



Training in search and rescue (Pro-Act EU)

United Purpose COVID-19 Situation Report 29th July 2020

Highlights

- In addition to COVID-19 awareness raising, our EU funded Pro-Resilience Action (Pro-ACT) project, continues to prepare communities for other shocks; **training in search and rescue for 6 Village Civil Protection Committees was conducted in two flood-prone TAs** in Mulanje (header photo).
- With funding from UNICEF, UP continues to support those returning to Malawi from South Africa by ensuring access to WASH facilities at screening venues. **To date UP has supported 1,425 returnees.**
- Our GIZ and Embassy of Ireland funded Nutrition programme conducted livestock sensitizations in TAs Tambala, Kasumbu and Kamenyagwaza, Dedza ahead of distributing **7,000 chickens to 1,400 project participants. 275 drip kits are being distributed to 275 care groups** in TAs Tambala, Kasumbu, Chauma and Kamenyagwaza for communal backyard gardens irrigation. **Face masks will be distributed to 1,850 volunteers** in TAs Tambala, Kasumbu, Chauma and Kamenyagwaza.
- Under our GIZ-EnDev RBF project we **distributed an additional 11,500 improved cookstoves to Social Cash Transfer beneficiaries** living in Lilongwe district, **taking the total to over 20,000.**
- The energy team have also been developing a new proposal focusing on productive uses of energy, which builds from a feasibility study conducted under the Embassy of Ireland ACCESS programme. We plan to **pilot financing of agricultural processing equipment in the form of rice mills, tied to the EASE micro-grid, with the aim of promoting local economic development.**
- With funding from the One Foundation, UP is working with the District Council to ensure that **three Health Care Facilities and surrounding communities (serving a population of 66,165 people) in Thyolo have adequate WASH services.**

The Situation

As of 28th July there are 3,738 (1,902 active) confirmed cases of COVID-19; 103 deaths, 1,728 recoveries and 27,514 samples tested. All 28 districts are affected.

One Oxygen plant was completed, and over 18,000 testing swabs and 15,000 sample collection kits were received last week.

The High Court suspension of government measures to prevent the transmission remains in force.

Our Team and Operations

Strategy Development: UP's 2017-2020 country strategy is coming to an end this year and so now is an opportune moment for us to look both back and forwards – to reflect on what we have achieved, identify where we could do better and to decide what direction we want to take the country programme. M&E data, learning papers, evaluations, stakeholder interviews, workshops and surveys conducted remotely will inform the review process. The process will be participatory at every level and will produce a strategy, operational plan and M&E framework by December 2020.

Office Closure: UP Malawi offices remain closed for the start of August. This is reviewed bi-weekly by UP's Senior Management Team.

For more information contact: UP Malawi Country Director (Acting): Kate.Hartley-Louis@united-purpose.org

Programme Achievements

Since 1st April 2020



Programme Highlights

Livelihoods and food security

- Our EU and Australian Government Funded [DIVERSIFY](#) programme is **distributing 1,500 face masks to project participants** ahead of training on **Orange Flesh Sweet Potato (OFSP) flour making** (for various bakery products) and training on OFSP vines nursery establishment. Training includes COVID-19 prevention, care and myth busting.
- Under our EU funded Pro-Resilience Action (Pro-ACT) project, **97,074 chickens were distributed to 10,786 project participants** in Mulanje and Nsanje, **94 goats were distributed through pass-on scheme** in Mulanje, Nsanje and Zomba, **4,262 farmers (1,715M;2,547F) received seeds (maize, bean, assorted vegetables)** for winter production in Mulanje and Nsanje and **one irrigation scheme was rehabilitated** in Zomba. As well as COVID-19 awareness raising, Pro-ACT continues to prepare communities for other shocks; training in search and rescue for 6 Village Civil Protection Committees was conducted in two flood-prone TAs in Mulanje (photo page 1).

WASH and healthier lives

- With funding from UNICEF, UP continues to support those returning to Malawi from South Africa by ensuring access to WASH facilities at screening venues. **To date UP has supported 1,425 returnees.** Last week UP conducted water trucking at Machinga TTC, provided 20L & 60L buckets, soap and plastic basins for hand washing, distributed Menstrual Hygiene management (MHM) kits and provided MHM education on care and use to women and adolescent girls, conducted water quality testing and hand washing demonstrations.
- Through support from UNICEF in Karonga, Lilongwe and Mangochi **UP continues to support -the often left behind - prisons with hand washing promotions and delivery of WASH supplies** such as MHM kits for women, HtH powder for disinfection, soap and buckets for hand washing. Mangochi and Karonga prisons have a total of 321 prisoners of which five are women and three are children while Maula prison has 2,268 male and 72 female prisoners.
- Our GIZ and Embassy of Ireland funded Nutrition Programme conducted livestock sensitizations in TAs Tambala, Kasumbu and Kamenyagwaza, Dedza ahead of

distributing **7,000 chickens to 1,400 project participants. 275 drip-kits will be distributed to 275 care groups** in TAs Tambala, Kasumbu, Chauma and Kamenyagwaza for communal backyard gardens irrigation. **Face masks will be distributed to 1,850 volunteers** in TAs Tambala, Kasumbu, Chauma and Kamenyagwaza. Working with the ADC, Land Resource, Community development, Environmental health and Forestry departments, the team verified Ngoma Watershed covering Mtemwende and Nkhangala VDCs (30 Villages) in TA Tambala for watershed management. This is vital to address the issue of land and soil degradation. Training of Community Monitoring Committee (CMC) members in TA Tambala on group dynamics, soil and water conservation structures and Feedback mechanisms is being conducted this week in line with **UP Malawi's COVID-19 guide.**

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Sustainable energy

- Under our GIZ-EnDev RBF project we **distributed an additional 11,500 improved cookstoves to Social Cash Transfer beneficiaries** living in Lilongwe district, **taking the total to over 20,000.**
- The energy team have also been developing a new proposal focusing on productive uses of energy, which builds from a feasibility study conducted under the Embassy of Ireland ACCESS programme. We plan to **pilot financing of agricultural processing equipment in the form of rice mills, tied to the [EASE micro-grid](#), with the aim of promoting local economic development.** This builds on long term collaboration and learning between United Purpose and University of Strathclyde, including the [Sustainable Off-Grid Electrification of Rural Villages](#) project.

Gender equality

- This week our Girls INSPIRED Project Manager was a panellist during a Comic Relief-hosted webinar (54 participants). Yami shared lessons learnt using netball in Dedza **to equip 275 girls to be able to make informed decisions on issues that affect them and empower girls to apply leadership skills.**



Support to Returnees (UNICEF)



New Borehole, Dowa (Charity: water)



Support to Prisons (UNICEF)