Malawi

The 2014/2015 rainy season has resulted in the worst floods since 1964, with a state of disaster being declared across 15 districts. An estimated 230,000 people, of whom about 54 per cent are children, were forced to seek temporary refuge in internally displaced person (IDP) sites. An estimated 107,000 people, of whom 28,237 are children under 5, still reside at the sites in Chikwawa and Nsanje districts as of May 2015. A cholera outbreak, with 693 registered cases, including 11 deaths, has compounded the impacts of the floods and displacement. While cholera cases appear to be on the decline, preparedness measures need to be strengthened in about two-thirds of Malawi’s districts, given that cholera is endemic in the country and the new cholera season will start in November. Furthermore, for the first time in more than five years, the country has registered an agricultural production deficit, with maize production expected to drop by an estimated 30 per cent compared with last year, leaving the country with a deficit of 223,273 metric tonnes. This factor, coupled with predicted shortages of other staples, such as rice, sorghum and millet, is likely to result in food insecurity for an estimated 2.8 million people, of whom an estimated 538,310 are children under 5, through to the end of 2015.

Humanitarian strategy (July to Dec 2015)
In the second half of 2015, UNICEF and partners will focus on supporting the food insecure population, as determined by the Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC), prioritizing 13 of the 28 districts, based on the criteria that at least 21 per cent of the population is food insecure. Support will be sustained for Outpatient Therapeutic Programmes (OTPs) and Nutrition Rehabilitation Units (NRUs), where treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) cases will take place.

Recovery interventions will remain a priority both for the returnees and the residual IDP population who have not yet been resettled. Part of UNICEF’s strategy will be to increase capacity of a network of partners through UNICEF’s co-leadership of the education, water and sanitation (WASH), nutrition and protection sector working groups with the Government. UNICEF will continue to support flood preparedness efforts for the next rainy season and to put in place standby agreements with NGOs operating in the highly disaster-prone areas.

By interlinking development and humanitarian programming, UNICEF will expand its social protection programmes to the most vulnerable and labour constrained households, to support them in accessing their basic needs.

Results to date (1 January to 30 June 2015)
During the first half of 2015, UNICEF focused its response on the humanitarian needs of 400,000 people displaced by floods and affected by cholera. To date an estimated 13,055 children affected by SAM have been enrolled and treated in OTPs and NRUs. UNICEF support also enabled 166,298 disaster-affected women of child-bearing age to receive key health education messages. A total of 168,325 people affected by floods and cholera gained access to safe water in camps, cholera treatment centres and communities. In addition, 911,847 emergency-affected people benefited from hygiene and sanitation promotion messages. UNICEF facilitated the provision of psychosocial support services (PSS) in flood-affected districts enabling 26,454 children to benefit from the services through community-based child care centres and children’s corners. As of the end of June 2015, 193,923 children have benefited from school supplies (school-in-a-box and recreation kits), temporary school structures (tents) and volunteer teachers having been trained for psychosocial support.

Total affected population: 2,833,212
Total affected children (under 18): 1,529,935
Total people to be reached in 2015: 1,790,000
Total children to be reached in 2015: 350,000

Revised 2015 Programme Targets

WASH
• 235,000 disaster-affected people and host community members provided with safe water
• 235,000 emergency-affected persons benefiting from hygiene and sanitation promotion messages

Education
• 105,000 disaster-affected school children benefit from school temporary structures and supplies (school-in-a-box and recreation kits)

Child Protection
• 50,000 children and caregivers benefit from psychosocial support
• Prevention and response plans to address major child protection risks established in 15 districts

HIV and AIDS
• 100,000 children, young people and women have access to HIV and AIDS prevention, care and treatment during crisis

Nutrition
• 26,400 children ages 6-59 months with SAM enrolled in OTP and NRU programmes
• Recovery rate from acute malnutrition for 26,400 targeted children is over 75 per cent

Health
• 72,000 children access routine immunization services
• 320,000 women of child-bearing age receive key health education messages

Social Protection
• 350,000 children in most vulnerable and labour constrained households accessing basic needs in most drought affected districts
• 120,000 most vulnerable and labour constrained households reached with emergency preparedness, health, hygiene and nutrition messages in most drought affected districts
2015 PROGRAMME TARGETS AND RESULTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appeal Sector</th>
<th>Original 2015 HAC Requirement (US$)</th>
<th>Revised 2015 HAC Requirement (US$)</th>
<th>Funds Received Against 2015 HAC (US$)</th>
<th>Funding gap (US$ %)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
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<td>Sub-Total</td>
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<td>Total funding available**</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* The carry-forward figure is the unutilized budget balance that was carried forward from the prior year to the current year, available as of 1 January 2015. ** Total funding available includes total funds received against current appeal plus carry-forward.

Funding requirements

UNICEF Malawi has increased its HAC funding requirements from its original HAC appeal of US$10.5 million to US$14.4 million. The increased funding requirement of US$3.92 million is critical for addressing the needs of the food insecure population in Malawi, which is estimated to be approximately 2.8 million people through to the end of 2015.

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