



SITUATION REPORT



JANUARY 19, 2018



MADAGASCAR

SITUATION

On January 5th, Tropical Cyclone Ava hit the northern coast of Madagascar. Heavy rains and rising water levels associated with the storm caused severe flooding leading to power and communication interruptions. The storm continued to move across the country as a tropical storm.

According to Malagasy authorities on January 9th, about 123,000 people had been directly or indirectly impacted by Tropical Cyclone Ava, with 24,800 people evacuated, 33 dead and 22 missing. The cyclone damaged 19 health centers and affected 141 schools, including 77 classrooms used as shelter for displaced people. About 34,640 children are out of school.

As of January 18th, Cyclone Berguitta is making its way through the Indian Ocean off the coast of Madagascar. It is not expected to hit island directly, but they are experiencing some rain and wind.



RESPONSE

Lutheran Disaster Response, through Malagasy Lutheran Church (FLM) Disaster Response team is assisting families affected by Cyclone Ava. The initial assistance is going towards providing aid in the remote and vulnerable communities in the Brickaville Area, northeast of the country, between Tana and Tamatave. The plan is to provide two weeks' worth of food, specifically rice and beans for the families.

It is important to note that the cyclone season in Madagascar has just begun. More cyclones are forming in the northwest and northeast coasts of Madagascar. Additional contribution may be needed in the months to come. Lutheran Disaster Response is prepared to accompany our companion and their communities through this season.



Photo: NASA/NOAA/NRL

ONE MORE THING...

In January 2015, Lutheran Disaster Response was present to accompany FLM and the communities of Madagascar in the Menabe and Melaky regions after Tropical Cyclone Chedza impacted about 174,000 people.



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