

## Humanitarian Situation Report Template

**Humanitarian Situation Report 1st**  
[Issues: Epidemic of COVID 19 Virus] – [Malawi / Organization for Sustainable Socio-Economic  
Development Initiative- OSSEDI Malawi]  
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### ■ Point of Contacts

<b>Name</b>	<b>Stanley JZ Chitukwi</b>	<b>Organization / Title</b>	<b>Organization for Sustainable Socio-Economic Development Initiative, The chief Executive Officer</b>
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:ossedimalawi@gmail.com/sjzc">ossedimalawi@gmail.com/sjzc</a> <a href="mailto:hitukwi@gmail.com">hitukwi@gmail.com</a>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>+265997076408</b>

### ■ Part 1: Overall Situation

#### • Situation in the country (Target area)

- As of 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020, Malawi has registered a total of 57 confirmed cases out of 1337 tests conducted (24 cases in Lilongwe), whereby 30 are active cases, 24 have recovered and 3 deaths (1 from Blantyre and 2 from Lilongwe). So far cases of COVID 19 have been confirmed in 10 out of 29 districts, and the median age for cases is at 34.3 (6-75) years.
- 28 active cases are being managed as outpatients and are under self-isolation while 2 cases are institutionalized. 5 health care workers in Blantyre have tested positive for COVID 19.
- Malawi has set up 9 testing sites nationwide. Meaning majority of people lack access to testing facilities for the virus especially in rural health centers, Kabudula Community Hospital and other health centers in T/A Kabudula included.
- Currently, Malawi has officially closed all borders except three borders to allow transit of essential goods and services. Active tracing and monitoring of contacts of confirmed COVID-19 are ongoing, currently, with a total of 574 contacts of COVID-19 cases have been traced out of which 328 have been tested.
- To enforce COVID 19 measures and ensure security, Police and Malawi Defense Force officers are deployed to provide border security patrols while road traffic police enforcing new seating capacity for public transportation which is 2 per seat in minibuses.
- Malawi has indefinitely suspended the 21 days lockdown which was supposed to begin on 18<sup>th</sup> April to 9<sup>th</sup> May 2020 with room for extension depending on the situation. The announcement of a lockdown was met with protests in parts of the country, especially by vendors who lived hand to mouth and could not survive the 21 days in isolation.
- In Malawi, the corona virus pandemic is being linked to political issues. Since the first case of COVID 19 was announced, it has been speculated that politicians are creating fictional cases in order to delay the upcoming presidential elections after 2019 results were nullified and the Constitutional court ruled for another election within 150 days on 3<sup>rd</sup> of February 2020. Due to the corona virus, the elections which were expected to happen on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2020, have been pushed to 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2020. This misconception is rampant especially in rural areas where access to COVID 19 messages is nonexistent or minimal.
- Lack of training and orientation of Health Surveillance Assistants in health centers on COVID 19. This has affected the trickle down of information to communities as they are the main source of health information especially in rural areas like T/A Kabudula.

## ■Part 2: Organization's Response or Plan for response

*\* Based on the analysis, summarize the plan for response*

From the current situation in T/A Kabudula, OSSEDI recommends the following activities:

1. Conduct hygiene promotion both in schools and villages
2. Conduct sensitization meetings
3. Train and orient staff in COVID 19
4. Procure and distribute sanitation and hygiene kits (handwashing buckets, face masks etc.)
5. Raise awareness on COVID 19, and sanitation and hygiene issues using mobile van (P/A system)
6. Provide psychosocial support to affected populations
7. Monitoring/ follow-up on affected populations

### •○Security and Logistics

The security situation on the ground is normal. Residents in the whole of Malawi including the target area of T/A Kabudula are freely going about with their daily routine and business, except for education institutions which have been shut down due to state of emergency.

### •○Partnership and Coordination

The response is being coordinated by the Ministry of Health and the District Commissioner, specifically the District Health Officer at a district level for Lilongwe. Under this exercise, OSSEDI will work hand in hand with the following Malawian government departments and organizations some of which are currently supporting the response:

1. Ministry of Health
2. Lilongwe City Council (District Health Office)

At a community level, to ensure effectiveness of response, OSSEDI intends to engage the Traditional Authority, chiefs, Area/ Village Development Committees, religious leaders, school structures, school staff, health workers at health posts and many more. The purpose of engage these gatekeepers is to ensure that the response is able to reach the whole population of T/A Kabudula.