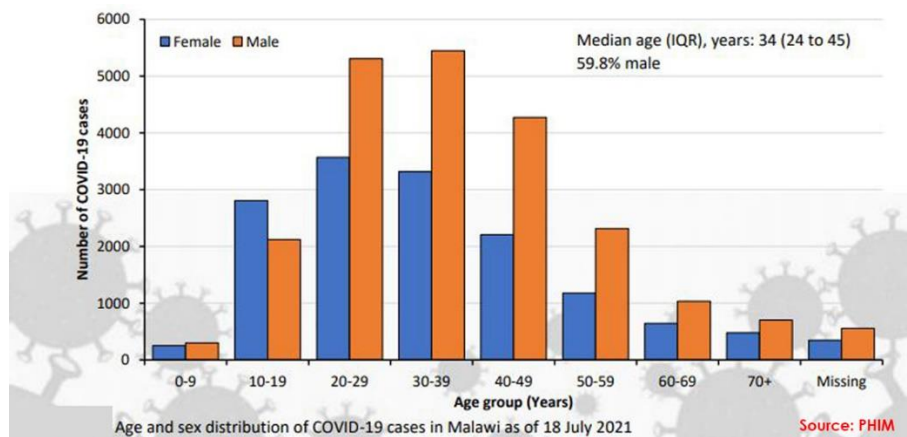




## MALAWI HIGHLIGHTS

- ❖ Malawi has resumed COVID-19 vaccinations across the country following the arrival of 192,000 AstraZeneca doses on 24<sup>th</sup> July provided by France via COVAX.
- ❖ Malawi Government activated COVID-19 Level 3 control measures
- ❖ COVID-19 National Health Response Plan reviewed and updated
- ❖ Distribution of take-home rations for 600,000 learners completed
- ❖ Refugees and asylum-seekers provided with 20,000 face masks
- ❖ About 137,800 individuals in cities receiving cash transfers



### MALAWI SUMMARY

- ❖ 49,009 cases; 10,642 active cases
- ❖ 36,672 recovered, 1,513 deaths
- ❖ 323,864 tests done
- ❖ 428,407 vaccines administered

### GLOBAL SUMMARY

- ❖ 194,080,019 cases
- ❖ 4,162,304 confirmed deaths

### REGIONAL SUMMARY (Africa)

- ❖ 6,470,152 cases
- ❖ 164,372 confirmed deaths
- ❖ 5,674,944 recovered

### 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

NB: Malawi Government is reviewing the 2021 COVID-19 Response Plan. Above figures are based on 2020 Appeal.

## COMPREHENSIVE COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

 **COORDINATION**  
Coordinated by:  
Department of Disaster  
Management Affairs  
(DoDMA)

- ❖ A [calendar of meetings](#), information [repository](#), [5W](#) interactive dashboard and a [financial tracking tool](#) are available to support coordination of COVID-19 response.
- ❖ The Humanitarian Country Team meets to support coordination.
- ❖ Activated clusters are meeting to coordinate response activities and share updates.
- ❖ Information relating to COVID-19 resource mobilization, allocation, programmatic implementation (RM and 5Ws) is regularly being updated.

 **HEALTH**  
Coordinated by:  
Ministry of Health  
(MoH) & WHO

**12,883** new COVID-19 cases in July alone so far.

**192,000** vaccine doses received.

### SITUATION

- ❖ Malawi is experiencing a third wave of COVID-19 infections as new cases have kept rising sharply, with 12,883 new cases registered in July alone so far, compared to 1,788 and 248 cases registered in June and May 2021, respectively.
- ❖ 952 new COVID-19 cases were registered on 22 July, the highest number of new cases in a day since the start of the pandemic in Malawi in April last year.
- ❖ The current surge in COVID-19 cases is largely fuelled by local transmission due to general public relaxation on preventive measures.

### RESPONSE

- ❖ Malawi received 192,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccines (AstraZeneca) from French Government via COVAX on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2021. UNICEF supported the fast-tracking and securing of regulatory approval for these vaccines.

**150** people in Nsanje trained in hospital-based COVID-19 infections

**6,000** masks distributed in public spaces

**132** stranded migrants helped to safely return to Malawi





- ❖ **COVID-19 vaccinations resumed on 26th July across Malawi** after they were paused on 26 June due to shortage of the vaccine.
- ❖ **428,407 COVID-19 vaccine doses had been administered in Malawi** before the resumption of the vaccinations, with 385,242 and 43,165 people receiving their first and second doses, respectively.
- ❖ **To reduce transmissions, MoH continues to intensify** screening of travellers, testing, contact-tracing, and promotion of preventive measures.
- ❖ **Malawi Government activated COVID-19 Level 3 control measures** effective 9 July, restricting travel and public gatherings to reduce the spread of the virus. The declaration of the L3 control measures is available [here](#).
- ❖ **Personal Protective Equipment's (PPEs) and WASH supplies** valued at \$212,342.03, procured with FCDO funds, are being delivered by UNICEF to Mzuzu and Kamuzu Central Hospitals, and 15 district health offices.
- ❖ **150 people in Nsanje were trained in healthcare waste management** to prevent hospital-based COVID-19 infections that negatively affect service continuity. They comprised 79 male and 71 female causal labourers, nurses, and other health facility staff in charge of healthcare waste management in the district - UNICEF support.
- ❖ **Ministry of Health has been supported to review and update the COVID-19 National Health Response Plan.** The revised plan aims at reducing transmission and mortality from the virus, including by ensuring access to vaccines, diagnostics, and therapeutics, sustaining continuity of essential social services, and addressing the socio-economic impacts of the pandemic.
- ❖ **Faith leaders and the Head of State engaged on how to harmonise efforts with faith actors** in COVID-19 prevention and vaccine uptake. This was facilitated by Public Affairs Committee with support from UNICEF.
- ❖ **6,000 masks have been distributed in public spaces such as markets and bus depots** in all the 28 districts through Public Affairs Committee (PAC) supported by UNDP. **Additional 2,000 masks are in the process of being distributed to PAC mother bodies** in churches and mosques.
- ❖ **COVID-19 PPEs (face masks and hand sanitizers) were provided to regular travellers** through Informal Cross Border Traders (ICBTs) in Mchinji – supported by IOM.
- ❖ **Public universities engaged to boost local production of PPEs** (face masks, hand sanitizers and disinfectants). The items will be distributed in schools - UNDP support.
- ❖ **132 migrants who were stranded in Zimbabwe were assisted to return to Malawi** and provided with PPEs and psychosocial support through counselling by IOM in collaboration with the Gender Ministry of, Children, Disability and Social Welfare.
- ❖ **46 returnees have been provided with individual reintegration assistance** for their livelihood projects such as livestock farming, groceries shops etc. These returnees are from Mzimba, Nkhata Bay, Salima, Lilongwe, Dedza, Mangochi, Balaka and Machinga – supported by IOM.
- ❖ **Using the UN Secretary General's Multi Partnership Trust Fund towards Covid-19 response,** UNFPA handed over a newly refurbished operating theatre at Bwaila maternity hospital which was operating with only one operating theatre at a facility that averages 20 caesarean sections and 70 deliveries in a day. The new theatre will help the hospital deliver maternal health services even to the pregnant women having Covid-19 without risking non-Covid19 patients.




## INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION

Coordinated by:  
**Ministry of Information (Moi)**

**30** community radio stations engaged to fight vaccine misinformation

- ❖ **MoH has developed and reviewed COVID-19 vaccine messages** in various languages to be broadcast on several platforms - UNICEF support.
- ❖ **Journalists from 30 community radio stations orientated on raising awareness** about benefits of COVID-19 vaccines. **The radio stations have also been engaged to provide correct information** to dispel rumors, myths and misconceptions on COVID-19 vaccines within their communities - WHO support.
- ❖ **Videos of influencers (health workers, faith, and traditional leaders)** promoting vaccine uptake have been produced by UNICEF. The videos are in English and local languages and will be disseminated through social media platforms, and television once vaccines become available in the country.
- ❖ **150 youth volunteers (90 male, 60 female) have been trained** to combat misinformation about COVID-19 and vaccines, and reassure the public by raising awareness on the safety and efficacy of vaccines. **The volunteers are mobilising community influencers including faith leaders** and youth organisations to track and respond to misinformation around COVID 19 vaccines – UNICEF support.
- ❖ **A U-report survey to understand knowledge, attitudes, intentions, and practices** around COVID-19 vaccination was conducted with 16,478 U-Reporters participating in the survey – UNICEF support. **Analysis of the poll's results shows that there is doubt on accessibility of the vaccine,** with 72% of respondents saying they do not think it will be easy for everyone to access the COVID-19 vaccine. The results of the survey have been used to reframe communication materials, which includes use of trusted

	<p>sources and testimonies from vaccine users, including religious leaders, politicians, and health workers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Sensitization meetings with Cross Border Traders Association were conducted</b> at border and district levels in Mchinji district on COVID-19 awareness as well as prevention measures – IOM support.</li> </ul>
 <p><b>TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>4 big tents (32mx10m) deployed and installed at Mzuzu Central Hospital</b> to function as a field hospital for COVID-19 screening and treatment – WFP support.</li> <li>❖ <b>2 tents deployed and installed at Mwanza Border to be used as a testing facility</b> for incoming travellers – WFP support.</li> </ul>
 <p><b>EDUCATION</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Distribution of take-home rations for the current term for 600,000 learners under WFP's school feeding programme was completed.</b> The adaptation of the school feeding programme to take-home rations is in line with the Ministry of Education's guidance to partners during the pandemic. Rations are being provided in-kind or as cash transfers.</li> </ul>
 <p><b>PROTECTION</b></p> <p>Coordinated by: Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare (MGCDSW), UNICEF, UN Women</p> <p><b>317</b> health personnel targeted with training on GBV and SRH intersection</p> <p><b>213</b> humanitarian workers trained in gender mainstreaming during COVID 19 response</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Training of health personnel on intersection of GBV and SRH done.</b> Training conducted in Mzimba and Nsanje districts for 180 clinicians and nurses. Dowa training is currently taking place for 137 participants - UNFPA support.</li> <li>❖ <b>Training of Rapid Response Teams on SGBV and Minimum Initial Service Package on SRH done.</b> A total of 90 participants from Ntchisi, Mwanza, Dedza, Blantyre, Lilongwe and Karonga were trained - UNFPA support.</li> <li>❖ <b>Capacities of humanitarian stakeholders on gender mainstreaming in humanitarian action for gender-responsive COVID 19 response were strengthened</b> - UN Women support. At national level, 29 cluster leads and co-leads and, at the district level, 184 members in five districts were trained, with 21% female representation.</li> <li>❖ <b>Training has been delivered to 38 Social Welfare, Police and CSO partners</b> (16 female and 22 male) from Mzimba on Psychological First Aid, Chipatala Chapafoni, social emotional learning and its link to case management - UNICEF support.</li> <li>❖ <b>The Police continue to manage cases reported through the police direct line</b> (932) that was established to facilitate reporting of cases during the COVID-19 pandemic. 30 calls were received in the month of June 2021.</li> <li>❖ <b>Procurement of 336 sets of buckets and basins for health facilities in Spotlight Initiative districts done</b> targeting new Traditional Authorities for the programme in Machinga, Nsanje, Nkhata Bay, Mzimba, Ntchisi and Dowa - UNFPA support.</li> <li>❖ <b>The COVID-19 Urban Cash Intervention (CUCI) call centre has registered about 3,300 calls</b>, mostly related to CUCI payments.</li> <li>❖ <b>Overall, the CUCI intervention plans to reach 199,413 people.</b> At the moment, 137,774, individuals are so far receiving the cash transfers.</li> </ul> <p><b>Protecting Refugees and Asylum Seekers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Dzaleka refugee camp has a cumulative 165 COVID-19 confirmed cases</b>, 119 recoveries, 19 active cases, 2 deaths and 17 lost to follow up cases. A total of 1,691 refugees and asylum seekers were vaccinated with AstraZeneca vaccine first dose while only one refugee took the second dose.</li> <li>❖ <b>Classes are continuing in all schools (pre-school, primary and secondary)</b> in Dzaleka refugee camp with adherence to COVID-19 prevention measures – UNHCR support.</li> <li>❖ <b>The Embassy of the People's Republic of China donated 20,000 face masks</b> to refugees and asylum-seekers in the camp – UNHCR support.</li> <li>❖ <b>Congestion challenge in Dzaleka refugee camp is risking lives of refugees</b> to infectious diseases such as Covid-19. The directive by Government of Malawi to relocate all rural and semi-urban refugees back to the heavily congested camp puts at risk lives of over 50,000 refugees and asylum seekers. <b>About 300 individuals voluntarily returned to the camp</b> in adherence to government's directive.</li> </ul>
 <p><b>AGRICULTURE</b></p> <p>Coordinated by: Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) &amp; FAO</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>The <a href="#">27th Bulletin of the Emergency Agriculture and Food Security Surveillance System (EmA-FSS)</a></b> has been released by the Ministry of Agriculture, with technical support from FAO. The surveillance system documents real time information from 18 districts on the status of food availability/security, performance of the agricultural produce markets, prevalence of animal diseases and access to veterinary services, as well as crop production in the time of COVID-19. Key highlights: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Proportion of households relying on food purchase increased by 1.2 percentage points from 13.1% in the second half of May 2021 to 14.3%.</b> The proportion of households relying on own food production dropped by 1.7 percentage points from 85.7% to 84% in the same period.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Proportion of households with suspected livestock diseases dropped by 1 percentage point</b> from 15.2% in the second half of May 2021 to 14.2%.</li> <li>◆ <b>Proportion of households in fishing related livelihood activities dropped by 0.6 percentage points</b> from 2.4% in the second half of May 2021.</li> <li>◆ <b>The average price of maize per kg dropped by 0.6 percent</b> from MK125.67 in the second half of May 2021 to MK124.96.</li> <li>◆ <b>Average crop prices per kg for selected crops</b> were MK708.10 up from MK656.03 for rice, MK791.33 down from MK808.57 for beans, MK746.23 up from MK713.27 for ground nuts, MK531.10 up from MK490.61 for Irish potatoes, and MK299.79 down from MK311.69 for sweet potatoes compared to the second half of May 2021.</li> </ul>
 <b>NUTRITION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Phalombe and Nsanje district councils conducted community mobilization campaigns</b> focusing on maternal health and nutrition, Iron-Folic Acid supplementation (IFA) and COVID-19 vaccination uptake, reaching 219,878 members (77,356M and 142,522F). supported by UNICEF and Hunger Project (HP).</li> <li>❖ <b>The councils also disseminated messages on IFA [Iron and Folic Acid] supplementation, dietary diversification, Vitamin A supplementation, hygiene and sanitation</b> and COVID-19 prevention through calendars (6,100), the Malawi six food groups posters (3,675), stand up banners (8) and 3,000 leaflets to be used by care groups for reference during household counselling.</li> <li>❖ <b>Screening of children resulting in 2,685 children being identified and treated</b> for Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) was supported by UNICEF.</li> <li>❖ <b>Social behaviour change communication on nutrition practices was advanced</b> through mass awareness campaigns using mobile vans and public address system, airing of jingles, nutrition video shows and cooking demonstrations in five districts – supported by WFP.</li> <li>❖ <b>A total of 822,918 people (368,015 males; 454,903 females) were reached</b> with messages on complementary feeding, maternal nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene, dietary diversification, and COVID-19 prevention – WFP support.</li> </ul>
 <b>FOOD SECURITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Rounds 30 and 31 of WFP's Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) Bulletin published <a href="#">here</a> and <a href="#">here</a>.</b> Key highlights of the latest bulletin include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The average price of maize grain continued falling to MK 127 per kg from MK 129 in the previous round.</li> <li>◆ The prices of beans and cowpeas increased by 1.3 percent and 1.0 percent, respectively, while the price of pigeon peas fell by 1.9 percent compared to the previous round.</li> </ul> </li> <li>❖ <b>Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) annual Acute IPC [Integrated Food Security Phase Classification] assessments completed</b> with technical guidance from WFP. The Acute IPC consolidation workshop is slated to take place in mid-July, the results of which will inform the upcoming 2021/2022 Lean Season Response. At present, early figures based on the overlay of various data sources indicate that some 900,000 are likely to be classified as food insecure.</li> </ul>
 <b>WASH</b>	<p><i>No recent updates</i></p>

**CONTACTS:**

<b>Sitrep Coordinator</b>	<a href="mailto:bennet.phunyanya@one.un.org">bennet.phunyanya@one.un.org</a>
<b>Head of RCO</b>	<a href="mailto:bonnel@un.org">bonnel@un.org</a>
<b>UN Communications</b>	<a href="mailto:phillip.pemba@one.un.org">phillip.pemba@one.un.org</a>
<b>WHO</b>	<a href="mailto:chingayipee@who.int">chingayipee@who.int</a>

**Note:** The frequency of this SitRep is reviewed regularly.