

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO CORONA COVID 19 OUTBREAK- MASUMBANKHUNDA HUMANITARIAN SITUATION REPORT

Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman

Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman

Humanitarian Situation Report ~~[No of situation report 1st]~~
[Issues: Epidemic of COVID 19 Virus] – [Malawi/ Chinansi Foundation]
[Submission Date: 22nd April, 2020]

■ Point of Contacts

Name	Simplex Chithyola	Organization / Title	Chinansi Foundation Executive Director
E-mail	Chinansifoundation07@gmail.com	Phone	+265 995649878

■ Part 1: Overall Situation

📍 Situation in the country (Target area)

Malawi borders Zambia to the west, Mozambique to the east and south and Tanzania to the northern part. By 20th March 2020, Zambia and Tanzania have registered cases of the COVID -19. This poses a challenge in the country as Malawi borders are very porous hence creating a free flow of citizens from other countries which would result into widespread of the virus of corona. President Peter Mutharika has declared Malawi as State of Disaster as far as Corona Virus and Covid -19 is concerned. In the declaration, he has ordered that all the schools and public gatherings be stopped until the situation on corona virus improves. As of 22nd April, 2020, total of 18 persons infected by COVID- 19 and 2 people have died where Lilongwe where Ngawa community is part of the district is the most hit with 14 cases to date.

Ngawa in Masumbankhunda lies to the South East of Lilongwe district in Malawi and borders with Mozambique where its porous to illegal immigrants. This poses a threat to transmission of the COVID-19. Being very remote the area is deprived of health-related messages let it alone the COVID-19.

Sanitation and Hygiene practices are still a challenge as evidenced by outbreak of scabies which is highly contributed by unhygienic behaviors. Development players are very few and especially the Non-Governmental or Civil Society where only Chinansi with support from CFK. Therefore, this poses a big threat of having misconception of the pandemic and that demands quick response from CFK and Chinansi to support the Government to reach out to the targeted area.

The Government of Malawi through its councils, faith and community, ministries

- Health Authorities have taken necessary actions to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak and have established a number of laboratories for diagnostic investigation including the main center at College of Medicine in Blantyre. The Malawi government has declared 14 days' quarantine period for immigrants coming from high risk countries and who seem to be suspected. Accordingly, quarantine centers have established through the support of military service in all the entry points of Mwanza, Mchinji, Kamuzu and Chileka international airports, Chiponde, Songwe, Mulanje and Dedza and Biliwili respectively, over 365 persons are currently at quarantine in centers and on self quarantine respectively.
- The President and Malawi government has ordered that on arrival visa should be cancelled for all countries, the Foreign Ministry has imposed travel restrictions to the countries of China,

Italy, Iran, South Korea, France, Spain, Germany, Switzerland, Denmark, The Netherlands, Sweden, Austria, Belgium, United Kingdom and Norway

- All schools, universities, religious education and private classes and preschools in the country are closed off from 23rd March till further notice.
- The general public is requested to refrain from engaging in pilgrimages, tours, and trips even within the country in the upcoming until further notice. The Police has decided to restrict public gathering and functions like wedding ceremonies, sports, churches, drinking places to the maximum possible extent (not more than 50 people).
- Government plans to disinfect buses and trains used for public transportation and the security forces will aid in this regard.
- The police hotline 119/117 is available for the general public to inform in case of suspicion of having contracted the corona virus.
- As per observation and revealed through media, general public have been panicked and begun swarming supermarkets and bulk buying goods, raising concerns. Endless queues were seen at petrol stations as residence waited in long lines to pump their vehicles with gas, amid fears daily life will be severely disrupted by the spread of corona virus.
- There is no special security concern been reported and security situation remain normal
- An appeal to place Hand washing facilities in all entries like markets, offices, banks, shops etc in order to promote hygienic practices
- The Government through Minister of Health Jappie Mhango announced that Malawi will be on Lockdown starting 18th April, 2020 to 9th May, 2020 thus 21 days. To be extended as need arises. The decision which CSOs and other academia says was not consultative enough and have taken an injunction. The court ruled that before its implementation there should be 7 days consultative meetings before its effected.
- Malawi has registered 18 cases to date as the where districts of Lilongwe, Blantyre, Nkhosakota, Zomba, and Chikwawa are the districts affected. Lilongwe being affected with 7 cases out of the 18 cases registered.
- Total number of people tested has reached 460 where 18 have been found positive and 2 have lost their lives while 3 have recovered.

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

* Based on the analysis, summarize the plan for response will focus on the following outcomes:

1. Disseminated of preventive messages of Covid 19 in the targeted communities
2. Improved hygiene and sanitation through adoption of best practices by community members.
3. Improved nutrition to all people especially children and the elderly during days of restriction/ lockdowns

* Security and Logistics

Safety and security measures of staffs, community people and others will be available throughout the project period because of the assurance by the Government due to the deployed security personnel in place. Also, the availability of different support by the Government and NGOs towards the people of Malawi. In this case Chinansi has the following safety and security measures:

1. Chinansi shall ensure that all staff, project beneficiaries, stakeholders and volunteers are informed of coronavirus prevention measures.

2. Chinansi has affected a NO-HANDSHAKE policy with immediate effect at its offices, field activities, meetings, workshops, conferences etc.
3. Coronavirus prevention IEC materials shall be displayed in all offices including Transitional enters, target schools and community places of gatherings
4. Chinansi shall place hand washing facilities in all offices for staff and visitors. Everyone (including staff and visitors) must ensure that they wash their hands before entering Chinansi office premises
5. In the event of any suspected case of Coronavirus, staff will be sent back home for a reasonable number of days until such a time the hospital has confirmed them coronavirus free.
6. Chinansi has with immediate effect banned all staff from travelling to high risk countries as per Malawi Government and WHO listed countries.
7. Chinansi staff must ensure that coronavirus prevention information and messages have been mainstreamed in all program activities.
8. Chinansi shall also work closely with the Malawi ministry of health and other stakeholders in monitoring the situation and get updates on further actions to prevent the spread of the virus within Malawi.
9. In the event that the situation goes out of hand, Chinansi management shall advise all staff and volunteers to operate from homes except those staff on Corona Virus response until such a time when fresh communication shall be sent to all staff to return to their offices and duty stations.
10. Chinansi has developed a motto as ***“TOGETHER FOR A CORONAVIRUS FREE SOCIETY!!!”***

• Partnership and Coordination

The response will be coordinated by the Ministry of Health and the District Commissioner for Lilongwe District Council and the following Malawi government departments and organizations will support the response:

Departments	Roles To Be Played
Lilongwe District & city Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community awareness • Joint monitoring • Participate in the trainings of the HSAs
Lilongwe Water Board Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of safe water
UNICEF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of medical experts' volunteers • Trainings of HSAs and Provision of the awareness raising of communities
Ministry of Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall coordination of the response, • Training of HSAs on the COVID 19 response, • Joint coordination and monitoring
Chinansi Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trainings of the HSAs within the target areas • Provision and administering of the Non-Biomedical care • Sanitizers,etc plus awareness raising