SITUATION REPORT UNICEF MOZAMBIQUE
Reporting period: February 6-7, 2013
Flood Emergency Preparedness and Response

Highlights

- In Cabo Delgado, the number of cholera cases has increased to approximately 150
- 28,000 learners’ kits and 35 school kits have been received by the education authorities at provincial level in Gaza
- Despite critical conditions, particularly of sanitation, people are returning or coming from surrounding villages to Chokwe in large numbers
- A location 2 km from Chokwe city has been identified to be used as a sanitary landfill
- From a total of 58 schools, 18 have returned to normal functioning in Chokwe
- To help with the issue of lack of safety at night, particularly for women and children, UNICEF has procured over 2,600 flashlights

Overview

Heavy rains were still registered in Northern provinces of the country, including Cabo Delgado, where the number of cholera cases has increased to approximately 150. Over the next five days, heavy rains are forecasted for some parts of Zambezia province. Nampula, Tete, Manica and Sofala are expected to register moderate rains. There is no expectation of significant rains in other areas of the country.

The situation in Chokwe and Chiaquelane is still worrisome, despite the water levels going down. Although cleanup has begun and some progress has been made in Chokwe, it is still uninhabitable; many houses are still partially inundated and the stench is very obvious. Larger and coordinated cleanup efforts are needed. A major concern is waste management, as the situation is still very precarious, increasing the risk of disease outbreaks. Health authorities are evaluating preparedness for an eventual cholera outbreak, and are requesting partners support. Nevertheless, people are returning or coming from surrounding villages to Chokwe in large numbers, which at this point only aggravates the situation.

In the Chiaquelane transit center a large number of families are still without shelter; many are sleeping under trees, exposed to the elements. Families are experiencing shortage of food, and the issue of rotten food consumption is still a reality. Approximately 180 kilometers of road have been wiped away due to the floods, and many people in Chokwe are deprived of their livelihood as their machambas (small farming plots) have also been wiped away. As of yesterday, a total 248 plots were finalized and 28 were distributed for reallocation of affected families in Chiaquelane.

The First Lady paid a visit to Chiaquelane yesterday. During her visit, over 2,000 children were provided with food and a drink. She conducted a symbolic ‘inauguration’ of the distribution of UNICEF-supplied learners’ and school kits.

A team composed by IOM, UNHABITAT, MOPH-AIAS, DPOPH GAZA and UNICEF visited Chokwe to jointly assess the cleanup efforts of the town. The mission found 250 tons of rice and 3,500 tons of seed rice that are completely deteriorated and require urgent incineration to avoid consumption. If there is no control, this rice will be sold in the informal market. The issue was discussed with vereadores do município (city council), the Head

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Doctor of Chokwe and a MoH engineer, but it was communicated that there is not enough capacity in Gaza Province to deal with this issue.

On February 7, UNICEF reinforced its presence on the ground, deploying the Education and Protection heads of sections, an HIV Specialist, and a Communication Specialist.

**Sector Update**

- **Water and Sanitation**

  **Situation**

  In Chokwe city, water level is receding and some cleaning of solid waste in the commercial area of the city, with support of a private Chinese company, is ongoing. This company provided 3 construction truck and 1 backhoe tractor. One hundred fifty military personnel continue supporting the cleaning up of the hospital and one primary school. The mayor has made an appeal for assistance with equipment and tools (heavy trucks, tools and protection equipment) required to accelerate the cleaning of solid waste, liquid waste and incineration of rotten food, as well some hospital material that was hit by flood waters.

  **Key Actions/Response**

  - A location 2 km from Chokwe city has been identified to be used as a sanitary landfill. However, solid waste collected is still sitting outside the hole;
  - A meeting with provincial head of water and sanitation was held to discuss the sanitation plan for rural areas, rural water supply assessment and cleaning plan for Chokwe. DPOPH will coordinate the assessment of the water points in rural areas;
  - In Chiaquelane, 173 family latrines, 58 communal latrines and 8 tip taps have been concluded. Samaritan’s Purse continues supporting the construction of latrines and hand-washing facilities;
  - 95 activists from Samaritan’s Purse, Pathfinder, Red Cross, DSF, ADPP/TCE and PSI were trained on Community-Approach to Total Sanitation; the Album Seriado was adjusted for emergency situations and 248 people were triggered by the activists.
  - UNICEF is supporting the training of local activists on hygiene promotion and CLTS in Chiaquelane, as well as dissemination of key message related to the management of the rotten food and sanitation issues.

  **Follow-up Plans**

  - Need for monitoring of latrines usage and integrity, as some are being vandalized;
  - Need for intensification of hygiene promotion measures and construction of tip taps;
  - Support communities to elect neighbourhood activists that will monitor the maintenance of latrines;
  - Disinfection of Chokwe city (households and public institutions) is required;
  - Liquid waste systems require attention, including the cleaning of septic tanks.

- **Health**

  **Situation**

  Health interventions at the emergency health facility in Chiaquelane include mainly screening/triage, growth control, EPI, MCH/PMTCT, chronic diseases including TB and HIV consultation/follow up. The main diseases registered remain the same as of previous reports. However, an increased number of acute respiratory infection (ARI) is observed.
Regarding HIV, antiretroviral (ARV) treatment is provided only for follow up of patients already enrolled in TARV; no enrolment of new patients has been seen due to constrains in logistic/availability of ARV, CD4 control, PCR, etc. At the moment ARV treatment is provided in Carmelo, Chiaquelane and Macia health facilities for affected patients (approximately 1,000 patients on follow up but only a few are children under 15 years). Pediatric antiretroviral therapy (ART) is still lagging behind; a limited number is under control due to several reasons, including dependence on caregivers to seek care and treatment. Health facilities are facing stock out of HIV tests; thus pregnant women are not screened for HIV as well as other patient in need of testing. Tracking the figures on patients under ARV treatment it is observed that Preventing mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) is conducted despite the stock out of tests. Psychosocial support services to patients on ARV treatment are available at the tent conducted by one psychologist.

Given the critical situation of sanitation and an expected cholera out-break, particularly in Chokwe City, Health authorities (DPS) are evaluating the possibility of prepositioning a “cholera treatment centre (CTC)” as soon as possible. There is also shortage of ant-malarial drugs for adults.

Follow-up Plans
- Follow up with health authorities for more detailed data on patients on ARV treatment, including the pediatric and medical supplies needs.

Nutrition
Situation
One of the trucks with food that was missing arrived in Chokwe, making it four trucks in total that arrived in the last two days for food distribution.

Regarding the high level visit, advocacy was made with CENOE and health authorities to ensure that appropriate messages were emphasized. It was asked that the focus message should be breastfeeding and no formula, in accordance with national guidelines.

Key Actions/Response
- Regarding nutrition screening, the UNICEF team discussed with Samaritan’s Purse the details of this endeavour, as they are planning on undertaking a nutrition assessment in Chiaquelane, Hokwe and Mapapa (needs and support). UNICEF will provide technical assistance and equipment while Samaritan’s Purse will provide additional technical support and all operational support at the field. It is foreseen to start this weekend;
  - 90 cartons of BP-5 were moved from government warehouses to the health facility in Chiaquelane.

Follow-up Plans
- Coordination with Samaritan’s Purse/Health authorities and other partners for the nutrition assessment, including following up with Nutrition (UNICEF/DPS and MISAU) for better management and monitoring of the process;
- Follow up with DPS deliver of equipment to start-up nutrition screening assessment in Chiaquelane and preparedness for an eventual cholera out-break;
  - Reinforce coordination with partners to strengthen community interventions;
Improve the organization of the process of food distribution.
**Education**

**Situation**
The situation is very slowly returning to normal in Chokwe. From a total of 58 schools, 18 have returned to normal functioning. In the other 40, students are still dispersed in the different accommodation centers. Some have been integrated in the school annexes in the camps (tents provided to accommodate the extra classrooms). There is still no accurate numbers of children from the 40 schools, integrated in the camps, or relocated in other places (Xai-Xai, Bilene, Maputo). The district education authorities are working in order to assess the number of teachers and students in the camps, in order to integrate them in the alternative classrooms.

**Key Actions/Response**
- A total of 28,000 learners’ kits and 35 school kits have been received by the education authorities at provincial level. A distribution plan has been completed, and distribution is expected to start in the next two days, depending on the arrival of the materials to the camps. At the moment school kits and part of the learners’ kits are stored in the warehouse in Chiaquelane. Part of the students’ materials (Atlas do aluno and Tabuada), are still to be sent;
- DPEC updated its figures on total affected children which have been reduced from 72,757 to 54,181 and the numbers of learners’ and school kits required have also downsized accordingly;
- Delivery of the kits has been completed to 7 out of 9 districts and distribution to students completed in Xai Xai City and district. Delivery to Chibuto and Massangena to be completed over the next two days. Sources of learners kits are MINED (4000), UNICEF (40,000) and Plan (10,000 under procurement);
- DPEC is proactively mobilizing transport locally for onward distribution within districts.

**Follow-up Plans**
- Follow up with Social Action on the recruiting of young people to assist on the Child Friendly Schools;
- The total number of students to be covered is 37,275 students. Plan International has agreed to cover the remaining 9,275;
- DPEC informed that most schools that have been damaged were of precarious materials. An assessment has been conducted results of which will be shared shortly and should provide leads for coordinating the rehabilitation of schools with support from partners;
- Classrooms being held in tents are over-crowded and extremely hot and stuffy during the day. Learning is thus a challenge;
- For the distribution operation in Chokwe, and also given the quantity of kits and schools to cover, Education authorities in Chiaquelane requested support with hiring a truck and manpower for loading and off-loading.

**Protection**

**Situation**
Safety and protection
- The police commander ensured the team that there have been no cases of abuse in any of the camps. At least no cases have been reported in Chiaquelane, or other camps in the area;
- There is a patrolling system established where there are police officers in uniforms and without. The teams make surveillance rounds during the night, in places considered strategic (close to the stalls where alcoholic beverages are sold, and around the accommodation tents);
- The issue of lack of illumination is considered to be a serious one, and it is rather urgent that alternatives are found (torches have been suggested);
- Apart from the Gabinete the atendimento, closer to the accommodation tents, there is a police post about 100m from the population. The post in known to everyone and accessible at a walking distance.

Social Protection
- A rapid visit was carried out to Chokwe, after information that many people had stayed behind and are returning to their homes, even though the sanitation situation is critical. Thus, the WFP is providing food for the families in the various neighborhoods. However, vulnerable households, such as those headed by the elderly, are being left aside. The registry of the households by the chefes de bairro, did not take into account the identification of the most vulnerable households. The President of the municipality himself has recognized that elderly people were being marginalized during the distribution of food, and that it was important to have their identification to ensure they receive appropriate treatment. He has agreed with the chefes de bairro to update their lists with information regarding the most vulnerable households;
- The person responsible for the government warehouse at Chiaquelane camp, who also is the INAS delegate, has established a special meal which is provided to elderly people, people who are disabled, and with health problems. Also, there is a certain amount of food items to be distributed to the elderly in Chokwe, as soon as the chefes de bairro provide the updated lists.

Child protection
- Due to the nature of the accommodation camps (the tents are not particularly in order, all look alike and there is a lot of people), there have been many cases of lost children. The police has been working with social action and mobile units to reunite the children with their families. In the cases where the parents do not appear immediately, the children are placed for the night in a close by child care institution run by catholic nuns;
- The recreational kits sent to DPMAS have been received, and a distribution plan completed. The items in the kits will be distributed for 5 Child friendly spaces in different centres (being 2 in Chiaquelane and 1 in Chinhacanine). There are concerns with the content of the kits, which seem to be limited and not to offer many options to entertain children, allowing their retention in the CFSs. There is an urgent need for improvement and increase in quality and number. There are CFSs to be established in Macia, Xai-xai, Chibuto, Chiaquelane, and Guija;
- In order to ensure the running of the CFSs, social action will be working with the leaders of the neighborhoods in the camps to identify young volunteers to assist the activities with the children;
- In terms of child participation, Save the Children is working in establishing groups of children to monitor the “level of satisfaction”, as well as assess the extent to which children think they are or are not being treated adequately in the camps. The information collected in these activities will allow better planning regarding children’s issues, both in this phase, as well as the forthcoming resettlement phase;
- Partners on the ground are MMAS, INAS, the Police, Save the Children and UNICEF (with one person covering both protection and education);
- Main needs are: safety and protection at night due to a lack of light, need for torches, psychosocial support (PSS), toys, recreational materials like volleyball nets, elastics, balls, writing pads, crayons, jumping ropes, etc.;
- Together with Save the Children, who has a strong presence on the ground, the joint team organised the following activities for protection:
- Setting up of child-friendly spaces (CFS): the 2 CFSs will open on Monday and the caregivers will be trained on child protection, right to play / games and psychosocial support by Save the Children;
- UNICEF will work with DPMAS to set up CFSs outside the camp in areas where pockets of families live without any meaningful support; existing recreational materials in Xai Xai will be used for that;
- Save the Children was working with the Police to set up two additional Victim Support Units (VSUs) for women and children and together with UNICEF negotiated training of all the police commanders in the camp on Tuesday on child protection. The Head of the Victim Support Unit from Maputo will attend the Tuesday training;
- As there is a lack of writing materials at the VSUs, UNICEF already procured boxes of papers and pencils to be shipped to the camp today so the VSUs can better take stock of women and children victims of violence or separation;
- Tracing and reunification of lost children is going well through close collaboration between the police, social action and ICS and the mobile communication units announcing the names of lost children who get then picked up by their relatives at the police VSU at night. If not before the night, children spend a night at the children’s home, run by Catholic nuns outside the camp. In general, numbers of violence and lost children are not that frequent thus far;
- To overcome the problem of lack of light at night, girls have to walk long distances from places where they sleep (under trees or in tents) to latrines, leading to increased risk of violence and abuse. UNICEF has therefore procured over 2,600 flashlights.
- Cluster coordination is steadily improving on the ground;
- Due to the problem of elderly and young children with no access to food as they can’t fight in the line for collecting their allocations, INAS with Caritas have established an eating place where they cook for the elderly and children under five;
- INAS is in need of archiving folders and office supplies to document their response to the most vulnerable groups in the camp, which is being shipped by UNICEF today;
- Permanent presence for the cluster is recommended for at least another month as long as so many people stay displaced in the camp.

**Communications**

Chiaquelane transition center

- Radio Mozambique Children and ICS mobile unit team conducted a joint live programme at the Caritas centre. At least 800 people (including children, adolescents, women and local leaders) participated actively in the programme, conducted in Portuguese and 2 local languages. The audience was excited and keen to participate in the programme which combined entertainment, contests and key messages on promotion of child rights, prevention of violence and abuse against children, promotion of good hygiene practices, use of latrines and prevention of malaria. The children producers counted with the support from local activists who used the opportunity to disseminate key health promotion messages to a wider audience;
- During the 3-hour programme the children producers gave special attention to protection issues and managed to successfully reunify lost children with their mothers;
- Throughout the day the mobile unit team, with the support from local activists and police moved around the camps to disseminate messages on prevention of child abuse. Special attention was also given to prevention of open defecation practices as some people are still resistant to use latrines;
- The mobile unit team exhibited various videos on key health promotion issues in the local community cinema. Hundreds of people have actively participated in the programme;
The INGC Director has made an appeal to partners, particularly UNICEF, to intensify dissemination of hygiene promotion messages, as the camps are continuously receiving new arrivals, some of them attracted by the distribution of food and goods. The overcrowding of Chiaquelane camp represents a health threat, particularly with the notification of cholera cases in Cabo Delgado, which may easily spread into Chiaquelane camp, given the current circumstances.

**Follow-up Plans**
- A refresher training of local activists (covering 4 neighborhoods), on health promotion issues is scheduled to be conducted in the following days, at the local hospital. The training will be conducted in partnership with DDS, Samaritan’s Purse and Save the Children staff;
- Today the mobile unit is concentrating its social mobilisation activity in Chokwe to support the first waste incineration activity scheduled to initiate in the first hours of the day.

**For further information, please contact**
Roberto De Bernardi, Deputy Representative, rdebernardi@unicef.org, +258 82 3148100
Hanoch Barlevi, Emergency Specialist, hbarlevi@unicef.org, +258 823179160
Patricia Nakell, Communication Specialist, pnakell@unicef.org, +258 823121820