COVID-19 Update
Situation Update No. 11
at 29 May 2020

1. MALAWI HIGHLIGHTS

❖ Malawi in a declared State of Disaster
❖ Court injunction against 21-day lockdown still stands
❖ Prevention and response measures are being implemented
❖ COVID 19 National Information Dashboard run by Ministry of Health
❖ Government, UN, NGO and Partner coordination structures in place

Note: Figures on the map do not include 70 new cases confirmed today (29th May) because the updated map was not immediately available.

MALAWI SUMMARY
❖ 273 cases (227 active)
❖ 4 confirmed deaths
❖ 42 recovered
❖ 4 266 tests done
❖ 4 183 suspected
❖ 14 out of 28 districts affected

GLOBAL SUMMARY
❖ 5 704 736 cases
❖ 357 736 confirmed deaths
❖ Over 2.5 million recovered
❖ Cases in 216 countries and places

REGIONAL SUMMARY (Africa)
❖ 91 002 cases
❖ 2 405 confirmed deaths
❖ 39 588 recovered
❖ Cases in 47 countries

2. COMPREHENSIVE COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

2.1 COORDINATION

Coordinated by: Ministry of Disaster Management Affairs and Public Events (MoDMAPE) and UN Resident Coordinator

❖ The Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and Clusters continue to hold weekly meetings to ensure better coordination of the response. Clusters are developing an indicator framework to help track progress in response to COVID-19.
❖ The National COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan have been revised upwards to US$345 million (MK254 billion) due to revised budgets from Health and Education Clusters and inclusion of Agriculture and Nutrition cluster. Currently, the resource gap is at US$251 million.
❖ The HCT launched a US$ 140 million Emergency Appeal on 4 May https://mw.one.un.org/ for six months to deal with the most acute areas of the emergency response.
❖ A calendar of meetings, group mailing lists, a repository to store and share information and a SW interactive dashboard on the COVID-19 response.
❖ The Humanitarian Window of the SDG Acceleration Fund met on Friday 29 May and approved four projects included in the Flash Appeal to work on the returnees/refuges, logistics, urban cash transfer feedback platform, enhancing IM/Coordination at the local level for over 1 million dollars. A dedicated Secretariat was also endorsed. The SDG-AF is co-led by Chief Secretary and the RC.

2.2 INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION SUB-CLUSTER

Coordinated by: Ministry of

Radio, television and other media messaging
❖ Over 8 million people continue to receive messages on COVID-19 prevention through mass communication channels, including television channels, U-report, print, 3 National Radios, and 12 community radios, supported by UNICEF.
❖ Two radio spots and seven interpersonal communication videos on 1,820 TV slots
were aired through three national TV broadcasters and community radios over the past two weeks, supported by UNICEF

- **A ten-episode radio series continued this week**, aimed at increasing demand and uptake for key health services such as immunization, integrated community case management (iCCM) and anti-natal clinics. During the week of 18 to 22 May, radio monitoring report shows that 84 per cent of the people interviewed were able to recall the messages they heard through the radio slots being broadcast on the issue of COVID-19 (i.e. 267 people out of 317 people interviewed).

- **62,570 people accessed messages through social media** coverage by SWET, supported by UNICEF

### Local community messaging

- **Community engagement sessions**, including community radio dialogues and entainment. Since the last report, **16,702 more people were reached with COVID-19 messages** through social and behavior change communication activities bringing the total reached so far to 88,089 in nine districts

#### 2.3 HEALTH CLUSTER

**Coordinated by:** Ministry of Health (MoH) and WHO

**Supported by:** WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNAIDS, UN Women, Malawi Red Cross Society (MRCs), GIZ

- **Door to door messaging** by the Malawi Red Cross Society reached a culminative 58,171 households (319,941 people) with COVID-19 preparedness and prevention messages and simultaneously collected data of **district level feedback/ rumour tracking**, supported by UNICEF and GIZ

- **Work to establish emergency treatment units** in Mzimba and Mangochi districts began through introductory meetings with stakeholders at district and National Level, supported by MRCS and Agricultural Transformation Initiative (ATI)

#### 2.4 TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS CLUSTER

**Coordinated by:** Ministry of Transport and Works (MTW) and WFP

**Supported by:** UNICEF

- **A Supply Portal** has been established by UN Malawi to facilitate national authorities and humanitarian partners to request critical supplies. The portal is managed by UNICEF Malawi and so far registered requests for procurement of PPEs, diagnostics and biomedical equipment

- **Approximately 6 metric tonnes of medical supplies** (including testing kits) were received from Jack Ma/Africa CDC on 21 May by the MoH supported by WFP

- **A new consignment of COVID-19 supplies valued at US$65,000** were received in Lilongwe on 22 May from UNICEF Supply Division, through the donation/solidarity flight facilitated by WFP. The consignment included critical Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) such as 4, 480 protective gowns, 1,350 N95 masks, 1,344 face-shields, and 25 sets of handheld thermometers, to be distributed to various facilities across the country as per the government distribution plan

- **Two consignments of 4,000 mosquito nets and 6,000 cannulas** valued around US$5,000 have also been received to be distributed by UNICEF.

- **WFP as co-lead of the National Logistics Cluster is liaising with the Health and Shelter clusters on installation of Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) for screening and isolation needs.**

#### 2.5 WASH CLUSTER

**Coordinated by:** Ministry of Irrigation & Water Development and UNICEF

**Supported by:** WHO UNICEF, UNAIDS, UN Women, Malawi Red Cross Society

- **Strategic hand washing and sensitization in 82 crowded places** (markets, big shops, banks, roadblocks & Mobile markets) reached over 41,310 people, supported by Malawi Red Cross Society

- **Mwanza Prison was provided with soap for 400 inmates**, persons coming through police custody and those on remand by the Malawi Red Cross Society, DRC+, Swiss, BRC, IFRC, ICRC, UNICEF & GIZ

- **31 emergency latrines have been installed at emergency treatment centres in Blantyre, Mzuzu and Lilongwe and at border posts in Mwanza and Mchini**, supported by UNICEF. Each latrine ensures privacy and has a functional handwashing station with soap

- **A total of 30 water sources** with the capacity to service a population of 7,500 people were tested. Seven showed bacterial contamination and were treated (flush chlorinated), supported by UNICEF

#### 2.6 PROTECTION CLUSTER

**Coordinated by:** Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare (MGCDSW), UNICEF

**Supported by:** UNFPA, UN Women, UNAIDS, IOM, ILO, Malawi Red Cross Society

- **Messages and radio drama scripts on child protection, GBV, and Mental Health and Psychosocial support** were developed by YONECO, supported by UNICEF. YONECO is also developing a **Complaints and Feedback Mechanism**, where people can report any feedback regarding UNICEF's response.

- **Ten additional Community Victim Support Units (CVSU) committees** were oriented (4 in Machinga, 3 in Nchisi, 3 in Nkhata Bay) with 90 CVSU members (60 males, 30 females) on their key roles and responsibilities in the wake of the COVID-19. In total, 34 CVSU Committees operating in 6 districts have been oriented by Save the Children, supported by UNICEF and the Spotlight Initiative.
Dzaleka Refugee Camp

- Refugees and asylum seekers are gradually making use of the remote registration helpline with 48 cases recorded in less than a week, supported by UNHCR.
- A total of 39,963 refugees and asylum seekers in Dzaleka refugee camp received food rations, in addition to minors who received food from an additional supply, to safeguard against hunger during COVID-19 restrictions.
- Health Surveillance Assistants with volunteer Interpreters from Dzaleka Health centre are conducting regular community sensitization of COVID-19 using a public address system mounted on a vehicle, in all nine zones of the camp disseminating information on COVID-19, mode of transmission, signs and symptoms, prevention methods and reinforcing hygiene promotion messaging.
- A total of 499 child friendly materials on COVID-19 were distributed. 100 in Chichewa, 201 in Swahili, 99 in English, 99 in Kirundi/Kinyarwanda languages; 152 Referral Pathway posters (19 in Swahili, 53 in Kinyarwanda/Kirundi and 50 in English) were also distributed by PLAN International Malawi, supported by UNHCR.

2.7 FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER

Coordinated by: Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DODMA) and WFP
Supported by: UNICEF, WFP, FAO, Malawi Red Cross Society

- The second round of Minimum Expenditure Bulletin data collection and analysis was published on Monday 25 May showing slight fluctuations in prices between Round 1 and Round 2, but overall, the values remain largely unchanged, with both food and non-food commodities largely available.
- Preparatory activities were conducted to roll out a rural cash transfer programme by the Malawi Red Cross Society including adapting and updating beneficiary selection criteria in harmony with government, cash modalities to be used, adaptation of cash distribution agent and planning for an orientation on cash distribution.

2.8 EDUCATION CLUSTER

Coordinated by: Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST); Save the Children and UNICEF
Supported by: WFP, UNICEF, UNHCR

- The Emergency Radio Education Programme targeting six million primary learners was launched on 20 May by the Minister of Education, supported by UNICEF. The programme covering literacy, numeracy and science for grades 1-8, started on Malawi Broadcasting Corporation (MBC) Radios 1 and 2 from Monday 18 May 2020.
- As of 18 May 2020, a total of 13,587 users from Lilongwe and Blantyre districts have accessed the online learning platform for Lower Secondary accessible on the Ministry of Education website since its launch on the 21 April.
- Take home rations of Corn Soya Blend stocks in schools was completed last week, reaching 21,000 learners in four districts, supported by WFP.
- 500 radios were given by UNHCR to students to facilitate continuous learning amid COVID-19 in Dzaleka camp through Yetu Community Radio. In addition, 27 secondary teachers and 2 preschool social workers were trained on using the radios for learning facilitated by JRS Country Director, Education Coordinator and Yetu Radio Programmes Manager.

2.9 NUTRITION CLUSTER

Coordinated by: Ministry of Health and UNICEF
Supported by: WFP

- Promotional messages on nutrition and COVID-19 prevention through community radio and mobile vans have reached a cumulative 924,000 people in Mzimba district supported by UNICEF and implementing partners.
- A total of 429 Care Group Promoters and 924 Community Based Facilitators/Lead Farmers were oriented on nutrition and Infant Young Child feeding (IYCF) in the context of Covid-19 by UNICEF.

2.10 AGRICULTURE CLUSTER

Coordinated by: Ministry of Agriculture (MoAFS) and Food Security and FAO

- The National Agriculture Investment Plan Technical Working Group meeting on Resilience and Agriculture, chaired by FAO, facilitated COVID-19 technical discussion with the private sector and civil society, contributing inputs to the MoAFS Cluster Plan.
- The agriculture cluster response plan has been finalized by MoAFS and submitted to the Principal Secretary for approval.
- The first volume of the Emergency Agriculture and Food Security Surveillance system report has been finalized and released by MoAFS, supported by FAO.

CONTACTS:

- Sitrep Coordinator: sabina.lauber@one.un.org
- Head of RCO: bonnel@un.org
- UN Communications: philip.pemba@one.un.org
- WHO: msyambozak@who.int