

SOUTHERN AFRICA – TROPICAL CYCLONES

FACT SHEET #14, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2019

AUGUST 12, 2019

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

960

Number of Confirmed Deaths in Mozambique, Zimbabwe, and Malawi From Tropical Cyclone Idai
OCHA – April 2019

45

Number of Confirmed Deaths in Mozambique From Tropical Cyclone Kenneth
GRM – May 2019

7

Number of Confirmed Deaths in Comoros From Tropical Cyclone Kenneth
Government of the Union of Comoros – May 2019

1.65 million

Estimated Number of People in Mozambique Facing Acute Food Insecurity
IPC – July 2019

75,000

Estimated Number of IDPs in Mozambique Displaced by Tropical Cyclones
IOM – July 2019

79,000

Number of Houses in Mozambique Damaged or Destroyed by Tropical Cyclones
UN – May 2019

HIGHLIGHTS

- Cyclone-affected areas of Mozambique, Zimbabwe face acute food insecurity
- More than 75,000 people remain displaced in cyclone-affected areas of Mozambique as of July
- Humanitarian access remains limited in northern Mozambique due to ongoing insecurity and damaged infrastructure following Tropical Cyclone Kenneth

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

FOR THE SOUTHERN AFRICA CYCLONES & FLOODS RESPONSE IN FY 2019

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$52,789,705
USAID/FFP ²	\$38,658,852
State/PRM ³	\$1,500,000
DoD ⁴	\$5,995,078
\$98,943,635	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Food security actors estimate that approximately 1.65 million people in Mozambique are experiencing acute food insecurity caused by cyclone damage, drought, crop pests, and insecurity, according to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC). In Zimbabwe, nearly 2.3 million people across most of the country are experiencing severe acute food insecurity earlier than usual due to poor crop production, compounded by damage caused by Tropical Cyclone Idai in southeastern parts of the country, as well as Zimbabwe's ongoing economic crisis. Food security outcomes in Mozambique, Zimbabwe, and southern Malawi are expected to deteriorate through March, the typical end of the lean season.
- Tropical cyclones Idai and Kenneth—which made landfall in Mozambique on March 15 and April 25, respectively—destroyed approximately 79,000 houses in the country, the UN reports. As of July 18, more than 75,000 people remained displaced in cyclone-affected areas of Mozambique, despite ongoing efforts by the Government of the Republic of Mozambique (GRM) to facilitate the resettlement of internally displaced persons (IDPs). Relief actors have expressed concern about the lack of basic services at resettlement sites and continue to work with the GRM to ensure that IDP relocations are dignified, safe, and voluntary.
- The UN has released updated Humanitarian Response Plans (HRPs) for Mozambique and Zimbabwe to account for increased humanitarian needs among populations affected by tropical cyclones Idai and Kenneth. The revised HRP calls for increased funding from humanitarian donors to support immediate, life-saving assistance in the two countries and to begin post-cyclone recovery programs in affected communities, in addition to maintaining support for humanitarian needs pre-dating the cyclones. As of early August, the Mozambique and Zimbabwe HRP were 43 percent and 47 percent funded, respectively.

¹ USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

² USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

⁴ U.S. Department of Defense (DoD)

MOZAMBIQUE

Current Situation

- Approximately 1,650,000 people across Mozambique are in need of humanitarian food assistance due to the combined effects of cyclones, drought, and insecurity, according to a July IPC analysis. In the absence of continued humanitarian assistance, the number of people facing Crisis—IPC 3—or Emergency—IPC 4—levels of acute food insecurity will likely increase to nearly 2 million during the October–February lean season, according to the IPC.⁵ The GRM Ministry of Agriculture estimates that the tropical cyclones and poor rainfall in southern semi-arid areas—particularly Gaza, Inhambane, and Maputo provinces—destroyed more than one million metric tons (MT) of crops, as well as agricultural and fishing infrastructure. The IPC also identified crop pests—including Fall Armyworm, an invasive insect species that can cause significant damage to cash and staple crops such as maize, rice, and sorghum—in northern and central Mozambique and ongoing violence in Cabo Delgado Province as key drivers of food insecurity.
- An estimated 79,000 houses in six of Mozambique’s ten provinces were damaged or destroyed by tropical cyclones Idai and Kenneth, according to the UN. As of July 18, more than 75,000 IDPs remained in more than 60 relocation sites in cyclone-affected Manica, Sofala, Tete, and Zambezia provinces, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) reports. Relief actors have cleared plots, pathways, and roads in Sofala’s Buzi, Dondo, and Nhamatanda towns in coordination with GRM efforts to resettle displaced populations to new permanent houses. USAID/OFDA staff note some relocation sites lack sufficient health care, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services, leading humanitarian organizations to divert resources from other critical programs to meet those needs. The humanitarian community continues to work with the GRM to ensure safe, dignified, and voluntary IDP relocations.
- On July 11, armed actors attacked two villages in Cabo Delgado’s Mocimboa da Praia district, killing one civilian, burning homes and fields, and stealing food, local media report. Previously, on July 2 and 3, armed militants attacked villages in Cabo Delgado’s Macomia and Nangade districts, killing seven civilians and destroying homes. The attacks highlight continued insecurity in Cabo Delgado, which has limited humanitarian access to areas of the province affected by Tropical Cyclone Kenneth.

Humanitarian Response and Gaps

- On May 25, the UN released a revised HRP for Mozambique; the addition of the Tropical Cyclone Idai and Tropical Cyclone Kenneth flash appeals brought the total HRP requirements to \$440.9 million between November 2018 and June 2019 to provide assistance to an estimated 2.8 million people. Donors had provided \$191.1 million, or approximately 43 percent of the required funding for the response, as of early August, according to the UN. More than 400 humanitarian organizations had participated in response activities in Mozambique—reaching approximately 2.1 million people with relief supplies and other humanitarian assistance—as of mid-July.
- Between March 27—when the GRM declared a cholera outbreak in Mozambique—and mid-July, health actors vaccinated more than 800,000 people across Mozambique against cholera, the UN reports. According to the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), health actors confirmed approximately 7,000 cholera cases and eight related deaths across four cyclone-affected districts of Sofala and three cyclone-affected districts of Cabo Delgado from March 27–June 15. Cyclone-affected areas are also experiencing an increase in malaria cases, although infection rates remain consistent with historical trends, according to USAID/OFDA partner the UN World Health Organization (WHO); as of June 16, health actors had recorded more than 59,000 new malaria cases in Sofala since March 27. The GRM and humanitarian organizations continue to respond to the increase in malaria cases through mosquito spraying programs in Sofala.
- Tropical Cyclone Idai destroyed or damaged more than 3,500 classrooms, limiting access to education for more than 335,000 children, the UN reports; additionally, relief actors have reported a lack of school spaces for young children in resettlement areas. The GRM, with support from humanitarian organizations, had reconstructed more than 1,100 of the damaged classrooms by May 20. Relief actors also delivered education and recreational supplies and repaired classrooms and latrines at damaged schools, improving access to learning opportunities for more than 124,000 children in Manica and Sofala during May. Authorities continue to request support for the reconstruction and repair of schools and teachers’ houses, as well as provision of tents for use as temporary classrooms.

⁵ The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

USG Response and Assessments

- In support of the GRM-led IDP return and resettlement process, USAID/OFDA partner IOM distributed shelter return packages—including blankets, tarpaulins, and a toolkit—to more than 230 returnee households as they left accommodation sites in Sofala’s Beira and Nhamatanda districts from June 17–19. On June 27, IOM, in coordination with UNICEF and WFP, distributed soap, water containers, and water treatment supplies to approximately 400 households in Cabo Delgado’s South Mucojo District based on the results of a needs assessment. As of June 30, IOM has assisted nearly 7,600 households affected by Cyclone Kenneth with emergency shelter and relief items.
 - Since March, USAID/FFP partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) has provided emergency food assistance to more than 1.6 million people in Manica, Sofala, Tete, and Zambezia affected by Tropical Cyclone Idai. In response to the urgent food needs of populations affected by Tropical Cyclone Kenneth, humanitarian organizations, including WFP, provided general food distributions to approximately 614,000 people in Cabo Delgado and Nampula provinces as of June 29.
 - In July, USAID/OFDA partner FHI 360, in collaboration with WHO, conducted an assessment of 13 health centers in cyclone-affected areas of Sofala, finding that five of the 13 surveyed health facilities were not functional and that most lacked reliable access to water; most facilities also lacked adequate staffing, which has hindered efforts by the GRM to improve services at health centers.
 - On June 22, USAID/OFDA staff visited Savane Resettlement Site in Sofala’s Dondo District, where USAID/OFDA partner IOM is providing shelter assistance to arriving IDPs. As of June 25, IOM had provided shelter assistance and relief commodities—including blankets, kitchen sets, solar lights, structural support poles, tents, and toolkits—to nearly 49,000 households in Sofala affected by Cyclone Idai. During subsequent visits to Sofala IDP sites, USAID/OFDA staff noted a consistent need for food security support; IDPs had received food distributions, but agricultural fields, agricultural and fishing infrastructure, and long-term food stores had been destroyed by flooding. IDPs and humanitarian actors have expressed concern regarding agricultural livelihoods and long-term food security.
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ZIMBABWE

Current Situation

- Zimbabwe is currently experiencing widespread acute food insecurity caused by poor 2018–2019 crop production—due in part to the effects of Tropical Cyclone Idai—and the country’s ongoing economic crisis, the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) reports. Food and fuel prices continue to remain well above average, while an ongoing cash shortage has contributed to a decline in livelihood opportunities. FEWS NET projects that Crisis-level acute food insecurity will persist across most of Zimbabwe through January 2020, with some households likely to reach Emergency levels as early as October 2019.
- Approximately 2.3 million people are facing Crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity in rural Zimbabwe through September, according to an IPC analysis conducted by the Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVAC). The committee anticipates that the situation will worsen through 2019, with an estimated 3.6 million people—nearly 40 percent of the rural population—likely facing Crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity between January and March 2020. ZimVAC estimates that more than 1.1 million rural Zimbabweans—primarily located in Binga, Buhera, Chivi, Gokwe North, Kariba, Mbire, Mudzi, Mwenzezi, and Uzumba districts—will face Emergency levels of acute food insecurity during for the projected period, signifying extreme food shortages and an increasing risk of hunger-related deaths.
- Tropical Cyclone Idai displaced nearly 51,000 people in Zimbabwe, the UN reports. As of early June, more than 15,000 people remained displaced, the majority of whom reside in host communities; approximately 1,000 individuals residing in IDP camps in Manicaland’s Chimanimani District rely heavily on humanitarian assistance to meet basic needs. According to the UN, the estimated that 35,600 people who have returned to areas of origin will also require humanitarian assistance during the coming months due to a lack of basic services and permanent shelter in areas of origin.
- On August 7, the UN released a revised HRP for Zimbabwe, noting a significant increase in humanitarian needs nationwide resulting from increased food insecurity; the plan called for approximately \$293.9 million to support response activities in Zimbabwe from January–June. As of early August, donors had provided \$136.8 million, or approximately 47 percent of required funding.

USG Response and Assessments

- USAID/OFDA announced \$4.7 million in additional funding for humanitarian activities in Zimbabwe in late July. The funds will be used to support agricultural early recovery services, shelter and settlement activities, and WASH assistance for affected families in collaboration with CARE, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), IOM, the International Rescue Committee (IRC), Mercy Corps, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), and World Vision. USAID/OFDA's new funding builds on initial cyclone response contributions from USAID to GOAL, Lead Trust, and WFP.
 - A joint assessment conducted by relief actors in Manicaland and Masvingo provinces—the two provinces of Zimbabwe most severely affected by Tropical Cyclone Idai—estimated that the cyclone had directly impacted approximately 252,000 people in the worst-affected districts of the two provinces. In response, humanitarian organizations, including WFP, provided food assistance to nearly 268,000 disaster-affected people between May and June.
 - With \$215,000 in additional emergency funding from USAID/FFP, World Vision, which implements a USAID/FFP-supported long-term development program in Manicaland and Masvingo, supported the distribution of more than 460 MT of food and relief commodities—including blankets, clothing, shelter kits, sleeping mats, soap, and tents—to populations affected by Tropical Cyclone Idai between April and June.
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MALAWI

Current Situation

- As of June 30, all known households displaced by Tropical Cyclone Idai in Malawi had returned to areas of origin or resettled at alternate sites with assistance from the Government of Malawi (GoM) and relief agencies, UNICEF reports. The GoM and humanitarian actors had begun transitioning to recovery efforts as of July 1; a post-disaster needs assessment indicated that the GoM will require an estimated \$370.5 million for recovery and reconstruction following March flooding and Tropical Cyclone Idai. The GoM Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA) was preparing a recovery plan for Malawi as of early July.
 - FEWS NET reports that households in Malawi's Southern Region, which was affected by heavy rainfall and flooding related to Tropical Cyclone Idai, are primarily obtaining food from markets, where prices were up to 40 percent higher than 2018 levels as of June. According to FEWS NET, vulnerable populations in the region will likely continue to face Stressed—IPC 2—conditions until September and will likely face Crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity during the October–January lean season. However, some flood-affected households in Southern Region's Nsanje and Chikwawa districts are harvesting crops earlier than usual, mitigating worse food security outcomes in the short term.
 - As of June 29, approximately 732,000 flood-affected people remained in need of food assistance nationwide, according to the DoDMA; relief actors expect this figure to increase to 1.1 million people by March 2020. Although humanitarian organizations in Malawi have shifted their focus from emergency response to post-disaster recovery, vulnerable households continue to face food insecurity, as crop harvesting does not typically occur until September. Additionally, relief actors report that infestations of Fall Armyworm are jeopardizing the potential September–December harvest, although the extent of the infestation was unknown as of late June.
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COMOROS

Current Situation

- Humanitarian actors continue to respond to humanitarian needs in the Union of Comoros caused by Tropical Cyclone Kenneth, which displaced more than 19,000 people and destroyed or damaged more than 11,000 houses in the country during April. As of early June, nearly 186,000 people were in need of immediate humanitarian assistance, according to the UN; humanitarian needs are largely concentrated on the country's main island of Grand Comore. Much of Comoros lacked access to safe drinking water in the immediate aftermath of the cyclone, but pumping stations in Grand Comore's Mbeni, Mitsamiouli, and Moroni cities had been repaired by the end of May, although the national water supply network had yet to be fully restored.

CONTEXT

- Tropical Cyclone Idai made landfall over Mozambique’s city of Beira on March 15, producing torrential rains and strong winds and severely affecting populations in Manica, Sofala, Tete, and Zambézia provinces. The cyclone also caused significant flooding, damage and destruction of property and infrastructure, and resulted in numerous deaths in southern Malawi’s Chichawa, Nsanje, Phalombe, and Zomba districts and Zimbabwe’s Manicaland and Masvingo provinces. The same weather system had previously brought heavy rains that caused significant flooding in Malawi and Mozambique in early March, before gaining strength in the Mozambique Channel and developing into a tropical cyclone.
- On March 10, U.S. Ambassador to Malawi Virginia E. Palmer declared a disaster due to flooding. In response USAID/OFDA provided an initial \$200,000 to CARE and CRS. On March 15, U.S. Ambassador to Mozambique Dennis W. Hearne declared a disaster due to flooding. Ambassador Hearne declared a second disaster on March 19 due to the impact of Tropical Cyclone Idai in Mozambique. In response, USAID/OFDA provided \$200,000 to CARE to procure emergency relief commodities and support shelter and WASH interventions. USAID/OFDA also provided \$200,000 to World Vision to respond to immediate shelter and WASH needs. On March 18, U.S. Ambassador to Zimbabwe Brian A. Nichols declared a disaster due to the impact of Tropical Cyclone Idai. In response, USAID/OFDA provided an initial \$100,000 to GOAL to procure emergency relief commodities and support shelter and water, sanitation, and hygiene interventions.
- On March 20, USAID deployed a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) to lead the USG response to Tropical Cyclone Idai in Mozambique. USAID also activated a Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team to support the DART.
- On April 25, Tropical Cyclone Kenneth made landfall over Mozambique’s Quissanga District, Cabo Delgado, with winds estimated at 140 miles per hour and producing torrential rains in Cabo Delgado and Nampula. On April 26, Ambassador Hearne declared a disaster due to the impact of Tropical Cyclone Kenneth in Mozambique. In response, the DART in Mozambique conducted assessments and coordinated response activities with relief partners and other humanitarian agencies. On May 17, the DART transitioned to an enhanced regional team that has continued responding to the situation in coordination with other USG counterparts, GRM representatives, and humanitarian partners.
- Prior to reaching Mozambique, Tropical Cyclone Kenneth had passed north of the Union of Comoros’ Grande Comore Island on April 25, producing strong winds and torrential rains in the country. On May 8, U.S. Ambassador to the Union of Comoros and Madagascar Michael P. Pelletier declared a disaster in the Union of Comoros due to the effects of the cyclone. In response, USAID/OFDA provided \$100,000 to the French Red Cross delegation for the procurement, transport, and distribution of shelter and hygiene materials to affected populations.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE TROPICAL CYCLONE AND FLOODS RESPONSE IN FY 2019 ¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA			
MOZAMBIQUE			
CARE	Agriculture and Food Security, Health, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Cabo Delgado, Manica, Niassa, Sofala, Tete, Zambézia	\$9,800,000

UN Food and Agriculture Organization	Agriculture and Food Security	Beira, Manica, Sofala	\$1,450,000
FHI 360	Health, WASH	Cabo Delgado, Sofala	\$2,499,955
Corongosa Project	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	Sofala	\$433,484
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies	Health	Manica, Sofala, Zambézia	\$500,000
iMMAP Inc.	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management (HCIM)	Inhambane, Manica, Niassa, Sofala, Tete, Zambézia	\$125,000
IOM	Health, HCIM, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Cabo Delgado, Manica, Sofala, Tete	\$4,800,000
Land O'Lakes	Agriculture and Food Security	Manica, Sofala	\$799,897
MENTOR Initiative	Health, WASH	Sofala	\$812,561
OCHA	HCIM	Cabo Delgado, Inhambane, Manica, Nampula, Niassa, Sofala, Tete, Zambézia	\$1,000,000
UNICEF	WASH	Cabo Delgado, Manica, Nampula, Sofala, Tete, Zambézia	\$1,399,600
WFP	Logistics Support	Cabo Delgado, Nampula, Niassa, Sofala, Tete, Zambézia	\$2,750,000
WHO	Health	Gaza, Inhambane, Manica, Sofala, Tete, Zambézia	\$1,753,148
World Vision	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Sofala, Tete, Zambézia	\$11,032,158
	Airlifted Relief Commodities	Cabo Delgado, Nampula, Sofala	\$5,510,002
	Program Support		\$248,126
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE MOZAMBIQUE RESPONSE			\$44,913,931
ZIMBABWE			
CARE	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	Chimanimani, Chipinge, Mutare	\$1,300,000
CRS	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Buhera	\$649,906
GOAL	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Affected Areas	\$100,000
IOM	HCIM	Manicaland, Masvingo Province	\$200,000
IRC	WASH	Chimanimani	\$500,000
Mercy Corps	WASH	Chimanimani, Chipinge	\$928,881
OCHA	HCIM	Chimanimani, Chipinge, Harare, Mutare	\$250,000
World Vision	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Chimanimani, Chipinge	\$897,012
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE ZIMBABWE RESPONSE			\$4,825,799
MALAWI			
CARE	Agriculture and Food Security, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Affected Areas	\$780,000
CRS	Agriculture and Food Security, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Affected Areas	\$470,000
Oxfam	Protection, WASH	Nsanje, Phalombe	\$500,000

Project Concern International	WASH	Mchinga, Zomba	\$999,975
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE MALAWI RESPONSE			\$2,749,975
COMOROS			
French Red Cross	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Affected Areas	\$100,000
UNICEF	WASH	Affected Areas	\$200,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE COMOROS RESPONSE			\$300,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE TROPICAL CYCLONES AND FLOODS RESPONSE			\$52,789,705
USAID/FFP²			
MOZAMBIQUE			
WFP	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid, Food Vouchers, Local and Regional Food Procurement	Manica, Sofala, Tete, Zambézia	\$33,160,362
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE MOZAMBIQUE RESPONSE			\$33,160,362
ZIMBABWE			
WFP	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Affected Areas	\$2,498,490
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE ZIMBABWE RESPONSE			\$2,498,490
MALAWI			
WFP	Cash Transfers for Food	Affected Areas	\$3,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE MALAWI RESPONSE			\$3,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE TROPICAL CYCLONES AND FLOODS RESPONSE			\$38,658,852
State/PRM			
MOZAMBIQUE			
International Committee of the Red Cross	Agriculture and Food Security, Health, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Affected Areas	\$1,500,000
TOTAL DoD FUNDING			\$1,500,000
DoD			
MOZAMBIQUE			
	Logistics Support	Affected Areas	\$5,995,078
TOTAL DoD FUNDING			\$5,995,078
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE TROPICAL CYCLONES AND FLOODS RESPONSE			\$98,943,635

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of August 12, 2019.

³ Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at www.interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.661.7710.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>