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<p> INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT</p> <p>Coordinated by: Ministry of Information (Moi)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ COVID-19 public awareness done through radio programmes and jingles, and door-to door outreach using volunteers and van publicity - supported by MRCS and its partners IFRC, UNICEF, Danish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross and Malawi Government ❖ Tracking and addressing rumours/misinformation on COVID-19 vaccines as part of the strengthened community-based feedback and complaints mechanism. ❖ Conducted advocacy meetings with trusted community leaders and key influencers to help address vaccine mistrust and denial/refusals – MRCS support. ❖ Supporting a national wide Knowledge Attitude and Practice (KAP) study to identify drivers and bottlenecks associated with behaviours, perceptions, attitudes, and practices towards COVID-19 vaccine in Malawi – UNICEF support. ❖ Health facilities in two districts were supported with Integrated Phase Classification by MRCS with funding from SWISS Res Cross
<p> EDUCATION</p> <p>Coordinated by: Ministry of Education; Save the Children & UNICEF</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Facilitated awareness raising activities for youths using education entertainment in schools and communities - MRCS support ❖ About 1,009 young people in schools were sensitized on COVID19 prevention and control in Nkhotakota by MRCS. ❖ Public schools completed school year on 19 Nov to resume on 4 Jan 2022 ❖ Education Cluster met on 30 November 2021 to map out strategies and interventions amidst Omicron. The meeting also discussed need to consider implications for school reopening following the new COVID variant. Measures to support safe reopening of schools will be needed.
<p> FOOD SECURITY</p> <p>Coordinated by: DoDMA & WFP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ The Minimum Expenditure basket (MEB) round 41 was released by WFP. Key findings include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Survival Minimum Expenditure Baskets (SMEBs) recorded the highest figures since April 2020. During this period, the urban SMEB rose by 2.0 percent. SMEBs in the rural areas of the Northern, Central and Southern Regions also increased by 5.7 percent, 6.3 percent, and 2.5 percent, respectively. • As the farming season approaches, the price of maize grain dipped by 3.3 percent to MK 146 per kg compared to the October round (MK 151 per kg), now selling at below the Government's set minimum price of MK 150 per kg. • The price of beans remained relatively stable, increasing by 0.78 percent from an average of MK 1,082 per kg in the previous round to MK 1,090 per kg (highest price observed since February 2021). • Cowpea and pigeon pea prices also increased since the last round. Cowpeas are now selling at MK 620 per kg, an increase of 2.3 percent from the MK 605 per kg last round. Pigeon peas prices rose by 6.3 percent to MK 546 per kg, up from MK 514 per kg in the previous round. ❖ In Nov, the Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) with support from WFP conducted an update assessment on acute integrated food security phase classification (IPC) across Malawi. The results of the Acute IPC analysis workshop

	<p>will be available shortly and are likely to indicate a slight uptick in the number of people classified as vulnerable during the upcoming 2021/2022 lean season.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Under the EU-ECHO Education in Emergencies Project, Oxfam activated the crisis modifier to respond to effects of stormy rains in Salima that affected over 1,200 households based on rapid assessments done on 26th and 27th Nov 2021. ❖ DoDMA has provided initial support to 520 households in Salima in form of maize, blankets, plastic cups, plastic plates and plastic sheets. ❖ Oxfam has supported 500 households with once off unconditional cash transfers and soap to help them meet immediate life-saving needs.
<p> TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS Coordinated by: Ministry of Transport & WFP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Logistics Cluster, through WFP, is supporting the Ministry of Health with the construction of container labs at several border entry points. Construction work in Chitipa and Karonga is almost complete and scheduled for handover to the Government by mid-December. The container labs will support MoH to control COVID-19 spread by incoming travellers at points of entry in line with the recently announced new prevention measures for COVID-19 in Malawi.
<p> PROTECTION Coordinated by: Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare (MGCDW), UNICEF, UN Women</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ PPE's and First Aid Services were provided at the launch of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence in Nsanje district, supported by MRCS. ❖ COVID-19 Urban Cash Intervention (CUCI) Call Centre has received more than 7,352 calls, with over 174 claims presented, thus contributing to the transparency and accountability of the programme. ❖ CUCI Call Centre broadcast 4,209,925 text messages to selected beneficiaries, providing awareness, payment notifications and other relevant information. ❖ A remote survey was conducted by the CUCI Call Centre, with 350 questionnaires filled through telephone interviews. The results of the survey show that 95% of beneficiaries are satisfied with the CUCI programme, as well as by the provision of mobile money payments. According to survey, 77% of beneficiaries have spent the CUCI transfers on food, which was the highest expenditure. 58% of beneficiaries spent part of the funds on child-related expenditures, mostly related to education. ❖ Supporting provision of Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MPHSS) to COVID-19 affected persons in health facilities and on home care using the toll-free hospital line by UNICEF in collaboration with health workers and the child protection and GBV national helplines. 72 counsellors are in place for this.
<p> AGRICULTURE Coordinated by: Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) & FAO</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 37th Bulletin of Emergency Agriculture and Food Security Surveillance System (EmAFSS) has been released by the Ministry of Agriculture, with technical support from FAO and financial support of the European Union. Key highlights include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proportion of households relying on purchase as the main source of food was 39.9%, which is 25.7 percentage points lower than the 65.6% reported same time last year but higher than the 37% reported in the second half of Oct 2021. • In households owning any type of livestock, the proportion of households reporting suspected livestock diseases was 20.2%, which is slightly higher than the 19.1% recorded same time last year and is slightly lower than 20.4% recorded in the second half of Oct 2021. • The proportion of households involved in fishing related livelihoods activities was 1.9 percent, which is lower than the 3.3% reported during the same period last year but higher than the 1.7% reported in the second half of October 2021. • The average price of maize per kg was MK147.04, which is lower than the MK193.19/kg recorded same time last year. The average maize price is similar to the MK147.32/kg reported in the second half of October 2021.
<p> NUTRITION Coordinated by: Ministry of Health (MoH) & UNICEF</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Nutrition awareness campaigns with messages on maternal nutrition, infant and young child nutrition, water, hygiene and sanitation and COVID-19 were conducted with support from WFP through live radio programmes, radio jingles and sensitization meetings in three districts reaching an estimated 750,000 people. ❖ COVID19 supplies including 35,000 tablets of soap, 48,961 cloth face masks, 3500 (20L plastic buckets, with lid and tap), 50 drums of Chlorine bleaching powder procured and distributed to five districts. ❖ To date, a total of 1,153,711 people has been reached with social and behaviour change communication on prevention of COVID-19, appropriate use of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) and adoption of age specific optimal feeding practices and dietary diversity through radio messaging supported by UNICEF.

 WASH Coordinated by Ministry responsible for Water & UNICEF	❖ Supported MOH in the provision of handwashing facilities in strategic places like markets and outreach clinics including community awareness on hygiene promotion to control the spread of COVID-19 amongst people – supported by MRCS, International Federation of Red Cross Societies (IFRC), UNICEF, DRC.
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