



Office of the Resident Coordinator

Union of Comoros • Flash Floods
Situation Report # 9 – 5th July 2012

This report is produced by the Resident Coordinator's Office in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from June 15th to July 5th 2012.

HIGHLIGHTS / KEY PRIORITIES

- The water supply in Moroni and surroundings is being restored; however, some 50% of water is lost due to leaks.
- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene promotion is a priority.
- Surveillance is in place in all three islands and malaria cases are now under control.
- Activities in the agriculture sector have been intensified. There is a fear among the population of insufficient food supplies – in particular domestic - during the forthcoming Ramadan.
- Sanitary installations are prioritised for schools (latrines, hand washing stations).
- The early recovery action plan workshops are ongoing and most sectors have produced a first draft.

I. Situation Overview

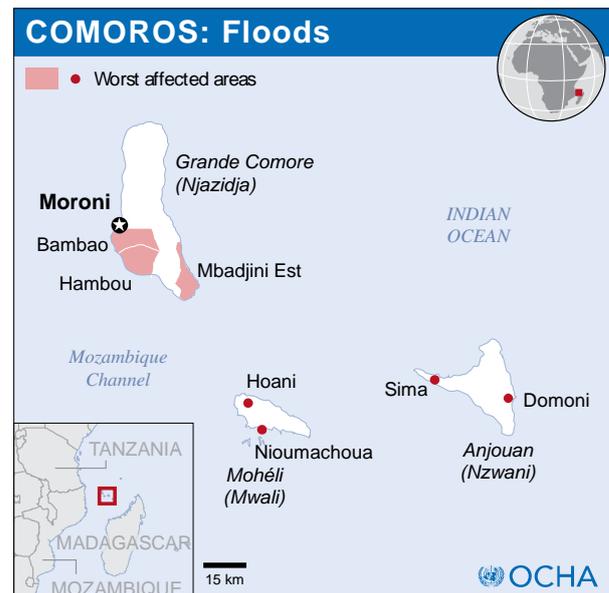
The regions most affected by the torrential rains, floods, landslides and rockslides remain:

- Grande Comore: Bambao, Hambou, Mbadjini Est.
- Anjouan: Sima and Domoni.
- Moheli: Nioumachioi and Hoani.

Water supply is being restored in and around Moroni; however, some 50% of water is lost due to leaks in the pipes. The distribution of WASH kits including water purification tablets has started.

Activities in the agriculture sector have been intensified, following the verification of the size of partially and completely destroyed agricultural land

It has been reported that vanilla producers have suffered extensive loss of vanilla plants in the affected agricultural areas on Grande Comore – this will in turn diminish the vanilla available for export later in the season, a main source of income for small scale farmers.



Work on mud cleaning and clearing of river beds is continuing. Cleaning and disinfection of previously identified water tanks is ongoing. Prepositioning of medicines in all health centres is a priority.

The Government of the Union of Comoros with sectors including UN Agencies has started the process of developing the Early Recovery Plan. The sectorial groups are the following: Food security, WASH, Infrastructures, Nutrition and Health, Education and Shelter.

Maps of the areas affected and response can be found on the following links:

- http://reliefweb.int/country/com/thumb?sl=environment-term_listing%2Ctaxonomy_index_tid_content_format-12
- <http://www.mapaction.org/deployments/depldetail/210.html>

II. Humanitarian Needs and Response



FOOD AND NFI ASSISTANCE

Needs: While the emergency phase is over, distribution of NFI and Food continues. Building local capacities in terms of relief distribution and vulnerability assessment is also needed.

Response: JICA Madagascar through the Directorate General of Civil Security (DGSC) distributed NFI's (plastic sheeting and sleeping mattresses) to 750 households in Grande Comore along with six generators to the DGSC (2), Mitsoudje Health Centre (2) and Vouvouni health post (2). More NFI and Generators will be distributed in Anjouan and Moheli Islands on the week of 10 July.

On 4th of July, the Comores Red Crescent (CRCo) started distributing food and NFI's donated by the Chinese Red Cross in the villages of Mvouni, Ndrouani, Kafouni, Moindzaza and Mboini on Grande Comore.

As part of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) appeal, for capacitating local capacities, the CRCo has trained 20 volunteers in Grande Comore, 20 in Anjouan and 10 in Moheli in relief distributions and evaluation of vulnerabilities.

Gaps & Constraints: None reported



FOOD SECURITY & LIVELIHOOD

Needs: Funding for the analysis of total and partial losses of agricultural land in Moheli and Anjouan islands.

Response: Nothing to report. FAO experts report and recommendations to be receive soon.

Gaps & Constraints: The period of *Grands Mariages*, the tenure of the Indian Ocean Games (sporting event) in Mid-July and Ramadan are likely to create an increase in the price of imported food which can have consequences on the nutritional and health status of the population.



HEALTH AND NUTRITION

Needs: The epidemic situation has improved but the replenishment of drugs in the three islands as well as in national pharmacy (PNAC) is a priority.

Response: The Health Directorate has deployed surveillance team to Anjouan and Moheli islands to ensure proper surveillance of the malaria outbreaks. The situation is now under control.

UNFPA has distributed an obstetric kit for non complicated cases (UNFPA Kit #6) to the Mitsoudje health centre that has coverage for 30,000 people. They also distributed an emergency surgical-obstetric kit (UNFPA kit #11) to the El Maroof National Hospital in Grande Comore that is being used as a referral centre for complicated obstetric cases. In partnership with CEDAC Comoros Agency for Children and Community development (CEDAC - *Agence Comorienne pour l'Enfance et le Développement Communautaire*), UNFPA also finalized the maternal health training of 30 community health agents in 15 villages in affected areas.

CRCo have also trained 30 volunteers of the in Grande Comore in water, hygiene and health promotion, as part of the IFRC appeal. Volunteers in Moheli and Anjouan will also receive this training.

UNICEF is finalizing the preparation of an integrated immunization campaign targeting children under the age of five.

Gaps & Constraints: None reported.



WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

Needs: The access to water is back to normal for most people around Moroni on Grande Comore. The improvement of the leaking pipes and various structures will be subject to recommendations of the water expert and could be considered as part of a longer term project proposal.

The hygiene promotion and water conservation remains the priority especially with the upcoming festivities that will see an increase of people on the island and associated water use.

Response: UNICEF with the CRCo volunteers have distributed WASH kits in Grande Comore (190 kits) and Moheli (287kits). In Anjouan, the distribution is almost completed with 494 kits distributed out of 513. The sensitization is done in parallel for optimal use of the kits.

The CRCo team has cleaned 171 of 300 water tanks identified in the regions of Bambao and Hambou on Grande Comore. UNDP in collaboration with the DGSC will clean another 158. 458 tanks in total will be cleaned in the area.

Gaps & Constraints: The Mitsoudje water pump station on Grande Comore is still non-functional.



EDUCATION

Needs: The education system back to normal everywhere, even in Anjouan where repairs are still being done on five damaged schools. School kits have been destroyed during the floods and need to be replenished.

Response: The remaining 1,019 school kits have been distributed in two schools of Vouvouni, Grande Comore, now that the clean- up of the school infrastructure has been done.

Gaps & Constraints: None reported.



LOGISTICS & DISTRIBUTION

Needs: Nothing to report.

Response: Nothing to report. Distribution of items is being covered in the NFI and WASH sections.

Gaps & Constraints: None reported.



COMMUNICATIONS & INFRASTRUCTURE

Needs: After clarification from the Department of Infrastructure, only 22 km of road damages are directly linked to the torrential rain falls (18 km in Grande Comore, 1 km in Moheli and 3 km in Anjouan).

Response: The UNDP has finished the cleaning up and disinfecting the villages of Vouvouni and Boeni.

The Government of Comoros through the Ministry of Infrastructure has completed about 50 % of River bed clearance in Kafouni, Selea, Nyumadzahé, Boeni, Mitsoudje, Bangoi, Salimani and Djoumoichongo on Grande Comore. In terms of repairing and clearing damaged roads, 80 % has been completed on Grande Comore but no information is yet available on the status for Moheli and Anjouan.

Gaps & Constraints: None reported

III. Coordination

A new delegate for OCHA regional office in Johannesburg has arrived to support the UN Resident Coordinator office and the DGSC capacities in coordination, information management and other tasks started by the UNDAC team, OCHA ROSA and previous OCHA ERR Surge staff. The frequency of the coordination meeting has been changed to Tuesday at 11h30 AM due to poor attendance in the afternoon.

Sectorial groups have met on a regular basis to write their inputs in the early recovery plan. Most sectors have filled out their matrix.

An ECHO delegation composed of one Food Security & Livelihood advisor from their Nairobi office and two program officers from their Harare office have visited the IFRC / CRCo to monitor emergency activities in Grande Comore and Anjouan islands. Meetings were also held with UN Country Team.

IV. Funding & Contributions

The approved CERF funds to cover the immediate needs of the affected population on the three islands amount to US\$ 2,522,639.

A cumulative table of received or announced contributions, additional to the CERF, can be found in annex to this situation report. Contributing partners are kindly requested to report any discrepancies.

All humanitarian partners including donors and recipient agencies are encouraged to inform FTS of cash and in-kind contributions by sending an e-mail to: fts@un.org.

V. Contacts

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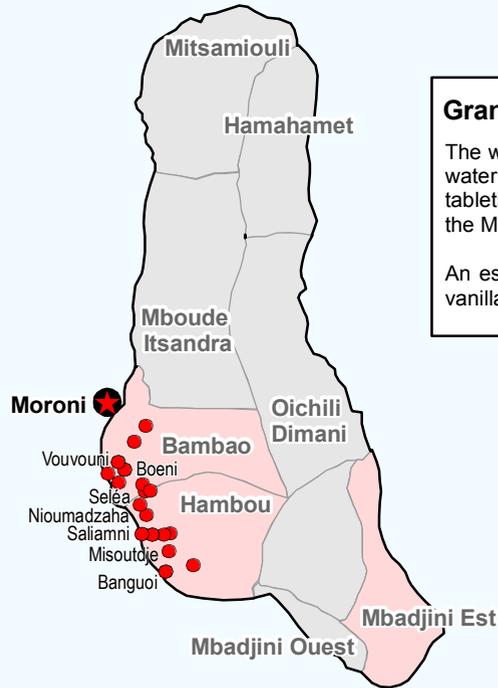
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CERF funds amounting to **US\$ 2,522,639** have been approved to cover the immediate needs of the affected population.

Grande Comores Island:

The water supply in Moroni and surroundings is being restored, however some **50%** of water is lost due to leaks. The distribution of WASH kits including water purification tablets has started. The access to water is back to normal for most people, however the Mitsoudje water pump station is still not functional.

An estimated **18 km** of road is in need of repair, as a result of the floods. Extensive vanilla crop losses have also been reported. Distribution of NFI's and food is ongoing.



GRAND COMORE (NJAZIDJA)

Moheli Island:

The increase in malaria cases is now under control. The Health Directorate has deployed surveillance teams to ensure proper surveillance of malaria outbreaks.

An estimated **1 km** of road is in need of repair, as a result of the floods.



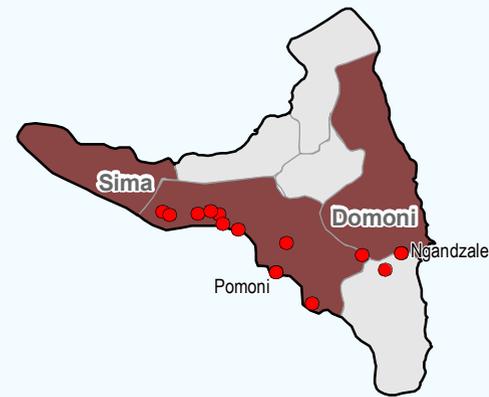
MOHELI (MWALI)

Mozambique Channel

Anjouan Island:

The increase in malaria cases is now under control. The Health Directorate has deployed surveillance teams to ensure proper surveillance of malaria outbreaks.

An estimated **3 km** of road is in need of repair, as a result of the floods. Some repairs are also still being done to school infrastructure.



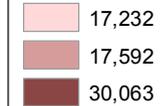
ANJOUAN (NZWANI)

INDIAN OCEAN

Legend

- Capital
- Affected Villages
- Administrative Boundaries
- Comoros Island Boundaries

Directly Affected Population by Island



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 GLIDE Number: FL-2012-000066-COM
 Creation Date: 5 July 2012
 Projection/Datum: GCS WGS 1984
 Web Resources: <http://ochaonline.un.org/rosa>
 Nominal Scale at A4 paper size: 1:700,000



Data Sources: UNDAC, Government of Comoros, COSEP, MapAction, OCHA, WFP and Humanitarian Partners.

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