

Crisis Response

In the Wake of Cyclone Idai



Hands at Work
AFRICA



In mid- March, Cyclone Idai hit South Eastern Africa, devastating communities and affecting hundreds of thousands of people in Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

In many of our communities, the crops have been devastated and hundreds of our children's homes have been destroyed, and more homes continue to fall due to the ongoing rain.

"I woke up to my grandchild standing outside. Our home was destroyed."

– Gogo Rosa, Matsinho Community Mozambique.

Hands at Work in Africa is uniquely positioned in this crisis, already serving the poorest of the poor and the most vulnerable families in Mozambique, including orphans and widows, who are disproportionately affected in times of crisis.



“Gogo Julia is an elderly grandmother living in the community of Matsinho, Mozambique with her three grandchildren, Moses*, Toby* and Eric*. Julia struggles to provide for her grandchildren's most basic needs. The children attend the Matsinho Community Based Organisation where they receive a hot and nutritious meal daily, and support with their education and basic health care. Yet the care that they receive extends far beyond their physical needs. The Care Workers are committed to bringing spiritual and emotional support to not only the children but also to Gogo Julia, by visiting them regularly in their home.

When Cyclone Idai hit Mozambique, Gogo Julia* and her grandson's home was

destroyed. On the night of the storm while the family was asleep inside the home, the first wall collapsed which, by the grace of God, gave Gogo Julia warning to get out of the house, before the rest of the home collapsed. Needing somewhere to live, Gogo Julia sold her radio to purchase a piece of plastic and to pay some young boys in the community to help her construct a temporary shelter.

When the Hands at Work team in Chimoio, together with the local Care Workers assessed the needs in Gogo Julia's community, they knew they needed to intervene by helping the family rebuild a more permanent home. As they work together, repairing Gogo Julia's home - and those of the most vulnerable families - they are also continuing to assess and plan the next steps across the region. Ask God to give them wisdom, strength and endurance, as they respond in love.