



Assistant Environmental Health Officer, Koche Cluster, goes around villages to raise awareness about the cholera outbreak and prevention in communities. | UNICEF Malawi 2023

MALAWI CHOLERA FLASH Update 02

9 January 2023 (updates of 2 to 8 January 2023)

Situation in Numbers (Cumulative)

- 18 million people at risk of contracting cholera including 9.18 million children
- 704 Deaths
- 21,024 Cases
- 5,887 Children Cases
- 3.35% Case Fatality Rate
- 29 Districts Affected

Highlights

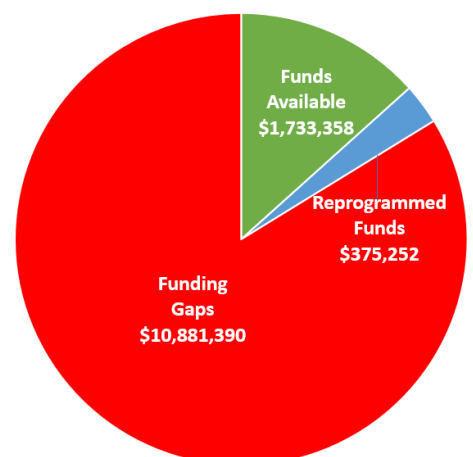
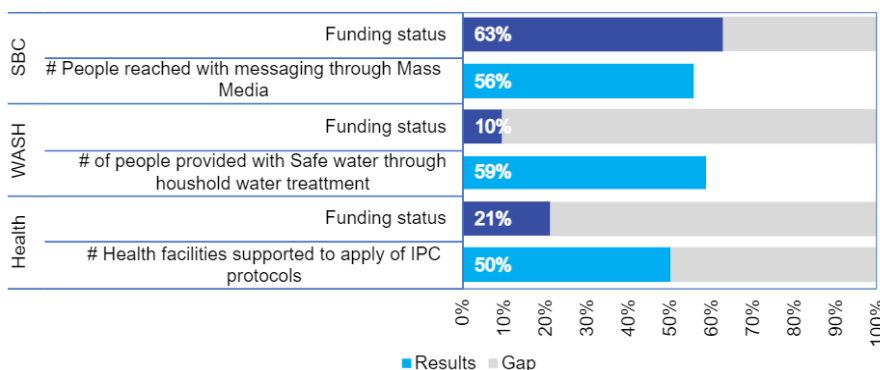
- As of 8 January 2023, there were 21,024 cases and 704 deaths with newly registered 3,200 cases and 15 deaths in one week.
- 7,361 children’s cases are reported (35% of the total cases) with 109 deaths (15% of the total death)
- The case fatality rate stands at 3.35 per cent, above the acceptable threshold of 1 per cent.
- The funding situation remained the same, with an 84% funding gap.
- UNICEF and its implementing partners distributed essential supplies for infection prevention and control, adequate for 58,000 people, at cholera treatment units and in affected communities.

Funding Overview and Partnerships

The funding status remains the same, as reflected in last week's update. UNICEF requires **US\$ 13 million** to sustain lifesaving services for women and children in Malawi. To date, UNICEF has **US\$ 2,108,610 (16%)** available for the response as per details below.

- European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operation (ECHO): US\$ 538,031
- Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF): US\$ 695,327
- UNICEF Global Humanitarian Response Fund (GHTRF): US\$ 500,000
- UNICEF regular programme resources: US\$ 375,252 to bridge the funding gap.

Summary of UNICEF Results and Funding



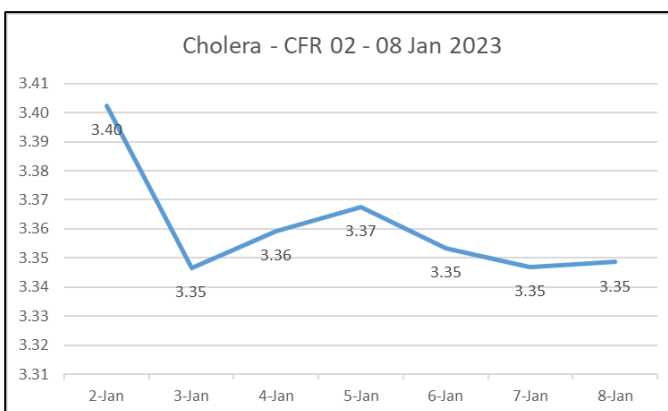
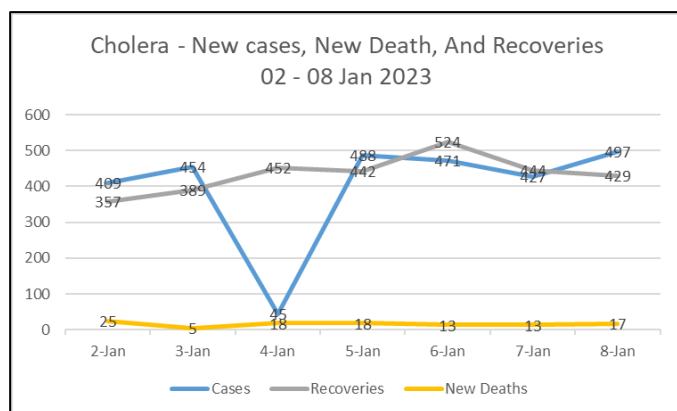
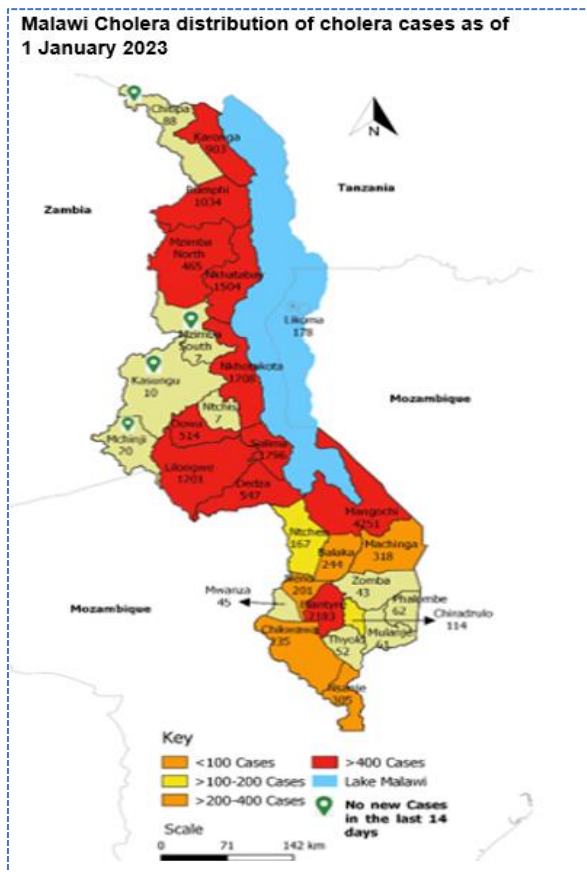
Due to the quickly deteriorating cholera situation across the country and figures escalating significantly, the Malawi CO required an Emergency Programme Fund loan (EPF) to bridge the funding needs for the response, while in anticipation for other resources to be mobilized. UNICEF has also allocated flexible Global Humanitarian Thematic Funding (GHTF) to support the response.

UNICEF still has a funding gap of **84%**, with an urgent need for funding towards adequate water supply, sanitation, and health services, and access to essential services and psychosocial support for children. In terms of resource mobilization, Malawi country office is trying active fund raising along with USD 1.9 million from BHA and USD 450K from Latter Day Saints as pipeline so far.

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

As of 8 January 2023, a total of 21,024 new cases of cholera and 704¹ deaths have been registered in Malawi. This week's trends indicate that the number of new cases and deaths have remained consistent on average, around 400 and 15, respectively. The weekly incremental change at 6.6 per cent compared to the previous week is far lower than up to 50 - 79 per cent in previous weeks.

The case fatality rate stands at 3.35 per cent, way above the acceptable threshold of 1 per cent. According to the Situation report circulated by Ministry of Health², the deaths are primarily due to late reporting to the cholera treatment units (CTUs). However, many succumb to their illness due to a lack of adequate clinical management at facilities, inadequate case management skills and overall insufficiencies in the quality of care at cholera treatment units.



¹ Ministry of Health's press statement on Cholera update as of 8th January 2023.

² Ministry of Health's press statement on Cholera update as of 9th January 2023.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

WASH

To ensure that the households have safe water availability, UNICEF provided infection prevention and control supplies, including 30 drums (50 kg each) of chlorine for water treatment, 400 bottles of water testing chemicals, 2,700 tablets of soap and 1,800 buckets for 172 health facilities that are managing cholera cases, cholera treatment units, and communities during the reported week. This was done by providing chlorine both for point-of-use and point-of-source water treatment and promoting sanitation and hygiene. Through this support, 58,000 people have been reached in Mangochi, Nkhatabay, Nkhotakota, Nsanje, Chikwawa and Blantyre. Cumulatively, 589,000 people have been reached with safe water and infection prevention and control supplies in 29 districts. In addition, four cholera treatment units (CTU) have been supported with mobile latrines. Cumulatively 172 CTUs were provided with latrines, water supplies and IPC supplies.

Social and Behaviour Change (SBC), Accountability to Affected Population (AAP), Localization

In the reporting period, individuals, and families from Nsanje, Chikwawa, Karonga, Nkhatabay, Salima, Mwanza and Blantyre districts were reached with key lifesaving cholera preventive messages using door-to-door counselling and community dialogue on cholera preventive measures through cinema and mobile van announcements.

A total of 17,250 (6,332 male and 10,918 female) people were reached through household visits by 440 radio listeners club members, community dialogue and question and answer sessions, including demonstration of pot-pot chlorination.

60 religious leaders were sensitized and engaged in cholera preventive actions in the Blantyre district. Since the start of the cholera response, a total of 500 people, including 440 radio listening club members, have been engaged in cholera prevention actions in their communities and cumulatively 558,358 people reached in 7 districts so far.

Health

UNICEF provided over 5,000 sachets of oral rehydration salt, zinc, and 2,000 cholera test kits distributed in 29 districts based on the Ministry of Health distribution plan. UNICEF has received a request from the Ministry of Health for additional support, especially in infection prevention and control and diagnostics and safety in the laboratories. For this, UNICEF is procuring supplies, including rapid cholera diagnostic kits, different sizes of gloves, and disposable gowns.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

Malawi's Presidential Taskforce on Coronavirus and Cholera has appealed to the public, private companies, and organisations for support in the fight against cholera. Donations requested include medical supplies, chlorine, support for schools to improve water and sanitation facilities, oral rehydration salts (ORS), and funds. National-level clusters continue to meet regularly to coordinate the response efforts. In addition, national and district-level emergency operation centres (EOCs) are active under the Ministry of Health's leadership. It brings together the various sectors and provides a forum for cross-sectoral collaboration. As cluster co-lead agency for four of the clusters, UNICEF continues to work with the respective government-led agencies to bring together the cluster members to ensure effective coordination in the response.

During the reporting week, the education cluster held a meeting to review cholera control measures in schools and organise teams to thoroughly assess the water and sanitation needs in schools in the two cities and support them to take immediate actions to ensure the availability of water and sanitation facilities before reopening the schools. This was done in response to the Presidential Task Force's decision to delay schools opening in Blantyre and Lilongwe.

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Annex A

Summary of Programme Results (Target as of December 2022, subject to revision by the end January 2023)

UNICEF and IPs Response			
Sector	2023 target	Total results	Change since last update * ▲ ▼
Health			
# Health facilities that received UNICEF support to maintain essential health services through the provision of Cholera kits	200	19	No change
# Healthcare workers oriented on infection prevention and control, WASHFIT	600	0	No change
# People reached with medical supplies	5,000	2,694	No change
# People vaccinated with OCV	185,000	170,318	No change
# Health facilities supported to apply IPC protocols through joint assessment, periodic monitoring; job site training and mentoring	197	100	▲ 1
SBC			
# People who participate in engagement actions	3,000	500	▲ 500
# People reached with messaging on prevention and access to services through Mass Media	1,000,000	558,358	▲ 262,250
# People reached with messaging on prevention and access to services through 2-way dialogue approaches	600 000	21,795*	▲ 17,250
# People sharing their concerns and asking questions/clarifications for available support services to address their needs through established feedback mechanisms	10,000	6,298	▲ 6,298
WASH			
# People accessing temporary safe water through household water treatment	1,000,000	589,000	▲ 58,000
# Cholera treatment centres supported to apply IPC protocols through rehabilitated and disinfected of water sources and or temporary plastic mobile latrines and hand-washing facilities	1,500	172	▲ 4
Education			
# Schools supported to implement safe school protocols (IPC) through the provision of soap and buckets	400	50	No change
# Schools reached with hygiene awareness campaigns in schools and surrounding communities	400	0	No change
# Schools provided with hygiene-related IEC materials and messages for schools	400	0	No change
# Teachers trained on infection prevention, cholera response and management at the school level	800	0	No change
Nutrition			
# Children aged 6-59 months with SAM who are admitted for treatment and recover"	18,000	0	No change
# Children 6-59 months screened for malnutrition	125,000	0	No change
# Primary caregivers of children aged 0-23 months who received IYCF counselling	35,700	0	No change
Child protection			
# f officers trained in MHPSS	840	0	No change

# UNICEF-targeted girls and boys assessed for case management	3,000	0	No change
# Children in CCs reached with messaging on cholera prevention and social, and behavioural change interventions	10,000	0	No change

*The number reached as at last report has been adjusted downwards to address double counting

Annex B

Funding Status (in USD)

Funding Requirements as Per the UNICEF Country Response Plan cholera 2022					
Appeal Sector	Requirements	Funds available		Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received	Other resources used	US\$	%
Health	\$ 2,230,000	\$ 4973,277		\$ 1,736,723	78%
WASH	\$ 6,850,000	\$ 653,750		\$ 6,196,250	90%
Nutrition	\$ 1,600,000	\$ -		\$ 1,600,000	100%
Education	\$ 660,000	\$ -		\$ 660,000	100%
SBC	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 586,331	\$ 375,252	\$ 238,417	20%
Child Protection	\$ 450,000	\$ -		\$ 450,000	100%
Total	\$ 12,990,000	\$ 1,733,358	\$ 375,252	\$ 10,881,390	84%