

# WFP Mozambique

## External Situation Report #4

06 March 2023



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

### Severe Tropical Storm Freddy

**166,595** people affected  
**4** provinces affected  
**9,892** people displaced  
**40** accommodation centres  
**15,663** houses damaged or destroyed  
**56,904 ha** of cropland affected  
**68,280** students impacted  
**10** deaths recorded

## Highlights

- As of 6 March, Severe Tropical Storm Freddy is in the Mozambique channel. The system is turning northwest, and re-intensifying, with landfall expected in Mozambique, as a Tropical Cyclone, by 11 March.
- It is most likely to make landfall between northern Sofala and southern Nampula, however its path remains unpredictable.
- On 3 March, the National Institute of Disaster Risk Reduction (INGD) issued updated data on the impact of Severe Tropical Storm Freddy to date. A total of 166,595 people are estimated to have been directly impacted by the storm, across the provinces of Inhambane, Gaza, Sofala, and Maputo.
- Between 4-5 March, following formal request from INGD, WFP provided food assistance to 300 families cut off by severe floods in Mabote, Inhambane province. Assistance comprised of food packages covering 7-day rations (100% daily kilocalorie needs).
- A SHERP - WFP's all-terrain vehicle – supported the movement of 7.5 metric tonnes of food to otherwise inaccessible areas within Mabote district, including food from INGD and WFP, as well as ensuring the movement of personnel and medicines to support the accommodation centres.

## Situation Update

- As of 6 March, the Freddy system is currently a Severe Tropical Storm, registering winds of just below 100km/h.
- It is located off the coast of south-west Madagascar, and it is expected to turn to the west, and then north-west, gaining strength and re-intensifying as it moves through the Mozambique channel.
- Freddy is then expected to become a Tropical Cyclone, with winds of up to 170 km/h, and to make landfall for a second time in Mozambique, as a Tropical Cyclone, by 11 March.
- It is most likely to make landfall between northern Sofala and southern Nampula, however its path remains unpredictable. As the forecast evolves over the coming days, there will be greater clarity on the anticipated impact of Freddy.
- The 10-day rainfall forecast (6 – 16 March), indicates strong rains across the provinces of Sofala, Zambezia, Nampula, and Niassa (> 250 mm)
- The return of Freddy to Mozambique follows weeks of intense rainfall and flooding, which have already significantly impacted the provinces of Inhambane, Gaza, Manica, Maputo, and Sofala provinces.
- The situation in the provinces of Inhambane and Gaza remains concerning, with flooding occurring in districts that were already categorized as Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) 3 (crisis level of food insecurity), as per the latest IPC analysis, to be released shortly.



## WFP's response

- To date, WFP's first priorities have been rapid assessments, key logistics support, on-the-ground coordination with INGD and other partners, supporting beneficiary information management, providing technical assistance on protection considerations, and the provision of food assistance upon request from the Government.
- Across the provinces, WFP's support to Government-led coordination and response efforts is being carried out through the Food Security Cluster (co-led by FAO), along with established focal points from the active Clusters.
- WFP has been participating in rapid assessments in the worst impacted areas of Gaza, Inhambane, and Sofala, leveraging its logistical capacity to support INGD and partners.
- Between 4-5 March, following formal request from INGD, WFP provided food assistance to 300 families (1,500 people) cut off by severe floods in Mabote, Inhambane province. Assistance comprised of food packages covering 7-day rations (100% daily kilocalorie needs).
- A SHERP - WFP's all-terrain vehicle – supported the movement of 7.5 metric tonnes of food to otherwise inaccessible areas within Mabote district, including food from INGD and WFP, as well as the movement of personnel and medicines to support the accommodation centres.
- To date, WFP's support to provide food assistance has not yet been requested in other areas, as the Government has indicated ability to cover the immediate food needs of affected populations. WFP has finalised operational arrangements for the provision of food assistance, and is standing by ready to intervene, pending further requests from the Government.
- Over the coming weeks, WFP's response is likely to be multi-faceted, supporting Government-led efforts in southern Mozambique for those already impacted by the severe rains and flooding, while supporting response efforts in central and northern provinces following the landfall of Freddy for a second time.

## Needs and Assessments

- On 3 March, the National Institute of Disaster Risk Reduction (INGD) issued updated data on the impact to date of Severe Tropical Storm Freddy. A total of 166,595 people are estimated to have been directly impacted by the storm, across the provinces of Inhambane, Gaza, Sofala, and Maputo.
- The same data indicates a total of 40 accommodation centres remained active as of 3 March, housing a total of 9,892 affected people (as per INGD).
- INGD estimate that some 56,904 hectares of cropland have been impacted. A total of 15,633 houses have been damaged or destroyed.
- WFP staff remain in the affected provinces, supporting INGD through impact and damage assessments, and will continue to support these efforts as Freddy makes landfall for a second time in Mozambique.
- An interactive map to monitor the cyclone season in Mozambique was created by WFP. It provides easy access to updated information on roads condition, rainfall forecast, cyclones track, river water level alerts, population data and other critical data. The map can be accessed by all stakeholders (see below).



**WFP Mozambique has created an [interactive map](#) to monitor the cyclone season in Mozambique.**

## Contacts

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