

HIGHLIGHTS

- The confluence of multiple crises is compounding a severe humanitarian situation in Mozambique.
- Freddy made its second landfall in Mozambique as severe tropical cyclone in the evening of 11 March, through the locality of Macuze, district of Namacurra, Zambezia province, with maximum winds of 148 km/h and gusts up to 213 km/h.
- Rainfall brought by Freddy reached more than 600mm in some places. This precipitation is four times greater than the average monthly precipitation during the rainy season.
- Preliminary data indicate that Freddy's second landfall affected some 253,466 people across Zambezia, Sofala, Tete, Manica and Niassa. This in addition to the 239,000 people affected by floods and Freddy's first landfall.
- The cholera outbreak continues to spread. As of 15 March, the cumulative number of cholera cases stood at 8,877 cases and 54 deaths across 33 districts.

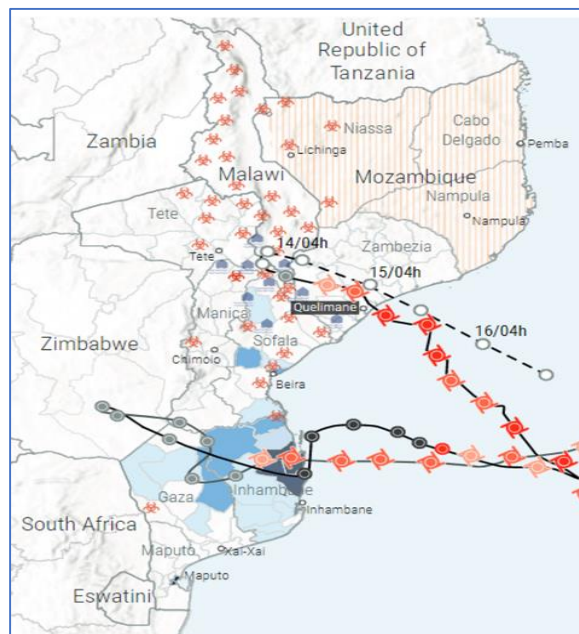


Figure 1: Tropical Cyclone Freddy trajectory. Source: OCHA

SITUATION OVERVIEW

The National Institute of Meteorology (INAM) reports that tropical cyclone Freddy made its second landfall in Mozambique on 11 March, between 18:00 and 20:00 local time, through the locality of Macuze, district of Namacurra, Zambezia province, with maximum winds of 148 km/h and gusts up to 213 km/h.

Rainfall brought by Freddy reached more than 600mm in some places, particularly in the Districts of Marromeu (672mm), Mocuba (581mm), Milange (529mm) and Morrumbala (491mm). This precipitation is four times greater than the average monthly precipitation during the rainy season.

As of 15 March, Freddy has weakened to a low pressure system. However, rainfalls above 100 mm/24hrs are expected to continue over Nampula and Zambezia provinces that in the period between 12 and 15 March received heavy rainfall above 200 mm/24hrs.

Heavy rains and flooding are a concern as the cholera outbreak continues to spread. As of 15 March, the cumulative number of cholera cases stood at 8,877 cases and 54 deaths across 33 districts. Vanduzi district in Manica province is the latest having been affected by cholera. This is an increase of 901 cases since a week ago.

According to latest data from the National Institute for Disaster Risk Management (INGD), Cyclone Freddy affected a total of 253,466 people across Zambezia (211,784 affected and 53 deaths reported), Sofala (33,435) Tete (6,834) Manica (1,182) and Niassa (231) provinces. In terms of damage, some 48,134 houses were partially or totally destroyed while some 191,562 hectares were damaged and an additional 38,000 hectares have been lost. Some 52 health units and 1,561 classrooms were also damaged. As of 15 March, some 49,159 people have been displaced and 139 accommodations centers have been established.

The figures of people affected are likely to increase further as rains and floods continue and more assessments are undertaken. Authorities report that an increase in the volume of water discharges is expected in the hydrographic basins of



Figure 2: Sangariviera school, Quelimane. Credit: Tsigemariam Yohannes, OCHA

the rivers Buzi, Pungoe, Licungo, Namacurro, Nioide and Raragara and Zambeze (sub-basin of the River Shire and lower Zambezi), and Rovuma, causing floods of moderate to high regime. A worsening of urban and peri-urban flooding is also expected in the city of Quelimane.

Flooding had already affected hectares of crops that were ready to be harvested impacting food security and people's main source of income. Schools, health centers, houses water and sanitation systems, roads have been ravaged. The main road along the Mozambique, run north-south, is flooded just north of Quelimane city in Zambezia province.

The caseload of people in needs generated by Freddy's second landfall in Mozambique adds to the needs of more than 239,000 people in southern and central Mozambique affected by flooding and Freddy's first landfall. The first landfall resulted in significant infrastructure damage, as more than 22,000 houses were affected, almost 14,000 were destroyed, 60 health units were flooded, and 1,265 km of roads were damaged. Of particular concern is damage to agriculture as 92,000 hectares of crops have been affected including in areas where 400,000 people are already food insecure.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

The Government is fully mobilised and officials of the National Institute for Disaster Risk Management (INGD) have deployed to the most at-risk provinces. Emergency Operational Centers (COEs) were activated in Manica, Nampula, Niassa, Sofala, Tete and Zambezia provinces. Provincial humanitarian teams are working in Nampula, Niassa, Sofala, Tete, Zambezia provinces to support people affected by the second landfall of Freddy. Humanitarian partners, have deployed to all affected provinces and are providing logistics means, food, water purification tablets, rehydration salts, antibiotics, plastic sheeting, food. Two all-terrain amphibious vehicles (Sherp) are in the affected areas to facilitate access.

Authorities have evacuated more than 20,000 people to accommodation centers and rescued over 2,000 people in the last 24 hours who were in critical places in the provinces of Zambezia (Nicoadala, Maganja da Costa), Sofala (Caia and Morrumeu) and Tete (Doa and Mutarara), Niassa (Cuamba and Mecanhelas). Multi-sectoral assistance is being provided to a total of 49,119 people in Zambezia province (37,302 people), Sofala province (10,600), Manica (109 people), Tete (831 people) and Niassa (277 people). INGD has reinforced the pre-positioning of fuel, boats, food and non-food supplies. The Government can assist approximately 140,000 people with food assistance for a period of seven days. Humanitarian partners can assist some 100,000 people with food supplies, for a period of 15 days, and 150,000 people, with medicines, for a period of three months. The electricity supply network has been restored in Pebane, Maganja da Costa, Mocuba and Quelimane City along with water and mobile telephone network.

Monitoring and assessment of damage, humanitarian assistance to those hosted in the accommodation centres, awareness raising and evacuation of the population from risk areas and mobilization of additional resources continue.

In Zambezia province, the most affected areas, large swathes of land are under water. More than 41,152 homes have been partially or totally destroyed and nine roads are not passable, posing a challenge to ability of aid workers to move and assess. Some 37,301 people are hosted in 94 accommodation centers. The presence of stagnant water, crowded living conditions poses is highly concerning for the potential spread of cholera and malaria. On 14 March medical kits (medicines, mosquito nets, water purification were dispatched to Zambezia province to guarantee essential health services to 150,000 people for three months. Additionally, rapid diagnostic tests for cholera, 50 hospital beds to support Cholera Treatment Centers and 14 tents and fuel were sent to support the Quelimane General Hospital. The identification and registration of displaced people in the districts of Mocuba, Namacurra and Nicoadala, in Zambezia province continues. In addition, a protection hub is being created at Mucavine IDP Site.

Humanitarian partners are supporting INGD in responding to the recent floods, primarily in Inhambane province. Access constraints persist in Mabote and communities in Vilankulos and Govuro. A food distribution for 245 people took place on 14 March in Inhambane City while WASH partners distributed hygiene kits in Govuro.

UNFPA estimates that 35,600 women of reproductive age and 16,000 pregnant women were impacted by Cyclone Freddy; some 7,600 dignity kits to women and girls to support their menstrual hygiene, are being distributed in Sofala province. Additionally, WFP assisted more than 3,700 people with 30-day return ration kits. Continuation of essential services with tents, safe spaces for women and mobile clinics is also be ensured through the repositioning of 64 tents to serve as temporary health facilities.

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