MALAWI: TROPICAL CYCLONE FREDDY

Department of Disaster Management Affairs

Situation report - 6

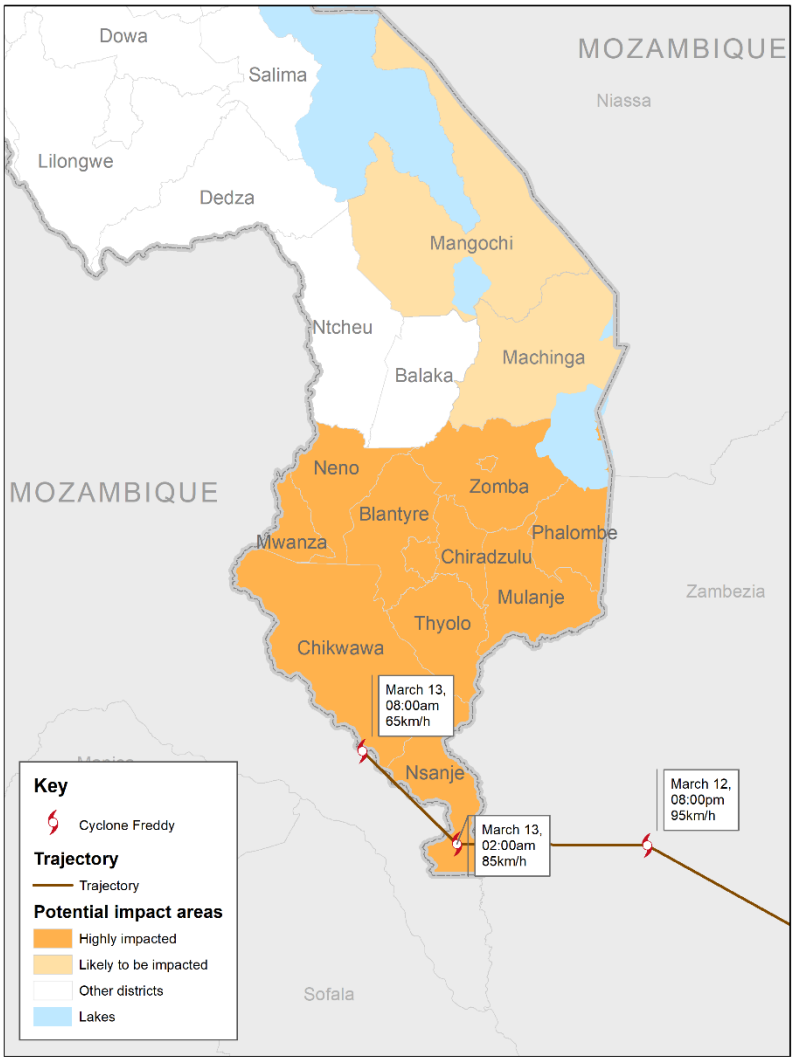
17-18/03/2023

The Malawi Government produces this Situation Report through the Department of Disaster Management Affairs. The Report is issued daily starting from 11th March 2023.

HIGHLIGHTS

- With Tropical Cyclone Freddy gone, DCCMS indicates that normal rainy season weather conditions will now be experienced.
- On 13th March, a state of disaster was declared in the 14 districts that were severely affected by the cyclone.
- Emergency Operation Centre had been set up at the World Food Programme (WFP) offices in Limbe, Blantyre for effective and efficient coordination during the emergency response
- Search and rescue of people is continuing in Nsanje and Phalombe districts where people are still believed to be trapped.
- With the help of sniffer dogs, the Search and Rescue team have recovered 24 bodies (14 bodies on 17th March and 10 bodies on 18th March, 2023) in Soche, Blantyre.
- Government has received international support in the area of search and rescue and various relief items.

AFFECTED DISTRICTS



Sources: Humanitarian Data Exchange (HDX); Boundaries: National Statisitcs Office; Cyclone Track: Zoom Earth.
Disclaimer: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
Updated on **13 March, 2023**

- As of today, 18th March, 2023, 86,604 households have been displaced, while 445 people have died, 282 are missing, and 918 have sustained various injuries. Public infrastructure such as schools, health facilities, and district and main roads have been damaged in all affected districts.
- Government through Department of Disaster Management Affairs is coordinating and leading all humanitarian actors in the assessment of disaster impact and needs as well as provision relief assistance to the affected people.

- The most critical needs are search and rescue for those trapped by flood waters and killed by the mudslide; and the distribution of food and non-food items to the **362,928 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)** who are currently residing in one of the 506 camps set up for those who have lost their homes and belongings.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Tropical Cyclone Freddy induced torrential rains from 11th to 13th March 2023 that caused floods which affected 14 districts in the southern region of the country. The worst affected districts are Nsanje, Chikwawa, Phalombe, Mulanje and Blantyre. With Tropical Cyclone Freddy gone, the Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services (DCCMS) indicates that the country is now experiencing normal rainy season climate conditions up to the end of the season.

Due to the severity of the damage caused by the cyclone, His Excellency the State President declared a state of disaster in the 14 affected districts. He also appealed for both national and international support towards the affected people. The President further declared 14 days of mourning on 15th March, 2023.

Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) had been set up at the World Food Programme (WFP) offices in Limbe, Blantyre. The EOC is a coordination hub where leaders of different clusters are operating from to coordinate and share updates with humanitarian actors providing different types of support and the affected district councils on all things related to the disaster.

The Councils have reported incidences of flooding, strong winds, and mudslides that have displaced over **86,604** households translating to approximately 362,928 people in Nsanje, Chikwawa, Phalombe, Mulanje, Blantyre, Thyolo, Chiradzulu, Blantyre City, Mangochi, Machinga, and Balaka districts. In addition, 506 camps have been established. So far, 445 people have died, while 918 have sustained various injuries. All the Councils are currently conducting Inter-Agency Rapid Assessments to establish the number of households affected by the Cyclone since the only available and confirmed data is for the displaced people.

Searching and rescuing of people in areas that are cut-off and inaccessible is still continuing in Phalombe, Mulanje and Nsanje districts. With the help of sniffer dogs, the Search and Rescue team have recovered 24 bodies (14 bodies on 17th March and 10 bodies on 18th March, 2023) in Soche, Blantyre.

In addition to the cash and in-kind donations, government has also received search and rescue support from international organizations and partners. Search and Rescue Africa and UK Search and Rescue have deployed experts and equipment to support the search and rescue efforts. Governments of Zambia and Tanzania have deployed 2 helicopter and personnel each while Governments of South Africa and Mozambique have pledged an airplane and personnel each. Apart from the search and rescue services, the air assets will also be used for delivery of relief supplies to the areas cut-off and only accessible by air.

Government through Department of Disaster Management Affairs is coordinating and leading all humanitarian actors in the assessment of disaster impact and needs as well as provision relief assistance to the affected people. In response to the State of Disaster declaration and appeal for support, governments, UN Agencies, Donors, national and international non-governmental organization, private sector and well-wishers have made both cash and in-kind donations towards the people affected by flooding disaster.

District	Displaced Households	Displaced People	No. of Camps	No. of Injuries	Total deaths	Missing
Balaka	41	185	5	10	1	
Blantyre	6,970	31,366	59	438	192	2
Chikwawa	21,518	87,085	37	40	3	5
Chiradzulu	1,076	4,842	16	67	13	0
Machinga	4,947	22,260	37	33	2	0
Mangochi	2,198	9,889	26	98	2	1
Mulanje	8,160	36,720	110	93	135	217
Mwanza	0	0	0	3		0
Neno	139	626	0	3	1	0
Nsanje	28,129	126,580	61	12	13	15
Phalombe	9,323	41,954	70	42	58	42
Thyolo	835	3,759	36	65	13	0
Zomba	3,257	14,655	46	8	9	0
Zomba City	11	51	3	6	3	0
Grand Total	**86,604**	**362,928**	**506**	**918**	**445**	**282**

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE



Shelter, Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Sector Lead: The Ministry of Lands
Co-Lead: Malawi Red Cross Society (MRCS)

Impact: 362,928 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) who are currently residing in one of the 506 camps set up for those who have lost their homes and belongings.

Response and Gaps:

These are the current response activities for donors and partners:

Donor	TA	Camps	Response activities
Danish Red Cross	Mlolo, Mbenje, Tengani, Malemia, Ndamera, Chimombo, Ngabu, Nyachikadza	Mota, Bitilinyu, Chekelele, Bangula	19 tents
CARE	Mlolo, Mbenje, Tengani, Malemia, Ndamera, Chimombo, Ngabu, Nyachikadza	Bitilinyu, Chekelele, Mankhokwe, Nyachilenda, Kapalakonje, Mbangu, Mota, kailezi, Ndiola, Dumba, Chitsa, Mtolongo, Mgona,Bangula, Nyambesa	102 tents from CARD mounted
UKAID	IFRC Fire Retardant (FR)		• A kit designed to provide immediate, temporary shelter to 5x Persons. Comes

	Spec Coverage Kit – CK020		without Poles, which are available separately. ● Woven high-density polyethylene (HDPE) laminated on both ● Sides with low-density polyethylene (LDPE) coating. Reinforced with 6 bands of 7.5cm wide HDPE. 170-190 gsm +/- 10% for the reinforcement bands. Has pre-punched holes in reinforcing band. Flame retardant. ● 2x Plastic Sheets 6x4m Size ● 2x Rope each 24m Long ● 1x Laminated Instruction Leaflet ● Poles available separately on request ● Quality Assurance: All orders undergo a Final Random Inspection. ● PU Quantity 2x Kits per Bale ● PU Shipping Weight: 19kg PU Shipping Dimensions: 60cm x 40cm x 29cm

Gaps & Constraints:

- Shortage of sanitary facilities e.g., toilets and sanitary supplies
- Shortage of medical supplies and personnel in camps
- Inadequate sleeping materials and NFIs, inadequate first aid kits at Maganga area.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Sector Lead: The Ministry of Water and Sanitation

Co-Lead: United Nations Children's

Impact: Following the passage of Tropical Cyclone Freddy across southern Malawi, the districts of Blantyre (including the city), and the districts of Chikwawa, Chiradzulu, Mulanje, Mwanza, Neno, Nsanje, Phalombe, Thyolo, and Zomba (including the city), been severely hit by torrential and persistent rains, and causing devastating floods and mudslides. There are also reports of other districts also been affected by the onset, such as Mangochi and Machinga.

Response:

The cluster partners are currently responding to the crisis through distribution of hygiene kits/WASH NFI, provision of emergency water tracking, installation of mobile latrines and bathing facilities, etc. The cluster is also working with government in conducting the rapid assessment, which is underway, to define the needs and track affected people. For Instance.

- UKAID has donated WASH kits of Household Water Filter – Lifesaver Cube – WF001.
- UNFPA has donated 44 (-20 liters) buckets of Chlorine each weighing 2.5 Kgs will be distributed in Liason with the WASH cluster in the camps

Needs:

- Provision of Emergency water trucking, Disinfection of water points, Rehabilitation of Water supply infrastructure, conducting basic water quality analysis affected people in camps and host communities.
- Installation/ rehabilitation of temporary sanitation facilities equipped with handwashing, Construction of emergency bath shelter facilities, Latrine Desludging, Cleaning and Disinfection to affected people in camps and host communities.
- Conduct hygiene promotion among affected populations in camps, and host communities, Distribution of hygiene/NFI kits/ WASH NFI items, Distribution of IEC Material with key hygiene messages (Cholera and AWD) [to 186,000 affected people in camps and host communities)

Education

Sector Lead: The Ministry of Education (MoE)

Co-Lead: UNICEF

Impact: So far, a total of 253 schools affected. 136 camps in schools, 433 classrooms occupied by IDPs, 110,710 learners (54,307 boys and 63,670 boys) affected, 195 teachers (108 male, 99 female) affected, 9 learners (8 boys, 1 girl) died.

Response: Through UNICEF, the Education cluster has teaching and learning materials, classroom grade tents, and recreation kits deployed to Blantyre warehouse. These supplies await the MoE decision to reopen schools. Once schools start, supplies will be distributed to schools based on need.

Agriculture

Cluster Lead: Ministry of Agriculture

Co-Lead: Food and Agricultural Organization

ASSESSMENT UNDERWAY



Protection

Cluster Lead: Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare

Co-Lead: UNICEF

Impact: There is currently the following issues: overcrowding of displaced women, adolescent girls, and children in shelters has increased the risk of sexual violence; Separation and orphaned children in camps; Collapsed Community Based Childcare Centers and disruption of children's safe spaces; Disrupted protection services and structures amplified by overwhelmed/overstretched protection service providers.

Needs: Fast tracking Mental Health and Psychosocial services in the evacuation camps and the affected districts including those displaced; GBV referral services to link to the evacuation camps; clothes and dignity kits for women, adolescent girls, children and elderly; CBCC centers in the evacuation camps; safe spaces for children and adolescent girls in the evacuation centers; Provision of Separate Tents for psychological first aid (PFA), safe spaces and CBCCs; Increased Community Policing Forms in all camps and host communities

Response:

- UNFPA has also supported its partners (GENET and FOCESE) with funding to reach out to the women and girls in the districts of Nsanje, Chikwawa, Mulanje and Blantyre.
- UNFPA has distributed 1,000 dignity kits to Naotcha camp,

Gaps and Constraints: Lighting at the camps and sanitary facilities; Lack of tents for PFA (privacy); Lack of security and visibility materials for Community Policing Forums –need torches, whistles , jackets.



Food Security

Cluster Lead: DoDMA

Co-Lead: WFP

Impact: All the displaced households have lost their belongings including food reserves as they lost their homes.

Needs: The needs for the displaced households are as follows; Maize/ Maize Flour, Corn Soya Blend, Cooking Oil, Pulses (beans, peas etc), Soya Pieces, Dry Fish/ Kapenta, Sugar and Salt.

Response:

- DoDMA has distributed the following items: 107 bags of beans, 900 bags of maize, 10 bags of Maize Meal, 335 cartons of rice, 79 cartons of pasta soup.
- WFP has distributed a total of 50 MT of CSB: as follows: 10MT in Phalombe, 10 MT being airlifted in Mulanje hard to reach areas, 20 MT in Chikwawa, and 10 MT being airlifted to Phalombe hard to reach areas. In total, reached to 135,000 people in Mulanje, Phalombe, Chikwawa. 369 MT of CSB has been procured and ready for distribution as soon as Road become passable.

Challenges/Gaps:

- Accessibility of areas to enable food commodities reach the displace households.
- Gaps within the food basket as some items are not available. Affected population figures are increasing and the food gap will widen hence need for more resources.

Nutrition



Sector Lead: Department of Nutrition, HIV and AIDS
Co-Lead: United Nations Children's Fund

Needs: CSB+, Cooking oil, treatment supplies.

Response: 25 tons of CSB delivered by DNHA to Blantyre DODMA warehouse; Farmers Union of Malawi (FUM) has supplied 150 MUAC tapes to Blantyre DNCC for Nutrition assessment; Nutrition screening was conducted and Makumba and St Michael primary school camps in Zomba.

Gaps & Constraints: Road/Railway cut off affecting accessibility to the camps/areas delaying rapid assessments.



Transport & Logistics

Cluster Lead: Ministry of Transport and Public Infrastructure
Co-Lead: WFP

Impact: Road access is severely limited in the Southern Region from the effects of heavy rains and the resulting riverine flooding. Notably, as of 18 March Chikwawa district is accessible via the M1 from Blantyre, but access remains extremely restricted in the southern portion of the district. Nsanje district remains inaccessible by road, with multiple severe road damages reported along the only major route in the district. Access on along secondary roads throughout the Southern Region remains extremely limited, hampering support from within the districts from reaching affected populations. In the Southeast, Chiradzulu district also remains inaccessible by road due to landslides and flooding along the major road. Phalombe and Mulanje districts have limited road access due to severe flooding. Major roads from Blantyre have reported flooding, landslides, and damages disrupting humanitarian supplies from reaching affected communities.

Needs:

- Air and boat support is urgently needed to support displaced communities in inaccessible areas. Nsanje, Chikwawa, Chiradzulu, Mulanje and Phalombe districts have extremely limited access due to the damages caused by flooding, resulting landslides, and areas that remain waterlogged.
- Fuel is urgently needed to support search and rescue efforts and to keep essential services functioning in hospitals and health facilities.

Response:

- Air transport has been activated to support urgent transportation of life-saving cargo and support search and rescue efforts in locations not accessible by road or river. Air transport services are anticipated have begun as of 18th March, 2023.

Gaps and Constraints:

- Funding gaps have restricted response efforts; funding is urgently needed to provide life-saving logistics support to partners supporting flood-affected communities.
- Access issues along major roads are causing extreme concern as search and rescue teams are unable to reach communities. Air support is urgently needed to provide support to affected communities.
- Fuel constraints in the affected communities continues to pose serious challenges to maintain essential services.



Health

Sector Lead: The Ministry of Health

Co-Lead: World Health Organization

Impact

Some of the heath facilities affected are as follows: Phalombe and Nkhulambe health centre;

Needs:

Response:

- WHO donated 4 ambulances to MOH and supported 2 ambualances with fuel for rapid response in Blantyre for the floods. It has supported the technical team from the Ministry of Health to participate in the EOC in Blantyre amounting to $12,781.93. Soon after the Disaster,
- WHO supported Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital with medical supplies for Accidents and Emergency Department. WHO has also donated 36 laptops to MOH to strengthen surveillance for emergencies.
- It has supported Blantyre DHO will fuel for 3 Ambulances to support ferrying of casualties from disaster areas. For continuity of services, WHO's Surge Team continues to work in cholera treatment to reduce cases and deaths.

Gaps & Constraints: No constraints so far

Search & Rescue

Sector Lead: The Ministry of Health

Co-Lead: World Health Organization

Updates: Search and rescue have recovered 10 corpses.

Response:

- 1,166 people have been rescued in Nsanje, 22 people in Mulanje, 9 people in Zomba.
- Air lifted non-food items and food items to the displaced HHs in Zomba, Chikwawa, Phalombe, Mulanje.
- Searching of bodies in Blantyre using sniffing dogs underway.
- Search and rescue teams from South Africa and UK have arrived and joined the MDF and Police in search and rescue operations.
- Drone search operation were done in Nsanje, Chikwawa, Chiradzulu, Blantyre.

Constraints:

Lack of equipment for detecting and extracting dead bodies.

Coordination

Sector Lead: Department of Disaster Management Affairs
Co-Lead: UN Resident Coordinator's Office

- The Government of Malawi is leading the response, through the Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA), with support from humanitarian partners, including NGOs, the UN Agencies and donors. The cluster system was activated and is actively working to coordinate the response.
- The National Disaster Preparedness and Relief Committee provides policy direction in the implementation of the disaster response plan. The Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) provides the platform for humanitarian partners to liaise and support Government in the provision of support to the affected people.
- WFP is supporting the cluster by housing the Emergency Operation Centre in its offices in Limbe and providing refreshments daily for all the officers operating from the EOC; light vehicles supporting mobility for the team currently conducting impact and needs assessment in the affected districts; IT and data entry services.

Immediate Needs

Cluster	Item
Shelter	Tarpaulin (4 x 6 m)
	Family tents/big tents
	Plastic Sheet
	Blankets
	Sleeping mats
Protection	Clothes
	Lighting lamps
	Dignity Kits
Health	Mosquito nets Mobile clinic services
NFIs	Plates
	Cups
	Pots

	Plastic plates
WASH	Mobile toilets
	Water treatment chemicals
	Soap
	Buckets
Food Security	Maize/ Maize Flour
	Corn Soya Blend
	Cooking Oil
	Pulses (beans, peas etc)
	Soya Pieces
	Dry Fish/ kapenta
	Sugar
	Salt