

## **Mozambique – Cyclone Idai**

### **ETC Situation Report #6**

### **Reporting period 29/03/19 to 31/03/19**

ETC Mozambique are distributed every three days. The next report will be issued on or around 03/04/19.

### **Highlights**

- The Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) Services for Communities (S4C) advisor has so far conducted assessments of four community radio stations in Beira, Dondo and Buzi to explore potential S4C projects.
- To date, 867 humanitarians at the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) in Beira are registered to access ETC Internet connectivity to enable them to do their work.
- The ETC still requires US\$1.2 million to provide critical communications services in up to four EOCs for three months along with a number of connection sites for accommodation centres, health centres, distribution points and joint location NGOs.



The ETC S4C advisor and the ETC IMO conducting an S4C scoping mission in Nhangau village, Beira.

*Photo: ETC*

### **Situation Overview**

The official death toll of Cyclone Idai has now surpassed the 500 mark, according to the latest government figures. An estimated 141,000 displaced people were sheltering in 161 sites across Sofala (109,700 people), Manica (15,200 people), Zambezia (13,200 people), Tete (2,650 people) as of 30 March. In 22 sites, it was reported that damaged or destroyed houses were the primary reason preventing people from returning home. The remaining reasons were accessibility, basic infrastructure damage, lack of food and no livelihoods.

There were 246 cases of cholera reported across Beira City (211) and Nhamatanda (35) by 30 March, and 535 cases of diarrhoea in Beira City (300), Dondo (200) and Nhamtanda (35). Meanwhile, 276 cases of malaria were reported in Beira City (101), Dondo (152) and Nhamtanda (23). There remains a high-risk of spread of both water-borne and vector-borne diseases.

Water levels continue to recede but are not yet below medium flood levels.

## Response

- Since the start of the ETC response to Cyclone Idai, a total of 867 humanitarians in Beira are registered to access ETC Internet connectivity services to conduct their lifesaving work effectively.
  - The ETC is working with a local Internet Service Provider (ISP) to significantly improve the bandwidth at the EOC in Beira. The bandwidth has now increased from 8Mbps to 80Mbps but is still being tested.
  - ETC partners Ericsson Response, emergency.lu, ITU and Télécoms Sans Frontières (TSF) have been providing vital communications equipment and set up connectivity services at Beira airport. A NetHope team member continues to hold the role of NGO Coordinator for the ETC, based in Beira.
  - Since the ETC activated the Crisis Connectivity Charter to support humanitarian communications in Mozambique, satellite industry companies, Eutelsat SA, Inmarsat and SES are providing services.
- In Beira, the ETC is providing Internet connectivity links in 8x additional sites including Hotel Sena, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) office, World Food Programme (WFP) office, World Central Kitchen, National Institute of Disaster Management (INGC) in Beira airport, DHL office in Beira airport, Samaritan's Purse office and a THW camp in Nhangau village.
- ETC partner TSF installed a satellite terminal at a humanitarian hub in Buzi for humanitarians working in that location. A second TSF team is in Matarara deploying Internet connectivity services for humanitarian services in an operational centre that will be used for distributions.
- The ETC Coordinator conducted assessments of the potential humanitarian hub in Buzi as well as the Buzi Rural Hospital.
- The ETC Services for Communities (S4C) advisor has conducted technical assessments of four community radio stations and one private radio station across Beira, Dondo and Buzi together with the National Forum of Community Broadcasters (FORCOM) in Mozambique to determine the feasibility of rehabilitating them. Following the assessments, it was found that three are completely damaged and two partially damaged.

## Planned Response

- The ETC will continue to provide additional Internet connectivity links to organisations in Beira where feasible.
- With additional cholera cases now confirmed, the ETC is planning to conduct connectivity assessments of 10x cholera centres planned by World Health Organisation (WHO) in affected areas.
- The ETC S4C advisor plans to conduct further assessments of community radio stations in Manica, Zambezia and Inhambane provinces.
- The IT Emergency Coordinator is based in the capital, Maputo and is working closely with the National Institute of Communications in Mozambique (INCM). INCM are supporting the ETC with the importation of

telecommunications equipment into Mozambique and have requested ETC support in identified affected areas. The INCM has also requested satellite phones and portable Very High Frequency (VHF) kits, including repeaters and handheld radios that can also be used for future emergencies.

## Challenges

- Satellite voice services are unreliable which is hampering the humanitarian response on the ground.
- Since the cyclone, the national electricity grid in Beira has been non-operational.
- Slow customs clearances are delaying the arrival of critical ICT equipment into the country.

## Funding

- The ETC is requesting US\$1.2 million for the provision of services in up to four EOCs for three months along with a number of connection sites at accommodation centres, health centres, distribution points and joint location NGOs.
- The ETC has requested US\$100,000 from the Mozambique Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) allocation to support its initial critical activities.

## Meetings

- The next Global ETC teleconference on the Cyclone Idai response in Mozambique will be held on Wednesday 3 April.
- The next local ETC working group meeting is to be held on Monday 8 April in Beira. Time is to be confirmed on invitation.
- The WFP IT Emergency Coordinator is supporting inter-agency collaboration from Maputo by holding regular meetings with the INCM.

## 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-cyclone-idai](http://www.etcluster.org/emergencies/mozambique-cyclone-idai)
- The latest ETC Mozambique Dashboard can be found here: <https://www.etcluster.org/document/etc-mozambique-dashboard-27-march-2019>
- 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](mailto:Mozambique.ETC@wfp.org).



## Key ETC Contacts

### [Mozambique.ETC@wfp.org](mailto:Mozambique.ETC@wfp.org)

LOCATION	NAME	TITLE	EMAIL
Beira, Mozambique	Ryan Twitney	ETC Coordinator	<a href="mailto:ryan.twitney@wfp.org">ryan.twitney@wfp.org</a>
Beira, Mozambique	Suzanne Fenton	ETC IM Officer	<a href="mailto:Suzanne.fenton@wfp.org">Suzanne.fenton@wfp.org</a>
Maputo, Mozambique	Pastor Lovo	WFP IT Emergency Coordinator	<a href="mailto:Pastor.lovo@wfp.org">Pastor.lovo@wfp.org</a>

## 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)

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