

## **Mozambique – Cyclone Idai**

### **ETC Situation Report #2**

### **Reporting period 17/03/19 to 18/03/19**

ETC Mozambique are distributed every two days. The next report will be issued on or around 20/03/19.

### **Highlights**

- The most affected city area by the Tropical Cyclone Idai, Beira, continues to have no power services. Voice services from the local provider are slowly recovering but are not fully reliable.
- The Government of Luxembourg and the World Food Programme (WFP) Johannesburg Regional Bureau Information and Communication Technology (ICT) team have set up connectivity services for the humanitarian community working from the operations centre established at the Beira airport.
- The Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) Coordinator is engaging with the humanitarian community and relevant governmental authorities to gather their ICT needs and planned activities for a coherent provision of communications services.



ETC partner the Government of Luxembourg setting up connectivity services at Beira airport.

*Photo: Government of Luxembourg*

### **Situation Overview**

Following Tropical Cyclone Idai, heavy rains are expected to continue in the affected areas of central Mozambique. According to WFP, the provinces affected most by Cyclone Idai are Sofala, Manica, Zambezia, Inhambane and Tete.

The National Disaster Management Institute (INGC) estimates that 600,000 people are currently at risk and in urgent need of humanitarian assistance in the affected areas.

Beira airport resumed operations on 17 March after the Mozambique Aviation Authority assessed the situation and is guaranteeing minimum safety conditions. The runway was not affected but navigation, illumination as well as weather and radio communications systems have been damaged.

## Response

- The ETC Coordinator will arrive to Beira on 19 March to carry out an assessment on the ground to map the ICT needs of the humanitarian partners operating in the affected areas.
- Basic connectivity services were initially set up by WFP at the operations centre established at Beira airport, from which humanitarian partners are coordinating their activities. Additional connectivity services from ETC partner the Government of Luxembourg are now operational at the operations centre to expand the support to humanitarian operations. This service will be complemented by the ETC Partners Ericsson Response Wireless LAN in Disaster and Emergency Response (WIDER) solution to distribute the connectivity and manage users' access to Internet.
- 1x Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) expert supported mapping activities of the affected areas in Beira on 18 March. These activities will resume as soon as the weather conditions improve.

## Planned Response

- As the road between Chimoio and Beira has been washed out in three places due to the collapse of a dam, WFP United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) is planning to establish an operations hub in Chimoio from which air services to Beira will be provided. The ETC is ready to support with communications services there in the event that the hub requires support to additional organisations.

## Challenges

- Satellite voice services are unreliable which is hampering the humanitarian response on the ground.
- After the cyclone, the national electricity grid in Beira has been non-operational and is not expected to become fully functional before the end of March.

## Funding

- The ETC forecasted a budget of US\$500,000 for the provision of operational communications and Internet connectivity services during an initial period of three months in three locations, which are currently being identified.
- The ETC is planning to request US\$100,000 from the Mozambique Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) allocation to support its initial critical activities.



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## Meetings

- The first Global ETC teleconference on the Cyclone Idai in Mozambique will be held on **19 March 2019**.

## Information

- ETC Mozambique services dashboard is available here: [www.etcluster.org/document/etc-mozambique-dashboard-18-march-2019](http://www.etcluster.org/document/etc-mozambique-dashboard-18-march-2019)
- 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-cyclone-idai](http://www.etcluster.org/emergencies/mozambique-cyclone-idai)
- 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 [Global.ETC@wfp.org](mailto:Global.ETC@wfp.org).



## Key ETC Contacts

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## Acronyms

CERF	Central Emergency Response Fund
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
INGC	National Disaster Management Institute
UAS	Unmanned Aircraft Systems
UNHAS	United Nations Humanitarian Air Service
WFP	UN World Food Programme

All information related to ETC operations can be found on the ETC website: [www.ETCluster.org](http://www.ETCluster.org)

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