

# Mozambique: Flooding

## Office of the Resident Coordinator, Situation Report No. 1

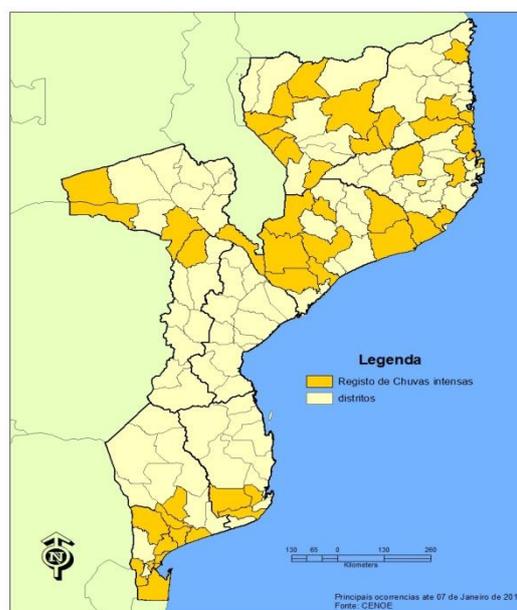
(17:00 of 16 January 2015)



This report is prepared by Office of the Resident Coordinator in Mozambique in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 12 to 15 January 2015.

## Highlights

- On 12 January 2015, the Council of Ministers of Mozambique declared the institutional **red alert for the Central and North parts of the Country**, due to heavy rains recorded and consequent floods in large areas. This has affected communities, public and private infrastructure telecommunications, road-transport, energy especially in Zambezia and Nampula provinces. The most critical situation – as of now- is in the Licungo River Basin, Zambezia Province, where exceptionally high water levels are recorded. **The floods have isolated entire districts and communities, and cut many communication routes, with telecommunication breakdowns.** According to preliminary data released by Government, 52,692 people were affected with 31,218 in Zambezia and 15,423 in Nampula. In Zambezia province there are 22,332 people in 14 accommodations centers (about 4,365 families); especially in Mocuba, Nicoadala and Morrumbala districts; About 4,831 houses were totally destroyed (2,480 in Zambezia and 1,900 in Nampula) and 2,611 partially destroyed.
- The rescue operations, led by the Government through its **National Disaster Management Institute (INGC)**, sectors, the national army and **Humanitarian Country Team** are ongoing. Importantly, persistent heavy rains, strong waves and streams in the river and flooded areas hinder search & rescue operations by boat in the area, while road transport is interrupted. Air bridges are being established: as of now the South African Air Force has mobilized airborne support as well as the Air Force of the Government of Mozambique.
  - Logistic effort is on-going to cope with the damage in infrastructures** and communication such as roads including cuts in the main national road N1, bridges, electricity poles, water supply system, railway, and should be reinforced.
  - Immediate life-saving humanitarian assistance is being given** by the Government and its Partners. **Assessment teams are reaching the field (INGC and Partners) to produce more accurate need assessments**, until now difficult because of the limited access.



Source: INGC

**52,692**

Affected people  
(tentative figures)

**24**

Deaths  
(unconfirmed)

**22,332**

people in  
accommodation  
centres in  
Zambezia

**4831**

Houses totally  
destroyed

**41**

classrooms totally  
destroyed

+ For more information, see “background on the crisis” at the end of the report

# Situation Overview

*Red alert declared on 12/01 activating the highest level of response after days of heavy rains and floods*

- The institutional red alert declared by the Council of Ministries on 12 January 2015 for the Centre and North region, activated the response at the highest level. Two antennas of the National Emergency Operation Centers (CENOE) were established in Quelimane (Zambezia) and Nampula City (Nampula) to coordinate the response, alongside with the National Civil Protection Unit (UNAPROC) and partners. In fact, as a result of two weeks rains and consequent floods, especially in Zambezia, Nampula and Cabo Delgado, thousands have been directly affected, and at least 22,332 are displaced in accommodation Centers (i.e. Mocuba district in Zambezia). People at risk are being evacuated, immediate humanitarian assistance delivered and actual needs progressively assessed.
- The most critical area affected is in the centre of the Country, precisely in the Licungo River Basin (Zambezia Province). Floods here reached historical levels (in some areas up to 12m height). Infrastructure was largely affected, isolating entire communities and making assessment of needs difficult and requiring **airborne** assistance. Transport infrastructure (roads, bridges, railway); electrical infrastructure; services (water supply system) and public or private infrastructure (schools, houses) where affected. The main national road N1 has five cuts of 10 – 15 m, mainly in Mocuba and Gúruè districts. In the North, damages to power-plants have left the second largest City of the Country, Nampula, without electricity since January 13<sup>th</sup>, while other parts of the Northern region are flooded
- According to INGC (actual figures updated at 6p.m of Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> will be provided in the updated SitRep) approximately 15,000 people have been affected in Nampula and 31,000 in Zambezia, of which 22,332 are in 14 accommodation centres, including Schools and Religious Centres. According to DNA, risk models for the Licungo River Basin indicate that of 700,000 people in the Province, 25% to 30% are at risk. The situation and figures may vary as the capacity to assess the situation improves.

*Despite very limited access to isolated communities, primary assistance operations are being conducted*

- Currently, response focus is in the Zambézia province due to the severity of the damage and complex scenario to evacuate the population from the flooded areas.
- Importantly, **limited access has hindered the rescue operations as well as the precise assessment of humanitarian needs for the affected populations during the course of the week (12-16 January). More accurate needs will be updated on 16<sup>th</sup> January and during the course of next week.**

## Funding

- Annually, the Government of Mozambique prepares a Contingency Plan to address the main hazards that the country usually has such as Floods, Cyclones and Droughts. For the rain and cyclone season 2014-2015 the Government allocated about 186 million MT (about \$US6 million) in the Contingency Plan. So far, the current response is being secured by this fund that should be complemented by resources from HCT members.
- However, currently, Mozambique is undergoing a transition to the new Government. The state budget for 2015 was is yet to be approved by the Parliament which may delay the release of the funds for operations and humanitarian assistance.
- As per contingency planning, the HCT is currently working with the existing stocks. As soon as the needs will be assessed, priorities will be established. **However, the dimension of the disaster in several areas, and potential consequences on the short and mid-term for the affected populations, indicates that support from donors and international partners will be required**, to meet the humanitarian needs and ensure sustainable recovery.
- HCT is already working with the government to prepare a request for additional support.
- An advanced analysis will be available in the course of next week.

# Humanitarian Response

*Rescue and immediate humanitarian operations are being conducted*

- INGC is coordinating the response locally, through National Emergency Operation Centers (CENOE) established in Quelimane (Zambezia) and Nampula City (Nampula) to improve provincial capacities on operation management, data collection, reporting and dissemination of information. With the support of the National Civil Protection Unit (UNAPROC) for the rescue operations, and centrally, in Maputo.
- The HCT has deployed focal points in Quelimane and Nampula, work with other HCT members on the ground and to support and coordinate with the local Emergency Operation Centers (CENOE).
- During the week, life-saving operations were conducted and accommodations centers established. As mentioned, logistic obstacles are hindering the life-saving operations and the delivery of immediate humanitarian assistance.
- UNAPROC has sent 8 boats to Zambézia province to support the evacuation and transport of people and goods in those cases of road cut. The intervention of this unity has been crucial to ensure the lifesaving of people who were not able to evacuate in time in the most of the affected areas.
- However, rescue operations by boat are made difficult by the water flow and conditions in the flooded areas and Licungo River. The first reconnaissance flight was possible on 14 January with the support of Mozambican Air force. Currently airborne assistance is being delivered with the support of the South-African Air Force, Mozambican Air Force. Currently an air-bridge is being operated to deliver food, non-food items and other immediate assistance. Partners are also supporting the logistic for the delivery of immediate assistance.

*HCT started to support based on the available information. Improved data is being collected and will inform priorities during the course of the week*

- The Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) has activated all the clusters. Its members (the UN, NGOs, Red Cross and IOM) are currently prepositioning and/or delivering food and non-food items in Mocuba and surrounding areas such as Quelimane and Caia, coordinated by INGC, to meet the immediate needs.
- The HCT is also fielding missions to support INGC in assessing needs in the areas of Infrastructure (Shelter, WASH and Early Recovery Clusters); Communication (Coordination of the HCT), Social Services (WASH, Education/Protection, Health, Nutrition and Food Security) and Information and Planning (Logistic and Telecommunication Clusters).



## Logistics

### Needs:

- Logistic issues have been flagged as a priority, given the difficulty of road access. Roads, bridges and other main infrastructures have been seriously damaged, which hinders 1) rescue; 2) humanitarian assistance 3) data collection;
- Airborne assistance is needed for the initial delivery of the assistance
- HCT members (i.e. COSACA) are conducting rapid assessments alongside the INGC to assess needs in affected districts;

**31.5 ton**

of pulses be  
dispatched

### Response:

- Air operations, supported by Mozambican and South-African Air-Force (planes and helicopters) is being provided and coordinated from Quelimane (Zambezia)
- Provision of communication and coordination services as well as transport services at cost recovery basis via WFP resources
- Save the Children is sourcing two helicopters to assess the situation on the other side of the river as the data so far available reflects to one side of the river and not much is known about the other side
- INGC currently with 4 boats is conducting rescue operations;
- Erection of one warehouse (10x32m) in Mocuba in a space identified by INGC including inherent handling/storage equipment such as tarpaulins and pallets;
- Ground team will equally initiate local logistics assessment and evaluate local transport capacity and other services available towards the emergency operation;
- Contract milling services for 210 tonnes of non-fortified maize meal;

- Internal arrangements being secured within to ensure swift and timely availability of food supplies to meet requirements in Mocuba;
- Additionally, 31.5 tonnes of pulses and 13.1 of veg oil to be dispatched;
- 3 trucks have been arranged by WFP and confirmed to depart from Beira WFP warehouse to Mocuba with relief items per request of COSACA; they will possibly be directed to Quelimane

#### Gaps & Constraints:

- Needs are not yet fully identified. These will follow the needs assessment currently being conducted under the leadership of the INGC;
- Funding may be a considerable holdup in the event of a larger operation and need to provide timely assistance to flood victims where cluster member lack resources to reach beneficiaries;
- There is no passage over the Licungo river to the Northern part of the country;
- Search and Rescue operations facing major difficulty posed by the weather;
- Transport support to move kits from Beira remains a significant challenge for NGO consortium COSACA, as much as storage facility in Mocuba, which remains a critical element;
- Access to Maganja da Costa, Macuze and Forquia among other locations also continue as a limitation for the assessment and further rescue operations;
- Lack of electricity which is affecting communications and coordination



### Food Security

#### Needs:

- Affected people, especially, those displaced in temporary shelters are in need of food assistance;
- Food items to Zambézia province estimated at 180 ton: Maize flour (57 ton), Rice (57 ton), Beans (42 ton), Oil(10.5 ton), Sugar (10.5 ton) and Salt (3 ton)

**12,500**

People could be assisted for 30 days with WFP stock

#### Response:

- WFP is finalizing the preparations to preposition enough food to Mocuba and Caia to cover 12,500 people for a 30 days period. The food basket will comprise Maize meal, pulses and oil.
- Ministry of Agriculture in collaboration with provincial and district agriculture authorities is working on the estimation of affected areas and seed needs
- Government and partners are providing food rations to people displaced in temporary shelters
- SETSAN will coordinate the need assessment, to which HCT members will participate

#### Gaps & Constraints:

- It is not possible to go to the fields due to road cuts and flooded areas;
- The inconsistency of data received from the field has been a challenge;
- There is a need for an inter-agency assessment, in coordination with the national authorities, to get a more accurate figure of the people in need.



### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

#### Needs:

- About 30,000 people need immediate water supply sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in Zambézia province;
- Mobile water treatment units;
- WASH interventions are being prioritized for displaced families in Zambézia districts: Maganja da Costa (10,800), Mocuba (6,750), Namacurra (5,000), Nicoadala (4,050) on those in the resettlement camps.
- However, with the power cuts in the Mocuba Town, and possibly in Quelimane, urban water supply might be endangered in the coming weeks. This situation must be monitored carefully

**22,000**

people water supply in affected areas

**Response:**

- National Directorate of Water, UNICEF, Save the Children, OXFAM and World Vision are prepositioning water purification kits, jerry cans, latrine slabs, buckets, soap, collapsible tanks, water treatment bottles and plastic sheeting in Zambézia province to ensure that the affected people have access to improved water, sanitation and hygiene;
- Partners mentioned above are on the ground supporting the rapid needs assessment and emergency response in Zambézia province;
- Ensure safe drinking water through water treatment, trucking and distribution to the accommodation centers.
- COSACA has already prepositioned 1,000 units of hygiene kits and plans to send 700 latrine slabs and 750 sanitation kits to 1466 families in Mocuba;
- UNICEF is sending to Quelimane 2 water tanks, 300 buckets, 100 slubs, 100 jurricans, 1 treatment plan and 5 boxes of Chlorine HTH;
- UNICEF Have dispatched 30,000 certeza bottles to Zambézia;
- 2 vehicles underway to Zambézia to assist on transport as well as carrying 55 boxes of BP5;
- Situation in Mocuba and Quelimane (water supply cut because of energy cuts) will be analyzed and addressed during the course of next week

**Gaps & Constraints:**

- The water level still very high and there is limited accessibility to affected areas to determine the immediate needs and required response
- Sectoral coordination must be improved in the field, although improving the situation is getting better


**Shelter**
**Needs:**

- More precisely, during the course of the rains and floods, 4,831 houses totally destroyed and 2611 partially destroyed. The most affected provinces are Zambézia (2480 totally destroyed) and Nampula (1900 totally destroyed) leaving a number of families in need of shelter
- In Zambézia province there are 22,332 people in 14 accommodations centers (about 4365 families) that will require shelter items. Most of the accommodation centers are concentrated in Mocuba, Nicoadala and Morrumbala districts;
- Therefore initial scenario for shelter should be for covering 30,000 people. Actual needs will be thoroughly assessed in the course of the week by INGC with the support of HCT members (UN-Habitat, IOM, Red Cross and COSACA members)

**22,000**

People approximately will need shelter support

**Response:**

- Initial response in terms of shelter is being delivered: namely, INGC sent a cargo by air from Maputo to Quelimane consisting of family tents (82), shelter kits (48), tarpaulins (245) and Hospital tents (17);
- Nationwide, all partners have in stock 16,000 tarps (6,000 separate and 10,000 in family kits) positioned across the Country. COSACA plans to distribute 1,000 units of shelter and family kits to 1466 families in the most affected district of Mocuba (Zambezia)
- Red Cross initiated the support with tents (200 already distributed)

**Gaps & Constraints:**

- Logistic access to transport shelter items is currently a concern
- Data available for shelter targeting shall be improved during the course of next week by INGC with the support of technical HCT partners
- Stocks available are limited to cover all current needs. More worrisome still, the risk for new events during the course of February and March (especially storms/cyclones) must be considered



## Emergency Telecommunications

### Needs:

- Electricity power is not available in the most parts of flooded areas, which makes communication difficult with affected people, so they cannot charge their mobile devices.

### Response:

- The ETC members have activated their Emergency readiness actions which include alert the Region on the situation and possible need for assistance and support;
- WFP allocated 3 VHF Base antennas with 1 dipole and 1 VHF repeater antenna with 4 dipole in affected districts of Mocuba, Namacurra and Mangaja da costa
- WFP deployed as a backup BGAN (Internet and voice device via Satellite) and Satellite phone
- WFP is currently preparing the deployment of vehicles with VHF and HF communication systems to Mocuba and Quelimane;
- The ETC VHF repeater deployed in Morrumbala which covers Caia area is not operational and requires maintenance, a mission to perform the maintenance is being planned

### Gaps & Constraints:

- Humanitarian common hub for operation not yet defined, therefore ETC did not assessed the need to deploy VHF communication and shared internet connection to the Humanitarian actors unding is needed to ensure that communications are operational in the field.



## Education

### Needs:

- Classes will resume next week. By then, alternative areas for classes will have to be identified
- Several classrooms were affected by the floods and will not be available by next week

41

Classrooms destroyed,  
according available data

### Response:

- HCT members (i.e. COSACA) are prepositioning Child Friendly spaces materials.

### Gaps & Constraints:

- Actual assessment of School infrastructure is hindered by lack of access, and more accurate data will be needed in the course of the week.
- Assessments are ongoing to determinate the extent of the damages in this sector.



## Protection

### Needs:

- Separation of children from parents was recorded as rescue operations prioritized children.
- There is an urgent need to reunite families
- Prevent in the coming weeks, long separations, sexual assaults and other potential threats to displaced vulnerable groups.

### Response:

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

### Gaps & Constraints:

- More detailed information to be gathered during the next week assessment

**Needs:**

- Currently Government is flagging the needs for an urgent distribution of mosquito needs to prevent malaria outbreaks during the next weeks. Actual needs have not been clarified yet
- 5 health units were destroyed
- 10,000 mosquito nets in the affected provinces

**Response:**

- Mosquito nets stocks are available to cover part of the needs in the Country.

**Gaps & Constraints:**

- More data and information will be needed
- Death toll still an issue to be confirmed.

**23** People have lost their life (unconfirmed)

**5** health centers destroyed in Zambezia

**Early Recovery****Needs:**

- Support coordination and support government efforts on assessment and compilation of data to assist decision;
- Monitoring of major river basins;
- 2 out of 10 community radios in Zambezia are not operational due to the lack of power and flooding
- Facilitate early warnings system through the still operational community radios and the provincial broadcaster Radio Mozambique for communities' under threat to evacuate
- Monitoring of possible pollution of drinking water

**Response:**

- The cluster is collecting all information and will support in the elaboration of the strategy for recovery.
- UNICEF is providing support to the provincial department of the Institute of Social Communication to procure and install generators in the community radios of Mocuba and Maganja da Costa

**Gaps & Constraints:**

- N/A at this stage

## General Coordination

- The Technical Council for Disaster Management (CTGC) has declared Institutional Orange alert on 08 January 2015. Four days after, the Council of Ministers have declared an Institutional Red Alert on 12 January 2015, meaning full activation of the National Emergency Operation Centre (CENOE) and the National Civil Protection Unit (UNAPROC) for coordinating search and rescue operation to people at risk during and/or in an occurrence of a natural disaster.
- After the declaration of red alert for the Central and North regions of the country, INGC has deployed two teams to Nampula and Quelimane to reinforce the capacity of the Technical Council for Disaster Management at the provincial level (CTPGC). CTPGC meetings are being carried out daily in Quelimane and Nampula including sector meetings at Emergency Operative Centre (COE). This ensures adequate monitoring of the hydro-meteorological situation throughout Mozambique and in upstream countries, which are currently stabilizing.

- The HCT is embedded within the CENOE's in Maputo, Zambezia 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.
- The HCT has deployed focal points Nampula and Quelimane to support the local structure functioning, operations and humanitarian assistance. All information is channeled through them from the Government to the National level
- 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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