



## Republic of Malawi

### OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND CABINET

#### Department of Disaster Management Affairs

#### PRESS RELEASE

*For immediate release*

### UPDATE ON RECENT HEAVY RAINS AND FLOODS

The Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA), in the Office of the President and Cabinet updates humanitarian partners and the general public on the impacts of heavy rains and flooding experienced across the country between 15<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

As of Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2026, the department has received additional preliminary reports from 23 affected councils: Balaka, Blantyre City, Blantyre District, Chikwawa, Chiradzulu, Dedza, Karonga, Likoma, Lilongwe District, Machinga, Mangochi District, Mangochi Municipal, Mchinji, Mulanje, Mwanza, Neno, Nsanje, Ntcheu, Phalombe, Rumphi, Salima, Zomba City, and Zomba District.

#### SUMMARY OF IMPACTS

A total of **69,088 households (approximately 310, 896 people)** have been affected, with **6,155 households displaced and sheltered in 84 camps** set across the affected councils. The department has recorded **34 deaths and 197 injuries**. However, the figures may rise as councils are conducting assessments in areas that were largely inaccessible.

#### IMPACTS IN DISTRICT/CITY COUNCILS

- **Balaka District:** 3,409 households affected, with 53 displaced and sheltered in 2 camps, 19 injuries recorded.
- **Blantyre City:** 883 households affected with 15 displaced; 2 deaths and 8 injuries recorded.
- **Blantyre District:** 964 households affected.
- **Chikwawa:** 24,832 households affected with 1,828 households displaced and sheltered in 24 camps; 9 deaths and 25 injuries recorded.
- **Chiradzulu:** 1,697 households affected.
- **Dedza:** 530 households affected with 36 displaced; 2 deaths and 6 injuries recorded.
- **Karonga:** 34 households displaced and sheltered in 2 camps.
- **Likoma:** 72 households affected.
- **Lilongwe District:** 17 households displaced and sheltered at a Community-Based Care Centre following mudslides in TA Mazengera.
- **Machinga:** 7,045 households affected with 110 displaced and sheltered in 2 camps; 3 deaths and 32 injuries recorded.

- **Mangochi District:** 6,421 households affected with 877 displaced and sheltered in 9 camps; 4 deaths and 13 injuries recorded.
- **Mangochi Municipal:** 956 households affected, 5 camps established, 1 death and 17 injuries recorded.
- **Mchinji:** 920 households affected with 48 displaced and sheltered at a camp.
- **Mulanje:** 795 households affected, with 234 displaced and sheltered at a camp; 1 recorded injury.
- **Mwanza:** 3,125 households affected, with 69 displaced and sheltered in 6 camps; 3 injuries recorded.
- **Neno:** 410 households affected, 3 deaths and 2 injuries recorded.
- **Nsanje:** 2,244 households affected with 3 displaced.
- **Ntcheu:** 3,657 households affected.
- **Phalombe:** 1,777 households affected with 488 displaced and sheltered at a camp; 2 recorded deaths.
- **Rumphi:** 839 households affected, 1 recorded death.
- **Salima:** 2,160 affected households with 431 displaced and sheltered in 8 camps; 4 deaths and 15 recorded injuries.
- **Zomba City:** 719 affected households with 39 displaced and sheltered in 4 camps; 1 death and 14 injuries recorded.
- **Zomba District:** 5,582 households affected with 1,890 displaced and sheltered in 19 camps; 2 deaths and 55 injuries recorded.

## RESPONSE EFFORTS

DoDMA is providing relief assistance to affected councils in collaboration with various humanitarian partners.

The department has developed a US\$10 million (about K17 billion) budget to facilitate the provision of immediate humanitarian needs, restore basic services, prevent secondary disaster impacts and initiate early recovery. DoDMA is therefore, appealing to development partners, local and international non-governmental organisations to support this noble cause.

The department will continue to provide updates as more information becomes available.

For more information, please contact the Public Relations Officer, Mr. Chipiliro Raymond Khamula, on +265 (0) 999 043 228, (0) 884 572 844 E-mail; [info.dodma@dodma.gov.mw](mailto:info.dodma@dodma.gov.mw).

Issued in Lilongwe on the 26<sup>th</sup> Day of March, 2026



Wilson Moleni

**COMMISSIONER FOR DISASTER  
MANAGEMENT AFFAIRS**

***Disaster Risk Reduction is Everyone's Responsibility!***