



WHO IS ALEIMAR

Aleimar is a voluntary organisation that has believed in a precise objective since 1983: to support children in difficulty without distinction of origin, religion, ethnicity and culture. "Together with the children of the world" is the mission that guides us and leads us to support children in their needs such as health, nutrition and education, helping them in their human, affective, social and cultural growth. We are present in 11 countries around the world, supporting 430 children through Distance Support (SaD) and another 2500 through our Development Projects in favour of families and local communities. In particular, we have been working in Malawi, in the Mangochi district, since 2014.

Together with our local partners, over the years we have supported projects aimed at protecting the rights of children and the weaker sections of the population, improving their living conditions and promoting greater economic self-sufficiency.



MALAWI

One of the main problems in Malawi, one of the smallest countries in southern Africa, is access to clean water: despite the progress that has been made, **about 40 per cent of the population still cannot access clean water.** There are often no wells in the villages and the inhabitants are forced to collect water in rivers or rainwater collection wells.

The lack of access to clean water is often the cause of food insecurity and the spread of contagious diseases such as cholera. According to Unicef, many children suffer from diarrhoea or other infections because they are forced to drink contaminated water. Moreover, it is often the children who have to miss school and, together with the women, cover the long distances to the nearest water source by carrying heavy water canisters for kilometres.

Cyclone Freddy hit Malawi hard in mid-March 2023, destroying fields, villages and schools and worsening the condition of a country already struggling with the worst cholera epidemic in 20 years. Thousands of lives and the economic and social fabric of the country are at risk. Precisely in this context, **access to clean water represents a fundamental 'second vaccine' and the lack of water services amplifies the risk of contagion.**



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CYCLONE FREDDY EMERGENCY FUND

Cyclone Freddy has hit Malawi in recent days and is shaping up to be the longest-lasting storm on record since its arrival in southern Africa at the end of February.

According to the United Nations World Meteorological Organisation, Cyclone Freddy, which formed off northwestern Australia in the first week of February, crossed the entire southern Indian Ocean and hit Madagascar and Mozambique in late February. Following what meteorologists describe as a rare loop trajectory, Freddy first moved away from the African coast towards the ocean, then returned to the territory in early March, tragically striking Malawi on 13 March.

Malawi is bearing the brunt of the storm: more than 11,000 people have been affected, and the central and southern regions, where Aleimar has been operating for almost ten years, are at the brink of collapse.

The **inhabitants of these areas have lost everything**: their huts have been destroyed, the cultivated fields completely flooded, the mud is engulfing everything.

The impact of **the cyclone has aggravated the situation** in a country grappling with the **deadliest cholera epidemic in its history**, which has killed thousands of people since last year.

Key factors in the escalation of the epidemic are the **use of unsafe water sources**, limited access to sanitation facilities, poor food hygiene, and in particular the inability to wash hands with soap, even after contact with cholera cases.

The district of Mangochi, where Aleimar works with projects to combat malnutrition, ensure clean water, childcare, schooling and community development, **is one of the three most affected districts in the whole of Malawi, accounting for about 50 per cent of the registered cholera cases and deaths** in the entire country.

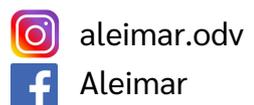
Looking ahead, experts predict that without urgent and intensified action to respond to this tragedy, between 64,000 and 100,000 cases of cholera could be recorded in the next three months.

Today, **an estimated 4.8 million children, or one in two children in the country, are in humanitarian need**.

By the end of March, **more than 213,000 children under the age of five will be severely malnourished**. Since a severely malnourished child is 11 times more likely to die of cholera than a well-nourished child, a cholera epidemic such as the current one may amount to a death sentence for thousands of children in Malawi.

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Insieme ai bambini del mondo

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**MALAWI IS IN DIRE NEED OF HELP.
WE MUST ACT NOW!**

- ✓ With 15€ you donate an **emergency food parcel** with non-perishable items;
- ✓ With 30€ you donate **basic medicines for cholera treatment** (antibiotics and oral rehydration solution);
- ✓ With 50€ you contribute to **life-saving treatment for severely malnourished children** in need of hospitalisation;
- ✓ With 100€ you contribute to the **reconstruction of a hut** for those displaced by Cyclone Freddy;
- ✓ With 200€ you contribute to the **construction of a well to ensure drinking water** for the population, preventing further cholera epidemics.

Help us save the lives of thousands of children in the Mangochi district!



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