



MALAWI

Humanitarian Situation Report

Malawi Monthly SitRep # 4, April 2014

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Highlights

- A joint pre-harvest food security assessment conducted in March 2014 indicated that 10 of the 28 districts may face food shortages in 2014/15 as a result of prolonged dry spells and army worm attacks. Access to food will be further affected by low production of cotton which is a main cash crop in some of the affected districts. The number of people that will be food insecure in the new consumption year (April 2014 to March 2015) will be clearly known after the annual Malawi Vulnerability Assessment to be conducted in the month of June 2014.
- Districts that were food insecure in 2013/14 have continued to experience logistical challenges in terms of transporting supplies for treatment of severe acute malnutrition from the central level to the facility level. UNICEF has been supporting delivery of RUTF from the central warehouse to the District Health Offices and has distributed 5,424 cartons of RUTF to cover the needs for the period of April to June 2014 in 16 districts and 3 central hospitals.
- A total of 3,083 children have received treatment in the month of March in the 484 Outpatient Therapeutic (OTP) sites and 86 Nutrition Rehabilitation Units across the country.
- With support from UNICEF, orientation of 69 Community Based Organisations and 69 District Social Welfare Officers on provision of psychosocial support has been completed in 23 of the 24 districts that were food insecure. The Community Based Organisations have carried out 207 Community Dialogue Sessions in which those affected by food insecurity are identified and referred to appropriate services.

30 April 2014

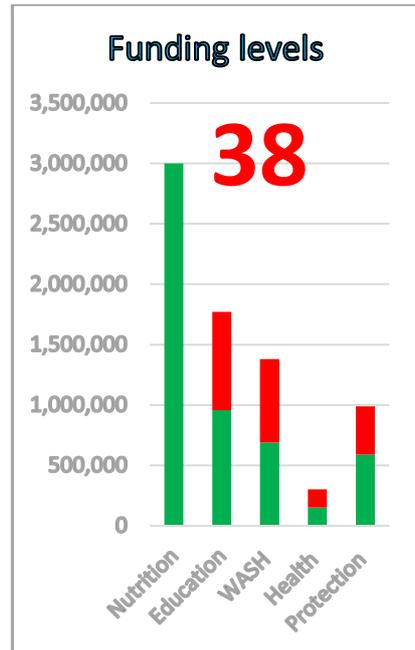
76,175 people affected by floods and storms of which

35,395 people affected by floods (Department of Disaster Management Affairs, 25 April 2014)

Funding gap
US\$2,053,073

UNICEF's Response with partners

	UNICEF		Sector/Cluster	
	UNICEF Target	Cumulative results (#)	Cluster Target	Cumulative results (#)
Number of water guard bottles distributed to enable point of use water treatment ¹	340,000	20,585	600,000	No information
Affected school children benefit from school supplies (school in a box kits and recreation kits)	10,000	667	36,750	No information
# of children 6-59 months with SAM enrolled in OTP and NRU programmes	28,000	16,626	28,000	16,626
# and % of children receiving psychosocial support through community based child care centres and children's corners	24000	13,000	24000	No information



Food security: Food availability at the household level has improved significantly, due to the availability of green harvests and impending crop harvests in most parts of the country. Availability of food at the household level is expected to remain favourable through the period of April to September 2014 in most districts with the exception of areas that were affected by prolonged dry spells between January and March, 2014. The annual food security assessment will be conducted by the Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) in June in areas where the season performed poorly. This assessment will determine the number of people likely to face acute food insecurity during the 2014/15 consumption period and the level of humanitarian assistance that may be required to fill any food or livelihood deficits. With regard to the 2013/14 response, WFP has extended food distributions in some areas to cover additional food needs due to the late harvests in some districts.

2013/14 Seasonal outlook: A joint pre-harvest food security assessment was conducted by FEWS NET, WFP, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security from 16-26 March 2014 to provide early warning information by identifying potential areas of concern where additional food security analysis for the upcoming 2014/15 consumption year may be needed to inform the actions of the Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee and key decision makers. The report indicates that 10 districts¹ experienced prolonged dry spell ranging from two to four weeks at the time when the staple maize crop was at tasseling to and grain filling stages. In some areas in these districts, maize wilted permanently before reaching maturity while in some cases there was premature drying of the maize resulting in shrivelled grains. Furthermore, severe damage by army worms will affect production in 8 districts². This may cause food shortages in the affected areas. Access to food in some of these districts³ will be further worsened by the low production of cotton which is a main cash crop in the districts affected. The number of people that will be food insecure in the new consumption year (April 2014 to March 2015) will be clearly known after the annual Malawi Vulnerability Assessment which is to be conducted in June 2014.

Floods and Storms: Flooding has been experienced in the northern part of the country which received heavy rains in the month of April. In Karonga district, 2,197 households have been affected of which 602 have had their houses completely damaged. In Nkhatabay district, 991 households have been affected. This brings the total number of households so far affected by floods in the current rainy season to 7,187 (35,395 people). An additional 8,156 households (40,780 people) have experienced damage to their crops and houses by heavy rain and wind storms bringing the total number of people affected to 76,175. Meanwhile, according to the Meteorological Services Department⁴, models for short and medium term weather forecasts suggest that over most parts of Malawi the main rains are tailing off.

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

An interagency meeting was held on 28th April 2014 to discuss the Karonga floods. The meeting reviewed the report received from the District Civil Protection Committee on the damage caused by the floods and the needs so that agencies can determine how to support the affected population.

Summary Analysis of Programme response

Nutrition: Services for the management of Acute Malnutrition are currently ongoing at 484 Outpatient Therapeutic (OTP) sites across the country and 86 NRUs across the country. An additional 3,083 children were admitted in March 2014 bringing the cumulative number of admissions to 16,626.

An analysis of Community Management of Acute Malnutrition data for March 2014 compared to the same period in 2013 indicates an overall 31 percent increase⁵ in OTP new admissions. Higher admissions were particularly observed in 16⁶ out of 21⁷ food insecure districts⁸. Higher admissions are attributed to active-case finding, the shift to new MUAC cut off points,

¹ Karonga (northern region), Lilongwe and Ntcheu, (central region) and Balaka, Dedza, Chikwawa, Nsanje, Neno, Blantyre and Mulanje (Southern region)

² Chikwawa, Nsanje, Phalombe, Blantyre, Zomba, Machinga, Balaka and Mulanje

³ Karonga, Balaka, Nsanje, Chikwawa, Ntcheu and Dedza

⁴ 10-day Weather and Agro meteorological Bulletin, 01-01 April, released on 15 April,

⁵ (from 1810 to 2380)

⁶ The 16 districts with higher admissions are Balaka, Chiradzulu, Dedza, Dowa, Kasungu, Karonga, Mangochi, Mchinji, Mzimba, Mulanje, Nkhatakota, Nsanje, Ntchisi, Rumphu, Salima and Zomba)

⁷ 3 out of 24 food insecure districts (Blantyre, Machinga and Ntcheu) have not yet submitted March CMAM data.

⁸ Food insecure districts referred to in this report are for the 2013/14 consumption year (April 2013-March 2014)

scaling up of CMAM and lean season (March). However, a comparison of February and March 2014 OTP data indicates 20 percent decrease⁹ in OTP new admissions. A total of 13 out of the 21 districts reported decreased admissions¹⁰:

NRU new admissions indicate an overall 4.4 percent decrease¹¹ for March 2014 compared to March 2013. A decrease in admissions was particularly observed in 9 out of 21 districts¹². Reduced NRU new admissions may be an indication that OTP is performing well¹³ and that SAM cases are identified and treated in a timely manner. A comparison of February and March 2014 NRU data indicates 16 percent decrease¹⁴ in NRU new admissions. A total of 13 out of the 21 districts reported decreased admissions¹⁵.

Decreased new admissions in March compared February 2014 in both OTP and NRU could be as a result of improved availability of food at the household level due access to green harvests in most parts of the country.

Child protection: With support from UNICEF, orientation of 69 Community Based Organisations and 69 District Social Welfare Officers on provision of psychosocial support has been completed in 23 of the 24 food insecure districts. The Community Based Organisations have carried out 207 Community Dialogue Sessions in which those affected by food insecurity are identified and referred to appropriate services. The Ministry of Gender Children and Social Welfare has been supported to monitor these activities and collect statistics on the number of beneficiaries. In addition, 420 Community Based Child Care Centres will be provided with stationery to support the provision of psychosocial support to children.

WASH- In response to the floods, UNICEF provided Nkhatabay district 250 kgs of chlorine for water treatment, 1,000 bars of soap for safe hygiene and 15 rolls of plastic sheets for construction of temporary latrines.

Supply and Logistics

Nutrition: Districts that were food insecure in 2013/14 have continued to experience logistical challenges in terms of transporting supplies for treatment of severe acute malnutrition from the central level to the facility level. UNICEF has been supporting the delivery of RUTF from the central warehouse to the District Health Offices and has distributed 5,424 cartons of RUTF to cover the needs for the period of April to June 2014 in 16 districts and 3 central hospitals.

Funding

Funding Requirements for a period of October 2013 – September 2014				
Sector	Requirements	Funds received*	Funding gap	
			\$	%
Nutrition	3,000,000	3,000,000	0	0.0
Education	957,313	143,814	813,499	85.0
WASH	690,000	0	690,000	100.0
Health	150,000	0	150,000	100.0
Protection	590,000	190,426	399,574	67.7
Total	5,387,313	3,334,240	2,053,073	

* 'Funds received' does not include pledges

Next SitRep: First week of June 2014

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9 (from 2988 to 2380)

10 Balaka, Chikhwawa, Dedza, Dowa, Mangochi, Nkhotakota, Ntchisi, Nsanje, Neno, Rumphi, Salima, Thyolo and Zomba

11 (from 735 to 703)

12 (Chikhwawa, Dedza, Dowa, Mchinji, Mzimba, Mulanje, Phalombe, Rumphi and Salima)

13 Cure rate > 75%, Death rate < 10% and Default rate < 15%

14 (from 837 to 703)

15 Balaka, Chikhwawa, Dedza, Dowa, Kasungu, Mangochi, Mchinji, Mzimba, Ntchisi, Nkhotakota, Rumphi, Salima, and Zomba

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS

	Cluster Response			UNICEF and IPs		
	Target 2013/14	Total Results	Change since last report ▲ ▼	2013/14 Target	Total Results	Change since last report ▲ ▼
NUTRITION						
% of exits from therapeutic feeding programme of children 6 - 59 months who have died	<10%	4.1%	0% ▲ ▼	<10%	5.2%	0% ▲ ▼
% of exits from therapeutic feeding programme of children 6 - 59 months who have defaulted	<15%	4.3 %	0.2% ▼	<15%	5.4%	0.2% ▼
% of exits from therapeutic feeding programme of children 6 - 59 months who have recovered	>75%	88.9 %	0.4% ▲	>75%	86.0%	0.4% ▲
# and/or % children 6-59 months with SAM enrolled in OTP and NRU programmes	28,000	16,626	3,083 ▲	28,000	16,626	3,083 ▲
# of NRUs and OTPs in affected districts stocked with RUTF, F100 and F75 adequate for the next month		484 OTPs			484 OTPs	
		86 NRUs			86 NRUs	
CHILD PROTECTION						
# of sexual assault and physical cases handled by One-Stop Centres	1,000		NA	1000	334	NA
# of violence against women and children cases reported to VSUs and CVSUs	24,000		NA	NA	13,000 ¹⁶	NA
# and % of children receiving psychosocial support through community based child care centres and children's corners	24,000 ¹⁷		NA	24,000	NA	NA
WASH						
Number of people reached with hygiene promotion messages	6,000,000			NA		
Number of water points rehabilitated in affected communities	72 ¹⁸			NA		
Number of water points repaired in affected communities	216 ¹⁹			NA		
Number of water guard bottles distributed to enable point of use water treatment ²⁰	340,000	20,585	5,000 ▲	600,000		
EDUCATION						
Affected school children benefit from school supplies (school in a box kits and recreation kits)	10,000	667	NA	36,750		
Proportion of districts affected by cholera outbreak and received cholera treatment supplies from UNICEF within 24 hours after requesting	95%	NA	NA			
# of affected people benefiting from survival kits						

¹⁶ This is an estimate based on trends¹⁷ Target has been corrected.¹⁸ 18,000 affected people with renewed access(250 people per water point)¹⁹ 54,000 affected people with renewed access(250 people per water point)²⁰ One water guard bottle is adequate for 1 household (5 people) for one month. 1 drum of 50litres chlorine is adequate for 200 households (1,000) people for one month