



Shelter Box Donations Reach Caprivi - by Reagan Malumo

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KATIMA MULILO – Deputy Prime Minister, Dr Libertina Amathila, together with Caprivi Regional Governor, Leonard Mwilima, and a team from the Caprivi Regional Council, last Monday received a donation of 300 shelter boxes for flood victims.

The shelter boxes were donated by a global humanitarian aid agency called Shelter Box Response, based in the United Kingdom.

Shelter boxes were dispatched to Namibia after an assessment of the countrywide floods by the Shelter Box Response team.

Shelter boxes are durable plastic boxes each containing two mosquito nets, four waterproof ground mats, collapsible water containers, a water purifying kit, a 10-person tent, thermal fleece blankets, plates and cooking equipment, a toolkit and children's activity pack complete with pencils and some notebooks.

The donation will benefit flood victims at Schuckmannsburg, Kasika, Lusese and other affected areas in the region. Amathila was also happy to note that the Shelter Box Response team also availed water purification tablets, which she believed would help to purify water in relocation camps some of which looked reddish when it was shown to journalists.

So far more than 20 000 people are affected by the floods in the Caprivi Region including hundreds of school children and teachers mainly from the Kabbe and Katima Rural constituencies. Mwilima also confirmed that there are about 27 relocation centres in the region so far, with major ones being Schuckmannsburg, Lusese, Kabbe and Lisikili. According to Mwilima, some of the affected lack basic necessities such as shelter and appealed for more assistance. He said at the moment the region was also in dire need of trucks to transport food stuffs to the affected people as well as water transport such as boats to assist in reaching out to those surrounded by water as well as assist farmers struggling to harvest their premature crops. At the moment farmers with fields in the already submerged Lake Lyambezi area are using dugout canoes while harvesting their submerged crops.

Meanwhile, the Namibia Red Cross Society together with other international agencies such as Humedica, and Nazarene Church, were distributing food relief and rendering support to affected people in the region.

The Deputy Premier, who also visited some settlements occupied by the San community in the region, was also expected to officiate at the graduation ceremony of the Caprivi College of Education where two students from the San community are expected to receive their teacher's diplomas.

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