

Alert

Tanzania

Support to survivors of flood in Ulanga Kilombero area of Ifakara District - Tanzania

Geneva, 25th May 2011

1. Brief description of the emergency

During the period between 18th April and 11th May 2011, unusual heavy rains were received in Ifakara District, Morogoro region of Tanzania. This forced some of the community members to seek shelter in permanent school buildings, which were also surrounded by water, after they lost their houses in the flood. Schools were temporarily closed including: Mbingu, Chiwachiwa, Londo and Upendo, primary and secondary schools.

On 27th of April 2011 one Primary School child was attacked and killed by a crocodile, as crocodiles from the rivers are moving with the flood water into community centres.

Based on the vulnerability assessment done by the local government officials in collaboration with staff of ACT Alliance member, Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania (ELCT), the affected areas are: Mofu, Ikwambi, Mbingu, Igima and Mpofu communities. The five communities are in Mungeta Division, Mbingu Ward, in Ifakara Government District, where ELCT has operations (Ulanga Kilombero Diocese) and is about 900 km from the ELCT head quarters, south of Arusha.

2. Impact

Based on the rapid assessment, the floods demolished 663 houses in the area and submerged 2,942 houses (prone to collapse). This made 9,000 people to be homeless. Their food stores, farms and other infrastructures were destroyed. Approximately, 1400 acres of paddy was destroyed.

3. National and international response

The Government of Tanzania through its national defence force has provided the affected households with: temporary tents, 6kgs of food per person, and has appealed to well wishers to assist the affected population.

4. ACT Alliance response

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ACT Alliance Member) through its Ulanga Kilombero Office has assisted the local government to collect and analyze data on the affected population.

ELCT has also mobilized and provided some clothes to affected children.

5. Planned activities

Provide critical emergency supplies to protect the lives of the affected families from hunger and risks associated with floods. The proposed relief will include food rations and basic household materials.

A request for Rapid Response Fund will be submitted to ACT secretariat by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT).

In the long term the government has planned to allocate land to the affected families into areas that are not prone to floods.

ACT Members based in Tanzania and involved in this response are: Tanganyika Christian Relief Services (TCRS) and Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania- Planning and Development Department (ELCT- PDD). The emergency response will be implemented by ELCT- PDD in collaboration with TCRS, Morogoro Office.

Any funding indication or pledge should be communicated to Jean-Daniel Birmele, ACT Chief Finance Officer (Jean.Daniel.Birmele@actalliance.org).

Thank you for your attention.

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