

Inter-Agency Humanitarian Evaluations of the Drought Response in Ethiopia (2015-2018) and Response to Cyclone Idai in Mozambique (2019)

Speakers:

- ***Ms. Kelly David***, Chair of the IAHE Steering Group & Chief of OCHA's Strategic Planning, Evaluation and Guidance section
- ***Dr. Julia Steets***, Evaluation Team Leader for the IAHE in Ethiopia & Director of the Global Public Policy Institute (GPPi)
- ***Mr. Jock Baker***, Evaluation Team Leader for the IAHE in Mozambique & Independent Consultant

Moderator:

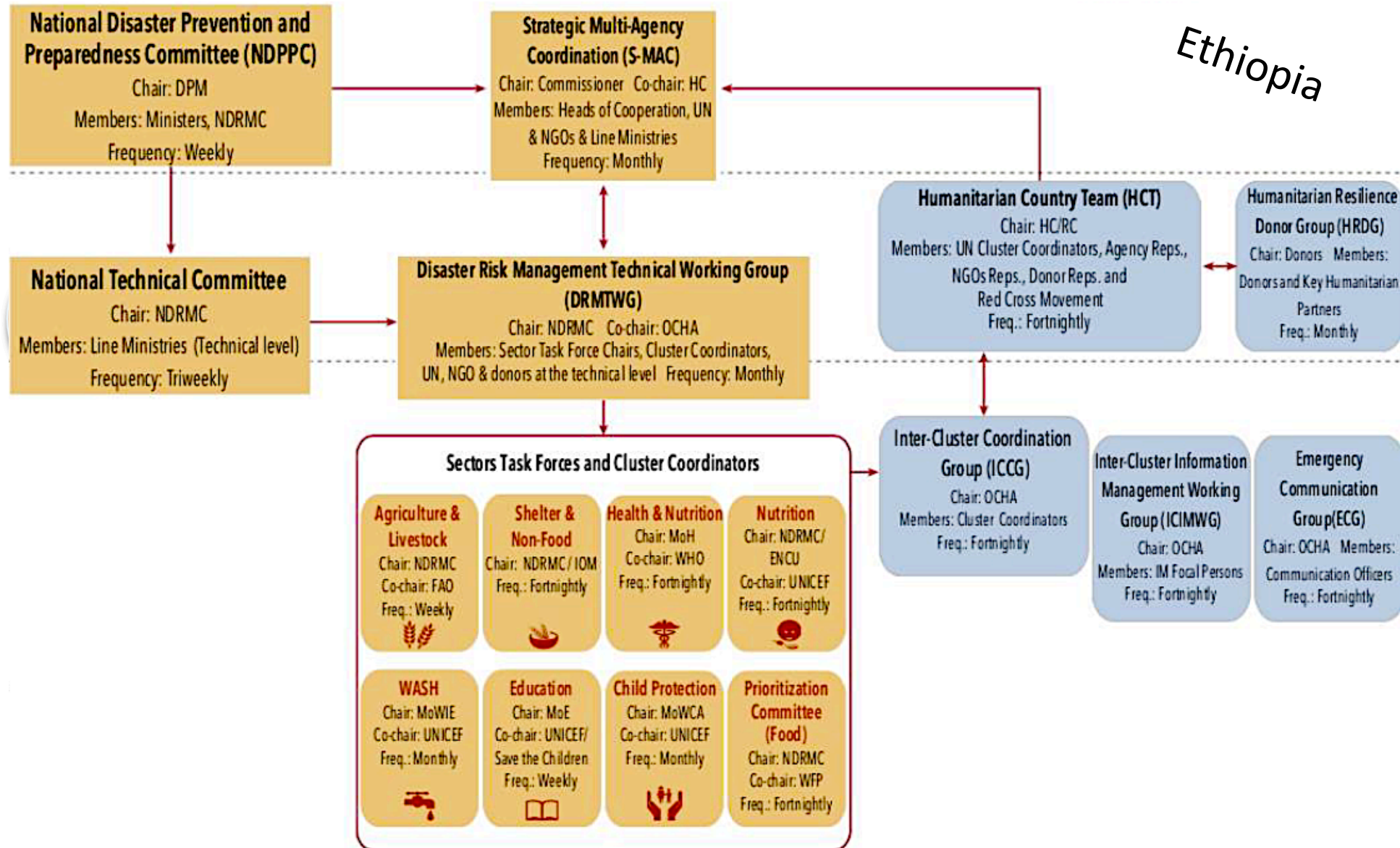
- ***Ms. Tanja Schuemer-Cross***, Humanitarian Affairs Officer, IASC secretariat

What went well?

...and what we should continue
to do.

IAHE COMMON FINDINGS

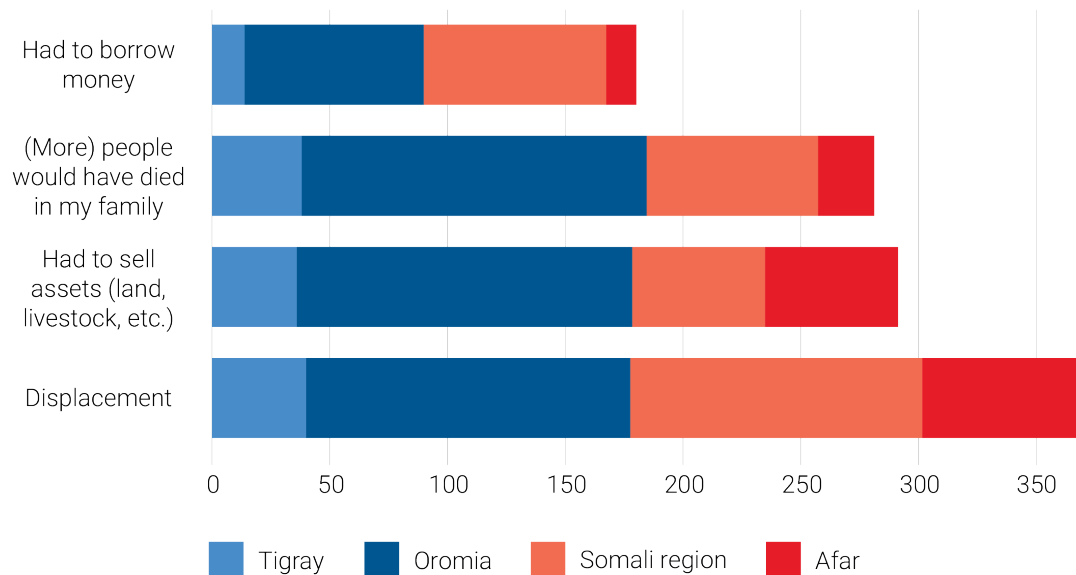
Stronger coordination and complementarity with government emergency systems



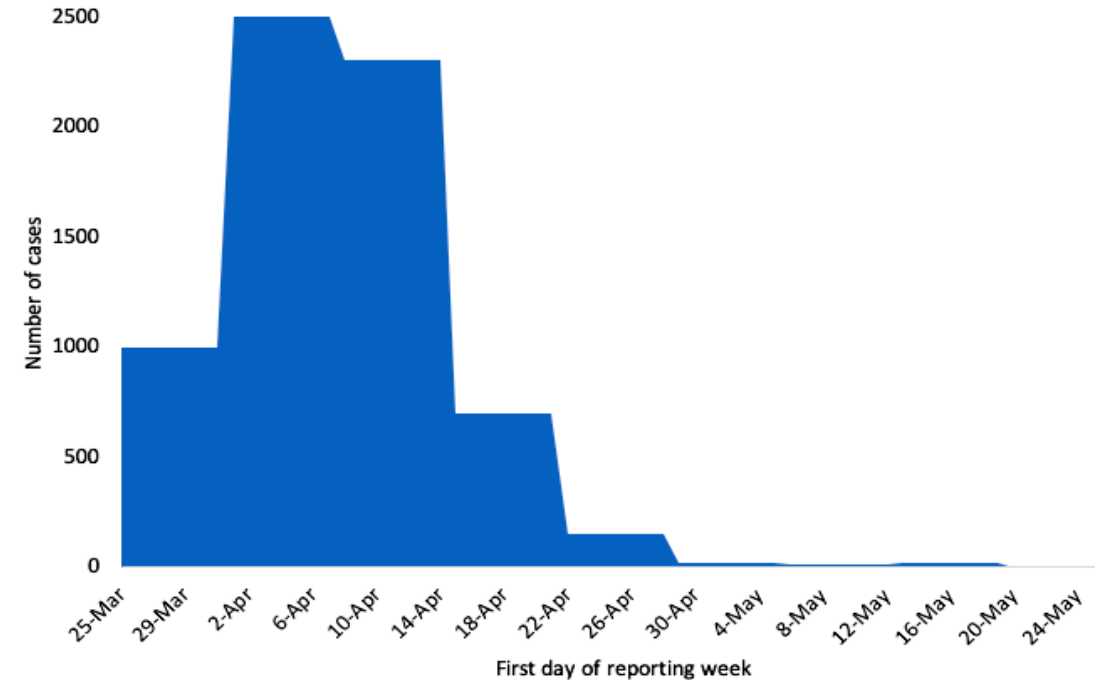
Improved response capacities saved lives

In **Ethiopia**, 58% of people surveyed believed more people in their family would have died without assistance.

What would have happened if no assistance was provided?



In **Mozambique**, joint action helped to prevent a cholera epidemic which could have been a second disaster.



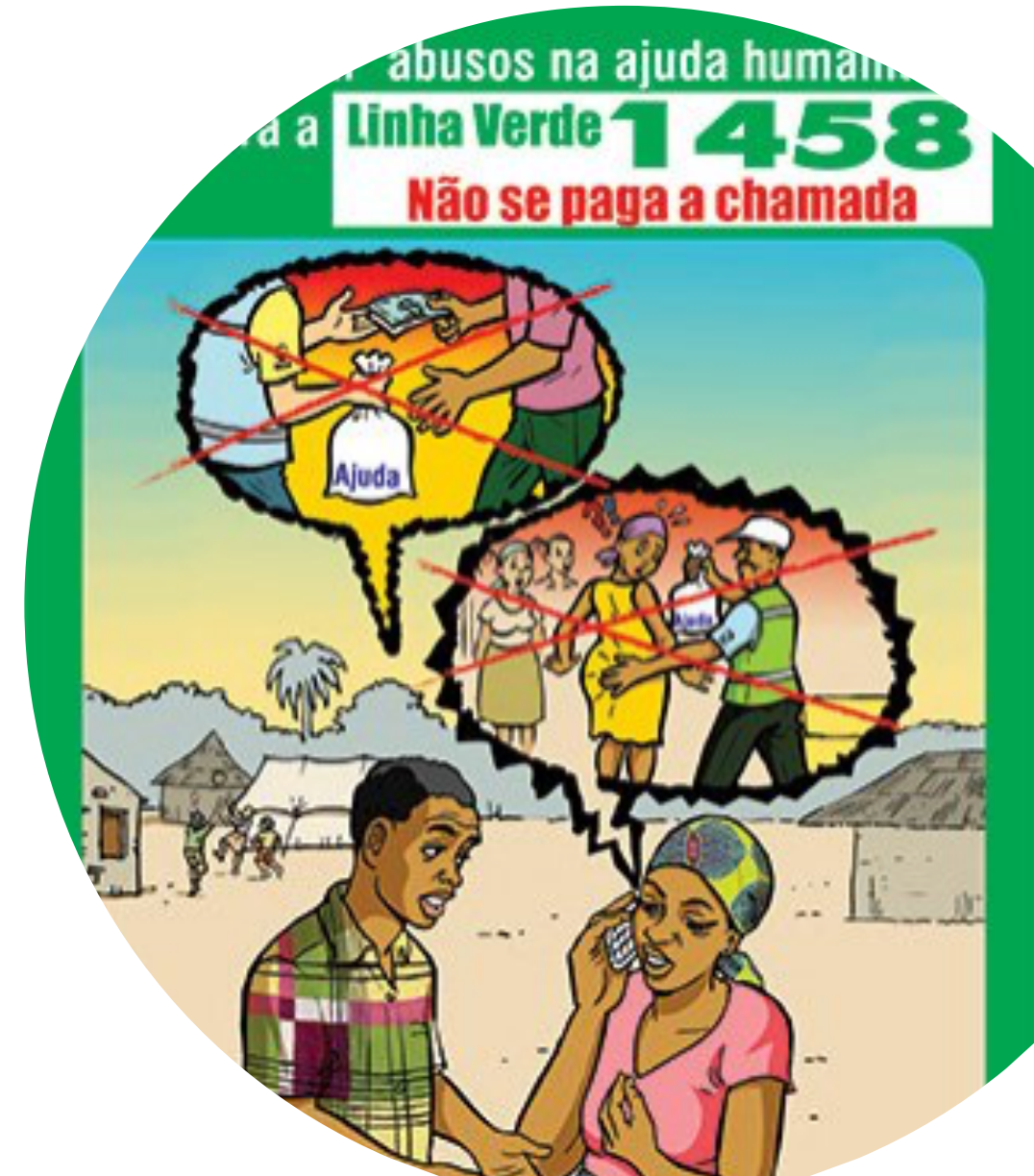
! High turnover of international surge limits quality, continuity and cost-effectiveness of operations.

Increased consideration of protection

In **Mozambique**, PSEA was a priority from day one of the response. Concrete actions included:

- Messaging via community radio stations
- Setting up a PSEA Network,
- Establishment of referral pathways that involved senior leadership
- Interagency *Linha Verde* complaints and feedback system

In **Ethiopia**, coordination structures and the integration of protection concerns into planning processes gradually improved.



*What could we
have improved?*

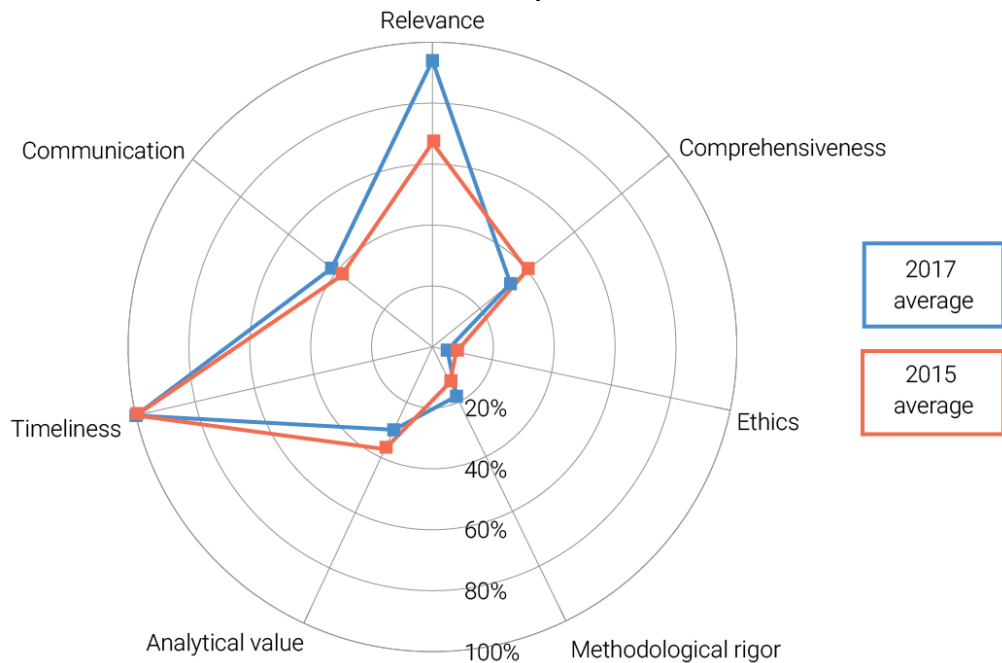
...and what we
should do
differently
next time.

Needs assessment, data management & communication

More attention to data collection, management, communication and accountability is needed.

Ethiopia

Average quality scores of seasonal assessments
Ethiopia



*Despite all the successes, one thing however remained a major challenge. This was the **inability to survey the situation critically to determine where people were and what their needs were at that time...***

Mozambique

Source: Reflections on the humanitarian response to Cyclone Idai by the Humanitarian Logistics Cluster.

Needs assessment, data management & communication

Recommendations: Ethiopia






Continue efforts to strengthen needs assessments:

- Direct consultations with affected people
- Disaggregated analysis of data
- Triangulation of results of seasonal assessments.

Recommendations: Mozambique

- Improve information management and communication systems to have an updated overview of priority needs of affected communities.
- Ensure that humanitarian and early recovery needs are adequately analyzed and communicated in a timely way.

Accountability to Affected Populations

		Ethiopia	Mozambique
	Were you treated with respect while receiving aid?	“Yes”: 74%	“Yes” 92%
	Did you know what assistance you would receive?	“Yes”: 38%	“Yes”: 8%
	Do you know who to complain to / did you receive information on how to use the complaints mechanism?	“Yes”: 54%	“Yes”: 19%
	Was the assistance distributed fairly / was aid distributed equally?	“Yes”: 68%	“Yes”: 74%
	Did assistance reach / benefit those who needed it most?	“Yes”: 63%	“Yes”: 36%



Accountability to Affected Populations

Recommendations: Ethiopia

- Provide communities and their leaders with accurate and up-to-date information.
- Conduct regular, in-person surveys.
- Offer a phone-based, inter-agency complaints mechanism.

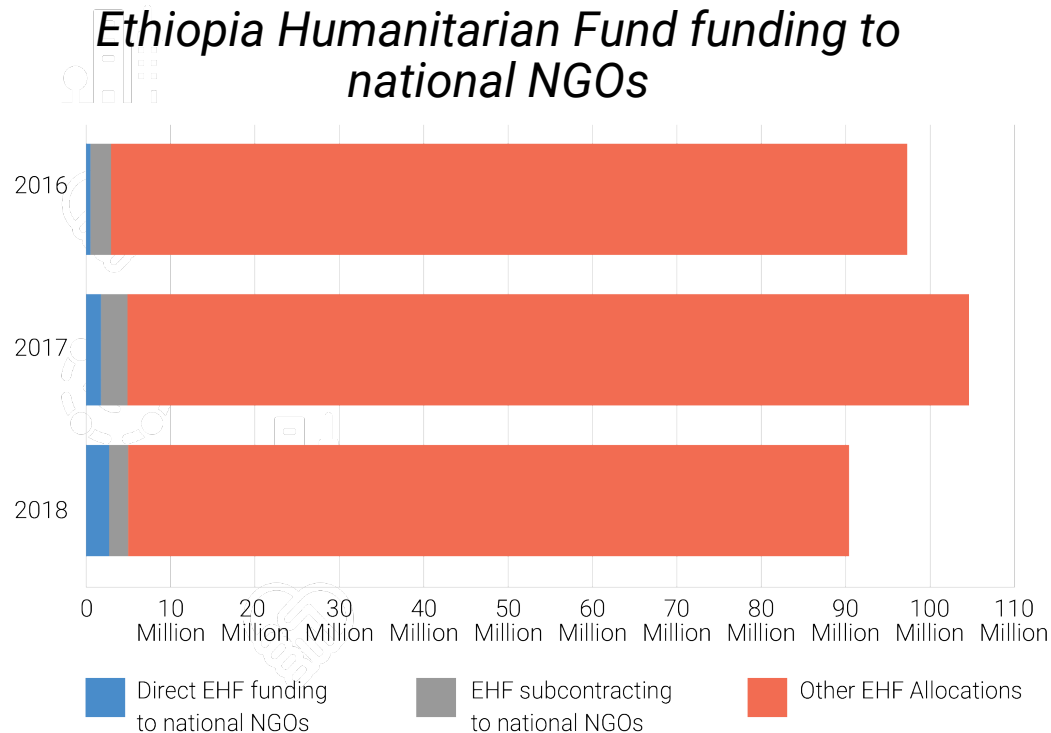
Recommendations: Mozambique

- Systematically include surveys in future IAHEs to give a meaningful voice to communities.
- Incorporate performance benchmarks into scale-up responses that incentivize AAP.



Involvement of local NGOs and civil society

Low level of involvement of local NGOs and civil society was a weakness in both responses.



Source: OCHA EHF Support for National NGOs (2016-2018) Excel Sheet

In **Mozambique**, lack of involvement of local NGOs and CSOs in preparedness planning and during the scale up limited their role in:

- Community-based preparedness;
- Mobilization of communities for early action; and
- Addressing protection and assistance needs of vulnerable groups.

Local civil society

Recommendations: Ethiopia

- Lower the bar for national and local NGOs to access country-based pooled funds.
- Strengthen the participation of national and local NGOs in coordination fora.

Recommendations: Mozambique

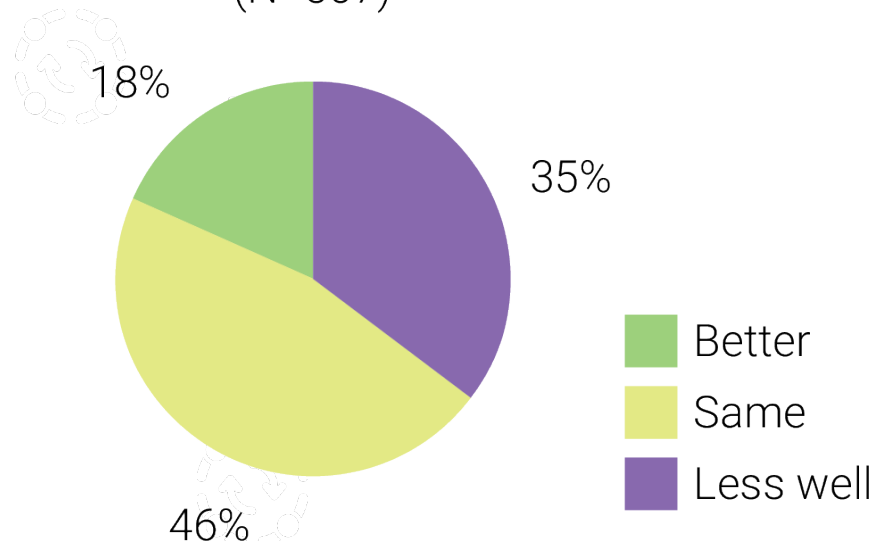
- Develop and implement an engagement and capacity-building strategy for national civil-society stakeholders.
- Work with government counterparts to strengthen CSO involvement in preparedness, early action and response.

Resilience and early recovery

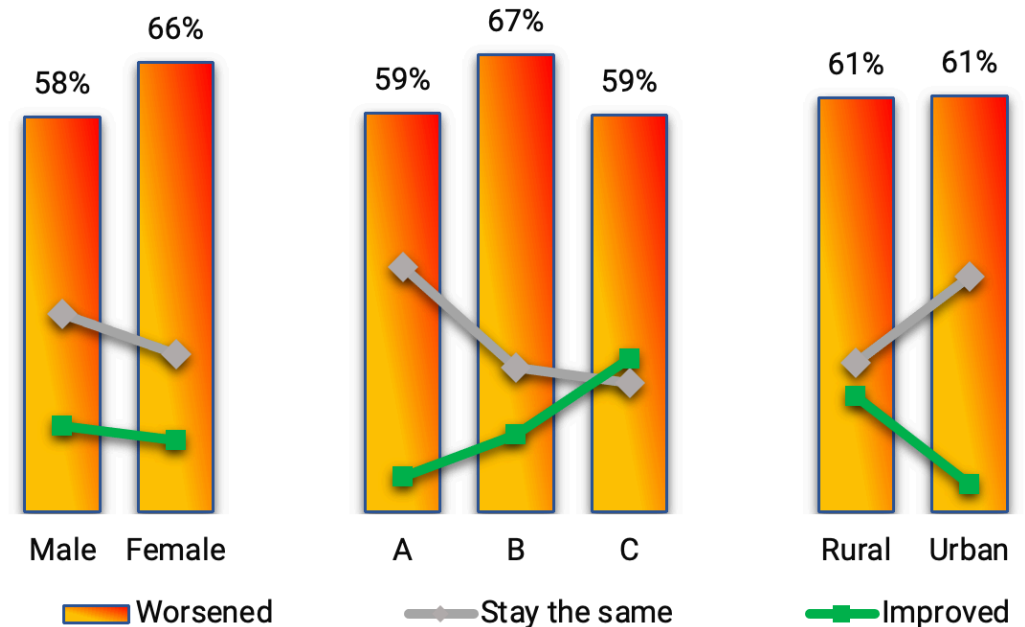
In Ethiopia, efforts to shift the focus of the response to recovery and resilience were frustrated by a lack of funding. Only 18% of households felt that they were in a better position to cope with a similar drought.

How well would you be able to cope with a similar drought?

(N=507)



In Mozambique, longer-term recovery programmes had not started 8 months after the disaster. 58% - 67% of households surveyed after the cyclone felt their situation was worse than before.



Categories:

- A: Affected household and not displaced.
- B: Affected household, displaced and returned to their place of origin.
- C: Affected household, displaced and resettled.

Resilience and early recovery

Recommendations: Ethiopia

- Development actors, in cooperation with the Government of Ethiopia, should increase their investment in resilience and livelihoods.
- Renew efforts to shift the focus of the response to resilience.

Recommendations: Mozambique

- Ensure that both humanitarian and early recovery needs are adequately understood and communicated in a timely way.
- Ensure that the humanitarian community is supporting the priority needs of affected communities, notably households which are struggling to recover.

What lessons do we still need to learn?

Lack of systematic learning and continuous improvement was a gap in both countries:

- Most critical aspects highlighted by the IAHE in Ethiopia had been identified previously.
- Only two clusters in Mozambique planned After Action Reviews to capture and apply relevant learning.
- No action plans for the Operational Peer Review or Management Responses for the recommendations in either IAHE have been adopted.

Learning and applying lessons

Recommendations: Ethiopia

- Report on progress made in addressing IAHE recommendations.
- Communicate follow-up to affected people.
- Focus the attention of the IASC on analysing and addressing obstacles to change and learning.

Recommendations: Mozambique

- Capture and share lessons for clusters and replicate as appropriate to improve preparedness and achieve a more consistent and integrated performance.
- Require global clusters to carry out After Action Reviews within six months of the Scale-Up activation.
- Follow-up and facilitate utilisation of IAHE lessons and recommendations.



Where to go for more information?

The [Inter-Agency Humanitarian Evaluations of the Drought Response in Ethiopia \(2015-2018\) and Response to Cyclone Idai in Mozambique \(2019\)](#) and other valuable resources can be found on the IASC website:

<https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/>

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