

Japan - Malawi Partnership for COVID-19 response



FACTSHEET

MARCH 2021-MARCH 2022

BUDGET: US\$1,388,363

KEY PARTNERS: WHO, UNICEF, JICA

OBJECTIVES

Scale-up domestic manufacturing of PPEs and other COVID-19 supplies, through improved partnerships with the private sector, vocational and educational institutions, to reduce transmission risk of COVID-19.

Capacity building opportunities for local PPE producer to improve production quality and output.

Strengthen supply chain system by training health workers to manage and utilize PPEs and other COVID-19 supplies.

Improve collaboration among stakeholders across various COVID-19 collaborative platforms.

PROJECT OUTPUTS

Output 1: Manufacture and distribute 342,000 face masks, 100,000 face shields and 1,500 no-touch hand-washing stations.

Output 2: Technical assistance and training targeting private manufacturers, universities, and vocational colleges for quality assurance and production management.

Output 3: Increased number of health workers trained in health product supply management. **Output 4:** Improved collaboration across working groups on COVID 19 and Trilateral Partnerships between GoJ, GoM and the UN.

CONTRIBUTION TO SDGS

The project will contribute to SDGs 3, 16



From
the People of Japan

DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

By early August, 2020, Malawi had 4,491 cases of COVID-19, with 137 confirmed deaths, while continuing to see a rapid escalation in the number of cases. With a lack of testing at scale, the actual COVID-19 caseload is estimated to be many times higher than reported cases, noting that Malawi, like many African states, is far from reaching its peak caseload. Preventing the continued spread of the COVID virus has been greatly hindered by the global shortage of PPEs and other sanitizing supplies.

Local companies have limited capability to respond - either they do not meet international standards of WHO required for UNICEF / donor purchasing, and/or require technical support to re-purpose their machinery for production of COVID-19 items. To add to the challenge of insufficient PPEs is a weak supply chain system, with leakages and points of wastage. Supply management training to majority of health workers that handle these supplies, is also lacking, in addition to systems that support supply management at facility level.