



MALAWI: TROPICAL CYCLONE FREDDY

Department of Disaster Management Affairs

Situation report - 8

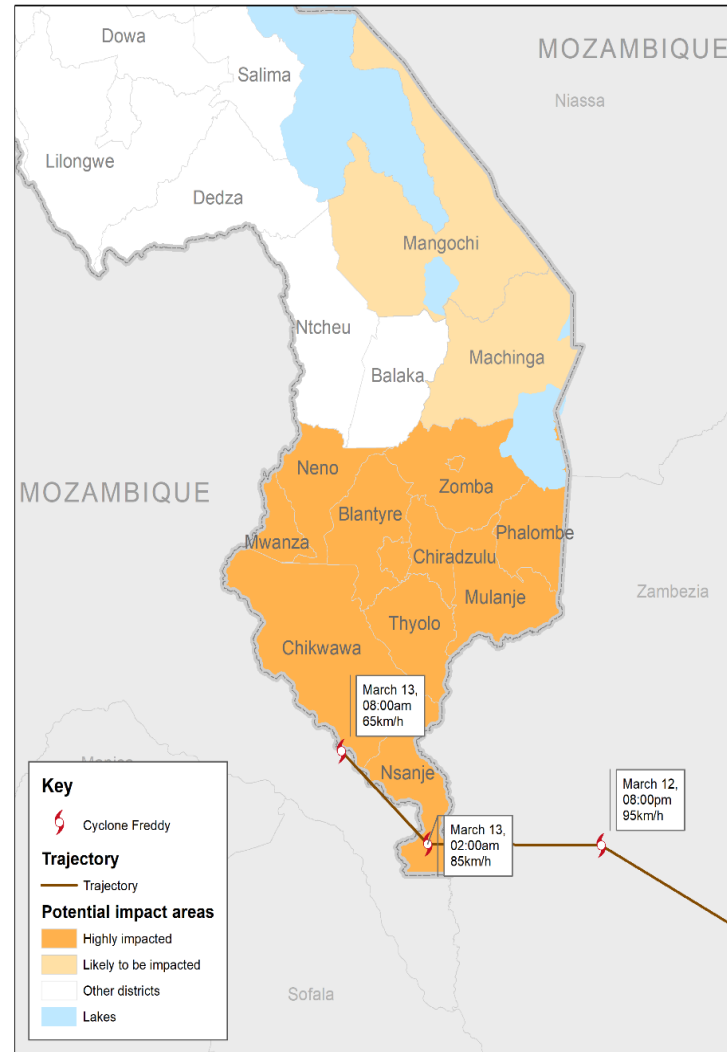
21-22/03/2023

The Malawi Government produces this Situation Report through the Department of Disaster Management Affairs.

HIGHLIGHTS

- On 13th March, a state of disaster was declared in the 14 districts that were severely affected by the cyclone.
- Search and rescue of people is continuing in Nsanje and Phalombe districts where people are still believed to be trapped.
- As of today, 22nd March, 2023, the number of displaced households has increased from 114,637 to 126,215 while 511 people have died, 533 are missing.
- Of all the public infrastructure, the road infrastructure is the worst affected followed by schools and health facilities.
- Using the helicopters from Tanzania, Zambia and Malawi Defense Force, people in areas that have been cut-off and only accessible by air are now receiving relief supplies and services
- 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 **563,602 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)** who are currently residing in 576 camps set up for those who have lost their homes and belongings.

AFFECTED DISTRICTS



Sources: Humanitarian Data Exchange (HDX); Boundaries: National Statistics 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

KEY STATS

Displaced Households

126,215

Displaced People

563,602

Deaths

511

Missing

533

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 will continue experiencing normal rainy conditions up to the end of the season.

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.

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. On 15th March 2023, the President also declared 14 days of mourning. 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 continue to make both cash and in-kind donations towards the people affected by the disaster.

Households displaced by strong winds, floods and mudslides caused by the cyclone are now 126,215 translating to approximately 563,602 people in Nsanje, Chikwawa, Phalombe, Mulanje, Blantyre, Thyolo, Chiradzulu, Blantyre City, Mangochi, Machinga, and Balaka districts. A total of 576 camps have been established. So far, 511 people have died, while 1,066 have sustained various injuries. The table below summarizes impact of the cyclone by district:

District	Displaced Households	Displaced People	No. of Camps	No. of Injuries	Total Deaths	Missing
Balaka	167	807	4	31	1	0
Blantyre	13,510	60,797	26	433	212	75
Chikwawa	22,258	90,232	38	40	26	5
Chiradzulu	1,687	7,592	40	164	16	0
Machinga	4,709	22,260	37	33	2	0
Mangochi	3,056	13,752	37	117	6	1
Mulanje	18,122	81,549	129	147	150	219
Mwanza	287	1292	0	3	0	0
Neno	139	626	0	3	1	0
Nsanje	32,416	145,870	62	12	13	15
Phalombe	17,223	77,504	104	56	59	211
Thyolo	2,780	12,510	48	5	16	0
Zomba	9,662	48,309	46	16	6	7
Zomba City	145	260	5	6	3	0
Ntcheu	54	243	0	0	0	0

Grand Total	126,215	563,602	576	1,066	511	533
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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. However, people in areas that have been cut-off and are only accessible by air, such as, Mulanje – Limbuli and Mulodza in Mulanje; Nkhulambe, Jenala and Kaduya in Phalombe; and Makhanga in the East Bank of Nsanje district are now being supplied life-saving relief items including food and mobile clinic services. The relief supplies and services are being air lifted to the cut-off areas using the helicopters from Tanzania, Zambia and Malawi Defense Force. WFP has brought in another helicopter that will support in the delivery of relief items to areas that only accessible by air.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE



Shelter, Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Sector Lead: The Ministry of Lands

Co-Lead: Malawi Red Cross Society (MRCS)

Impact: More than 500,000 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) who are currently residing in one of the over 550 camps set up for those who have lost their homes and belongings.

Response:

- Save the children distributed 476 Blankets, 4 Bales of Clothes to children, 3 Bales Shoes for Children Shoes, 32 pots, 483 Spoons, 527 Plates and 492 Cups, at Chilangoma, Anglican church camp and Kachere CBCC (Mkata Resident) Camp in Blantyre.
- FCB and Press Corporation through MRCS – distributed 485 blankets, 240 cups, 240 plates and 365 buckets in Chiradzulo, Phalombe, and Chikwawa.
- ENCO has distributed 716 blankets and 716 buckets to camps in Phalombe.

Gaps & Constraints:

- No readily available shelter materials, for instance, big and family tents, housing units, tarpaulins or plastic sheets.
- 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.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Sector Lead: The Ministry of Water and Sanitation

Co-Lead: United Nations Children's Fund

Impact: An estimated total of 1,008,976 have been affected, who are in urgent need of improved access to clean and safe WASH services.

Needs:

- HTH Chlorine, Water Guards/AquaTabs, chlorine test kits, and Microbiological water quality testing kit sets
- Water trucking - Water bowsers and related logistics (fuel & allowances), storage tanks, and complete set of Bladders.
- Emergency toilets (movable or/and temporary structures), bathing units and waste bins.
- WASH NFIs – soaps, buckets, cleaning materials (brooms, mops, etc), tarpaulins, disinfection materials, PPEs, and IEC materials.
- Sanitation and hygiene promotion including hand washing facilities and menstrual hygiene packages.

Response:

- Blantyre

Blantyre District Health Office (DHO), Water for People, Friends of Ndirande, Lilongwe Water Board and Macsteel have distributed WASH non-food items (NFIs) in 19 Camps. The NFI items include: 308 Basins, 700 Buckets with Taps, 1197 Buckets Without Taps, 106 HTH Chlorine, Installation/ rehabilitation of 35 temporary sanitation facilities equipped with handwashing, 1,230 Sanitary pad, 5300 Soap-Tablet, one Water storage Tank, 80 Water treatment chemicals (waterguard) and 200 Water treatment chemicals (aquatabs).

Save the children distributed 3,3600 tablets of U-Fresh Soap, 40 buckets of 15kgs HTH Chlorine, 5 liters of Liquid Chlorine, 240 bottles of Water guard, 155 Buckets with taps, 25 Buckets with taps, 343 Buckets without taps and 251 basins at Mwanza DHO and DEM offices, Chilongoma, Anglican and Kachere Camps.

- Blantyre City

Water for People through Blantyre City Assembly, Macsteel, UNICEF partner MRCS and TEVETA have distributed WASH NFI items in 10 Camps. The NFI items include: 202 Buckets with taps, 10 Buckets Without Taps, six Construction of Emergency bath shelter facilities, 5 (25kg) HTH Chlorine, Installation/ rehabilitation of 4 temporary sanitation facilities equipped with handwashing, 70 Sanitary pads, 75 Soap-Tablet, two Water storage Tanks, 276 Water treatment chemicals (aquatabs).

Welthungerhilfe (WHH) in partnership with Waste Advisers is planning to support Blantyre urban with WASH activities (Water Supply, sanitation, hygiene promotion) in selected camps.

- Chikwawa

United Purpose/Self Help Africa UNICEF partner has distributed WASH NFI items in one Camp. The NFI items include Group/Community/Mobile hygiene and sanitation promotion reaching 6352 people, four Installation/ rehabilitation of temporary sanitation facilities equipped with handwashing, 1094 WASH Hygiene Kits, Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance to one water source, and water quality testing with chlorine tests kits in 10 water sources.

- Nsanje, Mulanje, Phalombe

CARE and OXFAM is planning to distribute WASH NFI items in selected camps. The NFI items to be implemented include Buckets Without Taps, Distribution of Cholera and Hygiene IEC Materials, Group/Community/Mobile hygiene and sanitation promotion, Handwashing/ Body Soap, Sanitary pads, Water treatment chemicals (waterguard).

- Mwanza

Save the Children distributed WASH NFI items through the DHO and DEM's office. The NFI items to be implemented include 2700 tablets of U-Fresh Soap, 40 tins of 15kgs of HTH Chlorine, 5L of Liquid Chlorine, 160 Water guards and 130 Buckets with taps, 120 Buckets without taps.

Gaps and Constraints:

- Many camps are congested; lack of lighting in the WASH facilities (some people are comfortable to use the facilities at night); and lack of waste management systems (bins, brooms, etc).
- WASH supplies – the need is too high
- Huge number of camps (over 500), which create huge logistical challenges in the many districts; the districts and partners are overstretched.
- Lack of accessibility - some areas/camps need airlifting for WASH supplies



Education

Sector Lead: The Ministry of Education (MoE)

Co-Lead: UNICEF; Save the Children

Impact: At least 484 primary schools, 63 secondary schools have so far been affected, from 15 Education districts. 762 classrooms are occupied by IDPs. At least 273,388 learners (130,980 boys and 142,408 girls) have been affected, of which 44,256 are adolescents and 3,656 are learners with disabilities. At least 586

teachers (374 males, 212 females) have been affected. Unfortunately, 22 learners (18 boys, 4 girls) and 1 Female teacher have lost their lives. 390 schools are used as IDPs camps.

Needs:

1. Safe temporary learning spaces, recreational, and TLMs,
2. Hygiene Promotion including distribution of WASH supplies, School Safety and Psychosocial Support,
3. Emergency School Feeding.

Response:

- Preposition (to Blantyre warehouse) of TLMs and temporary safe learning spaces (198 school in a box, 18 classroom tents, 90 recreation kits, 70 ECD kits, 347 portable blackboards).
- Emergency School Feeding (40MT worth MWK35 Million) MM.
- Airing of education radio programmes and classes

Gaps and Constraints:

- Inaccessibility of some schools due to impassable roads and flooded rivers.
- Communication challenges due to poor network, connectivity and power outages.
- Lack of capacity to timely respond by some districts (financing, vehicles).
- Insufficient WASH supplies in schools exacerbated by influx of IDPs
- Insufficient financial resources to meet all needs



Agriculture

Cluster Lead: Ministry of Agriculture

Co-Lead: Food and Agricultural Organization

Impact: The cyclone has damaged and washed away an **estimated** area of 34,517 Ha of crop land as follows:

ADD/District	Cropland Affected (HA)	Comment
Blantyre ADD (Thyolo, Mulanje, Blantyre, Phalombe, Mwanza, Neno, and Blantyre districts).	10,445	The Geospatial assessment only captured flooded fields and technically excludes flash floods or wash-aways. The figures are likely to go up after physical assessments.
Shire Valley ADD (Chikwawa, Nsanje Districts)	22,424	
Machinga ADD (Balaka, Machinga, Mangochi, Zomba).	1,648	
TOTAL	34,517	

Needs: There is immediate need to intensify irrigation and winter production activities through distribution of farm inputs (seeds, fertilizer and assorted portable irrigation equipment) and cash plus activities to restore livelihoods.



Protection

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

Co-Lead: UNICEF

Impact:

- Closure of school rendering Adolescent girls more vulnerable to teenage pregnancies and child marriages
- Overcrowding of displaced women, adolescent girls, and children in shelters has increased the risk of sexual violence and limitations for privacy for response interventions and disruption of protection services children's safe spaces amplified by overstretched protection services
- Mass mental trauma of families, communities and children, including frontline workers experiencing Vicarious Trauma
- High risk of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse due to displacement and of sudden increase responders deployed for immediate assistance in these communities
- Separation and orphaned children in camps and high risks of trafficking of women, adolescent girls and children due to limited registration capacities in camps and increased risks of displaced post-natal women's that are discharged from hospital/health centers
- Loss of dignity of women and girls, limiting involvement in relief interventions included WASH facilities (bathrooms) that are not women friendly due to drainage issue (menstrual Hygiene) including disposal of sanitary towels

Needs:

- Blankets and space for post- natal women and health assistance at evacuation camps
- Fast tracking Mental Health and Psychosocial services in the evacuation camps and the affected districts including those displaced, as well as frontline workers who experience work related trauma exposure (Vicarious Trauma)
- Strengthen the GBV referral services to link to the evacuation camps
- Clothes and dignity kits for women, adolescent girls, children and elderly and safe spaces for women and children
- PSEA awareness among duty bearers and rights holders
- Security provisions in camps such as lighting and Community Policing Forms

Response:

- Save the Children distributed Spoons (483), Plates (527), Cups (492), Blankets (476), Clothes to children (4 bales), Shoes for Children (3 bale), Pots (44) to chilangoma and Kachere camps in Blantyre.
- Security Assessment and Awareness in IDP Camps on VAC and GBV meeting in Camps in Blantyre, Phalombe, Mulanje, Zomba, Nsanje, Chikwawa and Chiradzulu (UNICEF, MPS and WorldVision)
- 120 women and 600 (235 boys and 365 girls) received the Psychological First Aid in Blantyre (MRC, MOGCDSW, UNICEF)
- Reorientation of 36 CPWs deployed and 6 supervisors to affected districts to increase staffing level of the DSW Office and provide child protection case management and MHPSS (PFA and general PSS, PSEA and GBV safety Audits) (UNICEF, MOGCDSW, UNFPA)
- Community based child care center and CC (CBCCs) have started operations in camps (MoGCDSW)
- Social workers and Red Cross volunteers have started providing psychosocial support in camps (UNICEF, Save, MRC, MoGCDSW)
- Deployed 6 complaint boxes to report VAC, GBV and PSEA in camps in Phalombe, Blantyre and Chiradzulu - (UNICEF, MPS and WorldVision)
- Provision of safe spaces, GBV prevention and PSEA messages are intensified in the camps for women and girls in the districts of Nsanje, Chikwawa, Mulanje and Blantyre. Commenced referral pathways mapping and strengthened for continuity of GBV and SRHR services to the survivors (UNFPA)
- 1,000 dignity kits which are ready for distribution and some have already been distributed to Naotcha camp (UNFPA).

Gaps and Constraints:

- Lighting at the camps and sanitary facilities tents for PFA, Safe spaces for children/women and adolescent girls in the evacuation camps and resources to increase Police presences to monitor protection concerns and security and visibility
- Human resource for Protection response and disaggregated data
- Lack of Psychological First Aid and other Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) in the evacuation camps
- Lack of Recreational materials for children's safe spaces
- Lack of PSEA awareness among duty bearers and rights holders.



Food Security

Cluster Lead: Department of Disaster Management Affairs

Co-Lead: World Food Programme

Impact: All the displaced households have lost their belongings including food reserves as they lost their homes. In addition, most of the displaced people are in hard-to-reach areas due to road/infrastructure damage rendering those areas inaccessible to motor vehicles.

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:

- 402 Camps supported with food rations across the 104 TA and 26 City Wards affected.
- 6 Districts so far has been partially reached with Food (Nsanje-Mlolo, Chikwawa-Makhwira and Ngabu, Zomba –Kuntumanji-Chisi Island, Phalombe- Kaduya, Nkhulambe and Jenala, Mulanje-Njema and Nkanda, Blantyre-Machinjiri and Mangochi.
- Food Distributed (Maize flour, Maize, CSB+,/Vita Meal/CSB, Beans, Small fish, Soya Pieces, sugar, salt).
- Distributions continues prioritising hard to reach using airlifting.
- Save the children distributed 39 bags of CSB (25kgs) at Chilangoma, Anglican church camp and Kachere CBCC (Mkata Resident) Camp in Blantyre.

Gaps and Constraints:

- 132 Camps unreached with food rations, in 10 TA and Population of 195, 375.
- Unavailability of other life-saving food items from the food basket and partners to provide the remaining items in the food basket for food and nutrition security (Cooking Oil & Pulses).
- The areas reached have not reached a full food basket to last for a month for the population.



Nutrition

Sector Lead: Department of Nutrition, HIV and AIDS

Co-Lead: United Nations Children's Fund

Needs:

- Distribution of RUTF from CMST in Machinga, Phalombe and Mulanje.
- Distribution of CSB to the camps especially for the hard to reach.
- Vitamin A supplementation among children and Lactating women in affected areas.
- F100, F-75 and resomol needed especially at the district hospitals in the most affected districts.

Response:

- Distributed 36.38 tons of CSB from DNHA/FTC in Blantyre.
- Distributed 15MT of vitameal to 57 camps reaching out to 7500 individuals in Phalombe.
- CSB being distributed in Mulanje 400 bags (25kg each) and Nsanje 10 MT of CSB from WFP.
- Distributed CSB, soya flour, beans to 10 camps.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Approximately more than 80 camps are inaccessible and / or hard to reach areas due to damaged

roads.

Partners: Feed the children for the provision of CSB from central level, The hunger project in Nsanje and Phalombe, Farmers Union in Blantyre



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: In total 79 facilities have been affected. 74 are functional but not accessible. Health services in 5 health centers have been suspended.

Response: The following organizations and partners have responded to the cyclone.

- Partners: multiple NGOS: Save the Children, MSF, World vision, PIH amongst others (resource tracking started)
- MSF (France and Swiss) to support Nsanje, Chikwawa, Phalombe and Mulanje needs assessment under way (HR and logs and essential supplies).
- UN: UNICEF WHO UNFPA, WFP
- Private sector e.g Illovo.
- Bilateral: UK, Tanzania, Zambia, RSA,
- Offers from India, Japan Pakistan and may others

Gaps & Constraints:

- The impact is huge and the response is overwhelming.



Search & Rescue

Sector Lead: The Ministry of Lands and Urban Development

Co-Lead: Malawi Red Cross Society

Needs:

- Equipment for digging areas where houses were buried

- Additional fuel and oil for the boat to sustain the ongoing SAR operations.

Response:

- Search and rescue team is conducting rescue by boats in Nsanje, Zomba, Phalombe, Mulanje and Chikwawa. The search and rescue teams have rescued 3,986 people since the onset of the floods in the country as follows:
 - Nsanje 2,122
 - Mulanje 1,822
 - Zomba 42
- Sniff Dog Search is in progress in Blantyre, so far 51 corpses found using sniff dogs to detect the location of corpses while MDF, Police, Members of the public are physically digging the ground to recover the bodies. Bodies are recovered in a decomposed state as such not easy to be recognized by their relations.
- The Search and Rescue Team comprising of Police, MDF and Ntauchira as well as Mkwate Communities went out up the Source of Napolo, Chilimankhwanje hills and Down the River Chanza in Chiradzulu. They didn't find any of the missing persons.
- Air operations were conducted in Mulanje, Zomba, Phalombe, Nsanje and Chikwawa.
- The International Search and Rescue teams established a camp at Bangula in Nsanje on 19.03.2023. They have joined the local search and rescue teams in the operations.

Gaps and constraints:

- Lack of equipment to help in detecting buried bodies and extracting them from the ground. People refuse to be evacuated from Chisi Island hence need relief items there.



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.
- Government has received international support in the area of search and rescue and various relief items.
- 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 clusters 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
Nutrition	CSB++/Vitameal
	RUTF
	Nutrition screening
	Anthropometric equipment
	IYCF services

