



Auswärtiges Amt



Bundesministerium für  
wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit  
und Entwicklung

**May 2019**

## **Support by the German government for Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe in the aftermath of Cyclones Idai and Kenneth**

Tropical Cyclone Idai, which struck on 14, 15 and 16 March this year with wind speeds of up to 170 kilometres per hour, caused severe damage in parts of Southern Africa. According to latest figures, the cyclone affected 1.85 million people in Mozambique, 975,000 in Malawi, 270,000 in Zimbabwe and 1,000 people in Madagascar. More than 900 people died as a result of the storm, around 600 of them in Mozambique.

The most severely affected regions in Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe have seen the extensive destruction of their basic infrastructure, which will now have to be rebuilt. The homes of more than 200,000 people are uninhabitable; these people must now be provided with temporary accommodation elsewhere. Several districts of southern Malawi had already suffered severe flooding even before the cyclone hit. Now there is great concern over the lack of basic medical care and hygiene facilities, and the danger of epidemics spreading in the flooded areas. There is also concern that, in the medium term, the devastated and hence non-productive fields will have a disastrous effect on food security and nutrition in the region.

The United Nations estimates that, together, the three countries of Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Malawi will need approximately 440 million euros in humanitarian assistance and emergency relief for the people affected there. The World Bank calculates that, over the long term, reconstruction will cost at least two billion US dollars.

Mozambique's northern provinces of Cabo Delgado and Nampula were battered by a second cyclone, Cyclone Kenneth, on 27 and 28 April. According to early estimates, at least 41 people have died and around 20,000 people have had to leave their homes. Early estimates also indicate that Cyclone Kenneth has affected a further 300,000 people in Mozambique. However, the complex security situation in the north of the country is making it difficult to provide humanitarian assistance there.

The German government has made available considerable financial and technical support for the affected areas.

### **1. Emergency measures under humanitarian assistance**

Even before Cyclone Idai struck, Germany's Federal Foreign Office had made some 4.3 million euros available to the region of Southern Africa, in particular for food

security measures and in direct response to the ongoing drought. Germany's partners are international organisations and German non-governmental organisations. However, the destruction caused by Cyclone Idai has exacerbated the already strained food security situation in the region even further.

It is the Federal Foreign Office that is responsible for Germany's humanitarian relief operation in the region following the cyclone. Accordingly, it has made available seven million euros in emergency assistance. Its partners carrying out relief operations on the ground in Mozambique are Caritas International, the German Federal Agency for Technical Relief, the German Red Cross, UNICEF and the World Food Programme. In addition, Plan International, the Welthungerhilfe and the World Food Programme are involved in relief efforts in Malawi and Zimbabwe. These organisations' relief operations focus on improving people's access to basic water, sanitation and hygiene facilities, as well as providing emergency food aid and logistical support. A further focus of relief operations is on preventing and treating cholera, and on restoring basic health services in order to prevent further outbreaks of disease.

The Federal Foreign Office actively supports disaster preparedness activities in the region through Forecast-based Financing projects, which are implemented through the Red Cross movement. With the help of weather forecasts and identified reached weather thresholds, it was possible to deploy experts and volunteers from Mozambique's Red Cross well before the storm hit, and to procure vital emergency supplies and distribute them quickly in the relevant regions even before Cyclone Idai struck. It was also possible to give the affected population advanced warnings well ahead of the storm's landfall.

In addition, an amount of 33 million US dollars was provided for the region affected by both cyclones from the United Nations Central Emergency Relief Fund (CERF), where Germany is a key donor.

## **2. Assistance for reconstruction provided as part of Germany's development cooperation**

On top of its regular programmes of bilateral development cooperation with Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe, Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) has recently adopted a "Post-Cyclone Idai Reconstruction Programme" worth 50 million euros. This programme is intended specifically to support reconstruction and, at the same time, improve the ability of the region's infrastructure and affected population to withstand extreme weather events in the future through improved resilience measures.

### **Mozambique:**

Altogether, an amount of 26 million euros will be made available for this country. Building on the existing priority areas of cooperation between Germany and Mozambique, the funds will be used to help:

#### Rebuild the infrastructure:

- Destroyed school buildings will be reconstructed;
- Municipal infrastructure, e.g. administrative buildings, roads, social centres, flooded river basins and monitoring stations used by the water authorities, will be rebuilt;
- Damaged energy infrastructure will be rebuilt (the damaged dam will be reinforced and Mavuzi hydropower station rehabilitated).

Provide assistance to the affected population:

- Affected households and social centres will be supplied with emergency solar power kits;
- Traumatized children and young people living in temporary accommodation centres will be given psycho-social counselling;
- Long-term food security will be enhanced;
- Affected farmers will receive compensation for lost seeds.

**Malawi:**

An amount of 14 million euros has been committed for Malawi and, building on the existing priority areas of cooperation between Germany and Malawi, the funds will be used to help:

Rebuild the infrastructure:

- Destroyed school buildings, vocational training facilities and health care facilities will be rebuilt;
- Storehouses and production facilities that add value to agricultural goods but have been destroyed by the storms will be rebuilt.

Provide assistance to the affected population:

- Some 20,000 affected households and social facilities will be supplied with energy-efficient stoves;
- Primary schools will be given additional food supplies;
- Households, associations of farmers and local communities that have been affected by the cyclones will receive food, livestock and seed supplies;
- Affected households will receive support through the country's social transfer programme, which is to receive additional funding for a limited period of time.

**Zimbabwe:**

Ten million euros will be made available for Zimbabwe. The funds will be used for an existing programme in the education sector, which is being coordinated by UNICEF. This additional funding will be used primarily to provide medium-term and longer-term support to schools that have been damaged or destroyed by the cyclone. This will include the reconstruction of facilities so that they are disaster-proof as well as measures that will help lessen disaster-related risks.

Germany not only makes contributions to development at a bilateral level but also at international level, particularly through its membership of multilateral organisations such as the World Bank. The latter, for example, has pledged to make available a total

of 700 million US dollars (approx. 630 million euros) in assistance for Mozambique, Malawi und Zimbabwe. Furthermore, the World Bank is actively supporting these countries in their efforts to better prepare for extreme weather events in the future. Mozambique is one of the first countries to receive support from the Global Risk Financing Facility (GRIF), set up specifically for this purpose by the World Bank and co-financed by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The facility, which currently manages around eight million US dollars, is helping to finance, among other things, advisory services to countries wishing to develop national climate risk strategies.