

Alert Type: Rapid Onset Crisis

Alert Title: Malawi Floods

Alerting Organisation(s): Ulandshjælp Fra Folk til Folk - Humana People to People

Date Received: 24.03.26

Decision Date: 25.03.26

By: DERF Fund Management

Crisis country and location(s): Malawi

Decision: Not to activate the DERF to respond to Malawi Floods

Reason:

DERF acknowledges the flooding and its impact on affected communities, including loss of life, displacement, and damage to homes and infrastructure. However, based on the currently inadequate humanitarian information available, the overall scale and severity of the crisis appear limited.

According to the latest ECHO Daily Flash (23 March 2026) and information from the Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA), 22 people have died, 84 have been injured, and approximately 140,000 people have been affected by flooding across 18 councils. A total of 1,164 households are currently sheltered in 31 camps.

While casualties and needs are documented, the number of people affected remains relatively low in comparison to larger-scale emergencies, and the situation is being addressed by national authorities and established humanitarian actors. In particular, DoDMA, in coordination with humanitarian partners and the Government of Malawi, is currently providing relief assistance to approximately 4 million food-insecure people, as well as to more than 21,000 households affected by the recent heavy rains and flooding.

Taking the above into account, it is assessed that there is no significant funding gap at this stage, and that the scale of needs does not currently justify activation under the DERF. Global Disaster Awareness and Coordination System (GDACS) further assesses the event as having a low humanitarian impact based on magnitude, exposure, and vulnerability. Overall, the flooding does not demonstrate a sufficiently severe or large-scale humanitarian impact to warrant DERF support at this time. Should the crisis escalate in scale or severity, or if gaps in the response emerge, a new alert may be submitted for reassessment. Any such alert must be supported by credible humanitarian sources documenting the impact and needs.