Mozambique – Cyclones Idai and Kenneth

ETC Situation Report #18

Reporting period 24/06/19 to 23/07/19

ETC Mozambique SitReps are distributed monthly.

Highlights

- The ETC has demobilized all connectivity services in Pemba, Ibo island and Macomia in the Cyclone Kenneth response as local Internet Service Providers (ISPs) are restored and operational.

- The ETC installed a Security Operations Centre (SOC) in Macomia for three months to ensure the safety and security of responders in the area.

- The ETC plans to hold a preparedness workshop in early September with key stakeholders to review the country's disaster scenario and strengthen partnerships and coordination.

Former ETC Coordinator for Cyclone Kenneth, Mark Armstrong, transports equipment on Ibo island.

Photo credit: ETC

Situation Overview

The ETC has scaled down its activities in response to both Cyclones Idai and Kenneth emergencies as the overall response continues into the recovery and resilience phases.

On 11 July, UN chief António Guterres visited Mozambique and said that UN relief and recovery efforts are now concluded, with resilience efforts - the ability of communities to be armed to better withstand these catastrophes in the future – ramping up. Cyclones Idai and Kenneth affected more than two million Mozambicans when they struck with deadly force in March and April respectively. Cyclone Idai ravaged Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi and is said to be the worst weather-related disaster to hit the southern hemisphere.

Response

Cyclone Kenneth

- The ETC has established a Security Operations Centre (SOC) for Very High Frequency (VHF) and High Frequency (HF) radios in **Macomia** to ensure the safety and security of humanitarians working in that area. The SOC will be operational for three months and radio operators have been hired and trained.

- All ETC Internet connectivity services demobilized as of 12 July and partners on the ground are using local ISP services. ETC partner equipment was transported from Pemba to Beira and from there it will be shipped back to partners by sea.
  - o Throughout the ETC's response to Cyclone Kenneth, more than 346 humanitarian responders from 61 organisations registered to access ETC connectivity services across Pemba, Ibo island and Macomia.

- The ETC Coordinator for the Cyclone Kenneth response left the operation on 17 July and handed over to the ETC Coordinator for Cyclone Idai who is also the IT Coordinator based in Maputo.

Cyclone Idai

- ETC connectivity services in areas affected by Cyclone Idai in Sofala province were transitioned to local commercial solutions at the end of May. More than 1,800 humanitarians from 440 organisations registered to access the connectivity services.

- The ETC established an SOC in Beira which was deactivated on 25 July after three months of operations.

- As part of its S4C activities, the ETC is collaborating with the National Forum of Community Radios in Mozambique (FORCOM) to rehabilitate damaged 6x community radios in Buzi, Dondo, Beira, Nhamatanda and Gorongosa in Sofala province.

Planned Response

- The ETC conducted an assessment mission ahead of the planned two-day workshop in Maputo which is tentatively scheduled for early September. The workshop will be led by the Communications Regulatory ARECOM and the National Institute of Disaster Management in Mozambique (INGC), and facilitated by WFP as the global lead of the ETC. The workshop will be held in Portuguese and English. During the workshop participants will:
  - o Review the overall country disaster scenario including potential impacts on the telecommunications structure;
  - o Strengthen partnerships and coordination among all key stakeholders;
  - o Achieve consensus amongst all stakeholders on the next steps, workplans and action points;

       o Define key immediate needs (KINs) and determine coordination structures and other mechanisms to support the delivery of the KIN.

- The ETC continues to consolidate and share operational information, with the aim of enhancing operational decision making. This includes maintaining information sharing platforms, contact lists, the country webpage on www.ETCluster.org, ETC Dashboard and generating regular SitReps.

Challenges

- Security issues in Cabo Delgado province may hamper the humanitarian operation.

- Delays in importing communications equipment and customs clearances have an impact on ETC operations on the ground.

Funding

Cyclone Idai

- The ETC requires US$1.2 million for the provision of services in up to 4x EOCs for six months, along with a number of connection sites at accommodation centres, health centres, distribution points and humanitarian hubs. So far, it is 50% per cent funded having received US$100,000 from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and US$500,000 from WFP's Strategic Resource Allocation Committee.

Cyclone Kenneth

- The total ETC budget for Cyclone Kenneth is US$720,000 for a period of three months. The ETC received US$249,114 from CERF funds as requested.

Meetings

- The next Global ETC teleconference on the Cyclone Idai response in Mozambique will be held on Wednesday 18 September.

Information

- All the information related to the ETC response in Mozambique can be found on the dedicated emergency page on the ETC website: www.etcluster.org/emergencies/mozambique-cyclones-idai-and-kenneth

- The latest ETC Mozambique Dashboard can be found here: https://www.etcluster.org/document/etc-mozambique-dashboard-24-july

- Partners that are responding in the affected areas or have relevant information on the Mozambique operation for the wider humanitarian community can share it by emailing Mozambique.ETC@wfp.org

Key ETC Contacts

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Acronyms

CERF	Central Emergency Response Fund
COMCEN	Communications Centre
EOC	Emergency Operations Centre
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
GATR	Ground Antenna Transmit and Receive
HF	High Frequency
ICCG	Inter Cluster Coordination Group
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
INCM	National Institute of Communications in Mozambique
INGC	National Disaster Management Institute
UAS	Unmanned Aircraft Systems
UNHAS	United Nations Humanitarian Air Service
SBP	Stand-by Partner
VHF	Very High Frequency
VSAT	Very Small Aperture Terminal
WFP	UN World Food Programme

All information related to ETC operations can be found on the ETC website: www.ETCluster.org

For more information, or to be added or deleted from the mailing list, please contact: Global.ETC@wfp.org