

Malawi: Tropical Cyclone Freddy

Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA)

Situation Report No 2

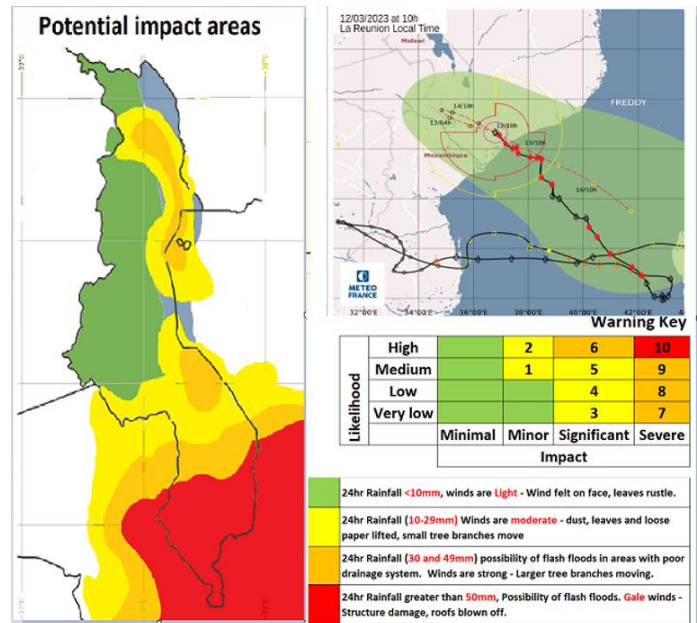
(As of 13 March 2023)



This Situation Report is produced by the Malawi Department of Disaster Management Affairs. The Report will be issued daily starting from 13th March 2023.

Highlights

- As of 13th March 2023, the Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services (DCCMS) reported that Cyclone Freddy had its centre (eye) over Nsanje last night and morning today. At 14:00 hours pm this afternoon Cyclone Freddy had weakened and continues to track in a general northwesterly direction, with a localized centre/eye near the border between Mozambique and Nsanje district.
- The Tropical Cyclone Freddy will continue to cause torrential rains associated with gusty and strong winds in most parts of Southern Malawi districts until Tuesday evening, 14th March, 2023
- Rainfall accumulations over southern Malawi could reach 400mm to 500mm over a space of 72 hours.
- Search and rescue efforts are continuing in Nsanje, Chikwawa, Mulanje, Phalombe and Blantyre districts
- Floods have been reported in Nsanje, Chikwawa, Blantyre, Mulanje, Phalombe and Zomba districts, displacing 4,292 households in all the districts.
- At least 111 people have died in Nsanje, Chikwawa, Thyolo, Chiradzulu, Mulanje, and Blantyre district. Blantyre has reported the highest number at 98
- Public infrastructure such as schools, health facilities and roads have been damaged in some of the affected districts.
- Government and partners are providing relief assistance to the affected districts



Situation Overview

As of 13th March, 2023, DCCMS indicated that the Tropical Cyclone Freddy will continue to cause torrential rains associated with gusty and strong winds in most parts of Southern Malawi districts. Rainfall accumulation that could reach between 300mm and 400mm in 48hrs over southern Malawi is expected. The wind intensity will gust to around 80km per hour in some areas. Therefore, the threat of damaging winds and heavy flooding remains very high.

Weather models are projecting that Cyclone Freddy will recurve into Mozambique channel later in the week, but at a very weakened stage. The cyclone is likely to die when it enters the Mozambique channel.

Some of the notable 24-hour rainfall figures reported today at 8:00am include 291.1mm from Bvumbwe-Thyolo, 268.6mm Chichiri -Blantyre, 261.0mm Chatha-Blantyre, 263.1mm Chididi-Nsanje, 210.6mm Fatima-Nsanje, 199.0mm Phalombe, 185.0mm Makhanga-Nsanje, 135.5mm Lurwe-Nsanje, 127.2mm Malosa-Zomba, 99mm Machinga.

Today, 13th March, 2023, Councils have reported incidences of flooding, strong winds and mudslides that have displaced over 4,000 households translating to approximately 19,000 people in Nsanje, Chikwawa, Phalombe, Mulanje, Blantyre, Thyolo, Chiradzulu and Blantyre City. 45 camps have been established. So far, 111 people have died of which 85 have died due to mudslides in Chilobwe township in Blantyre district while 153 people have sustained various injuries. 134 of the injured people are currently receiving treatment at Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital. All the Councils are currently conducting rapid assessment to establish the number of households affected by the cyclone.

COUNCIL	HHS DISPLACED	POPULATION DISPLACED	DEATH	INJURIES	MISSING	CAMPS	
Nsanje	1,300	5,850	6			6	
Chikwawa	1,112	5,004	1	3		5	
Mulanje	813	3,659	1	6		11	
Zomba Distric	Data not available						
Zomba city							
Blantyre City and District	366	1,647	98	134	16	4	
Thyolo	531	2,390	3	5		5	
Chiradzulu	170	765	2	2			
Neno	Data not available						
Mwanza	Data not available						
Phalombe	Data not available				3		14
Total	4,292	19,314	111	153	16	45	

All affected districts are still receiving moderate to heavy rainfall and also experiencing moderate winds. Most of the rivers in the affected districts are still flooding and are likely to displace more people especially in Nsanje, Chikwawa, Phalombe, Mulanje and Blantyre districts. Public infrastructure such as school and hospital facilities have been flooded and damaged while roads and bridges in the above districts are washed away and cut-off.

Blantyre

Has recorded 98 deaths (85 in Chilobwe, 9 in Ndirande and 4 in Machinjiri). 134 people have sustained various injuries and are currently receiving treatment at Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital. 4 camps have been set up at Naotcha primary, Manja, Kapeni and Greencorner.

Nsanje

The water levels in the flooded Makhanga and Nchacha James still remains and are gradually increasing. Currently 6 camps have been commissioned hosting 1,300 households. 3 camps in T/A Mlolo namely Osiyana, Mkweza and M'bwazi Evacuation Centre. While in the west bank, 2 camps in T/A Chomombo namely, Meza and Kuchene; and motol engil camp. Further, Search and Rescue still ongoing.

Chikwawa

Recorded 1 death, 3 enjuries in TA makhuwira, 5 camps have been commissioned with 1,112 households; namely Jombo, Grain Bank Lundu, Kasambwe, Nkhwazi, and Chikuse camps. Some houses in TAs like Masache and Ngowe are collapsing due to moisture. There is risk of road cut off between Kamuzu bridge to Thabwa if rains continue up land district of Blantyre due to flooding of Likhubula river. The district is likely to have more number of displaced people as the district continue receiving more rains.

Mulanje

All the TAs have been affected. Currently, the council has recorded 6 injuries and 1 death. 11 camps have been commissioned, of which 6 camps are in TA Nkanda, 2 in TA Nanda, 3 in TA Njema. 10 of the 11 camps are in schools. Assessment underway to establish number of IDPs in the camps.

Phalombe

Affected TAs include Nazombe, Jenala, Kaduya, Chiwalo, Chiwalo, Namasoko, Mkhumba, Phweremwe, Nkhulambe. 14 camps have been established; 8 in TA Nkhumba, 4 in TA Jenala, 1 in TA Kaduya and 1 in TA Chiwalo. The council has recorded 3 injuries. In terms of infrastructure damage; schools have been affected i.e. Bona and Malambwe; roads damaged as follows: Chiringa to Muloza roads impassable, Phalombe to Chiradzulo road not passable, Nampinga to Phaloni (Mpoto Lagoon) not passable-the bridge is damaged. Phalombe can only be accessible via Chiradzulo from Blantyre. The council still requires search and rescue.

Chiradzulu

There is no major impact recorded so far. However, 2 people have died whilst 2 other people have sustained injuries. Likoswe, Mpama 1 &2, and Sandram are the only affected TAs.

Mwanza

Still receiving the rains. Road to Thambani partly damaged. Threat of more damage to houses is high if it continues raining.

Neno

The council is still receiving moderate rains in all the TAs. Some areas are not accessible due to flooding, for instance, Matope area in TA Symon where patients' referrals from Matope Health Centre to Lisungwi rural hospital is suspended and Luwani, Nsambe and Dame health centres are not accessible due damaged bridges. Although there are reports of damaged houses, there are no reports of displaced people. No deaths and injuries have been reported so far.

Thyolo

Affected TAs are Mpenda, Changaya, Mbawera, Nsabwe, Nchiramwera, and Khwethemule. A total of 531 households have been affected of which 121 are displaced and living in 5 camps which have been set. 3 people have died while 5 have sustained various injuries. Meanwhile, the district council is conducting assessment for detailed a report on the extent of damage.

Humanitarian Response

Provision of humanitarian response supplies is currently underway in all the affected districts. Government through DoDMA has dispatched maize, maize flour, beans, soya pieces, blankets and jerry cans to all the affected districts to support the displaced people. Malawi Red Cross Society has supported displaced people in Blantyre with blankets, tarpaulins, solar lamps and plastic pails while Kamuzu university of Health Sciences has provided fuel for ambulances supporting the search and rescue in Blantyre district.

Search and rescue services are being conducted in Blantyre, Phalombe, Chikwawa, Nsanje, Mulanje and Zomba districts where search and rescue teams comprising the MDF, Malawi Police Service, Marine department and Malawi Red Cross Society have been deployed. As at 13th March, the team in collaboration with community members has retrieved 111 dead bodies in Nsanje, Chikwawa, Mulanje, Blantyre, Thyolo and Chiradzulu. The highest number of dead bodies have been retrieved today.

DoDMA has mobilized a national interagency assessment team to support the councils with assessment to established the total number of affected and their immediate needs.

Immediate Needs

Internally living in camps in all the affected districts require immediate support as below;

Cluster	Item
Shelter	Tarpaulin (4 x 6 m)
	Family tents/big tents
	Plastic Sheet
	Blankets
	Sleeping mats
	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

General Coordination

The humanitarian response in Malawi is led and coordinated by the Government through the Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA) and related emergency coordination mechanisms referred to as clusters. A national Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) has been established in Blantyre on 11th March, to facilitate coordination of preparedness and response interventions.

Through the EOC, DoDMA and humanitarian partners continue to mobilise resources and hold regular virtual coordination meetings with districts at risk, to access information that will inform further interventions. Councils, through the District/ City Civil Protection Committees (DCPC/ CCPC), provide situational updates to the EOC from the information provided by Area, Ward and Village Civil Protection Committees (ACPCs, WCPCs and VCPCs), which are the structures responsible for disaster risk management programmes at traditional authority, ward and group village levels. All councils at risk have activated sectoral working groups (clusters) with Chikwawa and Nsanje Districts specifically setting up EOCs for enhanced coordination.