



## **Information management in disaster communication for cyclone prevention in Mozambique**

### **Gestão de informação na comunicação dos desastres para a prevenção dos ciclones em Moçambique**

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#### **INTRODUCTION**

Mozambique is an African country that lies on the east coast, in a region vulnerable to extreme events caused by climate change, which leaves the lives of Mozambicans in a situation of vulnerability (CHICHANGO et al, 2021). In recent years in Mozambique, the impacts caused by cyclones have intensified, such as: Cyclone Dineo in 2017, Tropical Cyclone Idai and Kenneth in 2019, Tropical Storm Chalane in 2020, Tropical Cyclone Eloise in 2021, Tropical Cyclone Gombe in 2022 and more recently Tropical Cyclone Fredy in 2023.

According to WWF-Brazil (2015), in recent years there has been a great concern on the part of researchers regarding issues related to climate change, and there is compelling scientific evidence that shows it to be caused by human action.

#### **METHODOLOGY**

The work was developed through a qualitative, descriptive research, whose data were collected in bibliographic and documentary sources available on the internet. The technique used served to verify how information management is understood and conceived in disaster communication for cyclone prevention in Mozambique.

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Since remote times, communication has been a vital instrument, being an element of integration, instruction, exchange and development, communication is limited to the exchange of information between an emitter and a receiver who interprets (decodes) a certain message with meanings, through various channels and means to influence, in some way in behavior, patterns of procedures and in the organization and development of the community (NEVES, 2009).

According to Schuler (2004), cited by Zenatti and Sousa (2010), they make reference to communication by stating:



"Every time we communicate, we are facing a new situation, different from all the others we have faced, and this situation has to be solved creatively. To solve a problem creatively means to understand that problem as well as possible, to be able to formulate several alternative solutions to it, to select among these the best solution, to apply it, and to learn from the results of that application how best to solve future problems. To be good communicators, then, we have to develop our creativity, because there is no ready-made recipe for it (p.24)".

Conjo (2021), emphasizes when talking about the importance of disaster communication when it guarantees access to information (one of the fundamental rights of Mozambican citizens), aims to share ideas about risks, in order to act or adapt better in relation to cases of risks and disasters, and become a more resilient community, or even less vulnerable.

According to Feuerhake (2007), cyclone is an extreme atmospheric event that brings strong winds and torrential rains, usually the phenomenon occurs in late summer, when the waters of tropical oceans are warmer. For Castro et al (2003), there is a system for the prediction of cyclones or hurricanes, consisting of meteorological satellites, radar systems, aircraft, ships and other resources used by meteorological services. The information is transmitted quickly by the competent authorities, allowing communities to act in advance. Kobiyama et al (2004), adds that prevention is necessary to reduce natural disasters, since it is difficult to have zero damage because humans have enough knowledge to control and master natural phenomena.

## **CONCLUSION/FINAL CONSIDERATIONS**

When natural phenomena affect inhabited areas causing them human and material losses of great proportion with difficulty of management, the situation is considered a disaster (TOMINAGA et al, 2015). Among the major negative impacts caused by cyclones in Mozambique, human lives including housing are the most affected. Despite some difficulties in the Mozambican meteorological system, and the vulnerability of the population living in rural areas, several actions are being taken by government entities as well as researchers to reduce the disaster situation by acting on prevention, capitalizing on the disaster information system for the prevention of disasters including cyclones in Mozambique.

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