1. Overview

The moderate Tropical Storm Ana, after making a landfall on the Mozambique coast on 24 January 2022, headed towards southern Malawi on 25 January 2022. On 26 January 2022, the Government of Malawi declared a State of Disaster and requested international assistance.

As of 1 March 2022, the Tropical Storm Ana has impacted 17 Districts of the Southern and Central regions of Malawi including Nsanje, Chikwawa, Mulanje and Phalombe, affecting over 994,000 and displacing more than 32,500 households (source: DoDMA). The displaced populations are being accommodated in temporary facilities, mostly schools, with limited access to food, water and sanitation and are in need of immediate assistance.

The Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA), the country’s national disaster management agency, is leading the response.

2. Assessments and Access Constraints

Physical Access Constraints

- Many routes remain damaged but initial maintenance allows vehicles under 20MT to pass through
- Maintenance has been conducted on the affected region in Chikwawa and light vehicles are now able to pass through. Larger trucks are able to pass but advised to proceed with caution and lighter payloads
  - The water is draining off in many areas after the rain stopped.
  - Maintenance has been completed on the damage at Sekeni that disconnected Nchalo, and Ngabu Trading Centres and vehicles are now able to pass.
  - Chapananga Road is still cut off one kilometre from the Chikwawa District Council Road turn off. The road is no accessible for trucks, this has been like that for quite some time regardless of Cyclone Ana.
  - Kapichira Road is still cut off but accessible to small vehicles.
  - East Bank Road has also been damaged, primarily at the Nkudzi Bridge, but the road is still passable. Maintenance has not started for these roads.
  - Seven, from junction S151/S152, to Bangula, junction M1/S151, remains inaccessible to all vehicles, limiting routes between Nsanje and Thyolo.
Situation Report #4, 08 March 2022
Malawi Cyclone Ana

- Nsanje to Chikwawa is fully accessible for small vehicles
- A physical access constraint map of the southern region is available on the website and will be updated regularly.
- The National Logistics Cluster is seeking for partners’ participation to update the Log:ie physical access constraint online map using the following link: https://logie.logcluster.org/?op=mdi. The user guide to make a report using the platform is available here.

Other major constraints
- The tropical storm also caused damages on Generation stations causing a substantial reduction in the power system capacity. This resulted in the implementation of power rationing (load shedding) in all the three regions across the country.
- Distribution Power system also suffered multiple faults ranging from fallen poles, broken poles, badly leaning poles, broken conductors, broken jumpers, broken disc insulators, blown surge arrestors and fallen substation structures leading to damaged transformers
- Damaged powerlines have resulted in no power or erratic power supply in many areas (source ESCOM)
  - 66kV Mapaga- Fundis X Overhead line: five fallen structures rendered the whole Thyolo, Mulanje, Phalombe and part of Chiradzulu off supply
  - 132kV Kapichira-Nchalo Overhead line: nine fallen steel towers rendered Nchalo and the whole lower shire off supply.

3. Logistics Sectorial Response

The World Food Programme (WFP) is supporting the Malawi Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA) in the response, by providing logistics sector coordination and information management support as well as by facilitating access to common services.

Transport
- Over 250MT of relief items have been transported using 15 trucks and two boats to distribute items to six locations.
- WFP and UNICEF have provided a boat to the Marine department to support operations along the East bank
- 15 MSUs been mounted as mobile clinics in response to Cyclone Ana.
- Transport requests can be sent directly to malawi.tropicalstormana@wfp.org

Storage
- Supported storage servicers of 101.8MT of relief items

The current storage facilities having been assessed in Nsanje district are as follow:

Bangula:
- The Interagency Humanitarian Staging Area has an estimated capacity of storing up to 2,800MT.
- The National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) has a storage capacity of 4,000MT with no risks of flooding.
- The Agricultural Development and Marketing Corporation (ADMCAR) has a storage capacity of 4,000MT with no risks of flooding.

**Makhanga:**
- The Agricultural Development and Marketing Corporation (ADMCAR) has a storage capacity of 2,000MT. However, the site is at risk of flooding in cases of heavy rains.

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[https://logcluster.org/countries/MWI](https://logcluster.org/countries/MWI)