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Emergency appeal

Malawi: Food Security

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Revised Emergency Appeal n° MDRMW008 GLIDE n° OT-2012-000156-MW1 5 July 2013

This revised Emergency Appeal now seeks CHF 621,786 in cash, kind, or services to support the Malawi Red Cross to assist 9,000 beneficiaries (1,800 families) for an additional three months, and will be completed by the end of 30 September, 2013. A Final Report will be made available by 30 December 2013 (three months after the end of the operation).

Appeal target (current): CHF 621,786 [<click here to view the attached Revised Emergency Appeal Budget>](#)

Appeal coverage: 61% (against the original budget) and 100% (against this revised budget); [<click here to go directly to the updated donor response report, or here to link to contact details >](#)



MRCS Volunteers verifying names of beneficiaries before receiving food items. Photo: MRCS

Appeal history:

- This Emergency Appeal was launched on 17 October 2012 for CHF 1,025,311 for nine months to assist 3,500 households (17,500 beneficiaries).
- Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF): CHF 100,000 was initially allocated from the IFRC's DREF to start up the operation.
- [Operations update n°1](#) was issued on 31 October 2012.
- [Operations Update n°2](#) was issued on 27 November 2012.
- A [6-month summary update](#) was issued on 6 June 2013.
- This revised emergency appeal is extending the operation timeframe by 3 months and will thus be completed by end of September 2013. The budget and the budget and plan of action have been revised to the level of funding available.
- The formal revision to this appeal has been delayed due to a reassessment of the situation in the target areas and also due to other operational commitments of the MRCS.

Summary: This Emergency Appeal has enabled the Malawi Red Cross Society (MRCS) to respond to the food security needs of 9,000 affected people to mitigate their vulnerable situation resulting from failed crops. Some 24 MRCS volunteers and staff were trained in SPHERE's minimum standards in food security to carry out the programme activities, including vulnerability assessments, food distribution, community mobilization, and monitoring and reporting. Additionally, 20 volunteers have been trained in community-based first aid and are now engaged in providing community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) services as well as health promotion campaigns, education and sensitization activities in targeted communities. To date, 3,500 people have been reached through these health and hygiene awareness raising campaigns.

The operation faced a delay in the implementation of the remaining activities. A number of factors led to this, including challenges in carrying out cash programming and funding transfer requests, rapid inflation of the Malawi Kwacha, lower funding than originally anticipated coupled with changing needs in the context of the food insecurity. The time extension will enable MRCS to properly implement key activities

planned, including distributing seeds and fertilizers to a targeted 1,800 vulnerable households. The extension will also enable MRCS build the capacity of targeted communities in disaster risk reduction through facilitating community contingency planning and data collection, vulnerability and capacity assessment, and strengthening early warning systems. In addition, IFRC-led NDRT training is planned for MRCS volunteers. Monitoring activities will also be ongoing.

The IFRC, on behalf of Malawi Red Cross Society, would like to extend thanks to all partners for their generous contributions. Contributions have been received from the American Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross and the Canadian Government, Danish Red Cross and the Danish Government, the Japanese Red Cross Society, Red Cross of Monaco, Netherlands Red Cross and the Netherlands Government and the Swedish Red Cross.

The situation

In October 2012, the National Food Security Forecast report by the Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) estimated that 1.9 million people would be affected by the critical food deficit, with below normal food production in some districts and an economic crisis that would increase the cost of food nationwide. In addition, most of the districts in the southern region of Malawi experienced low agricultural yields as a result of unfavourable weather conditions. The MVAC assessment also showed that out of the projected population to face food deficit, 56 percent came from Chikhwawa and Nsanjie Districts (275,653 and 105,012 respectively), which represent 19 percent of the total food insecure population in the country.

As indicated in the Food Security Outlook Report (FEWSNET), the national food security situation will continue to improve as household's access food from their own production in May and June, 2013. The Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) is currently processing data from assessments that will be used in producing the 2013 National Food Security Forecast, which is used for humanitarian programming. This report is expected in early July and is going to be useful in indicating the likely food security outcomes and the start of the lean period. It is likely that the food security situation for some poor households will deteriorate between July and September – a few months prior to the start of the lean period in December. This is due to low crop yields because of mid-season dry spells.

Malawi received good rains according to a report published in April by the Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services (DoCCMS). The rainy season has ended and the annual cumulative rainfall performance across the country was good, with localized deficits recorded in parts of Balaka district in the southern region, Salima district in the central region, and Mzimba district in the northern region. Based on the second round crop estimates, these moisture deficits resulted in reduced production in both Salima and Mzimba districts when compared to last year's levels, however Balaka district's production forecast is good.

In April, maize grain was available in local markets, but at very high prices. According to the Agriculture Market Information System (AMIS), the national average retail price in April 2013 was 154 percent higher than the average price in April 2012. In monitored markets in the south, maize price averages were 111 percent higher than average prices in April 2012. The Agriculture Marketing and Development Corporation (ADMARC) continued to purchase maize in southern Malawi markets at around MWK80/kg, while selling the same grain in its markets in the southern and central districts at MWK60/kg.

According to DoCCMS, widespread dry conditions have been experienced in all the regions of the country and have facilitated drying and harvesting of crops in some areas. At the national level, this has resulted in significant improvement in household food security situation as a result of increased food from own production. The national food security situation continues to improve as households had access to their own production from the harvests in May and June. Due to the harvests, minimal or no acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 1) has been seen in May / June. The food security situation will likely begin to deteriorate in the July to September period, as some poor households that experienced low crop yields due to dry spells begin to deplete their household food stocks and run out of cash from crop sales. It is expected that from July to September, poor households will be Stressed (IPC Phase 2) (FEWSNET). MRCS, with the support of IFRC, will continue to monitor the situation and should it worsen, then the operation will consider how best to assist these vulnerable communities.

The Emergency Appeal operation was launched in October 2012 to support the emergency needs of 3,500 households (17,500 beneficiaries) in the Chikhwawa and Nsanje Districts. MRCS was to provide (1) food and non-food items (NFIs) to vulnerable households as well as (2) provide health support through trainings, promotions and IEC materials in CBHFA, health, and hygiene. In addition, food security, nutrition and livelihoods were to be supported through (3) distribution of relief supplies, fertilizer and tools, (4) installation of irrigation systems as well as (5) trainings in irrigation and farming techniques, irrigation systems, and food processing, nutrition and preservation. Finally, disaster risk reduction and capacity building was to be addressed through (6) the development of contingency plans and community based early warning systems, and (7) trainings in disaster risk reduction, Household Economic Survey Techniques, Vulnerability Capacity Assessments and climate change adaption techniques.

Due to a 61 percent coverage of the appeal, the activities and based on emerging needs, these activities have been refocused to best support the existing needs of the population at the current time and not all planned activities have or will be implemented. MRCS will monitor the food security situation however, to see how the situation stands in three months' time and how best they can assist those made vulnerable.

Coordination and partnerships

In Malawi, the Government leads the overall coordination of disaster response through its Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA) under the Ministry of Local Government. The MRCS takes part in the coordination meetings held at the DoDMA Technical Group, as part of monitoring and information sharing at national level to ensure effective support for government-led coordination mechanisms.

The Humanitarian Country Team is the coordination platform for partner institutions (UN agencies, NGOs and Red Cross Movement), focusing on common strategic and policy issues related to humanitarian action in country. These agencies have been working through the cluster approach, with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as Chair.

MRCS has convened meetings at national, district and community level to inform stakeholders of the Emergency Appeal and how it would be implemented. At the national level Malawi Red Cross informed the DoDMA, UNDP and WFP about the appeal. The activities in this appeal were closely coordinated with the relief food distributions carried out by the government of Malawi in the affected districts, to avoid duplication and ensure a good coverage of relief distributions.

At the district level, MRCS convened monthly meetings for Civil Protection Committees (CPC) and key NGOs engaged in food distributions and disaster risk reduction activities. The meetings helped to reach consensus for target areas for the Appeal and establish cooperation around community mobilization and identification of beneficiaries. Key organizations included World Vision and Catholic Development Commission in Malawi (CADECOM) in Chikhwawa and GOAL Malawi and Action Aid in Nsanje. The initial consultative meetings in Nsanje and Chikhwawa were conducted in December 2012 and January 2013, however MRCS continues to participate in monthly CPC meetings at district level. WFP also conducted stakeholder meetings in March and late May on how the government relief food distribution programme is rolled out as well as discussions on the food distribution guidelines. MRCS attended both meetings.

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Subsequent meetings have been conducted under the District Civil Protection Committee which meets every month and whenever the need arises. These meetings have been organised by other agencies such as CADECOM, Evangelical Association of Malawi and World Vision in Chikhwawa while in Nsanje such meetings have been organised by Action Aid - Malawi, Goal Malawi, and Christian Aid to discuss emergency response activities. WFP has also organised meetings in both districts to look at a phase out strategy for government sponsored relief food distributions. Malawi Red Cross staff and Branch Executive members representatives in both districts have been involved in these meeting. At national level DoDMA has convened meetings through WFP, to enable all stakeholders to review the emergency food

distributions. The Department also organised a workshop in June 2013 for stakeholders in emergency response to review the guidelines, "Manual Provision of General Food Distribution during Emergencies in Malawi".

MRCS, as part of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, receives on-going support from several partner National Societies (PNS) including those in-country (the Danish, Finnish, and Icelandic Red Cross Societies) and others with on-going development programmes in country including the Belgium, Netherlands and Swedish Red Cross Societies, in implementing the integrated community-based disaster risk reduction and complementary programmes. A resident PNS coordination meeting is held the first Friday of each month to update PNS on MRCS emerging issues and resource needs. The Director of Programmes also coordinates with other PNS programming, through liaising with desk officers in country, circulation of monthly programme meeting updates, as well as through PNS country visits. This has contributed to equipping MRCS to better respond to vulnerabilities related to health problems in the communities, food insecurity and disaster response.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overview

What's been done: To date, MRCS branches in two districts (Chikhwawa and Nsanje) have received SPHERE training and two distributions of food have been completed, reaching 1,800 vulnerable households.

Regarding the health needs, MRCS volunteers have assisted in the government chlorine distribution. They have also been trained in CBHFA and provided general first aid to communities. MRCS has completed 15 informal health promotion campaigns, as well as 12 social mobilizations campaigns for routine vaccinations, reaching 480 households.

A food and livelihood security assessment was conducted in November 2012, which assisted in prioritizing outstanding activities. Finally, a Household Economic Survey (HES) training was completed as a disaster risk reduction and capacity building activity.

Planned activities: The activities planned to be implemented for the remaining three months of the Appeal are focused largely on the distribution of livelihoods materials (seeds and fertilizer), as well as DRR and capacity building activities, which include a combined training in VCA and the development of contingency plans and early warning systems (EWS) at the community level, as well as an NDRT training provided by the IFRC. On-going M&E will also be done until the end of the Appeal.

During an operation review meeting conducted in March 2013, with stakeholders including representatives from Health, Agriculture, Water, District Council and the Branch, it became very clear that investing in Disaster Risk Reduction through recovery activities would be more meaningful than purely relief provision. Based on that argument it was agreed that helping farmers to produce their own food would be ideal. Bearing in mind that the Lower Shire livelihood zone is in the rain shadow, the meeting supported the promotion of agricultural production through irrigation (winter cropping). This Appeal proposed a number of areas which would achieve this, however, due to reduced funding (61percent coverage) it was necessary to prioritize and scale down the activities.

Distributions of relief supplies (seeds and fertilizers) have been prioritized to ensure that the most vulnerable households are food secure for the future season. In addition, it capitalizes on the capacity of MRCS in distribution in the communities. Disaster Risk Reduction activities were also prioritized to ensure the communities are better prepared to predict, respond and recover from future disasters by ensuring the communities have contingency plans and early warning systems set in place, as well as are trained in Vulnerability Capacity Assessment guidelines and tools. The development of contingency plans also is in line with current government efforts in other districts.

The information below outlines the activities that MRCS has carried out to date from the planned Appeal, those activities that they have not been able to deliver or that are no longer operationally relevant and the activities that are still planned to be delivered in the remaining timeframe and with the remaining funds.

The proposed operation

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Outcome: 1,800 worst affected households in Nsanje and Chikhwawa are provided with emergency food assistance for a period of six months until harvest time, with on-going evaluation to determine if further assistance is required.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1,800 households (9,000 people) have their nutritional needs provided through the distribution of appropriate food items. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct detailed emergency needs and capacity assessments in Nsanje, Chikhwawa, Machinga, Zomba, Phalombe and start up relief operation in Nsanje and Chikhwawa. SPHERE training conducted (relevant to the operational strategy). Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance. Support food distribution (13.5kg maize meal, 1.8kg pulses, 0.9kg vegetable oil 0.45kg salt per person per month) for six months in Nsanje and Chikhwawa for 1,800 targeted households. Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions and assess the need for further relief assistance.

Progress: Refer to the [6-month summary update](#) issued on 6 June 2013.

Planned activities:

Emergency Needs and Capacity Assessment: MRCS conducted an analysis of the October 2012 MVAC report to determine emergency needs in Nsanje, Chikhwawa, Machinga, Zomba and Phalombe. MRCS identified that the biggest caseload of food insecure vulnerable persons came from Nsanje and Chikhwawa, as it revealed that of the 1,972,993 people projected to face food deficit, 275,653 came from Chikhwawa and 105,012 came from Nsanje. These figures of food insecure individuals in Chikhwawa and Nsanje represented 56percent of the total population in the two districts as well as 19.3percent of the total food insecure individuals in the country. MRCS also supported the district councils to undertake assessments in Chikhwawa and Nsanje in the month of February 2013.

Sphere Training: Sphere training was conducted in January 2013 prior to relief food item deliveries and distributions. 24 participants including 10 members from Nsanje branch and 10 members from Chikhwawa branch were mobilised and trained for two and a half days. The training focused on food security including (a) minimum standards in relief food distributions (b) how volunteers can identify shortfalls and address grievances and (c) food distribution procedures and implementation of operation.

Selection Criteria: In December 2012, a meeting was convened in both Chikhwawa and Nsanje with Red Cross Branch Executive members to outline the MRCS beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system. It was agreed to review the government strategy for registration of beneficiaries. The objective of the meetings was to agree on beneficiary identification and registration systems. Taking into account the government strategy as well as selection criteria/process from each participating NGO, everyone agreed on the following criteria: a) chronically ill persons; b) persons with disabilities; c) child headed households; d) female headed households; and the ultra-poor. After this, MRCS convened meetings with the District Civil Protection Committees and key NGOs (including CADECOM, World Vision International, GOAL Malawi and Action Aid Malawi) and engaged in food distributions and disaster risk reduction activities in Chikhwawa and Nsanje districts in January 2013.

Selection/Registration: The beneficiary selection and identification process was initiated in January 2013 for the purpose of relief food distributions - the process was prolonged to the month of February, due to some irregularities in registered beneficiaries, hence the verification was completed mid-February. The district officials from the District Council were briefed on the MRCS's capacity to provide food items for 5,000 individuals (1,000 households) in Chikhwawa and 4,000 individuals (800 households) in Nsanje. As the Government was also doing food distribution (through WFP), the RC beneficiaries were to be those not targeted by the government and rations were to be based on individuals. The MRCS held community

meetings for Traditional Authority (TA) Katunga and TA Ngabu in Chikhwawa as well as for TA Mlolo and TA Ndamera in Nsanje. The meetings were supported by the District Councils, with the purpose of informing the TAs on how beneficiaries would be selected. With various consultations with district officials and TAs, the MRCS set the following criteria: families of greater than five persons would receive two individual food rations; families of less than five would receive one individual food ration.

Meetings were held at the village level. Village Headman, through the TAs, would allocate individuals (the final identification was done at Village Headman level). Chikhwawa District did not accept the set criteria and registered 5,000 separate households (where each household regardless of size would receive one individual food ration). Nsanje, which is split into two District Authorities (DA), respected the criteria. One TA registered 1,700 households (for 2,500 individuals) and the other DA registered 900 households (for 1,500 individuals), that received two individual food rations based on the above criteria. Beneficiary registration was completed in January. Hand-written lists from each village were entered electronically into a database that was used by the MRCS Branch to compile the final registration and ration cards. The same lists were sent to the District Disaster Officers in the two districts.

Verification: The tentative list of 9,000 registered individuals was distributed to the Group Village Headmen. Verification was initiated and done by the MRCS soon after registration in January and also in early March in Chikhwawa. MRCS volunteers visited and verified the identified individuals as well as collected beneficiary information using a standardized register.

Distribution: The first distribution of food took place in February, and the second distribution was later in March and April. Agriculture Development and Marketing Corporation (ADMARC) facilities were used as temporary storage and distribution points, as they were available in all areas where the relief operation would be executed and other NGOs and the Government were using the same. The original plan of four distributions was reduced to two based on an analysis in January on food prices against the budget and taking currency fluctuations into account. During distributions the local leaders were informed of the distribution date so that they could in turn inform their registered households, so that they could come and collect their rations. The MRCS Branch carried out the distribution, with local leaders supporting it through their presence and assistance in sorting out grievances. The District Authorities were also informed about the distributions and supported when available. During the reporting period the operation has supported two separate food distributions for the targeted 9,000 beneficiaries in the two districts. For each distribution a beneficiary received 13.5kg maize meal, 1.8kg beans, 0.9L vegetable oil and 0.45kg salt.

The Government of Malawi, through WFP and other NGOs, has also been supporting vulnerable households with food relief. Christian Aid Relief and Development (CARD) distributed items in volumes of 50kg maize, 5kg beans and 0.9l vegetable oil per month for four months to support 1,256 beneficiaries in the TA of Tengani. An additional 200 beneficiaries in the Kalupsa community received 50kg bags of maize per month for two months. WFP through GOAL Malawi supported 19,003 beneficiaries across Nsanje district with 50kg maize, 10kg pulses, 1.8l vegetable oil and 5kg corn soya blend per month for five months. The information from the other actors in Chikhwawa was not available for this report.

Please note that the food distribution was not done with WFP, however information on the distribution and target beneficiaries was shared with WFP and the Government of Malawi.

Monitoring and evaluation: Post food distribution monitoring will be completed in conjunction with the on-going monitoring and evaluation of food security activities.

All activities are now complete and there are no further activities are planned in the remaining timeframe, with the exception of post-distribution monitoring. MRCS, with the support of IFRC, will however continue to monitor the situation, in close collaboration with other stakeholders.

Emergency health and care

Outcome: The risk of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases is reduced among affected communities through the provision of preventive measures at community-level and curative services to 3,500 households (17,500 beneficiaries) in Nsanje and Chikhwawa districts.

Outputs (expected results)

Activities planned

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased knowledge of common disease and epidemic preventive measures in affected target communities through community health education. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed needs assessment of the current needs in affected areas Division Volunteer teams deployed to support District Health Office operations and multi-sector assessments. Refresher training of 100 volunteers and 10 government staff using the CBHFA and Epidemic Control Vector (EVC) curriculum for 5 days. Mobilize and recruit 100 volunteers at community level for the prevention of common diseases and epidemic.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health status of affected communities is improved through health and hygiene promotion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess the existing coverage and quality of an adequate water supply Conduct training/information programmes for Red Cross volunteers and beneficiaries, hygiene promotion and the safe use of Water Treatment Products (e.g. chlorination tablets). Provide chlorination tablets for 3,500 families for three months. Provide jerry cans for 3,500 families. Purchase of 15 first aid kits. Provide general community-based first aid and refer to the health facilities. Conduct 45 health promotion campaigns, and education and sensitization activities to 3,500 households. Carry out CBHFA activities in the targeted communities, according to the priorities of the communities. Conduct social mobilization for routine vaccination and ways of preventing malaria. Printing and distribution of IEC materials on hygiene promotion, sanitation and disease prevention.

Implemented and planned activities:

Distribution of chlorination tablets: The MRCS chlorine tablets were never purchased nor distributed. Chlorine was contributed by the Government in February and MRCS volunteers worked with government frontline staff to distribute to neighbouring communities, however MRCS beneficiaries did not benefit from this. No remaining activities are planned.

Community Based First Aid and Training: On 10 January, 20 volunteers were trained in CBHFA. After the training, the volunteers have been involved in provision of general community-based first aid in the communities. No remaining activities are planned.

Health Promotion Campaigns: Trained First Aid volunteers conducted 15 informal health promotion campaigns, and education and sensitization activities in TA in Mlolo and Ndamera, in Nsanje. These activities were outside the planned Emergency Appeal, as supporting the MoH Health Surveillance Assistants is an on-going activity, however as it complimented the planned Emergency Appeal activity, it has been mentioned here. This included door to door visits and campaigns during pre-planned gatherings (i.e. funerals) and was done with support from the District Health Surveillance Assistants (HSAs). The health promotion campaigns targeted all the 3,500 households; however an estimated 1,200 households were reached. Formal campaigns were planned for later in the operation (after the food distributions), but were never completed. No remaining activities are planned.

Vaccine and Malaria Social Mobilization: MRCS conducted 12 social mobilizations for routine vaccination and disseminated ways of preventing malaria in cooperation with the HSAs. Like the health promotion campaigns, these activities were outside the planned EA, however, again they complimented the planned EA activities and are therefore mentioned here. To date, 480 household have been reached from these MoH mobilizations, out of the planned 3,500. Formal campaigns were planned for later in the operations (after the food distributions), but were never completed. No remaining activities are planned.

Activities removed from logframe (not to be implemented).

Output 1: Increased knowledge of common disease and epidemic preventive measures in affected target communities through community health education.

- Detailed needs assessment of the current needs in affected areas.
- Division volunteer teams deployed to support District Health Office operations and multi-sector assessments.
- Refresher training of 100 volunteers and 10 government staff using the CBHFA and Epidemic Control Vector (EVC) curriculum for five days.
- Mobilize and recruit 100 volunteers at community level for the prevention of common diseases and epidemic.

Output 2: Health status of affected communities is improved through health and hygiene promotion.

- Assess the existing coverage and quality of an adequate water supply
- Conduct training/information programmes for Red Cross volunteers and beneficiaries, hygiene promotion and the safe use of Water Treatment Products (e.g. chlorination tablets)
- Provide jerry cans for 3,500 families
- Purchase of 15 first aid kits.
- Carry out CBHFA activities in the targeted communities, according to the priorities of the communities.
- Printing and distribution of IEC materials on hygiene promotion, sanitation and disease prevention.

Food Security, Nutrition and Livelihoods	
Outcome: 1,800 households (9,000 beneficiaries) able to reinforce their livelihoods and restore their food security in the target areas	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,800 affected households receive target support to extend and diversify their livelihoods and build their food security for future seasons. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1. Conduct detailed needs and capacity assessments. • Train volunteers and beneficiaries in irrigation and farming techniques for sustainable crop diversification. • Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance. • Distribute relief supplies including seeds (maize, beans, drought tolerant root crops such as cassava and sweet potatoes) and control supply. Movements from point of dispatch to end user. • Distribute fertilizers and tools • Procure and install irrigation system – treadle and solar and wind technologies. • Establish and train water user groups to maintain irrigation systems • Training of trainers on food processing, nutrition and preservation. Facilitate the development/adaptation or reproduction of IEC materials on nutrition promotion. Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions • Develop an exit strategy.

Implemented and planned activities:

Needs and Capacity Assessments: Activity completed.

Beneficiary targeting and registration system: To be implemented within the next four weeks after receiving the funds.

Seeds Distribution: Each of the 1,800 household will receive 2.5 kg maize; 1kg beans; 20 kg bundles of cassava and 20 kg bundles of sweet potatoes.

Fertiliser Distribution: Each of the 1,800 household will receive 10kg of basal dressing fertilizer and 10kg of top dressing fertilizer. NOTE: Tools will no longer be distributed.

Monitoring and evaluation: Activities on progress; on-going monitoring and evaluation will continue until the end of the operation.

Activities removed from logframe (not to be implemented)

- Train volunteers and beneficiaries in irrigation and farming techniques for sustainable crop diversification
- Procure and install irrigation system – treadle and solar and wind technologies
- Establish and train water user groups to maintain irrigation systems
- Training of trainers on food processing, nutrition and preservation
- Facilitate the development/adaptation or reproduction of IEC materials on nutrition promotion.
- Develop an exit strategy.

Disaster Risk Reduction and Capacity Building

Outcome: Increased household resilience to cyclical shocks.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food insecure communities are better prepared to predict, respond to and recover from drought and flood induced emergencies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct capacity building trainings for 2 districts volunteers in community based disaster risk reduction. • Staff, volunteers and government counterparts are trained in Household Economic Survey techniques. • Train 20 members of the Civil Protection Committee staff and 20 volunteers on use of Vulnerability Capacity Assessment (VCA) guidelines and tools. • Development of contingency plans and community based early warning systems particularly around early warning alerts for food security. • Determine priority areas for prepositioned stocks • Train staff and local leaders on climate change adaptation techniques. • NDRT Training for 20 MRCS Staff and other stakeholders (New activity added in at revision stage)

Implemented and planned activities:

Household Economic Survey (HES) Training: An in-country HES workshop was conducted from 29 October to 2 November. The assessment workshop was facilitated by a Household Economic Security Specialist supported by the British Red Cross, and had 6 participants. The training was attended by the Disaster Manager and Assistant, PMER Manager, District Project Officer from Mwanza, one Red Cross Branch member from Chikhwawa and one Red Cross Branch Member from Nsanje. The curriculum included the collection of primary and secondary information, field visits and observations. The methodology included direct interviews with key informants (local authorities, lead gardeners and care facilitators) and communities (focus groups of males and females). Food sources, income sources and expenditure of each wealth group (poor, middle and better off) were explored and the impacts of each hazard on the food and income sources across the wealth groups. Activity completed.

Vulnerability Capacity Assessment (VCA) Training: This activity will be implemented in August 2013 in conjunction with the development of contingency plans and EWS. The training will target 20 individuals comprised of Civil Protection Committee members and MRCS Branch Volunteers. The training will be for two days, with an additional three days allocated for data collection. The data collected will feed into contingency planning process at community level.

Contingency Plans and Early Warning System Development: This activity will be implemented in August 2013 in conjunction with the VCA training. With support from the District Disaster Officers, the operation will train Civil Protection Committees and MRCS Branch Volunteers. Contingency plans are and will be reviewed

every year and Goal Malawi has developed a district contingency plan and will share this with the MRCS. This activity plans to go down to Traditional Authority level to ensure each area can determine risk issues for their own response programming.

NDRT Training: This activity is provided by IFRC as part of the overall disaster preparedness and capacity building of the national society for future disaster response. A total of 20 MRCS staff and other stakeholders will be trained. The exact timing of the training is to be confirmed; however it will definitely take place before the end of the Emergency Appeal.

Activities removed from logframe (not to be implemented)

- Conduct capacity building trainings for 2 districts volunteers in community based disaster
- Risk reduction.
- Determine priority areas for prepositioned stocks (*see Logistics section*)
- Train staff and local leaders on climate change adaptation techniques.

Logistics	
Outcome: Relief operation is supported and delivers a range of relief items in line with the operational priorities in a cost effective and timely manner.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The operation has coordinated mobilization of relief items and efficient dispatch of goods to the final distribution points. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IFRC will provide logistical support through a delegate for three months to establish warehouse and build capacity of MRCS logistics unit. • IFRC logistics delegate to support the tendering and selection process for seeds and food purchases along with national society counterpart. • Establish the best sourcing strategy for relief materials so cost efficient and timely delivery of relief is ensured. • Support and ensure appropriate procurement procedures and standards are in place. • Control efficient supply movements to the end user. • Preposition stocks in strategic areas as appropriate and viable.

Implemented and planned activities:

IFRC tendering and selection support: IFRC will continue to provide logistical support when needed (i.e. by providing information regarding quality control of items to be sourced). Adequate suppliers and capacity exist in Malawi therefore procurement will be done locally. The process for identifying suppliers for relief items will continue, with an open tender process, the selection of successful bidders and signed contract agreements.

Material Sourcing Strategy: This will continue until the end of the operation.

Procurement Procedures and Standards: This will continue until the end of the operation.

Supply Movements: This will continue until the end of the operation.

Activities removed from logframe (not to be implemented)

- IFRC will provide logistical support through a delegate for three months to establish warehouse and build capacity of the MRCS logistical staff. Close cooperation has taken place between the two offices (Malawi and IFRC logistics). There was a plan to have a logistics delegate in Malawi for three months, however this will not take place.
- Prepositioning of stocks in strategic areas as appropriate and viable. (NB. MRCS does have prepositioned stocks in Blantyre and Lilongwe, but no additional stocks will be added from this Appeal due to limited funding)

Communications – Advocacy and Public information

This Emergency Appeal has been publicized locally to raise awareness with the public and media on the food security situation and the humanitarian response provided by MRCS. The MRCS Communications

Manager provided local print as well as electronic media articles describing what MRCS is doing to decrease the vulnerability of the affected populations.

SARO played a role by supporting a consultant who visited both Chikhwawa and Nsanje to write articles regarding the extent of the food security crisis and the vulnerabilities of the communities affected. The articles were then published on the IFRC webpage for larger distribution and appeals for funding support.

The Emergency Appeal also drew participants from the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Irrigation and Water Development, Disaster Management Affairs, and Red Cross volunteers, both in Chikhwawa and Nsanje, to review operational implementation and make recommendations based on lessons learned and potential opportunities. The forum recommended the need to focus on disaster risk management activities rather than relief, bearing in mind that both districts were prone to both drought and flooding. The need for the Red Cross to engage in building the resilience of the communities, for example through irrigation farming, reinforcing early warning systems, among other activities, was strongly advised. The operation should collaborate and coordinate with other players in the districts, such as Action Aid, GOAL Malawi, World Vision and Act Alliance, who are doing similar interventions.

Capacity of the National Society

Malawi Red Cross Society as part of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) works with several partner Red Cross Societies, including the Swedish, Netherlands, Danish, Finnish, Belgian and Icelandic Red Cross Societies, in implementing integrated community based disaster risk reduction and complimentary programmes. This has made MRCS better equipped to respond to community health, food security and disaster vulnerabilities.

MRCS has considerable experience in implementing DRR, health programmes, food security activities and disaster response in all parts of the country, through a network of volunteers and programme staff. The volunteers in the two districts targeted will assist in community mobilization, monitoring activities and data capturing for onward submission to the MRCS Disaster Management Manager and for reporting to partners and stakeholders. MRCS incorporates gender issues in all its programmes and this Emergency Appeal will also consider gender and diversity issues in all its decision-making processes. Gender and a specific selection criterion has been considered in the beneficiary selection (as indicated in the relief distribution section above). Capturing of specific data (i.e. gender & vulnerabilities) has faced its challenges with this operation; however there is opportunity for this to be addressed in the M&E activities planned for the remaining extension.

Capacity of the IFRC

In addition to managing the appeal grant, the IFRC has provided technical support to MRCS and has strengthened support in the areas of health, relief, food security & nutrition, livelihoods, logistics, communications, finance, M & E, and reporting and has also supported additional technical advice and training in relevant areas, such as Household Economic Security. This was supported by the British Red Cross, through the provision of a temporary adviser on Household Economic Security, who was sent to the region to support food security assessment, capacity building and to support the strategic direction of the regional food security response. In particular, the IFRC has provided operational management support and targeted logistical support from the Southern Africa Regional Office (SARO). A local PMER officer was also recruited.

Walter Cotte
Under Secretary General
Programme Services Division

Bekele Geleta
Secretary General

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **In Malawi:** Ethel Kaimila Secretary General; Phone: +265 999949 084; email: ethelkaimila@malawiredcross.org
- **IFRC Regional Representation:** Alexander Matheou Regional Representative for Southern Africa; Gaborone; phone: +267 3712700, mob: +267 71395340, fax: +267 3950090; email: alexander.matheou@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Africa Zone:** Daniel Bolaños, Disaster Management Coordinator for Africa; Nairobi; phone: +254 (0)731 067 489; email: daniel.bolanos@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Geneva:** Christine South, Operations Quality Assurance Senior Officer; phone: +41.22.730.45 29; email: christine.south@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Zone Logistics Unit (ZLU):** Rishi Ramrakha, Head of zone logistics unit; Tel: +254 733 888 022/ Fax +254 20 271 2777; email: rishi.ramrakha@ifrc.org

For Resource Mobilization and Pledges:

- **IFRC Africa Zone:** Loïc de Bastier, Resource Mobilization Coordinator for Africa; Addis Ababa; phone: +251-93-003 4013; fax: +251-11-557 0799; email: loic.debastier@ifrc.org

For Performance and Accountability (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting):

- **IFRC Africa Zone:** Robert Ondrusek, PMER/QA Delegate for Africa; Nairobi; phone: +254 731 067277; email: robert.ondrusek@ifrc.org

How we work

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

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

www.ifrc.org
Saving lives, changing minds.



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

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

EMERGENCY APPEAL-Malawi - Food Security

05/07/2013

APPEAL-MDRMW008	Malawi - Food Security	
Budget Group	Multilateral Response	Appeal Budget CHF
Food	271,815	271,815
Seeds & Plants	79,636	79,636
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	351,451	351,451
Computer & Telecom Equipment	2,310	2,310
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	2,310	2,310
Storage, Warehousing	3,000	3,000
Distribution & Monitoring	6,985	6,985
Transport & Vehicle Costs	12,727	12,727
Logistics Services	19,091	19,091
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	41,803	41,803
International Staff	17,503	17,503
Regionally Deployed Staff	10,000	10,000
National Staff	21,527	21,527
National Society Staff	10,939	10,939
Volunteers	5,909	5,909
Total PERSONNEL	65,878	65,878
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0	0
Workshops & Training	35,002	35,002
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	35,002	35,002
Travel	17,500	17,500
Information & Public Relations	8,500	8,500
Office Costs	45,106	45,106
Communications	5,557	5,557
Financial Charges	6,262	6,262
Other General Expenses	2,000	2,000
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	84,925	84,925
Total TRANSFER TO PARTNERS	0	0
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	40,416	40,416
Total INDIRECT COSTS	40,416	40,416
TOTAL BUDGET	621,786	621,786
Available Resources		
TOTAL AVAILABLE RESOURCES	0	0
NET EMERGENCY APPEAL NEEDS	621,786	621,786