Situation Update

- As of 16 March, Cyclone Freddy has dissipated over land, however moderate rainfall will continue in the affected provinces in the next 36 hours keeping the risk of additional flooding high. There is no risk of another tropical storm forming over the basin during the next 5 days.
- Satellite imagery shows flooding in Zambezia, Tete, Sofala, Inhambane, Gaza and Maputo provinces. In Zambezia, water levels in areas surrounding the Licungo and Zambezi basins are still rising. The Zambezi river remains above alert levels, with a high risk of additional flooding.
- As of the afternoon of 15 March, over 800,000 people are reported to be living in flooded areas, and almost 200,000 hectares of cropland area are flooded.
- Cholera cases have been recorded in the provinces of Niassa, Zambezia, Sofala, Manica and Tete. As of 14 March, 104 new cases were reported in these provinces, while 203 patients have received treatment and 108 had recovered, with 1 death reported.
- The risk of cholera spreading remains in most provinces, due to the floods and poor hygiene conditions.
- In all the affected provinces, over 20,200 houses and 580 schools have been damaged by the cyclone, with more than 122,400 students affected.
- President Nyusi paid visits to the affected populations in Zambezia, highlighting the damaging impact of the cyclone and the need to work on sanitation and basic services provision in accommodation centres to prevent the further spread of cholera.
- Cyclone Freddy has broken several world records, including the longest ever recorded tropical cyclone, the highest ever recorded accumulation energy, and the highest re-intensification periods.
WFP’s response

- Since the beginning of the response, WFP has been participating in government coordination platforms at the district, provincial, and central levels, sharing information and identifying areas to support the response.
- So far, WFP’s efforts have focused on supporting the Government on rapid assessments, search & rescue operations, logistics support, food assistance to affected populations, and technical assistance on protection considerations.
- As of 16 March, WFP has provided 7-day return kits to over 15,140 people, hosted in accommodation centers in Sofala and Inhambane provinces. The kit includes maize meal, beans, vegetable oil and salt, and covers 100% of daily kilocalorie needs of a family of five for a week.
- WFP is planning to provide over 44,000 people with 7-day and 30-day return kits in the provinces of Sofala, Zambezia, Inhambane, and Tete in the upcoming days. The 30-day return kit is provided to families returning to their place of origin once accommodation centers are deactivated. The 30-day return kits cover approximately 75% of energy requirements for a month for a family of five.
- WFP is supporting the National Institute of Disaster Risk Reduction (INGD) to move critical staff and goods and deploying staff to support on the registration process at accommodation centres.
- In Zambezia, WFP has pre-positioned one all-terrain vehicle (SHERP) in Caia district, on standby to support upon INGD request.
- Additionally, WFP continues sensitization activities on protection and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse in accommodation centers.

Needs and assessments

- WFP continues to support the Government in assessing the situation on the ground, with field monitors closely working with local authorities supporting data collection and preliminary assessments. Moreover, WFP is continuing to conduct road assessments in the impacted areas.
- In Zambezia, WFP will support OCHA in conducting a Multisectoral Rapid Assessment (MIRA) in collaboration with INGD and other UN agencies. As of 15 March, a total of 372,400 people were estimated to have been directly impacted. The same data from INGD indicates that 38,303 hectares of cropland have been lost, while a further 179,880 of cropland has been flooded.
- An interactive map to monitor the cyclone season in Mozambique was created by WFP. It provides easy access to updated information on road conditions, rainfall forecasts, cyclones’ trajectories, river water level alerts, population levels, and other critical data. The map can be accessed by all stakeholders (link on the right-hand side).

WFP Mozambique interactive map for the cyclone season.

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