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Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

Malawi: Karonga Flooding

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF No: MDRMW013	Glide n° XX
Date of issue: 09/05/2017 Date	Date of disaster: 19/04/2017
Commencement: 3 May 2017	Expected end date: 3 August 2017
DREF allocated Budget: CHF 223,930	
Total number of people affected: 55,921	Number to be assisted: 10,750 people (1,950 HH)
Host National Society presence Malawi Red Cross Society, 13 Staff and 30 volunteers in district of Karonga.	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: Danish Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, Belgian Red Cross, IFRC SARO	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: The Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DODMA), Karonga District Council through the District Civil Protection Committee (DCPC), Act Alliance UNICEF.	

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

The Southern and Central Regions of Malawi are experiencing normal to above normal rainfall while the Northern Region is receiving above normal rainfall. One of the districts in the North (Karonga) has been experiencing fairly normal to above normal rainfall amounts since mid-March 2017. Since then, rains have been increasing, which has resulted in extensive flooding and an increased number of displaced populations. MRCS has been closely monitoring the situation and by the 19th of April the situation has deteriorated.

Karonga District Council, in collaboration with the Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA), Malawi Red Cross Society and District Civil Protection Committee members conducted an extensive verification assessment exercise which indicated that heavy rains have caused serious damage to houses, household property, livestock, agriculture fields and infrastructure. The flooding has led to the deaths of 4 people, 6 injuries and 3 people reported missing. The flooding has affected areas in Traditional Authorities of Wasambo, Mwirang'ombe, Kyungu, Kilipula and Mwakaboko.

A total of 8,286 households representing a total population of 55, 921 people were affected by the flooding. Some 665 houses collapsed while others were partly damaged. Most of the collapsed houses were semi-permanent structures.

The affected households comprise 4,759 farming families (2,974 male and 1,785 female farming families). The remaining 3,527 include those people whose houses have been damaged partially as well as household property damaged. The affected population also comprise of 4,467 under-five children, 385 elderly people, 261 orphans and 15 physically challenged persons.

District	Traditional Authority	GVH	CAMP	DISPLACED NUMBERS (household)		
				female headed	male headed	total
Karonga	Kyungu	-	Lusako (kasoba) anglican	99	147	246
	Kilipula	Katumbi	Katumbi GVH	370	430	800
		Gweleweta	Chimalabanthu	61	76	137

		Chakwera	72	38	110
	Symon	Casisi	219	131	350
	Mwakoboko	Mwakoboko	121	186	307
Total targeted households					1,950

Source: Karonga Disaster update report (25.4.17)

As of 19th April, the abnormal rains continue to fall and more people have been displaced, whom are now being accommodated in camps. The third camp was opened at Kapolo primary school following the rains which fell on the night of 19th April with some areas registering over 233 mm of rainfall within 24 hours. The table below show some summary of the impact of the flooding as of 19th April 2017.

Data	Sitrep pre-10 April	Sitrep 19 April	Observation
Affected HH	8,286	10,167	
Displaced HH	1,037	2,262	A significant increase on the displaced people. This number will increase as the rains are still falling.
HH destroyed	665		
Deaths	4		
Injuries	6		
Missing	3		

There is an increase in the number of households affected and displaced by the new flooding which took place on 19th April 2017 and affected new areas resulting in the increase of the number of camps to 7. The MRCS WASH manager has been deployed to support the district and monitor the situation. The weather forecast reported more rains in the coming days and this number is likely to increase as the soils water absorption rate has decreased while the rains are increasing by week. The response will target 2,350 households of which 1,950 will be covered by the DREF, while 400 households will be supported by the Netherlands Red Cross.

Summary of the current response

Overview of Host National Society

MRCS, as a membership based organization, has 33 Divisions (Branches) and a network of more than 30,000 members. It is present in all the 28 districts in Malawi. MRCS has previous experience in implementing DREF and emergency relief programs throughout the country with support from various donor partners and Partner National Societies (PNS). Over the years, MRCS has implemented several DREF operations and IFRC Emergency Appeals. MRCS has implemented numerous responses to drought and flooding across the country as well as a major earthquake response in Karonga in 2009 funded by the Department for International Development (DfID) through IFRC.

Over the years, MRCS has become a key partner to the government in designing and implementing different emergency response operations. In the recent 2017 flooding which affected Salima and Lilongwe City Districts, MRCS implemented a Cash Transfer Flood Response operation with funding from Danish Red Cross Society and Malawi Network of Older Persons Organization (MANEPO) in collaboration with HelpAge International. This is in addition to the Food Security Appeal currently funded by IFRC. As well, the Netherlands Red Cross Society has supported MRCS financially to carry out a one-off Cash Transfer to 17,500 households in the month of March 2017 as part of the 2016/2017 Food Insecurity MVAC Response Program.

In Karonga District, MRCS has an active Branch Disaster Response team and Staff members who are currently implementing an urban WASH project funding by the EU. At national level, MRCS has trained National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) members.

In response to the current flooding MRCS has constructed 12 temporary latrines and 12 temporary bathing shelters, has distributed 650 blankets, and has mobilized volunteers to conduct hygiene promotion activities both in the camps and in the affected communities. Resources used to support construction of the latrines and bathing shelters have been mobilized locally from one of Malawi's mobile service providers (Airtel Malawi). The 650 blankets distributed were taken from MRCS prepositioned stock and will be replenished through this DREF.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

The IFRC Southern Africa Cluster Office will provide technical support to MRCS during the whole period of the operation's implementation. A coordination structure will be designed, including coordination of RCRC Movement interventions at the country level, joint coordination of the operation, monitoring, sharing of updates on the progress made, challenges etc.

The Netherlands Red Cross (NLRC) has expressed interest to support part of the operation bilaterally, particularly focusing on addressing shelter, WASH and NFI requirements. NLRC support will target 400 households with 800 tarpaulins, 400 shelter kits, 400 Kitchen sets, 1200 mosquito nets, 800 Jerrycans/Plastic pales and 800 blankets. At the same time, the Danish Red Cross (DRC) has also expressed interest to support the operation through the provision of Multi-Purpose Cash transfer. The proposed costs of this initiative have not been included in this budget as the budgeting process is underway, but will be highlighted in the upcoming DREF Operations Update. The Belgium Red Cross has pledged to support the DREF once it is approved. IFRC will ensure that coordination with PNSs involved in Malawi is in place and refine the EPoA depending on the issues arising from future assessments and partner commitments.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

In Malawi, the Government leads the overall coordination of disaster response through its department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA) under the ministry of Local Government. MRCS takes part in coordination meetings held at DoDMA as part of monitoring and sharing information at national level. MRCS is also a member of the District Civil Protection Committee at district level and participates in all coordination meetings as well as assessments. The Humanitarian Country Team is the coordination platform for partner institutions (UN agencies, WFP, INGO's, NGOs) and is mandated to build common strategies related to humanitarian response and policy issues. This forum is well established and is chaired by UNDP. The Karonga flood response is using a Cluster System of Flood Response and MRCS participates in Shelter, Food Security and WASH clusters.

Although the situation is getting worse by day due to the persistent rains in the district, there are only few partners who are supporting the Government response efforts. The most notable partners are the Act Alliance, which has provided 100 HH tents, and UNICEF, which is providing technical support to the Ministry of Health on WASH related interventions—particularly, hygiene promotion within the affected community and provision of plastic sheets to some affected households.

Needs analysis, beneficiary selection, risk assessment and scenario planning

The Government of Malawi has not yet declared a disaster and is yet to share its initial response plan, however the District Assessment Report of 10th April, 2017 and subsequent updates are indicating the worsening situation day by day. A mission report compiled and shared by the MRCS WASH manager through a field visit substantiated the key findings and recommendations made in the District Assessment Report. His report further indicated deteriorating Sanitation situation and food shortages among the IDPs and the affected communities. The table below summarizes the current needs, actors and gaps

Summary analysis on the current needs, actors and the gaps.

Sector	Needs	Actors	Gaps
Shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Family tents - Tarpaulins - NFI (kitchen sets, shelter kits, blankets, mats - Displaced relocation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 100 tents provided by Act Alliance (one accommodates 15 people), - MRCS distributed 650 blankets - DoDMA distributed blankets and plastic sheets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1.000 households missing the tents - A total of 2.350 households in need of blankets (4.700 blankets)
Food Security and Livelihoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relief food - Recovery clothes - Seeds and fertilizer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DoDMA distributed maize flour, salt and beans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To be determined after assessment
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - School materials for children (notebooks, pens, etc) - 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Schools materials - Hygiene kits and health and hygiene promotion - Desludging of 20 school latrines
Health and Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Health promotion - Mosquito nets 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6,000 Mosquito nets, - Health promotion
WASH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Latrines - Hygiene promotion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNICEF provided Chlorine, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 20 latrines - 20 bathing shelters,

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chlorine (water guard) - Hygiene kits (soaps, sanitary pads, hand washing set) - jerry cans, buckets, 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3.000 jerry cans, - 3.000 buckets, - Hygiene promotion, - Chlorination to 1500 - 1.500 plastic sheets - 720 women and girls to receive to sanitary pads
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Even though the assessment findings indicate high needs for NFI's, such as 3,000 Jerrycans & Buckets as well as 6,000 mosquito Nets, MRCS will support 400 (2,200 beneficiaries) of the most vulnerable households through the bilateral contribution of the Netherlands Red Cross and 1,950 HH (10,750 beneficiaries) through this DREF. The remaining needs will be supported by other humanitarian partners, such as UNICEF, who have indicated that they will scale up their support to some of the camps in the coming weeks.

Beneficiary Selection

The operation will be implemented in five of the seven established camps within the district. Currently MRCS is supporting three camps but will extend its support to five through this DREF allocation. Targeting of these five camps has been determined by the District Council, who has allocated these areas based on MRCS' existing operational presence. Although many people have been affected and displaced MRCS will still use a community-based targeting system. This will help in classifying households according to their vulnerabilities. The selection process will also take into consideration the number of children under five, health status and age, labor or other income generation opportunities, family status, disability levels, livelihood assets, and the sustainability of their coping mechanisms. The Village Civil Protection Committees and the Red Cross Volunteers will facilitate the community based targeting system with technical support from the District Civil Protection Committee.

MRCS through the NDRT members with support from the RDRT member will then conduct beneficiary registration and verification. The affected communities will be involved in the whole targeting process in orders to ensure transparency and accountability.

Security Situation

Security conditions in Malawi is stable and will not hamper the implementation of the activities of this project. This is also a conducive working environment for any RDRT who can be deployed to support the operation. In the targeted communities, there are Community Police forums which are ensuring that the affected communities especially women and children are safe. These Community Police forums work hand in hand with the Malawi Police services to ensure maximum security is provided to all the IDPs.

Risk Assessment

The affected area is currently receiving increased rainfall. If the situation continues to persist then this might have a negative impact on the implementation of the operations especially in cases where there shall be need to delivery different relief items. MRCS will deploy 4wheel Drive vehicles and will continuously monitor the weather forecast for proper planning on delivery of different relief items. MRCS will also provide most of the NFIs through cash transfers which will reduce the transportation and movement of huge quantities of NFIs using heavy trucks.

B. Operational strategy and plan

Overall objective

The objective of the operation is to reduce the impact of the floods and promote the wellbeing of 1,950 flood affected HH (10,750 beneficiaries) through the provision of shelter, WASH, food security, and NFI assistance support.

Proposed strategy

This operation will provide immediate support in Karonga to 1,950 households through the provision of shelter, WASH, food security, and NFI assistance. To effectively deliver on the intended objective, the following Outcomes, Outputs, and Activities will be conducted:

Outcome 1: The IFRC secretariat, together with National Societies uses their unique position to influence decisions at local, national and international levels that affect the most vulnerable

Output 1.1: IFRC produces high-quality research and evaluation that informs advocacy, resource mobilization and programming.

Activities:

- Deployment of National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) for assessment and registration of beneficiaries
- Briefing of District Civil Protection Committee members and MRCS Branch Executive members

- Sensitization Meetings with Camp Leaders & Local Authorities
- Beneficiary selection Meetings
- Beneficiary Satisfaction/Exit Survey
- Lesson Learnt Workshop

Outcome 2: Vulnerable people have increased access to appropriate and sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services

Output 2.1: NS provides communities with knowledge and best practice to improve community-based management of water and sanitation facilities.

Activities

- Installation of fifty (50) hand washing buckets in five Camps.
- Provision of sanitation kits to 839 women of child bearing age (43% of all targeted women)
- Provision of 3,900 plastic pales to 1,950 HH (x2 cans per HH)
- Provision of 3,900 mosquito nets to 1,950 HH (x2 per HH)

Output 2.2: NS provides communities with knowledge and best practice on treatment and reuse of wastewater

Activities

- Volunteers conduct hygiene promotion activities both in the camps as well as in the affected communities
- Provision of Water Guard/Chlorine to 1,950 HH for pot chlorination
- Desludging of latrines in schools, which have been used as camps

Outcome 3: Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, well-being and longer term recovery through shelter and settlement solutions.

Output 3.1: Short, medium and long-term shelter and settlement assistance is provided to affected households through the provision of household NFI's.

Activities

- Provision of tarpaulins (x2 per HH), blankets (x2 per HH), and sleeping mats (x2 per HH) to 1,950 HH to address immediate shelter requirements in the IDP camps.

The table below provides a summary of MRCS' intended intervention:

Item Description	Qty	Description
Tarpaulins	3,900 tarps	Two tarps per HH
Blankets	3,900 blankets	Two blankets per HH. 650 already distributed and will be replenished through this DREF.
Sleeping Mats	3,900 mats	Two sleeping mats per HH
Hand washing buckets in five camps.	50 buckets	10 hand washing buckets will be provided in each camp
Sanitation kit to women of child bearing age	839 kits	MRCS estimates that 43% of the targeted female population will meet this requirement and have this need.
Plastic Pales	3,900 pales	MRCS will only provide plastic pales as the plastic pales can be used for multiple functions. Two pales per HH.
Mosquito nets (3 per household)	3,900 nets	IFRC standard net distributed per household is 2
Hygiene Promotion activities both in the camps as well as in the affected communities	1,950 HH	Hygiene promotion will be conducted within the affected communities as well as in the camps to reduce the risk of communicable and water-borne disease transmission
Provision of Water Guard/Chlorine for pot chlorination	1,950 HH	All target households will receive adequate chlorination assistance to guarantee safe water consumption.

Desludging of Latrines in schools which have been used as camps	50	50 latrines have been identified for restoration to ensure adequate sanitation facilities for school-going children
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The MRCS will use trained staff and volunteers with improved knowledge of planning and implementation in livelihoods, WASH and shelter. Gender empowerment will be taken in consideration. The National Society will ensure that all programmes are aligned with the IFRC's commitment to realize gender equality and diversity, by adapting an appropriate beneficiary selection criteria.

Operational support services

Human resources

MRCS has 1 FACT trained staff, 5 RDRT and over 30 NDRT members with experience in Emergency WASH, Emergency Health, Logistic, Shelter, Relief and general emergency response. In Karonga District MRCS has 15 trained Branch Disaster Response team members and a contingent of volunteers trained in CBHFA and Disaster Preparedness and response. All these trained personnel are available to support the implementation of this intervention

Therefore, to implement this DREF, MRCS will employ the services of six staff—an operations manager supported by 2 field officers (one per region), finance and administration, logistics and reporting officers—and 50 volunteers.

National Society positions:

- 1NS Ops Coordinator at MRCS
- 1 Reporting officer
- 1 Logistic officer
- 1 Field Supervisor
- 50 volunteers

To strengthen the response, MRCS is requesting RDRT support to contribute to the operation and support the NS staff and volunteers.

Logistics and supply chain

MRCS has the required transport and logistics capacity to support this operation. IFRC logistics unit will provide support and review all major procurements planned within this operation. Currently MRCS have some stocks, which can be used and be replenished at a later stage—particularly x650 blankets for this operation. Tarpaulins, plastic pales, and mosquito nets can be supplied from cluster level stocks of IFRC. Local procurement may be required for sleeping mats and all local procurement files will be reviewed by IFRC. The DREF will cover the logistical resources necessary for the MRCS to implement its distribution, monitoring and evaluation activities

All procurements of goods and services will be done in accordance with the MRCS financial procedure manual, the IFRC procurement regulation and the Malawi public procurement regulatory Authority act. This means that all procurement will be an open tender and all the bidding process will follow to the letter.

Information technologies (IT) and Communications

Maintaining a steady flow of timely and accurate information between the field and other major stakeholders is vital for fundraising, advocacy and maintaining the profile of the emergency operations. This flow will be maintained between those working in the field and other stakeholders, including the media and donors, to promote greater quality, accountability, and transparency. Donors and National Societies will receive information and materials they can use to promote the profiling of the operation. Relevant information and advocacy materials, including audio-visual products, will be channeled through IFRC and public websites: www.ifrc.org; MRCS will further use its Facebook page to profile the operation activities.

Activities will include the following:

- Produce press releases, situational reports, news stories and beneficiary case studies.
- Engage proactively with media (national and international) to highlight the needs the affected people and to profile the response of the Red Cross. This will include the use of established IFRC social media tools.
- Develop media packages, including facts and figures, issue briefs and audio-visual products for distribution to partner national societies, other partner organizations and media.
- Develop and produce communications products that highlight achievements of the operation.
- Support field visits by communications colleagues from partner national societies and donor agencies.
- Support program teams in designing and producing operations-specific materials, including forms, banners, brochures, posters and signage.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation, & reporting (PMER)

- Monitoring the operation's progress: close monitoring of turnaround time tasks and budget disbursement delays will be made. A monthly monitoring of activities will be in place with management tools that will be developed.
- MRCS will make sure that the operation's evaluation is made after each activity including beneficiary feedback and volunteers experience.
- After each distribution, an exit survey shall be conducted to assess the levels of satisfaction on how the distributions have been conducted. This will give MRCS good learning points to improve future similar actions.
- Periodically, the volunteers will also be assigned to visit the beneficiaries in either their camps or once they move back to their homes to get feedback on their perception on the overall support provided by MRCS through this operation.
- Technical support from the IFRC Regional office will be considered if deemed necessary. The RDRT member will be deployed to specifically compile such reports with support from the NS operations coordinator and the PMER and DM manager. Consequently, a robust monitoring and reporting system will be employed to track the outputs and outcomes of interventions. The regular monitoring will inform of any further revision needed in terms of timeframe and coverage. The operation will be regularly monitored by technical and management staff from IFRC SACO with field visits. IFRC SACO office representation and the Africa Region DMU will provide ongoing support in the aspect of the implementation.
- Lessons learnt from the previous DREF operations will be used to improve the implementation of this Karonga Flood response operation.
- At the end of the operation a beneficiary satisfaction survey will be conducted to collect feedback from the assisted beneficiaries on the operation. This information will form the basis of the lessons learnt workshop organized as an evaluation of the operation and the implemented activities.

Administration and Finance

IFRC SACO will facilitate cash transfers and ensure transparent and smooth administrative and financial support to be the operations in close coordination with IFRC Nairobi. MRCS will be responsible for ensuring that the agreed financial procedures and reporting requirements will be adhered.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volunteers conduct Hygiene Promotion activities both in the camps as well as in the affected communities 								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of Water Guard/Chlorine to 1,950 HH for pot Chlorination) 								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desludging of Latrines in schools which have been used as camps 								

Shelter and Settlement

Outcome 3: Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, well-being through shelter and settlement solutions.								
Output 3.1: Short, medium and long-term shelter and settlement assistance is provided to affected households through the provision of household NFI's.								
Activity	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procure and distribute shelter related NFI (Tarpaulins Blankets, Kitchen sets and Sleeping Mats) 								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transportation of the items to the distribution sites 								

Communications, PR, and PMER

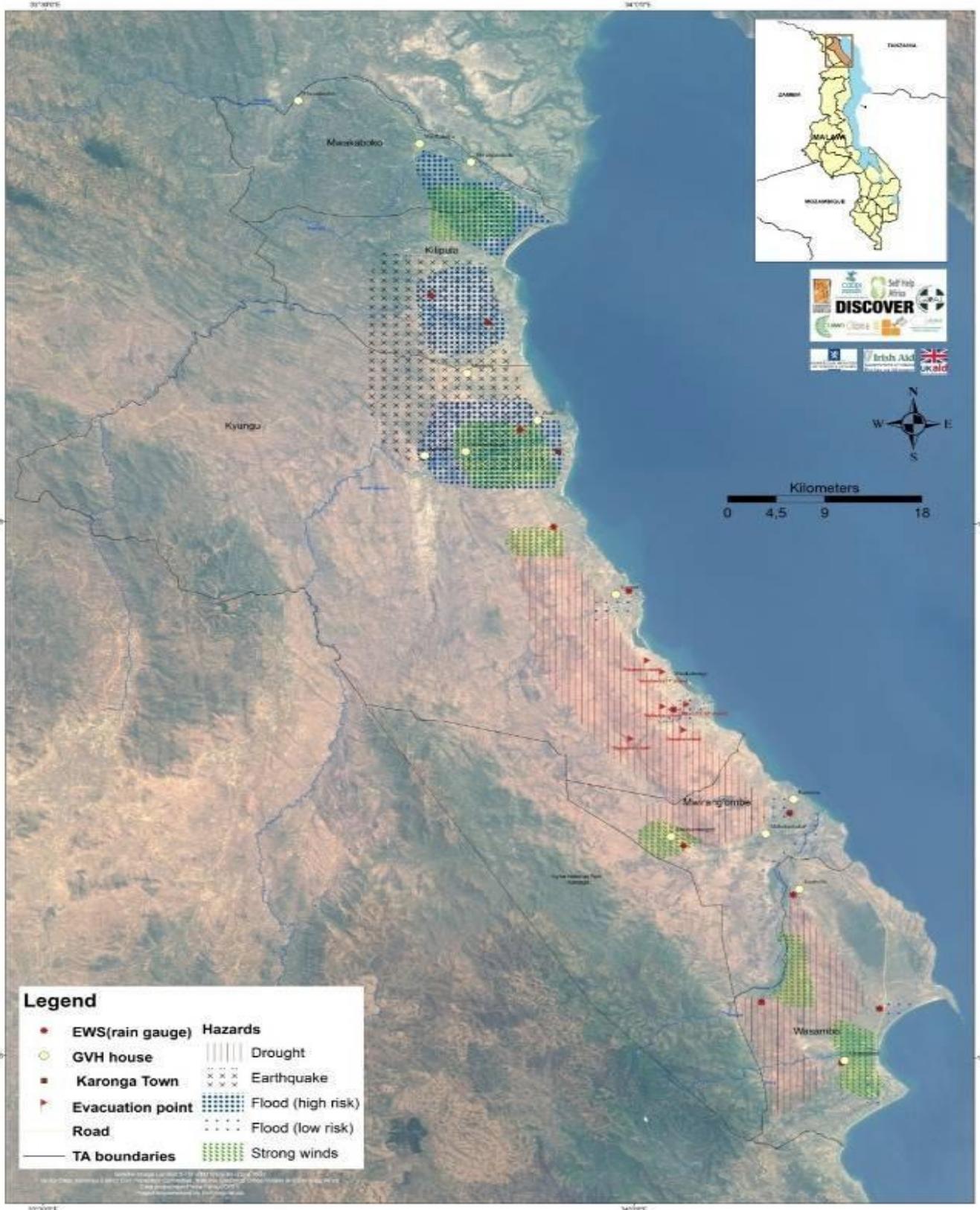
Communications, public relation and monitoring activities								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Production of Bibs & T-Shirts for Volunteers Visibility 								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Profiling of Project activities 								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision and Monitoring of the Response activities 								

Budget

A detailed budget has been attached for your reference.

Annex 1: Map of Affected Area

Karonga District Hazard Map



Source: Karonga District Council/Self Help Africa

DREF OPERATION

07/03/2017

APPEAL

Budget Group	DREF grant budget
Shelter - Relief	58,500
Shelter - Transitional	0
Construction - Housing	0
Construction - Facilities	0
Construction - Materials	0
Clothing & Textiles	66,300
Food	0
Seeds & Plants	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	7,400
Medical & First Aid	0
Teaching Materials	0
Utensils & Tools	15,875
Other Supplies & Services	2,306
Emergency Response Units	0
Cash Disbursements	0
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	150,381
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	0
Storage, Warehousing	0
Distribution & Monitoring	21,406
Transport & Vehicle Costs	4,000
Logistics Services	0
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	25,406
National Staff	0
National Society Staff	11,166
Volunteers	650
Total PERSONNEL	11,816
Consultants	0
Professional Fees	0
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0
Workshops & Training	7,710
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	7,710
Travel	12,000
Information & Public Relations	1,700
Office Costs	400
Communications	850
Financial Charges	0
Other General Expenses	0
Shared Support Services	0
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	14,950
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	13,667
Total INDIRECT COSTS	13,667
TOTAL BUDGET	223,930