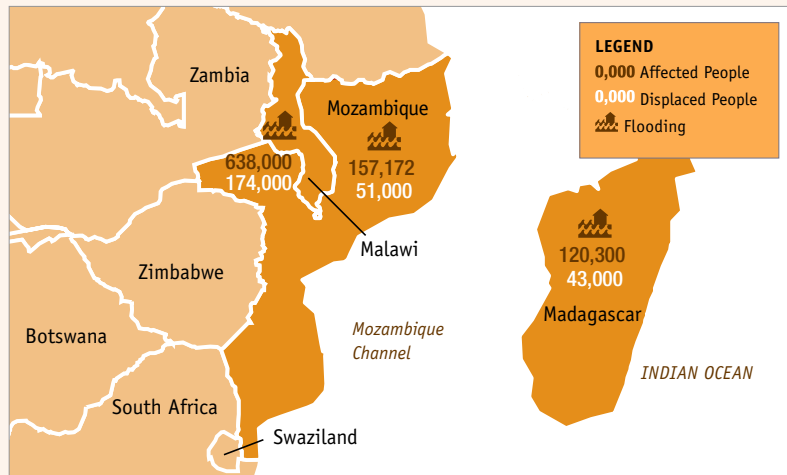


FACTSHEET

Floods in Southern Africa February 2015



FLOODS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA



Sources: OCHA, UNCS, GAUL, MeteorFinance, Humanitarian Partners.

MALAWI

- Worst flood in **30 YEARS**
- 15** affected districts
- 64,000** hectares of land flooded
- 26,000** mega tonnes of food required
- 174,000** displaced people

Heavy rains fell continuously in several districts in Malawi, resulting in the worst flooding for over 30 years. People have lost their houses, their crops have been damaged, their livelihoods were washed away in seconds. The rains are likely to continue until March. In the neighbouring Mozambique, floods and rains have devastated people's houses and livelihoods, leaving many without income opportunities and a place to live. In Madagascar, heavy rains brought extreme amounts of water, flooding parts of the capital city and other areas.

PEOPLE NEED FOOD, WATER AND RELIEF SUPPLIES

The floods have damaged farm lands and crops, leaving people without the means to feed their families. Farmers need seeds to resume planting after the rains subside. In Malawi, the supply of water has been disrupted; boreholes and wells are flooded. Preventing the outbreak of diseases such as cholera, malaria and dysentery is paramount.



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WOMEN AND GIRLS ARE PARTICULARLY AFFECTED

In Malawi, many families sought shelter at relocation sites. At these camps women and girls are in danger of sexual harassment and abuse. Those who stay in their damaged homes are forced to carry out their toilet and bathing activities in public places, which increases the risk of rape. Many women and children did not have swimming skills and the physical energy to run for their safety when the floods came. Women and girls are usually the caretaker for their families, yet the floods place an additional burden on them as illnesses among children and the elderly are on the rise.

CARE'S ASSISTANCE

CARE has started delivering food to more than **3,200 households** in one of the badly affected districts. In the coming days people in a total of four districts will receive relief supplies, food and hygiene kits. Besides covering the immediate needs, CARE Malawi plans to assist in the long-term to help families recover from the devastating effects of the floods.

In Mozambique, CARE is part of a network of partners, which is distributing food and relief supplies to people affected by the floods.

“Grace Lawrence, 20 years, Malawi: “Of all the losses from these floods, the loss of my daughter is the most painful one. That I will never see my daughter again is beyond understanding. We lost everything that was in the house. We lost food, clothes, kitchen utensils. We didn't manage to rescue anything from the house.”



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