

1. Situation Update

- On 28 March 2019, the Government of Malawi launched a three-month Flood Response Plan and Appeal, following heavy and persistent rain throughout March.
- 868,890 people are reported to be affected across 15 districts. Districts reported to be the most heavily impacted are: Chikwawa, Chiradzulu, Machinga, Nsanje, Phalombe, Zomba.
- The Logistics Sector, led by Ministry of Transport and Public Works (MOTPW) and the World Food Programme (WFP), will provide coordination and information management, as well as facilitating access to common services in support of the government-led response.
- A logistics coordination hub has been established in Blantyre, with a dedicated Logistics Sector Coordinator and Information Management Officer. Regular Logistics Sector coordination meetings chaired by the MOTPW and WFP will also take place in Lilongwe.
- On 30 March, the Logistics Sector facilitated transport and storage 63 mt/329.78 m³ of Critical Relief Items (CRIs) from UNHCR from Kamuzu International Airport.
- A Concept of Operations (CONOPS) is being finalised based on initial assessments and outlined partners requirements.

2. Access Constraints and Logistics Infrastructure

Air transport

- Road access continues to be a major challenge for the response. Reports indicate some areas across Phalombe and Nsanje may remain only accessible by air.
- Air transport for the flood response is being coordinated through the Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA).
- WFP is looking into providing access to air transport services as part of the Logistics Sector response however, the outcome is dependent on pipeline information received from partners.

Road transport

- The Logistics Sector, through WFP, is facilitating access from humanitarian partners to commercial trucks (30 mt) from Lilongwe and Blantyre for main access roads. 4x4 vehicles (5 mt) are also available from Blantyre to access areas with restricted road access.
- The road from Chiwawa to Muona is reported to be passable by 4x4, though challenging road conditions have been reported. Muona to Makhanga remains inaccessible by road.
- The road from Nsanje to Makabe Admarc (coordinates: -16.994175, 35.214233) is now open to all vehicles. The road south of this point remains only accessible to 4x4 vehicles.

- The road from Chikwawa to Mwanza is reported to be accessible by 4x4 (max 5 mt capacity). Three bridges have collapsed at the Phwadzi River, Kubalalika River and Mwanza River intersections, however water levels are low and the road is passable.

Water transport

- Makhanga, Chigwamafumu and Chikali in the Nsanje District are reported to be accessible by boat. However, once items arrive, limited road transport capacity to communities on the eastern side of the Shire River remains a challenge for the delivery of items.
- Mazongoza in Chikwawa district and Tchereni in Phalombe are reported to be only accessible by boat.
- Two boats are currently available to the humanitarian community:
 - One boat positioned in Chikwawa (0.6 mt/8 pax)
 - One boat positioned in Bangula (0.6 mt/8 pax)
- Additional boat rental options are also being looked into to be positioned in strategic locations.

Storage

- The following assets are available for storage for the humanitarian community:
 - Warehouse space is available in Lilongwe (12,000 mt/6800 m²) and Blantyre (34,000 mt/18,000 m²)
 - Mobile Storage Units (satellite hubs) are being established in the following locations:
 - TA Ngabu (Nsanje): 300 mt/156 m²
 - TA Makwhira (Chikwawa): 100 mt/52m²
 - TA Maseya (Chikwawa): 200 mt/104 m²

3. Other

- A dedicated [Logistics Sector webpage](#) has been published.
- A WhatsApp group and mailing list have been established. Please contact [Jemma Pietrus](#) to be added.
- Partners are reminded to share any situation updates related to logistics infrastructure and capacity as part of the Malawi flood response to ensure a coordinated logistics response.

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