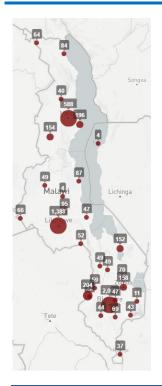


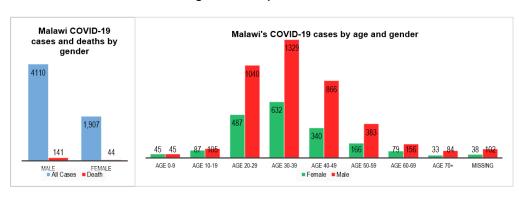
COVID-19 Update

Situation Update No. 32 at 4 December 2020



MALAWI HIGHLIGHTS

- 1.2 million cloth masks being given to communities and children in 22 districts
- 3,500 Braille materials for use by 14,600 children with disabilities distributed in 34 schools and learning centres
- Cash distribution done in 7 districts to help address COVID-19 economic impact
- Distribution of next round of take-home support for school meals started
- Commodity tracking system for higher efficiency and accountability deployed
- School monitoring shows 78% of primary school children returned to school
- Implementation of the Affordable Input Programme (AIP) is ongoing
- Awareness interventions on gender and protection issues have continued



MALAW SUMMARY

- 6,047 cases: 1,184 imported, 4,863 local
- 44 active, 104 lost to follow-up
- 242 under investigation
- ❖ 5,472 recovered
- **185** deaths
- 75,634 tests done
- All 28 districts affected

GLOBAL SUMMARY

- 65,408,787 cases
- 1,509,743 confirmed deaths
- **42,089,892** recovered
- Cases in 216 countries and places

REGIONAL SUMMARY (Africa)

- 2,214,812 cases
- 52,836 confirmed deaths
- 1,895,374 recovered
- All 54 countries affected

EMERGENCY APPEAL FINANCIAL TRACKING OVERVIEW (financial tracking tool)

Funding Required \$ 212M

Reported Funding \$ 103.5M

% Funded 48

No of Donors 30 **No of Operational Partners**

49

COMPREHENSIVE COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE



- A <u>calendar of meetings</u>; information <u>repository</u>; <u>5W</u> interactive dashboard; <u>financial tracking tool</u> are available to support coordination of the COVID-19 response.
- The INGO consortium has conducted health, WASH and DRR rapid needs assessments interventions in connection to COVID-19 preparedness and mitigation measures.



INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION

Coordinated by: Ministry of Information (MoI)

Support from UNICEF, United Purpose, Oxfam & DCT

- 4 radio drama episodes with GBV messages were broadcast on YONECO FM, reaching over 4.9 million people.
- COVID-19 preventive messages disseminated through various media channels, including Gaka community radio.
- COVID-19 awareness campaign using community mobilisers launched in 5 Traditional Authorities in Lilongwe to engage households on COVID-19 prevention and mitigation measures.
- Risk communication and community engagement activities reaching over 420,000 people in 14 districts were supported by USAID ONSE.



HEALTH

Coordinated by: Ministry of Health (MoH) & WHO Support from UNICEF & Malawi Red Cross Society

21,302 travellers screened

- 21,302 travellers screened at airports and borders in the past two weeks.
- In preparation for **roll out of COVID-19 vaccine whenever WHO prequalifies one**, MoH, through the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI), constituted a technical working group (TWG) to fast track work on key milestones.
- The Technical Working Group is developing a country specific work plan to guide the vaccine introduction process.
- Orientation of 25 health surveillance assistants (HSAs) on new COVID-19 surveillance guidelines done in Salima, while COVID-19 contact tracing for 42 persons and testing of 205 persons were supported by USAID ONSE.



TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS

Coordinated by: Ministry of Transport and Works (MTW) & WFP. Support from UNICEF

\$1.5 million worth of COVID-19 assays and sample collection kits being procured

- Procurement of cold chain equipment, COVID-19 assays and sample collection kits, worth \$1.5 million, is underway.
- Engaging partners to produce a logistics country mapping system, and to upload later on, all the information collected on the Global Logistics Cluster system for the benefit of the Malawian humanitarian community.
- Assisting Government with deployment of a commodity tracking system for more efficient transport and distribution planning and increased accountability. 40 officers from the Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA) will be trained on the system in December.



WASH

Coordinated by Ministry responsible for Irrigation and Water Development & UNICEF

6,909 people reached with WASH supplies

- 6,909 people reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services. The items will encourage handwashing and other good hygiene practices.
- **450 flyers and posters with hygiene messages** distributed at three health centres and markets; and 6 handwashing demonstrations at markets, schools and health care facilities in Thyolo.



PROTECTION

Coordinated by:
Ministry of Gender,
Community Development
and Social Welfare, UNICEF &
UN Women

Support includes Oxfam

30,000 people received protection messages on SMS

269 callers to protection hotlines received support

- 6 protection related SMS messages were sent to 30,000 people, encouraging them to report cases through helplines.
- 269 callers to the national child helpline and gender-based violence (GBV) crisis line received psychological first aid.
- Cases reported through the helplines included 161 on GBV and child protection, including 25 on child marriage, 25 on emotional abuse and 20 on defilement.
- Gender and protection awareness interventions done in Balaka; Machinga and Dowa, including through community protection structures.
- Communication materials with COVID-19 GBV messages have been produced for use during the 16 Days of Activism.



FOOD SECURITY

Coordinated by: Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA) & WFP

Minimum Expenditure Basket (Round 15) shows

prices of maize and pulses continue to increase

- Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) recommended cashbased transfers and in-kind food assistance during the lean season, following its annual market assessment in 27 districts,
- Food security situation at household level continues to remain relatively stable for five consecutive rounds of monitoring (May-October 2020), according to WFP Household Food Security Survey.
- Cash distribution in 7 districts to caution COVID-19 economic impact continued.
- Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) and Market Monitoring: The MEB Round 15 bulletin (2-6 Nov) was published with the following highlights:
 - The Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) has risen marginally due to an increase in the prices of maize and pulses.
 - The price of cooking oil has gone up following the introduction of Value Added Tax (VAT) on all types of cooking oil.
 - The average national maize grain price is increasing and currently stands at MK 196 per kilogram. It continues to trend below last year's average



EDUCATION

Coordinated by: Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST); Save the Children and UNICEF Support includes WFP & PACHI

3,500 Braille materials distributed in learning centres

22% of primary students have not returned to school after reopening

- ❖ 3,500 braille materials for use by 14,600 children with disabilities have been distributed to 34 learning centres and schools.
- Monitoring of schools since reopening being done, with a recent interactive voice response survey indicating that 78% of primary school children returned to school after schools reopened.
- For the 22% that have not gone back to school, reasons include concerns that schools are not yet safe to return to (54%) and pregnancy or early marriage (17%).
- Rolling-out the next round of take-home support for school meals for the remainder of 2020 started two weeks ago. The adaptation of the school meals programme to take-home rations is in line with Ministry of Education's guidance to partners implementing school feeding programme.



AGRICULTURE

Coordinated by: Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) & FAO

Farm Inputs being distributed under various

distributed under various programmes as part of social protection

- Implementation of the Affordable Input Programme (AIP) is ongoing in several districts. The programme subsidizes basal and foliar fertilizers, and cereal seeds.
- Distribution of agriculture inputs under resilience programmes are ongoing, with the distribution expected to be completed by mid-December 2020.
- The 12th Bulletin of the Emergency Agriculture and Food Security Surveillance System (EmA-FSS) was released. Results show that:
 - Families relying on food purchases rose by 6% from 58 percent
 - 21% of families with livestock had their livestock attached by diseases, compared to 26.3% in the first half of October 2020.
 - 17.6% of families reported some suspected fish diseases, compared to 29.7% in first half of October, representing a 12% drop.
- The Agriculture Cluster so far has confirmed 27% of the requirements for its COVID-19 response plan. It is important to prioritize funding to expand provision of Extension Advisory Services through alternative platforms such as internet, video and radio programmes.
- The Ministry of Agriculture, with support from FAO and other Agriculture Cluster partners, needs to prioritize monitoring and reporting of erratic rainfall patterns
- The implementation of the sector Contingency plan might require mobilization of anticipatory funding



NUTRITION

Coordinated by: Ministry of Health (MoH) & UNICEF

313,284 Caregivers got messages on breastfeeding

- 313,284 caregivers to children aged 0-23 months reached with messages aiming to promote breastfeeding in the context of COVID-19 through national communication campaigns
- 11,058 children 6-59 months admitted for treatment of severe acute malnutrition

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Note: The frequency of this SitRep is being reviewed.