SITUATION REPORT UNICEF MOZAMBIQUE

Reporting period: February 1-2, 2013

Flood Emergency Preparedness and Response

**Highlights**

- On 2 February, the Government of Mozambique re-confirmed its “Red Alert” status calling for ongoing service provision to accommodation centres for displaced families and children until conditions enable a return to normalcy. Discussion continues to address the preparation of restoration and clean-up response to enable families to return to their homes.
- Coordination and advocacy among Government and community leaders is boosting community participation in organizing construction and maintenance of latrines.
- While no major outbreaks were identified at functioning health centres, active health surveillance remains essential. While cases of diarrhea in Guija district are decreasing; the persistent risk of cholera remains due to the lack of adequate latrines.
- In the northern province of Cabo Delgado, eight (8) cases of Cholera were confirmed.
- 50,000 learner kits are being distributed by UNICEF (40,000) and PLAN (10,000) to support temporary educational activities.

**Situation Overview**

While the response to the floods in southern and central Mozambique continues, new cases of local inundations in low lying areas are being reported in northern parts of the country. These new cases floods are attributed to heavy rains brought by a low pressure system located in the Mozambique Channel, which is also affecting north and central Madagascar.

As more rains over northern Mozambique is expected over the next few days, the situation requires close monitoring. In the coming week (04 to 8 February), moderate to heavy rains are expected in the north of country and off the coast of Zambezia, where the total accumulated rainfall is between 75 and 250 m.

Mozambique, in dealing with the floods in the south, is already stretched to capacity, therefore additional flooding in the north could have serious humanitarian implications. While flood waters are receding, many rivers in the south continue to fluctuate above alert levels.

Due to high number of people in temporary shelters, the Disaster Management Technical Council (CTGC) has recommended the strengthening of protections measures in all shelters in Gaza Province. The Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), in support of Government, is finalizing a Response and Recovery Proposal, which will provide an analysis of the situation, as well as the resources required. This proposal will be used to mobilize the required resources. The HCT has submitted an application to the Central Emergency Response Fund
(CERF) for $5 million in order to cover immediate life-saving activities and awaits formal approval. An additional proposal for $23 million additional resources is being developed.

As flood waters begin to recede from flood-affected areas, the urgent need for intense and immediate repairs and disinfection of the piped systems, homes, schools and all public service infrastructure in urban and semi-urban areas will be supported so that returning populations will have water for domestic use as they begin cleaning and re-occupying their homes.

The necessity for striking the balance between much needed emergency relief and shifting support back to normalcy through the restoration of communities and services is required.

In Zambezia, a region in the north of the country, where heavy rains have started to fall, 570 people have been displaced in the past 48 hours.

In Nampula city, approximately 400 people have been displaced. Approximately 600 plots that have been identified should be well divided for allocation to the families.

In Tete, the red alert remains active with approximately 3,400 people, 167 families in Inhangoma and 408 families in Charre, affected. Approximately 1,573 agriculture hectares are flooded.

The Red Cross has 120 volunteer/activists working in the major risk zone of Mutarara district. Cross activists sensitizing populations to move to accommodation centres also through UNICEF supported regular community radio programmes.

**Sector Update**

- **Water and Sanitation**

As a result of the advocacy and discussions held on January 30 with Government at all levels, sanitation and hygiene was prioritized, followed by Community Leaders garnering support for mobilizing active community participation in construction and correct use of sanitation facilities.

UNICEF contacted the Chokwe Municipality to discuss plans to restore a safe sanitation environment. So far, the municipality still has no concrete plans for cleaning the city, including services for cleaning/disinfection of the septic tanks, solid waste management, etc.

Water supply reestablished in Guija, in addition to some neighborhoods in Chokwe. In Xai-Xai, the water system remains operational, and in Chiaquelane, the water supply continues to be provided through the water trucking and water points with hand pumps.

**Key Actions/Response**

- A team comprised by DNA, DPOPH-Gaza, WASH Cluster partners (Samaritan’s Purse, Save the Children, and UNICEF) and in partnership with shelter and the health sector, is providing technical support in Chokwe for the construction of the sanitation facilities;
Collaboration with health and C4D was reinforced, particularly in the implementation of hygiene promotion and adequate use of latrines. A total of 44 activists from ADPP, FDC, SC, Pathfinder and CVM and under the leadership of the health sector and technical support from C4D are undertaking assessment on WASH and Health (including child protection issues) conditions in all neighborhoods located at Chihaquelane camp;

The implementation of the CLTS approach has been agreed as way to accelerate community behavior change in relation to sanitation & hygiene (the health technician leading the process/coordinating the activists work has been trained by DNA/UNICEF on CLTS approach and is very active);

INGC has committed to procure 5-liter jerricans for the construction of hand-washing (tip-taps) facilities near community latrines. Meanwhile, the health sector procured some quantities of jerricans for demonstration of the construction of tip-taps;

Save the Children is providing “estacas” to communities for construction of the latrines, while the community leaders also committed to collecting the sanitation kits previously inappropriately distributed to households and reorient them for the construction of communal latrines;

As the water level in Chokwe continues to decrease, information from COE and CENOE meetings indicate that the cleaning up activities have initiated in some neighborhoods;

Health

Situation

• In the northern province of Cabo Delgado, eight (8) cases of Cholera were confirmed.
• In Gaza province: No outbreaks of diarrhoea/respiratory disease or unusual health events at any centre visited
• Guija diarrheal outbreak investigated by DPS – cases decreasing; clinical presentation not consistent with cholera or dysentery though etiology not confirmed
• Persistent risk of cholera, though potable increasingly available and more latrines being built daily at displacement centres
• Patients with multi-drug resistant TB transferred from Chokwe (Carmelo hospital) to other centres without interruption of treatment
• Active surveillance – numbers and age range of cases of common communicable diseases are being collected daily from most displacement centres by fixed health post staff or by mobile teams
• Basic health services currently provided for most displaced persons in above areas with ongoing re-deployment of staff and supplies
• Supporting re-supply of lost medicines and damaged infrastructure will require partner support
• Persistent high risk of communicable disease outbreaks; active surveillance is being done and remains a priority

Key Actions/Response

Health Resources and Service Availability

• Macia – district hospital seen a 20% increase in service provision since flooding; hospital well stocked; sufficient human resources; currently warehousing medicines saved from Chokwe and other affected centres
• Chiaquelane, two health posts – one temporary (UNICEF tent); other a permanent health centre; both providing basic services, staffed with medicines; ambulances available for referral
• Chokwe – in the city, the only health services are provided by Carmelo hospital with support from MSF; these include in/out patient HIV services and some general outpatient services; Carmelo hospital will require extensive clean-up/repair but most medicines/equipment saved
• Chokwe District hospital severely damaged by the flood and now empty; clean-up and service provision will only begin when the red-alert is lifted
• Guija; district hospital only damaged by flooding; peripheral health centres isolated but functional and currently being supplied by helicopter; boat
• Chibuto - no health centres damaged, district hospital functioning well without interruption of supplies, services.
• Essential medicines: urgent need for ORS and other medicines are being addressed by UNICEF.

Follow-up Plans
- Follow-up on on-going health interventions in Chiaquelane;
- Meeting with the district health authorities in Xai-Xai supporting coordination and promoting plans for restoration of regular health services.
- Follow-up on the main needs in Chiaquelane: mosquito nets for pregnant women and children.

❖ Nutrition

Situation

• According to the Ministry of Health doctor in Chiaquelane, the mothers who cannot breastfeed their babies, were already in this condition before their displacement due to emergency. During their promotion activities, the community activists found that some mothers are not breastfeeding their babies for some time (not specified) and were asking for infant formula
• Approximately 800 children aged from 6-59 months received BP-5 through the routine health services at Mapapa health center
• 164 plumpy nut boxes were received on 1 February by the medical doctor in Chiaquelane with plans for immediate distribution
• Vitamin A and mebendazole (5,000 jars each) were delivered to Chiaquelane health center
• On 1 February, delivery of the BP5 to Chibuto, while air-lift is underway to service difficult to reach areas in Guija that will be distributed as per the following prioritization, as part of ongoing food distribution efforts with special attention to vulnerable groups, pregnant women and children under 5 years of age.

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th># of families</th>
<th># of packages of 500g (One per family)</th>
<th># of boxes (each box has 24 packages)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chibabel</td>
<td>1850</td>
<td>1850</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acordos de Lusaka</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canidado</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>50</td>
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**Education**

**Situation**
Approximately 180 schools in Gaza province have been affected, severely disrupting education of nearly 73,000 children with over 280 classrooms destroyed due to water inundation. Field reports suggest that unaffected schools are also not functioning.

**Key actions and response:**
- The education cluster is planning a joint assessment to Guija by PLAN, World Vision and UNICEF. The team will also carry 130 learner kits as a first round of response.
- 50,000 learner kits, supplied by UNICEF (40,000) and PLAN (10,000) have been procured for Gaza, of which 25,000 have been distributed by Ministry of Education (MINED) officials in Chokwe. PLAN and UNICEF are distributing the remaining learner kits in the coming days along with 100 school kits.
- SAVE is coordinating the finalisation of the rapid assessment for the cluster.

**Gaps/Constraints:**
There is an urgent need to secure spaces for classrooms. Based on discussion and agreement with MINED, technical support is sought from different agencies/organizations to support to erect tarpaulins for tents to function as classroom spaces. An assessment of available tarpaulins is underway.

**Follow up actions:**
- Matrix for monitoring the supply distribution to schools is being finalised.

**Protection**

**Situation**
Considering the precarious conditions in which people are accommodated in the Chiaquelane transit center (no lights at night, very large tents accommodating several families – women, men and children sleeping under the same shelter), there are potential chances for violations
to occur. From a meeting held yesterday with community leaders, it was very clear that there might be cases already happening, but they fell frightened to report them.

Local authorities requested the police to tighten the control on the main road after a grave car accident that happened this morning, in which 5 people were severely injured. Children are particularly exposed to potential threats since many of them are circulating un-accompanied.

**Follow-up Plans**
- Installation of child-friendly space areas in the accommodation center, as well as protected space for women and children victims of abuse.

**Communications**

**Situation**

**Chokwe:**
- ICS mobile unit in Chikwe informed the population on the risks associated with the lack of sanitation and the consumption of leftover-food as clearly observed in the town.
- Assessment of Chokwe community radio realized with ICS and the local coordinator revealed non-operational equipment.

**Chiaquelane:**
- ICS mobile unit still very active in providing support to Police for lost and found children. Cumulative data, according to ICS, says that 40 children were reunified in the first 10 days of the emergency.
- Cinema sessions continue to be held at Chiaquelane Accommodation center every evening, now with the support of a DDS Health officer and local activists to moderate the debate.
- The Activist’s Network now is formed by 50 activists working on promotion of breast-feeding, water treatment, hygiene and sanitation promotion, immunization, use of mosquito nets and distribution of condoms.

For further information, please contact

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