

# CYCLONE IDAI AND KENNETH APPEAL



Photo: Save the Children / Hanna Adcock

## CYCLONE IDAI AND KENNETH APPEAL: 3 MONTHS ON

Mateo's community in the Manica province was one of the hardest hit by the cyclones. Families had no choice but to scramble up trees to escape the flooding. Mateo, aged 10, spent three whole nights stranded up a tree with his family. Below him he watched as his home and everything he owned was swept away.

From the branches of the tree, they watched as the water quickly rose up above their roof and drowned their goats – their main source of income.

*“There was water everywhere and it was rising quickly. My goats were washed away; I saw them drown. We lost everything that day.”*



After three long nights without food, withstanding the heavy rain and lack of sleep for fear of falling, a rescue boat finally took Mateo's family to safety.

Now, Mateo lives with his parents and two brothers in a resettlement camp close to one of the schools that Save the Children is supporting. It's just a couple of kilometres from where they used to live before. He goes to the local school and has been given learning materials from Save the Children. His family has also received a tent as shelter, as well as hygiene kits, including soap, shampoo and detergent, for good hygiene practices.

Mateo is one of the lucky ones – thousands of children are still separated from families and in desperate need of help. But with your support, together, we are by their side, fighting to protect their futures.

## PROTECTION CRISIS

It's been three months since both cyclones Idai and Kenneth tore through Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi. Most services and infrastructure like roads, health centres and schools still need repairing or rebuilding from scratch. The cyclones brought torrential winds and rains and flooded over 715,000 hectares of cultivated land.

**Over 1.5 million children have been affected by this catastrophe.** Even before the cyclone hit, these children and their families were some of the poorest and most disadvantaged in the world. For instance, it's estimated that just over **6 million households** were headed by children aged 12 – 14 years old.

Thousands of children remain separated from their loved ones. Girls especially are in danger of exploitation, trafficking, early marriage and child labour. One of the best protections against these risks is to ensure that they are quickly reunited with their family and get back to learning as soon as possible.

Our child protection teams are working around the clock to **identify separated children** and ensure they get the support they need. We are working in close coordination with the government and other organisations to trace the parents or direct family members of these children, so they can be reunited.

So far in Mozambique, we have registered more than **950 unaccompanied and orphaned children**.

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## OUR RESPONSE:

Since launching our appeal three months ago, our incredible supporters have raised over **£1.5 million**. Disasters like Idai and Kenneth strike more than one blow – the initial devastation is only the beginning, with months or years of difficult recovery ahead. Each donation gives children a lifeline, and a chance for families to start to rebuild their lives.

Our local staff are working around the clock with partners on the ground to reach the most vulnerable children. So far, we have reached over **166,000 children** and adults through our life-saving work.

### Mozambique

- We are screening children and pregnant and nursing women for **malnutrition** and referring those who show signs of severe malnutrition on to a health centre.
- To make sure no child is left behind, our mobile health clinics travel to the most remote communities.
- Our child protection experts are **raising awareness** of the need to protect vulnerable children, especially girls, from abuse. And we've opened child friendly spaces that provide around **1,700 children** with safe places to play and get the specialist support they need to recover from the traumatic experience.
- To ensure children don't miss out on months of learning, we've constructed **62 temporary learning spaces** with school supplies to get classes underway. Over **9,500 children** visit these learning spaces.

### Malawi

- We are handing out seeds, tools and other essential items to provide families with a source of income. And we're helping families return to their communities by providing **shelter kits** so they can repair their homes.
- **Cash transfers** will help around **1,500 families** – enabling them to buy their own food, while also supporting the recovery of local markets.
- We are providing **food and water purification supplies** for those still living in temporary camps, so that they are less susceptible to life-threatening water-borne diseases like diarrhoea and cholera.

### Zimbabwe

- We are providing children with access to quality health and nutrition services and giving families **cash transfers** so they can buy food and other essentials.
- Dangerous numbers of children have diarrhoea because of dirty water and damaged wells. We have increased the effort to prevent the spread of disease, to keep children safe. We're raising awareness of good hygiene practices and have given out more than **6,000 hygiene kits** and **water purification tablets** to families.
- We have trained over **800 volunteer health workers** to screen girls and boys for early signs of malnutrition.

We will continue to work closely with governments and community leaders to prevent increasing food insecurity concerns. We are now strengthening their ability to cope with future climate-related disasters. Thank you for supporting our appeal. You're helping us piece back together the lives of children who've had their world torn apart.

**WITHOUT YOU, NONE OF THIS LIFE-SAVING WORK WOULD HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE – THANK YOU.**