



**MINISTRY FOR COOPERATIVE GOVERNANCE AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

Private Bag X802, Pretoria, 0001 Tel: (27-12) 334 0705, Fax: (27-12) 326 4478
Private Bag X9123, Cape Town, 8000 Tel: (27-21) 462-1441, Fax: (27-21) 461-0851

INCIDENTS REPORT

South Africa has since been receiving heavy rainfalls in certain parts of the country especially in the North West, Limpopo, Mpumalanga, Gauteng, and Kwa-Zulu Natal. There have been scattered incidents ranging from damaged housing infrastructure and washed away roads where heavy rainfalls were experienced.

The following incidents were reported per province:

Eastern Cape

No report of flooding incidents in this province.

Free State Province

Although no serious rains have been occurred which have resulted in flooding, the province is currently monitoring the threat of flooding resulting from the rapid increase in river levels which may possibly cause flooding. The rapid increase in river levels is being encouraged by releases from major dams when gates are opened in order to ensure the safety of the dams. This situation is currently happening in the Orange-Vaal River System.

Gauteng Province

Gauteng experienced flooding mainly in Ekurhuleni and City of Johannesburg. Incidents ranged from flooded roads and houses and blocked drainage systems. The Municipalities affected are currently able to deal with the incidents and will clear off the roads as soon as some of the water has subsided. Most of the people living in low-lying

areas in formal settlements in Kliptown and Tembisa have been displaced.

Summary of the Impact of the flooding:

Municipality	No. of fatalities / injuries	Type of infrastructure damages	Type of relief	Current situation	Intervention
Ekurhuleni	None	70 Flooded shacks in Tembisa		Water levels have subsided	25 Households evacuated to community Hall
		Flooded Shacks ± 27 Shacks, Etwatwa	Food parcels distributed.	Water levels have subsided	
City of JHB Metropolitan Municipality	None	Estimated 150 Informal dwellings/shacks Flooded Klein Jukskei and Kaalspruit water levels increased	Soup kitchen (Shoprite Checkers), Mobile Soup Kitchen (FoodBank) PDMC supplied 200 blankets.	200 Victims are still at the Community hall. Food is supplied on three meal basis. Communities have been evacuated at Diepsloot reception, and Ivory Park Ext 15	Provincial Disaster Management Centre, City of Jo'burg, Community Development Workers and victims briefed the media about the situation Temporary shelter has been provided
City of Tshwane	03 fatalities (drowning)	In Mabopane the wall-fencing collapsed and water entered into a house.	None	Monitoring the situation	City of Tshwane is in process of establishing Joint Operations Centre Meeting that is going to sit every morning addressing flood issues. All reports on incidents occurred will be addressed from

					meeting
Sedibeng District Municipality	None	Informal settlements	Blankets	Sicelo informal settlements: some of the shacks in the low lying areas next to Bell road was flooded and assistance was given by district in providing of blankets. The Vaal dam is being well monitored by opening the 7th sluice with outflow of approximately 970m3 per sec.	

KwaZulu- Natal Province

The province only experience few fatal incidents due to heavy rainfalls accompanied with strong winds and lightning:

- Msunduzi (Umgungundlovu) – KwaNyamazane **lightning** strike and wall collapse which claimed one life and two (2) minor injuries that were reported;
- A case of **drowning** in Impendle where one person died (Umgungundlovu);
- Seriously injured person due to **wall collapse** in Jozini (Umkhanyakude);
- One (1) died due to **wall collapse** and two sustained injuries in Dannhauser (Amajuba)
- Three (3) fatalities in Ozwathini due to **lightning** (Umgungundlovu); and
- Two (2) young boys struck by lightning on the way home in Watersmeet (uThukela)

In summary only 135 houses are totally collapsed and 538 houses partially damaged. There were seven (7) injuries reported and eight (8) confirmed fatalities were also reported. Humanitarian relief was provided to affected families. Currently, the situation is under control and the provincial disaster management center is on alert.

Limpopo Province:

Lephalale District Municipality has been severely affected and the officials are assessing the situation and providing humanitarian relief to

the affected communities. Affected communities have been evacuated to habitable areas. Roads in Ellisras are reported to be closed due to high levels of water while flows have subsided at Phalala. The Joint operation Centres have been activated in Waterberg and Sekhukhune DMs.

Waterberg District Municipality: Mostly affected District.

In Lephalale as at, 05 March 2014 at 15H16 the rivers around the villages and farms were full to capacity and the over flow lead to flooding. The affected areas are the truck-in and bus depot along Lephalale – Marken Road R518. The vulnerable area affected is Thabo Mbeki-177 victims, Mamojela Park – 3000 people were initially evacuated, Shongoane 1, 2, 3, Mokuruanyane, Seleka, Witpoort and Beauty villages as well as the surrounding farming areas along Mogol and Palala Rivers. Mogol and Phalala Rivers are still overflowing and the road to Vaalwater is closed for road users because the bridge next to Vaalwater is affected. A number of 724 people from Mabaleng and Alma communities have returned home.

Water is still having one meter high allowance in all bridges. Small Bridges along Beska road are still closed for road users as they have been flooded for now. In Modimolle an assessment was also done at Mabatlane (Vaalwater) after heavy rains resulted in floods.

Impact assessment has been conducted in Mogalakwena local Municipality and mud houses from seven different areas are reported to be damaged mainly (Lyden-2, Makekeng -1, Sekgakgapeng-1, Moshate-1, Ga-pila-3, Ga-Mokaba-1 and Mabuella-3. Officials distributed blankets and food to the affected families. School children were assisted by Mogalakwena rescue team to crossover the stream water, Sterkwater victims were evacuated to the community hall. A

mine dam burst in Thabazimbi Local Municipality affecting Jabulani informal settlement.

Summary of the Impact of the flooding in Waterberg:

Municipality	No. of fatalities / injuries	Type of infrastructure damages	Type of relief	Current situation	Intervention
Waterberg	03 fatalities (drowning) 03 casualty 01 missing	Roads and bridges 704 houses including informal settlements	None	Water levels subsiding	<p>The Joint Operation Centre is activated. Assessments being conducted</p> <p>470 blankets and 20 relief Tents have been distributed to the victims by CoCHSTA-PDMC</p> <p>Lephalale LM provided food, drinking water and mobile toilets at an Evacuation Centre in Witpoort Community hall</p> <p>SA Red Cross provided Hygiene packs, food parcels, and clothing to Jabulani informal settlement</p> <p>Thabazimbi LM distributed Tents, relief blankets to Jabulani informal settlement</p> <p>SAPS, SANDF, Netcare ERR24, EXXARO and other private agencies provided Chopper/s and boats relief support to distressed victims along the Mogol/Phalala river</p>

Mopani District Municipality

In Maruleng the Zandspruit Bridge has been damaged but traffic can still pass. One lane on road D3912 that connects Mametja and Botshabelo villages is a total cut-off and there is no alternative route. Road D21 which is the main road from The Oaks to Sekororo, next to Metz Hospital has been partially damaged. The Provincial Department of Roads and Transport and Maruleng Local Municipality are on site to intervene by providing access by-pass road to Mametja and Botshabelo villages. Maruleng Mayor visited the most affected areas where bridges have been totally cut-off.

Mpumalanga Province

Mpumalanga Province experienced heavy rains that resulted in few low lying bridges flooded and injuries. The bad weather conditions affected mainly the following areas; Komati and Piet Retief and Tonga and Ehlanzeni district Municipality. **Ehlanzeni District Municipality is severely affected and considering declaring a local state of disaster (refer to attached detailed report).** The information received from Mpumalanga is that the river flows are high but no major flows in Olifants and Sabie. So far total number of the drowning in the province is 12, due to pedestrians crossing the overflowing rivers. 12 people were rescued from the vehicle roof tops. General damages ranges from roads and low lying bridges especially in Komati.

Municipality	No. of fatalities / injuries	Type of infrastructure damages	Type of relief	Current situation	Intervention
Ehlanzeni District Municipality	1 pregnant woman airlifted to Hospital in Tonga. 05 people drowned in	Low bridge flow flooded	SAPS divers busy with search and rescue in	Water levels subsiding	Public Works, Roads and Transport Dept. teams are busy assessing the situation and clearing up the roads. SAPS rescued 12 people

	different municipalities		Piet Retief		in different areas Resources have been mobilized e.g. Working on Fire Teams, aerial support from SANDF, SAPS and EMS 1 person rescued in Kruger national park Declaration of a local state of disaster by District Municipality. Meeting on the discussion scheduled for 13 March 2014.
Gert Sibande	08 People drowned	Major infrastructural damages of roads and bridges, water pumps and mud houses and shacks	Humanitarian relief provided to victims	Assistance being provided, the water levels are subsiding	Municipality's technical teams are on site and the situation is being assessed.

Northern Cape Province

No incidents thus far. The province is receiving little rainfall.

Torrential Rains from Gauteng Province may cause Bloemhof and Vaal dam to exceed its capacity and lead to excessive release. According to information from the Provincial Department of Water Affairs (DWA) was that the outflow from Vaaldam is currently 791 cumec m/s and the inflow to Vaaldam is more than 1100 cumec m/s. Bloemhof. Meaning that the dam will probably be full in eight days' time. The results of this will be that flood gate or sluice gates will be opened resulting into increased river water level. A meeting with all sector departments have been called by the PDMC to address the threatening situation.

North West Province

The North West Province is currently experiencing torrential rains and floods in most municipalities. The assessment conducted by disaster management teams have indicated that most dams in the province are overflowing. The affected districts are Ngaka Modiri Molema (Ditsobotla L.M) and Bojanala Platinum (Madibeng L.M). Municipal infrastructure and houses have been reported damaged. The current possible threats are flooding as result of over flow of dams, rivers and poor storm water drainage systems. The Madibeng L.M disaster incident occurred from 28 February 2014 to date.

Summary of the impact of the flooding:

Bojanala Platinum District

Municipality	No. of fatalities/injuries	Type of infrastructure damaged	Type of relief	Current situation
Moses Kotane LM	03 drowned	Segalwaneng- 02 mudhouses collapsed	Search and Rescue on site, busy with the operation	The municipality is conducting impact and needs assessment
Moretele LM	00	Mmotla village-Bridges	None at the moment	Municipality still conducting damage and need assessments
Madibeng LM	00	Incidents of 06 March 2014 Houses - Majakaneng 30 - Oukasie 01 - Maboloka 13 - Bapong 01 - Segwalane 100 houses and internal roads - Letlhabile 02 - Makau 01 - Mothutlong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affect households received SRD grants. Department of Social Development provided counselling The Bojanala Platinum District Disaster Management Centre provided tents to the affected 	A JoC is still active to monitor the situation

		01 - Premindia 01	families	
Rustenburg	02 drowning in Marikana		• Search and Rescue activated	Search and Rescue activated

Dr.Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality

Municipality	No. of fatalities/injuries	Type of infrastructure damaged	Type of relief	Current situation
Dr. Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality	00	00	00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is still raining; though no incidents have been reported. • The District Disaster Management official went to Vaal River to monitor the situation on the 10th of March 2014 around 18h00; the water had subsided. • In Klerksdorp Dam the situation is still under control
Tlokwe City Council	00	00	00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were heavy rain falls in the area. However, no incidents were

				<p>reported in the Municipality.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The DM official visited Vaal River for inspection; everything is still under control.
Ventersdorp Local Municipality	00	00	00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a protest in Extension 2 and 3; where the community was burning tires and blocking roads with stones. The cause is unknown. • Fire and Rescue Services officials are on standby. • SAPS are monitoring the situation- Task Force from Potchefstroom was activated. • It has been raining; however no related incidents have been reported.
Maquassi Hills Local Municipality	00	00	00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It has been raining for the past 24 hours; no incidents have been reported.

City of Matlosana	00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Wippoort Bridge is flooded thus restricting access for learners from Bosworth Primary School to attend classes. 	00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learners are forced to utilize the long route to school Vaalriver's inflow is at 1300 m³, however 7 valves have been opened to allow the flow of water. In Vaal River five gates have been opened. In Bloemhof Dam; two valves have been opened.
-------------------	----	---	----	---

Dr. Ruth Segametsi Mompoti District

Municipality	No. of fatalities/injuries	Type of infrastructure damaged	Type of relief	Current situation
Lekwa-Teemane LM	00	00	00	Bloemhof dam is currently at 94%, however 2 valves have been opened to allow the flow of water.

Ngaka Modiri Molema District

Municipality	No. of	Type of	Type of relief	Current situation	Intervention
--------------	--------	---------	----------------	-------------------	--------------

	fatalities / injuries	infrastructure damages			
Ditsobotla LM	None	Houses- Informal houses flooded	The community has been relocated to an alternative habitable land	The community is busy with the reconstruction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SAPS was activated to monitor the situation when the community embarked on strike on the March 2014. • The Municipality provided an alternative land for the community to relocate to.

Western Cape

No report of flooding incidents in this province.

Reports/Recommendations from Sector Departments

Department of Water Affairs (DWA)

The Limpopo River, Olifants and parts of Nkomati rivers levels are decreasing gradually. There are still chances of them rising depending on the rainfall. Currently the DWA is monitoring the situation.

Vaaldam is at 104%, outflow at 530cumecs. Four (4) gates are opened and the other gate will be closed at 10:00 today. Bloemhof capacity is at 110% at this morning and outflow is at 520 cumecs. If prevailing conditions persist, it is likely to fill up and start spilling / overflowing on Saturday, 15/03/14 in the afternoon. This is controlled flows. It is less expected to cause river flooding.

Mokolo dam original level was 113% and now it has decreased to 108% as at this morning. The dam is expected to decrease pending that no further rain in the upper catchment.

Communication is going on between the Department of Water Affairs and Disaster Management Centers to ensure that warnings are disseminated promptly. The public shall continue to be informed if and when more water is going to pass through the storage dams and the expected river flow levels, especially along the Vaal River.

Prevention and mitigation strategies put in place

- Regular flood awareness campaigns are conducted.
- The local municipalities have established platforms for the relocation strategies for residents located close to the identified flood lines to safer areas if needed.
- Both passive and active flood warning systems are utilized.
- Community river watch systems are in place.
- Capacity within Fire & Rescue Services are in place to enable them to adequately deal with swift water rescue operations.
- Contingency plans are in place.
- Profile on flood prone areas are in place.
- Disaster Management SMS system and social media platform Whatsapp are used as an early warning measure.

The Gauteng, Free State and North West Provincial Disaster Management Centres have also been included on the SMS system. Water is released at 970 cubic meter per second at a time, and before sluice gates are opened, the early warning system is activated warning all groups on the system. River frost property group is also on the Early Warning SMS system; it is a group established as a liaison between riverside residents and the district. Alarm/security response companies also linked to SMS early warning system.
