COVID-19 Update
Situation Update No. 21
at 07 August 2020

MALAWI HIGHLIGHTS
❖ 43 laboratories are now operational across the country
❖ 3500 test kits, 10000 master mix and 3000 controls were received but GeneXpert cartilages are urgently required
❖ 6 districts were supported to rehabilitate community victim support unit structures
❖ 559,018 learners received food and cash for school meal take-home rations
❖ Rural communities in 10 districts were supported with COVID-19 agricultural advice
❖ Urgent funding is required to prepare for the rain-fed agriculture season in the COVID-19 context

MALAWI SUMMARY
❖ 4491 cases (2,217 active - 65 are new)
❖ 983 imported, 2998 local transmission
❖ 2137 (59 are new) recovered
❖ 137 (1 are new) deaths
❖ 33 466 (786 are new) tests done
❖ 33 687 suspected nationally
❖ All 28 districts affected

GLOBAL SUMMARY
❖ 19 111 123 cases
❖ 715 163 confirmed deaths
❖ 11 578 821 recovered
❖ Cases in 216 countries and places

REGIONAL SUMMARY (Africa)
❖ 1 008 377 cases
❖ 22 087 confirmed deaths
❖ 690 473 recovered
❖ All 54 countries affected

EMERGENCY APPEAL FINANCIAL TRACKING OVERVIEW (financial tracking tool)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Required $</th>
<th>Reported Funding $</th>
<th>% Funded</th>
<th>No of Donors</th>
<th>No of Operational Partners</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>345M</td>
<td>242.9M</td>
<td>70.3</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>26</td>
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COMPREHENSIVE COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

COORDINATION
Coordinated by: Ministry of Disaster Management Affairs and Public Events (MoDMAPE) and UN Resident Coordinator
❖ The Emergency Appeal has attracted funding to cover 70% of needs, but more funds are required for the remaining 30%.
❖ A calendar of meetings, group mailing lists, a repository to store and share information and a 5W interactive dashboard on the COVID-19 response and a financial tracking tool for the emergency appeal are available as resource tools
❖ Information relating to COVID-19 resource mobilization, allocation, programmatic implementation (RM and 5Ws) was collected from different Clusters and updated.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION
❖ A total of 603,000 people were reached with COVID-19 messages through door to door, mobile van and community drama sessions and social media supported by UNICEF with funding from UKAid, including 19 people with disabilities
❖ 3,500 COVID-19 posters were reproduced with support from GOAL Malawi
Coordinated by: Ministry of Information (MoI)

- **13 million people reached with COVID-19 messages**
- **119 persons with disabilities targeted with disability friendly COVID-19 messaging**

- **4,050 braille materials** on awareness and prevention of COVID-19 have been printed by UNDP to be disseminated through District Disability Forums.
- **A total of 100 braille booklets on COVID-19 awareness** for people with visual impairment were printed and distributed in Mwanza and Neno with support from CAHESH and United Purpose. A further 50 booklets will be distributed in Dowa.
- Supported the National Social Mobilization Committee in finalizing a manual on ending early marriages and social accountability in the context of COVID-19 and a video message from religious leaders on face masks, supported by UNICEF.
- MOH disseminated **60,000 OSAYIDELERA COVID-19 posters** to all 28 districts for RCCE activities by district councils and implementing partners, supported by HC4L.
- Continued broadcasting on 23 radio stations and 6 TV stations of messaging under the “OSAYIDELERA COVID-19 campaign,” during this period **2,398 radio broadcasts, 1,649 DJ mentions, and 417 broadcasts of the theme songs** were made reaching approximately **13 million people across the country**.
- The Moyo ndi Mpamba Facebook page and collaboration with Youth Wave Malawi, reached **15,913 people with COVID-19 infection prevention messages**, supported by USAID HC4L.

**Needs and Gaps**

- Not enough resources to implement RCCE activities in all the districts
- There is a need for information on home care for COVID-19 to combat speculations and self-medication

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**HEALTH**

Coordinated by: Ministry of Health (MoH) & WHO

- **43 laboratories operational across Malawi**
- **790 masks distributed to the judiciary**

- **43 laboratories are operational** across the country. 8 labs using both polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and GeneXpert machines.
- **3500 test kits, 10000 master mix and 3000 controls were received** with support from Centres for Disease Control (CDC).
- Supported MoH COVID-19 teams on epidemiology and surveillance, case management, laboratory, infection prevention and control, risk communication and community engagement to revise guidelines in line with global evidence on COVID-19 response, supported by UNICEF through Clinton Health Access initiative.
- Allowances for 21 health workers in Blantyre district were provided by UNICEF with funding from UKAid. UNICEF also supported MRC to conduct surveillance activities in Karonga and Mangochi including screening 4,700 people, with funding from the Irish Government.
- **790 disposable masks were distributed** to the judiciary supported by Tithetse Nkhanza, specifically targeting Lilongwe Hight Court, Lilongwe Chief Resident Magistrate, Blantyre Supreme Court of Appeal, Blantyre High Court, Blantyre Chief Resident Magistrate (South), Zomba Chief Resident Magistrate (East), Mangochi, Mzuzu Chief Resident Magistrate (North) and Karonga.

**Needs and Gaps**

- Labs are running out of GeneXpert cartilages and there are none in stock at the central warehouse.
- Need to deploy experts to closely monitor health workers as they manage patients.

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**TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS**

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

- **1 million locally produced cloth face masks procured**
- **10 passengers transported on international WFP flights this week**

- **10 passengers were supported with WFP-managed flights** in and out of Malawi last week.
- A dedicated COVID-19 [webpage](#) was established to support increased information sharing between national Logistics Cluster partners.
- The revised national COVID-19 preparedness and response plan (July to December 2020) is under review by the COVID-19 Presidential Task Force.
- Procurement of over 1 million locally produced face cloth masks is in progress as part of efforts to reduce time to buy critical items to prevent and control COVID-19 essential items, supported by UNICEF.
- 1,500 protection coveralls distributed to health facilities for health worker COVID-19 protection in regular service delivery, supported by UNICEF and DFID.
- Facilitated clearance of COVID-19 supplies procured with Health Service Joint Funds by UNICEF, including 178 thermometers, 15 laryngoscopes, 50 pulse oximeters, cannulas tubes and infusion giving sets.

**Needs and Gaps**

- Currently, only 7% of Logistics Cluster activities were funded with a gap of $1.6m for critical response interventions including the installation of mobile tents.
| **WASH** | ▶️ 17 latrines were installed at Kasinthula in Chikwawa and Thyolo emergency treatment units (ETUs), increasing the total number to 89 in 9 health facilities, 2 border posts and 2 returnees holding centres, supported by UNICEF  
▶️ Since the onset of the pandemic, 1,196 returnees and 1,381 inmates were provided with soap and handwashing buckets by UNICEF, as well as ensuring adequate WASH services at the ETUs and returnee screening centres  
▶️ Installation of backup water storage tanks was completed at Karonga and Mangochi ETUs to boost the existing water supply systems supported by UNICEF in partnership with United Purpose  
▶️ A total of 4.2 million people were reached with WASH-related messages through community radios, hand washing demonstrations at markets, communities and towns, mobile van messaging, information education and communication materials and newspapers, supported by UNICEF |

| **PROTECTION** | ▶️ Rehabilitation of the dilapidated Community Victim Support Unit structures in 6 districts Machinga, Nsanje, Dowa, Mchisi, Mzimba and Nkhata Bay was supported by Save the Children with resources from the EU-funded Spotlight Initiative  
▶️ 68 returnees from South Africa benefited from psychological first aid at Machinga Teachers Training College returnee holding centre and 200 people including positive tested returnees and their close relatives, were provided with remote psychological first aid, supported by UNICEF  
▶️ Basic psychosocial support was provided to 156 callers to the child helpline/gender-based violence helpline  
▶️ The Employers Consultative Association of Malawi (ECAM) initiated a COVID-19 impact assessment on the Work Integrated Learning (WIL) guidelines, supported by ILO  
▶️ An assessment of post-training support needs for the beneficiaries of the ‘SKILL-UP’ programme in the COVID-19 context was supported by ILO  

| **FOOD SECURITY** | ▶️ Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) and Market Monitoring by WFP: Data collection for Round 7 was completed; key findings show that the total value of the Survival MEB for the Urban, Rural North, Rural Central and Rural South remained almost unchanged compared to the previous round. SMEB is higher for urban areas, with food accounting for approximately 55% of the total value. Maize price national average: MK 166/kg with a relatively stable trend in the last eight weeks. Prices are 11% below this same period in 2019 but 11% higher than the five-year average.  
▶️ Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) Processes: The IPC analysis process—both urban and rural—started Monday 03 August and will continue through August 9th supported by WFP |

| **EDUCATION** | ▶️ Food and cash distributions for take-home rations of school meals was completed, reaching a total of 559,018 learners in the seven districts of Dedza, Chikwawa, Mangochi, Nsanje, Phalombe, Salima and Zomba supported by WFP in collaboration with the Malawi Red Cross Society  
▶️ Technical support was provided to MoEST on distance learning through radio, online and self-learning materials by UNICEF. A U-Report survey conducted during the week of 20 July 2020 showed that out of 25,239 respondents, 36 per cent claimed that school going age children in their households were accessing distance learning programmes |

| **NUTRON** | ▶️ 11,000 care group volunteers were oriented in nutrition related COVID-19 preventive measures and a total of 62,500 people were reached with key nutrition related COVID-19 prevention messages in Mzimba South and Lilongwe districts supported by UNICEF. This brings the total to about 70,000 care group volunteers oriented, and 2.6 million people reached in the 18 UNICEF focus districts |
Coordinated by: Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) & FAO

The sixth Bulletin of the Emergency Agriculture and Food Security Surveillance System was released by MoA with support from FAO, containing real-time information on the status of food availability/security, performance of agricultural produce markets, prevalence of animal diseases and access to veterinary services, as well as post-harvest losses in the time of COVID-19.

Broadcasting extension advisory services, incorporating COVID-19 awareness for rural communities and guiding small-scale farmers to adopt safety practices in the field has started in 10 districts, supported by Department of Agriculture Extension Services with support from FAO and the European Union.

Needs and gaps

More funding is required to prepare for the rain-fed agriculture season. The Agriculture Cluster has managed to source only USD 4,800,000 as confirmed contributions, which represents only 16% of total needs.

More personal protective equipment for Agriculture Extension Workers is needed to facilitate continuity of extension services towards and during the rain-fed season.

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