**OVERVIEW**

- Cyclone Idai was one of the worst tropical cyclones on record to affect Africa and the Southern Hemisphere.
- In Mozambique, the worst affected country, the cyclone resulted in 648 deaths and an estimated 1.85 million people in need of humanitarian aid.
- On 14 June 2019, the ERC launched an Inter-Agency Humanitarian Evaluation (IAHE) of the humanitarian response to Cyclone Idai in Mozambique.
- The IAHE was the first to assess the contribution of the Scale-Up mechanism to the IASC response to a sudden onset crisis.
- The IAHE included a household survey of affected populations and provides key perspectives of the humanitarian response through the eyes of affected populations.

**KEY FINDINGS OF THE EVALUATION**

**WHAT WORKED WELL**

- **The Scale-Up activation** helped to mobilize human and financial resources for the initial response and strengthened collective accountability to affected populations.

- The vast majority of affected people received the assistance they needed and were treated with respect by humanitarian responders.

- Joint preparedness and strong collaboration with the government helped the coordination of the response.

- Protection against sexual exploitation and abuse was well integrated into the response and included setting up a joint complaints and feedback mechanism.

**WHAT COULD BE DONE BETTER**

- A greater use of anticipatory/early action triggers, focus on cash-based interventions and better engagement of the private sector and civil society organization would have improved the effectiveness of the response.

- The transition to early recovery was hampered by inadequate advanced planning and prioritization for it.

- Better information sharing and quality data would have allowed a real-time overview of priority needs.

- Humanitarian actors should better reflect and apply experience gained from previous efforts, so that year-on-year the response improves.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

(Selected examples out of 13 recommendations)

**Humanitarian Country Team**

- Strengthen local capacities for preparedness, early warning and anticipatory action.
- Based on lessons from this response, take steps to better prioritize the needs of affected communities, especially for recovery and those with special needs.

**Emergency Directors Group**

- Strengthen coordinated approaches for assessment and monitoring of data, including ensuring adequate technical capacity to do so.
- Improve coordination and engagement with the private sector.
- Bolster the decentralized humanitarian leadership coordination model.

**IASC Operational Policy and Advocacy Group**

- Require each global cluster to carry out After-Action Reviews within six months of the Scale-Up activation.
- Increase the value of IAHEs through a more targeted assessment of critical areas, such as anticipatory action and approaches to monitoring data that help better prioritize limited resources.