HIGHLIGHTS

- The people that will not be able to meet their food requirements in the current consumption year (April 2015 to March 2016) will be much higher than the previous year. This is as a result of reduction in production of maize, the main staple food, which has been reduced by around 30%. The situation is also compounded by an estimated shortage of the production of several other staples such as rice, sorghum and millet in several districts.

- Displaced persons are reported to be still in official displacement camps in Nsanje and Chikwawa districts due to factors that include lack of basic services and land not allocated for resettlement.

- As of 21 June 2015 a total of 693 cholera cases and 11 deaths were reported from eight affected districts of Nsanje, Chikwawa, Ntcheu, Mwanza, Phalombe, Blantyre, Dedza and Lilongwe. During the week of 15-21 June 2015, no cholera case was reported in all districts. The current cholera outbreak started/ was confirmed in Nsanje on 11th February 2015.

- UNICEF Malawi appealed for US$ 9,291,292 to support the response to the January floods for an initial three months. A total of US$ 3,622,340 has been received against the appeal.

UNICEF’s Response with partners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>UNICEF Target</th>
<th>Cumulative results (#)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>Children 6-59 months with SAM enrolled in OTP and NRU programmes</td>
<td>23,085</td>
<td>23,055</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Affected school children benefiting from school supplies</td>
<td>105,000</td>
<td>93,923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>Affected population reached with safe water to through chlorination</td>
<td>125,000</td>
<td>168,325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Protection</td>
<td>Children provided with psychosocial support</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>26,454</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

- The Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) met on 3rd July to discuss the results of the Annual Food Security Assessment. The results are yet to be officially released but there are indications that the number of people that will not be able to meet their food requirements in the current consumption year (April 2015 to March 2016) will be much higher than the previous year. This is as a result of reduction in production of maize, the main staple food, which has been reduced by around 30%. The situation is also compounded by an estimated shortage of the production of several other staples such as rice, sorghum and millet in several districts. Major shocks that have been experienced this year include the floods, delayed onset of the rains, dry spells, late delivery of cotton seed and pesticides, birds that destroyed caused substantial damage especially in the lower shire and early cessation of the rains. Results from a market assessment that the committee also conducted to inform the type of interventions (cash versus food) are expected during the week of 6 July to 12 July.

- Displaced persons are reported to be still in official displacement camps in Nsanje and Chikwawa districts due to factors that include lack of basic services and land not allocated for resettlement.

- During the week of 15 - 21 June 2015, no cholera case was reported in all districts with Nsanje reporting no new cases for a period of more than one month, Chikwawa 2 weeks and Blantyre only one week. As of 21 June 2015, a total of 693 cholera cases and 11 deaths (CFR 1.6%) had been reported from eight affected districts of Nsanje, Chikwawa, Ntcheu, Mwanza, Phalombe, Blantyre, Dedza and Lilongwe. The current cholera outbreak started/ was confirmed in Nsanje on 11th February 2015.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

- A Protection Cluster lessons learned exercise has been undertaken and the results have been submitted to the Department of Disaster Management Affairs.

- Education cluster mobilized one of its key partner, Marys’ Meals, which has completed reroofing of the previously blown off school block at Monjo Junior Primary school in Chikwawa District with only 2 UNICEF tents used as classrooms in Chikwawa district enabling 405 (185 girls and 220 boys) access safe learning environment.

- National WASH Cluster Meetings were held on 15th June and 2nd July 2015. Issues discussed include decommissioning guidelines, early recovery planning, lessons learned among the WASH Cluster and WASH planning for drought.

- The National Nutrition Cluster met on 25th June 2015 and completed the lessons learned matrix for the 2015 flood emergency response. The matrix was duly submitted to the Department of Disaster and Management Affairs in preparation for a national workshop which is expected to take place within the month of July.

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS

WASH and COMMUNICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

- Cumulatively, during the recovery phase, UNICEF through its partners has reached at least 565,736 people in camps, schools and communities in affected districts with hygiene promotion. This has been possible with support from the following partners:
  - UNICEF’s partner Population Services International (PSI) has reached 391,478 people with hygiene promotion messages on cholera prevention and water treatment in communities and camps in Nsanje, Chikwawa and communities in Blantyre through hygiene promotion sessions.
  - Six awareness campaigns were conducted with support from Concern Universal in communities surrounding the camps in Phalombe thereby reaching 3,580 people. During campaigns, Concern Universal engaged traditional dances and drama groups using the Theater for Development Approach.
CRS has reached a cumulative number of 7,125 people with hygiene and promotion messages on cholera.

In Blantyre, through EXP Momentum, UNICEF has reached an additional 26,320 people with cholera prevention messages through mobilisation through road shows. During these roadshows, EXP also distributed 173 t-shirts, 65 caps and 358 tablets of soap.

In Phalombe UNICEF partner Face to Face has cumulatively reached 1,805 people with messages on cholera prevention. These activities were done in close collaboration with the District Environmental Health Office (DEHO).

GOAL Malawi in collaboration with the DEHO has reached 20,206 people in Nsanje and Chikwawa with messages on cholera prevention during the recovery period.

Malawi Red Cross has cumulatively reached 89,301 households with messages on cholera prevention and management through 397 trained community volunteers and 30 Health Surveillance Assistants from catchment areas of 12 health facilities in Blantyre, Chikwawa and Nsanje.

UNICEF through its partner Pakachere has reached a total of 25,921 people in IDP camps in Phalombe and Zomba with messages on HIV prevention, hygiene, cholera and nutrition through participatory drama, community video shows and social dialogues.

- This brings the total number of people reached with hygiene promotion messages on water treatment, cholera and other diarrhea disease prevention from the onset of the emergency to a cumulative total of 911,847.

- UNICEF through Catholic Relief Services/CADECOM and Concern Universal has completed the decommissioning of WASH facilities in 39 camps in Phalombe and 5 camps in Zomba.
  - In Zomba, 28 bath shelters and 16 urinals have been decommissioned while 36 semi-permanent drops have been handed over to schools in response to their signed letters of request.
  - In Phalombe, 132 bath shelters, 132 urinals and 52 drop holes have been decommissioned while 108 semi-permanent drops have been handed over to schools in response to their signed letters of request.

- A total of 170 against a set target of 120 family latrines were constructed with support from CADECOM in five townships of Blantyre City namely Bwangwe, Chirimba, Chilobwe, Mpingwe, and Zingwangwa. UNICEF supplied 25 shovels, 25 hammers and 600 pieces of timber to these communities to help in the construction of family latrines.

- UNICEF supplied 14 water tanks to Blantyre District Health Office, out of which five were installed at three health centres namely Ndirande, Limbe and Zingwangwa. The rest (nine tanks) are being installed in communities which have great challenges in accessing water from the Blantyre Water Board.

- In addition, UNICEF donated 115 boxes of water guard to Blantyre DHO for water purification at community level. A total of 33,665 households have been provided with safe water through chlorination using HTH 1% stock solution.

Nutrition

- To date, a cumulative total of 13,055 (6,339 males and 6,716 females) under-five children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) have been admitted in OTP and NRUs supported by UNICEF. Over 93% and 81% of children discharged from Outpatient Therapeutic Programme (OTP) and Nutrition Rehabilitation Units (NRUs) were cured respectively. Overall, all the outcome indicators in Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) is consistent with SPHERE standards of >75% recovery rate except for NRU death rates cumulatively at 12.9% which is above the recommended SPHERE of <10% mortality rate.

- UNICEF has developed a holistic joint action plan to further strengthening the efficiency and capacity of NRU staff and health facilities to mitigate high Case Fatality Rates (CFR) at NRUs.

- UNICEF also supported distribution of life saving supplies of 6,752 cartoons of Ready-to-use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) to treat severely malnourished children in CMAM program (NRUs and OTPs) in all the 29 districts.
Furthermore, UNICEF provided technical support through on-job training of health workers running Nutrition Rehabilitation Units (NRU) in both government and mission facilities to further understanding of basic management of severely acute malnourished children in eight districts of Lilongwe, Blantyre, Zomba, Phalombe, Mangochi, Thyolo, Machinga, and Mulanje.

Data collection, analysis and report writing of SMART survey for Nutrition is underway. Data collection is expected to be completed by 15th July 2015 and the five survey reports by end of July 2015.

Health and HIV

The health cluster continues to work closely with the other clusters including the WASH, HIV/AIDS, and Nutrition and shelter clusters focusing on early detection of unusual increase in incidence of diseases and sustaining vital curative and preventive services. Some of the activities carried out so far by UNICEF and other implementing partners include the following:

With support from UNICEF, Population Services International (PSI) and Malawi Red Cross have conducted health promotion activities on diarrhea prevention and treatment, malaria prevention and early care seeking practice, proper hygiene and sanitation, water treatment, hand washing with soap in critical times, immunization, nutrition and HIV prevention. The sessions were conducted using various communication methods including mass road shows, video shows, community mobilization with public address system and door to door sensitization. With this intervention access to health information for women and children has been increased to 166,298 in camps and villages in the affected districts with Phalombe reaching 26,510 people in addition to 139,788 reported earlier for Chikwawa, Nsanje and Blantyre.

Integrated Measles immunization was conducted in five flood affected districts; namely; Phalombe, Nsanje, Chikwawa, Zomba and Mangochi from 11th to 13th May 2015. Financial support was provided by UNICEF and WHO. UNICEF supported allowances for volunteers during the campaign. Out of 436,257 children between 9–59 months of age targeted for measles 453,202 (>100%) children were vaccinated. Out of 383,424 children between 6–59 months targeted for Vitamin A supplementation 359,116 (94%) were reached. All interventions met the intended target at district level except for Nsanje district which experienced 85% coverage for Vitamin A supplementation.

Child Health Days were conducted in Blantyre, Mulanje, Thyolo Districts during the month of June for a period of one week. The activities included community awareness on the importance of breast feeding, immunization, proper hygiene and sanitation, proper hand washing practice and drinking safe water. Provision of measles vaccination, Vitamin A supplementation and mebendazole administration for deworming to the targeted children. UNICEF supported this event with funds for fuel, stationery and publicity.

UNICEF & WHO with other partners continue to provide support to District Health Offices to carry out mobile clinics in eight flood affected districts. UNICEF continues to provide fuel to the affected districts when in need to enable them to carry out supportive supervision to mobile clinics. In addition, UNICEF field staff continue to carry out supervisory visits to the affected districts and liaising with other partners and the District Health Offices to resolve identified bottlenecks. The mobile clinics are being carried out to sustain the provision of basic health services which were disrupted in the affected districts. Also strengthening curative services is ongoing through the provision of lifesaving commodities (Lumefantrine- Artemether for malaria, co-trimoxazole for pneumonia, Oral Rehydration Salts, and Zinc sulphate for diarrhea) and other supplies.

In the month of May 2015, all the Nutrition Rehabilitation Units (NRUs) nationwide continued to provide HIV testing to children with unknown HIV status at time of admission. 75% (307 out of 408) of the children admitted were tested for HIV and a total of 42 (16 were HIV exposed while 36 were HIV infected) children were HIV infected and were referred to HIV Care clinic. HIV testing uptake in Supplementary feeding (SFP) and Outpatient therapeutic Feeding Program (OTP) were 38% and 61% respectively. SFP report low HIV Testing Counselling (HTC) uptake due to shortage of HIV Testing Counsellors.

Child Protection

A solid review shows that 41 unaccompanied and separated children (22 boys and 19 girls) were identified in Nsanje and Chikwawa districts during the emergency and early recovery phase through
UNICEF’s partnership with Save the Children. In total, 61 unaccompanied and separated children have been identified. 39 separated children (10 boys and 19 girls) and one unaccompanied boy have been reunified with their parents. One infant boy has been placed in alternative care due to lack of family based care alternatives. 19 separated children (9 boys and 10 girls) who have reportedly lost one or both parents during the floods, are in family based care. Through collaboration between the District Social Welfare Office and Malawi Interfaith Aids Association supported by UNICEF, all 19 children have been interviewed, and 6 children have been provided with case plans.

- Three UNICEF emergency tents are being used as makeshift Community Based Child Care Centers (CBCC’s) in Mulanje district reaching 1,730 children (963 girls and 767 boys).
- From March to June, an average of 2,244 women and 736 children were registered with Community Victim Support Units in 6 Traditional Authorities (TA’S) in Mulanje district.
- During a large scale awareness raising campaign on child protection in Nsanje and Chikwawa displacement camps and surrounding communities, aiming to minimize abuse, violence and exploitation, 10,565 girls, 8,644 boys, 53,600 women and 30,400 men benefitted through UNICEF’s partnership with Save the Children. Also 1,520 members from the four key camp child protection structures (child protection committees, CBCC caregivers, Children’s Corners (CC) counsellors and Community Police forums and Group village heads), have benefitted from orientation on child protection in emergencies during the emergency and early recovery phase through UNICEF’s partnership with Save the Children.
- Through UNICEF’s partnership with Malawi Red Cross, training of up to 1,260 CBCC caregivers on hygiene promotion activities targeting children aged 3-5 years, and distribution of WASH supplies to up to 420 CBCC’s, in the cholera affected districts of Blantyre, Nsanje and Chikwawa, has been initiated.
- UNICEF Child Protection has entered a partnership with Action Aid on recovery activities in TA Mbenje in Nsanje district ensuring child protection in the resettlement of internally displaced persons. The overall goal is to strengthen child protection systems through reconstruction of two flood prone CBCC’s, psychosocial support and technical support to civil village protection committees, community based organisations, CBCC management committees and referral pathways and mechanisms.

Education

- Through UNICEF support, Ministry of Youth and Sports Development (MOYSD) in collaboration with Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MOEST) conducted training for sports officers from MOYSD, desk officers from District Education Managers’ Offices in emergency affected districts and sports officers from Education Division Offices in Blantyre from 22 to 27 June 2015 to ensure that quality learning and the right to play is not disrupted in schools affected by the floods. At the end of the training, the 50 participants are expected to support sports for development activities in schools affected by the floods. The officers will specifically provide technical support for psychosocial support to the affected learners in schools through the sports for development program; train school teachers on sports and recreation in an emergency ensuring the fulfillment of the right to play; activate the use of safe spaces in the schools, rehabilitation of simple multi-purpose school grounds; ensure optimal utility of the sports in box for both curricular and extra-curricular activities and facilitate zonal sports bonanza and festivals for schools.
- The 168 volunteer teachers deployed to 150 schools in 9 out of 15 flood affected districts together with school children and WASH partners have devised and improvised hand washing facilities to enhance hygiene practices among the pupils. Learners have been oriented on the use of hand washing facilities as well as washing hands with soap. Some volunteer teachers are also engaging local community members in sensitizing them on the proper handling of water and food while others have conducted open days in their respective schools in order to pass on the messages to learners and surrounding communities. During the open days, learners organized various activities such as, poems, drama and songs depicting cholera messages. Other volunteer teachers are constructing rubbish pits in order to make the school surrounding clean. In addition, volunteer teachers are encouraging students to clean their toilets and properly use them. To effectively implement these activities, the volunteer teachers have
devised duty rosters for students to observe and remind them about their roles including proper disposal of excreta.

- With UNICEF support, Development from People to People (DAPP), conducted training for 240 head teachers, deputy head teachers and district education officials from 6 districts (Chikwawa, Nsanje, Mulanje, Phalombe, Zomba and Machinga) focusing on effective management of emergency response including child rights, psychosocial support and care.

- UNICEF partner, World Vision, has started mobilizing logistical support from Malawi Defense Forces in collaboration with Ministry of Education Science and Technology and Ministry of Youth and Sports Development for the distribution of education school in a box kits, recreation kits and tents to 221 Education cluster target schools and 114 child friendly schools; and recreation kits to district sports offices for non-child friendly and non-emergency schools as part of flood recovery activities.

**Funding**

UNICEF Malawi appealed for US$ 9,291,292 to support the response to the January floods for an initial three months. A total of US$ 3,622,340 has been received against the appeal leaving a funding gap of US$ 5,668,952 for the response.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appeal Sector</th>
<th>UNICEF Requirements</th>
<th>Funds received against current UNICEF appeal</th>
<th>UNICEF Funding gap</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
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<td>61%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Next SitRep:** 5 August 2015

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