Highlights

- The UK Aid funded resilience building project (PROSPER) is showing positive gains after distributing seeds (beans, maize, tomatoes and leaf vegetables) to 3,515 people (2,430 women) in May 2020 to help increase their income and improve their livelihoods in the context of COVID-19.
- With funding from UNICEF, we continue to support those returning to Malawi by ensuring access to WASH facilities at screening venues. To date we have supported 1,199 returnees. Last week we conducted water trucking at Machinga TTC, provided 20L & 60L buckets, soap and plastic basins for hand washing, conducted water quality testing and handwashing demonstrations. This week the team are conducting water trucking at Machinga and Zomba TTC. Under the same project 64,404 people were reached with hygiene promotion campaigns last week.
- With funding from Charity: water, through our Dowa WASH Project (DI-WASH), UP’s drilling team drilled 10 new boreholes.
- With support from the Livelihoods fund, work is underway in Zomba and Machinga to train 57 HSAs in COVID-19 prevention and preparedness.
- Our GIZ-EnDev funded RBF project distributed 9,000 stoves to Social Cash Transfer recipients in LLW and Chiradzulu. The team also disseminated results from formative research conducted under the Chitetezo Mbaula social behaviour change campaign at a virtual CLEANER cooking workshop last week.
- A partner meeting was held with LUANAR to support research on nutrition in the context of COVID-19 which will inform nutrition policy and practice in Malawi.

Our Team and Operations

WASH Regional Advisor: UP’s South Africa and Asia Cluster is investing in WASH with further scale-up into other sectors planned. As part of this first phase Smorden Tomoka, UP Malawi WASH Programme Manager is being appointed as WASH Programme Manager & Regional Advisor.

Office Closure: UP Malawi offices remain closed for the second half of July. This is reviewed bi-weekly by UP’s Senior Management Team.

Safeguarding: UP recognises that vulnerable communities in need of emergency assistance are at a higher risk of being exploited and face increased barriers to reporting concerns during COVID-19. To strengthen the reporting channels underpinning our Safeguarding and Fraud Policy, we have engaged the Deloitte fraud and ethics ‘Tip-Offs Anonymous’ hotline service.

Are you concerned about suspected, witnessed of the above caused by UP’s projects, or partner projects? Or by a member of staff, volunteer, visitor, contractor or any another UP representative? To report call, email, send a letter FREE of CHARGE and ANONYMOUSLY to:

- AIRTÉL, TNM, ACCESS: 847
- MTL: 80000847
- FREE POST: P.O.BOX 1726
- Email: reportsqm@tip-offs.com

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

The Situation

As of 14th July there are 2,497 (1,662 active) confirmed cases of COVID-19; 40 deaths, 795 recoveries and 21,532 samples tested. On 2nd July the Ministry of Health announced that Malawi is at community transmission stage.

The new government set out a series of restrictions aiming to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 including the banning of street vendors on 10th July. On Monday 13th July, the Attorney General suspended enforcement of these measures. Meanwhile, the declaration of face masks as mandatory in public places and private businesses is increasing.
Livelihoods and food security

- Our Palladium funded (via USAID) AgDiv project distributed 920 cloth face masks for watershed committee members in Dedza. With availability of masks, we commenced training on vegetable beds, compost manure making and construction of soil and water harvesting structures such as contour ridges, swales, and check dams.
- The UK Aid funded resilience building project (PROSPER) is showing strong gains after distributing seeds (beans, maize, tomatoes and leaf vegetables) to 3,515 people (2,430 women) in May 2020 to help increase their income and improve their livelihoods in the context of COVID-19. See photo below where a project participant shows her beans and maize at Tiyanjane Irrigation Scheme.
- Our Embassy of Ireland funded livelihoods programme (ASPIRE), worked with the DCPC to develop the district response plan based on submitted cluster plans (Education, Health, Protection and Coordination). The team also reviewed the Local Government By-laws for Dedza to support the COVID-19 response. These were vetted by the Council and sent to the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development for approval.

WASH and healthier lives

- With funding from UNICEF, we continue to support those returning to Malawi by ensuring WASH facilities at screening venues. To date we have supported 1,199 returnees. Last week we conducted water trucking at Machinga TTC, provided 20L & 60L buckets, soap and plastic basins for hand washing, conducted water quality testing and handwashing demonstrations. This week the team are conducting water trucking at Machinga and Zomba TTC. Under the same project 64,404 (25,237M, 27,341F, 56,76B, 61,50G) people were reached with hygiene promotion campaigns.
- Our BMZ/Embassy of Ireland funded Nutrition Programme is preparing for Positive Deviation hearth sessions in TA Tambala, Dedza and training (in small groups) to 39 HSAs, 22 monitors and 69 promoters on nutrition in the context of COVID-19. A partner meeting was held with LUANAR this week to support research on nutrition in the context of COVID-19 which will inform nutrition policy and practice in Malawi.
- With funding from Charity: water, through our Dowa WASH Program (DI-WASH), UP’s drilling team drilled 10 new boreholes. The team also delivered construction materials for school latrines to support school reopening in the context of COVID-19. We also procured 100 braille booklets on COVID-19 to ensure awareness raising on COVID-19 prevention and preparedness is inclusive.

Sustainable energy

- Our GIZ-EnDev funded RBF project distributed 9,000 stoves to Social Cash Transfer Beneficiaries in Lilongwe and Chiradzulu. The team also disseminated results from formative research conducted under the Chitetezo Mbaula social behaviour change campaign at a virtual CLEANER cooking workshop.
- Our Embassy of Ireland funded ACCESS project conducted remote monitoring of lamp and stoves sales and held an entry meeting with the DEC in Machinga for scale-up.
- The National Cook stove Steering Committee held virtual meetings last week and will be preparing a briefing note for the new Minister of Energy.
- With support from the Livelihoods fund, work is underway in Zomba and Machinga to train 57 HSAs in COVID-19 prevention and preparedness.

Programme Highlights

A returnee (name withheld to maintain privacy) gave feedback on the prefabricated latrines installed at Machinga Teacher Training College. He said:“The latrines are of great help, we can’t use the toilets inside the hostels because there is no water flow. there is good privacy and we are grateful.”