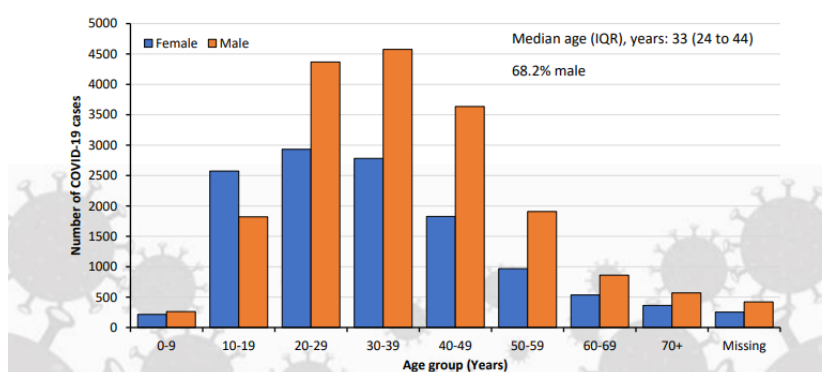


MALAWI HIGHLIGHTS

- ❖ COVAX delivered first 360,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccines to Malawi on 5 March.
- ❖ 360,000 syringes and 3,625 safety boxes for safe disposal of syringes received from COVAX on 26 February to support vaccinations.
- ❖ 2.1 million syringes and 21,600 safety boxes arriving mid-March.
- ❖ Malawi will vaccinate 3.8 million people (20% of population) under COVAX Facility.
- ❖ COVID-19 Urban Cash Intervention has started in cities with 63,624 beneficiaries receiving the transfers out of planned 199,413 so far.
- ❖ Schools reopened on 22 Feb, 5 weeks after they were closed due to surge in cases.
- ❖ Over 2 million people reached with tailored messages through several channels.
- ❖ 172 oxygen concentrators were procured and distributed to all 28 districts.
- ❖ US\$40,000 worth of PPE supplies for health workers at treatment centres were bought.
- ❖ 20 motor bikes donated to Ministry of Health to ease transport.



Age and sex distribution of COVID-19 cases in Malawi as of 7th March 2021.
Source: PHIM

MALAWI SUMMARY

- ❖ **32,614** cases
- ❖ **7,022** active
- ❖ **24,381** recovered
- ❖ **1,077** deaths
- ❖ **205,313** tests done

GLOBAL SUMMARY

- ❖ **117,332,262** cases
- ❖ **2,605,356** confirmed deaths
- ❖ **63,783,717** recovered
- ❖ Cases in **223** territories




REGIONAL SUMMARY (Africa)






- ❖ **3,983,160** cases
- ❖ **106,380** confirmed deaths
- ❖ **3,566,232** recovered
- ❖ All **54** countries affected

EMERGENCY APPEAL FINANCIAL TRACKING OVERVIEW ([financial tracking tool](#))

| Funding Required (US\$) | Reported Funding (US\$) | % Funded | No. of Donors | No. of Operational Partners |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| 212M | 110.8M | 51 | 31 | 51 |

COMPREHENSIVE COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

| | |
|---|---|
|  <p>COORDINATION Coordinated by: DoDMA</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ A calendar of meetings, information repository, 5W interactive dashboard and a financial tracking tool are available to support coordination of the COVID-19 response. |
|  <p>INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION Coordinated by: Ministry of Information (MoI)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Revision of MoH Risk/ Crisis Communication and Social Mobilisation Strategic Plan and messages, including development of vaccine messages, supported by UNICEF and WHO. ❖ About 106,527 people have been reached with risk communication in 14 districts under USAID ONSE. |
|  <p>HEALTH Coordinated by: Ministry of Health (MoH) & WHO</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Malawi received 360,000 doses of the COVID-19 AstraZeneca/Oxford vaccine from COVAX, a partnership between CEPI, Gavi, UNICEF and WHO. ❖ 360,000 bundled syringes and 3,625 safety boxes (for the safe disposal of syringes) for COVID-19 vaccination were received on 26 February from COVAX. ❖ 2.16 million syringes and 21,600 safety boxes transported by sea expected to arrive in Malawi mid-March 2021. |

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>360,000 COVID doses received</p> <p>\$790,594 worth of PPEs and medical supplies being distributed.</p> <p>2,912 travellers screened</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Malawi will vaccinate 3.8 million people (20% of population) under COVAX. ❖ COVID-19 PPEs and medical supplies valued at \$790,594 being distributed to district health offices and government central hospitals with UNICEF support. ❖ Contact tracing for 979 persons and 10,780 tests supported by USAID ONSE. ❖ 2,912 travellers screened in past two weeks with UNICEF support. ❖ 40 health surveillance officers from Mangochi and Songwe re-oriented on reporting and referral of COVID-19 cases in schools with UNICEF support. ❖ 172 oxygen concentrators were procured and distributed to all 28 districts including four field hospitals. ❖ 84 oxygen cylinders were distributed to improve access to oxygen therapy in district hospitals and Emergency Treatment Units supported by UNICEF. |
| <p> TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS</p> <p>Coordinated by: Ministry of Transport and Works (MTW) & WFP.</p> <p>20 motor bikes donated to MoH</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Three Mobile Storage Units (tents) deployed to Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital-QECH by Médecins Sans Frontières- MSF with support from WFP. ❖ Site assessment for installation of container labs in border posts of 3 districts to facilitate screening of travellers was done by MoH, WFP and Logistics Cluster. ❖ 20 motor bikes valued at \$46,870 have been donated to MoH by UNICEF. Of these, 10 motor bikes went to MoH HQ and the others went to districts. ❖ Amendment to agreement for COVID-19 supplies with World Bank signed, increasing the ceiling from 1.6 mil USD to 3.6 mil USD. <p>Needs and Gaps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Only 10% of Logistics Cluster activities are funded with a gap of about \$1.6 million for critical response interventions. Without immediate support, WFP will not be able to continue supporting the national COVID-19 response. |
| <p> PROTECTION</p> <p>Coordinated by: Ministry of Gender, Community Development and Social Welfare, UNICEF & UN Women</p> <p>63,624 people in urban areas received cash support</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ COVID-19 Urban Cash Intervention has commenced in targeted hotspots in all four main cities with 63,624 beneficiaries receiving the transfers out of 199,413. ❖ Households are receiving transfers for 2 months (January and February) and the remaining 135,789 households will receive support in coming weeks. ❖ To cushion socio-economic effects of COVID-19, all Social Cash Transfer Programme (SCTP) beneficiaries received increased transfer value. ❖ At least 54 Child Care Institutions (36 in Blantyre and 18 in Lilongwe) have been assessed to check their adherence to the COVID-19 preventative measures. ❖ 73 and 337 children without parental or family care in Lilongwe and Blantyre were provided with appropriate alternative care arrangement. ❖ 25,470 people in 7 districts have been reached with community-based Mental Health and Psychosocial Support by District Social Welfare Offices. |
| <p> FOOD SECURITY</p> <p>Coordinated by: Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA) & WFP</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 108,000 households (488,000 people) targeted in 7 districts are receiving cash assistance as part of Rural Lean Season Cash Response. ❖ WFP is providing technical support to Government-led in-kind distributions in 5 districts targeting 120,000 households (540,000 people). ❖ Cash distributions in response to COVID-19 economic effects are ongoing in 7 bomas (district towns) targeting 11,000 households supported by WFP. |
| <p> EDUCATION</p> <p>Coordinated by: Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST); Save the Children and UNICEF</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Government allocated K5 billion (about US\$10 million) to education sector for procurement of tents/ shelters, portable chalkboards, soap as well as drilling of boreholes in primary and secondary schools that have no water points and recruitment of additional auxiliary teachers. |
| <p> AGRICULTURE</p> <p>Coordinated by: Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) & FAO</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 19th Bulletin of Emergency Agriculture and Food Security Surveillance System (EmA-FSS) (1–15 Feb) was released by MoA with technical support from FAO. ❖ The system captures real time information from 18 districts on the status of food availability/ security, performance of agricultural produce markets, prevalence of animal diseases and access to veterinary services, as well as crop production. ❖ Key highlights from the bulletin are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16.9% of households owning any type of livestock reported suspected cases of livestock diseases, increasing by 2.3% from 14.6% in last half of Jan 2021. • 2.6% of households were involved in fishing related livelihood activities, dropping by 0.7% from 3.3% in last half of Jan 2021. • The average price of maize per kg dropped by 4% from MK195.58/kg in last half of Jan to MK181.94/kg. ❖ 3,600 metric tonnes of fertilizers has been distributed to 45,000 households in 14 districts as part of Agriculture Cluster COVID-19 emergency response supported by FAO in collaboration with MoA. |



NUTRITION

Coordinated by: Ministry of Health (MoH) & UNICEF

1.6M people were reached with key nutrition messages through several media platforms

- ❖ **Over 1.6 million people** were reached with **key nutrition messages** through several media platforms including 10 community radio across the 10 districts.
- ❖ **3,224 children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) admitted** into the Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) program, a 13.1% increase compared to 2,851 admitted during the same month in 2019.
- ❖ **Mass Vitamin A supplementation through child health days** has resulted in improved immunity among 92% children aged 6-59 months and 55% among postpartum women, supported by UNICEF.
- ❖ **Nationwide nutrition survey using the SMART methodology was completed**, showing **increased prevalence of acute malnutrition** to 1.9% in 2020 from 1.3% in 2018 and almost 4 times more than 0.5% prevalence reported 2019.
- ❖ Several COVID-19 related factors have been noted which could have contributed to the increase in prevalence. These include:
 - Reduction in service delivery because affected people are afraid to attend sessions that require large gatherings e.g. care group sessions due
 - COVID 19 restrictions have decreased access to nutrition services, thereby putting people who need them most (pregnant women and young children) at increased risk of nutritional deficiencies, illness and even death.
 - Restrictions around COVID-19 have reduced mechanisms to actively identify children with acute malnutrition as community health workers and volunteers are afraid to contract the virus, resulting in late presentation of cases and reduced coverage of treatment program for malnutrition.



WASH

Coordinated by Ministry responsible for Irrigation and Water Development & UNICEF

No updates received

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Note: The frequency of this SitRep is reviewed regularly.