

**MOZAMBIQUE**

On 14 March 2019, Tropical Cyclone Idai made landfall as a category four Cyclone near Beira City, causing human losses, massive destruction of infrastructure, households, and significant amount of internal displacement. The disaster exacerbated pre-existing vulnerabilities. An impressive total of 1.85 million people have been affected.

As of 1<sup>st</sup> of April, over 146,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) sought refuge in 155 temporary sites across 4 provinces (Sofala, Manica, Zambezia, Tete). Many IDPs have since then been in the process of returning home, while others are relocating to permanent sites allocated by the Government of Mozambique (GoM).



UNHCR solar lanterns in Peacock camp, Beira, Mozambique. UNHCR/Vania

**Key Figures** (as of 1 April)

**1.85 M** people in need of assistance

**800 K** in need of Protection

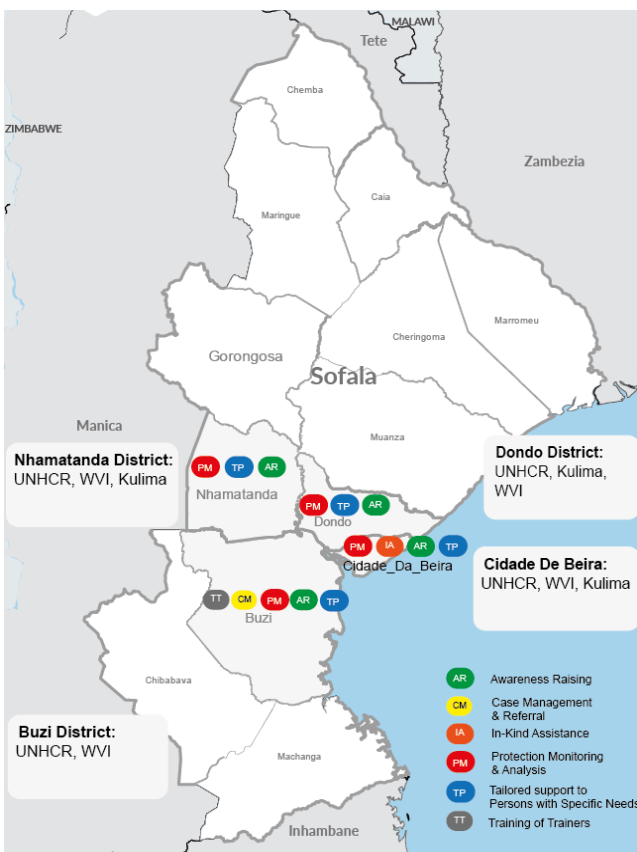
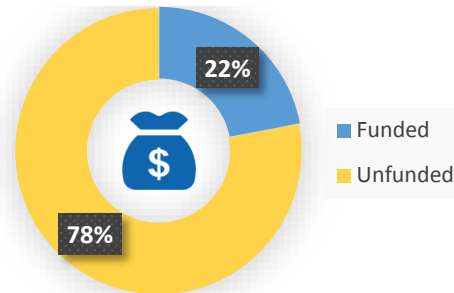
**146 K** Internally Displaced Persons

**155** Temporary sites

Source: OCHA; HRP, INGC

**FUNDING STATUS (AS OF 30 APRIL 2019)**

**USD 3.1M** Requested for Mozambique Operation



**Key Protection Services**

1. Systematic **Protection Monitoring** in IDP-affected sites and areas informing analysis of risks and gaps, used for identification of most vulnerable for prioritized support and advocacy for improved protection response with relevant humanitarian and Government partners.
2. Delivery of **life-saving assistance** including Core Relief Items and emergency shelter for a total of 10,000 IDP families.
3. Set-up of **Community-based protection** focal points, comprising a pool of trained volunteers from IDP and host communities acting as link between affected populations and service providers; and conducting awareness-raising activities.
4. Co-leading the **coordination of the Protection Cluster** with the Provincial Directorate for Gender, Children and Social Action, with focus on support to the most vulnerable groups.

## Key Protection Concerns

1. Increased risk in **physical safety** in overcrowded temporary sites and poorly planned new permanent sites.
2. Poorly organized **aid distribution** to IDP due to lack of reliable **registration data**, leading to **risks of discrimination and abuses, including SEA**.
3. Lack or insufficient availability of **basic facilities** (WASH, Shelter, Health, Lighting, Food, Security), increasing protection risks particularly for children, women, the elderly and persons with disabilities.
4. Unavailability or loss of **civil documentation**, leading to risks in obtaining land or housing rights.
5. Risks of **tensions with host communities** over aid distribution, service accessibility and pre-existing livelihood activities in newly identified resettlement sites.
6. Inadequate **communication** with IDPs and communities on assistance, solutions and recovery plans.
7. **People with disabilities** disproportionately affected by natural disasters, especially persons with mobility restrictions.

## Protection Cluster

	<b>30</b>	Partners
	<b>21</b>	Locations
	<b>4</b>	Provinces

## Sub-Cluster & Working groups

-  **Child Protection**
-  **Gender Based Violence**
-  **Disability Working Group**

## Donors

We are very grateful to the Government of Norway and the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) for their financial contribution to UNHCR to protect cyclone-affected populations in Mozambique.

## Contacts

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More info: [www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/mozambique/protection](http://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/mozambique/protection)

## INITIAL RESPONSES by the Protection Cluster

- **Coordination established** in Sofala Province (UNHCR)
- **Emergency shelter and non-food items** (such as blankets, jerry cans, buckets, mosquito nets, kitchen sets) distributed.
- **Solar lamps** distributed to minimize safety and security risks in IDP locations
- **Protection Mainstreaming Checklist** issued to maximize a protection-sensitive response by other clusters.
- **Protection Monitoring Reports** issued and shared at Inter-Cluster level.
- Systematic **Protection Monitoring System** rolled-out in Beira, Dondo and Nhamatanda largely validating protection concerns. **648 persons with specific needs** identified.
- **Relocation Guidelines** issued (**English and Portuguese**) to ensuring adherence to key protection safeguards, before during and after movements/relocation.
- Integrated **Protection Desk** providing affected populations a 'one-stop shop' place for information about on-site services, counselling and referral for specific support.
- **Community-based focal points** trained and active in IDP sites in Dondo, Buzi and Nhamatanda.
- **Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) and Women Friendly Spaces (WFS)** established in temporary accommodation and resettlement sites to provide for safe place to conduct activities helping re-establish a sense of normalcy lost as a result of forced displacement.
- Consultations for **Protection Cluster Strategy** with Government and partners undertaken.

## Gaps and Constraints

- Lack of resources to ensuring **basic support and facilities** for IDPs in return and permanent relocation sites, contributing to **heightened protection risks** for IDPs, particularly the most vulnerable.
- Significant **underfunding of UNHCR**, limiting expansion of protection monitoring and other services, including in hard-to-reach areas.
- Need to support **the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Affairs (MGCAS)** with adequate resources to scale-up post-cyclone response for the most vulnerable groups and sustaining service response in recovery phase.