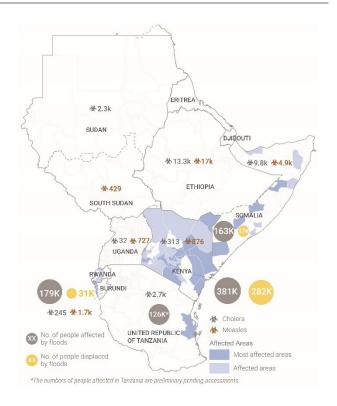
Eastern Africa: Heavy rains and flooding Flash Update #2

10 May 2024

HIGHLIGHTS

- Heavy rains and flash floods have affected an estimated 848,773 people, including 350,155 displaced, in Kenya, Somalia, Burundi and Tanzania.
- In the coming period, heavy rain and flash floods are projected to continue in some areas across Kenya and Tanzania.
- There is an urgent need to scale up multi-sectoral response in the affected areas, including food, healthcare, shelter, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) interventions and essential supplies.
- Humanitarian partners have been supporting
 Governments in search and rescue operations,
 conducting needs assessment, pre-positioning
 available stocks and providing urgent assistance.
 However, partners require urgent additional funding
 to scale up response as heavy rains and floods
 spread.



SITUATION OVERVIEW

Heavy rains and flash floods have affected 848,773 people, including 350,155 displaced, in Kenya, Somalia, Burundi and Tanzania. In Kenya, an estimated 267 people have been killed, 188 injured, 75 missing, while 281,835 people (56,367 families) have been displaced and almost 380,573 (76,114 families) affected by persistent heavy rains and flooding since March and as of 9 May. At least 9,973 livestock have been lost, 41,562 acres of croplands and 61 roads damaged, 886 businesses, 103 schools and 42 health facilities affected as of 8 May. All the seven-forks hydro-electric dams have been overflowing since 29 April, causing flooding in Garissa, Tana River, Lamu counties as of 10 May. This poses the risk of flooding in the Tana Delta and impacting Garissa, Tana River and Lamu counties. In Tanzania, five people were reportedly killed and seven injured in Kilwa District, in the east, following Tropical Cyclone Hidaya's landfall in Mafia Island on 4 May, according to Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa, quoted by the media on 9 May. Some 2,098 houses were damaged, including 678 completely destroyed, 877 partially damaged and 543 submerged. Damage to roads, bridges and more than 23,500 acres of cropland was also reported. The Government is reportedly conducting assessments to determine the extent of the damage. In Somalia, as of 5 May, 163,000 people have been affected by the Gu season heavy rains and floods (April-June), more than 37,120 people have been displaced, 1,143 houses have been destroyed, 3 schools damaged and 87 hectares of farmland have been destroyed. Hirshabelle, Jubaland and South West are the worst affected provinces. At least 67 of the 95 verified sites for internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Hirshabelle Province have been impacted by the rains, affecting 39,120 people. In Burundi, torrential rains have affected more than 179,200 people and forced more than 31,200 people to move from their homes due to flooding since January 2024. On 5 May, a visit to a displacement site,

hosting flood-affected people in Mubimbi, Bujumbura Rural Province, in the west, was conducted by the President of the National Platform for Risk Prevention and Disaster Management, the Directors-General of the ministries involved in the relocation of people, the United Nations Resident Coordinator (RC) in Burundi and members of the Humanitarian Country Team. The people at this site were displaced from Gatumba village. At least seven people have died in crocodile and hippo attacks in the flooded area of the village. The visit followed a high-level meeting between the RC and the Ministry of the Interior, Community Development and Public Security to agree on the necessary support and emergency assistance to help some 2,000 families still in the flooded areas of Gatumba. In Uganda, last week, disasters including landslides and floods devastated several communities in Bunyangabu and Kasese districts, western Uganda, resulting in loss of life and property. Affected families had since resorted to makeshift shelters. There is an urgent need to scale up multisectoral response in the affected areas, including food, healthcare, shelter, WASH interventions and essential supplies.

In the upcoming period, in Kenya, heavy rainfall is forecasted to persist, with a possibility of rainfall intensities decreasing, according to the Kenya Meteorological Department. In Tanzania, rainfall in May is anticipated to continue in some areas, particularly bimodal areas with isolated cases of enhanced rainfall expected in a few areas during the month, according to Tanzania Meteorological Authority.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

The UN and humanitarian partners are working with Governments to assist affected communities. In Kenya, as of 6 May, humanitarian partners had pre-positioned and distributed shelter and non-food items (NFIs), reaching 64,820. About 45,200 people received food and cash assistance. Some water treatment chemicals and NFIs were provided to 116,320. About 5,670 people received healthcare services. The Emergency Relief Coordinator allocated \$3 million from the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to scale up the flood response in Kenya, including the provision of immediate life-saving assistance to around 150,000 people. Ahead of schools reopening on 13 May, the Kenya Government announced a billion Shillings package (US \$7.5 million) to rehabilitate schools affected by floods. The International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC) and its membership launched an appeal seeking CHF 18 million (about US\$ 19.8 million) to reach 50,000 families with life-saving assistance. In Uganda, the Government and humanitarian partners set up emergency shelters to support displaced families in Bunyangabu District. Local responders continue to support evacuation operation. Disaster mobile shelters have been set up to serve as new classrooms in Chahafi town, Kisoro District, in the southwest, to replace a primary school that was submerged by floods. In Kisoro, partners distributed relief to families affected by heavy rains. In Somalia, partners have reached over 72,000 people with assistance in 25 districts across the country. Those reached include 9,070 families that received unconditional cash assistance. Despite increasing needs, the 2024 Humanitarian Needs Response Plan, which is seeking US\$1.6 billion, is only 11 per cent funded as of 7 May.

In Burundi, humanitarian partners launched a Flood Response Plan, calling for US\$26 million to support 306,000 people vulnerable to flooding due to rising water levels in Lake Tanganyika. Humanitarian partners are also supporting on terracing Mubimbi displacement site to allow for the installation of shelters, latrines and water facilities as hygiene and sanitation conditions are dire, posing the threat of a cholera outbreak. In Tanzania, plans are underway to deliver WASH supplies as needed by sector partners, including providing water storage tanks, water treatment products and promoting hygiene practices. Education supplies will be made available to support learning continuity with special attention to children who are about the sit for approaching exams. Protection partners are set to deliver essential NFIs to the affected children and their families. Authorities have confirmed that engineers from the Tanzania Roads Authority have been deployed to rehabilitate sections of damaged roads. IFRC has approved an additional allocation of CHF 250,000 (about US\$275K) which is the fourth allocation for the Tanzania Floods and Landslides Emergency Appeal. The total loan for the appeal now stands at CHF 750,000 (about US\$825,000). The IFRC and its membership are seeking CHF 4 million (about US\$4.4 million) to support the Tanzania Red Cross Society to reach 75,000 people with life-saving assistance.