



MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CLIMATE CHANGE
DEPARTMENT OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES

Activity Brief

The Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services (DCCMS), under the Resilience and Preparedness to Tropical Cyclones across Southern Africa (REPRESA) project, conducted a two-part capacity-building training for Disaster Risk Management Committees (DRMCs) in Chikwawa (TA Ngowe) from 16th to 20th June 2025 and Nsanje (TA Tengani) from 23rd to 27th June 2025. The activity aimed to strengthen community-level early warning systems for tropical cyclones, in line with the 2024–2025 Malawi REPRESA Work Plan under Work Package 3 on multi-hazard early warning systems.

The training followed a needs assessment that identified critical gaps in cyclone knowledge, early warning and action, interpretation of seasonal forecasts, resource mobilization, report writing, DRMC governance, and first aid. The course content was tailored to these local needs to enhance preparedness and timely response.

DCCMS led the training in collaboration with the Malawi Red Cross Society (MRCS), Sustainable Development Initiative (SDI), Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA), and the Department of Water Resources (DWR), ensuring a multi-sectoral approach to community resilience building.

[16TH -27TH June, 2025] [Chikwawa and Nsanje] Publication No: [T.R2025/01]

Title of the Activity

Capacity Building Training on Tropical Cyclone Early Warning and Preparedness for DRMCs in Chikwawa and Nsanje under the REPRESA Project

Objective of the Activity

The main objective of this activity was to equip participants with the necessary skills to effectively carry out their roles in Disaster Risk Management (DRM), with a particular focus on early warning for tropical cyclones. It also sought to raise awareness of existing DRM frameworks and policies, promote first aid knowledge to enable DRMCs to save lives during disasters, and enhance understanding of weather and climate forecasting as it relates to early warning systems.

Key Activities Conducted

- The training activities included a combination of presentations, group discussions and plenary sessions, simulation exercises, and case studies. These interactive methods were designed to engage participants, encourage knowledge sharing, and provide practical experience in disaster preparedness and early warning for tropical cyclones.



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Partners/Stakeholders

- [Malawi Red Cross Society (MRCS), Sustainable Development Initiative (SDI), Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA), and the Department of Water Resources (DWR)]
- [Chiefs and DRMCs]

Key Takeaways / Outcomes

- Improved Cyclone Preparedness: DRMC members gained practical knowledge on early warning systems specific to tropical cyclones, enhancing their readiness to respond effectively.
- Stronger Understanding of DRM Policies: Participants became more familiar with national and local Disaster Risk Management frameworks and policies, improving coordination and compliance.
- First Aid Skills: Basic first aid training empowered committee members to provide immediate life-saving support during disaster events.
- Enhanced Forecast Interpretation: The training improved participants' ability to interpret and apply weather and climate forecasts for timely community alerts and actions.
- Team Collaboration and Leadership: Through group exercises and simulations, DRMCs strengthened their teamwork, communication, and leadership skills for disaster response.



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Photo Highlight



Participants pausing for a group photo

DCCMS Officers Involved

[Charles Vanya, Deputy Director FOBS]

[Alick Chibanthowa, Meteorologist, NMC]

[Edwin Tadeyo, Meteorologist, OC Chileka]

[Tapiwa Khutakumutu, Meteorologist, NMC]

For More Information

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