

OPERATION UPDATE #2

Malawi | Tropical Cyclone Freddy

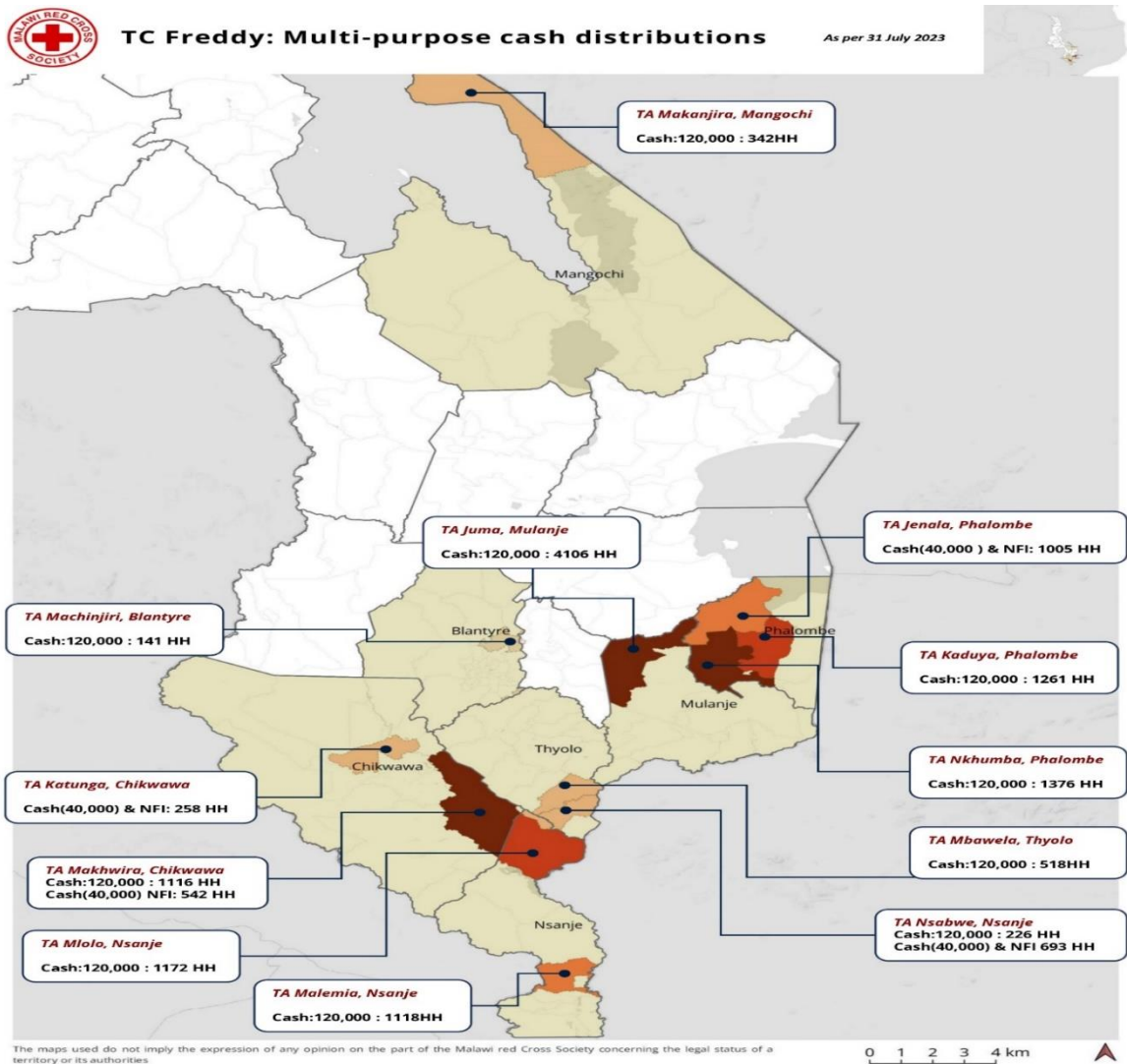
Emergency appeal №: MDRMW018 Emergency Appeal launched: 17/03/2023 Operational Strategy published: 25/07/2023	Glide №: EP-2022-000298-MWI
Operation update #2 Date of issue: 24/08/2023	The timeframe covered by this update: From 19/03/2023 to 24/08/2023
Revised Operation timeframe: 12 months (17/03/2023 - 31/03/2024)	Number of people being assisted: 160,000 (32,000 households)
Funding requirements (CHF): CHF 5.0 million through the IFRC Emergency Appeal CHF 6 million Federation-wide	DREF amount initially allocated: CHF 1 million

To date, this Appeal, which seeks CHF 6,000,000, is at 40 percent funded. Further funding contributions are needed to enable the Malawi Red Cross Society (MRCS) to successfully fulfil its commitments to providing humanitarian assistance and protection to people affected. MRCS completed the emergency response phase in August. Under the recovery framework, the National Society is prioritizing the implementation of the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) findings for remaining activities under response. MRCS assessment and verification exercise provides for recovery investments across short-term humanitarian needs and medium to long-term reconstruction is being carried out in the context of the policy framework for disaster risk management in the country and MRCS DM strategic Plan. The recovery plan translates the recovery and reconstruction needs into an operational framework, which prioritizes activities across sectors. To complete these interventions, the NS is requesting an extension for the appeal for an extra three months ending March 2024.



Construction of the 45 houses under emergency Appeal is at the roofing stage at Phweremwe in Phalombe District

Cash distribution status in districts affected by Tropical Cyclone Freddy



EVENTS TIMELINE

- 10 March 2023:** Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services (DCCMS) issues warning for Tropical Cyclone Freddy.
- 10 March 2023:** Malawi Red Cross Society (MRCS) deploys National Response teams to 10 priority districts. Danish Red Cross makes funds available for early action.
- 12 March 2023:** Freddy starts to impact the southern region of the country.
- 13 March 2023:** President of Malawi declares state of disaster in some districts of the southern region.
- 13 March 2023:** IFRC releases funds to MRCS for lifesaving action including Search & Rescue and rapid assessment.
- 14 March 2023:** IFRC Surge Team deployed including rapid response personnel and Emergency Response Unit (ERU)
- 17 March 2023:** Initial reports indicate 86,604 households displaced, representing approximately 362,928 people. This will increase to 126,511 households and 563,771 people by 24 March.
- 17 March 2023:** IFRC issues Emergency Appeal for CHF 6 million, to cover 160,000 people.
- 25 July 2023:** IFRC publishes the Operational Strategy for the Appeal.
- 31st August 2023:** Emergency Response phase closes.
- 10th to 11th August 2023:** Humanitarian Actors holds TC Freddy review meeting in Blantyre, Malawi.
- 1st September 2023:** Recovery plan starts.

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the crisis

Malawi was one of the countries greatly affected by Tropical Cyclone Freddy, among others, Mozambique and Madagascar. On 4th March 2023, The Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services issued a warning informing the Malawi nation that FREDDY had developed into Moderate Tropical Storm and was continuing to intensify in the Mozambique Channel and other models indicated that there was a likely high chance of FREDDY recurving towards Mozambique coast. Following the advisory, MRCS initiated an anticipatory action approach tailored to ensuring that the society is prepared in terms of prepositioning of stock, early action plans, and awareness raising on Early Warning to the communities, especially in the targeted areas. In the background, the team continued to monitor other global models to countercheck the prediction and probabilities of the forecast and lead times. The deployed MRCS National Response Team (NRT) targeted the highly projected districts which receive high rainfall amounts which included Blantyre, Phalombe, Mulanje Thyolo, Chikwawa, Nsanje, and Zomba.

This report also indicated that heavy rains associated with strong winds started on 11th and 12th March 2023. TC Freddy lashed most of the districts bringing strong winds and heavy rains. In a matter of hours' communities were being washed out by significant floods and mudslides. It was also revealed that most risk areas were also the same as that of TC Ana. This increased the vulnerabilities of the people as they were not fully recovered from the latter.

On 13th March, a state of disaster was declared in the 14 districts that were severely affected by the cyclone. On 17th March 2023 an Emergency Appeal was launched by MRCS through IFRC. The overall goal of the appeal is to enable 160,000 people (32,000 households) affected by TC Freddy in five affected districts (Blantyre, Chikwawa, Nsanje, Mulanje and Phalombe) to meet their essential needs in a safe and dignified manner, recover from the crisis and strengthen their resilience to future shocks. The government through DODMA made a declaration to close all camps by 17th April 2023, this came after a monitoring visit which showed that there were over 503 camps across the affected district, most of these camps were in schools, and as such they compromised learning. To ensure that the decommissioning process was smooth, the government with support from other partners supported the decommissioning where some beneficiaries were given either Non Food Items (NFIs) or cash as a return package.

Due to the magnitude of the impact, most vulnerable people are still struggling to recover from this shock although a smaller number of the affected households have managed to relocate to higher and safe areas. The intensity of the impact has been aggravated by the outbreak of Cholera, which has affected a number of districts.

Summary of response

Overview of the host National Society and ongoing response

MRCS, following its mandate as a co-lead of the Search and Rescue and Shelter cluster, has been supporting the affected communities with various interventions from anticipatory actions (AA), early warning early action as well as immediate response support with funding from IFRC, DRC, and its consortium partners, in-country donation, and government subversion. Furthermore, areas where MRCS is implementing its Increased Disaster Resilience and Early Action in Malawi (IDREAM) supported by ECHO, had heavy presence and several disaster-mitigation activities continue to be done. This was attributed to the fact that there was a lot of capacity building of local structures both in schools and communities through School-based DRM Clubs and Ward/village Civil Protection Committees (WCPCs). The AA report also revealed that the AA interventions by

MRCs helped the people to evacuate from the lowlands to the safe and upper lands. It was noted that where the anticipatory actions started earlier, the people were informed in time, and this made the communities continue doing the awareness and sensitizations within and outside their communities. With the persistent rains that had been falling in most areas, coupled with the alert that was provided by the Department of Climate Change and Met Services (DCCMS), on 8th March 2023, the MRCs deployed teams started supporting the airing of jingles, radio programs and also deployed volunteers and Ward/Village Civil Protection Committees in the wards/villages including van publications to warn people on the incoming TC Freddy.

The Government of Malawi declared a State of National Disaster and called for support from various organizations. It was against this background that the MRCs through the IFRC launched an Appeal that helped to mobilize funds through various partners including the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, Danish Red Cross consortium, Belgian RC, Swiss RC and the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), through the International Office of Migration (IOM), Qatar, Kuwait Red Crescent, Red Cross Society of China and other individual well-wishers and companies to support the people affected.

This report further acknowledges the support MRCs received from the in-country donations which increased its coverage and reach. The government of Malawi released the response plan which aimed to cover three months of response from April to June 2023. A market assessment to determine market feasibility and functionality was conducted in April 2023. The post-disaster needs assessment by the Malawi Government through Department of Disaster Management Affairs and partners was also used for the development of the emergency and early recovery. The Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) which is also a government-led, multi-agency body that is mandated by the Government to conduct vulnerability assessments and analyses (VAA) to provide timely early warning information on the food security situation in the country, indicated that this 2023/2024 season comes with food insecurity. It further states that 22% of Malawi's Population will be food insecure in the coming months. TC Freddy has greatly contributed to the following:

2023/2024 MVAC REPORT

Region	Population	Total Population Affected	Percentage Population Affected	Rural	Urban
South	8,626,538	2,460,000	29	2,219,000	241,000
Central	8,533,879	1,560,000	18	1,386,000	174,000
North	2,532,270	388,000	15	333,000	55,000
TOTAL	19,692,687	4,408,000	22	3,938,000	470,000

Vulnerability statistics for the country based on the regions.

Some of the key achievements by MRCs to date are:

- A total of 24,413 people households have been supported with immediate needs especially non-food items to people affected.
- MRCs has disbursed multipurpose cash transfers to most of the people earmarked for the support, where a total of 13,879 households have received cash, with transfer values of MK120,000 each to 11,381 HHs and MK40,000 each to 2,498 HHs.
- Distribution of Mosquito nets (ITNs) to the IDPs: A total of 20,653 ITNs were distributed in 5 targeted districts under the appeal, including Machinga, Zomba, Nsanje, Blantyre, Chikwawa, and Thyolo. Each targeted household received 2 ITNs.

- Supported mobile outreach clinics: A total of 8 mobile clinics were supported and this has increased the reach to 595 people.
- Through the support of WSR ERU, a total of 78 boreholes have been rehabilitated, which has enabled a total of 20,253 households with 101,265 people including 8,970 under-five children to access safe water supply in communities.
- MRCS with support from Goodwill Ambassadors is constructing 52 houses with support from Goodwill Ambassadors, in Phalombe district under Emergency Appeal, work is progressing well as some structures are at the roofing stage. Further, MRCS secured more funding in constructing 36 houses in Zomba and Chiradzulu districts which are not the Emergency Appeal.
- MRCS also supported the assessment of the gravity-fed system in Phalombe, where 3 schemes were assessed. With the funds available, the Emergency Appeal project supported rehabilitation of one scheme in Phalombe and targets 380 taps.
- Houses in Phalombe district under the Emergency Appeal. Work is progressing on well as some structures are at the roofing stage.
- Orientation of volunteers on cholera control: A total of 196 volunteers have been oriented and will collaborate with the existing community health cadres (Health surveillance assistants) to disseminate cholera prevention messages across the targeted districts.
- Developed the MRCS Shelter Strategy which is in the completion stage.

Current Disaster Situation

Cholera Situation

Districts of Mangochi and Chikwawa are still registering cases, but with no cases in other districts in southern Malawi. The districts are still recovering from the effects of TC Freddy and Cholera which jointly wreaked havoc, destroying lives, livelihoods and homes and displacing hundreds of thousands of people. According to the Public Health Institute of Malawi (PHIM), nationally 58,981 cases are cumulatively registered with 1,768 deaths with a 3% Case Fatality Rate as of 26 August 2023. IFRC supported [MRCS with an Emergency Appeal for Cholera](#) which has now closed (31 August 2023).

IFRC membership coordination

The IFRC Harare Country Cluster Delegation continues to provide coordination and technical support to MRCS in the implementation of the Appeal through meetings, monitoring visits and on-the-job training across the different sectors of the response. Remote communications and resource mobilization support are provided through the IFRC Harare Country Cluster Delegation and IFRC Africa Regional Office. In the country, the IFRC office provides overall technical and management of the operation supporting MRCS.

The MRCS is part of the IFRC network New Way of Working initiative (NWoW), which is being piloted in 14 countries. It aims to establish a new model of membership coordination, working over multiple years to instil thorough change in the ways that members of the IFRC network work together while placing the National Society of the country at the centre.

In this reporting period, MRCS received CHF 36,000 towards the initiative with a plan of action to deliver the objectives. The National Society has now recruited a full time Senior Officer who is responsible for coordinating on behalf of the MRCS the implementation of the NWoW in Malawi. The NS has already achieved 3 of the 5 set milestones for the NWoW as follows:

1. One joint shared country context, needs, and National Society situational analysis.

2. One joint set of common multi-year high level objectives.
3. One joint harmonised resource mobilization plan and joint fundraising efforts.

The two remaining milestones below are expected to be finalised by December 2023.

1. The ***One joint monitoring and reporting with one data collection mechanism and one joint network-wide risk management approach framework*** will help the National Society to have agreed upon frameworks to monitor and evaluate issues as well as common agreed Risk Mitigation measures.
2. ***The One joint implementation model based on shared leadership and country support mechanisms*** will assist the NS to be more effective and efficient as it will be able to leverage Technical and Financial support from IFRC and PNs in our Disaster Response drive.

During this period, the NS utilised the existing structures under the NWoW to develop the Unified Plans for Malawi for 2024. The Strategic management group met and adopted a plan of action to deliver the Unified Plan 2024 for Malawi. The Technical team representing all thematic areas have since been meeting and developing this plan which will be submitted to the Regional Office by end of September.

Movement coordination

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has no permanent presence in the country but organizes regular visits to support restoring family links (RFL) in emergencies. IFRC, partner National Societies (in country - Danish Red Cross who lead a consortium of other PNSs and Swiss Red Cross, not in country but supporting Malawi are Belgian Red Cross, Qatari Red Crescent and Kuwait Red Crescent) and the ICRC will continue meeting on a regular basis for Movement Coordination and provide technical and financial support to the Appeal.

External coordination

In view of its auxiliary role, MRCS is formally part of national disaster management mechanisms. MRCS sits on the National Disaster Preparedness and Relief Committee (NDPRC) which comprises Principal Secretaries of all line ministries and departments, and three Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). The Department of Disaster Management Affairs had set up an Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) in Blantyre sitting in the World Food Programme Offices. The activated clusters were meeting daily. MRCS and IFRC participated actively in this coordination mechanism, especially in Shelter and Search and Rescue. The government of Malawi deactivated the main EOC coordination in Blantyre leaving the technical teams only who are still in operation. District cluster meetings are still active in some districts to support operation coordination.

Needs analysis.

The Government of Malawi embarked on the decommissioning of the camps to enable affected households to embark on their recovery actions. The affected households though slowly recovering still face a lot of challenges such as shelter, food, safe drinking water, and the need to support the restoration of their livelihoods and rehabilitation of their damaged roads and bridges. Areas where the affected people have relocated have serious challenges related to the provision of social services such as shelter, boreholes, schools, and health facilities as well as livelihood support since they are in new locations there is a need to assist them in establishing their livelihood needs.

This Emergency Appeal is contributing to the Malawi Government's efforts by supporting 160,000 people (32,000 households) directly impacted by TC Freddy with emergency response and early

recovery support particularly the immediate needs of families displaced and hosted in camps and communities, supporting them to return to their homes and start rebuilding their houses, lives and livelihoods. MRCS, RC movement partners such as IFRC, DRC, BRC, Swiss and others started providing return packages to people affected by TC Freddy. These NFI and cash were being provided as a return package. A total of **13,879 households** received cash, with a transfer value of MK120,000 and MK40,000 to each Household. An accumulation of Mk1,465,640,000 has been distributed to various people in the districts of Nsanje, Chikwawa, Blantyre, Mangochi, Thyolo, Mulanje and Phalombe. In addition to that, a total of **24,413 HHs** have been supported with immediate needs especially food and non-food items.

Operational risk assessment

The following are some of the operational risks and mitigation measures put in place by the MRCS.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating steps
Further disasters causing further harm to the population and/or impacting the response	Medium	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring information relating to public health and other matters. Ensuring relief items are received in targeted areas as soon as possible. Ongoing communication to the extent possible, to help in meeting the most critical needs.
Health and safety risks to the response team, e.g., Cholera	High	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of PPE to the response team. Briefing with the best available information. Use of technology to minimize unnecessary travel.
Cyclone or other disaster event during response adversely affects TC Freddy.	Medium	Medium/High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The MRCS team is well experienced in responding to cyclone events and has trained staff and volunteers and SOPs in place. Replenishment of relief items will be progressed as soon as possible.
Inadequate funding	Medium	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with support partners to source more funding. Proper financial management.

SECURITY OVERVIEW

The Regional Security Unit has been extending daily support to the Country Cluster Delegation and maintaining close monitoring of the developments. The head of the Cluster Delegation extends advisory to PNS based in the country following the GSU/RSU Advisories. The Regional Security Unit extends direct support and works with the COs and CCSTs in monitoring the security situation and providing safety and security-related inputs regarding the operation. There will also be close coordination between RCCE and security to ensure community feedback can also be used to inform security analysis.

All personnel under IFRC security responsibility operate in accordance with and within the existing IFRC security frameworks. The IFRC Country Security Plan includes security risk assessment, contingency plans and security regulations.

The IFRC security plans will apply to all IFRC staff throughout. Area-specific Security Risk Assessment will be conducted for any operational area should any IFRC personnel deploy there;

risk mitigation measures will be identified and implemented. All IFRC must, and RC/RC staff and volunteers are encouraged, to complete the IFRC Stay Safe e-learning courses, i.e. Stay Safe Personal Security, Stay Safe Security Management and Stay Safe Volunteer Security online training. Minimum Security Requirements (MSR) are in place for Malawi.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Update on the strategy

All key issues highlighted in the operational strategy remain relevant. However, the elements related to Cholera have been scaled up to reflect the needs on the ground. Two areas of the strategy in terms of time frame and geographic scope have been revised based on the current situation.

Key Proposed Actions for Review:

1. Appeal extension from 31 Dec 2023 to 31 March 2024: MRCS implemented emergency response phase for the cyclone from March to August while the recovery phase will begin from August onwards. The recovery framework, which is prioritizing the implementation of the PDNA findings, remaining activities under response, MRCS assessment and verification exercise and provides for recovery investments across short-term humanitarian needs and medium to long-term reconstruction is being carried out in the context of the policy framework for disaster risk management in the country and MRCS DM strategic Plan. The recovery plan translates the recovery and reconstruction needs into an operational framework, which prioritizes activities across sectors and the proposed 5 districts of Mulanje, Phalombe, Blantyre, Chikwawa and Nsanje and defines mechanisms for monitoring and management, financing, and implementation.

Due to the nature of interventions planned in this recovery phase which include Shelter (120 houses under Federation Wide reporting with 30 houses supported through the Secretariat multilateral funding), Livelihoods, WASH and Health expected to run beyond December 2023 the expected end date for the Emergency Appeal). MRCS proposes an extension of up to 31st March 2024 to finalize these plans. *See attached Annexes below.*

Recovery Interventions


- Shelter Recovery – provision of permanent houses to 120 families most in need and with no means to rebuild themselves. Artisans and households will be trained to ‘build back safer’ while supporting the development of relocation plans in targeted districts.
- Livelihoods - Support market assessment to inform the market values of farm inputs, Cash for livelihood-livestock (distribution) 200 HHs per district, and re-forestation mainly in areas where trees were washed away due to mudslides or flooding.
- WASH – borehole drilling and Installation of solar pumping systems in 3 districts, rehabilitation of handpumps in 3 districts, hygiene promotion in the communities, and capacity enhancement of water management committees' structures.
- Health - conduct and integrate Health Promotion sessions for non-communicable diseases in health promotion interventions and mobile clinics, Raise awareness and advocate for MHPSS at all levels (Community leaders and government stakeholders), and Train volunteers, HSA, Social Protection Officers, and Social Welfare (DC) on PFA/MHPSS.
- Community Engagement and Accountability - revamp the grievance/social mobilisation committees at district level, and support grievance/social mobilisation committee meetings at district level to review feedback.

2. Appeal expansion of geographic areas: MRCS wishes to add Chiradzulu and Zomba Districts to the existing 7 districts under the Operational Strategy. This is to consider support received from Goodwill Ambassadors Bakili Muluzi and Joyce Banda earmarked for shelter construction in this district. These funds were realized through MRCS local resource mobilization efforts towards the Emergency Appeal.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL REPORT

STRATEGIC SECTORS OF INTERVENTION

This report reflects the current situation and is based on the information available in districts where TC Freddy is being implemented. Details of the operation update are outlined below. In line with the commitments under the New Way of Working the activities below reflect those funded by the Federation Wide funding ask – this includes the IFRC Secretariat funding, PNS bi-lateral funding and the MRCS domestic funding.

	Shelter, Housing and Settlements	Female > 18: 19,889	Female < 18: 13822
		Male > 18: 18,138	Male < 18: 14,251
Objective:	<i>Communities in disaster and crisis-affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, well-being and longer-term recovery through shelter and settlement solutions</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i># of households provided with emergency shelter and settlement assistance</i>	13,220	1,250
	<i># of households who have durable shelter solutions that meet national and/or Cluster standards for recovery for the specific operational context</i>	13,220	1,250
	<i># of low-cost resilient houses constructed in safer places.</i>	81	166
	<i>% of surveyed people who report that the shelter solution they implemented has helped in their long-term recovery</i>	85%	85%
Priority actions: Shelter and NFIs			



Director of Programs gets more insights on how the TC Freddy affected the elderly and widowed from one of the beneficiaries of house construction.

- Before households returned to their homes, MRCS with support from partners as well as well-wishers provided them with a minimum package of essentials household items. Currently, MRCS has so far supported 13,220 HHs with two blankets, two buckets, one kitchen set, two tarpaulins, one black sheet, a shelter kit, a solar lamp, two mosquito nets, sleeping mats and assorted clothes as well as food staffs, these have been distributed with support from IFRC, Danish RC, Belgian RC, Qatar and IOM, and the support went to 9 districts, which includes Phalombe, Mulanje, Blantyre, Chikwawa, Nsanje, Thyolo, Zomba, Machinga and Mangochi.

Construction of low-cost houses.

- MRCS with support from partners is constructing 81 houses (Goodwill Ambassador) in Phalombe and Zomba, work is progressing well as some structures are at the roofing level.


Local donations

- MRCS with support from the in-country donations reached out to over 13,220 HHs with food and non-food items. Individuals and the cooperate world provided cash and in-kind donations with some notable ones including maize flour, soap, blankets, salt, cloths as well as cooking oil. The support went further to other districts which are not in the Emergency Appeal like Zomba, Chiradzulu, Balaka and Machinga.

Long-term resilience

- One of the key considerations in long-term resilience is risk mapping to inform critical decisions on shelter. One of the key lessons learned from this year's disaster is that most of the households affected have assorted shelter issues. With the assessment which has been done by Government-PDNA and Assessment and verifications MRCS conducted, informed rightful decisions, especially on the support on Response and recovery. Issues of livelihoods and shelter are some of the long-term interventions that are set to support the affected HHs basic needs. Construction of 81 Houses has already begun in three districts of Phalombe and Zomba. The NS will complete the rest of the houses under the Response Plan of Action phase.
- These low-cost, resilient houses follow the Participatory Approach for Safe Shelter Awareness (PASSA) and Build Back Safer/Build Back Better (BBS/BBB) approaches. To cement it all, different kinds of capacity-building training and general awareness are being done in the strategic areas. MRCS through the Appeal has developed the MRCS Shelter Strategy, currently, it is in its completion stage.

- From the PDM that was conducted within the targeted communities in the 5 districts, 85% reported that the shelter helped in their long-term recovery. The PDM was administered by the MRCS volunteers after going through training and piloting of the tool.

	Health & Care	Female > 18: 35,272	Female < 18: 24,511
		Male > 18: 32,165	Male < 18: 25,272
Objective:	<i>Strengthening holistic individual and community health of the population impacted through community-level interventions and health system strengthening</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i># of people reached with community-based disease prevention and health promotion programming</i>	117,221	133,333
	<i># of volunteers trained on Psychological First Aid.</i>	343	200
	<i>% of people reached with Mental Health and Psychosocial Support services</i>	14%	20%
	<i># of mosquito nets distributed (two per household)</i>	20,653	1,328
	<i># of households provided with a set of essential hygiene items as part of essential household item</i>	22,361	26,560
	<i># of people reached by first aid service</i>	271	Need-based
	<i># of people reached via outreach clinic services</i>	595	41,500
	<i># of households reached with active case finding and referrals.</i>	595	26,560
	<i># of health facilities supported.</i>	8	10
	<i># of pregnant and lactating mothers reach during IYCF</i>	20,653	8,000
	<i># of people reached with Mental Health and Psychosocial Support services.</i>	14,522	26,560
	<i># of volunteers trained in the prevention and control of communicable diseases.</i>	217	200
	<i># of people reached on prevention and control of communicable disease.</i>	117,221	133,333

	<i># of community-based volunteers trained on Epidemic Control for Volunteers/Community Based Surveillance/Community Based Health First Aid.</i>	217	250
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Priority actions:

- A preliminary health assessment revealed significant disruption to health services and access to them in almost all affected districts. Roads and bridges have washed away, and power lines have been downed, which has disrupted the cold chain. Referral of critically ill patients to either district hospitals or tertiary facilities is nearly impossible, and pharmacies are becoming depleted, seriously compromising care for people with acute and long-term conditions. Disruption to the cold chain has also impacted immunization against preventable diseases.



Health Interventions for camps and affected communities.

- Lack of access to health services will continue for months and will require immediate human and material resources to restore. Although presently, static, mobile, and temporary clinics can still provide some integrated health services including clinical, immunization, ante-natal care (ANC), nutrition, Anti-Retroviral Therapy, TB management and family planning in all IDP camps and affected communities. The action will continue offering Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) as well, and through IFRC, MRCS will deploy a mobile health clinic to help the Ministry of Health (MOH) with some of these services in hard-to-reach areas. MRCS is working with the health cluster as well to align its interventions with the identified needs and gaps guided by the Cluster.

Long-term resilience

A number of health-related activities have been done in the past months, aimed at raising awareness of hygiene among people affected, notable activities include:

- Conduct Health Promotion Sessions, a series of Health promotion interventions towards prevention and control of Cholera has been done. This entails that promoting the health and hygiene of the community members has a positive impact on controlling cholera outbreaks.
- Community Engagement meetings, the sessions were done in Chikwawa, and the training included core community leadership and influential leaders.
- Distribution of ITNs to the IDPs, a total of 20,653 ITNs were distributed in 5 targeted districts for the appeal, these include Mulanje, Nsanje, Blantyre, Chikwawa, and Phalombe, each targeted house received 2 ITNs.
- Support Mobile Outreach Clinics, 8 mobile clinics were in done targeting have been done, this has increased reach to 595 people. The Emergency Response Unit for emergency mobile clinics was deployed with support from the French Red Cross. The deployment lasted for six weeks, after which they transitioned to government medical facilities. Medical supplies were handed over to government-owned health facilities.
- Orientation of volunteers in Basic PFA, a total of 343 volunteers and staff from Nsanje, Chikwawa, Blantyre, Thyolo, Phalombe, and Mangochi were trained to provide supportive care. Their combined work in the communities reached out to 14,522 affected people who were in need of Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Services and 76 people with first aid services. This has been seen as one of the interventions which was not put into much effort but moving forward MHPSS should be taken into consideration whenever we are responding to the emergencies.


	Livelihoods	Female > 18: 11,344	Female < 18: 7,883
		Male > 18: 10,345	Male < 18: 8,128
Objective:	<i>Communities, especially in disaster and crisis-affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i># of households reached with food assistance</i>	7,540	4,167
	<i># of households supported by livelihood interventions</i>	2,000	830
	<i>% of the targeted population whose livelihoods are restored to pre-disaster level</i>	55%	85%
<p>Priority actions:</p> <p>Livelihoods</p> <p>Analysis of the impact of flooding on livelihoods mainly focused on how productive assets, activities and capacities have been affected. Agriculture is a key source of livelihood in Malawi, hence severe crop damage and livestock deaths due to flooding have a severe impact. Most of the affected maize and other cereal fields were already in a drying state ready for harvesting. A total of 13, 879 households received cash, with transfer value of MK120,000 and MK40,000 to each household. An accumulation of Mk1,465,640,000 has been distributed to various people in the districts of Nsanje, Chikwawa, Blantyre, Mangochi, Thyolo, Mulanje and Phalombe. A total of 2,000 households also received livelihood support in the form of cash within the same districts.</p> <p>Long-term resilience activities under the recovery plan</p> <p>MRCS has just developed the recovery plan which is in line with Malawi Government. The plan is ending in December 2023 with a possible extension to March 2024. Activities outlined by livelihood, priority activity will include tree planting, vetiver planting, VSL activities and seed distributions.</p> <p>PDM survey</p> <p>The MRCSA conducted a PDM survey amongst 50% of the households that had received support from the Appeal. The sampled households consisted of 69% women. Questioned whether the assistance they received would take them back to their pre-disaster levels, 55% agreed that the help would restore their lives to the pre-disaster levels.</p>			
	Multi-purpose Cash	Female > 18: 20,881	Female < 18: 14,510
		Male > 18: 19,042	Male < 18: 14,962
Objective:	<i>Households are provided with unconditional/multipurpose cash grants to address their basic needs</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i># of households provided with multipurpose cash grants</i>	13,879	6, 000

	<i>% of target households that have enough sources of food and income to meet their survival threshold (including cash grants)</i>	95%	85%
	<i>% of target households that report receiving cash in a timely manner</i>	95%	85%
	<i>% of target households with malnourished children reported improved nutritional status because of cash-voucher assistance.</i>	85%	85%

Priority actions:

Immediate and long-term resilience

- Households affected have been provided with unconditional multi-purpose cash grants to assist them in rebuilding and addressing their basic needs.
- MRCS engaged a financial service (LTS) provider to deliver cash to the affected households, MRCS also made a deliberate effort to train them on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and child protection in accordance with the contractual agreement.
- Regular assessment and monitoring of markets will continue to be done to ensure stable supply and demand.
- Address the immediate needs of vulnerable households through the provision of unconditional, unrestricted cash for two consecutive months, which is based on the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) developed monthly by the National Cash Working Group.
- Market assessments will be carried out to determine cash feasibility and cash will be distributed using the financial service providers that already have agreements with MRCS.
- On-site monitoring continues being done during the cash distribution exercise; this will assist in measuring the level of satisfaction of people during the cash distribution.
- MRCS has made deliberate efforts in orienting beneficiaries on CEA and PGI, and appropriate methods are being used in ensuring that women be registered in the family as opposed to men, this is so as women are better cash managers at home as compared to men.
- Post-distribution exercises have been done during all distributions, this has assisted the organization in assessing the impact that cash distribution has made on the lives of people,
- An accumulation of Mk1,465,640,000 has been distributed to various people in the districts of Nsanje, Chikwawa, Blantyre, Mangochi, Thyolo, Mulanje and Phalombe through the support of IFRC, Danish RC, American RC, Belgian RC and Swiss RC.

	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	Female > 18: 29,170	Female < 18: 20,270
		Male > 18: 26,601	Male < 18: 20,900
Objective:		<i>Ensure safe drinking water, proper sanitation, and adequate hygiene awareness of the communities during the relief and recovery phases of the Emergency Operation, through community and organizational interventions</i>	
	Indicator	Actual	Target

Key indicators:	<i># of people reached by hygiene promotion activities (including communities and schools)</i>	96,941	133,333
	<i># of households provided with a set of hygiene items as part of essential household item</i>	2,638	16,600
	<i># of people provided with safe water services that meet agreed standards according to specific operational and programmatic context</i>	101,265	41,500
	<i>Number of hygiene volunteers and other community-based volunteers trained on- Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation</i>	230	250
	<i># of people provided with sanitation facilities maintained by the target population</i>	22, 888	41,500

Priority actions:

- The effect of TC Freddy had a major impact on safe water supply, the priority for the Emergency Appeal was to ensure that most of the water points affected be repaired or rehabilitated, this will enable communities to have safe water supplies.

WASH “Return Home” Package

- As part of the return package, MRCS has provided “return home” packages, including two buckets of water with lids, one with a tap, and bars of soap for bathing and laundry, some communities have also been provided with aqua tablets, which will be used in treating their water, hygiene messages will also be shared to people on usage, these have been done alongside distribution exercise that has been happening.


Long-term intervention is done under WASH.

The following activities have been done under WASH, and these have reduced the spread of waterborne diseases in the district affected:

- Water point assessments: with support from Norwegian RC WSR ERU, MRCS conducted an assessment for water points in 5 districts, this aimed to assess the water points in order to establish the type of work to be done, a total of 164 boreholes were assessed of which 86 have been mapped for rehabilitation.
- MRCS also supported the assessment of the gravity-fed system in Phalombe, where 3 schemes were assessed. With the funds available, the Appeal project will support the rehabilitation of one scheme in Phalombe, hence the decision to support Phalombe minor which targets 380 taps.
- A total of 78 boreholes have been rehabilitated, this has enabled a total of 20,253 households with 101,265 people including 8,970 under-five children to access safe water supply in communities, this is with the support of Norwegian RC WSR ERU.
- 11 of the 78 boreholes whose aprons were in bad condition, or some were poorly constructed given their location of flood-prone areas, included rehabilitation of surface works making new aprons and the project to do 4 more in Mulanje and Blantyre is underway.
- Sanitation Assessment in schools: MRCS with support from Norwegian RC WSR ERU supported sanitation assessment in Schools around Mulanje district, this is aimed at assessing WASH facilities in terms of quantity, quality, convenience, and usage. The

assessment exercise has identified 2 schools that need to be supported with latrines and desludging and maintenance of pit latrines in priority schools to be done to reduce the risk of health hazards and injuries posed by human excreta and structural defects on some pit latrines in schools.

- Hygiene promotion sessions, with support from the IFRC, the MRCS conducted an orientation of volunteers on hygiene promotion targeting a total of 230 volunteers in Chikwawa, Blantyre and Nsanje, volunteers were equipped with practical skills to promote hygiene. The volunteers managed to reach to 21,321 HHs (96,941 people) with hygiene promotion messages through the community meetings and gatherings, door to door and also visitation in the respective camps. Partners supporting this included Belgian RC and IFRC.

	Protection, Gender, and Inclusion	Female > 18: 34,844	Female < 18: 24,214
		Male > 18: 31,776	Male < 18: 24,966

Objective: *Communities identify the needs of the most at risk and particularly disadvantaged and marginalized groups, due to inequality, discrimination and other non-respect of their human rights and address their distinct needs*

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	# of people reached with PGI and prevention and response to SGBV awareness messages	115,300	133,333
	Number of camp management committee members/volunteers trained on SGBV, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support, Psychological First Aid, Child Protection and Safeguarding	233	TBD based on # of camps
	# of SGBV survivors referred for services	7	Need-based.

Priority actions:

Immediate and long-term resilience


- MRCS is committed to strengthening PGI across all humanitarian actions through specific skills in this area developed over numerous operations. It is committed to the Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action; this has been taken into consideration when distributions were in progress.

General PGI activities done.

- Orientation of volunteers on PGI, MRCS has trained 223 volunteers in the districts that the appeal is supporting, the training was aimed at building their capacity in PGI and CEA, and more people have been reached as the volunteers have further reached more people through a multiplier effect. Partners supporting this included Belgian RC and IFRC.
- MRCS has ensured that all staff and volunteers are briefed on the Code of Conduct and on the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA). It will ensure that all National Societies, IFRC, PNS staff and volunteers involved sign the Code of Conduct.
- Reports on the sexual and reproductive health issues which were reported in camps were forwarded to volunteers. A total of 7 cases were reported. The programme also noted that

most men were unable to report the cases in fear of being viewed as cowards. More awareness and sensitisations need to be done in camps and to the entire affected communities. At Phweremwe Camp in Phalombe, UN Women provided with flood lights to make sure that the place is secure.

- Information-education-communication (IEC) materials with key referral pathways for SGBV and SEA have been developed and distributed to all staff and volunteers and posters will be displayed in camps and in district buildings, in line with Protection Cluster guidance.

	Community Engagement and Accountability	Female > 18: 34,844	Female < 18: 24,214
		Male > 18: 31,776	Male < 18: 24,966


Objective: *Communities in high-risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disaster*

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>% of staff and volunteers working on the operation who have been trained in community engagement and accountability</i>	90%	90%
	<i>Percentage of feedback received through the feedback mechanism that was responded to</i>	100%	100%
	<i>% of operational decisions made based on community feedback</i>	65%	75%
	<i>% of community members who feel their opinion is considered during planning and decision-making.</i>	85%	75%

Priority actions:

- MRCS has a system in place to ensure accountability to beneficiaries that recognize community ownership and the right to know about and have a voice in actions that affect them. Accountability has proven to increase program impact and CEA builds trust and acceptance, which in turn improves the quality of programming and the safety of frontline staff. CEA strengthens local structures that allow for greater community resilience and sustainability, and MRCS will implement a feedback mechanism in affected districts giving them a platform to set the agenda.
- MRCS will share clear information about response activities, selection criteria, and distribution processes with communities through community meetings and door-to-door activities, giving them the opportunity to participate in the response through meetings, surveys and assessments.
- Community members in the target districts have increased their ownership through mainstreaming of CEA.
- Vulnerability has been used as one of the key indicators in identifying people to be supported, this has enabled more women to be registered as compared to men.
- MRCS has made a deliberate more to ensure that women are supported first as compared to men, a deliberate effort has been made to ensure that women, as well as vulnerable groups, are saved first as compared to men, payroll has been made in such a way that vulnerable groups are saved first over the other groups.


- Communities are also aware of and have access to a variety of channels to provide feedback, which is then actively used to inform the planning of further activities and monitor perceptions, always taking CEA into account.
- MRCS will collect, analyse and act on feedback, and will align with the Inter-Agency Community Feedback Mechanism.
- Community leaders and camp committees have been engaged during planning meetings as they have been key in engaging with a wider community, including vulnerable groups.
- In camp settings, communities have been consulted about their needs and kept informed of available services, including referral pathways. They will also be kept informed of risks, preventive measures and responses through Risk Communication and Community Engagement activities.
- Teams in the response will share clear information about any delays, exit strategies, changes, selection criteria and distribution processes with communities through community meetings and door-to-door activities.
- On crosscutting issues, MRCS took advantage of the Build Back Better training in incorporating CEA aspects in it, this has assisted in spreading the message on CEA.
- On sensitive feedback, district task forces (grievance redress committee and social mobilization committee) have been engaged in addressing complaints for closure.
- A total of 5 PDM exercises have been done, this has assisted in assessing the level of satisfaction with the response.

	Risk Reduction, climate adaptation and Recovery	Female > 18: 156,855	Female < 18: 109,001
		Male > 18: 143,041	Male < 18: 112,390
Objective:	<i>Communities in high-risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disaster</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i># of people reached through DRR and Climate Change Adaptation activities</i>	521,287	133,333
	<i># of community members trained (first aid, response, etc.)</i>	230	2,673
	<i># of community early warning systems established</i>	4	42
Priority actions:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed assessments which were conducted in all the catchment areas. Results from the PDNA have enabled the organization to know the extent of damage as well as the type of interventions to be implemented in the affected districts, the assessment exercise reached out to 28,046 HHs. 			
Anticipatory actions done:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of life-saving support (camp based) - distribution of food and basic NFIs to the affected population. • Search and rescue services - prepositioning of boats, provision of lifejackets, deployment of search and rescue teams (staff and volunteers), provision of search and rescue services. • Communities strengthen their preparedness for timely and effective response to disasters with training for local disaster management committees, including early action by 			

supporting Branch volunteers and communities to conduct readiness and prepositioning activities indicated in the Early Action protocol, including search and rescue boats, early notification and evacuation support; staff and volunteer training in DRM, early warning and climate change; development, review and support of DRM Plans.


- Early warning teams through the anticipatory actions were greatly implemented during the emergency phase. No new early warning systems were established but were revamped especially where MRCS was actively working in ECHO funded projects in Thyolo, Blantyre, Nsanje and Chikwawa.
- Volunteers and Early Warnings Teams (VCPCs) supported largely in search and rescue operations, and this is in line with MRCS mandate as a Co lead of Search and Rescue Cluster.
- Green solutions will be promoted through environmentally sustainable action where feasible, conducting tree planting and reforestation in consultation with communities.
- Support preparation for the flood season, including updating contingency plans and emergency simulations and prepositioning of stocks; these activities will continue throughout the season.

ENABLING APPROACHES

	National Society Strengthening		
Objective:	<i>Communities in high-risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disaster</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>% of staff trained on Protection of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)</i>	100%	100%
	<i>National Societies have assessed their capacity at HQ and branch level and have identified areas for improvement</i>	1	1
	<i>External National Society Development support has reached the National Society and is aligned with NSD Compact principles</i>	Yes	Yes
	<i># of volunteers with health, accident, and life insurance</i>	100%	100%
<p>Priority actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Society Development: Currently the Movement is supporting the development of a new Strategic Plan and has developed a comprehensive National Society Development (NSD) Framework outlining key priorities for MRCS, which will be supported through this Emergency Appeal. Further the Appeal has supported in the development of the Shelter guidelines, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Framework. Volunteers and staff were also oriented on Restoring Family Links especially in times of disasters. • National Society preparedness and response capacity: NSD will be embedded in coordination and operations support; Branch Development will be supported through training and assessments. Actions will help MRCS to develop response plans; capacity building for volunteers and communities on DRR including early warning systems; capacity 			

development on CVA, Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST, PSS and SGBV prevention, including PSEA; strengthen capacity on preparedness, response, and recovery in strategically located branches, for volunteers and youth.


- **National Society auxiliary role:** MRCS is an auxiliary to the government, this means adding value to coordination at the national and district levels with MOH, DODMA, Ministry of Water and Sanitation MOWS and Ministry of Local Government, alongside UNICEF, WHO, MSF and other international organizations. It is part of national disaster management mechanisms and sits on the National Disaster Preparedness and Relief Committee (NDPRC), which is comprised of principal secretaries of all line ministries and departments. It is also co-chair of the Search & Rescue and the Shelter clusters as well as being a key member of the Incident Management Team, Health Cluster and WASH Cluster.

	Coordination and Partnerships		
Objective:	<i>Communities in high-risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disaster</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i># of external partnership supporting the NS in the response</i>	6	6
	<i># regular coordination mechanism is in place ensuring alignment and coordination with all Movement partners</i>	6	6
Priority actions:			
<i>Membership Coordination</i>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination through a Federation-wide approach including reporting, management and technical services. • Strengthen coordination and partnerships within the Movement and with relevant external actors, including Membership Coordination, engagement with government, engagement with other stakeholders and with the community. • MRCS is currently receiving support from IFRC, Danish Red Cross plus, Swiss Red Cross, Qatar Red Crescent, and Belgian Red Cross. In-country are IFRC, Danish Red Cross and Swiss Red Cross. • Currently MRCS, IFRC and partners have agreed on the geographic areas to support within a coordination framework. In line with this framework, the IFRC surge technically supports all districts where MRCS is responding since they will contribute to one MRCS response. • Development of the Unified plan, budget, and reporting tool. 			
<i>Engagement with external partners</i>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In its role as auxiliary to government, MRCS will strengthen and add value to coordination at the national and district levels with MOH, DODMA, MOWS and Ministry of Local Government, and with UNICEF, WHO, MSF, and other international organizations. • Activities will further facilitate engagement and coordination with PNSs in the design of the response, leveraging expertise and resources available through the Red Pillar approach and ensuring alignment with external actors, including government policies and programs; development actors and UN agencies; and NGOs. • MRCS is a member of the National Emergency Operations Centre chaired by DODMA. 			

- MRCS is a Co-lead of two clusters Shelter and Search & Rescue an

Movement Cooperation

- MRCS, partners and IFRC coordinate with the ICRC regional office.
- ICRC has supported MRCS with a one-off donation of PPEs for case management staff.

	Secretariat Services		
Objective:	<i>Communities in high-risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disaster</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i># of global and regional surge</i>	7	7
Priority actions:			
The operation has been supported by delegates under surge capacity with specific sector expertise and these have been very instrumental in giving technical advice on how the operation should be run on the ground. Furthermore, the IFRC has been supporting the society with guidelines on major procurement and services such as agreements with financial service providers for cash. The logistics and procurement officer from the Harare cluster was able to come to Malawi to orient drivers and key staff on the fleet and procurement issues.			

D. FUNDING

The table below summarizes funding received to date under the emergency appeal, funds received through the secretariat and those from bilateral partners.

Funding against the Federation Wide ask of CHF 6m is CHF 4.9m (82%).

No.	Partner	Amount (CHF)	
		CHF	CHF
1	IFRC – DREF outstanding loan	1,000,000.00	
2	Norwegian RC	497,976.00	
3	American Red Cross	384,051.00	
4	The OPEC Fund for Development	271,806.00	
5	ECHO	195,312.00	
6	Canadian Red Cross	167,554.00	
7	Luxembourg Government	123,534.00	
8	Czech Government	44,122.00	
9	Japanese Red Cross	35,021.00	
10	Monaco Red Cross	9,217.00	
	Multilateral Sub Total		2,728,593.00
	Bilateral to Malawi Red Cross		
1	Goodwill Ambassador Bakili Muluzi	466,210.58	

2	Danish Red Cross	335,422.21	
3	Qatari Red Crescent	246,126.31	
4	Belgian Red Cross	192,355.79	
5	Other Local Donors in Malawi	130,713.25	
6	Swiss Red Cross	110,091.36	
7	National Bank	104,570.60	
8	Red Cross Society of China	90,024.30	
9	First Capital bank	88,908.10	
10	Standard Bank	78,427.95	
11	CDH Investment bank	53,344.90	
12	Old Mutual	53,344.90	
13	IOM	50,257.50	
14	Goodwill Ambassador Joyce Banda	45,139.64	
15	DTB Bank	45,038.98	
16	Airtel	43,571.08	
17	Football Association of Malawi-FAM/NBS	20,042.70	
18	Select financial services	17,781.60	
19	World star betting	8,934.32	
	Bilateral to Malawi Red Cross: Sub Total		2,180,306.07
		Total	4,908,899.07

Contact information.

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Reference documents

Click here for:

- [Emergency Appeal](#)
- [Operational Strategy](#)
- [Operations Update 1](#)

How we work:

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief, the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable, to Principles of Humanitarian Action and IFRC policies and procedures. 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.