

Photo: © UNFPA Mozambique / António Mussuque

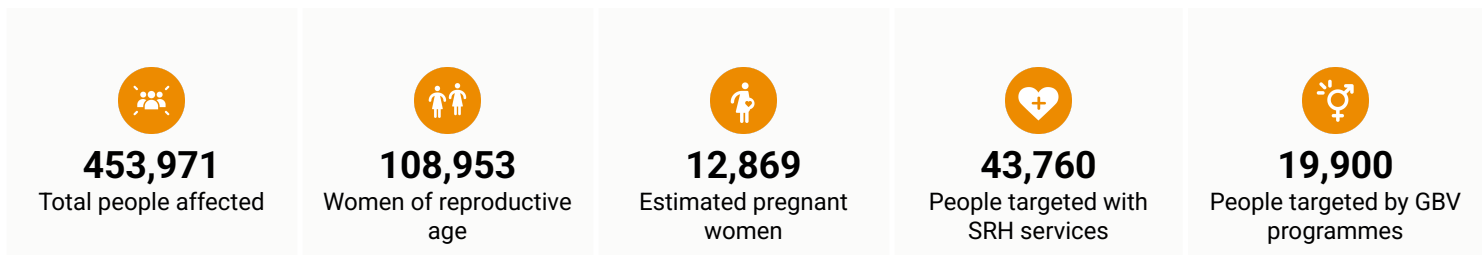


Flash Update #2

Tropical Cyclone Chido

Country:	Mozambique
Emergency type:	Climate - Natural Disaster
Start Date of Crisis:	Dec 15, 2024
Date Issued:	Jan 9, 2025
Covering Period:	Dec 15, 2024 to Jan 9, 2025
Contact Persons:	Lara Longle, longle@unfpa.org , Communications and External Relations Specialist

Key Figures



Highlights

- Tropical Cyclone Chido made landfall in Mozambique on 15 December, wreaking havoc mainly in Cabo Delgado and Nampula provinces in the north of the country;
- It has 120 fatalities, 868 injured and an estimated 453,971 people were affected, according to the National Institute for Natural Disaster (INGD), as of 26 December.
- The risk of gender-based violence is exacerbated by factors such as inadequate lighting, insufficient gender-sensitive WASH services, overcrowded displacement sites with limited privacy, and restricted access to critical services, including healthcare, food, and shelter.

- Disruptions to health facilities have significantly impacted the availability of maternal healthcare and sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services.

Situation Overview

- Communities are still grappling with the aftermath of Cyclone Chido, which struck Cabo Delgado and Nampula provinces on 15 December, causing widespread devastation. According to the National Institute for Natural Disaster Management (INGD), the cyclone claimed 120 lives, injured 868 people, and affected an estimated 453,971 individuals. Cabo Delgado, with 272,000 people affected, and Nampula, with 175,000 people affected, account for 98% of the total affected population.
- The districts most affected are Mecufi, Pemba, Metuge, Ancuabe, Namuno, and Balama in Cabo Delgado province, with extensive homes and public infrastructure destruction, including 52 health facilities. Nampula province, mainly the Memba, Erati, Mecuburi, and Mossuril districts, were also affected.
- Preliminary findings from the Multi-Sectoral Initial Rapid Assessments (MIRA), conducted across 165 sites in 10 districts of Cabo Delgado and Nampula, reveal extensive devastation. An alarming 95% of houses have been affected, along with 73% of schools, 62% of farmlands, 55% of markets, and 44% of healthcare facilities.

UNFPA Response

- UNFPA has prepositioned essential items to address immediate needs. This includes 11,239 dignity kits to support the hygiene and safety of women and girls, 35 tents to serve as temporary health facilities ensuring the continuity of SRH services, maternal health care, and psychosocial support, and 13 reproductive health kits catering to a population of 100,000. These kits provide essential equipment, medicines, and supplies for safe deliveries and critical SRH services.
- In the early response, UNFPA distributed 520 dignity kits to women and girls in Cyclone Chido-affected areas. These kits included key messages on GBV, PSEA, and available services such as the Linha Verde hotline. Three temporary health facilities were established in the Mecufi and Chiure districts to ensure the continuity of SRH services, offering prenatal consultations, delivery care, and women-friendly spaces. Support was also provided to Chiure District Hospital by operationalising a power generator to guarantee uninterrupted maternal health services, assisting at least 50 women daily, including six to seven deliveries. In addition, the containerised clinic and theatre in Metuge were kept operational, providing an average of six maternal health services daily and on-the-job technical support to health providers.
- UNFPA emphasises the urgent need for additional funding to restore the full capacity of damaged health facilities, equip them with essential supplies, and address GBV risks in the affected areas. Without this support, the most vulnerable populations will remain at significant risk.