

## SITUATION

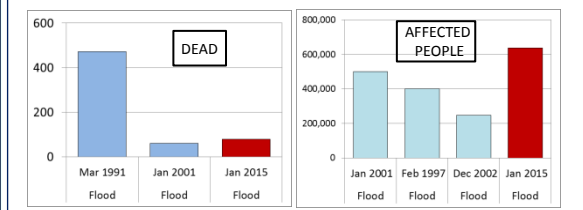
- Since December 2014, heavy rains affected Malawi causing rivers to overflow, floods, deaths and damage, especially in the southern districts of Nsanje, Chikwawa, and Phalombe.
- A state of emergency has been declared by the President of Malawi on 13 January 2015 for 15 districts (out of 28), see affected districts on the map.
- As of 27 January (UN), the floods have affected 638 000 people (estimation) and killed at least 79 people, while 153 were still missing.
- The districts most affected are: Nsanje, Chikwawa, and Phalombe, with over 170 000 displaced. Preliminary reports show extensive damage to houses and infrastructure. As of 27 January (DoDMA, UN):
  - Nsanje: 74 388 displaced, 24 displacement sites
  - Chikwawa: 53 350 displaced, 18 displacement sites
  - Phalombe: 51 700 displaced, 62 displacement sites
- On 25 January, the Copernicus Emergency Management Service was activated by DG ECHO (see in the inset map the flooded areas, as of 27 January).

**FORECAST:** In the next 24 hours, more heavy rains may still affect several areas of Malawi (especially the southern part), including the already flood-affected areas. Risk of flooding is still very high.

**CLIMATE OF MALAWI:** It has a sub-tropical climate (relatively dry and strongly seasonal).

- Warm-wet season between November and April. 95 % of the annual precipitation during this period. (Annual rainfall average: 725 - 2 500 mm)
- Cool, dry winter season between May and August

**FLOODS in MALAWI:** The FLOODS included in the Top 10 Natural Disasters in Malawi (CRED/EM-DAT) for the period 1900-2015 sorted by number of people killed are shown on the left, sorted by people affected on the right (the figures for the current floods are in RED).



Sources: [GDACS](#), [ECHO](#), [Copernicus EMS](#), [UN \(1,2,3\)](#), [DoDMA](#), [Malawi Meteorological Services](#), [NOAA \(1,2\)](#), [DFO](#), [UNOSAT-UNITAR](#)