COVID-19 Update
Situation Update No. 24
at 28 August 2020

MALAWI HIGHLIGHTS

- A phased re-opening of schools from 7 in September was announced. Facility audits and developing response plans at school level are currently underway.
- Govt urgently requires more than US$6.76 million for safe re-opening of schools.
- Staff from all COVID-19 51 testing sites trained on new testing protocols.
- 6 health care facilities and 4 emergency treatment units assessed for operational effectiveness.
- 21 mobile storage units erected in 9 districts for storage, screening and isolation.
- 617 returnees at Nalikule, Domasi and Machinga TTC were provided with WASH services.
- 1,813,000 people reached with protection, gender and inclusion messages.
- 15 radio stations aired agriculture extension messages covering COVID-19 issues.

MALAWI SUMMARY

- 5,496 cases (2,202 active, 22 are new).
- 1,098 imported, 4,398 local transmission.
- 3,121 (36 are new) recovered.
- 173 deaths.
- 43,798 (295 are new) tests done.
- All 28 districts affected.

GLOBAL SUMMARY

- 24,271,466 cases.
- 827,670 confirmed deaths.
- 15,848,667 recovered.
- Cases in 216 countries and places.

REGIONAL SUMMARY (Africa)

- 1,212,359 cases.
- 28,619 confirmed deaths.
- 942,491 recovered.
- All 54 countries affected.

EMERGENCY APPEAL FINANCIAL TRACKING OVERVIEW

<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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>345M</td>
<td>261.3M</td>
<td>75.6</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>26</td>
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</tbody>
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COMPREHENSIVE COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

COORDINATION

Coordinated by: Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA)

- DoDMA is finalizing the revised National Preparedness and Response Plan for July to December 2020 including a new cluster on local governance and a monitoring and evaluation framework.
- Cross-cluster engagement to ensure the safe re-opening of schools.
- The Emergency Operation Centre is engaging the Department of Civil Aviation to ensure that all requirements are in place for safe re-opening of airports.
- A calendar of meetings, group mailing lists, a repository to store and share information and a SW interactive dashboard on the COVID-19 response and a financial tracking tool for the emergency appeal are available as resource tools.

Needs and Gaps

- Government urgently requires more US$6.76 million for safe re-opening of schools.
A total of 1,813,000 people were reached with COVID-19 preparedness and prevention messages through local communication channels such as community and national radio stations, van publicity and megaphone covering 19 districts supported by MRCS and partners, UNICEF, GIZ and MoH

Communication and community engagement activities reached 180,006 people in 12 districts conducted by USAID ONSE

Laboratory staff from all 51 testing sites in the country were trained on new approved testing protocols, discuss technical challenges and how to resolve errors and reduce wastage, supported by UNICEF with funding from DFID

Contact tracing for 131 people and testing for 509 people conducted in 14 districts supported by USAID ONSE

930,520 people were reached with COVID-19 messages through door-to-door campaigns in 19 districts supported by MRCS

Assessments on infection prevention and control undertaken in six health care facilities and four emergency treatment units which identified issues of inadequate supervision, erratic availability of soap, and staff working on extended times supported by UNICEF.

COVID-19 death audits were conducted to identify issues related to the increasing number of COVID-19 related deaths and to inform future response, supported by UNICEF through CHAI

Needs and Gaps

Need for more resources due to increase coverage and needs

1.3 million cloth face masks purchased for distribution to communities with high burden disease, supported by UNICEF

21 mobile storage units erected in 9 districts for storage, screening and isolation by the cluster

MOH has requested that the Logistics Cluster provide support to store an incoming PPE donation from Direct Relief later this week (approx. 200 m3)

MOH has requested WFP support to deploy four mobile logistics bases (container labs) in four districts; both organisations are currently reviewing the design, specifications and other requirements

Needs and Gaps

Currently only 8% of Logistics Cluster activities are funded, leaving a gap of $1.4 million for critical response interventions

Limited information on pipeline requirements from Ministry of Health and partners

Close to 4.2 million people were reached with WASH-related messages through community radios, hand washing demonstrations at markets, communities and townships, mobile van messaging, IEC materials and newspapers, supported by United Purpose, UNICEF and UK Aid

WASH Supplies were distributed to community and Health Care Facilities in 8 districts supported by CARE Malawi, World Vision, Oxfam and Water Mission

617 returnees at Nalikule, Domasi and Machinga TTC were provided with WASH services with support from United Purpose.

Needs and Gaps

The government has announced reopening of schools, hence the need for more hygiene promotion and WASH supplies in schools.

The cluster is facing challenges in obtaining WASH data for schools and health facilities

About 1,813,000 people were reached with protection, gender and inclusion messages through door to door campaigns and strategic hand washing facilities in 19 districts supported by MRCS and UNICEF

127 callers were provided with psychological first aid during the reporting period, which brings the total number of callers supported to around 3,500, provided by UNICEF and the national child helpline and gender-based violence crisis line

Collating evidence on the impact of COVID-19 in Malawi, to inform triggers to the COVID-19 response supported by UNICEF and ILO on behalf of the Social Protection Development Partner Group

Needs and Gaps

Limited coordination on protection issues at the district level.

Inadequate security (police) at returnees holding centres

Coordination challenges for partners at the returnees holding centres
**FOOD SECURITY**

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

- The Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) and Market Monitoring data collection for Round 9 was completed and data analysis is underway.
- Meanwhile the second round bulletin on COVID-19 Household-Level Food Security Monitoring was published, with data analysis and report writing for the Round Three bulletin currently underway.
- The Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) report was submitted to Government and is currently with the President’s Office for approval. The report was analysed and co-drafted by WFP and the Government.

**EDUCATION**

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

- A road map for a phased re-opening of schools from 7 September was developed by MoEST with support from UNICEF and the education Cluster, with detailed schedules and the examination dates still under discussion. Using the reopening guidelines, schools are undertaking facility audits and developing response plans at school level.

**NUTRITION**

Coordinated by: Ministry of Health (MoH) & UNICEF

- More than one million people were reached with key nutrition messages through jingles on community radios and mobile vans in three districts supported by UNICEF in collaboration with World Relief and district councils.
- About 271,400 caregivers of children 0 to 59 months were reached with infant and young child feeding messages in the context of COVID-19 in four districts. This brings the overall total number of people reached with various key nutrition messages on COVID-19 with UNICEF support to more than four million people in the 18 UNICEF focus districts.
- 12 megaphones and 6 boxes of batteries were procured to be used in the communities for sensitization on nutrition and covid-19 response activities by Emmanuel International with support from WFP.

**AGRICULTURE**

Coordinated by: Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) & FAO

- The Eighth Bulletin of the Emergency Agriculture and Food Security Surveillance System (EmA-FSS) was released by the Ministry of Agriculture with technical support from FAO.
- Preparations for the rain-fed agriculture season are ongoing across the country. Targeting of participants for the government-funded programmes will take place in the coming weeks.
- 15 districts broadcasted agriculture extension messages inclusive of COVID-19 awareness and adherence to preventive measures supported by FAO.
- The Agriculture Cluster has reviewed its response plan and reduced urgent requirements of funds to US$25.5 million as per guidelines of the COVID-19 presidential task force.

**Needs and gaps**

- Additional funding is required to prepare for the rain-fed agriculture season. The Agriculture Cluster has managed to source only 21% of total needs, as confirmed and pledged contributions.
- Funding for the provision of Personal Protective is required, particularly to ensure that extension staff will be able to support farmers effectively in the coming months as activities for rain-fed crop production intensify.

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