



UNITED NATIONS

Office of the Resident Coordinator
Madagascar

CYCLONES ERIC and FANELE - Flash Situation Report 5 February 2009

The following situational report has been prepared by the OCHA support mission to the Office of the Resident Coordinator in Madagascar. It is largely based on the information provided by the National Office for Disasters and Risks Management (BNGRC) of the Government of Madagascar as well as UN Agencies and NGOs.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Cyclones Eric and Fanele in numbers: 12 dead; 33 injured; 54,493 disaster victims; 4,012 homeless; 9,712 damaged homes; 2,965 h of flooded rice paddies. Tropical storm Eric impacted the district of Mandritsara the most; while cyclone Fanele took the heaviest toll on the districts of Morondava, Manja and Beroroha, as well as the municipality of Belo sur Mer.
- The National Disaster Management Authority (BNGRC) is continuing the distribution of relief items in region Menabe. BNGRC's Executive Secretary visited the area to personally supervise the operation.
- The results of the aerial survey conducted by BNGRC, CARE, CRS and USAID the day after the passage of Fanele in regions Menabe and Atsimo Andrefana reveal 60-70% damage of varying degrees sustained to houses in the zone between Belo sur Mer and Manometimay. In Morondava, 25-30% of private homes and 60% of public buildings show damage of varying degrees.
- Relief operations are taking place in the context of the current political volatility in Madagascar, which resulted in massive street protests, violence and looting in the week of 26 January¹. In Antananarivo significant material damage has been done to shops, markets and other businesses. Planned meetings by BNGRC (National Disaster Management Authority) on emergency response to tropical storm Eric and cyclone Fanele were cancelled last week due to the insecurity in Antananarivo. Coordination meetings have since restarted, with the last event held on Friday, 30 January, under the auspices of BNGRC.
- Technical Clusters/Sectors (Agriculture, Water and Sanitation, Nutrition and Food Security, Health, Habitat, Logistics, Education, Early Recovery network, and IEC network) are meeting regularly, focusing on the coordination of relief interventions and sectorial analysis of the cyclone impacted zones.

¹ Refer to [Situation Report No 1 – Political Crisis and Humanitarian Situation in Madagascar](http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/SODA-7NSP5A?OpenDocument) at <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/SODA-7NSP5A?OpenDocument>

SITUATION

Tropical storm Eric and cyclone Fanele struck the north-eastern and south-western coasts of Madagascar respectively the week of 19 January, bringing heavy rain and strong winds to a number of districts. The districts of Mandritsara (Sofia Region, hit by Eric) and Morondava and Manja (Menabe Region, hit by Fanele) have been most severely affected in general. The cyclone season traditionally continues through April 2009.

The decentralised National Contingency Plan 2008/2009, prepared jointly by the Government and the members of IASC in November 2008, meant that regional and district authorities were able to harness their own capacity to mobilising local humanitarian partners, collect initial data, and activate the “Rapid Reaction Matrix” at the regional level. First information regarding the impact of tropical storm “Eric” and the cyclone “Fanele” reached the capital thanks to the input from regional authorities. Assessments point to small to moderate degrees of damage, making it possible for mandated national authorities, with the active support of the Humanitarian Country Team, to provide a sufficient level of assistance.

Relief operations are taking place in the context of the current political crisis, which resulted in massive street protests, violence and looting in the week of 26 January². The National Disaster Management Authority (BNGRC) temporarily decreased its capacity in responding to the aftermath of Eric and Fanele. Two coordination meetings, chaired by BNGRC with the participation of all humanitarian actors present in the country, were successively cancelled. Finally, on 30 January BNGRC held a coordination meeting during which latest data on cumulative damages caused by the cyclones and the results of the first aerial survey conducted by BNGRC, CARE, CRS and USAID were shared with the participants. The second assessment mission was carried out in Region Menabe hours after the first aerial survey by the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of the Interior, and the Ministry of Health, with the participation of Malagasy parliamentarians.

All Technical Clusters are functioning and operational, coordinating ongoing relief activities and conducting in-house analysis of needs based on limited data in view of the restrictions imposed on the movement of staff internally and internationally.

Table 1 – Cumulative damage of “Eric” and “Fanele” per district

| District | Human Impact | Health | Education |
|----------------------------|--|---|---|
| Analanjirifo (Eric) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 104 victims³ 73 homeless | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 22 classrooms with damaged roof 6 destroyed classrooms 26 destroyed classroom tents donated by UNICEF |
| Atsinanana (Eric) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1,883 victims | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 injury | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 19 damaged classrooms 950 victims among students |
| Atsimo Andrefana (Fanele) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11,740 victims | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 damaged classrooms |
| Menabe (Fanele) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 35,026 victims | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Damaged Regional Hospitals in Namahora and Manja 5 Damaged health centres in Region Menabe (CSB) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 158 damaged classrooms 9,802 élèves sinistrés |
| Sofia (Eric) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5,619 victims | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 23 injuries | |
| Vatovavy Fitovinany (Eric) | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secondary school “Vohipeno” with damaged roof |
| Ihorombe (Fanele) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 dead 430 victims 160 homeless | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 injuries | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 classrooms with damaged roof |

NOTE: Data by BNGRC

² Refer to [Situation Report No 1 – Political Crisis and Humanitarian Situation in Madagascar](http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/SODA-7NSP5A?OpenDocument) at <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/SODA-7NSP5A?OpenDocument>

³ Victims are counted by local authorities and reflect cumulative numbers across all sectors. For example, numbers of homeless are included in the total of victims.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

The UN Country Team, under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator, is closely monitoring the humanitarian situation in the affected region. Channelled through the sectorial approach, UN operational agencies and international and national NGOs are delivering the following assistance in the impacted areas:

- **HEALTH**

UNICEF is intervening in Menabe in the disinfection of schools and water reservoirs in the vicinity of temporary camps. It is also providing assistance in a temporary camp sheltering cyclone victims.

SUCA is intervening in Mandritsara and Morondava. Its mobile sanitary team delivered medicine and is offering epidemiological assistance in the impacting zones.

- **WATER AND SANITATION**

Malagasy Red Cross is active in the regions of Alaotra Mangoro and Menabe, and in Analanjirofo, Soanierana Ivongo, Sainte-Marie, and Toamasina I and II where it is distributing large quantities of WASH kits.

Fonds d'Intervention pour le Developpement (FID) is conducting clean-up work in 10 fokontany of Morondava.

UNICEF has been distributing WASH kits in Morondava in collaboration with CRS and CARITAS. In addition, it has conducted drainage work in cooperation with the Corps de la Protection Civile (CPC). It has put up 8 movable latrines in sites with sanitary problems and contributed to cleaning up public space in Morondava. Further planning implies the distribution of WASH kits in Manja and the disinfection of the districts of Morondava and Mahabo.

- **HABITAT**

BNGRC has distributed 60 tents in the region of Meanbe. The Malagas Red Cross (CRM) is managing 13 temporary sites sheltering the victims of Fanele. UNICEF has led the way in setting up temporary camps and providing tents, latrines and tarpaulins. CARE International was first to distribute plastic sheeting for 2,000 families along the coast between Morondava and Belo sur Mer.

- **NUTRITION AND FOOD SECURITY**

BNGRC is distributing food items in the impacted regions out of its warehouses. BNGRC has dispatched 10 tonnes of rice to Region Analanjirofo and 5 tonnes of rice to Mandritsara. In Region Menabe 5 tonnes of rice went to Morondava; 8 tonnes of rice and 2 tonnes of pulses to Belo sur Mer; and 5 tonnes of rice, 2 tonnes of pulses, 60 mosquito nets and 8 boxes of soap to Manometimay. Beroroha received 2 tonnes of rice and 1 tonne of pulses.

L'Office National de la Nutrition (ONN) is planning to implement high intensity works in exchange for food in the zones impacted by Eric and Fanele. In collaboration with CRS, WFP is currently distributing 100 tonnes of food (rice and pulses) out of its warehouse in Morondava, of which 10 tonnes went to Belo sur Mer and 70 tonnes to cyclone victims in Morondava. It is to be mentioned that WFP has set aside 844 tonnes of food items, stocked in its primary and secondary warehouses, as part of its long-term assistance programme to victims of natural disasters. WFP's 12 containers carrying 276 tonnes of rice are currently held up in the port of Tamatave due to the current political crisis. Morondava: 70 Mt. of food (rice and Pulses) were distributed to the cyclones victims under the coordination of CRS, WFP partner in the district.

- **EDUCATION**

UNICEF is setting up temporary school tents in collaboration with DREN and CISCO. School materials and the distribution of school in box kits are planned for affected schools.

- **LOGISTICS**

CPC has been involved in clean-up activities in the town of Morondava and surrounding municipalities. The Malgasy Road Authorities has prepared a detailed map of damages the road network sustained as a result of Eric and Fanele.

WFP carried out a surveillance mission in Region Menabe from 24 to 26 January with the objective of identifying a humanitarian corridor to facilitate future humanitarian assistance. Mr. Pierre Carrasse, Head of the Aviation Unit at WFP is currently on mission in Madagascar. His task is to build long-term contracts with air companies which could

be used by the UN System following natural disasters in Madagascar. Mr. Philippe Glauser, a logistics consultant, has recently arrived on a two-month mission.

COORDINATION

Humanitarian activities are coordinated by the Office of the Resident Coordinator, with the support of UN OCHA. The Cluster Approach is active and operational in Madagascar under the leadership of cluster leads and their respective counterparts in national ministries and specialised departments. Coordination of activities in disaster preparedness and management at the UN level is dealt with by a technical group GT PGC (Groupe Thématique pour la Prévention et la Gestion des Catastrophes), chaired and vice-chaired by UNICEF and WFP respectively. The UN Information Centre (CINU) is in charge of the UN information strategy vis-à-vis Malagasy citizens, keeping them informed on UN mission and activities in the country.

SECURITY

UN Security Phase 2 is in place for Madagascar due to the ongoing security situation.

Contact Details

Dr. Xavier Leus
Resident Coordinator of the UN System
Antananarivo, Madagascar

Mateusz Tuniewicz
Information and Advocacy Officer
UN OCHA/BCR
Antananarivo, Madagascar:
+261 32 0507 694

Zoe Rasoaniaina
National Information Officer
UN Information Centre
Antananarivo, Madagascar:
+261 320746669

Rija Rakotoson
Humanitarian Affairs Officer
UN OCHA/BCR
Antananarivo, Madagascar :
+261 32 0507 693