

FACILITATING THE RECOVERY AND TRANSITION PROCESS OF RETURNEES AND RELOCATED IDPS IN FLOOD - AFFECTED DISTRICTS OF MALAWI



Figure 1. Beneficiaries carrying their items home from the distribution site in Malawi © IOM Malawi

IOM Malawi facilitates the implementation of an ECHO-supported humanitarian response project

In January 2015, heavy rains affected 15 districts in Malawi, resulting in the displacement of approximately 230,000 IDPs, most of whom were located in the Southern Region districts. The severity and speed with which the flooding occurred in 2015 exceeded both the capacity of communities and local authorities to cope, highlighting the need for increased efforts to support communities to manage, and recover from floods.

The Government of Malawi (GoM) and the humanitarian community continue to work closely to provide assistance in affected areas as part of the overall post-flood recovery effort. IOM in Malawi, is facilitating the implementation of a European Commission Humanitarian Aid &

“AS OF 20 MAY, APPROXIMATELY 26,100 HOUSEHOLDS -AN ESTIMATED 107,000 IDPS REMAINED DISPLACED IN THE SIX DISTRICTS, ACCORDING TO IOM DTM

Civil Protection (ECHO)-funded project through provision of recovery and transition support to Internally Displaced Person (IDPs) affected by the January 2015 floods. The overall purpose is to address the recovery and transition needs of the most vulnerable-

What's inside?

IOM Malawi facilitates the implementation of an ECHO-supported humanitarian response project

Shelter Support

- IOM provides construction materials and technical support for shelter construction.
- IOM provides Building Back Better (BBB) awareness sessions.

Post-flood Support Livelihoods Support

- IOM provides a once-off cash assistance.
- IOM to provide basic tools and vegetable seeds for gardening.

WASH Support

- IOM facilitates training of-builders workshop and provides construction materials to build latrines
- IOM to establish new water sources and help communities set up a Water Point Committee (WPC)

flood-affected IDPs to recover and stabilize through the provision of shelter support, post-flood livelihood support and wash intervention support. The target districts are; Chikwawa, Nsanje, Phalombe, and Zomba



Figure 2. The situation the 2015 Floods in Nsanje District, Malawi © IOM Malawi

Shelter Support

IOM is providing shelter to the most vulnerable relocated IDPs by assisting them with the establishment of new homes. Technical support from engineers helps to ensure that shelters are built in such a manner that makes them more flood resistant.

All the preliminary procedures and processes such as beneficiary selection, designing of shelters, Bill of Quantities for construction materials, have been completed.

Mobilization of locally available resources such as bricks and sand is in progress in all the four project sites. A total of 65 local builders have been identified in these districts and training is in progress.



Figure 3. Sensitization meetings with IDPs for shelter design and distribution of construction materials © IOM Malawi

IOM Provides construction materials and technical support for shelter construction.

Distribution of construction materials for shelter construction has started and is almost complete in almost all the project sites. These construction materials include cement, timber, anti-termite solution, galvanised wire, roofing sheets and nails.

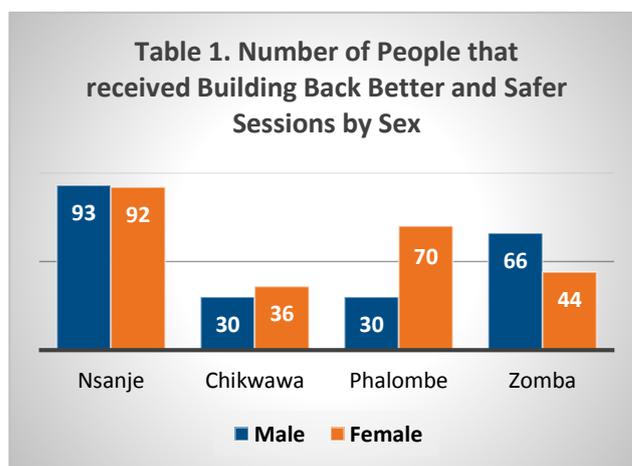
The beneficiaries are moulding their own bricks for construction of their shelters. Those that are not able to mould on their own e.g. the elderly, are being helped by other community members. Out of the 150 IDP households targeted, a total of 100 households already have all materials on site.



Figure 4. An elderly beneficiary happy with her stack of bags of cement © IOM Malawi

IOM providing Building Back Better (BBB) awareness sessions

IOM is working with relevant government departments to conduct awareness and education sessions on basic requirements for constructing flood-resistant houses. In all shelter support activities, IOM is emphasizing the principles of Building Back Better (BBB) and Building Back Safer (BBS) as a flood disaster risk reduction measure.



These sessions are in progress in all the four districts: A total of 461 individuals have attended the sessions so far; 185 in Nsanje, 66 in Chikwawa, 100 in Phalombe and 110 in Zomba. IOM is using key messages that have been developed in consultation with the Malawi Shelter Cluster and the Department of Disaster Management Affairs.

IOM has produced 300 booklets on the key messages which are ready for distribution to-

beneficiaries, village level disaster management committees and key district stakeholders. The sessions have been well received by community members as was illustrated through active participation and high turn up for the sessions.

Post-flood Livelihood Support

IOM is targeting the most vulnerable households among IDPs whose fields were destroyed by the floods. Assessments and verification processes were conducted to identify these beneficiaries.



Figure 5. Some IDPs beneficiaries in one of the sites in Nsanje, Malawi © IOM Malawi

IOM Provides a once-off cash assistance.

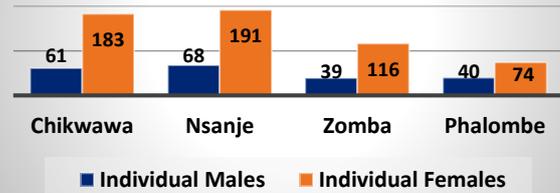
IOM in conjunction with the District Council, Department of Disaster Management Affairs and Social Welfare successfully conducted cash distribution in the four districts. The most vulnerable households were identified and selected by the respective communities with guidance from the relevant government departments. These include households headed by the elderly, children, the chronically ill, the disabled, and single parents. A total of 150 households were reached, each getting MWK 93,300.00.



Figure 6. IOM giving a speech to beneficiaries prior to cash distribution activity in Zomba, Malawi © IOM Malawi

Beneficiaries were advised to use the cash wisely to address household priority needs. The beneficiaries showed their appreciation through dance and singing, and most of them indicated that will replace household items they lost during the floods and also invest a portion of the money in small income generating projects for a sustainable livelihood.

Table 2. Number of beneficiaries of Cash Assistance by sex



With this money I will replace some items that I lost during the floods and also start a fish selling business as an income generating project so that I can provide food for my family"

Bula Bula, an IDP in Chikwawa District



Figure 7. IOM Malawi OIC handing over cash to a beneficiary in Chikwawa, Malawi © IOM Malawi

IOM to provide basic tools and vegetable seeds for gardening.

IOM plans to provide 150 IDP households with an agricultural starter pack comprising basic tools and flood-resistant vegetable seeds for the establishment of food gardens.

The gardens will provide nutritious food and also enable these communities to generate income. IOM plans to conduct this activity in March.

WASH Support

Water and sanitation have been identified as a critical need among IDPs in the places that they have been relocated to. The WASH activities will contribute to improved longer term health conditions in these communities.



Figure 8. Beneficiaries being addressed on WASH activities © IOM Malawi

IOM facilitates training-of-builders workshop and provides construction materials to build latrines

The distribution of construction tools and materials for the construction of shelters is near completion in almost all the project sites, as well as the training of the builders. Technical staff from the Department of Public Works and Ministry of Health in conjunction with IOM and community members selected sites for latrines at Jombo in Chikwawa and Mpomba in Nsanje. Mpomba will have 34 blocks of pit latrines while Jombo will have 16.

Communal toilets will be constructed on the selected sites due to inadequate land size which does not allow a toilet per household. The Ministry of Health is providing Participatory Health and Hygiene Education to the communities. Beneficiaries have already started digging pits for latrines and extraction of river sand.

IOM to establish new water sources and help communities set up a Water Point Committee (WPC)

IOM is working with these flood-affected communities to establish water sources, including boreholes and wells, if necessary, to ensure access to potable water. Ground surveying has already taken place.



The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an intergovernmental organisation, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: meet the operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

“The EU’s humanitarian aid funds relief operations for victims of natural disasters and conflicts outside the European Union. Aid is provided impartially, directly to people in need, without discrimination of their race, ethnic group, religion, gender, age, nationality or political affiliation.”



The project is being implemented in coordination with the Government of Malawi: Department of Disaster Management (DoDMA) Department of Public works, Social Welfare Department and the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Department.

IOM - Migration for the Benefit of All