

# OPERATIONS UPDATE



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies  
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge  
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja  
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

## MOZAMBIQUE FLOODS AND CYCLONE

Emergency Appeal MDRMZ002

GLIDE no. FL-2006-000198-MOZ

28 August 2007

*The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 185 countries.*

### In Brief

Operations Update no. 5; Period covered: 1 June to 15 July 2007; Appeal coverage: 37%.

[Click here to go to the donor response report on the website](#)

#### Appeal history:

- [Preliminary Emergency Appeal](#) launched on 16 February 2007 for CHF 7,464,923 (USD 5,971,938 or EUR 4,524,196) in cash, kind or services, for 6 months to assist 100,000 beneficiaries (20,000 families).
- [Revised Emergency Appeal](#) launched on 14 March 2007 for CHF 20.6m (USD 16.9m or EUR 12.8m) in cash, kind or services for 6 months to assist 117,235 beneficiaries (23,447 families).
- **Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: CHF 187,000.**

**Outstanding needs: CHF 13,062,953 (USD 10,849,629 or EUR 7,916,941).**

**Operational Summary:** On the Mozambique Red Cross Society (CVM) day, 10 July, the National Society took the opportunity to review the floods and cyclone emergency response at a national volunteer youth camp. Volunteers involved in disaster preparedness and emergency response activities in flood and cyclone affected areas shared experiences, evaluated the operation and identified areas for strengthening CVM's overall disaster management capacity.

The recovery phase is continuing, although a lack of funding is restricting the capacity of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement to assist vulnerable populations as they rebuild their lives after the floods and cyclone. In many resettlement centres in flood-affected areas, communities are facing problems of accessing clean water and adequate sanitation.

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)-funded water and sanitation project aimed at improving access to drinking water and increasing awareness of hygiene practices is nearing completion. Ten boreholes are now complete and in use by communities. Establishment of community-based water committees to maintain the water points is under way.

*For longer-term programmes, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal for Mozambique (MAAMZ001).*



CVM, with funding from UNICEF, is constructing boreholes in resettlement areas to improve access to clean drinking water. So far, ten boreholes with hand pumps and concrete sanitary aprons have been completed.

## **Background**

In the first half of 2007, Mozambique faced a series of severe natural and manmade disasters. More than 160,000 people were displaced from their homes, leaving behind possessions, livestock and livelihoods as torrential rains and surplus water discharged from the Cahoba Bassa dam, along the Zambezi River, flooded central parts of the country. Displaced families were moved to temporary accommodation centres established by the government, with humanitarian agencies and other partners meeting basic needs of water, sanitation, food and shelter.

On 22 February 2007, a tropical cyclone “Favio” swept across Inhambane Province destroying homes, schools, hospitals and other infrastructure. More than 130,000 people were affected; government agencies and humanitarian partners put together resources to assist the survivors of the second natural disaster in two months. The capacity and resources of the government and partners were further stretched in March 2007, when explosions at an ammunitions depot in a Maputo suburb killed more than 100 people and left over 500 homeless.

## **Operational developments**

A cholera outbreak has been confirmed in Chemba district, one of the flood-affected areas; a total of 43 diarrhoeal cases have been recorded. The Ministry of Health (MoH) has sent additional medical personnel to deal with the situation and CVM volunteers are playing a crucial role at water points such as rivers and wells; they are using chlorine to treat all water collected so as to prevent possible contamination of water and water containers. CVM and the International Federation have also donated one cholera kit to MoH for use in the district. The local hospital has indicated that the situation is now under control.

Due to a significant seasonal rainfall deficit, southern and central parts of Mozambique are now experiencing lower than average agricultural production (down by 27 per cent from last year and 18.8 per cent lower than the five year average). The poor harvest is contributing to increased food insecurity in the region, where households are largely self subsistent.<sup>1</sup>



Many people are still living in tents after devastating floods destroyed houses and livelihoods in central and northern Mozambique at the beginning of 2007.

In the meantime, the situation in flood-affected areas is bleak. Most people have moved to resettlement sites identified by the government, but water and sanitation facilities are limited. Five months on from the disaster, the only shelters for many resettled people are weather worn tents that may not withstand the next rainy season. Majority of humanitarian agencies have left the affected areas. Rehabilitation has been delayed while families wait to receive materials for construction of new houses on higher and safer grounds.

CVM has developed a plan for rehabilitation in flood and cyclone affected areas. It focuses on supporting rehabilitation through provision of permanent WatSan and health facilities, support in constructing stronger disaster-resistant shelters as well as distributing seeds and tools. The plan also seeks to strengthen community disaster management capacities so to better prepared them to face future potential disasters.

With the emergency phase over, the Red Cross/Red Crescent intervention is now focusing on recovery and rehabilitation. However, donor response to the appeal has been slow; CVM and the Federation are thus renewing their request to donors to support the appeal so as to enable implementation of the rehabilitation phase as well as to cover costs incurred during the initial floods and cyclone emergency responses.

## **Red Cross and Red Crescent action - objectives, progress and impact**

**Objective 1 (Shelter and non food items): To provide temporary shelter and non food items to 23,447 families in Inhambane Province (cyclone affected areas) and Manica, Sofala, Tete and Zambezia provinces (flood-affected).**

<sup>1</sup> Source: Famine Early Warning System Network (FEWSNET)- <http://www.fews.net>

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### In flood affected areas

In total, the Red Cross has provided non-food relief items to approximately 58 per cent of people displaced by floods (18,000 families) in over half of the accommodation centres (35 of 65 centres). As from June to mid July, CVM volunteers distributed hygiene/dignity kits provided by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to 23,250 families. Each kit contains a toothbrush, toothpaste, sarongs, soap, sanitary pads, a t-shirt and a backpack.

Distributions were delayed due to late receipt of funds for distribution costs. In addition, some families included in the distribution plan moved from resettlement sites to low lying fertile areas. CVM had to conduct new beneficiary assessments and readjust its distribution plan to reflect this movement of beneficiaries. Distributions were to be finalized by the end of July 2007. Volunteers involved in the distribution explained to beneficiaries how to use sanitary pads; some beneficiaries complained that they do not have money to purchase more of the items.

**Table 1: Distribution plan for hygiene/dignity kits**

Province	District	Resettlement centres	No. of kits
Manica	Tambara	Sabeta, Campange	3,100
Tete	Mutarara	Cassambala, Jardim, Chirembue, Canhungue, Samarucha, Canga	15,500
Sofala	Caia	Nhamabalo 1, Nhamabalo 2, DAF, Gangala, Mfumo Domingos, Nhacazize, Zimbabwe, Tchetcha, Macruso, Sabuca, Mualeza, Mara	3,089
	Chemba	Ndango, Macanga	205
	Marromeu	Chupanga, Chiburiburi, Amambo	1,356
<b>Total</b>			<b>23,250</b>

CVM has completed distributions/pre-positioning of all non-food relief items received during the emergency operation. Items distributed in June and July 2007 include tents (provided by International Organization for Migration), mosquito nets (provided by the German Red Cross) soap and second hand clothes (from the CVM Maputo central warehouse and organized into family packs containing men's, women's and children's items) information materials (cholera, malaria prevention and mine awareness), tents and blankets.

**Table 2: Distribution of non-food items in flood affected areas (Manica, Sofala, Tete and Zambezia)**

Item description	Received	Distributed	Pre-positioned
Kitchen sets	19,296	13,146	1,153
Buckets	39,957	29,234	10,723
Blankets	52,825	32,799	4,772
Soap (laundry and personal)	583,319	582,835	493
Jerry cans	30,961	25,043	5,970
Sleeping mats	33,685	32,112	1,573
Tarpaulins/ plastic sheeting	23,904	19,224	1,500
Shelter kits	12,975	12,925	50
Mosquito nets	16,055	13,409	4
Tents	3,617	1,226	89
Water maker	1,018,000	373,621	0
Certeza	29,000	8,893	0
ORS	8,080	5,620	0
Boats (with engines)	2	1	0
Torches	94	10	4
Sarongs	570	0	0
Clothes (used)	2,005	1,649	0
Hygiene kits	22,754	22,469	285

**Table 3: Distribution of non-food items in cyclone affected areas (Inhambane Province)**

<b>Item description</b>	<b>Quantity received</b>	<b>Total distributed</b>
Bucket plastics	14,952	14,952
Blankets	13,556	13,556
Jerry cans	6,270	6,270
Kitchen sets	6,747	6,728
Mosquito nets	13,250	13,250
Sleeping mats	12,163	12,163
Tarpaulins/ plastic sheeting	5,416	5,412
Water purification tablets	15,000	15,000
Soap (laundry)	13,109	12,929
Shelter kits	3,582	3,582
Family kits	500	500

### **In cyclone affected areas**

By the beginning of May 2007, distribution of non-food relief items in cyclone affected Inhambane Province had been completed. Distributions were carried out by CVM in cooperation with the Spanish Red Cross, and targeted 6,338 families (31,675 individuals). Beneficiary selection criteria prioritized communities and settlements in remote areas – Govuro, Inhassoro, Vilanculos and Massinga districts – that had not received assistance from the government or other humanitarian actors. Since the majority of families affected by the cyclone were able to salvage some of their belongings from their damaged houses, the distributions were intended to complement and improve existing living conditions.

### **Explosions in Maputo**

CVM also provided additional support to families affected by explosions at an ammunition depot in a Maputo suburb in March 2007. Items distributed included hygiene products, blankets, school items and clothes collected through the National Solidarity Campaign or donated by UNFPA.

**Objective 2 (Recovery, rehabilitation and restoration of livelihoods): To provide support to families for their resettlement through rehabilitation of shelter (through shelter tool kits) and livelihood activities.**

### **Shelter kits**

A total of 12,925 kits have so far been distributed (one kit per family) in flood-affected areas as indicated in Table 2 above. Each kit contains one machete, 20m rope, 20m wire and one pair of pliers. The original distribution plan was revised to reflect needs in accommodation centres/resettlement sites after some families moved back to the sites of their original flooded homes.

In the cyclone-affected Inhambane Province, 3,582 kits were distributed. Each kit contains 20m wire, one hammer, one machete, two hoes, a pair of pliers and 2kg of nails.

### **Zinc sheets, bags of cement and blankets**

The South African Red Cross Society, with funding from Vodacom, has acquired 1,062 zinc sheets, 3,062 bags of cement and 2,400 blankets for support to cyclone affected families. However, these items are still in South Africa while negotiations continue with the Government of Mozambique to allow them to enter Mozambique duty free. In the initial stages of the relief operation, relief items imported into Mozambique for the flood and cyclone operations were tax-exempted.

### **Livelihoods support**

In Inhambane Province, CVM plans to support 1,360 families with distribution of vegetable seed kits, beans and cassava. An additional 2,500 families will be supported with distribution of 7,500 seedlings of fruit and other trees. No progress has been made so far, though, due to a lack of funding.

**Capacity building in flood and cyclone resistant housing**

CVM plans to increase its capacity to support construction of cyclone and flood resistant housing through development of relevant training materials, training of volunteers and skilled workers, and construction of ‘model’ houses to demonstrate appropriate construction techniques at the community level. CVM has been working in consultation with the Federation’s shelter department in Geneva on development of these activities. At the beginning of June 2007, a representative from the shelter department visited Mozambique to support development of project activities.

A consultant is working on the design of two model houses; one using only traditional materials, and the other combining traditional materials with concrete and zinc sheeting. Once completed, the design will be used by 60 volunteers (20 per district, in Inhassoro, Govuro and Vilanculos districts of cyclone affected Inhambane Province) and 15 professionals (carpenters, masons and builders – five per district) to construct two model houses in each district. The construction of the two types of housing will be photographed and documented, and used to produce training materials for volunteers to raise awareness about techniques involved in building cyclone resistant houses. CVM and the Federation shared experiences with Care International, also working in Inhambane Province, on best practice for construction of safer housing.

**Objective 3 (Health and care): To provide community based health and basic health care to 23,447 families in the floods and cyclone affected areas.**

At the beginning of July 2007, CVM formally donated the following materials to the Ministry of Health for use in the flood-affected areas:

- Four inter-agency emergency health kits (IEHKs), including basic and supplementary units. The basic unit contains essential medicines and medical equipment for primary health care workers with limited training. The supplementary unit contains medicines and medical equipment for a population of 10,000 and is for use only by professional health workers or physicians;
- Four cholera kits – CVM has agreed with the Ministry of Health that cholera kits can be used by CVM volunteers in resettlement areas, at first aid posts or be stored in case of cholera outbreak in the country. One kit has already been sent to Chemba where a cholera outbreak has been reported;
- 2,600 clean delivery kits for women post partum.

The donated items (apart from the cholera kit already in Chemba) are currently at the CVM transitional warehouse in Beira and will be handed over to the Ministry of Health shortly.

**Community-based health care and First Aid**

Throughout June 2007, 331 volunteers – 33 in Tambara (Manica), 90 in Mutarara (Tete), 136 in Mopeia and Morumbala (Zambézia) and 72 in Caia, Chemba and Marromeu (Sofala) – continued to provide basic health care and promoting hygienic practices in flood-affected areas through first aid posts and house-to-house visits. Activities to improve health of displaced communities included health education sessions and treatment/diagnosis of the most common health problems (diarrhoea, respiratory infections and conjunctivitis) during house-to-house visits and at the first aid posts. The total number of active volunteers was expected to reduce by the end of July 2007.

**Cholera**

The Ministry of Health reported 43 diarrhoeal/suspected cholera cases in Chemba district as of mid-July 2007. Additional health personnel have been positioned at the Chemba hospital. CVM is working closely with MoH to contain the outbreak; according to local health officials, the situation is now under control. CVM has positioned sensitizers at all water collection points in the area, such



CVM volunteers are stationed at rivers, wells and other water collection points to distribute chlorine so as to prevent the spread of cholera in Chemba district.

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as rivers and wells, to alert communities of the situation, to raise awareness of cholera prevention, and to chlorinate water as it is collected by local communities. As mentioned earlier, CVM has handed over a cholera kit to MoH for use in Chemba.

### Basic Health Care unit

Further support to improve access to health care in the Vilanculos area includes the Norwegian Red Cross-funded rehabilitation of health centres and health education for CVM volunteers. A consultant is currently working on designs and cost estimates for reconstruction of part of the damaged health centre in Vilanculos.

**Objective 4 (Water and sanitation and hygiene promotion): To ensure community access to adequate safe and clean water as well as sanitation facilities and hygiene promotion to 9,000 families in floods and cyclone affected provinces, meeting SPHERE minimum standards.**

### Water Supply

The Mozambique Red Cross Society started the construction of 15 boreholes in Sofala Province. So far, ten boreholes, which have been funded by UNICEF, have been drilled in Caia; nine of the boreholes were positive and with quality drinking water while one borehole was negative with very high salinity. The boreholes have been equipped with hand pumps and concrete sanitary aprons. The remaining five boreholes will be drilled in Chuburiburi, Marromeu (three boreholes) and Chemba (two boreholes).

**Table 4: Location and number of boreholes completed**

Location	Number of boreholes constructed	Status
Rainha Zimbabwe	1	Positive
DAF	1	Positive
Chirimba 11	1	Positive
Chandimba	1	Positive
Chipuazo	1	Positive
Marra	1	Negative
Nhambalo	1	Positive
Mfumo Domingo	1	Positive
Tche-Tcha	2	Positive
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	

### Hygiene promotion

Volunteers trained in Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) continued to conduct hygiene promotion campaigns, including house-to-house visits, group sessions, treatment of water and construction of latrines and garbage sites. In general, hygiene levels have significantly improved in all resettlement sites where the Red Cross is operational.

### Water production

This activity was completed. For information on water treatment and distribution, please refer to Operations Update no. 3 available on the Federation website at page: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/07/MDRMZ00203.pdf>.

**Objective 5 (Institutional development and disaster preparedness): To have appropriate and sustainable organisational structures at provincial and branch levels, with equipment and training to improve the CVM capacity in disaster management.**

The CVM action plan for floods and cyclone response outlines activities aimed at attaining the following: increasing awareness and capacity to implement early warning systems (EWS); pre-positioning disaster relief stocks for use in future potential emergencies; improving infrastructure (repair of cyclone damaged buildings, rehabilitation of strategically located warehouses and construction of a regional operational base in Caia); improving the existing communication and transport system; and increasing overall capacity through sharing of lessons learned, on-the-job training in report writing, national disaster response team (RDRT) training, experience exchange activities as well as documentation and dissemination of information materials on good practices and lessons learned.

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Due to a lack of funding, activities have been largely been restricted to distribution of shelter kits and other non-food relief items. Exposure to disaster and direct involvement in the emergency response has expanded the skills base and knowledge of those involved and allowed RDRT members to put into practice skills learnt in training sessions. It has also given the CVM the opportunity to review its disaster response strengths and weaknesses. At the beginning of July 2007, the National Society organized a lessons learnt workshop as part of a national youth volunteer camp to celebrate the Mozambique Red Cross Society day. The event brought together ten of the most active volunteers from each province of Mozambique. Volunteers participated in the 10 July celebratory activities, including theatre, musical performances, and received certificates in recognition of their dedication and hard work. The camp also provided a venue for volunteers to exchange experiences of their involvement in recent disaster response activities, to review the operation in terms of volunteer management, to share lessons learnt from previous disasters and used in this emergency, and to identify ways to improve on DM in future.

In June 2007, lessons learnt from the Mozambique EWS were shared through a case study at the Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in Geneva. The case study highlights the important role of DM committees in alerting communities about the approaching natural disaster and the positive impact of the EWS in terms of lives saved. The EWS is also used in target communities included in the DRR programme.

CVM planned to further capitalize on the recent disaster response experience by carrying out lessons learnt workshops within August 2007 and looking into internal protocols in emergency situations (designed during the Contingency Planning workshop held in 2006), and verifying how useful these protocols were during the emergencies in 2007. In addition, the National Society will seek to build on the positive image of the Red Cross established during this period and strengthen its existing relationship with the National Disaster Management Institute (INGC) and other government agencies. CVM will also encourage further integration of its community-based DM approach into a National Disaster Management Strategy.

### **Logistics**

In mid-July 2007, the second warehouse used to store non-food relief items in Caia was handed back to the World Food Programme (WFP); the first warehouse had been handed back on 30 June 2007. To maintain pre-existing disaster preparedness capacity, CVM is also replenishing its non-food relief item stocks (including blankets, tarpaulins and used clothes, kitchen sets, buckets, jerry cans, sleeping mats, plastic sheeting and family tents) which were used during the emergency phase. The replenishment is supported by the Belgian, Spanish and British Red Cross societies and the Federation.

CVM and the Federation spent June and much of July 2007 dispatching non-food relief items to beneficiaries and pre-positioning stocks in strategically located warehouses across Mozambique, according to a plan drawn up by the CVM logistics department. It was decided not to send stocks to Nampula due to the poor condition of the warehouse there.

An inventory list of equipment left over from the Emergency Response Units (ERUs) and the base camp operational during the emergency phase in Caia has been drawn up. These items will be handed over to CVM for use at district offices in the flood-affected areas.

### **Humanitarian Values**

From June to mid July 2007, CVM continued to provide weekly updates to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) about the political, social and economic situation in Mozambique. Public awareness of Red Cross and its role/activities in Mozambique were highlighted through one newsletter (in Portuguese), two programmes on the national radio and an operations update on the floods and cyclone response. Celebration of the Mozambique Red Cross Society day took place on 10 July 2007. Activities included presentation of certificates and t-shirts to the most active volunteers from each province at a national youth volunteer camp held in Mopeia. The event also included a lessons learnt workshop to review the floods and cyclone emergency operation.

During the reporting period, a number of international partners visited the floods and cyclone operational areas as well as other Red Cross projects. The partners included the head for Southern Africa at the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs (which financed distributions of emergency relief items) and representatives of the Luxemburg and Austrian Red Cross societies.

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### Coordination

CVM and the Federation continue to attend the WatSan cluster meetings in Caia, headed by UNICEF and including all humanitarian actors and government agencies involved in WatSan interventions. The WatSan cluster is ensuring a coordinated approach to cover water and sanitation needs of populations in temporary accommodation centres as well as of people in permanent resettlement sites.

During the operation, regular meetings and updates were held at the field level and at the central level in Maputo to coordinate activities of various organizations. The Spanish Red Cross and CVM adapted their distribution plan and lists of items for distribution in response to relief distributions conducted by other organizations and the changing needs on the ground.

### How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the *Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief* and is committed to the *Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere)* in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

#### The Federation's Global Agenda

The International Federation's activities are aligned with under a Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

#### Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

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