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## Operations Update Report 1 Malawi: Strong Winds and Heavy Rains

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF n° <b>MDRMW015</b>	<b>Glide n°:</b> <a href="#">SS-2021-000196-MWI</a>
Operation update n° 1: 5 January 2022	Timeframe covered by this update: 20 December 2021 to 4 January 2022
Operation start date: 8 December 2021	Operation timeframe: 04 months 8 December 2021 to 30 April 2022
Funding requirements (CHF): CHF <b>243,813</b>	DREF amount initially allocated: CHF <b>247,707</b>
N° of people being assisted: 4,405 people (881 households) <sup>1</sup> from the initial target of 6,000 people (1,200 households)	
<b>Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation:</b> International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Danish Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross and Swiss Red Cross	
<b>Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation:</b> Government of Malawi (Department of Disaster Management Affairs- DoDMA), WFP, UNICEF, District Councils through the District Civil Protection Committees (DCPC) and UNDP	

<Please click [here](#) for the budget and [here](#) for the contacts>

### Summary of major revisions made to emergency plan of action:

This Operations Update seeks to revise the Operational Strategy as a result of the detailed assessment that was carried out on 20 to 22 December 2021. Changes are focused on targeted beneficiaries, changing from the initial plan of 1,200 to 881 households because at the time of undertaking the rapid needs assessments some of beneficiaries were duplicated, others have since the start of the disaster received support from other institutions including Malawi Government while others have already recovered. In terms of shelter, a total of 617 households will be targeted from the initial target of 400. Furthermore, 38% of 881 (335) households will require conditional cash assistance as a top up towards reconstruction of their houses. This is due to heavy damages on the shelter infrastructure.

This will mean that a total of 881 households will be targeted to receive cash transfers for two consecutive months based on the monthly food basket as well as the level of damage on shelter for each household. The support will be delivered covering the months of January and February 2022 within the same timeframe of the operation.

<sup>1</sup> There is an average of five people per household in the area.

## A. Situation analysis

### Description of the disaster

After the initial disasters which affected a total of 1,317 households (6,500 people) by the strong winds and stormy rains as reported by the Salima District Council, the district experienced another form of disaster on 31 December 2021. The report showed the following impacts of the disaster:

- The already affected Traditional Authorities (TAs); Kambalame and Maganga experienced the disasters as well as other two TAs; Ndindi and Kambwiri
- In terms of impact, 42 households were affected in Kambalame; 167 households in Maganga; 132 households in Ndindi and 131 households in Kambwiri (making a total of 472). This was caused by strong winds.
- Maganga Primary school was badly affected.
- Houses were most affected following the disasters whereby there were reports of damages ranging from total damage to falling off walls.

### Summary of the current response

#### Overview of Operating National Society Response Actions.

Since the DREF operation was approved, several activities were initiated beginning 8 December 2021. Some of the key activities included:

- Deployment of a team of 4 staff and 50 volunteers to support the rapid needs assessment alongside the District Council members. The team assisted to determine the extent of the damage and identified immediate needs of the affected households.
- Beneficiary identification, registration and verification was rolled out.
- MRCS volunteers and staff assisted to provide psychological first aid (PFA) to the affected households.
- Supported sensitisation of the affected households to ensure that hygiene and sanitation issues were adhered to as a way to reduce cases of infectious diseases.
- MRCS continued to participate in the district level coordination meetings involving different stakeholders

#### Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

The IFRC Harare Country Cluster Delegation continued to provide technical support during implementation of the response actions. IFRC will also conduct monitoring visits during the course of the operation and support deployment of surge in case the disaster spreads widely. MRCS is working hand in hand with different partners such as a consortium of PNSs led by Danish Red Cross (Icelandic, Italian and Finnish Red Cross), Swiss Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross (remotely) and ICRC (supporting Restoring Family Links (RFL)) in the districts of Chikwawa, Mulanje, Mangochi and Lilongwe.

#### Overview of other actors' actions in country

The most notable humanitarian partners present in the targeted districts are the Government, The Hunger Project, World Vision, Care Malawi and WFP. The partners are implementing different types of activities ranging from disaster response, relief support, health, WASH, shelter, education, food security and livelihood promotion just to mention key sectors being supported.

The Malawi government supported 500 households with a one-time food assistance. The Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA) started providing relief assistance on 27 November 2021 to the affected in TAs of Maganga and Kalonga. The packages included maize, blankets, plates, cups, pails, plastic sheets for temporary roofing and housing units in some instances. The Table below provides detailed support provided by government through DoDMA and Oxfam following the disasters.

**Table 1: Support provided by government and other partners**

Partner	Items	Quantity	No. of affected HH supported/reached	Comments
<b>DoDMA</b>	Bags of Maize (50Kg)	520	520	223 households in TA Kalonga and 297 households in Maganga
	Blankets	1040	520 HHs	Maganga 446 – 2 blankets per household in TA Kalonga; 594 – 2 blankets per household in TA Maganga
	Cups	2600	520 HHs	1115 – 5 per household in Kalonga; 1485 – 5 per households in Maganga
	Plates	2080	520 HHs	892 – 4 per household in Kalonga; 1188 – 4 per household in Maganga
	Plastic sheets	5200	520 HHs	223 – 10 meters per households in Kalonga; 297 – 10 meters per households in Maganga
	Tents		17 HHs	4 for 3 affected families in Maganga
	<b>OXFAM</b>	<b>Cash</b>	MK12,500,000	500 HHs

### Coordination

Following the disaster, there has been a number of coordination meetings facilitated by Salima District Council with support from the Department of Disaster Management Affairs to ensure that the affected communities receive the desired support in a manner that there is accountability and minimised duplication of efforts. In total, MRCS participated in 4 meetings which were meant to bring partners together but also coordinated humanitarian assistance. In addition, the coordination meetings helped to pull partners together in order to undertake the needs assessment as well as ensuring that information sharing was strengthened. The coordination meetings were scheduled on weekly basis to ensure that consistently updates on the support was coordinated.

### Needs analysis and scenario planning

#### Needs analysis

The Salima District Council in collaboration with MRCS and other actors facilitated an initial rapid assessment to determine the extent of damage and needs of the affected households. The result of the assessment revealed deteriorating situation requiring immediate humanitarian assistance to the affected population.

For instance, an analysis of the findings indicated significant damage on shelter leading into likely displacement of some households. This calls for desired needs to ensure effective rehabilitation and reconstruction of the damaged shelters. On Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), little damage was noted

as most of the toilets were reported to be in use, however there was serious open defecation which may pose a health hazard in the areas if not properly addressed.

On Food and NFIs, most of the affected beneficiaries whose shelter were damaged totally indicated that food as a priority immediate need. On health Support, all the health facilities were functioning properly and needed to be utilized to specify disease surveillance and intensify on healthy promotion and sensitization.

On education support, there was an urgent need for provision of temporal learning structures to ensure that learning process was not completely disrupted. There was need to support family tents for the teachers whose houses had been blown off at Maganga CDSS as schools were opening soon rendering the students with no space for the classes.

MRCS was accorded the initial DREF support which was launched on 8 December 2021 with a detailed assessment planned. Following the approval of the DREF on Strong Winds and Heavy Rains in Salima District, Malawi Red Cross Society (MRCS) undertook a detailed assessment to establish the current needs, gaps and target household in the affected areas. The assessment further verified and registered eligible households that will be targeted under the operation.

The rapid assessment results indicated that a total of 1,200 households were affected, and the same figure was targeted in the DREF. However, after MRCS undertook the detailed assessments to verify, establish the needs, register households and define its response, the findings showed that 881 households were eligible to be supported across all the sectors. The reduction in the number of the target households was due to duplication, support from other institutions including Malawi Government while others had already recovered at time of the assessment. Refer to table 1 above for the type of support provide by the partners.

### **Operation Risk Assessment**

Since the operation has a limited timeframe of four (4) months and cognizant of a possibility of the scenario escalating into widespread disasters is very high, MRCS operation will be sustained through lobbying for more resources within the PNSs and IFRC to cover costs of the prevailing needs that may still require continued support. Alternatively, MRCS will flag for an Emergency Appeal if need continues beyond the 4 months. The planned response reflects the situation and information available as of now, considering the current forecast and required adjustments to contextual changes.

The EPoA supports the design of the overall operation, focusing on supporting the communities with immediate livelihood actions through provision of multi-purpose cash transfers, health, WASH activities, capacity building of volunteers, capacity building and deployment of Search and Rescue teams, provision of shelter and NFI supplies and awareness creation on COVID-19 vaccination, PGI and CEA.

Another risk which remains relevant is COVID-19 pandemic and looming food shortages due to low harvest. The risk analysis for this threat and mitigation measures remains relevant.

## **B. Operational strategy**

### **Overall objective**

This DREF is to respond to the immediate humanitarian needs of 4,405 people (881 households) affected by the strong winds and heavy rains through provision of unconditional cash transfers for basic needs, provision of health care and WASH promotion for a period of four (4) months in Salima District.

### **Proposed strategy**

The operation involves a total of 100 volunteers in different interventions such as provision of capacity building in the area of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA), psychological first aid (PFA), Water and Sanitation (WASH), Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) and Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI). These were prioritized and integrated in the response to ensure that there is coherence, consistence and accountability in operation. To date, activities implemented are as follows:

### Conducted Detailed Needs assessments (Target: Salima)

The result of the detailed needs assessments which involved a team of 6 NRT members and 20 volunteers (4 per Traditional authority across Maganga, Kalonga, Kambwiri and Pemba). Below is a table showing key findings by different sectors:

DREF initial planned targets	New targets after assessments	Comments
<p><b>Shelter and settlements (2,000 people, 400 HH):</b> The disasters rendered households homeless due to damages caused to their homes and neighbourhoods especially roofs and exposed walls.</p>	<p>Total of 617 households will require to be supported with shelter and settlements through provision of NFIs and shelter materials.</p> <p>38% representing 335 households require conditional cash assistance as top up towards reconstruction of their houses.</p>	<p>There is an increase in number of people to be supported from 400 to 617.</p> <p>335 out of 617 will receive cash assistance as top up.</p>
<p><b>Livelihoods and Basic Needs (Target: 1,200 HH or 6,000 people):</b> The affected households will be supported with cash transfers for 2 consecutive months based on monthly food basket.</p>	<p>Support 881 households out of the initially targeted 1,200 with unconditional cash transfers to support food and basic needs.</p>	<p>The reduced number is because at the time of undertaking the detailed assessments some of beneficiaries were duplicated while others had already recovered.</p>
<p><b>Health assistance (Target: 6,000 people or 1,200 households):</b> to intensify psychological first aid (PFA). Due to flooding and stagnation of water, there is high risk of malaria transmission.</p>	<p>Support COVID-19 awareness sessions among 881 affected households.</p> <p>Provision of PPE through other projects in all affected communities.</p>	<p>Reduced from 1,200 to 881 households. Reason as above.</p>
<p><b>Water, Sanitation and Hygiene - WASH (Target: 6,000 people or 1,200 households):</b> There was disruption of water and sanitation facilities hence this response will focus on improving WASH to cover risk of water related diseases.</p>	<p>The response will support a total of 881 households with awareness messages on access to clean water for the affected population.</p> <p>Provision of hygiene kits towards to 294 households who have lost their damaged or destroyed homes and are supported with emergency shelter.</p> <p>Provision of dignity kits to 24% of 1,057 women and girls of childbearing age counted in the 211 HHs targeted.</p>	<p>Reduced from 1,200 to 881 households. Reason as above.</p>
<p><b>Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI):</b> The operation will ensure the promotion and participation of men and women including persons with disabilities of different age groups through trainings and consultation.</p>	<p>Support PGI activities among the 881 households</p>	<p>Across the affect areas.</p>

DREF initial planned targets	New targets after assessments	Comments
<b>Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA):</b> MRCS will ensure that the already developed CEA tools, tailored to Malawi Context, are adopted and used to collect data relevant for planning CEA approaches and activities.	Support CEA activities among the 881 households.	Across the affect areas.

### C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

 <p><b>Shelter</b>  <b>People targeted: 3,085</b>  Male: 1,512  Female: 1,573  <b>Requirements (CHF):</b></p>		
<b>Outcome 1: Shelter Outcome 1:</b> Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, well-being and longer-term recovery through shelter and settlement solutions		
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
% of affected households reached with shelter services (Target: 617 HH)	100% or 3,085 people	
# of households assisted with conditional cash assistance as top up towards reconstruction of their houses (Target : 335 HH)	38% or 335 HH	
<b>Shelter Output 1.1: Shelter and settlements and basic household items assistance is provided to the affected families.</b>		
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
# of households reached with emergency shelter construction (Target: 617 HH)	617 HH	
# of people benefiting from NFIs distributed (Target: 3,085 people)	3,085 people	
# of volunteers engaged in shelter activities (Target : 100 volunteers)	100 volunteers	
Progress towards outcomes		
<p>As highlighted during the assessment, one of the pressing needs of the affected population is shelter support due to damaged houses. In this operation, there is need to increase in number of households to be supported from 400 to 617 as the majority experienced total collapsed houses while few require minor repairs. In addition, 335 out of 617 will receive cash assistance as top up to assist them with reconstruction of their houses.</p> <p><b>Challenge:</b> More people were affected due to poorly constructed houses, heavy storm and strong winds. This calls for multi-purpose cash transfer to cover shelter support to enable households procure construction materials.</p>		



### Livelihoods and basic needs

**People targeted: 4,405**

Male: 2,005

Female: 2,400

**Requirements (CHF):**

**Livelihoods and basic needs Outcome 1:** Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods

Indicators:	Target	Actual
% of targeted households reached with multipurpose cash transfers (MPCT) funding that is support appropriate to meet their emergency needs.	At least 100% or 4,405 people	0

**Livelihoods and basic needs Output 1.2:** Basic needs assistance for livelihoods security including food is provided to the most affected communities

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of families receiving unconditional cash transfer (Target: 881 HH)	881 HH	
# of cash grants provided to families (Target: 2 grants)	4,405 people	
# of volunteers engaged in Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) activities (Target: 100 volunteers)	100 volunteers	

Progress towards outcomes

The detailed needs assessment found that 881 households will require cash transfers to cover for food and basic needs of the affected population due to disrupted livelihoods. Hence, reduction from the initially targeted 1,200 households due to duplication, receipt of support from other institutions including Malawi Government while others had already recovered at time of the assessment. The transfer will be undertaken for 2 months beginning January and February using the food basket.

**Challenge:** The disaster occurred at a time when the country is just at the beginning of the rainy season hence there is need to continue monitoring the situation as this may escalate. Salima district has been reported as one of the districts of looming food insecurity due to reduced harvest as such this may affect purchasing power of the intended cash transfer support. Again, there is need to continue monitoring COVID-19 Pandemic.



### Health

**People targeted: 4,405**

Male: 2,005

Female: 2,400

**Requirements (CHF):**

**Health Outcome 4:** Transmission of diseases of epidemic potential is reduced

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Minimum % of affected population reached through awareness sessions to improve their health habits (Target: at least 70 % or 4,405 people)	4,405 people (2,005M; 2,400F)	0

**Health Output 4.6:** Improved knowledge about public health issues among 4,405 people in Salima District.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of health communication plans developed (Target: 1)	1	1
# of households reached with Health services (Target: 881 HH)	881 people	

# of volunteers trained and engaged in CBHFA (Target: 50 volunteers and 5 staff)	50 volunteers	
Progress towards outcomes		
MRCS will support with of health care activities through provision of Psychological First Aid (PFA) to address the mental and psychological impacts following the trauma caused by the strong winds and heavy storm. Total of 50 volunteers will be engaged to support the operation.		

 <p><b>Water, sanitation and hygiene</b>  <b>People targeted: 4,405</b>  Male: 2,005  Female: 2,400  <b>Requirements (CHF):</b></p>		
<b>WASH Outcome1:</b> Immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities		
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
% of targeted people reached with hygiene promotion activities	100%	100%
<b>Daily access to safe water which meets Sphere and WHO standards in terms of quantity and quality is provided to target population</b>		
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
# of water tablets procured and distributed (Target: 45,000 tabs)	45,000 tabs	
<b>WASH Output 1.4:</b> Hygiene promotion activities which meet Sphere standards in terms of the identification and use of hygiene items provided to target population		
# of HH reached with hygiene kits (Target: 294 HH)	294 HH	0
# of women and girls reached with dignity kits (Target: 211 women)	211 women	0
# of HP and sanitation sessions conducted (Target: 8 sessions)	8 sessions	0
# of volunteers engaged in WASH activities (Target: 20 volunteers)	20 volunteers	0
# of PDM conducted (Target: 1 PDM)	1 PDM	0
Progress towards outcomes		
The National Society will conduct hygiene promotion targeting the families affected by the disaster. In addition, there will be provision of hygiene kits and dignity kits for women.		
<b>Challenge:</b> The detailed assessment report established that beneficiaries were crowded in the houses of the relatives and neighbours hence posing risk on adherence to COVID-19 regulations. This therefore meant that there was need to provide hygiene and dignity kits which were not adequate to reach all the affected people.		

<b>Strategies for Implementation</b>		
<b>Outcome S2.1: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured.</b>		
<b>Output S2.1.1: Effective response preparedness and NS surge capacity mechanism is maintained</b>		
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
# of detailed assessment reports produced	1	1
# of affected TAs assessed	4 TAs	4 TAs
# of volunteers participating in the response	100	100

# of volunteers equipped with protective equipment (Target: 100 volunteers)	100	0
# of documentary films profiling NS response (Target: 1)	1	0
# of lessons learned workshops (Target: 01)	1	0
<b>% of feedback revised (Target: 90%)</b>	90%	0
# of supervision missions conducted by the IFRC	3 missions	1 mission
# of IFRC monitoring missions	2 missions	1 mission
Progress towards outcomes		
<p>The National Society conducted a detailed needs assessment in collaboration with government and other stakeholders to inform the response operation. A total of 100 volunteers were involved in the response operations supporting different activities. IFRC Coordination Office in country was involved in the monitoring mission to Salima to appreciate the situation on ground.</p> <p><b>Challenge:</b> The rainy season has just begun and there are fears that the needs may escalate hence requiring further humanitarian assistance.</p>		

## D. Financial Report

Overall funding requested for implementation of this operation is **CHF 243,813** as detailed in attached budget, to be spent within a period of four months.

### Contact information

#### Reference documents



Click here for:

- Previous Appeals and updates
- Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

**For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:**

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## How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, **encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



**Save lives,**  
protect livelihoods,  
and strengthen recovery  
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**  
and **safe** living.



Promote social inclusion  
and a culture of  
**non-violence** and peace.

**DREF OPERATION**

MDRMW015 - MALAWI - WINDSTORMS

07/12/2021

**Budget by Resource**

Budget Group	Budget
Shelter - Relief	30,408
Clothing & Textiles	12,191
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	9,399
Utensils & Tools	15,238
Cash Disbursement	97,679
<b>Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>	<b>164,915</b>
Storage	14,430
Distribution & Monitoring	3,330
Transport & Vehicles Costs	5,994
<b>Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>23,754</b>
National Society Staff	2,331
Volunteers	8,159
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>10,490</b>
Workshops & Training	11,374
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>11,374</b>
Travel	11,963
Information & Public Relations	1,110
Shared Office and Services Costs	5,327
<b>General Expenditure</b>	<b>18,400</b>
<b>DIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>228,933</b>
<b>INDIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>14,881</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>243,814</b>

**Budget by Area of Intervention**

AOF1	Disaster Risk Reduction	
AOF2	Shelter	101,116
AOF3	Livelihoods and Basic Needs	92,354
AOF4	Health	1,773
AOF5	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	12,989
AOF6	Protection, Gender and Inclusion	
AOF7	Migration	
SF11	Strengthen National Societies	33,819
SF12	Effective International Disaster Management	1,763
SF13	Influence others as leading strategic partners	
SF14	Ensure a strong IFRC	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>243,814</b>

