



## EMERGENCY APPEAL: CYCLONE IDAI - MOZAMBIQUE

### Background

- Tropical Cyclone Idai (Category 2) made landfall on 14/15 March 2019 near Beira City in central Mozambique.
- Flooding caused by the Cyclone has affected 3 million people and caused over 750 deaths (with more to come).
- United Nations (UN) officials are calling it one of the worst weather-related disasters to hit the southern hemisphere.
- Over 110,000 people are in camps. As efforts to rescue people trapped by the floods wind down, the region is bracing for the spread of disease, including cholera and malaria.



### Mozambique

- In Mozambique, 1.85 million people are directly affected and 129,000 people displaced. The majority of those affected are in the provinces of Zambezia, **Niassa** and Sofala.
- Given recent rainfall, floodwaters are anticipated to rise approximately eight metres, putting an additional 350,000 people at risk.
- More than 2,800 classrooms, 39 health centres and 17,400 houses have been totally destroyed (with 11,025 houses partially destroyed). More than 385,300 hectares of crops (affecting 53,318 small farmers whose livelihoods depends on farm produce) have been severely damaged<sup>1</sup>.
- The Government of Mozambique has requested international assistance.
- Humanitarian response is ongoing although significant response challenges remain, as heavy rains have damaged roads and bridges have been washed away.
- In order to assist the most vulnerable population (600,000 people) the UN is coordinating a multisectoral response prioritising education, health, WASH, food security, protection and nutrition.
- An initial assessment conducted by ACT Alliance<sup>2</sup> members found that orphans and other vulnerable children have been disproportionately affected.

<sup>1</sup> OCHA 23 March 2019

<sup>2</sup> ACT Alliance is a coalition of 151 churches and faith-based organisations working together in over 125 countries. While Anglican Missions is not a member, many of our key Anglican partners are.

### Anglican Church response to date

- A number of the relief, development and mission agencies around the Anglican Communion have launched appeals, as well as some of the companion links that have special relationships with dioceses in Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi.
- The Executive Director of the Anglican Alliance, the Revd. Rachel Carnegie, says "*The Anglican Alliance's role is to help make this a more coordinated process so the Church on the ground only needs to make one response and doesn't have to be dealing with requests from every side. The crisis is huge*".

### The Wellington Diocese and the Diocese of Niassa

- Bishop Vicente of the **Diocese of Niassa**, a good friend of Bishop Eleanor, confirms there is a real need for seeds and seedlings to help get gardens re-established as soon as possible. There is a short window of opportunity to get crops in the ground before the end of the growing season.
- Given the severity of the cyclone, the number of fatalities; the central role the church is already playing in response and recovery efforts (which will take years); and the contact that already exists between the Anglican Diocese of Wellington and the Diocese of Niassa (Mozambique); Anglican Missions is launching this emergency appeal.
- Money raised will assist the Diocese of Niassa in the support it is already providing to re-establish food crops in areas severely impacted by the Cyclone. Please refer to website updates on how and where the funding is being used.
- Anglican Missions is in touch with the **Anglican Alliance**, which is ensuring a collaborative and coordinated global Anglican response. The Church "is there before, during and after any disaster", so, at the point when the floods have receded, but homes and crops remain destroyed, the Church can help ensure progress towards long-term recovery. Above all, the Church can help build resilience and a sense of hope.

If you or your parish would like donate to this Appeal, please refer to our website. If you have any questions, please contact the Anglican Missions Office: email [info@angmissions.org.nz](mailto:info@angmissions.org.nz) or phone (04 473 5172).



Guardian graphic. Source: Google Earth (before); Sam Bowers / University of Edinburgh (after)