



Impact focus

Flooding was the principal impact of Idai's passage across Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe. Affecting more than 3 million people, there was extensive infrastructure damage, hospitals and schools were destroyed, and over half a million hectares of crops were lost. Nearly a quarter of a million homes were damaged or destroyed.

The damage to agricultural land is perhaps the most significant impact, as flood waters both destroyed this year's crop as well as degrading the land's ability to support future crops. Farmers' loss of housing, equipment and livestock severely reduces their resilience to other environmental challenges and their capacity to recover from the impacts of Idai.

The extensive damage to communications and large areas under flood water further increased the impact of the storm by inhibiting the humanitarian response, the effects made worse by Mozambique's low HDI.

Mozambique		Life expect.	58.9y
HDI (2017)	180th/0.437	Poverty	76.8%
GDPpc (2018)	\$10,930	Internet use	17.5%
Urban pop.	36%	Water/Sanit.	59/26% (avg)

Cyclone Idai

4 March—21 March 2019



Intense TC / landfall during night of 14/15 March Beira, Mozambique

Quick facts

\$2 billion+ damage (of which \$1 billion infrastructure) // **Second worst** tropical cyclone in SW Indian Ocean (worst was 1882) // **1000+ fatalities** // 3577 cases of **Cholera** & 7124 of **Malaria**

Statistics

1.7million people affected in Mozambique - 3million+ in total // 602 fatalities in Mozambique // 745 609 people vaccinated // funding required for response reached \$337million 10 days after landfall // 1 million people without electricity // 360,000 hectares flooded (around 1400 square miles—2.5 times the size of London) // 756,000 received food assistance // Some areas received 600mm rainfall // Flooding persisted for days as land drained into rivers // Cholera reported in Beira 22 March // Malaria and typhoid risks increased // WHO provided c900k cholera vaccines, and 900k bed nets.

Short-term hazards

Heavy rains // significant and extensive flooding // landslides // health-services disrupted // increased risk of cholera, malaria, typhoid // wind blown debris—some people were decapitated by metal roofing sheets // storm surge of over 4m // 500,000 lost power

Long-term hazards

Crops lost were near harvest, creating food shortages and reducing the capacity to grow food in subsequent years // key infrastructure damaged or destroyed increases long-term health, social, environmental and economic hazards.

Short-term responses

WHO deployed health staff, medicines (including cholera vaccine), and improved disease detection and response capability // helicopters + boats provided by UN and NGOs to reach cut-off communities // food aid

Long-term responses

UN-coordinated aid (nation states and NGOs) to rebuild infrastructure, and improve resilience for future events // improve agricultural practices to reduce soil-erosion and runoff // revegetate land to increase infiltration and interception // support development of warning networks & flood resistance.