

DRR- MALAWI SCENARIO

from disaster response to Management

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Presentation Outline

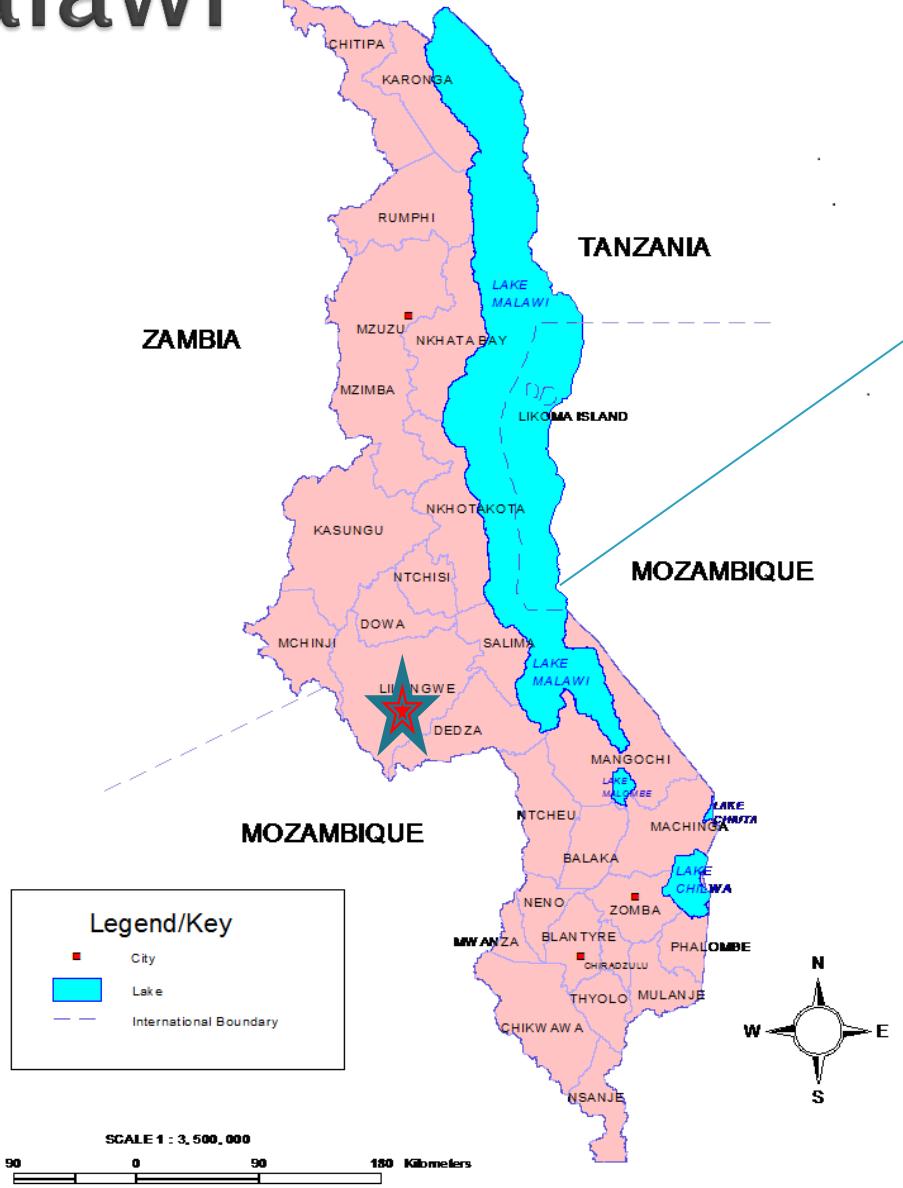
- ▶ Introduction
- ▶ Disasters in Malawi
- ▶ NDRA four enabling elements
 - Establishing NDRA governance mechanism;
 - Defining the policy scope and technical scope of NDRA;
 - Developing NDRA data management plan;
 - Developing NDRA required capacities;

Role of MASDAP

- ▶ Challenges
- ▶ Conclusion

Malawi

Map of Malawi



Malawi

- ▶ **Malawi** is a land locked country in southern Eastern Africa. It is bordered by Tanzania in the North and northeast, Mozambique on the east and
- ▶ **Population** - Malawi has an estimated population of about 16 million people
- ▶ **Economy** – Malawi economy depends mainly on agriculture. Poor weather heavily impacts on its economy

DISASTER IN MALAWI

- ▶ Malawi is prone to different types of hazards
- ▶ Frequency & magnitude of disasters has increased since the 1990s and the worst in 20s such as
 - Earthquakes -the largest earthquake happened in 2009 in the Northern Part of Malawi in Karonga District
 - Floods - the worst in January 2015 (**1.1 million people affected**)
 - Drought - worst was in 2015/16 growing season (**6.7 million people affected**)

Impacts of hazards

- ▶ Disasters have a direct negative impact on the economy of Malawi as its economy heavily depends on agriculture - negative impact on poverty and food security in the country.
- ▶ Disasters also undermine government efforts to achieve its development goals
- ▶ Therefore, there is indeed need for Malawi to conduct national disaster risk assessment for better management of disaster risk.

Enabling elements for NDRA- Malawi Scenario

Malawi has not yet done a NDRA but earlier specific assessments and mapping has been done

Establishing NDRA governance mechanism

- ▶ Though Malawi has not yet done a comprehensive NDRA but has put mechanism in place of making sure all key sectors work in a coordinated manner through the establishment of a National DRM Platform.
- ▶ The Platform comprises government, civil society, UN agencies, donors, the private sector, academia, media, among others
- ▶ Conducting a comprehensive NDRA will not be a problem as sectors already understand their roles and responsibilities in DRM
- ▶ There is also a technical sub-committee on coordination and assessment

Developing NDRA data management plan

- ▶ Designing and conducting NDRA and delivering results require data and information
- ▶ Malawi has embarked on developing community maps in GIS format through community mapping and other open data initiative to enhance the geo-database
- ▶ Risk assessments are conducted using different datasets and tools for delivery of results
- ▶ Data sharing among institutions has been a challenge
- ▶ Efforts are being made to develop memoranda of understanding between institutions to facilitate data sharing
- ▶ This will facilitate undertaking comprehensive risk assessments

Defining the policy scope of NDRA

- ▶ Malawi has a National DRM Policy approved in 2015
- ▶ One of the policy priority areas is on “***establishment of a comprehensive system for disaster risk identification, assessment and monitoring***”
- ▶ Disaster risk assessment is therefore a priority for Malawi
- ▶ The plan is to undertake a NDRA to inform the implementation of risk reduction interventions
- ▶ The area specific assessments and mapping has been done by either NGOs or under leadership of the Department of Surveys

Mapping methodology

- ▶ Risk assessments undertaken by different organisations use different methodologies

For Department of Survey led assessments and mapping:

- ▶ Data collection through hand held GPS
- ▶ Attributes was being updated by the community while collecting mapping data
- ▶ Map compilation and data validations done and then run Inasafe model to produce the affected population or buildings or whatever element you are interested in.
- ▶ Data collecting is key to NDRA
- ▶ The NDRA guidelines being developed will be very useful for Malawi

continued

- ▶ Data has to be shared therefore, format and standards are key in developing a centralized database that will hold all types of data.
- ▶ Malawi through a DRR World Bank project establishment of a web portal for purposes of data sharing and storage of data sets called Malawi Spatial Data Portal (MASDAP)

MASDAP

- ▶ When disasters occur there is need to have information at finger tips for decision makers to make quick decisions not only for disaster response but for any other development.
- ▶ MASDAP is used for sharing both spatial and non spatial data and information
- ▶ **MASDAP** functions
 - Visualise map
 - Create your own maps
 - Upload data or documents
 - Download layers
 - Make announcements
- ▶ Developed in 2012.
- ▶ www.masdap.mw

Advantage of the portal

- ▶ Coordination has improved amongst data producers and users
- ▶ Sharing of information has improved
- ▶ Capacity building on the use of spatial information for disaster risk management has improved
- ▶ Global data sets are being accessed and the information has been very useful such as Open Street map Open data, open layers and other satellite images such Euro space and USGS

Developing NDRA required capacities

- ▶ Building capacity at all levels is key in risk assessment;
- ▶ Department of Surveys has mapping expertise
- ▶ But there is need to build capacity in other ministries and departments including DoDMA;
- ▶ Malawi maps are being disseminated to the district and community level and are trained on how to use information
- ▶ Risks have an impact on the people and therefore they need to understand how they can identify risks and manage them
- ▶ Make sure there is communication at all levels

Challenges

- Inadequate funding for DRM has made it impossible to undertake comprehensive NDRA in the country;
- No standardized guidelines for undertaking risk assessments hence use of different methodologies;
- Lack of capacity in risk assessments in different institutions;
- Unwillingness to share data by some institutions;
- Understaffing in key institutions responsible for disaster risk management related issues

Conclusion

- ▶ Though Malawi has not conducted the NDRA, there is a strong political will, good governance and technical support to conduct the assessment soon.
- ▶ Involvement of all stakeholders up to grass root level is key in this type of assessment.
- ▶ Coordination has to be enhanced with all key stakeholders
- ▶ There is need to build capacity in risk assessments in different institutions
- ▶ Use of open data initiative can assist Malawi in having baseline data for planning and preparedness for disasters.
- ▶ The NDRA guidelines being developed will be very useful for Malawi

End of presentation

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION**



