

SITUATION REPORT

CYCLONE IDAI AND KENNETH



MAY 3, 2019



MOZAMBIQUE

SITUATION

On April 25th, Cyclone Kenneth struck the northern coast of Mozambique. This storm came on the heels of Cyclone Idai, a storm that devastated the country and killed more than 750 people across southern Africa.

Cyclone Idai and Kenneth are reported to be the worst weather-related disasters ever recorded in the southern hemisphere. Mozambique has never experienced consecutive storms of this intensity in such a short period of time and so far, about 2 million people have been affected by the combined devastation of these storms.



Photo: Alwynn Javier AP

ADVOCACY

Lutheran Disaster Response staff and church leaders shared the ELCA's values related to disaster and creation care with House and Senate representatives from around the nation as a part of the 2019 ELCA Advocacy Convening in Washington, D.C. As we advocated for change in the U.S., we recognized that our neighbors globally also bear the burden of the effects when care for creation is ignored. In Mozambique, according to USAID, "Forty-five percent of the population lives below the poverty line and 70 percent depends on climate-sensitive agricultural production for their food and livelihoods." Without a global collaborative effort, storms like Cyclones Idai and Kenneth will continue to increase in intensity and severity, furthering the suffering of our neighbors.

ONE MORE THING...

Through support from ELCA World Hunger and in partnership with our companion church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Mozambique, and the Lutheran Communion in Southern Africa, the ELCA is supporting health projects that aim to reduce mortality due to malaria, HIV and AIDS, and other communicable diseases through clinics and home care, treatment, transportation to medical appointments and more.

RESPONSE

Lutheran Disaster Response, in partnership with the ACT Alliance, Lutheran World Federation and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Mozambique, is responding to the disaster by conducting a six-month relief operation to assist over 3,000 affected households in the vicinities of Chimoyo, Dombe, Namatanda, Buzi and Beira in Mozambique. Some of the activities include:

- Distribution of emergency shelter/house construction material
- Assistance with special needs
- Assistance with access to food
- Distribution of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) kits
- Distribution of water purification sachets
- Rehabilitation and/or disinfection of water sources
- Training of community health workers
- Organize a meeting with local partners and national members to strengthen capacities



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