

## HEAVY RAINS, FLOODS & PESTS CAUSE HAVOC IN SONGA AREA; HOUSES AND MAIZE GARDENS AFFECTED

Heavy rains which resulted in flush floods washed away crops and destroyed houses in Songa area in Mchinji district on Monday, December 12 2016. The downpour has affected 960 families in Songa villages. “I am desperate and I don’t know what to do. I was relying on the crops to fend for my family needs and now I am shattered,” said Miriam Phiri, one of the affected people.



The floods have also washed away bridges, making the worst disaster the area has experienced in the past three years. Songa Chief said rivers brought water into Kabudira River which led to the floods. “The problem is that Kabudirea River silted up as people used to cultivate along it. Due to heavy rains it swelled and burst, causing the floods,” he said. Songa said 123 hectares and hundreds of bags of maize and fertiliser and livestock, have been washed away and houses destroyed. As if this is not enough, crop destroying pests have also been born and are devouring crops of the upland fields.



Save Orphans Ministries Field Coordinator of the area, Shadreck appealed to well-wishers to help the affected people. Director and founder of Save Orphans Ministries Justin Majawa added, “Take note that literal words fail me to present you with exact severity of the life misery and damaged houses due to windy rough rains that saw many families lose their houses as well. The remaining crops don’t look well either.” Our project team for the area is well on the ground to capture as much information as possible. Nonetheless, the affected people are in a state of destitution and are looking forward to be assisted in various ways to mitigate their immediate as well as the evidently looming suffering.

The much needed supplies for the affected are: food stuffs, maize, roofing plastic sheets, plastic kitchen utensils like pails, plates and cups, blankets and clothes. Water purifiers are also essential to avoid escalation of Cholera and diarrhea disease.

Should you be willing to assist, please contact: Justin Majawa, [justinmajawa@gmail.com](mailto:justinmajawa@gmail.com) or +265 999 915 018

