Highlights

- In the month of November, fencing and concrete slab works have commenced at the HSA in Bangula.
- In November and December, improvements were made to the MSUs at Kamuzu International Airport and Chileka International Airport in order to facilitate the re-opening of the airports after closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Improvements included the floor paving and the installation of ventilation window panels.

Background

Malawi is a landlocked country in southern Africa. Across the country, rural populations are highly affected by climate change, with episodes of drought as well as severe flooding increasing in frequency, intensity and unpredictability.

In March 2019 the southern region of the country was exposed to heavy rainfall before, and following, category 3 Cyclone Idai, causing extensive damage to the country’s logistics infrastructure. The subsequent emergency response resulted in the activation of the Logistics Sector on 27 March. It was led by the Ministry of Transport and Public Works (MoTPW) and supported by the World Food Programme (WFP) and humanitarian stakeholders in Malawi. The Logistics Sector response was based on a preliminary logistics gaps analysis and partner needs assessments and sought to assist the humanitarian community in their efforts to deliver lifesaving items to the affected area.

When the Logistics Sector operations ended in May 2019, the Global Logistics Cluster presented the Preparedness Project to the National Logistics Cluster. The goal of this project is to continue the coordination of the various humanitarian stakeholders and government-led Transport, Logistics, and Telecommunications operations to better prepare Malawi for future disasters through the identification of logistics gaps.
Information Management

- In cooperation with the Global Logistics Cluster, a country-specific test version of the Log:ie (Logistics Information Exchange) platform was set up. The main aim is to create an interactive map that visualizes logistics capacity in Malawi and enables all stakeholders to regularly update logistics information by means of rapid data collection tools in order to facilitate information sharing among the humanitarian community and hence improve emergency preparedness in the country in the long term. The current focus is set on data that can support the ongoing COVID-19 emergency for preparedness and response activities (e.g. the preparation on vaccine delivery) as well as data that can facilitate the response to a potential cyclone.

- In order to engage partners in the data collection for the Log:ie system, an introduction session was held on November 25th for interested partners, namely the Malawi Defense Force, Save the Children, SPRODETA, GOAL Malawi, Tearfund and Concern Worldwide. A training exercise was sent out thereafter to the participants and discussed in a second meeting on 2 December.

- In order to provide logistical support to combating the potential impacts of Cyclone Chalane, the national logistics cluster engaged with the national Inter-cluster Coordination Group in the last week of December and presented the usage of Log:ie and the corresponding Quick Capture mobile app, for which a tailored survey was set up to capture physical access constraints in Malawi and information material was shared with partners.

- The official rollout and launch for Malawi is currently discussed and envisaged for the first quarter of 2021.

- The preparedness road map has been reviewed and endorsed by the Government. HQ to publish the endorsed roadmap.

Contacts

Patrick Mills Lamptey  Emergency Preparedness Officer  patrick.millslamptey@wfp.org
Mbachi Munthali  National Preparedness Officer  mbachi.munthali@wfp.org

https://logcluster.org/preparedness/mwi19