



MOZAMBIQUE

Flood Response Flash Update #4

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UNICEF Mozambique | Flood Response

Highlights:

- In support of INGD and government led response, as of the 16th February, UNICEF had delivered 17,088 health consultations across Gaza Province, screened 9,155 children for malnutrition with 57 admitted for SAM treatment supported over 35,000 flood-affected children with learning kits, temporary classrooms, and psychosocial support.
- UNICEF is delivering life-saving support across education, protection, and WASH, providing emergency learning kits to over 35,000 children, establishing child-friendly spaces that reached more than 3,000 children with MHPSS, GBV prevention and case management through 42 trained social workers and animators, supplying safe water and sanitation for more than 61,800 people through water trucking and portable treatment units (130m³/day), and deploying over 120 tons of supplies while preparing emergency cash transfers for flood
- The HRNP Addendum US \$330 million emergency package aims to support 215,500 households with cash, food baskets, and hygiene kits, as UNICEF continues to lead/co-lead cluster/sector coordination in WASH, Nutrition, Education, and Child Protection for a coherent multi-sectoral response.
- Tropical cyclone Gezani which made landfall in Inhambane province on 13 February 2026, affected over 6,000 people and resulted in four deaths. The storm affected 31 health facilities, 320 classrooms and five water supply systems. UNICEF is delivering life-saving support across education, protection, and WASH—providing emergency learning kits to over 35,000 children, establishing child-friendly spaces that reached more than 3,000 children with MHPSS, GBV prevention and case management through 42 trained social workers and animators, supplying safe water and sanitation for more than 61,800 people through water trucking and portable treatment units (130m³/day), and deploying over 120 tons of supplies while preparing emergency cash transfers for flood-affected households.

KEY FIGURES |

HNRP Figures | January 2026



700,000 People in Need

600,000 People Targeted

UNICEF Targets | January 2026



450,000 People Targeted



225,000 Children Targeted

FUNDING NEEDS

US \$34,000,000

UNICEF's estimated funding needs for the first 6 months of response to provide life-saving humanitarian support in supplies.



Every contribution counts. Scan the QR Code for direct donation to UNICEF flood response in Mozambique.

FUNDING OVERVIEW & PARTNERSHIPS

Working in close coordination with Government counterparts and humanitarian partners, UNICEF conducted rapid assessments of flood impacts on children and their families while delivering lifesaving assistance. Emergency and cluster coordination teams have been deployed to Gaza Province, where needs are most acute. Pre-positioned supplies from Beira were immediately dispatched to support the response, and a local market assessment is underway to facilitate further emergency procurement. Thanks to rapid support from the European Union through ECHO, the Government of Spain, and pre-positioned supplies from the Government of Canada, UNICEF was able to swiftly deliver critical supplies now being distributed to the most affected communities. These include essential health, nutrition, WASH, child protection, and education materials. Continued support from CERF, the Government of Austria, the U.S. Government, and generous public contributions through UNICEF National Committees in Germany and the UK is enabling UNICEF to sustain lifesaving interventions for children and families during this first phase of the emergency response while shifting to early recovery efforts.

SITUATION OVERVIEW AND HUMANITARIAN NEEDS UPDATE

Mozambique is facing an ongoing serious flood emergency following exceptionally heavy rainfall between December 2025 and mid-January 2026, coinciding with the onset of the rainy and cyclone season across southern, central and northern provinces. Gaza Province experienced particularly heavy rainfall, reaching 700 mm in less than seven days in some parts of the province. This was exacerbated by heavy rainfall in western parts of Mozambique and in South Africa, triggering large-scale flooding along the Limpopo River basin which impacted Chókwè, Guijá, Chibuto and Xai-Xai districts. Flooding has also been reported in the Incomati and Umbeluzi river basins in Maputo Province, as well as along the Save, Buzi, Pungue and Licungo rivers, with impacts extending into Sofala, Zambézia and Inhambane provinces.

On 16 January 2026, the Government activated a nationwide Red Alert, and on 17 January formally requested UN support. According to latest INGD data (9-29 January 2026), floods have affected over 724,000 people across Gaza, Maputo, Sofala among other provinces. As of 18 February 2026, 32,403 people are hosted in 41 accommodation centers, many of which are still overcrowded.

Flooding has caused extensive damage, with nearly 4,000 houses either partially or totally destroyed. Impacted social infrastructure includes 299 schools, 844 classrooms, 227 health facilities and 88 education administration buildings, affecting 233,557 students and 12,632 teachers. Livelihoods have been severely disrupted, with 440,892 hectares of agricultural land affected, over 275,000 hectares lost, impacting 314,783 farmers, alongside the loss of 412,446 livestock and damage to fishing assets, 3,783 km of roads, bridges and water supply systems affected.

Children, who account for over half of those affected (at least 350,000), face heightened risks due to disrupted access to safe water, healthcare, nutrition and education, increasing exposure to waterborne diseases, malnutrition and protection concerns.

On 14 February 2026, tropical cyclone Gezani approached the Mozambique coast through Inhambane province but did not make landfall. However, the cyclone influenced the weather in the region, bringing strong winds of 140km/h and cumulative rainfall of 100mm in 24h. Preliminary impacts include over 6,000 people affected, four deaths, more than 2,000 houses damaged. Moreover, several infrastructures were affected, namely, 320 classrooms affecting nearly 8,400 students, 134 teachers, five water supply systems, and 31 health facilities.

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

UNICEF Mozambique requires US \$34 million to respond to the humanitarian needs of 450,000 people including 225,000 children affected by the floods. To date, the response has been supported by US \$660,000 from reprogrammed UNICEF's core resources; US \$550,000 of supplies from EU Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid, with a confirmed pipeline of US \$300,000 through the crisis modifier mechanism in EU's development projects to sustain life-saving health, nutrition, child protection and WASH services and in-kind support from the U.S. Government with nearly US \$300,000 worth of in-kind WASH supplies. UNICEF has also received US \$1,400,000 through CERF funding, supporting WASH, Health and Child Protection activities. UNICEF highly appreciates the flexible nature of US \$107,000 funding received from the Government of Austria to support WASH and Child Protection activities, and the US \$ 48,000 received from the Government of Cyprus to support critical Education in Emergencies activities, a sector that remains significantly underfunded. UNICEF has also utilized pre-positioned essential WASH supplies with support from Canada, forming a core component of WASH service delivery in government-led accommodation centres. Without adequate funding UNICEF will be significantly constrained in its ability to scale up and sustain critical assistance, particularly for children and women. In addition, US \$400,000 were received in Mozambique through UNICEF's Global Humanitarian Thematic Funds that will provide lifesaving support across sectors, including the response to cyclone Gezani and the floods.

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESPONSE

CHILD HEALTH & NUTRITION

UNICEF supported three deployments of Health Specialists and one for a Nutrition Specialist to Gaza province to support the Ministry of Health in establishing temporary health and nutrition services in these districts and integrated mobile brigades across six accommodation and transit centres, ensuring continuity of services in affected health facilities. Services include maternal, newborn and child health care; immunization; child wasting screening and treatment; management of malaria, diarrhoea and respiratory infections; vitamin A supplementation; deworming; and antenatal, neonatal and HIV services. A total of 23,447 consultations were provided across 8 accommodation centres in Gaza Province up to 24th February . UNICEF has delivered a total of 45 AWD Kits, 40 IEHK 2024 Kits, 41 tents were delivered, providing support to an estimated 404,500 beneficiaries including children and pregnant women in accommodation centres and health facilities. To ensure the continuity of services, UNICEF is supporting the government by providing hygiene and cleaning supplies, as well as mobilizing activists to help clean and restore the affected health centres.

Of the 22 health facilities affected by the floods in Gaza Province, 6 are currently completely closed, 4 are fully operational, and 13 are functioning only partially, with interruptions to key services such as maternity, immunization, laboratories and operation room.

UNICEF supported the flood response with a comprehensive nutrition life-saving package, in line with the Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action, reaching 14,330 people across Gaza, Inhambane, Maputo Province, Maputo City and Sofala. As part of efforts to ensure early detection and treatment of child wasting, UNICEF screened 9,155 children for malnutrition and admitted 57 children for treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM), providing therapeutic spread (RUTF) and ReSoMal for cases with



Chihaquelane Temporary Clinic / Chokwe district @AM

complications. To strengthen micronutrient deficiency prevention, the response delivered 3,362 Vitamin A supplements and conducted 1,713 deworming interventions, alongside 8,760 Albendazole tablets for parasite control. Essential maternal nutrition support was ensured through provision of 3,600 iron–folic acid supplements and management of 10 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) with acute malnutrition. UNICEF also enhanced service delivery capacities by supplying 20,802 MUAC tapes, 12,000 height/length boards, and 21,000 mother–child scales to strengthen routine growth monitoring in accommodation sites. A joint interagency statement to reinforce infant feeding promotion and support and ensure compliance with the breastmilk substitutes codes in humanitarian settings was issued and is [available through the link here](#).

EDUCATION

UNICEF has mobilized and prepositioned Education in Emergencies (EiE) supplies—including learner, recreation, and 'School-in-a-Box' kits—across Gaza, Sofala, and Maputo Provinces. Currently stationed at the district level, these supplies are scheduled for distribution to coincide with the official opening of schools on 27 February, ensuring that more than 35,000 flood-affected children can resume their education. Recent sectoral assessments in Maputo and Gaza indicate that the start of the academic year faces significant challenges. Many classrooms are either being used as accommodation centres or remain inaccessible due to flood damage, with both scenarios requiring



UNICEF 2026: Learning and recreation activities, Chiaquelane Accommodation Centre, Chokwe - Gaza

extensive cleaning and minor repairs. UNICEF is collaborating with local authorities and partners to facilitate the relocation of displaced families from school grounds, support the disinfection of classrooms, and establish temporary learning spaces using school tents and tarpaulin rolls. Upcoming priorities include distributing additional EiE supplies, conducting emergency infrastructure repairs, and performing detailed damage assessments to guide long-term rehabilitation. Furthermore, UNICEF will implement back-to-school campaigns and catch-up activities, alongside teacher training on school-based MHPSS and recreational learning across the affected regions.

CHILD PROTECTION

Following the establishment of nine child-friendly spaces (CFS) in partnership with the Provincial Directorates for Gender, Children and Social Action (DPGCAS) in Gaza Province 1,508 children (of which 847 are girls) have received child protection (CP) services including MHPSS recreation and referral for case management within accommodation centres.

In addition to the training and deployment of 42 social workers and community animators (24 female) in Gaza Province, a further 22 were trained to deliver psychosocial support (PSS) and structured child protection activities through the established CFS in Maputo province. Induction training sessions include training on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA); case management, family tracing and reunification (FTR) for unaccompanied and separated children (UASC); and gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response, host family identification for alternative care of UASC, and community engagement to strengthen prevention and reporting of protection risks. Trained cadres will be deployed to five accommodation centres and have begun providing CP services to approximately 1,500 children in the province.

In the coming week the following activities will continue to be prioritized: 1) Deployment of social workers and animators for Maputo Province to provide child protection services to children 2) continuation of recreational activities with children in Gaza Province, in addition to exploring potential sites for community based MHPSS centres as more and more families return to their places of origin. 3) Monitoring of implementation of case management services through DPGCAS social workers and the Police Department for the Protection of Women and Children. Additionally, activities related to raising awareness of protection risks and available reporting channels, including referral pathways to specialized child protection services for vulnerable or at-risk children and their families, will be implemented.



Training of Social Workers and Animators from DPGCAS Gaza.

WASH

UNICEF continues to support the Government of Mozambique in responding to severe flooding across Maputo, Sofala and Gaza provinces, ensuring the continuity of life-saving water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services for affected communities.

To date, UNICEF has distributed critical WASH supplies, including household water treatment chemicals, soap, and hygiene kits, reaching 32,167 people across Sofala, Maputo and Gaza. In addition, sanitation and hygiene promotion interventions such as construction of emergency latrines and bathrooms, installation of handwashing stations, and dissemination of life-saving hygiene messages have benefited 42,717 people at accommodation centre level.

In Gaza Province, UNICEF sustained emergency water supply interventions through water trucking, provision of water treatment chemicals for water systems, and installation of water bladders. UNICEF delivered an average of 100m³ of safe water per day, complemented by 30m³ per day from the portable treatment station supported by the Spanish Cooperation and EU Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid, serving both accommodation centres and return areas. These combined efforts ensured safe water access for an estimated 61,800 people in Guija and Chokwe districts.

UNICEF continues to work closely with DNAAS, provincial authorities (DPOPs), SDPIs, humanitarian partners, and community structures to ensure the swift delivery of essential WASH services as the situation evolves. In the coming days and weeks, UNICEF will maintain close monitoring of response activities while prioritizing the decommissioning of temporary latrines, adjusting daily volumes of water delivered through trucking as the number of people in accommodation centres decreases, and distributing return package WASH hygiene items for families returning to their homes. Additionally, UNICEF will focus on the second phase of the response, which includes targeted and early recovery-recovery WASH interventions. This will involve the rehabilitation of damaged water supply systems in close collaboration with provincial and district authorities.



Bright smiles after the installation of a new bladder tank at the accommodation centre, followed by an engaging and playful hygiene promotion session with children in the child friendly space at Chiaquelane accommodation.



Portable water treatment unit by the Spanish cooperation which is producing an average of 30 cubic metres of water to support Hokwe accommodation centre and host communities-Chokwe district

Social Protection

On 16th February, INGD and MTGAS co-chaired a meeting of the Adaptive Social Protection Working Group to discuss the crucial role of social protection in the flood's response. During the discussions, Government explained that social protection interventions are being activated now that INGD's humanitarian activities are being phased out, requiring a coordinated transition into medium-term support mechanisms. During the meeting, the National Social Action Institute (INAS) presented a draft response plan, which outlines a proposed emergency package including a cash transfers component valued at approximately US \$25 million for response in seven provinces namely Gaza, Maputo, Maputo City, Sofala, Tete, Zambézia, and Inhambane. The plan aims to support around 215,500 households over a three-month period through a one-off transfer of 7,500 meticaís (around 120 USD) per household, via the INAS-led Direct Support Post-Emergency Programme (PASD-PE). Beneficiaries include highly vulnerable groups such as female-headed households, persons with disabilities and elderly people. UNICEF efforts are underway to mobilize resources for PASD-PE activation to enable government to reach as many vulnerable affected populations as possible.

Social Behaviour Change (SBC) / Risk Communication and Community Education (RCCE) / Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)

UNICEF is deploying a Social Behaviour Change (SBC) emergency focal person to conduct rapid assessments and work with Government counterparts and partners to identify urgent RCCE priorities in flood-affected areas. Support is underway to reactivate sub-national RCCE coordination mechanisms. UNICEF will utilize a combination of mass communication and community-based approaches to promote protective and preventive behaviours related to health, nutrition, child protection and PSEA. Radio spots and interactive programmes through provincial and community stations are expected to reach 345,000 people in Sofala, 224,000 in Gaza, and 300,000 in Maputo Province. Public video projections, facilitated discussions, and participatory theatre sessions are being conducted in accommodation centres using ICS multimedia mobile units and local theatre groups. Engagement with religious leaders, community influencers and existing networks is being strengthened to build trust, counter misinformation and promote

lifesaving behaviours, particularly in accommodation sites. UNICEF will collect community feedback and complaints through U-Report and during community engagement activities, supported by digital tools, to ensure accountability to affected populations and inform programme adjustments.

PSEA

UNICEF continues to disseminate key PSEA awareness-raising messages through in-person sessions, as well as through radio broadcasts. UNICEF has also continued to ensure the integration of PSEA and safeguarding within its child protection response, including through child-friendly awareness raising sessions on PSEA with CFSs in Chiaquelene and Hokwe. In Maputo, as the response moves towards supporting the return of affected communities, PSEA training was delivered to animators who will be assigned to CFS to be established in return communities.



PSEA awareness raising session at CFS in Chiaquelene using UNICEF's child friendly PSEA communication tools @UNICEF/2026/Muchanga

HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP, COORDINATION, AND STRATEGY

UNICEF continues to play a central leadership and coordination role, supporting a coherent, timely and principled humanitarian response across flood-affected areas. National and provincial cluster/sector mechanisms have been activated to strengthen inter-agency coordination, information sharing and alignment of sectoral response plans. UNICEF is coordinating the WASH emergency response, including joint needs assessments and gap analysis with WASH Cluster partners, and leading nutrition response coordination through joint assessments with Nutrition Cluster partners to guide prioritization and scale-up.

The Child Protection Work Stream (CPWS), led by UNICEF, is providing strategic leadership to ensure that child protection risks arising from the flood emergency are effectively prevented, identified, and addressed. CPWS is delivering comprehensive technical guidance and rolling out targeted capacity-strengthening initiatives for government counterparts and humanitarian partners, including training on Child Protection in Emergencies (CPiE), safe and survivor-centred referrals, child-friendly and intersectoral referral pathways, and child protection monitoring and rapid assessments. Context-specific child protection messages related to floods are being disseminated through multiple channels, including local radio and frontline community workers, to reduce risks and promote safe behaviours. These efforts are complemented by sensitization of service providers and authorities on emergency preparedness, response coordination, and the continuity of child protection services.

At the inter-agency level, in its role as UN co-chair of the national PSEA Network, UNICEF is closely coordinating PSEA integration with agencies operating on the ground and supporting the continued implementation of the PSEA Network Emergency Response Plan.

The Education Cluster, co-led by UNICEF and Save the Children International (SCI), continues to work closely with national, provincial and district authorities and partners to ensure a coordinated education response to the floods. Building on the sector strategy for the Floods Response, partners are supporting the implementation of informal education activities in accommodation centres, while conducting joint monitoring missions to assess needs and inform prioritisation. In parallel, teaching and learning materials are being pre-positioned in flood-affected provinces to support the delayed reopening of schools. The Cluster is supporting the mobilization of USD \$1.5 million from Education Cannot Wait (ECW) to support flood response activities in the education sector. To strengthen evidence-based planning, two Information Management Officers have been deployed to support INGD in enhancing data collection, analysis and information sharing.

SUPPLY & LOGISTICS

Across the response period since mid-January, UNICEF has dispatched over 101 tons of supplies worth \$1,158,856.24, to the flood affected areas of Gaza, Maputo province, specific districts in Sofala as well as in Inhambane. As the temporary accommodation centres began to close and UNICEF moved towards phase 2 of its response, the volume and value of supplies distributed in direct response to the floods has reduced. Since 17th February, 5.4 tons of supplies were dispatched, worth \$121,117.30

The supplies included nutrition supplies, WASH supplies such as water tanks, squatting plates and soaps, as well as Education kits. These were dispatched to Maputo province, Gaza and Inhambane as part of prepositioning supplies ahead of the expected landfall of the Tropical Cyclone Gezani.

UNICEF's logistics efforts remain active on the ground in Xai-Xai with logistics staff deployed in there to safeguard the supplies and ensure appropriate storage and timely distribution. With the support from the UN logistics cluster, a temporary storage facility has been set up in Macia.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

Links to publications on UNICEF's emergency response and multisectoral actions for flood response in Mozambique:

Story: [Seeking safety after floodwaters caused destruction the district of Chókwè](#)

Video: [Célia Fernandes Testimonial in Chiaquelane Accommodation Centre](#)

Video: [Celeste Barbosa Testimonial in Chiaquelane Accommodation Centre](#)

Selected external media reporting

[Floods in Mozambique: Spain donates water treatment equipment](#)

[Mozambique floods affect over 500,000 as heavy rains devastate multiple provinces](#)

Summary of Programme Results

Sector Indicator	Flood Response Targets	Cluster Results	UNICEF Results	Achieved (%)
Health				
# of children and women receiving essential primary health care services	355,552	-	33,017	9%
# individuals receiving treatment for cholera/acute watery diarrhoea in UNICEF-supported facilities	31,558	-	2,963	9%
Nutrition				
# of children 6-59 months with wasting admitted for treatment	2,345	57	57	2%
# of children 6-59 months screened for wasting	86,381	9,155	9,155	11%
# children 6-59 months receiving Vitamin A supplementation	86,381	3,384	3,384	4%
# of primary caregivers of children aged 0 to 23 months receiving IYCF counselling	52,269	0	0	0%
Child Protection				
# of children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community based MHPSS	124,433	2,100	1,508	1%
# children who have received individual case management	31,108	504	504	2%
# unaccompanied and separated children provided with alternative care and/or reunified	1,600	0	0	0%
Education				
# of children accessing formal and non-formal education, including early learning	175,228	1,452	1,250	1%
WASH				
# of people in humanitarian contexts reached with appropriate drinking water services	319,028		61,800	19%
# of people reached with hand-washing behaviour change programmes	204,130		32,167	16%
# of people accessing appropriate sanitation services	204,130		42,717	21%
Social protection				
# households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers	10,139	N/A	TBA	
PSEA				
# people with safe and accessible channels to report SEA by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations	2,600,000	TBA	466,921	
SBC, RCCE & AAP				
# people reached through messaging on prevention and access to services	2,600,000	TBA	TBA	
# people who participated in community feedback and complaint mechanisms	900	TBA	TBA	

Summary of Funding by Sector

Sector	Funding requirements (US\$)	Funding Available* (US\$)	Funding Gap (US\$)	Gap %
WASH	11,093,098	938,982	10,154,116	92%
Child Protection	4,268,811	242,525	4,026,286	94%
Health	3,245,447	469,855	2,775,592	86%
HIV/AIDS	212,990	-	212,990	100%
Nutrition	2,365,496	100,000	2,265,496	96%
Education	6,741,704	141,383	6,600,321	98%
Social Protection	3,654,720	360,000	3,294,720	90%
SBC/RCCE	1,518,750	136,730	1,382,020	91%
PSEA & AAP	428,895	-	428,895	100%
ADAP	303,750	-	303,750	100%
Emergency Operations	391,429	269,293	122,136	31%
Total	34,225,090	2,658,769	31,566,321	92%

* Core resources, including staff time, are being used to sustain essential PSEA and emergency coordination services in the absence of dedicated funding.

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