

Mozambique: Cyclone Chido Response Plan

WeWorld
ChildFund International



Chiuro Primary School after Cyclone Chido hit in December 2024 (Credits: WeWorld)

PERIOD:

March - August 2025

Affected population

453,971

Estimated number of people in need of humanitarian aid

Housing destruction:

- Totally destroyed: 70,408
- Partially destroyed: 32,207

Casualties and injuries:

- Casualties: 120
- Injuries: 868

Target population

54.083

Direct and indirect beneficiaries of this Response Plan



USD 1 million requested

Already committed:
120,000 USD

Summary

Purpose: to contribute to the immediate relief of cyclone Chido-affected people in Cabo Delgado within 6 months (March - August 2025).

Strategic Objectives:

1. Provide life-saving humanitarian, multi-sectorial packages to internally displaced persons (IDPs) and other affected populations in Cabo Delgado province.
2. Cyclone-affected population are protected from harm, specifically vulnerable groups (e.g. unaccompanied minors, women and girls, singleheaded households, unaccompanied children and distressed populations).

Funding and sectors: According to initial assessments, a minimum of USD 1 million is required to address urgent needs and support the response in Cabo Delgado province. The response plan will focus on three sectors: Protection, Education, and WASH, aiming to assist approximately 32.552 affected individuals. This initiative will be jointly managed by ChildFund International and WeWorld, leveraging their existing presence in the targeted province and their established partnership under the ChildFund Alliance.

WeWorld Operational Presence: 55 staff deployed amongst 4 offices (Maputo, Tete, Pemba e Chiure). WeWorld has been present in Mozambique since 2000 and has carried out programs related to Education, Protection, WASH, Food Security, and Livelihood and Local Development. In response to emerging needs, WeWorld has also integrated interventions in climate change and environmental resilience, focusing on natural disaster preparedness and response. Additionally, WeWorld works on gender and human rights to support social cohesion and peacebuilding, aiming to prevent conflict and violent radicalization of youth.

WeWorld and ChildFund International were able to mobilize about 120,000 USD for the response. The set up for the emergency activities is currently ongoing.

Rationale for the Response Plan

According to OCHA, Cyclone Chido has severely impacted Mozambique, particularly the provinces of Cabo Delgado, Nampula, and Niassa¹, affecting over 453,971 people, with at least, completely/partially destroying 70,000 houses, along with 120 schools, and 52 health centers, among others.² Despite the magnitude of the emergency, only 77,000 individuals received assistance within 12 hours from its impact.³ Humanitarian efforts have been mobilized, including the deployment of field teams to provide urgent aid.

The security situation in Mozambique, particularly in Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Niassa remains precarious, exacerbated by the ongoing political unrest following the contested elections in October 2024. In these provinces, rural areas and villages have experienced significant turmoil, with clashes between protesters and security forces further destabilizing the region.⁴ In Cabo Delgado, the districts of Mecufi, Metuge, Chiure, and Ancuabe have been notably affected. Mecufi experienced total devastation, with 100% of its population affected.

Metuge also faced substantial impact, with 62% of its residents affected. Chiure and Ancuabe reported 15% and 12% of their populations affected, respectively. WeWorld conducted an assessment in Chiure District in the aftermath of the crisis, on 18th-24th December, 2024, focusing on the organization's thematic areas and mapping impacts on communities, educational infrastructure, and essential services.

The main findings highlighted several critical issues. Protection Incidents: The cyclone left many families displaced, with individuals relying on schools or improvised shelters for protection. This situation has heightened vulnerabilities, especially for children and the elderly, who face risks of violence and exploitation in overcrowded and insecure shelters. The lack of adequate infrastructure further exacerbates safety concerns for these groups. Educational Impact: The cyclone's consequences were particularly severe in the education sector, with significant damage to 6 schools across Chiure district, with urgent repairs needed to ensure a safe return to classrooms. Auxiliary classrooms, including temporary teaching spaces (TLS) and structures built with local materials, were also severely damaged. These facilities, vital for providing interim educational support, were impacted across several schools, compounding the challenges faced by the education sector. WASH Facilities: The cyclone has caused severe damage to water, sanitation, and hygiene infrastructure in Cabo Delgado, limiting access to clean water and adequate hygiene facilities. To address these challenges, planned activities include the distribution of shelter kits to affected households, hygiene education sessions in schools and communities, and the provision of dignity kits to support menstrual hygiene management and improve overall health and sanitation conditions.

WeWorld has an established office in Cabo Delgado Province, while ChildFund International in Nampula Provinces. The strong relationships with local governments, communities, and civil society allow to provide immediate humanitarian assistance to affected communities. According to initial assessments, a minimum of USD 1 million is required to address urgent needs and support the response.



WeWorld and ChildFund International in Mozambique

1. <https://www.unocha.org/news/todays-top-news-occupied-palestinian-territory-syria-lebanon-mozambique>

2. <https://reliefweb.int/report/mozambique/mozambique-tropical-cyclones-flash-appeal-january-june-2025-updated-february-2025>

3. <https://reliefweb.int/report/mozambique/red-cross-responds-cyclone-chido-and-scales-preparedness-future-storms-initial-assessments-paint-grim-picture>

4. <https://apnews.com/article/mozambique-prison-escape-elections-protests-violence-c8e63a5b622316203371b2af258ded3b>

Table 1: People in need and affected population ⁵

Location	Affected districts	Resident population	Estimation of affected households	Estimation of affected population	% of affected population
Cabo Delgado	Mecufi	73,652	15,200	73,652	100%
	Metuge	103,987	12,960	64,800	62%
	Chiure (*)	361,709	13,873	54,083	15%
	Ancuabe	190,745	4,738	23,690	12%
TOTAL		730,093	46,771	216,225	30%

Source: INGD_23/12/24

(*) From WeWord field data collection

Scope of the Response Plan

This response plan timeframe is from March to August 2025, to cover Cabo Delgado province with specific focus on Chiure district. The plan is to benefit approximately 54,083 people affected with specific focus on most vulnerable and marginalized populations. The response plan will support three sectors including: Education, Protection and WASH. We will ensure to avoid double counting when assessing effective beneficiaries in the reporting phase of the response. The activities of the response plan are fully aligned with needs and priorities of the Mozambique Tropical Cyclone Chido Flash Appeal led by OCHA with the contribution from the intercluster coordination groups.⁶

Education

Specific objective 1: By August 2025, support the back-to-school initiative for 7,280 cyclone-affected children in Chiure District in Cabo Delgado by rehabilitating 29 classrooms in 6 damaged schools, distributing school kits for Remedial, Catch Up and Accelerate Classes programs for 7,280 pupils to ensure a safe and conducive learning environment.

Mozambique's economy faces significant challenges, with limited infrastructure in education and healthcare, and a heavy reliance on subsistence farming. Prior to Cyclone Chido, educational attainment was low for both boys and girls, with fewer than 60% of children completing primary education as of 2022. The cyclone exacerbated these challenges, destroying approximately 60% of schools in affected areas, disrupting education for over 109,000 students.

Ensuring the safety of classrooms, providing school kits and creating playful-recreational learning spaces are critical to the resumption of education. However, if schools are repurposed as shelters or medical facilities, communities may resist their use for education. Additionally, parents facing urgent needs or fearing separation may deprioritize education for their children. Addressing these issues is essential to restore educational services and support children's well-being in the aftermath of the cyclone. ChildFund International and WeWorld will support back to school by reaching out to about 11,635 children and 91 teachers in 6 schools.

5. <https://dtm.iom.int/reports/mozambique-tropical-cyclone-chido-flash-update-1-cabo-delgado-19-december-2024>

6. <https://reliefweb.int/report/mozambique/mozambique-tropical-cyclones-flash-appeal-january-june-2025-updated-february-2025>

Activity	Location	Indicator	Target
Recreational kits	Chiure, Administrative post of Chiúre Velho, Chiúre Sede and Ocuá	# of kits distributed	7,280 students benefited from recreational activities
Accelerated Learning Programs (ALP)	Chiure, Administrative post of Chiúre Velho, Chiúre Sede and Ocuá	# Children engaged in ALP (accelerated learning programmes) for in and out of school children.	1,500 out-of-school children
Catch up and Remedial Classes	Chiure, Administrative post of Chiúre Velho, Chiúre Sede and Ocuá	# of children engaged in peer-to-peer sessions focused on learning about resilience, safety and emergency preparedness	7,280 in and out of school children reached by catch up and remedial classes
Classrooms - Small Repairs	Chiure, Administrative post of Chiúre Velho, Chiúre Sede and Ocuá.	# of classrooms repaired or rebuilt	29 classrooms

Protection

Specific objective 2: By August 2025, provide protective services to 7,280 elementary school children affected by the cyclone, with a focus on vulnerable groups such as unaccompanied minors, children from single-parent households, migrants, and unaccompanied children in some districts of Cabo Delgado province.

Many children are displaced, separated from their families, or living in overcrowded shelters, which exposes them to significant risks of violence, neglect, and exploitation. Immediate needs include child-friendly spaces, psychological support, and awareness campaigns on child protection to mitigate vulnerabilities to abuse, child labor, trafficking, and early marriage. Economic strain on families could also normalize harmful practices like child marriage. Key challenges include addressing substantial child protection issues, such as separation from caregivers, hazards like debris and floodwaters, and the logistical difficulty of identifying appropriate child protection locations. To mitigate these challenges, ChildFund International and WeWorld will set up structures to strengthen child protection mechanism at community level, design the referral system to ease the management of all forms of child abuse and traumatized children.

Activity	Location	Indicator	Target
School-based MHPSS	Chiure, Administrative post of Chiúre Velho, Chiúre Sede and Ocu	# people reached through community engagement and child participation initiatives on MHPSS	7,280 children benefited of MHPSS
Recreational activities combining sports, games, and creative expression with awareness sessions on preventing Violence Against Children (VAC) and Gender-Based Violence (GBV), promoting a safe and supportive environment for learning and engagement.	Chiure, Administrative post of Chiúre Velho, Chiúre Sede and Ocuá	# of people reached through community engagement and child participation initiatives on the right to education, prevention of Violence Against Children (VAC), and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) training	7,280 Children of the community trained on VAC, GBV

WASH

Specific objective 3: By August 2025, improve the well-being of 13,873 household affected by the cyclone by improving access to clean water, and sanitation facilities across the affected districts.

The WASH situation in the Cabo Delgado province has been severely impacted. The cyclone has resulted in the destruction of 52 latrines, significantly limiting access to essential hygiene facilities and exacerbating the risk of waterborne diseases among the affected populations. Access to hygiene kits and training sessions is essential to prevent the occurrence of waterborne diseases, in various segment of the society (HHs, schools, etc.). Additionally, the damage to infrastructure has hindered the provision of clean water, further compromising sanitation efforts. Immediate humanitarian assistance is crucial to restore WASH services and ensure the health and safety of vulnerable communities in these regions.

Activity	Location	Indicator	Target
Distribution of NFIs	Chiure, Administrative post of Chiúre Velho, Chiúre Sede and Ocua	# of shelter kits distributed to households in affected areas	13,873 household reached
Cash transfers for food items and other basic needs	Chiure, Administrative post of Chiúre Velho, Chiúre Sede and Ocua	# of individuals benefiting from cash transfers for food and other basic needs	13,873 individuals experiencing improved food security because of cash transfer
Hygiene Education in schools and communities	Chiure, Administrative post of Chiúre Velho, Chiúre Sede and Ocua	# of hygiene education sessions conducted in schools	7,280 of students correctly identifying key hygiene practices
Dignity Kits for Menstrual Hygiene Management	Chiure, Administrative post of Chiúre Velho, Chiúre Sede and Ocua	# of dignity kits provided to girls, focusing on menstrual hygiene management supplies	1,804 girls improved menstrual hygiene management

Cross cutting issues

Inclusivity: Community based disaggregation and vulnerability targeting approach will be used to ensure that the needs of vulnerable groups will be appropriately addressed including people with disabilities, minority ethnic groups, pregnant and lactating women and children. **Accountability:** To ensure accountability in the response to the cyclone-affected population, a clear and transparent mechanism will be established to enable affected communities to voice their needs and concerns. This includes setting up feedback mechanism committees and placing suggestion boxes, along with ensuring regular consultations with local leaders and community representatives. Providing timely and accurate information about available aid and response timelines is essential to build trust and manage expectations.

Coordination: Effective coordination with all actors in the cluster system is essential for a comprehensive and efficient response to Cyclone Chido in Cabo Delgado districts. This involves aligning humanitarian efforts through the participation and regular engagement of relevant clusters (WASH, Shelter, Food Security, Education, and Protection), to avoid duplication and ensure resource optimization. INGOs, UN agencies, government bodies, and local organizations must participate in regular coordination meetings to share updates, identify gaps, and prioritize needs based on real-time assessments. Clear communication channels and joint planning frameworks should be established to streamline activities and facilitate information sharing.

Special attention will be given to integrating cross-cutting issues like gender, disability inclusion, and accountability into the response. Additionally, clusters should work closely with government-led coordination mechanisms, ensuring interventions align with national disaster management strategies. Through effective collaboration, the cluster system can deliver timely, equitable, and impactful assistance to affected communities.

Safety, security and access: In responding to this emergency, it is crucial to integrate safety, security, and humanitarian principles to ensure effective and ethical operations. Humanitarian actors must prioritize the safety of affected populations and response teams by conducting thorough risk assessments and implementing mitigation measures such as avoiding high-risk areas, coordinating with local authorities, and ensuring compliance with security protocols. Access to affected areas must be negotiated in line with humanitarian principles of neutrality, impartiality, and independence, while respecting the dignity and rights of communities. Protection measures should address vulnerabilities such as gender-based violence, child exploitation, and discrimination, with specific interventions for marginalized groups like women, children, and persons with disabilities. Additionally, emergency operations must include contingency plans for staff security, ensuring that responders can deliver aid without compromising their well-being. By balancing safety, security, and humanitarian priorities, the response can effectively meet immediate needs while maintaining ethical standards and minimizing harm.

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