

Disaster Prevention – Rio Save flood risk

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**Munich Re
Foundation**
From Knowledge
to Action

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In January 2008, torrential rain caused severe flooding in villages along the Rivers Save and Búzi in Central Mozambique.

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Daly Cumanda, District Head of Govuro, gains a first-hand impression of the situation on the River Save in January 2008.

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The waters recede, revealing the full extent of the erosion that increasingly threatens villages along the river.

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**Many homes are in danger of being washed away,
as shown by this photo taken in Govuro.**

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Simple gauges have been installed along the River Save so that the response is swift if water levels become critical.

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The readings are transmitted to the villages themselves – in this case Massangena, on the River Save.

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Massangena's new emergency centre opened in autumn 2007. The alert is spread via radio antennae.

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The new emergency centre is equipped with a radio transceiver, evacuation plans and water-level schedules.

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Massangena's disaster emergency committee reports for a practice drill. Ongoing training is provided for new recruits from the villages.

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Jocabeth Guerrero's experience in Central America is put to good use in organising training for the emergency helpers.



In September 2008, district heads met at a disaster control summit in Búzi. They discussed ways of improving the flood-warning service.

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The disaster emergency committees were also in attendance. The prominent visitor from the capital, Maputo, emphasised the importance of their role.



Dr. Ana Cristina, Head of the National Institute for Disaster Management, Maputo, thanked the committee members for their commitment and encouraged them to maintain their efforts.

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Responsibility for the warning system will ultimately be assumed by the National Institute for Disaster Management in Maputo.