

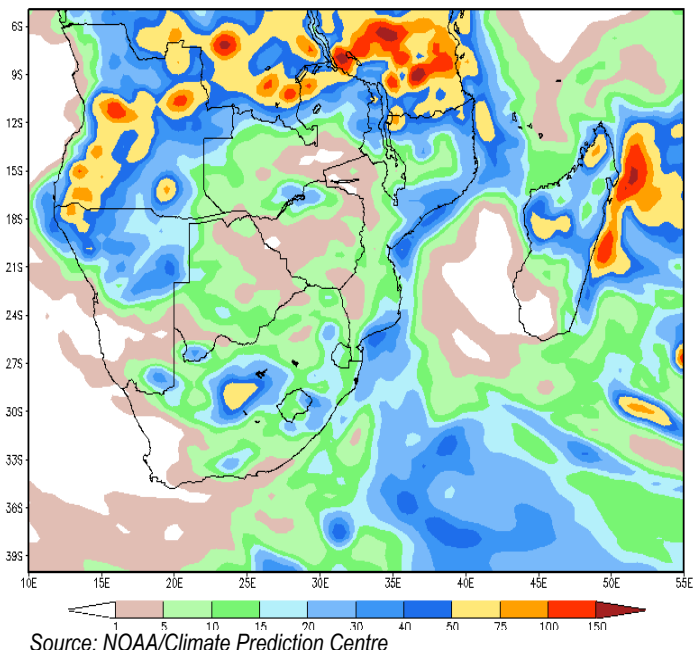


**Situation Report 12– SOUTHERN AFRICA FLOODS – 20 MARCH 2008**

**CONTEXT**

1. Tropical cyclone “Jokwe”, which hit the province of Nampula on March 8, 2008 dissipated in the Mozambique Channel without causing further damage to either Mozambique or Madagascar.
2. Although the peak of the rain and cyclone season is over, precipitation will continue and cyclones could still occur until the end of April. Heavy rains have been experienced in southern Angola, and Namibia as well as the eastern part of South Africa. Rivers in central Mozambique have swollen following a 48 hour spell of heavy rain that started 16 March 2008, but are still below alert level. More rains are forecast in the same areas for the coming week.

Figure 1. Model Precipitation Forecast for 19 – 26 March, 2008 (mm)



3. According to the latest figures from national disaster authorities, the cumulative number of people affected by rains, floods and cyclones since October 2007 in Southern Africa is of 987,516.

Table 1. Regional overview of affected persons in region

	<b>Affected (persons)</b>	<b>Cause</b>
Angola	81,400	Rains, flooding
Lesotho	4,500	Tornado, hailstones
Madagascar	332,391	Cyclone, rains, flooding
Malawi	180,246	Rains, flooding
Mozambique	113,535 in resettlement centres + 160,000 (2007 caseload) + 60,000 affected by “Jokwe”	Flooding, cyclone
Namibia	3,000+	Rains, flooding
Swaziland	2,500	Rains, hailstorms
Zambia	34,776	Rains, flooding
Zimbabwe	15,168	Rains, flooding
<b>Total</b>	<b>987,516</b>	

**SITUATION OVERVIEW**

4. **Angola:** The overall number of people affected by floods and rains remains at more than 81,400, with 56,077 reported by local authorities to be displaced in the provinces of Cunene and Kuando Kubango (see table below for details).

Table 2. Number of people displaced as a result of floods in Angola

<b>Cunene province</b>	
<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Displaced persons</b>
Ondjiva – Reception Camp	14,186
Ondjiva (living with families and friends)	5,589
Ombadja (living with families and friends)	2,923
Namakunde	789
Kahama	2'434
Kuvelai	994
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>26,915</b>
<b>Kuando Kubango province</b>	
<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Displaced persons</b>

Menongue (sede)	4'912
Missombo	1'744
Caiundo	2'208
Cuangular	320
Calai	3'904
Savate (Community)	1'200
Dirico	696
Mucusso (Community)	576
Nankova	182
Rivungo	4'336
Mavinga	8'104
Cuito Cuaneval	1'160
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>29'162</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>56,007</b>

- In Cunene, six people have been killed, while the number of injuries and disappeared remains unknown. More than 37,000 heads of cattle have been lost and 74,000 hectares of agricultural land destroyed. Some of the main roads have been damaged: the Ondjiva-Cuvela and the Namacunde-Chiede routes are badly affected limiting access to the municipality of Cuvelai and the *communes* of Rvale and Mupa. The communities of Evale, Calueque, Onepolo, Ombalayo-Mungo, Naulila and Marco 12.5 are also unreachable.
- Clean drinking water is one of the main concerns in the province. In Ondjiva town drinking water is available from Santa Clara and from non flooded boreholes. Many people are relying on rain water for drinking.
- The Provincial Water Department has supported the construction of 60 latrines in the camps hosting displaced families; 41 are already operational. The camps have also received 12 water tanks provided by UNICEF.
- In Kuando Kubango, provincial authorities report that 29,162 people have been displaced by the heavy rains. Eight persons are reported dead (two in municipality of Menongue and six in that of Drico). More than 2,070 agricultural fields have been ruined by the heavy rainfall and by elephants and hippopotamus, leaving their natural habitat in search of food. Several roads throughout the province have also been cut and are inaccessible.
- The UN technical team which visited areas affected by floods found that as a result of poor sanitation the biggest threat to the communities is represented by the outbreak of diarrhoea, malaria and respiratory infection diseases. Of the 3,019 cholera cases

reported for the entire country between 1 January and 9 March 2008, around 43% (1,296 cholera cases, including 75 deaths) have been reported in the province of Cunene.

- The Ministry of Health with support from UNICEF has distributed to date 7,000 mosquito nets to the areas affected and intends to follow with an additional distribution of 3,000.
- No damage or destruction has been reported from the province of Moxico, currently experiencing heavy rains.
- Madagascar:** The multi-sectoral assessment to the region of Atsimo Atsinana took place and visited the districts of Midongy, Befotaka and Vondrozo. This visit along with the one organized for the district of Haute Matsiatra complete the rapid assessment to areas identified as sustaining the impact of cyclones Fame and Ivan.
- Under the lead of the *Bureau National de Gestion des Risques et des Catastrophes* (BNGRC), clusters are consolidating information on the level and quantity of humanitarian response distributed to the areas hit by the cyclones to identify gaps and avoid the duplication of assistance.
- The BNGRC has agreed to organize with the World Bank a damage and loss assessment of the affected areas in Madagascar from April 21 2008. At the same time and in coordination with this initiative, UNDP/BCPR intends to organize a workshop on Early Recovery (ER) to lay the ground for a forthcoming ER Appeal.
- Malawi:** The UK Department for International Development has provided £1.2 million (US\$2.4 million) to support vulnerable households affected by floods in Malawi through the UN Regional Appeal. The funding (not yet reflected in the FTS tables) will be channeled through cluster leads to support early recovery (UNDP), agriculture (FAO), water and sanitation, emergency education, child protection and nutrition (UNICEF).
- Mozambique:** According to the *Instituto Nacional de Gestão de Calamidades* (INGC) tropical cyclone "Jokwe" killed 7 people, damaged around 30,000 houses, 200 schoolrooms and dozens of health clinics, prisons and other public buildings. An estimated 41,000 hectares of maize were also flattened.

17. On 13 March 2008, following a rapid needs assessments in the cyclone affected area, the INGC requested WFP for food assistance to 60,000 people. The assistance will focus on the hardest hit coastal districts of Angoche (30,000 people), Mongicual (20,000 people) and Mossuril (10,000 people). The WFP has submitted a CERF request for US\$ 550,000 for cyclone relief. The funds are needed to purchase locally food commodities that will replace the school feeding stocks being borrowed for immediate assistance in affected districts.
18. River levels rose slightly in the main river basins in central Mozambique following recent heavy rains but remain below alert levels. Officials continue to advise populations in these river basins to move to higher ground as the rainy season is not over yet.
19. The INGC confirmed the official number of deaths attributed to natural disasters in Mozambique in 2008 so far: floods - 20; cyclone - 7; cholera in flood zones - 15.
20. Concerns over the ability to reach vulnerable communities remain due to the access constraints still faced by humanitarian organisations. WFP reports that the helicopter operation moving food to inaccessible areas will close down on 20 March as a result of limited funding. The truck fleet for the Logistics cluster will remain in operation until 31 March, 2008.
21. **Namibia:** The results from the assessments conducted by the national disaster authorities with support from the UN and Red Cross movement to the areas affected by floods have been submitted to Cabinet and will be available as of next week.
22. The UK Department for International Development has provided £50,000 (around US\$ 100,000) through the International Federation of the Red Cross to the Namibian Red Cross emergency response plan.
23. **Zambia:** The Vulnerability Assessment Committee rapid assessment report for 32 districts in nine provinces has been completed and the Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU) will release its findings soon.
24. A new camp of approximately 600 people has been set up by the Zambia Red Cross in Kanyanya in Kafue district, with new flooding being attributed to the opening of the Itezhi-Tezhi dam flood gates by the national hydro-electrical service ZESCO. The Zambia Red Cross are providing shelter and establishing water and sanitation facilities. They are also assisting affected populations in Monze and Kazungula districts and plan to provide shelter and water and sanitation services for a total of approximately 2,000 households.
25. The DMMU and the WFP are in consultation to commence food distributions in April 2008 in 13 affected districts through food for assets and/or food for work activities that will include a strong emphasis in capacity building for Government in the areas of disaster response.
26. Lusaka district continues to report cases of cholera in the settlements of Chipata, Chaisa, and George Zone 3, Matero and Kanyama (Chibolya and Zone 6), with 111 patients attended to between 28 January and 5 March, 2008.
27. UNICEF is planning a nutrition assessment in flood affected areas for the end of April/beginning of May in response to fears of a nutritional crisis in the wake of widespread crop destruction.
28. As rains and flood waters subside, the risk of outbreaks of diarrhea, cholera and malaria remain high due to widespread contamination of water sources, stagnant water, widespread use of unsafe water sources and a lack of sanitation facilities, compounded by extremely poor hygiene in IDP camps.
29. Information regarding damaged roads and infrastructure in North-Western Province has been gathered and posted on the Logistics Cluster website. See: [www.logcluster.org/zmb08a](http://www.logcluster.org/zmb08a)
30. **Zimbabwe:** According to OCHA-Zimbabwe, the Department of Meteorology has indicated that no additional flooding threats are expected, but that preparedness is still necessary until the effects of "La Niña" continue.
31. Agritex has informed that major food crops in parts of Matabeleland South and particularly Beitbridge are likely to fail completely due to moisture stress. Water-logging has also severely affected most agricultural land in Mashonaland, particularly Hurungwe district.
32. Assessments in flood affected areas show that health remains a major concern. Severe diarrhea and cholera outbreaks have been reported in Mashonaland Central and East, Matabeleland and Manicaland provinces. Between January and February 2008, there have been 124 cases of cholera reported in Zimbabwe with 13 deaths from Epworth

peri-urban settlement of Harare city, Mudzi, Mt. Darwin, Centenary and Kariba districts. In addition, there have been diarrhea outbreaks in the cities of Bulawayo, Harare, Kadoma and Kwekwe, and in Gokwe North and South rural districts with more than 10,000 cases and 67 deaths reported between May 2007 and February 2008.

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

33. As of 20 March 2008, donors have committed and contributed 15.3% of the more than US\$ 89 million required to fund the *Southern African Region Preparedness and Response Plan 2008* launched on 11 February 2008.
34. US\$ 11.49 million, or 32% of the total requirements, have already been committed towards the Flash Appeal for Madagascar launched on 1 March 2008.

Please see Annexes for commitments/contributions and pledges to the emergencies in the region as of 20 March 2008.

To provide OCHA with updates on contributions and have them reflected in the Financial Tracking Table please contact Ms. Michelle Thulkanam at [thulkanam@un.org](mailto:thulkanam@un.org).

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