**NUTRITION OVERVIEW**

The peak of acute malnutrition was expected during the lean season, from October 2019–February 2020, when an estimated 67,500 children under the age of 5 were forecast to need treatment for acute malnutrition, according to the IPC acute malnutrition analysis in 31 of the country’s 128 districts in June 2019. An estimated 6,500 of them were affected by severe acute malnutrition (IPC, July 2019).

The number of districts facing a Serious (IPC Phase 3) situation increased from two in April–September, to six in October 2019–February 2020 with Nicoadala, Maganja da Costa, Balama and Doa deteriorating from Alert (IPC Phase 2) (IPC, July 2019).

Generally, acute malnutrition increased in all analysed districts, particularly those affected by Cyclone Idai and floods (IPC, July 2019). However, the IPC analyses were conducted before Cyclone Kenneth hit Cabo Delgado. The cyclone was likely to reduce the quality and quantity of infant feeding, further increase the occurrence of diarrhoea and malaria, and lower coverage of health and sanitation services and access to safe water sources (OCHA, May 2019).

Since the declaration of the cholera outbreak on 27 March 2019, by July 6,768 suspected cases had been reported in Sofala and 284 cases reported in Cabo Delgado province. An effective cholera vaccination campaign reached 98.6 percent of the population (WHO, July 2019).

**Nutrition status of refugees**

There is a lack of recent nutrition data for refugees and asylum seekers. In Maratane camp the acute malnutrition prevalence was ‘low’ in 2015 (SENS, 2015), but reports from health facilities suggest a 56 percent increase in the number of acutely malnourished children since 2018 (UNHCR 2019). Stunting was ‘high’ at 28.6 percent and anaemia levels were ‘severe’ with 71.2 percent of children anaemic (SENS, 2015). Sanitation was poor with 30.8 percent of households practising open defecation due to lack of latrines (SENS, 2015).