

# Malawi

# 2005

September 2005 - March 2006



FLASH  
APPEAL

**Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP)**



UNITED NATIONS



# Malawi

# 2005

September 2005 - March 2006



FLASH  
APPEAL

**Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP)**





# TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

<b>1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....</b>	<b>1</b>
Table I. Summary of Requirements by Appealing Organisation and by Sector .....	2
<b>2. THE CONTEXT AND CURRENT SITUATION.....</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1. Immediate Response to the Food Crisis .....	3
2.2. Urgent Agricultural Inputs.....	4
<b>3. RESPONSE PLAN .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3.1 Response Plan for Addressing the Immediate Food Shortages.....</b>	<b>5</b>
Food Aid and Nutrition .....	5
Health .....	6
Basic Education.....	7
HIV/AIDS .....	8
Protection Against Sexual and Economic Exploitation .....	8
<b>3.2 Response Plan for Improving Agricultural Production.....</b>	<b>9</b>
Agricultural Inputs .....	9
Crop and Diet Diversification.....	9
<b>4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>5. PROJECT TABLE AND FUNDS REQUIRED.....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>ANNEX I. TEXT FROM UN SECRETARY-GENERAL LETTER TO HEADS OF DONOR STATES</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>ANNEX II. AREAS OF RISK OF FOOD INSECURITY .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>ANNEX III. ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS.....</b>	<b>16</b>



## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is not a typical United Nations (UN) Flash Appeal. It is a 'smart Appeal', requesting international support for the Government of Malawi's (GoM) leadership in addressing both **immediate humanitarian needs**, and to allow the Government to take action now to **minimise the likelihood of another food-shortage driven humanitarian crisis next year**.

The Appeal provides an opportunity for the international community to make a reality of the G8's Gleneagles Declaration and of renewed determination to support responsible national approaches by African countries to fighting hunger and disease and escaping the poverty trap. It is issued on the heels of the UN Secretary-General's letter<sup>1</sup> to the Heads of State of donor countries urging them to prevent a humanitarian crisis in southern Africa.

This unprecedented two-track approach addresses the immediate food needs from now until the next harvest in March 2006, as well as the imminent risk to next year's harvest itself. The GoM is providing leadership on both tracks – first by committing its limited budgetary resources to an emergency assistance programme to meet immediate needs, and second by purchasing seed and fertiliser for targeted distribution to small-holder maize farmers at heavily subsidised rates. The President has also launched a national 'Feed the Nation Fund' on the grounds that "when there is a national disaster, Malawians must first look into their own pockets".

The first track of this Appeal requests donor support to help Malawi address the immediate food crisis. **Approximately 4.2 million people will not be able to meet their minimum food requirements** from now until the next harvest in March 2006. Through food aid and other safety net schemes, development partners are already supporting a Government-led effort to ensure that the affected population, particularly the very vulnerable, can cope. However, there remains a serious shortfall. Not meeting this shortfall will result in profound humanitarian consequences for individuals, households and communities. This Appeal therefore seeks support for a multi-sector approach including food aid, nutrition, health, protection against sexual and economic exploitation, and HIV/AIDS initiatives.

The Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) estimates that at a minimum, the equivalent of some 270,000 metric tonnes (MTs) of maize is required. The estimates represent the minimum humanitarian need from now until March 2006. The situation could worsen over the coming months. The World Food Programme (WFP) plans to provide assistance to 2.0 million vulnerable people in seven districts in the Southern Region, as well as nutrition support in all districts. The remaining 2.2 million people will be assisted through Government, other food distribution, and voucher schemes, and cash interventions.

The second track of the Appeal is intended to increase local production, thereby minimising the prospect of another food crisis next year. Malawi's impoverished farm households face conditions of pervasive soil nutrient deficiencies and lack access to critical farm inputs. The result is that crop yields are chronically low and highly vulnerable to transitory shortfalls in rains during the growing season. The Appeal calls for immediate support to ensure that the Government's plan to sell seed and fertiliser at subsidised rates is bolstered whereby the seed and fertiliser is made available to over one million poor farm households who cannot afford it even at subsidised rates. The Government is already leading a logistical operation to manage the targeted distribution of the subsidised seed and fertiliser; the same mechanism would be used to ensure that seed and fertiliser are made accessible to poorer farming households. To support this programme in time for the upcoming growing season, the UN is seeking pledges from the international community by **mid- September 2005**.

By addressing the underlying causes of the food crisis as well as the immediate emergency needs, the Government's programme lays the foundation for Malawi to achieve food security in the long-term.

The UN is appealing for a total net amount of approximately **US\$ 87.8 million** for the Government's two-pronged approach to Malawi's food crisis. This amount includes net US\$ 51.3 million for providing food aid and a multi-sectoral emergency programme to meet immediate needs, and US\$ 36.5 for ensuring access to emergency agricultural inputs for smallholder farmers for the October planting season.

---

<sup>1</sup> 8 August 2005. For text, see Annex I.

TABLE I.

<p><b>Malawi Flash Appeal 2005</b>          Summary of Requirements - by Appealing Organisation          as of 29 August 2005  <a href="http://www.reliefweb.int/fts">http://www.reliefweb.int/fts</a></p>
--

Compiled by OCHA on the basis of information provided by the respective appealing organisation.

Appealing Organisation	Original Requirements (US\$)
FAO	2,000,000
UNDP	34,455,000
UNICEF	2,500,000
WFP	48,805,869
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>87,760,869</b>

<p><b>Malawi Flash Appeal 2005</b>          Summary of Requirements - by Sector          as of 29 August 2005  <a href="http://www.reliefweb.int/fts">http://www.reliefweb.int/fts</a></p>
--

Compiled by OCHA on the basis of information provided by the respective appealing organisation.

Sector Name	Original Requirements (US\$)
AGRICULTURE	36,455,000
EDUCATION	450,000
FOOD	48,805,869
HEALTH	1,750,000
PROTECTION/HUMAN RIGHTS/RULE OF LAW	300,000
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>87,760,869</b>



## 2. THE CONTEXT AND CURRENT SITUATION

Malawians continue to face unacceptable levels of vulnerability. This year, inadequate rainfall and insufficient access to agricultural inputs during the 2004-2005 agricultural season led to the worst critical food crisis since 1994. Underlying the current humanitarian crisis are two mutually reinforcing causes of insecurity, namely a high prevalence of HIV/AIDS and chronic poverty. The current food crisis is further compounded by poor health conditions and malnutrition that need to be addressed in tandem with food aid. All of these factors combined, coupled with repeated shocks throughout the past five years, have exhausted the coping mechanisms of the most vulnerable households, limiting people's ability to access basic survival needs and severely undermining their hopes of a more secure future. In response to the immediate humanitarian crisis the UN is proposing a two-pronged strategy that is part of a wider set of initiatives across various sectors to prevent morbidity and mortality and restore livelihoods.

### 2.1 Immediate Response to the Food Crisis

This year the production of maize, Malawi's most important staple crop, decreased by 29% compared to the already poor harvest last year. During the 2004-2005 agricultural seasons, the country was able to produce just 55% of the 2.2 million MTs of maize needed annually for national consumption. At least **4.2 million people, 34% of the country's total population, are at risk of experiencing serious food shortages**, beginning in June 2005 through March 2006 and totalling close to 270,000 MTs maize equivalent. Of this portion 32,000 MTs will be provided through safety net programmes.<sup>2</sup> Out of the total number of vulnerable people, the portion residing in the Northern and Central regions, representing approximately 42% of the needs, will be assisted through the GoM Voucher Scheme. The remaining 58% of the needs are located within the worst affected Southern Region and will be met through WFP food distribution programme. The latter needs are the focus of this Appeal in which the UN is requesting urgently needed funds totalling US\$ 48,805,869 to provide food aid to two million beneficiaries.

Estimates of the number of people requiring assistance are linked to assumptions regarding the price of maize in the months ahead. If the price of maize remains between Malawi Kwacha (MK) 19 (US\$ 0.15) and MK23 (US\$ 0.18) per kilogramme (kg), then the VAC estimates that 4.2 million people will require the equivalent of 270,000 MTs of maize.<sup>3</sup> However, in July 2005, the average open market price of maize was already above MK19 (US\$ 0.15) per kg, representing a net increase of 27%, after inflation, from the corresponding period in 2004. Therefore, extrapolating the current annual price increase rate to the recent pre-harvest price in 2005 suggests that the pre-harvest price in 2006 may increase to about MK25 (US\$ 0.20) per kg of maize. The current import parity price of maize is estimated to be over MK28 (US\$ 0.22) per kg. This suggests that the MVAC's first scenario understates the actual degree of need between now and the next harvest in March 2006, and makes the case for assistance even more compelling. These expected price hikes will be closely monitored, especially if they start approaching the MVAC's second maize price scenario of MK 32-40 (US\$ 0.25 - 0.32) per kg, which could result in as many as 4.6 million food insecure people, and over 420,000 MTs of missing food entitlements.

Implementation of a food aid logistics supply chain will be challenging given the volume of commodities on the various transport corridors entering Malawi and shared by neighbouring countries. The sheer volume of food, fertilisers and other commodities required to enter Malawi between now and the beginning of November, at the latest, has the potential to cripple the country's transport capacities, risking delays in emergency food deliveries. At the present transport corridor capacity, food requirements that are planned for procurement in South Africa will take between three to five months to deliver.

Getting the food to Malawi is only the first of many challenges. Delivering to the beneficiaries within Malawi is further complicated by poor road infrastructure and a weak transport industry capacity for internal distribution. Food aid must be pre-positioned in many areas before the rains start in November. To ensure delivery to the beneficiaries before the rains, it is imperative that food aid begins moving into Malawi now.

<sup>2</sup> These include cash interventions through public works programmes, the Malawi Social Action Fund (MASAF) and the European Union Public Works Programme (EU-PWP), the USAID Title II programme (I-LIFE) and other Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) food security programmes.

<sup>3</sup> US\$ 1 is equal to 126.310 Malawi Kwacha on 19 August 2005.

Currently the average Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rate fluctuates at around 7% (144,000 children under-five) and Severe Acute Malnutrition around 2%. The GAM has remained stable over the past two years, but if this rate increases to 10% the situation will be **alarming**, and will likely lead to increased morbidity and mortality. **More than 45% of children under five are stunted due to chronic malnutrition and almost 22% are underweight.** This already precarious state of nutrition further intensifies the need to expand and strengthen crucial targeted nutrition programmes including: supplementary feeding for under-fives and pregnant and lactating mothers; provision of effective treatment and care in Nutritional Rehabilitation Units (NRUs); and provision of vitamin and mineral supplements. In order to procure, transport and preposition specialised nutrition supplies in time to meet the needs during the height of the hunger season (December 2005-March 2006) resources are immediately required.

Malnutrition increases the susceptibility to diseases such as malaria, cholera, measles, and acute respiratory infections (ARIs), especially among children under-five. The outbreak of cholera during the food crisis in 2002 caused unprecedented morbidity and mortality; 33,500 cases and 958 deaths were recorded. The UN response seeks to avert a similar epidemic during the upcoming rainy season (November 2005-April 2006). However, this Flash Appeal does not request additional funding for health sector initiatives at present, since it will be funded from the regular programme budgets of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). However, should conditions in the field change or further deteriorate, these agencies may approach the donor community for additional funding.

During a crisis the effects of poverty, powerlessness, and social instability are intensified, increasing people's vulnerability to HIV/AIDS, sexual exploitation, abuse and neglect. During a food crisis women and children are particularly vulnerable, and can be forced to engage in risky behaviour in exchange for food. Absenteeism from school among pupils, especially orphans, also increase as a result of food shortages. People with HIV/AIDS, already poorer because of lost household income and greater medical expenses will suffer disproportionately when faced with lack of food. **HIV/AIDS is a direct threat to life** and it is imperative that the international community incorporates HIV/AIDS prevention strategies into all levels of the humanitarian response.

The UN response represents the most cost effective and immediate set of initiatives required to help the most vulnerable until national safety net activities are more established and widespread. The response activities proposed are part of a broader humanitarian action that address basic survival, protection and rights issues and are directly linked to medium and long-term goals.

## 2.2 Urgent Agricultural Inputs

The current food crisis had multiple and deep-seated causes. The most immediate are a prolonged dry-spell during the critical growing period between January and March 2005 and an inadequate and untimely supply of seeds and fertiliser to farming households. While a food relief programme is essential this year, an immediate and accompanying priority should be to ensure, in advance of the planting season, the provision of essential agricultural inputs to all small-holder farming households, to prevent another possible food crisis next year.

The use of improved seed varieties and fertiliser, if planted/applied on time, would increase production relative to current practices, even if there were a prolonged dry-spell next growing season. The investment in agricultural inputs this year will increase production and likely improve food security next year.<sup>4</sup> The Government believes that providing access to inputs for free would be the surest and most effective way of boosting food security next year and will also create more favourable conditions for a concerted approach by the GoM and partners towards achieving sustainable food security.<sup>5</sup>

---

<sup>4</sup> Assuming that 2 million smallholders each apply a 50 kg bag of urea or 23:21:0 with improved maize seed on an average of 0.25 hectares (ha), the likely increase in maize production is conservatively estimated at 500,000 MTs. If this incremental amount were priced at the food aid import cost, the value of extra locally produced maize would be at least US\$ 200 million. The Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Centre, Nairobi, Kenya, August 22, 2005.

<sup>5</sup> In a letter to the UN Resident Coordinator dated August 11<sup>th</sup> 2005, the Minister of Finance stated, "we fully support the UN view that Government's investment in food security needs to be further complemented by the donor community. Because of resource constraints Government cannot afford to provide essential inputs at no cost. This would only be possible with significant donor assistance. In the forthcoming programme Government is only subsidising fertiliser and a very small portion of maize seed. I wish to confirm that we would need US\$ 16 million in addition to the amount we have budgeted to subsidise fertiliser. This would help reduce the price of fertiliser from MK2,300 (US\$ 18.2) per 50 kg to zero, instead of MK950 (US\$ 7.5) as programmed under the present arrangement."

The Government is already proposing a bold plan to subsidise 70% of the total cost of 100,000 MTs of maize fertiliser, which will be made available for purchase by all smallholder farmers. In Malawi smallholder farmers are generally defined by the size of their landholding, which is less than 0.4 ha. Under the Government subsidy programme a bag of maize fertiliser would be made available to smallholder farming households at a cost MK950 (US\$ 8.00), an amount unaffordable for the poorest farming households.<sup>6</sup> The Government has also indicated its intention to procure and provide maize seed to smallholder farmers at subsidised prices but faces severe financial constraints in doing so. However, the provision of fertiliser without improved seed would undermine the effectiveness of the fertiliser subsidy programme.

The UN is therefore requesting international donor assistance to complement the Government's efforts by ensuring that the poorest smallholder farmers are able to access **at no cost** 50 kg of fertiliser and 5kg of seed. The modalities for ensuring this will be determined very quickly by Government, with development partners and the private sector, who all have a critical role to play in ensuring the efficient and timely availability of inputs. One option is the targeted distribution of vouchers to two million smallholder farmers and this, in addition to resources needed for logistics, is the basis of the figures presented in the Appeal. The success of either the free or subsidised scheme depends upon an efficient logistics operation by Government to acquire, transport and make available, sufficient quantities of inputs before the growing season begins. The UN is committed to assisting the Government to that end.

The inputs programme will complement safety net strategies aimed at the most vulnerable groups and other people who are not direct beneficiaries of the inputs programme.

In order to complement the Government's programme by providing agricultural inputs in time for the upcoming growing season (first planting in mid-October), the UN is seeking pledges from the international community by **mid-September 2005**.

### **3. RESPONSE PLAN**

The overall response plan, which covers a period of six months from September 2005 to March 2006, is to prevent hunger, malnutrition, and excess morbidity due to disease outbreaks. In the longer term and in order to avert a similar crisis next year, the response plan aims to restore agricultural production by enhancing the productive capacity of smallholder farming households.

These activities should be seen as part of a wider fabric of initiatives and support that will be undertaken by the Government with the support and assistance of key development partners including the Department for International Development of the United Kingdom (DfID), the European Union (EU) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The details of the responses planned by the UN agencies, in consultation with the GoM, are as follows:

#### **3.1 RESPONSE PLAN FOR ADDRESSING THE IMMEDIATE FOOD SHORTAGES**

##### **FOOD AID AND NUTRITION**

###### **Objectives**

- Protect the lives and livelihoods of approximately two million people targeting those identified by the MVAC as unable to meet their food entitlements, often including: under-five children; pregnant and lactating women; female-headed households; HIV/AIDS infected and affected households and orphans.
- Treat moderate malnutrition among children under five, and pregnant and lactating women through Supplementary Feeding Programmes.
- Reduce morbidity and mortality associated with severe acute malnutrition by 5% through effective treatment and care in NRUs.
- Prevent deficiencies of vitamins and minerals among children under five and pregnant and lactating women by providing daily vitamin and mineral supplements.
- Ensure the collection, interpretation and response to nutrition data as part of an ongoing surveillance system in the southern region districts of Malawi.

---

<sup>6</sup> The beneficiaries are identified from the Targeted Inputs Programme (TIP) database.

### **Proposed Activities**

- Targeted food distribution to approximately two million people in seven of the most food insecure districts in the Southern region districts of Chikwawa, Chiradzulu, Machinga, Mulanje, Nsanje, Phalombe and Zomba.
- Therapeutic feeding to a maximum case load of 3,500 (per month) severely malnourished under five children and their caretakers by providing Corn and Soya Blend (CSB), Dry Skim Milk (DSM), sugar, oil, and maize meal on a daily basis. Through NRUs, malnourished children under five will also receive F75 and F100.
- Daily provision of vitamin and mineral supplements to pregnant and lactating women and children aged 6-59 months in the Southern region of Malawi.
- Screening at community level to identify moderately malnourished under fives and pregnant and lactating women for enrolment in supplementary feeding.
- Carry out one nutrition survey and ensure continuous nutrition surveillance using NRU data and growth monitoring information from health centres in order to complement the MVAC assessment results.
- Carry out school attendance surveillance to monitor the impact of food insecurity.

### **Expected Impact**

- Widespread hunger and malnutrition in the particularly vulnerable areas prevented.
- GAM maintained at around 6% or less.
- Severe acute malnutrition reduced.
- Micronutrient deficiencies among pregnant and lactating women and children aged 6 to 59 months prevented.

### **Partners**

- Ministry of Health
- Concern Worldwide
- Action Against Hunger
- Valid International
- Joint Emergency Food Aid Programme
- Department of Poverty and Disaster Management Affairs
- UNICEF
- WFP

### **Link with Sustainable Initiatives**

The Government has worked closely with development partners through the Food Crisis Joint Task Force to determine an appropriate response. The plan also takes into account broader safety net programmes such as the Malawi Social Action Fund (MASAF) as well as other parallel funded food security initiatives such as I-LIFE. The food and nutrition activities described above are closely linked with the recently approved National Food and Nutrition Security Policy and the May 2004 Dar-Es-Salaam Declaration, which aims to mitigate the impact of inadequate rainfall patterns through various initiatives.

## **HEALTH**

### **Objectives**

- Prevent morbidity and mortality due to disease outbreak.
- Strengthen the health surveillance system in epidemic prone areas.

### **Proposed Activities**

- Pre-position emergency drugs, including oral rehydration salt (ORS) and chloride for water treatment, and supplies to all facilities in the southern region to counter any disease outbreaks especially cholera.
- Strengthen supervision/on-site retraining of health workers in charge of disease surveillance by conducting three-day training workshops to update service providers on standard case management skills and other disease control activities.
- Intensify immunisation programme and vitamin supplementation in affected areas.
- Procure and distribute bed nets and drugs for under five children and pregnant women who will be admitted to NRUs and intensify regular distribution of nets in all affected areas.
- Support social mobilisation activities and communication materials production.
- Strengthen the flow of information from the district to the national level.

**Expected Impact**

- Timely detection of outbreaks in the southern region.
- Morbidity and mortality due to disease outbreak reduced.

**Partners**

- Ministry of Health
- UNICEF
- WHO

**Link with Sustainable Initiatives**

The proposed activities are in line with the already existing health surveillance system and outbreak preparedness of the Ministry of Health. Funding to prevent cholera outbreaks will be provided through the regular programme budgets of the WHO and UNICEF. A National Measles Campaign targeting children aged 9-59 months will begin in early September 2005. Malaria prevention is supported through the Roll Back Malaria initiative and insecticide treated nets will be distributed in November/December 2005. Control of common infections such as ARIs is supported through the Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) fund for health.

**BASIC EDUCATION****Objectives**

- Prevent absenteeism among school pupils, especially among orphans and other vulnerable children, as a result of hunger.
- Protect school children from sexual and economic exploitation that is likely to increase during the crisis period.

**Proposed Activities**

- Support school feeding activities in 249 schools of ten districts.
- Support social mobilisation activities to protect children from sexual and economic exploitation.
- Intensify the provision of life skills to primary and secondary school children to prevent HIV and build self-esteem.
- Strengthen school surveillance to monitor the impact of food insecurity on school attendance and learning.

**Expected Impact**

- Reduced absenteeism and improved learning as a result of school feeding.
- Increased awareness on sexual exploitation among children, teachers, parents and community leaders.
- Increased awareness and skills among children to prevent HIV infection and confront other challenges.

**Partners**

- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Gender, Child Welfare and Community Services
- Department of Poverty and Disaster Management Affairs
- World Food Programme
- UNICEF
- MASAF
- German Technical Cooperation (GTZ)
- Action Aid
- CARE

**Link with Sustainable Initiatives**

The proposed activities are in line with the priorities set in the national programme for basic education, and build on on-going efforts supported by the various stakeholders in the education sector and they will more specifically build on the on-going joint initiative by WFP and UNICEF on school feeding and take home ration for orphans and girls in food insecure areas.

## **HIV/AIDS**

### **Objectives**

- Prevent the spread of HIV and mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS.

### **Proposed Activities**

- Procure and distribute condoms during food distribution through Community Based Distribution Agents (CBDAs).
- Distribute information, education and communication (IEC) materials (posters, leaflets, flash cards) on early sex, HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), sexual rights, sexual abuse and exploitation at food distribution sites.
- Promote voluntary counselling and testing for HIV, and other sites.
- Provide additional food and nutritional supplements to children and adult living with HIV/AIDS.

### **Expected Impact**

- Rate of new HIV infections reduced.
- Humanitarian operations used as an opportunity to increase HIV testing and counselling.
- People living with HIV/AIDS cared for.

### **Partners**

- Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)
- Canadian Physicians for Aid and Relief (CPAR)
- World Vision Malawi
- GOAL
- Concern Universal
- Emmanuel International
- The Salvation Army
- OXFAM
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- UNICEF
- WFP
- United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

### **Link with Sustainable Initiatives**

These activities are in line with the National Action Plan for HIV/AIDS prevention and thus no additional funds are requested through this Flash Appeal. Funding for these activities will be provided through the regular programme budgets of UNICEF, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), UNAIDS, and WFP.

## **PROTECTION AGAINST SEXUAL AND ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION**

### **Objective**

- Protect children and women from sexual and economic exploitation resulting from the desperation of children, parents and guardians during this crisis period.
- Provide legal and other support to children in conflicts with the law given the risk of increased number of children in prison for theft and petty crimes during the crisis period.

### **Proposed Activities**

- Implement the WFP/UNICEF/Save the Children training modules on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse of women and children in humanitarian operations with a special focus on community food committee members, distributors and transporters.
- Sensitise the general public, law enforcement bodies and commercial enterprises and farms on the increased risk of child labour and sexual exploitation of young girls and women during humanitarian crisis.
- Accelerate the establishment of Child Rights Committees and training of Child Protection Officers and orientation of community leaders.
- Expand partnership with paralegals to monitor prisons and provide legal aid to children in conflict with the law.
- Care and rehabilitation of victims of rape and sexual exploitation.
- Increased support to safe environments for street children.

**Expected Impact**

- Children and women protected against sexual and commercial exploitation.
- Children in conflict with the law protected and support.

**Partners**

- Ministry of Gender, Child Welfare and Community Services
- Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Home Affairs
- Juvenile Justice Forum
- NGO partners
- UNICEF
- UNFPA
- WFP

**Link with Sustainable Initiatives**

The proposed activities are in line with the national initiative to Stop Harming Children, the National Plan of Action for Orphans and other Vulnerable Children, the National Programme on Gender Equality and the National Action Plan for HIV/AIDS. The activities build on the lessons learned from the successful “Zero Tolerance” Campaign against sexual exploitation supported during the 2002/2003 humanitarian crises in Southern Africa.

### 3.2 RESPONSE PLAN FOR IMPROVING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

**AGRICULTURAL INPUTS****Objective**

- Enhance food security of two million farming households through providing access to free agricultural inputs in time for the next growing season.
- Enhance production for the 2006 harvest and lay a basis for improved food security in the medium-term.

**Proposed Activities**

- The UN is planning to provide technical and practical support to the Government to ensure that smallholder farming households have access to essential inputs—ideally one 50 kg bag of fertiliser and 5 kg of seed at no cost (100,000 MTs and 10,000 MTs, respectively).

**Expected Impact**

- Agricultural production in 2006 is at much higher levels than it could be without the inputs;
- Number of food insecure households reduced (long-term);
- Prospect of another food shortage and costly humanitarian operation in 2006/2007 reduced.

**Partners**

- Ministry of Agriculture

**CROP AND DIET DIVERSIFICATION****Objective**

- Improve food security.
- Promote diet diversification.

**Proposed Activities**

- Support the Government in providing agricultural start up kits containing cassava cuttings, sweet potato vines, seeds for beans, ground nuts and soya bean varieties to 50,000 farming households:
  - The benefiting households will be required to multiply these planting materials and redistribute them to other households in their locality during harvesting;
- Provide vegetable seeds, agricultural implements, agricultural kits and poultry facilities to 60 NRU households) to establish:
  - Gardens and enhance vegetable production for 12,000 NRU graduating mothers;
  - 42 Home Based Care (HBC) gardens to improve food diversification for 5,000 HIV/AIDS affected and infected households.

**Expected Impact**

- Community assets created.
- Improved and diversified diet for those supported.

**Partners**

- Ministry of Agriculture
- Ministry of Health
- Action Against Hunger
- Christian Health Association of Malawi (CHAM)
- Dan Church Aid
- Ministry of Education
- World Food Programme

**Link with Sustainable Initiatives**

The inputs and crop diversification initiatives are being led by the Government of Malawi through the Ministry of Agriculture to ensure sustainability of agricultural production. Financing secured through this Flash Appeal will only top-up the already existing government fertiliser subsidy programme in order to allow smallholder-farming households to access agricultural inputs for free. Providing universal agricultural inputs will enhance the productive capacity of smallholder farmers to prevent food insecurity in the future and break the cycle of chronic hunger.

**4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Department of Poverty and Disaster Management Affairs (DoPDMA) will be responsible for the overall coordination of the assistance effort, including food distributions. The existing structures (sub-committees within the Food Security Joint Task Force) will be used as the central forum for this coordination. For execution of the agricultural inputs programme the coordination and logistical modalities are being finalised. In collaboration with Government, NGOs and development partners, the UN Resident Coordinator's Office will ensure consistent and regular interaction by the UN agencies concerned on the activities outlined in this document. The Regional Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) for Southern Africa will provide coordination and advocacy support to the UN Resident Coordinator.

The following table indicates the role of each UN agency in each of the key sectors identified:

SECTOR: FOOD/NUTRITION	
Agency	Activity
WFP	Targeted Food Distribution (TFD)
	Provide daily rations for caretakers in NRUs
	Provide supplementary feeding to moderately malnourished children
	Screen moderately malnourished children for enrolment in Supplementary Feeding Programmes
UNICEF	Provision of vitamin and mineral supplements to pregnant and lactating women and children aged 6-59 months
	Procure F100, F75 and drugs for routine treatment of severely malnourished children in NRUs
	Nutrition surveillance, nutrition surveys and school sentinel site surveillance to monitor nutrition and school attendance
WFP/UNICEF/ UNFPA/ UNAIDS	Jointly implement the WFP/UNICEF/Save the Children UK training module on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse of women and children in humanitarian operations with a special focus on community food committee members, distributors and transporters
	Distribute IEC materials (posters, leaflets, flash cards) on early sex, HIV/AIDS, STIs, sexual rights, sexual abuse and exploitation at food distribution sites to the communities
UNFPA	Procure and distribute condoms during food distribution through CBDAs
UNAIDS	Provide technical assistance and facilitate coordination of HIV/AIDS activities being integrated in the humanitarian response



**MALAWI FLASH APPEAL**

<b>SECTOR: AGRICULTURE</b>	
<b>Agency</b>	<b>Activity</b>
UNDP	Ensure that two million smallholder farming households have access to one 50 kg bag of fertiliser and 5 kg of seed at no cost
FAO	Provide agricultural start up kits containing cassava cuttings, sweet potato vines, seeds for beans, ground nuts and Soya bean varieties to 50,000 farming households
	Provide seeds, agricultural implements, agricultural kits and poultry facilities to 60 NRUs to establish gardens and enhance vegetable production for 12,000 NRU graduating mothers
	Provide seeds, agricultural implements, agricultural kits and poultry facilities to NRUs to establish 42 HBC gardens to improve food diversification for 5,000 HIV/AIDS infected and affected households

<b>SECTOR: HEALTH</b>	
<b>Agency</b>	<b>Activity</b>
WHO	Disease surveillance in epidemic prone areas through early detection and rapid response
	Enhance rapid response capabilities through supervision/on-site re-training of health workers in charge of disease surveillance by conducting three-day training workshops to update service providers on standard case management skills and other disease control activities
	Strengthen information flow systems from the district to the national level to ensure timely detection of outbreaks
	Enhance laboratory services and transportation means to strengthen response capabilities
WHO/UNICEF	Pre-position emergency drugs, including ORS and chloride for water treatment, and supplies to all facilities in the southern region to counter any disease outbreaks especially cholera
	Support social mobilisation and hygiene education activities, including production and dissemination of communication materials
	Intensify immunisation programme and vitamin supplementation in all affected areas
	Procure and distribute bed nets and drugs for under five children and pregnant women admitted in NRUs and intensify regular bed net distribution in all affected areas

<b>SECTOR: BASIC EDUCATION</b>	
<b>Agency</b>	<b>Activity</b>
WFP/UNICEF	Expand school feeding activities from 249 to 1,000 schools in food insecure areas through food distribution and preparation; community mobilisation and improvement of school facilities for school feeding
UNICEF	Support social mobilisation activities to protect school children from sexual and economic exploitation
	Intensify the provision of life skills and peer education to primary and secondary school children to prevent HIV infection and build their self-esteem
	Strengthen school surveillance to monitor the impact of food insecurity on school attendance and learning

<b>SECTOR: HIV/AIDS</b>	
<b>Agency</b>	<b>Activity</b>
UNFPA	Procure and distribute condoms during food distribution through CBDAs
UNFPA/ WFP/ UNICEF/ UNAIDS	Distribute IEC materials (posters, leaflets, flash cards) on early sex, HIV/AIDS, STIs, sexual rights, sexual abuse and exploitation at food distribution sites
UNFPA/ UNICEF/ UNAIDS	Promote voluntary counselling and testing of HIV at food distribution sites and other sites targeted by the humanitarian response
WFP/UNICEF	Provide additional food and nutritional support to children and adults living with HIV/AIDS

<b>SECTOR: PROTECTION FROM EXPLOITATION</b>	
<b>Agency</b>	<b>Activity</b>
UNICEF/ WFP/ UNFPA	Implement the WFP/UNICEF/Save the Children training modules on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse of women and children in humanitarian operations with a special focus on community food committee members, distributors and transporters
UNICEF	Sensitise the general public, law enforcement bodies and commercial enterprises and farms on the increased risk of child labour and sexual exploitation of young girls and women during humanitarian crisis
	Accelerate the establishment of Child Rights Committees and training and supervision of Child Protection workers and community leaders
	Expand partnership with paralegals to monitor prisons and provide legal aid to children in conflict with the law
	Support community-based organisation providing support to children in the street

## 5. PROJECT TABLE AND FUNDS REQUIRED

The table below identifies the funding needs of the agencies referred to above (WFP, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNICEF and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), over and above funds that have already been sourced and programmed:

SECTOR: Food/ Nutrition			US\$
WFP MLW-05/F01	<b>Beneficiaries</b> TFD: 2 million individuals  Nutrition: 3,500/month under five children 3,500/month caretakers	<b>Partners</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint Emergency Food Aid Programme</li> <li>• Department of Poverty and Disaster Management Affairs</li> <li>• UNICEF</li> <li>• Ministry of Health</li> <li>• Action Against Hunger</li> </ul>	<b>48,805,869</b>
	<b>Project Title:</b> PRRO 10310 Assistance to population vulnerable to food insecurity and the impact of HIV/AIDS		
	<b>Aim:</b> To save lives and livelihoods of the food insecure households and to maintain the GAM rate at 6%.		
UNICEF MLW-05/H01	<b>Beneficiaries</b> Severely malnourished: 3,500/month	<b>Partners</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Health</li> <li>• Concern Worldwide</li> <li>• Action Against Hunger</li> <li>• Valid International</li> </ul>	<b>1,750,000</b>
	<b>Project Title:</b> Nutrition in Emergency Support		
	<b>Aim:</b> To prevent excess mortality and morbidity due to malnutrition in the southern region districts of Malawi.		
SECTOR: Agriculture			US\$
UNDP <sup>7</sup> MLW-05/A01A	<b>Beneficiaries</b> 2 million smallholder farming households	<b>Partners</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Agriculture</li> <li>• Ministry of Finance</li> <li>• FAO</li> <li>• The Millennium Project</li> </ul>	Fertiliser: <b>16,000,000</b> Seeds: <b>13,230,000</b> Transportation and Overhead: <b>5,225,000</b>
	<b>Beneficiaries</b> 67,000 households	<b>Partners</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Health</li> <li>• Action Against Hunger</li> <li>• CHAM</li> <li>• Dan Church Aid</li> <li>• Ministry of Education</li> <li>• WFP</li> </ul>	Crop diversification and HBC/NRU Garden Input:  <b>2,000,000</b>
			<b>Project Title:</b> Emergency Support to Agricultural Recovery and Rehabilitation
<b>Aim:</b> Support recovery of agricultural production by targeting all smallholder farming households and increase food security next year.			
SECTOR: Basic Education			US\$
UNICEF MLW-05/E01	<b>Beneficiaries</b> 249 schools; 210,000 primary school pupils in 10 districts	<b>Partners</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Education</li> <li>• DoPDMA</li> <li>• GTZ</li> <li>• CARE</li> <li>• Action Aid</li> </ul>	<b>350,000</b>
	<b>Project Title:</b> School feeding and social mobilisation		
	<b>Aim:</b> Prevent absenteeism among school children		

<sup>7</sup> The Government of Malawi will implement the agricultural inputs programme. The UN is requesting funding in order to reduce the cost of inputs, currently 70% subsidised by the GoM, to free. UNDP will administer the funds.

**MALAWI FLASH APPEAL**

<b>UNICEF</b>  MLW-05/E02	<b>Beneficiaries</b> All primary school children in the 5000 primary schools.	<b>Partners</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Education</li> <li>• Ministry of Gender, Child Welfare and Community Services</li> <li>• DoPDMA</li> <li>• MASAF</li> <li>• GTZ</li> <li>• Action Aid</li> <li>• CARE</li> </ul>	<b>100,000</b>
	<b>Project Title:</b> School sentinel surveillance to monitor impact of food insecurity on school attendance and learning.		
<b>SECTOR: Protection from Exploitation</b>			<b>US\$</b>
<b>UNICEF</b>  MLW-05/P/HR/RL01	<b>Beneficiaries:</b> 2 million children and women in the affected areas.	<b>Partners</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Gender, Child Welfare and Community Services</li> <li>• Ministry of Justice</li> <li>• Ministry of Home Affairs</li> <li>• Save the Children</li> <li>• WFP</li> <li>• NGO partners</li> </ul>	<b>300,000</b>
	<b>Project Title:</b> Protection from exploitation and legal assistance due to the food crisis.		
	<b>Aim:</b> Protect children and women from exploitation resulting from the crisis. Provide legal and other support.		
<b>Total Costs</b>			<b>87,760,869</b>

**ANNEX I. TEXT FROM UN SECRETARY-GENERAL LETTER TO HEADS OF DONOR STATES**

8 August 2005

Excellency,

Far from the world's media spotlight, southern Africa is struggling to cope with what can only be described as an acute phase of a chronic emergency. The triple threat of HIV/AIDS, food insecurity and weakened capacity for governance is threatening the very survival of communities in the region.

Recent crop and food assessment in southern Africa, conducted by United Nations agencies, governments, donors and non-governmental organisations, indicate that more than 10 million people will need humanitarian aid over the coming year. Many of these people have battled food shortages of the last three years, and because of endemic poverty and the negative impact of HIV/AIDS, they simply have not had a chance to recover.

This year, the late arrival of seeds and fertiliser, combined with several extremely dry months, were enough to seriously impact agricultural production in Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Malawi, for example, is facing its worst harvest since 1992. We expect that the international community will be called upon to provide between 700,000 to 800,000 tonnes of food to support the region's most vulnerable people. It is for this reason that I write to you today. Southern Africa needs your urgent and focused support. If we are to avert a catastrophe in a few months time, then food and cash must be pledged immediately for humanitarian assistance programmes.

The lean season in southern Africa traditionally starts in December and runs through to March, but how many people have already exhausted their food stocks and are surviving on wild fruits and relying on other more negative coping strategies; children, especially orphans, are dropping out of school, and some women have been forced to turn to prostitution to survive.

Tragic experience has taught us that we cannot wait until the last minute to respond with humanitarian assistance. Fortunately, South Africa has a sizeable grain surplus this year – the only country in the region that has avoided a deficit – and it may be possible to procure supplies there if donors move quickly.

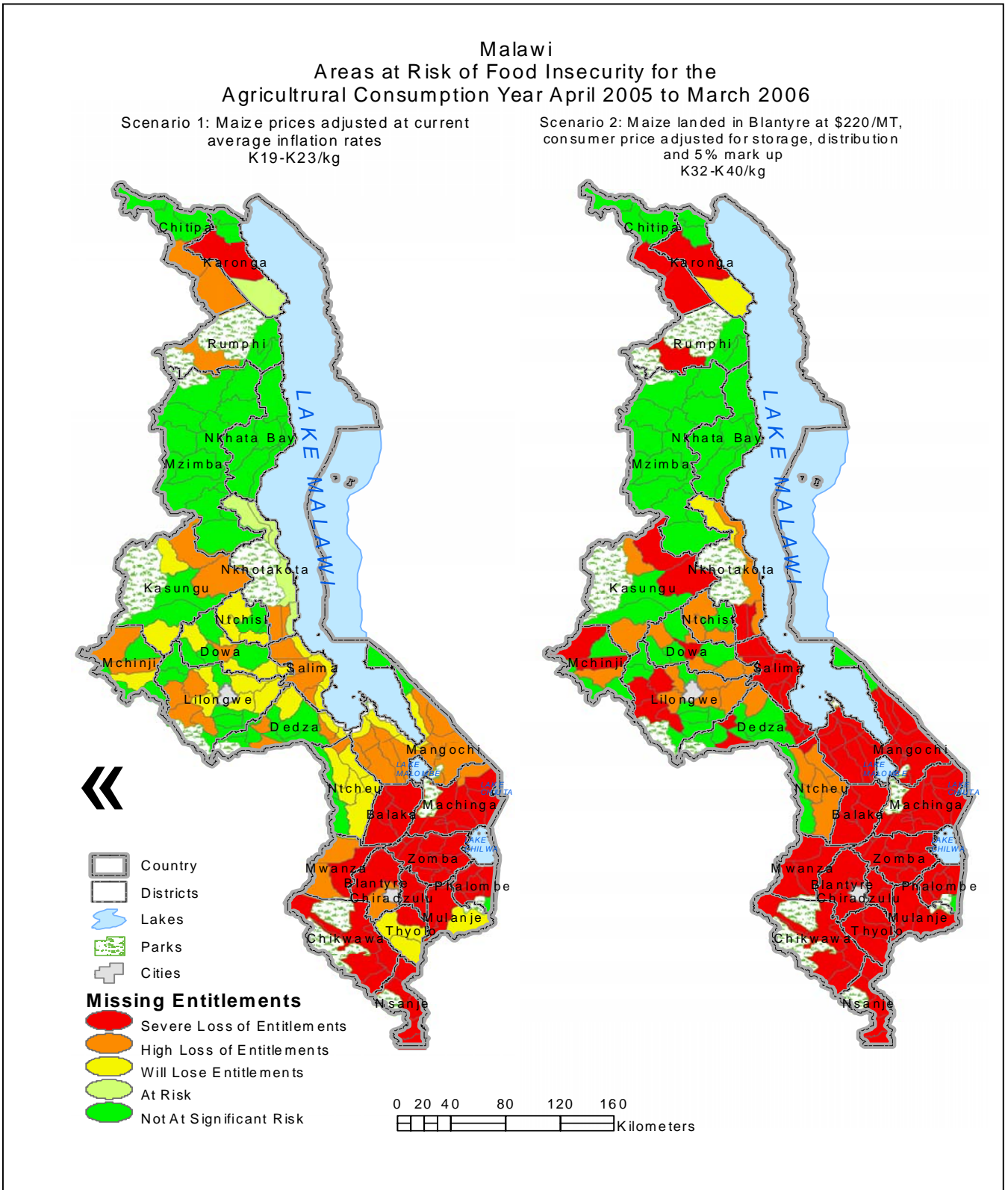
It will take time to get food and other humanitarian supplies to the households that need it most. In raising the alarm now, I hope that you will do everything within your power to ensure southern Africa does not become another crisis that was within our grasp to prevent.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed)

Kofi A. Annan

ANNEX II. AREAS OF RISK OF FOOD INSECURITY



Source: Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC). (June 2005). *Malawi Food Security Monitoring Report*, p. 5.

## ANNEX III. ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ADRA	Adventist Development and Relief Agency
ARI	Acute Respiratory Infections
CBDA	Community Based Distribution Agent
CHAM	Christian Health Association of Malawi
CPAR	Canadian Physicians for Aid and Relief
CSB	Corn and Soya Blend
DfID	Department for International Development
DoPDMA	Department of Poverty and Disaster Management Affairs
DSM	Dry Skim Milk
EU	European Union
EU-PWP	European Union Public Works Programme
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
GAM	Global Acute Malnutrition
GoM	Government of Malawi
GTZ	German Technical Cooperation (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit)
Ha	Hectare
HBC	Home Based Care
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
KG	Kilogramme
MASAF	Malawi Social Action Fund
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MK	Malawi Kwacha
MT	Metric Tonnes
MVAC	Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NRU	Nutrition Rehabilitation Unit
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
ORS	Oral Rehydration Salt
PRRO	Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection
SWAp	Sector Wide Approach
TFD	Targeted Food Distribution
TIP	Targeted Inputs Programme
UN	United Nations
UNAIDS	The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization

**OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS  
(OCHA)**

**NEW YORK OFFICE  
UNITED NATIONS  
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017  
USA**

**TELEFAX: (1 212) 963.3630**

**GENEVA OFFICE  
PALAIS DES NATIONS  
1211 GENEVA 10  
SWITZERLAND**

**TELEFAX: (41 22) 917.0368**