



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

IOM APPEAL MALAWI CYCLONE IDAI RESPONSE

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AERIAL VIEW OF NSANJE DISTRICT, ONE OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICTS OF MALAWI HIGHLY AFFECTED BY THE CYCLONE IDAI © DODMA 2019

SITUATION OVERVIEW

In early March, a severe weather system formed off the eastern coast of Mozambique and struck Malawi with heavy rain and strong winds. The system further intensified into cyclone Idai and made landfall in Malawi on 14-15 March 2019. Cyclone Idai brought heavy and persistent rains which led to severe flooding across Malawi's southern districts. According to the Government of Malawi's figures, more than 868,900 people have been affected, including more than 86,980 displaced, with 60 deaths and 672 injuries recorded. In total, fifteen districts in southern Malawi have been impacted. The site assessments conducted by IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) teams in the four districts with the highest displacements—Zomba, Nsanje, Chikwawa, and Phalombe—from 25 March to 6 April 2019, recorded that 110,110 individuals (24,887 households) were displaced throughout 103 sites. Almost all displacement sites are collective centers, where populations fled to existing structures such as churches or schools and are sheltering in and around these buildings. However, living conditions are quickly deteriorating, due to overcrowding and the lack of access to basic services.

With agriculture being the main source of livelihood for the rural population in Malawi, the heavy rains and floods have impacted agricultural activities. As fields are inundated, recently planted crops have been destroyed. Some districts such as Nsanje are already reporting food insecurity. According to DTM assessments, the primary need for displaced people is food, followed by shelter. Displaced people report the desire



868,900

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF AFFECTED PEOPLE



110,110

ESTIMATED TARGET

IOM APPEAL (USD)

(March - September 2019)



Shelter/Non-Food Items (NFI)

1.65 M



Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)

750,000



Displacement Tracking

750,000

TOTAL

3.15 M



to return home as soon as the rains cease. However, their homes have been destroyed and they do not currently have the means to rebuild them. Until they are able to return home and re-cultivate their crops, the displaced population will be reliant on humanitarian assistance and forced to live in collective centers and spontaneous sites, and endure substandard living conditions. According to the DTM site assessment, half of collective centers are located in schools, meaning that learners are unable to continue their education until displaced communities living in schools are able to relocate to another location.



SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)

According to DTM round one site assessments, in the majority of displacement sites (43 sites of 64) it was reported that damaged or destroyed houses were primarily what was preventing families from returning home. Shelter support is vital to the return and early recovery of the displaced population. IOM aims to provide shelter support through a two-pronged approach:

During the first phase, emergency shelter support will be provided to 6000 households. This will include households whose home areas are still under water and must continue to live in evacuation areas, as well as those who are able to return to their homesites, but need transitional shelter solutions in their area of return, as well as NFIs. In order to address their needs, IOM will provide emergency shelter and NFI kits, which will include basic necessities to construct temporary shelters or make emergency repairs to their damaged houses, to shelter them until they can rebuild or repair their traditional homes. These kits will include shelter items such as tarpaulins, ropes, tools, household items, including buckets, cooking sets, blankets and mosquito nets. IOM will ensure equitable and safe access to shelter and NFI support across the sub-groups of the crisis-affected population.

The second phase will be to provide more durable shelter support assistance to 2000 vulnerable families who are not able to rebuild or repair homes on their own. IOM's support will include labor and provision of local construction materials. Cash grants will also be provided to support construction in safe areas of return or relocation. These will be coupled with technical assistance and capacity-building on safe shelter and settlements principles and techniques. The families will be targeted in cooperation with the CCCM teams as well as site level community governance structures.

Funding required

\$1,6500,000

Target no. of individuals

36,000



CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT (CCCM)

IOM recognizes that camps are the last resort, and that for Malawi, collective centers and displacements sites currently hosting the cyclone affected populations in various locations are expected to be very temporary in nature. Currently, there are over 103 displacement sites, hosting more than 110,110 people, in four districts (Zomba, Nsanje, Chikwawa, and Phalombe). Many sites are located in schools and other communal building and while populations report the desire to return home, the lack of shelter remains their primary barrier.

IOM is a member of the Shelter/ NFI / CCCM cluster, led by the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development and the Malawi Red Cross. IOM has been the main partner in CCCM activities since the 2015 floods, and have worked closely with the Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA) to provide capacity building at national and regional level through a contextualized CCCM training package, and support to local coordination mechanisms.

Funding required

\$750,000

Target no. of individuals

55,831

Coordination and information management at site level continues to be a challenge. Inadequate site level information on humanitarian services, protection needs, and poor beneficiary selection curtail effective service delivery to the IDPs, making them more vulnerable, and increasing protection concerns and risks. Collective centers and IDP hosting sites need site level support as well as intra site coordination to effectively target service delivery for the most vulnerable. Site level community structures are active and present, but need support to enable them to effectively self-manage displacement sites.

Camp coordination and camp management activities in collective centers will focus on:

- Improving living conditions in collective centers through community led site maintenance activities;
- In cooperation with DTM, monitoring service delivery and infrastructure at site level to ensure that there are no gaps or duplication of activities, and that minimum standards are being met and protection risks, including of gender-based violence (GBV), are identified and mitigation measures undertaken.
- Identifying and supporting governance structures to self-manage displacement sites while encouraging participation of all different segments of the displaced population.
- Carry out CCCM capacity building activities for local authorities and local actors and leaders, specifically district administrators and DODMA.
- Supporting sub-national authorities (district administrators) to establish a platform to coordinate humanitarian response at site or area-level.



DISPLACEMENT TRACKING

Information on affected, and in particular displaced populations, has been a key gap of the response to the cyclone in Malawi due to the rural nature of the affected districts. In order to ensure a more robust and targeted response by the humanitarian community, IOM will implement its DTM program to provide key information and critical insights into the situation on internally displaced and affected persons in Malawi. The DTM comprises a set of information management tools which are used to collect primary data and disseminate regular and accurate information to humanitarian partners.

Specifically, DTM will provide humanitarian stakeholders with a mapping of displacement sites, demographics of the most affected, mobility tracking as populations move to and from sites towards return and relocation, as well as detailed inter-sectorial information on all assessed sites to support strategic decision making around resource allocation. The DTM products will include maps, dashboards, narrative reports and raw data which will be shared with humanitarian partners on a regular basis.

Similar data is currently being collected for Mozambique and Zimbabwe, ensuring a regional perspective is integrated in the data analysis, including assessment of cross border needs and linkages in the movements of persons affected by the crisis.

Funding required

\$750,000

Target no. of individuals

110,110

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