

## Situational Update: Heavy Rainfall and Flooding

January-February 2026

### Affected Provinces

Gaza, Maputo (City and Province), Inhambane, Sofala, Zambézia, Nampula, Tete, Manica, and Niassa

### Overview

Since mid-December 2025, Mozambique has experienced severe and persistent flooding that has escalated into one of the most significant humanitarian emergencies in recent years. The situation has further deteriorated since the previous update of 14 January 2026.



According to the National Institute for Disaster Management and Risk Reduction (INGD) and OCHA, as of 9 February 2026, more than 724,000 people have been affected by flooding nationwide. Humanitarian partners and Government projections indicate that up to 700,000 people are currently in need, with 620,000 targeted for assistance under the Flood Response Addendum. So far, 141,000 people have been reached by 33 organizations in various response interventions.

As on 9 February approximately 78,000 people are currently hosted in 77 accommodation centres across the country. Displacement figures remain under verification as population movements continue and access constraints persist.

The floods have caused at least 105 deaths since the beginning of the rainy season, linked to flooding, lightning strikes, infrastructure collapse and disease outbreaks.

Based on INGD and UNDAC reporting, more than 165,000 houses have been flooded or damaged, 229 health facilities and 355 schools have been affected, and several key roads – including sections of the N1 corridor – remain inaccessible.

Livelihood losses are extensive, with more than 312,000 hectares of agricultural land affected and an estimated 430,000 livestock lost.

Gaza Province remains the epicentre of the emergency and continues to host the largest concentration of displaced populations. The Government declared a nationwide Red Alert on 16 January 2026 and formally requested international assistance on 17 January 2026, including search and rescue support, logistics, evacuation, infrastructure assessment and engineering capacity.

## Provincial Situation Updates

### Gaza Province

Gaza Province continues to bear the brunt of the disaster, with the largest concentrations of displaced communities in Chiaquelene and Xilembene. Major urban areas including Xai-Xai and Chókwè remain severely affected, with entire neighbourhoods inundated.

Aerial and drone assessments coordinated by INGD and UNDAC continue to identify marooned communities along the Limpopo basin. Rescue and evacuation operations remain ongoing.

According to UNDAC, approximately 4,700 people have been rescued and/or evacuated to designated accommodation centres in Gaza and neighbouring districts since the onset of the emergency.

### Maputo City and Province

Flooding continues to affect access roads and residential areas, particularly in Mulotana, Nkobe, Matola-Gare, KaMavota and Boane.

The partner organization Reencontro (operating in KaMavota district) reports that seven communities have been affected: Hulene, Polana Caníco, Ferroviário, Laulane, Mahotas, 3 de Fevereiro and Mavalane.

#### **Key figures from Reencontro's assessment (12–24 January 2026):**

2,499 people affected across 462 families; 155 enrolled families affected; 310 enrolled children affected; 235 sponsored children in the affected area; all sponsored children have been located and are safe; no fatalities reported.

Operational constraints remain unchanged and include lack of transportation (4x4 vehicle required), boots and rain gear for field teams, and severe road flooding. Four staff members remain deployed but face mobility challenges. Community sensitisation for evacuation from risk zones and data collection activities continue.

### Inhambane Province

The partner organization Associação Txivuno Txavanana (ATTV), operating in Zavala District, reports continued disruption to education infrastructure in Maita community.

Heavy rainfall and strong winds damaged Maita Primary School, with one classroom roof fully removed.

#### **Key figures:**

50 families (250 people) affected; 30 enrolled families affected; 65 enrolled children affected. School roof repair materials is also required to replace damaged roofs in schools.

Hydrological authorities continue to warn of high flood risk in Govuro, Inhassoro, Vilankulo, Mabote, Massinga, Funhalouro, Morrumbene, Panda, Homóine, Jangamo, Inharrime and Zavala districts, as well as Inhambane and Maxixe cities.

### Sofala Province

Flooding remains severe in Nhamatanda and Buzi districts. The Búzi and Púnguè rivers remain above alert levels, placing tens of thousands of people at risk.

In Nhamatanda, housing and agricultural destruction continues, with extensive crop losses reported.

Displacement remains ongoing in low-lying districts, with 7,377 people accommodated in centres in Nhamatanda and 2,643 people across eight centres in Buzi. Road access and supply chains remain significantly constrained.

### Zambézia Province

In Maganja da Costa District, approximately 5,000 people remain affected, with 4,431 people (1,152 families) hosted in temporary accommodation centres.

Among those displaced are 936 children facing increased exposure to health, nutrition and education risks.

Flooding in the Lower Licungo area has resulted in the loss of more than 3,600 hectares of rice paddies, with more than 11,000 hectares affected overall.

### Nampula Province

The partner organization WATANA, operating in Ribaué District (Iapala Administrative Post), reports continued damage across 10 communities: Locone A, B and C; Mucocola A and B; Namicopo 2; Cuvulo; Mutxaiane; Namacava; and Nathaua.

Reported impacts remain:

- 25 sponsored children affected with confirmed housing damage
- EP1 de Locone: 3 classrooms completely destroyed (temporary reconstruction underway using salvaged bricks)
- Two community preschool latrines collapsed
- Two main access routes to Iapala headquarters cut
- Main access road to ten programme communities cut at the Niwiri River

Six field staff remain active, operating under strict safety protocols, including restricted travel following rainfall events. Distribution of tarpaulins continues, and a consolidated damage assessment is pending from the administrative post.

### Health Facility Status – Maputo Province (as of 2 February 2026)

According to WHO data, health facilities across Maputo Province have been significantly affected:

District	Total HF	Affected	Functional	Partial	Closed
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Boane	14	6	8	6	0
Matola	28	6	22	5	1
Magude	10	10	0	10	0
Manhica	18	10	7	10	1
Marracuene	9	6	3	4	2
Matutuine	13	12	1	12	0
Moamba	10	10	0	10	0
Namaacha	10	7	3	7	0

Of particular concern, all health facilities in Magude and Moamba districts are affected, with none fully functional. In Matutuine, only one facility remains fully functional.

At national level, INGD and UNDAC report that 229 health facilities have been damaged or affected by flooding.

## Child Protection and Education Impact



According to UNICEF and OCHA estimates, children represent more than half of the affected population, with approximately 400,000 children impacted. At national level, 355 schools have been damaged or affected by flooding.

Key child protection concerns remain:

- elevated risks of waterborne diseases, malaria and cholera
- disruption to food and health services, with pre-existing chronic malnutrition rates remaining close to

40 per cent in several provinces

- heightened protection risks for girls and adolescents in overcrowded accommodation centres
- unaccompanied and separated children requiring tracing and reunification
- delayed and disrupted education as the new school year approaches

Hundreds of schools and classrooms have been swept away or submerged. Learning materials and school gardens have been destroyed. The school year start has been delayed to end of February, with an estimated **250,000 children** unable to begin the new school year as planned. Partner reports indicate damage to classrooms at Mavalane “B” Primary School and 9 de Agosto School in Maputo, Maita Primary School in Inhambane, and EP1 de Locone in Nampula (3 classrooms completely destroyed).

Child-friendly spaces are being established to provide psychosocial support, with the first space opened in Chihaquelane serving over 300 children on its first day.

## Humanitarian Impact

- Isolation of communities due to approximately 5,000 km of damaged or inaccessible roads across nine provinces
- Disruption of essential services, including healthcare (multiple facilities non-functional), food assistance, and WASH interventions
- Elevated public health risks with grave danger of large cholera outbreaks due to widespread water contamination
- Communication breakdowns affecting assessments and coordination
- Food shortages due to severe livelihood losses, with more than 312,000 hectares of agricultural land affected and 430,000 livestock lost
- Severe disruption of education infrastructure with 355 schools affected and the school year delayed
- Over 3.15 million people in IPC Phase 3+ (severe acute food insecurity)
- Increased operational delays, costs, and risk of suspension of humanitarian activities in hard-to-reach areas

## Priority Humanitarian Needs

The most urgent needs identified include:

- Emergency shelter and non-food items (tents, tarpaulins, kitchen sets, blankets, mosquito nets, sleeping mats, solar lamps)
- Emergency food assistance to address crop losses and food insecurity
- Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) support including water treatment, purification supplies, and hygiene kits
- Healthcare services and outbreak prevention (cholera vaccination campaign targeting 1.7 million people)
- Targeted rehabilitation of damaged classrooms before school year
- Child protection services, including child-friendly spaces and psychosocial support
- Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) for displaced and affected children and families
- Protection services with focus on GBV prevention and response
- Camp coordination and camp management support for overcrowded accommodation centres

## Humanitarian Response and Coordination

**Government Response:** The Government of Mozambique is leading the response through the National Institute for Disaster Management (INGD). A Mobile Emergency Operations Centre (CENOE) has been established in Gaza Province, with Provincial Emergency Operations Centres operational in Gaza, Maputo, and Sofala. Search-and-rescue operations continue with international support.

**International Support:** Rescue teams have been mobilized from Brazil, South Africa, and the United Kingdom. Portugal dispatched a military contingent with supplies, experts, and funding through Instituto Camões. Spain provided water treatment equipment with capacity for 220,000 liters per day, along with 16 volunteer technicians deployed to Gaza Province through AECID/EU Emergency Response Mechanism. The Aga Khan Foundation collected 20 tons of essentials

from Lisbon. Additional support has been provided by the European Union, United States, Angola, East Timor, Norway, Japan, and neighboring countries.

**UN and Humanitarian Partners:** IOM co-leads the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster with PRONANAC and the Shelter/NFI Cluster with IFRC. IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) provides critical data on displacement to inform response planning. UNICEF is scaling up assistance in WASH, health, nutrition, education, and child protection. An OCHA-UNDAC Private Sector Coordinator has been deployed to engage private sector partners in the response.

**Bilateral and international support:**

The Flood Response Addendum to the HNRP was officially launched on 30 January 2026, targeting US\$187 million to assist 600,000 people.

A **CERF** rapid response allocation of US\$5 million has been approved for life-saving assistance. An Emergency Cash Grant of **US\$88,500** supported search and rescue activities. A Regional Humanitarian Fund allocation of US\$2.5 million for NGOs is under development.

**Private sector engagement:**

Private sector engagement is expanding. Notable contributions include:

- Vodacom Foundation: 20 tonnes of relief items and a pledge of **10 million MZN (approximately USD 156,000)**
- Total Energies, Vulcan Mozambique and Maputo Port Development Company: combined private sector contributions estimated at approximately **USD 6 million**
- DHL and Airlink are on standby for logistics and airlift support
- Major banks and other companies have made donations in cash and in kind to support government response efforts

**Logistics and access:**

The Logistics Cluster is supporting access through UNHAS and overland transport. Two Mobile Storage Units have been installed in Xai-Xai and at the airport, providing **640 m<sup>2</sup> of additional storage**, with four additional units planned.

Road access mapping and aerial assessments are ongoing.

**Funding Requirements**

The 2026 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP) Addendum issued on 23 January seeks USD 187 million to provide urgent, life-saving assistance to approximately 620,000 people over six months (January-June 2026).

IOM has issued a Flash Appeal for USD 38.4 million targeting 150,000 beneficiaries across Maputo Province, Maputo Cidade, Gaza, Manica, Sofala, Zambezia, and Niassa. As of late January, only 8% of the requested funding has been received.

**IOM Flash Appeal Breakdown by Sector:**

Sector	Beneficiaries	Funding (USD)
Displacement Tracking Matrix	-	\$1,200,000

Camp Coordination & Camp Management (CCCM)	100,000	\$2,200,000
Shelter and NFI	150,000	\$20,000,000
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)	150,000	\$6,000,000
Protection and MHPSS	110,000	\$2,000,000
Health	150,000	\$6,000,000
Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)	100,000	\$1,000,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>\$38,400,000</b>

## Country Office (CO) Action Plan Update

The Country Office continues to actively engage with stakeholders to position itself as a key contributor to the humanitarian response:

1. The scenario-based Contingency Plan is being implemented following the Government's declaration of national Red Alert and emergency status.
2. The Multi-Hazard Contingency Humanitarian Programme developed with UNICEF is being activated. The response plan focuses on Child Protection, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) interventions in Maputo, Inhambane, and Nampula, implemented in collaboration with local partners.
3. CiC-approved funding for capacity strengthening of CO staff and local partners on MHPSS service delivery is being deployed.
4. The CO is actively participating in coordination platforms and contributing to the joint Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP) with INGD.
5. Local partner situation reports are being collected and compiled from Reencontro (Maputo City), ATTV (Inhambane), and WATANA (Nampula) to inform response planning and resource mobilization.



## Partner Support Needs

Local partners have identified the following support requirements:

### Reencontro (Maputo City):

- Emergency response funding for field assessments and evidence gathering
- 4x4 vehicle for safe team mobility in flooded areas
- Personal protective equipment (boots, rain gear) for 4 staff and 72 emergency committee members

- Support in identifying additional partners for emergency response
- Distribution of non-food items such as blankets, sleeping mats and cooking utensils to displaced families
- Distribution of food items and nutritious supplements for children
- Distribution of mosquito nets
- WASH interventions such as distribution of water trucks, water buckets, water purifiers and soaps to ensure people in accommodation centers are protected from diseases.
- Training of volunteers in MHPSS
- Setting up Child Friendly Spaces for children to play and engage in MHPSS activities
- Distribution of school materials to affected children

#### **Associação Txivuno Txavanana (Inhambane):**

- Financial and technical resources for urgent roof repair at Maita Primary School (estimated 36,350 MZN)
- Support to create safe learning spaces
- Training in MHPSS for volunteers
- Guidance on emergency response mechanisms in the education sector

#### **WATANA (Nampula):**

- Emergency response funding mobilization
- Working closely with local authorities and communities to provide direction, coordination, and monitoring support for emergency actions.
- Ensuring inclusive approaches that prevent discrimination and exploitation
- Training of volunteers in MHPSS

## **Outlook**

The situation remains highly volatile. February represents the peak of the rainy season and coincides with the cyclone period. Continued heavy rainfall, high river levels and upstream dam releases significantly increase the risk of further flooding.

UNDAC and environmental experts are conducting rapid post-flood dam stability assessments at Pequenos Libombos, Corumana and Massingir dams, and monitoring secondary environmental risks, including waste and pollution.

Support from the Regional Office (RO) and International Office (IO) is requested to facilitate awareness-raising among Alliance members regarding the deteriorating situation. Given the continued forecasts of heavy rainfall and the progression of the cyclone season, additional support will be required in the coming weeks.

*Sources: INGD, OCHA Flood Response Monitoring Dashboard (as of 3 February 2026), UNDAC Situation Report No.1 (02.02.26), UN OCHA MOZAMBIQUE 2026 Flood Humanitarian Response as of 9 February 2026, IOM DTM, UNICEF, WHO, partner SITREPs (Reencontro, ATTV, WATANA)*