

Malawi

April 2019

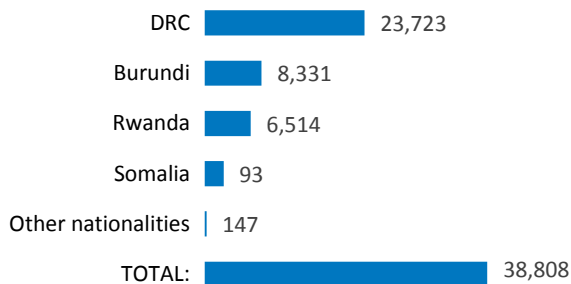
Total of **38,808 refugees and asylum-seekers** are residing at Dzaleka Refugee Camp as of 30 April. A total of **278** new arrivals and newborn babies were registered in April 2019.

UNHCR assisted with shelter and relief items **10,000 persons affected** by Tropical Cyclone Idai in Chikwawa, Nsanje and Phalombe districts.

In 2018 a total of **1,069** refugees were resettled from Malawi to Canada, Australia, Finland, Sweden and USA. 2019 referral target is **1,250**.

POPULATION OF CONCERN

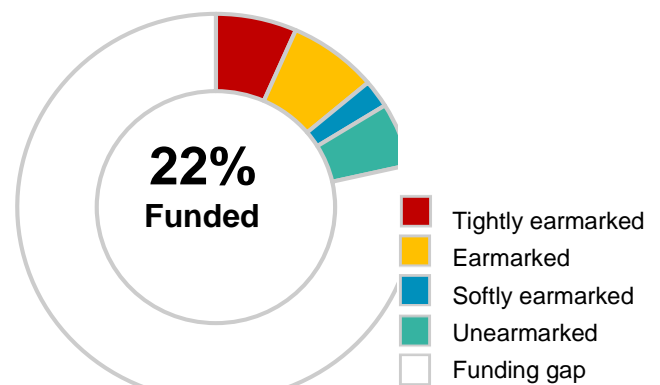
Country of Origin



FUNDING (AS OF 9 JULY 2019)

USD 15.4 M

UNHCR's 2019 requirements for the Malawi operation



*Including indicative allocation of softly earmarked and unearmarked contributions

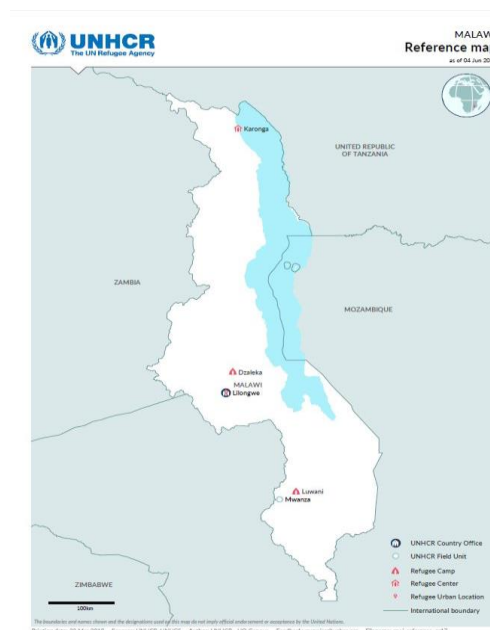
UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

- 25** National Staff
- 08** International Staff
- 13** Affiliated Staff

Offices:

- 01** Branch Office in Lilongwe
- 01** field Unit Blantyre



Working with Partners

- Under the Refugee Coordination Model, UNHCR coordinates activities with the following partners: Ministry of Homeland Security (MHS); Ministry of Health (MoH); Plan International Malawi (PIM); Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS); Churches Action for Relief and Development (CARD); Welthungerhilfe (WHH), and Norwegian Church Aid (NCA). UNHCR also collaborates with other partners and the UN agencies, including the World Food Programme (WFP). UNHCR is part of the UN Country Team and the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF).

Main Activities

Protection

- MHS is responsible for reception, refugee status determination (RSD) and camp management. Reception conditions and the risk of *refoulement* remain a concern.
- Refugee Status Determination (RSD) backlogs have decreased in the past year with 13,677 people of concern (PoCs) recognised as refugees. More RSD determinations are pending endorsement by the Refugee Committee.
- Congestion in Dzaleka Refugee Camp, initially designed to accommodate approximately 10,000 PoCs and it is currently home to 38,808 refugees and asylum-seekers, remains a serious concern.

Education

- A total of 5,678 refugees and asylum-seekers are enrolled in education programmes at various levels. Some 272 pre-school children represent an enrolment rate of 8.4 per cent of children between the ages three to five. A total of 4,211 children represent 40 per cent of the overall enrolment figure at the level of primary school while 567 students makes up 18 per cent enrolment at secondary school. Through the Naweza Girl Empowerment Initiative, seven girls are beneficiaries of the Naweza Secondary School Scholarship Programme and six more benefits from the Naweza Tertiary Scholarship Programmes. A total of 629 youth are enrolled in various post-secondary and higher education programmes (certificates, diploma & degree) provided by Jesuit Refugee Services and Jesuit Worldwide Learning (JWL).
- In 2018, Malawi benefitted from the Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Programme (DAFI) scholarships for the first time. Six refugee students are beneficiaries of the programme. The number of scholarships is expected to be increased in 2019.
- In June 2017 the Connectivity for Refugees Project was opened in Dzaleka which was the first AppFactory through Microsoft's 4Africa Initiative. Twenty-eight students have been enrolled in the second intake in September 2018 and the class will conclude in July 2019. The intake of the pioneer class had 21 students and ran between June 2017 and May 2018.

Health

- The Dzaleka Health Centre currently assists over 70,000 persons. Total of 62 per cent of these persons are from the host community. Dzaleka Health Centre provides adult and paediatric outpatient services, HIV counselling and testing (HCT), anti-retroviral therapy clinic, laboratory services, community management of acute malnutrition, immunization, family planning, ante-natal, delivery and post-natal services.
- Dzaleka Health Centre hosts an Out Patient Therapeutic Programme (OTP).

Food Security and Nutrition

- UNHCR works closely with the Government, WFP and UNICEF to address the nutrition needs of refugees and asylum-seekers. Food assistance provided by WFP is critical. WFP and UNHCR are currently appealing for USD 2.9 million to feed 38,000 PoCs in Dzaleka Refugee Camp between April and December 2019. Up to 90 per cent of refugees rely on food assistance, much due to reservations made by the Government in which PoCs cannot seek employment or conduct businesses outside of the camp.

Water and Sanitation

- Dzaleka has 34 functional hand pumps and 15 water kiosks each with four taps, which supply 345,000 litres of water for approximately 38,000 refugees and asylum-seekers. PoCs receive on average, nine litres of water per person per day, much lower than the standard of ≥ 20 litres per person per day. Currently, 38,000 refugees have 89 communal toilet stances and 5,500 household toilet stances which serves seven people per latrine which is also below the standard ratio ≤ 20 people per latrine.

Shelter and Core Relief Items

- Refugees and asylum-seekers are in need of shelter and core relief items such as mosquito nets, blankets, kitchen sets, mats soap, sanitary pads, clothes, briquettes and solar lamps.

Access to Energy

- UNHCR and its partners support energy conservation practices in and around the camp through the provision of energy saving stoves.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- Due to the encampment policy the majority of refugees and asylum-seekers have limited income generating opportunities in Dzaleka. Current livelihood activities include high value crop production using rain-fed agriculture. Due to erratic rain patterns, UNHCR has funded the development of a solar powered irrigation scheme through a livelihoods partner CARD which was completed in 2018. Other livelihoods activities include business enterprises (milk processing, restaurant improvements, feed making, meat processing, vegetable processing, and tomato processing-jam), and livestock production (dairy production, piggery, layers-for eggs and meat, broilers for meat and quails for eggs and meat). Poultry, piggery and goats rearing initiatives that began in 2016 continue to yield positive results through improved incomes and food security.
- In April 2018, New Finance Bank opened its branch of service in Dzaleka Refugee Camp. The banks offer services such as saving accounts, group lending, ATM access, forex services, training courses on financial literacy and business skills and tailored services according to the needs of the person of concern to the residents of the camp.

The initiative is driven in partnership between New Finance Bank, Ministry of Homeland Security, and UNHCR Malawi.

Durable Solutions

- Resettlement continues to be the most viable and durable solution for refugees in Malawi as the local integration and voluntary repatriation seem to be not feasible. UNHCR continues to appeal to the Government of Malawi to fast track the implementation of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) which will pave the way for a settlement model.

External / Donors Relations

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation in 2019 with special thanks to the **United States of America, Japan, CERF, UPS Corporate, and the UN Programme on HIV/AIDS**, and to all donors giving unearmarked and softly earmarked funds, including Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Indonesia, Kuwait, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Uruguay, along with private donors from Australia, Republic of Korea, and Spain.

CONTACTS

Monique Ekoko, UNHCR Representative, Lilongwe, Malawi
ekoko@unhcr.org, Tel: +265 1 771 027

Rumbani Msiska, Reporting Associate, Lilongwe, Malawi
msiskar@unhcr.org, Tel: +265 1 772 155, Cell: +265 999 911 830

LINKS

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/unhccrosa?lang=en>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/UNHCRSouthernAfrica>

Global Focus: <https://reporting.unhcr.org/node/10320>

Data-portal: <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/country/mwi>