

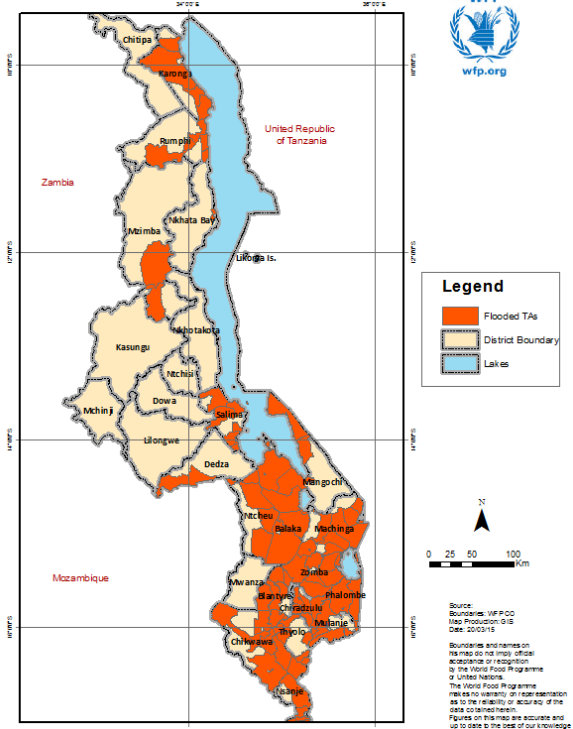


World Food Programme

wfp.org

**Malawi:** Responding to Humanitarian needs & strengthening resilience to restore food security, nutrition and livelihoods

**2015 FLOOD AFFECTED AREAS**



**Floods in numbers**

**616,000** people in need of food assistance

**17** districts affected

**MVAC in numbers\***

**438,000** people in need of food assistance

**16** districts affected

\*These figures represent those that are being assisted by WFP. An INGO consortium is assisting an additional 257,600 under the MVAC response.

**Funding Shortfalls:**

**PRRO 200692 (Floods & MVAC): USD 10.8 million**

**SO 200685: USD 1 million**

**Highlights**

- March food distributions are currently underway for both the floods and lean season relief responses (MVAC response). Some delays were experienced due to brief pipeline breaks for fortified vegetable oil and maize. March cash and voucher distributions under the MVAC response are completed, reaching 100 percent of planned.
- WFP requires a total of USD 10.8 million to meet a significant increase food security needs identified by a recent joint rapid food security assessment. This includes extending food and cash assistance under the MVAC response for one month into April and scaling up food assistance to some 616,000 food insecure flood victims in 17 districts. The flood victims in need of food assistance has risen by nearly 70 percent from initial figures.
- Of the total funding shortfall, USD 2.9 million is urgently needed to cover associated costs of the in-kind maize contributed by the Government of Malawi from its Strategic Grain Reserve (SGR).
- Following the departure of the helicopters, WFP through the logistics cluster began an airboat operation on 2 April. This airboat is a historic first for WFP logistics globally.

**Situation Update**

- The food insecurity outlook is becoming more complex in the country with many pockets of the population having experienced dry spells during critical periods of crop development. According to findings of the Civil Society Agriculture Network, the 2015 harvest will be between 30-40 percent lower than last year's harvest. With these dual crises (floods and drought), a large number of Malawians will likely face hunger during the upcoming lean season.
- Some 162,000 people are still in temporary shelter sites in six flood-affected districts, according to the Department of Disaster Management Affairs Displacement Tracking Mechanism (as of 27 March).
- Cases of cholera have increased to 251, with three deaths. WFP continues to support the government-led cholera response by transporting cooler boxes of vaccines to Makhanga island, which remains cut off. Preventive measures like this have contributed to no cases of cholera in this isolated area to date.

**WFP Response**



**Food Assistance**

- March food distributions of maize, beans, Super Cereal and fortified vegetable oil in 15 flood-affected districts are underway. Delays were experienced due to late arrival of in-kind fortified vegetable oil and a pipeline break for maize due to delayed release of SGR maize and slow receipt of donor funds.

- A market assessment is being finalized this week that analyses market functionality and the viability for cash and voucher transfer modalities in flood-affected areas. The findings will inform the response design from May onwards, pending adequate funds.
- WFP is shifting towards conditional assistance under the floods response for April distributions, aiming to rebuild the livelihoods of flood victims. This is beginning with complementary assistance among WFP, NGO partners and other clusters (e.g. shelter, agriculture) that incentivizes return of displaced flood victims. For example, WFP will provide food or cash assistance while others provide materials, tools and seeds to support the clearing of fields, rebuilding houses, replanting and irrigating as appropriate.
- WFP has reached 75 percent of the food distribution target under the MVAC response for March. Delays were caused by slow receipt of in-kind fortified vegetable oil and maize. Dispatches are underway for the remaining 25 percent. Cash transfers and nutrition vouchers are complete for March, reaching 100 percent as planned.
- Behavior change messages on nutrition and agriculture continue to be broadcast on national radio stations. WFP is expanding messages this month to include gender and protection issues.
- WFP is continuing its other programmes in the midst of this emergency, especially when it comes to safeguarding the social sector. This includes maintaining school feeding and nutrition programmes. With emergency nutrition funds, WFP has been able to scale-up its Supplementary Feeding Programme to treat moderate acute malnutrition in all health centres in Ntcheu district (one of worst affected in terms of nutrition).

### Logistics

- WFP’s air operations ended on 23 March, having transported 677 mt of essential food and non-food relief items as well as 1,318 humanitarian passengers on behalf on the entire humanitarian community to cut off areas.
- To provide continued safe access to Makhanga, which is still cut off, WFP has called forward an airboat for transporting humanitarian cargo and personnel. The airboat is a flat-bottomed vessel with an out-of-water fan propeller that is ideal for use in marshy or shallow areas and floodwaters which have high siltation. This is the first time that WFP is using this kind of boat in logistics operations worldwide.

The logistics Special Operation has been extended until August to accommodate ongoing logistics needs during the transition from response to recovery.

### Clusters

- Local coordination of the response is through a government-led and UN co-led cluster system (i.e. working groups), through which WFP co-leads national clusters on food security and logistics and actively participates in all other clusters.

### Partnerships

- In the worst hit districts of Nsanje and Chikwawa, WFP has supported government partners to roll out an innovative, post-disaster community planning process called Rapid Seasonal Livelihood Programming. This process enables district government and communities to quickly identify activities that will incentivize return and rapidly realign livelihoods with the seasonal calendar.

### Resourcing Update

- WFP is grateful for contributions from the Government of Malawi, Canada, CERF, Germany, Japan, Spain, the UK and the US that have made the floods and MVAC responses possible to date.
- **WFP requires USD 10.8 million**, including USD 8.7 million to scale-up the floods response to meet needs of all 616,00 food insecure flood victims until July and USD 2.1 million to continue food assistance to 438,000 food insecure people under the MVAC response. Food assistance will be provided as a mixture of food and cash transfers as per the results of the market assessment and pending adequate funds.
- Of this total, WFP urgently requires USD 2.9 million to cover associated costs of the government’s in-kind maize contribution. This includes a remaining balance of the 14,000 mt contributed to the floods response, as well as an additional 9,376 mt of maize to cover the full additional maize needs of the flood and MVAC responses.
- WFP requires an additional USD 1 million to meet the shortfall of the logistics operation.

### Contacts

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WFP Operation							
	Project Duration	Planned number of people	Total requirements (in US\$)	Total contributions (in US\$)	Funding gap (%)	People Assisted	
						Planned (current distribution cycle)	Reached (current distribution cycle)
PRRO 200692 (floods and MVAC)	6.5 months	1,054,280	41,767,023	30,934,693	26%	805,686	481,466
IR-EMOP 200810	2 months	77,000	981,875	0	100%	77,000	77,000
SO 200685	7 months	—	2,212,707	1,210,220	45%	—	—

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<http://www.wfp.org/countries/malawi>

