supporting on needs assessments, logistics and family registration in accommodation centers;

Despite limited access to isolated communities, assistance operations are ongoing:

- Response remains focused on Zambézia due to the severity of the damage, complex scenario to evacuate the population from flooded areas, and the large number of affected in accommodation centers.
- Importantly, limited access still hinders the precise assessment of humanitarian needs, though the situation is slowly becoming clearer.
- **Several rescue operations, led by Government through INGC, UNAPROC, and the Mozambican and South African air forces, were carried out over the last few days.** They comprised a mix of rescue operations, food and medicines transportation. With the improvement of the weather and decreasing water levels in the river, some connection between Centre and North on the N1 is being reestablished.
- **Government and its partners are giving immediate life-saving humanitarian assistance.** Assessment teams are still in the field (INGC and Partners) to collect more accurate information regarding immediate needs.
- **Logistic continues to be a challenge in the emergency operations** as most of the roads within the province are still cut off. This situation is hampering more effective response to the affected people as the loading capacity for items is very limited by air. **Efforts are ongoing to cope with the damage in infrastructure** mainly for the cuts on the N1, electricity towers, and water supply systems.

Funding

The budget allocated in the National Contingency Plan for the 2014-2015 Rain and Cyclone Season remains the main source of funds for the Government's response as it continues to mobilize additional resources. The private sector has donated about \$238,000, as well as food items.

On 19 January 2015, the Government requested immediate assistance from in-country humanitarian partners, in accordance with the Contingency Plan. In response, the UN is rapidly preparing a request to the OCHA-managed Central Emergency Response Fund



Bridge over Namilate River, 58km from Mocuba

(CERF) to cover the most urgent life-saving needs. Additional assistance is required, which will be detailed in the Response and Recovery Proposal being developed for donors.

Humanitarian Response

- Search and rescue operations are ongoing. INGC continues to lead the response locally through Emergency Operative Centers (COE) in Quelimane (Zambézia) and Nampula City (Nampula), providing appropriate support and guidance to provincial authorities on operations management, data collection, reporting, and information dissemination.
- UNAPROC has been supporting hundreds of people to cross the Licungo River. Distribution of food and medicines, prepositioned in Quelimane, to areas not accessible by land is being ensured by air. Airborne assistance is being delivered with the support of the South-African and Mozambican air forces. Partners are also providing logistical support for the delivery of immediate assistance.
- Deployed HCT teams are closely coordinating with government and integrated in several sectors to promptly support response planning, stocks monitoring, distribution of food and non-food items reinforcing the coordination on the ground with all involved partners.
- The HCT is supporting activities based on available information in terms of needs and gaps. Latest data show clear gaps that need to be addressed. The HCT in coordination with Government has been dispatching food and non-food items (particularly WASH items) to affected areas. With the identification of land for the resettlement of affected people, the Government is requesting additional shelter and logistics support.
- Other areas in which the HCT continues to support Government is in needs assessment in terms of infrastructure (Shelter, WASH and Early Recovery Clusters); Communication (Coordination of the HCT), Social Services (WASH, Education/Protection, Health, Nutrition and Food Security Clusters) and Information and Planning (Logistics and Telecommunications Clusters).



Logistics

Needs:

- As of 22 January, information from the Provincial COE in Zambézia referred to some 119,564 people (24,278 families) affected by the floods;
- CEDES is currently working on needs assessment and impact evaluation in view of ongoing emergency situation;
- To complement the resources already allocated from national contingency plan budget, the Government of Mozambique has officially requested mobilization of additional assistance via the UN Humanitarian Country Team network.
- INGC reports 17,629 people (6,355 families) affected in Nampula province;
- In Zambézia, it is estimated that 70% of the province is inaccessible by land. INGC has requested logistical support in terms of ground and possibly air transport for the emergency operations.

70%

of Zambézia province is not accessible by land

Response:

- WFP office in Beira has promptly responded with dispatches of warehousing equipment of 110 pallets to Mocuba, as well as 40 pallets and a rubhall prepositioned in Quelimane, to be erected upon request;
- Contract for milling of WFP maize grains is currently delivered to a service provider in Beira for further analyses and endorsing in view of immediate production of maize meal to assist emergency operation;



- WFP has further been providing warehouse management assistance to INGC staff in Quelimane (dispatches, receipts, stock cards, reporting and inherent commodity handling expertise);
- WFP truck in Quelimane is providing transport assistance to INGC in moving relief items through delivery destinations as advised and requested by local Government and/or INGC;
- WFP continues to resort to internally shortlisted transporters to deliver requested cargoes including for SLA requests and is further available to assist Logistics Cluster Members' requests on a cost recovery basis;
- Small capacity transporters in Caia and Beira have been identified and contacted for promptness in order to secure inland access through rough terrains otherwise inaccessible to large trucks as referred above;
- COSACA has dispatched to Caia some 2,500 hygiene kits, 1,000 household kits, 1,000 coverage kits, 5 orange fence rolls, 3,000 shelter instruction brochures, 100 toolkit;
- Further appeal has been formulated to Oxfam Novib in view of sourcing supplies such as seeds, mosquito nets, certeza water purifiers and hygiene kits for women and children.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Communication challenges with districts and focal points;
- Inconclusive data on actual needs (not fully identified);
- Accessibility constraints to affected areas (as per INGC 70% of Zambézia Province is inaccessible by road);
- Staffing to secure ground operations;
- Funding to meet logistics cluster needs (i.e. transport of relief items).



Food Security

Needs:

- The Ministry of Agriculture requested support from FAO to assist the population to resume agricultural activities as soon as the water recedes. They just received information from local authorities on affected areas and needs regarding seeds and agricultural tools.
- The Government has indicated that the needs in terms of food items to Zambézia province are estimated at: maize flour (572 ton), rice (572 ton), beans (86 ton), oil (28,608 liters), sugar (42.9 ton) and salt (139 ton).

50,500

People in accommodation centers to be assisted with food

Response:

- WFP food distributions began 22 Jan in Mocuba, and will reach about 7,584 persons with a 15-day ration in 12 accommodation centers in Mocuba over the next 4 days. A total of 65.8 metric tons of various commodities (fortified maize meal, pulses, oil, sugar and salt) from WFP and INGC will be distributed.
- WFP, with INGC, is finalizing a distribution plan for 49 accommodations centers. WFP expects to assist 50,481 people with about 400MT for a 15-day ration composed of maize meal, pulses and oil. The total quantity of food to be moved is yet indicative and will be adjusted as per confirmed needs.
- The MINAG- DNSA is estimating affected areas and seed needs in collaboration with provincial and district agriculture authorities.



*Accommodation center in Cajual, Mocuba: Women at the camp cooking.
©UNICEF Mozambique 2015 / R. Esmael*

- FAO is working with MINAG to estimate agricultural needs to assist local farmers to resume their activities as soon as possible.
- The Food Security Cluster will meet on the 23 January to continue coordinating the immediate support to affected population.

Gaps & Constraints:

- The inconsistency of data received from the field has been a challenge. As soon as communication conditions allow, it is recommended to plan an inter-agency assessment, in coordination with national authorities, for more accurate figures of affected areas and people in need of food and agricultural support;
- According to INGC, the deficits in terms of food items to Zambézia province are estimated at: Maize flour (568 ton), rice (566 ton), beans (85 ton), oil (26,856 liters), sugar (41.45 ton) and salt (139 ton).



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs:

- About 50,500 people in 49 accommodation centres in Zambézia need water supply, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) assistance.
- The Mocuba town piped water supply system was heavily damaged at its river intake station. A provisional water treatment system and water trucking operation is in place but fuel, treatment chemicals and funds are required to keep them operating.
- WASH interventions are being prioritized for displaced families in accommodation centres in Zambézia districts according to the most recent information: Maganja da Costa (6,800), Mocuba (6,900), Namacurra (2,100), Nicoadala (5,500), Lugela (750), Morrumbala (5,700), and Mopeia (10,300).
- Cuamba district (Niassa province) has reported 464 families (about 2,300 people) affected by floods. Eight accommodation centres have been established hosting 1,208 people. Information on other districts in Niassa has not yet been received.
- With the power cuts in Quelimane, Nampula and other northern cities, urban water supplies are threatened. This situation is being followed carefully.

50,500

People in accommodation centres in Zambézia needing WASH

Response:

- National Directorate of Water, UNICEF, COSACA (Save the Children, OXFAM), PSI and World Vision are transporting water treatment chemicals, jerry cans, latrine slabs, buckets, soap, collapsible tanks, water treatment liquid (Certeza) and plastic sheeting to Zambézia province.
- WASH coordination in Quelimane under the provincial Public Works (DPOPH) is now in effect, which includes the partners mentioned above. Responsibilities for WASH in accommodation centres have been distributed among NGOs, for those locations that are known and accessible by road.
- Priority WASH services for these centres are: 1) safe drinking water through water treatment, trucking and distribution, and 2) adequate emergency latrines using plastic slabs and plastic sheeting.
- The national agency AIAS has fielded staff to assess Mocuba town water system damage and provide emergency assistance. Planning for system repairs is ongoing.



Accommodation center in Cajual, Mocuba. Latrine construction. ©UNICEF Mozambique 2015 / R. Esmael

- COSACA has sent 6,000 hygiene kits and 4 water tanks. World Vision has sent 9 water tanks, water containers, soap and 1 portable treatment plant.
- UNICEF has sent to Quelimane 2 water tanks, 300 buckets, 100 slabs, 100 jerricans, 1 portable treatment plant and 5 boxes of aluminum sulfate for bulk water treatment.
- UNICEF has also provided 30,000 bottles of Certeza for household water treatment through an agreement with PSI, and 50,000 more bottles will be made available as needed. In addition, PSI is organizing training and distribution of Certeza products.
- UNICEF is also deploying a set of IEC hygiene promotion materials and tools (flipcharts, booklets and megaphones) to equip 500 activists to be used in accommodation centers by NGO partners and 6,000 hygiene promotion leaflets to be distributed to schoolchildren.

Gaps & Constraints:

- There is limited access to some affected areas to determine the immediate needs and required response. Many areas are only reachable by helicopter.
- Due to the road cuts and lack of electricity, access to the northern districts of Zambézia is impossible, and the situation in Gurue district is not known.
- Major repairs will be needed to the Mocuba town water system, and perhaps to other town water systems which are still out of contact.
- The provincial government is coordinating with implementing partners to help them to meet the basic WASH needs in the accommodation centers.



Shelter

Needs:

- The current needs for shelter are estimated at 50,500 people, to be covered so that Schools can resume on 6th February and displaced populations can find shelter in the accommodations centres and/or the temporary sites.
- In fact a large number of houses were destroyed in Zambézia and also in Nampula leaving a number of families in need of shelter for the medium term.
- In-depth need assessments are on-going as access is progressively gained by INGC with the support of HCT members (UN-Habitat, IOM, Red Cross and COSACA members)
- Largest accommodation centers are in Maganja da Costa (14,693 people in 7 centres) and Mopeia (10,305 in 17 centres);
- The current shelter needs identified by the Government include shelter kits; tents; tarpaulins and family kits;
- School infrastructures have been damaged and Shelter Cluster will also need to give technical support for assessment and early recovery and improved reconstruction of the infrastructures.

50,500

People approximately will need shelter support

Response:

- As of now, COSACA and World Vision has sent a total of 1,657 household kits to Mocuba, which contain tarpaulins for shelter;
- World Vision has also specifically distributed 750 shelter kits, 750 tarpaulins and 30 plastic rolls in Mocuba district. Red Cross initiated the support with tents (200 already distributed)
- In Nampula province, UNHCR will distribute plastic sheeting to both affected population and refugees on 23 January.
- Nationwide, all partners have stocks to cover part of the urgent needs and logistic effort is being made to bring items positioned across the Country to Caia or Quelimane.



Accommodation center in Cajual, Mocuba: Setting up tents. ©UNICEF Mozambique 2015 / R. Esmael

- Coordination is being done by Red Cross with the technical support of UN-Habitat, and with the support of IOM both in Maputo (nationally) and in Quelimane (Zambezia)

Gaps & Constraints:

- Logistic access to transport shelter items is currently and stocks have to travel from other parts of the Country. (Civil works for reconstruction did not start yet due to prevailing high runoff volume in the rivers)
- Access to districts to deliver shelter items is limited and airlift is needed. Access to northern districts of Zambézia is impossible, situation in Gurue district is not known and many areas only reachable by helicopter.
- Data available for shelter targeting is still under improvement by INGC with the support of technical HCT partners
- Stocks available are limited to cover all current needs although the exact gap is still being calculated.



Emergency Telecommunications

Needs:

- Assessments are still ongoing. Possible need to deploy telecom equipment to Quelimane, Mocuba, Manganja da Costa and Namacurra;

Response:

- Based on the information received from INGC Technician in the field, there might be a need to install a short range repeater device in Quelimane, Mocuba, Manganja da Costa and Namacurra. Currently, INGC is planning to install in Mocuba and Mangaja da Costa.
- A generator has been supplied by the Institute of Social Communication, with UNICEF support, to Mocuba community radio to restart the operations.
- Staffs in the Emergency areas are using 3G for Internet access and GSM lines for voice communication. Although, in some location the GSM network is not stable such as Pemba;
- The government of Vietnam, through the telecommunication company Movitel shows interest to support the emergency operations in telecommunication. The area where the Humanitarian community and the government could work with Movitel are still being identified;

Gaps & Constraints:

- Humanitarian common hub for operation not yet defined, therefore the Emergency Telecommunication Cluster did not assess the need to deploy VHF (Short range) communication and shared internet connection to the Humanitarian actors.
- Power supply equipment as Mobile Generator will be required in field operations;
- Additional needs are still being identified.



Education

Needs:

- Information of damaged classrooms is still being updated as the assessments are taking place and more information arriving: by 20 of January were reported a total of 413 classrooms destroyed, 378 in Zambézia and 35 in Nampula
- The local authorities in Zambézia announced the preparation of a response plan regarding the occupation of schools by displaced families and the need to relocate them to ensure starting of school session on the second week of February;
- Unspecified numbers of classrooms (Schools) are serving as temporary shelter for floods displaced people, which will impact preparation of star of school year.
- Many schoolchildren displaced from their homes and schools.

433

Classrooms destroyed in
Zambézia and Nampula

Response:

- There are some materials already prepositioned.
- Cluster will coordinate with Education authorities' forms of supporting schoolchildren in the accommodation centers, taking in consideration that classes start on 6 of February 2015.

Gaps & Constraints:

- More information required on the number of damaged classrooms;
- Lack of information on the number of schoolchildren displaced.

**Protection****Needs:**

- There are approximately more than 836 orphans and vulnerable children in the accommodation centers.
- Support family reunification;
- Set prevention of abuse, Gender Based Violence, and report and response mechanisms;
- Need for Psychosocial support.

Response:

- Assessment teams are currently being fielded in the affected areas;
- Two teams have been fielded from HCT to support INGC in protection. In Zambézia they are led by COSACA and UNFPA, while in Nampula, by World Vision and UNHCR.

Gaps & Constraints:

- More information from the field required.



Accommodation center in Cajual, Mocuba. A young displaced girl with family, cooking. ©UNICEF Mozambique 2015 / R. Esmael

**Health and Nutrition****Needs:**

- It is estimated that approximately 150,000 people in the country might be in need of basic health care services in affected areas;
- 49 accommodation centers were opened in Zambézia province for which basic health care services need to be organized and delivered;
- About 86 people have lost their lives: 64 in Zambézia, 11 in Niassa, 8 in Cabo Delgado and 3 in Nampula;
- There are approximately more than 836 orphans and vulnerable children, 286 newborns, 252 elderly people and 114 pregnant women in the accommodation centers;
- More than 84 cases of acute diarrhea diseases mostly among children were registered in the accommodation centers with no reported death;
- A cumulative number of 677 cases of acute diarrhea diseases since the onset of the rain season were registered in Nampula (406 cases with 3 deaths), Niassa (191 cases with no death), Sofala (40 cases with 2 deaths) and Zambézia (42 cases with no death);
- More than 270 cases of malaria were confirmed in the accommodation centers with no reported death;

50,500

People in the accommodation centers are in need of basic health care services

- 27 patients on antiretroviral treatment and 5 people on tuberculosis treatment were registered in the accommodation centers
- 6 health centers were destroyed or heavily damaged mainly in Zambézia province
- Nutritional screening was recommended to be started in the accommodation centers as well as an updating on current stocks of the therapeutic products and nutrition communication materials in Zambézia.

Response:

- Provision of basic health care services in accommodation centers;
- Deployment of health staff to provide basic health care services in the accommodation centers;
- Health education activities in the accommodation centers involving community activists;
- Water treatment using Certeza to prevent diarrhea and other water borne diseases;
- Mosquito bed nets are being distributed in the accommodation centers;
- Mosquito nets stocks are available from COSACA to cover part of the needs (30,000 bed nets);
- Monitoring and surveillance of epidemic prone disease is being conducted daily;
- Specimen have been collected and tested for identification of cholera in Nampula and Zambézia which the result was negative. Cholera tests are being ran for Sofala province;
- UNICEF is deploying a set of IEC health promotion materials and tools (flipcharts, megaphones, booklets) for 500 activists and 6,000 leaflets for caregivers to be used in accommodation centers for behavior change and social mobilization;
- UNICEF is preparing to deliver food supplement BP-5 to be distributed in coordination with the WFP food distribution in Zambézia. Stocks available in country are sufficient to supplement 3,000 children for 30 days.

Gaps & Constraints:

- More data and information is needed in order to scale up the response and provide basic health services to those in need;
- Number and cause of death to be monitored and confirmed.
- Information on needs and available stocks of medicines and health related supplies not reliable;
- People with chronic diseases (high blood pressure and diabetes) and infectious diseases such as HIV and tuberculosis need to be registered and monitored.



Early Recovery

Needs:

- Support the preparation of ER strategy for 2015 floods;
- Project proposal for livelihood recovery and resilience in Zambézia and Nampula provinces;
- Prepare the PDNA in close coordination and consultation with the government.

Response:

- Staff deployed to the field (Zambézia and Nampula);
- Support government efforts on immediate emergency assessments and compilation of data to assist decision;
- Support the coordination at central and provincial levels (Government and HCT WG);
- Assistance in terms of information management.
- UNDP TRAC 113 proposal for early recovery support under consideration

Gaps & Constraints:

- N/A at this stage.

General Coordination

The government leads the coordination of the current emergency response and the coordination meetings are carried out daily in Zambézia and Nampula province. At central level, the Technical Council for Disaster Management (CTGC) also meets at least twice a week to monitor the hydrometeorology situation, the occurrences and the level of response to the emergency in the affected provinces. After the declaration of the Red Institutional Alert on 12 January 2015, the National Emergency Operation Centre (CENOE) at central and regional levels and the Emergency Operative Centre (COE) at provincial level as well as the National Civil Protection Unit (UNAPROC) are fully operational, updating the information from the accommodation centers, adjusting the response planning and assisting in the transport of goods, medicines and people.

The high-level disaster management body – Coordinating Council for Disaster Management (CCGC) met on 21 January 2015 at CENOE in Maputo to get an overview of the situation regarding to the hydrometeorology update, response actions, damages in the infrastructures and crop loss and the main gaps hindering an effective humanitarian response.

The HCT is embedded within the CENOE in Maputo, COE in Zambézia and Nampula. All decisions taken are coordinated with INGC, based on the priorities jointly assessed. It coordinates with the government sectors at central and provincial levels in all aspects related to the planning, response and emergency operations.

The HCT focal points deployed to Nampula and Quelimane report daily to the HCT at central level on the main actions carried out, decisions taken and constraints/challenges faced in the field.

Other HCT cluster members at district level, are working closely with the local government on the registration of the number of people affected and assessment of immediate needs.

Background on the crisis

The Technical Council for Disaster Management (CTGC) activated the orange alert on 08 January 2015, due to the heavy rains in the Centre and North of the Country reaching about 100 mm in 24h. These rains have contributed to the rising of the water levels in Zambeze and Licungo river basin exposing the population to moderate to high risk of floods. Since then, the government started prepositioning means at risk areas to timely assist in the evacuation and transport of affected people. On 12 January 2015, the Council of Ministers have declared an Institutional Red Alert for Central and North region to strengthen Government and partners actions to response to humanitarian needs of affected people.

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