



CREWS PROJECT STATUS REPORT (January - December 2025)

Section 1. General Project Information

1. Project title	Strengthening Risk informed planning, Hydro-Meteorological and Early Warning Services in Malawi	2. Project reference	CREWS/CProj/14/Malawi
3. Lead Implementing Partner of the project	World Bank	4. Other Implementing Partners involved in the project	WMO
5. Operational Partners involved in the project	- Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services (DCCMS), - Department of Water Resources (DWR), - Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA) - District Council - IFRC, Red Cross Climate Center and National Societies (Malawi Red Cross Society) - Africa Conservation Tillage Network	6. Project Duration/Timeframe (from year – to year)	2022-2026
7. Current year of implementation	4	8. Total Funding Approved by Steering Committee (in US dollars), including fees	\$3,000,000 WB: \$1,400,000 (+\$140,000 fees) WMO: \$1,292,035 (+167,965 fees)
9. Reporting focal point(s) from Implementing Partners	WB: Arati Belle (abelle@worldbank.org) WMO: Joshua Ngaina (jngaina@wmo.int)		

Section 2. Overall rating

Interpretation of color coding

High		The project is having good implementation progress. End-of project targets achievement or cumulative financial delivery are fully on track.
Medium		The project is having moderate progress. Implementation is facing issues. End-of project targets achievement or cumulative financial delivery are off track. Adaptive management should be undertaken immediately.
Low		The project is having less than moderate or poor progress. Implementation is not proceeding as planned facing major issues. End-of project targets achievement or cumulative financial delivery are severely off track. Requires remedial attention where restructuring may be necessary.

	Rating	Comments on delays
Rate of delivery		
Rate of expenditure	From WB side: High From a total of \$1.4 million: Disbursed: \$US\$ 1,006,232.46 Committed: / From WMO side: High From a total of USD 1,460,000 Disbursed: 984,210.00 Committed: USD 475,790.17	N/A

Section 3. Project Performance Progress

10. Progress summary	What has been achieved <u>during this reporting period</u>? – Please <u>list by project outcome in bullet points</u>: progress and main achievements A. <u>WB Activities</u> Key achievements include: CREWS Outcome 1: National and local multi-hazard early warning systems prioritized and funded • Technical assistance for the development of the DCCMC Strategic and Operational Plans • Technical Assistance for the development of the draft Meteorology Bill • Technical Assistance for the development of the Meteorological Policy • In collaboration with WMO, technical Assistance for the implementation of Quality Management Systems (QMS) for aeronautical meteorological services at DCCMS – a South-South collaboration with the Seychelles Meteorological Authority • Co-organized with WMO, the Development Partners meeting in July 2025, which was cross sectoral and included senior and significant representation of stakeholders.
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	CREWS Outcome 2: Improved early warning service delivery and accessibility by national and regional institutions • Technical Assistance to DCCMS on weather radar (south – implementation stage and central - design stage) • Technical Assistance for the revision of the Water Resources Law in relation to Early Warning Systems (EWS) to harmonize it with the Disaster Risk Management Act • Detailed training program for 3 years developed for DCCMS, aligned with the competency requirements • Capacity building and TA to DCCMS, DWR and DoWR on instrumentation, procurement of hydromet infrastructure, data management systems etc. • Engagement with AU and SADC on regional hydromet information and systems. CREWS resources leverage substantial investment at country and regional level. Detailed consultations with the Government of Malawi are ongoing to continue to strengthen the alignment of CREWS activities along with the investments planned under World Bank’s Regional Program for Climate Resilience 2 (Malawi) that became effective in May 2024. and to enhance sustainability of EW related investment in related projects (MWASIP, MRDRMP) which are essential for improved disaster risk management and early warning in the country. Key findings include: • Climate risks are intensifying beyond current system capacity: Increasing floods, droughts, cyclones, and heatwaves are placing growing pressure on Malawi’s climate-sensitive sectors, while demand for timely, accurate, and actionable weather and climate information continues to rise. • Strong strategic and policy direction exists, but implementation is constrained: The Strategic and Operational Plans provide a clear roadmap for early warning, sectoral services, technology modernization, and institutional strengthening, but delivery is limited by legal, financial, and human capacity constraints. • Absence of an enacted Meteorology Act is a critical systemic gap: The Meteorology Bill proposes the Malawi Meteorological Authority as a semi-autonomous, sole national provider with regulatory and cost-recovery powers; without enactment, enforcement, decentralization, and financial sustainability remain weak. • Authoritative and coordinated service provision is essential: Fragmented or unregulated dissemination of forecasts undermines public trust and effectiveness; all instruments emphasize the need for a single authoritative source for official forecasts, warnings, and climate information. • Decentralization and 24/7 operations are urgent priorities: Centralised services and limited operating hours delay warnings during emergencies; district-level Meteorological Centres and continuous (24/7) national forecasting and warning operations are essential. • Early warning systems have improved but are not yet fit for purpose: Gaps persist in forecast accuracy, lead times, impact-based forecasting, multi-hazard coverage, and last-mile dissemination, limiting early action and disaster preparedness. • Observation, forecasting, and data systems remain inadequate: Sparse station coverage, limited automation, lack of radar and upper-air systems, weak ICT infrastructure, and incomplete digitisation of historical data reduce reliability and usability of services. • Quality Management Systems (QMS) show both major gaps and notable progress: The QMS assessment confirmed that DCCMS is not yet ISO 9001:2015–ready, with weaknesses in documentation, quality objectives, internal audits, risk management, and institutionalization of QMS roles. However, significant
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	progress was achieved through targeted support from the Seychelles Meteorological Authority (SMA), including staff awareness training, internal audits, establishment of a QMS team, and development of foundational procedures, manuals, and forms—providing a solid platform for continued QMS implementation and aviation compliance. • Human capacity constraints remain a major bottleneck: Shortages of skilled meteorologists, engineers, ICT specialists, and quality managers—combined with overlapping roles, limited incentives, and infrastructure constraints—threaten service continuity and reform implementation. • Financial sustainability remains high risk: Heavy reliance on government subventions and donor funding undermines long-term operations; the Bill enables cost recovery and PPPs, while strategic and policy instruments stress that public-good services require predictable state funding. • Technology modernization and digital transformation are essential enablers: Automation, digital platforms, data governance, QMS expansion, and advanced modelling are central to improving service quality, but operational plans reveal gaps in maintenance capacity and technical skills. • Research, innovation, and indigenous knowledge are underutilized: Weak integration between operations, academia, and research limits tailored services and evidence-based decision-making, despite strong strategic and policy intent. • Overall finding: enactment, QMS consolidation, and alignment are decisive: The Strategic and Operational Plans define <i>what</i> must be done, the Policy explains <i>how and why</i>, the Meteorology Bill provides the legal means to <i>make it sustainable</i>, and QMS consolidation—building on SMA-supported progress—is essential for credibility, compliance, and cost recovery. Without these enablers, gains in early warning and climate services risk remaining fragile. • Regional support from AU and SADC are supply driven even if they are of interest to the country and can be aligned, tend to be driven more by regional imperatives rather than country needs. Next steps include: • Support stakeholders' consultations as part of the process for enacting the Meteorology Bill • Continue technical assistance to DCCMS for the full implement of QMS for aeronautical meteorological services up to the ISO certification • Continue technical assistance to DCCMS on weather radar up to the installation of the central weather radar • Technical assistance to DCCMS on the implementation of its Strategic Plan B. <u>WMO Activities</u> <u>CREWS Outcome 1: National and Local Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems Prioritized and Funded</u> • Regulatory and institutional enabling environment has been advanced: The review of the Meteorological Bill has been initiated, indicating progress toward strengthening the regulatory framework underpinning national meteorological and early warning services. • National coordination and partner alignment have been strengthened: A National Partner Coordination and Stocktaking Meeting has been convened in July–August 2025 in Blantyre, bringing together government institutions, international partners, civil society, academia, and NGOs. The meeting has strengthened alignment on national priorities for risk information services, preparedness planning, and early warning investments. • Operational implementation of the NFWCS has been sustained: The National Framework for Climate and Water Services (NFWCS) has continued to guide
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	coordinated service delivery, with strengthened partner dialogue on resourcing, implementation priorities, and stakeholder engagement across sectors throughout 2025. A technical working group on the implementation of the NFWCS has been formed • Early Warnings for All (EW4ALL) roll-out has been initiated: The national roll-out of the EW4ALL initiative in Malawi has been initiated, with strategic technical support from WMO to align CREWS activities with EW4ALL pillars and to strengthen national and sub-national early warning system coordination. These efforts have ensured that CREWS investments are coherently aligned with the EW4All pillars and provide a structured foundation for the development of Malawi's EW4All national roadmap and coordinated partner investments CREWS Outcome 2: Improved Early Warning Service Delivery and Accessibility • Operational forecasting and warning capacity strengthened: Forecasting and warning services were enhanced through the continued use of ENACTS Maprooms, installation and operationalisation of data exchange platforms (including WIS2Box), and refinement of forecasting tools tailored to sectoral needs. National forecast and warning dissemination mechanisms were strengthened through the application of impact-based forecasting, improved inter-agency coordination, and reinforced last-mile communication arrangements. The products included various map rooms, improved modernized website (CLIMWEB) and Mobile based application (Zanyengo app) with 3 languages (Chichewa, Tumbuka and English) for dissemination of information.. • Seasonal climate services delivered and expanded: The 2025/2026 Seasonal Rainfall Forecast was produced and released in September 2025 (https://www.metmalawi.gov.mw/news/malawi-releases-20252026-seasonal-rainfall-forecast/), supported by National and District Climate Outlook Forums (NACOFs/DCOFs). These forums facilitated the co-production of downscaled climate information for agriculture, health, disaster risk management, and other climate-sensitive sectors, supporting preparedness and anticipatory decision-making. Notably, an update to the 2024/25 climate outlook was also produced and released in January 2025. In addition, through the support of MRCS, the focus districts were able to develop hazard risk maps to identify high-risk areas, anticipate potential impacts, target warnings, and inform appropriate early actions especially before the season. • Public access to early warning information improved: Access to weather and early warning information was enhanced through updates to the ClimWeb public website and expanded dissemination via community-level channels, including the Zanyengo bilingual weather application, radio, SMS, and civil protection committees. Alerts issued by DCCMS are disseminated using the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) through the ClimWeb CAP Alerts platform, including CAP RSS feeds, and shared via the WMO Severe Weather Information Centre (SWIC). Malawi's CAP alerts have been onboarded onto external platforms, including Google Search and Google Maps, significantly expanding the reach and accessibility of authoritative early warning information to the public. • User-driven service refinement achieved: A national user needs assessment conducted in early 2025 generated evidence to refine communication products and dissemination channels and to better align early warning services with user preferences, accessibility requirements, and sectoral decision contexts. • National climate services infrastructure and operational readiness strengthened: CREWS-supported activities implemented by DCCMS significantly strengthened national climate services infrastructure and operational readiness. ENACTS Maprooms, the Climate Data Tool (CDT), and the Automatic Data Tool (ADT) were installed, configured, and operationalised, enabling Routine production of downscaled climate products; Seasonal forecast verification analyses; and Preparation of State of Climate reports. District-level seasonal
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	forecast posters were produced and disseminated, supporting NACOFs/DCOFs, sectoral briefings, and partner-led preparedness and anticipatory actions. These investments have improved the availability, timeliness, and usability of authoritative climate and early warning information across national and sub-national levels. • Technical capacity of national institutions enhanced: Continuous capacity building and technical support were provided to DCCMS staff on tools such as ENACTS, PyCPT, and Maprooms, strengthening data analysis, forecasting, visualisation, and the timeliness and quality of early warning products. • Technical Assistance for the development of the draft Meteorology Bill: Institutional and regulatory reform for sustainable early warning services: Technical assistance supported the drafting of the Meteorology Bill (2025), which establishes DCCMS as the sole authoritative national provider and regulator of meteorological and climate services, with exclusive mandate for issuing official forecasts and warnings, regulating private meteorological activities, enforcing standards aligned with WMO practices, and enabling cost-recovery mechanisms through a dedicated Meteorological Fund. The Bill provides the legal foundation for sustainable financing, regulatory compliance, data governance, and enforcement critical to multi-hazard early warning systems in Malawi. The Meteorology Bill is expected to be enacted in 2026. CREWS Outcome 3: People-Centred, Gender-Responsive Early Warning Programmes with Community and Private Sector Engagement • People-centred early warning at community level strengthened: Field monitoring in Zomba and Mzuzu confirmed improved functionality of Village Civil Protection Committees (VCPCs) and Ward Civil Protection Committees (WCPCs), leading to more locally relevant risk communication and timely preparedness actions. Inclusive restructuring of DRM committees ensured participation of women, youth, persons with disabilities, elderly persons, and sectoral representatives, strengthening community ownership and trust in early warning services. • Community capacity building and early action enhanced: In collaboration with the Malawi Red Cross Society (MRCS), targeted people-centred early warning and early action interventions were implemented in Zomba and Mzuzu. A total of 159 participants (71 women) from Ward Disaster Risk Management Committees (WDRMCs), VCPCs, ward leadership, and community opinion leaders were trained on early warning systems, interpretation of forecasts, and preparedness actions. An additional 40 participants (21 women) were trained on the development and operationalisation of electronic contingency plans (e-CPs), supporting the transition from paper-based planning to digitally enabled preparedness and anticipatory action tools. Field monitoring confirmed improved community capacity to interpret warnings and activate preparedness measures, including anticipatory actions undertaken in response to Cyclone Jude in Zomba. • Last-mile dissemination and response capacity strengthened through MRCS: MRCS delivered search and rescue training and training-of-trainers programmes to enhance community-level dissemination and response. A total of 203 participants were trained — 159 Ward Disaster Risk Management Committee members (88 men and 71 women) in Zomba and Mzuzu, plus 44 city- and ward-level Disaster Risk Management Committee members (35 men and 9 women). Participants strengthened competencies in Community risk assessment and identification of mitigation measures; Safe operational practices and use of personal protective equipment (PPE); Effective communication within response teams and with communities; and Situational awareness to monitor evolving hazards and adapt response actions.
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	• Gender and social inclusion mainstreaming advanced: A Gender and Inclusion Mainstreaming Report was developed, informed by gender-sensitive risk assessments and community consultations. Findings were integrated into contingency planning and early warning outreach, ensuring inclusive service delivery for women, youth, and persons with disabilities. Women represented over 39% of the 203 participants trained, while gender- and vulnerability-specific risks were systematically incorporated into preparedness planning and dissemination approaches. • Private sector engagement initiated: Stakeholder engagement included dialogue on private sector participation in early warning systems, with a focus on potential collaboration in training, preparedness, and broader ecosystem support. • Complementary people-centred early warning and resilience activities initiated with ACT: In collaboration with the Africa Conservation Tillage Network (ACT), complementary interventions were initiated under the initiative <i>“Building Resilience of Smallholder Farmers through Weather Index Insurance and Early Warning Systems.”</i> Baseline assessment conducted to inform community-anchored early warning and risk financing. ACT conducted a baseline study in the Tsangano Extension Planning Area (EPA), Ntcheu District, focusing on smallholder coffee farmers in Malawi’s hilly agro-ecological zones. The assessment examined Climate risk exposure and hazard impacts across the coffee production cycle; Access to, use of, and trust in climate and early warning information; Existing coping and adaptive strategies at household and community levels; and readiness to engage with weather index-based insurance (WII) linked to early warning systems. Findings confirmed the relevance of integrating community-anchored early warning systems with anticipatory action and financial risk transfer mechanisms, particularly for perennial crops where climate risks affect production, processing, and post-harvest stages. The baseline provides an evidence base to inform the design of people-centred, climate-responsive early warning and resilience solutions that link forecasting, preparedness, and risk financing for smallholder farmers. Next steps include: • Support the finalization of the EW4ALL roll out • Validation of the Meteorological bill • Support implementation of the NFWCS
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11. Rating of progress towards achieving CREWS Indicators

Complete the following for the selected CREWS indicators in the project logical framework, at both outcome and output level. Use the unit of measure and disaggregation level defined for each indicator¹ and provide a progress summary justification of the indicator. This summary should state the evidence on the indicator’s progress and describe in detail what has been achieved and performed focusing on results.

CREWS Outcome 1: National and local multi-hazard early warning systems prioritized and funded						
Indicator	Baseline level	End-of project target level	Target for reporting period	Progress by _____ (Set as a percentage)	Progress summary justification as of _____	Progress rating ²

¹ CREWS Results Framework.

² Use scale system provided in Annex X of this document.

# of LDCs and SIDS with national investment plans and budgets prioritizing multi-hazard early warning programmes	0	2	2	100%	A M&E framework and financing strategy for the implementation of the NFWCS developed	
Output 1.1 A country and/or region has developed or strengthened legislative and/or institutional frameworks to support and sustain multi-hazard early warning systems						
# of national plans, strategies and legislations on early warnings approved and/or implemented	2	3	2	>100%	DCCMS Strategic and Operational Plans developed and published. Draft Meteorology Bill and Meteorological Policy prepared but waiting to be enacted Water Resources Law reviewed to harmonize with the DRM Law, but waiting to be enacted.	
# of coordination mechanisms strengthened or established to enhance collaboration on early warning among national or regional institutions	0	2	2	100%	Malawi as part of RCRP – linking countries through SADC component of RCRP1 and well AU component of RCRP2. TORs have been developed Roll-out of EW4ALL Initiative in Malawi A hydro-meteorological services expert working group (HMEWG) to lead implementation of the NFWCS formed and to be inaugurated in Q1 of 2026	
Output 1.2 Multi-hazard needs, gaps and priority assessments, analyses and related investment plans for early warning systems in a country or region are driven by CREWS financing						
# of multi-hazard assessments, analyses and other mapping of needs, gaps priorities that inform investment requirements on early warning	0	3	3	100%	Completed Completed a rapid assessment exercise for pillar 2 in Malawi's early warning capacities to inform development of EW4ALL roadmap.	
Output 1.3. Partnerships and cooperation frameworks developed for financing and scaling up support to multi-hazard early warning systems						
Total volume of funds leveraged by national institutions and development partners (in USD)					RCRP 2 MW – 240 mn SADC + AU - ~15 mn WISER ActionFirst™ initiative under UK Met Office – USD 2.3 for SADC (100K for Malawi)	

through CREWS investments						
# of LDCs and SIDS benefiting from GCF resources through the GCF-SAP CREWS Scaling Up Framework					Preliminary greenlight from Malawi NDA to develop proposal to be submitted under the GCF-SAP CREWS scaling up framework	

CREWS Outcome 2: Improved early warning service delivery and accessibility by national and regional institutions						
Indicator	Baseline level	End-of project target level	Target for reporting period	Progress by _____ (Set as a percentage)	Progress summary justification as of _____	Progress rating
EW Maturity Index					Progress toward improving Malawi's Early Warning Maturity Index has been achieved through strengthened observation, forecasting, data management, and dissemination capacities. Key contributions include the operationalisation of ENACTS Maprooms, CDT and ADT tools, expanded seasonal forecast verification, improved district-level downscaling, enhanced CAP-based dissemination, and increased capacity for impact-based forecasting within DCCMS.	
# of hazards which pose a risk of life and economic loss for which forecasting and warning services are in place in LDCs and SIDS through CREWS support	0	5	1	100%	Flooding, landslides, cyclones, intense rainfall, Drought, Mwera Winds	
Output 2.1 Risk information and tools generated by countries to enable the delivery of impact-based early warnings						
# of risk data tools developed or strengthened to generate early warning products and/or support impact-based warnings.	1	4	3	75%	ODSS – updating functionality MHRA and Blantyre Flood risk Plan Multi-Hazard Risk Assessment Tool Shire river basin flood management tool	

Output 2.2. Monitoring, analysis and forecasting of hazards that threaten the country/region are improved and sustained by the countries

# of functioning monitoring and observation systems established or strengthened per hazard					Functioning monitoring, analysis, and forecasting systems have been strengthened through continued capacity building and operational use of ENACTS Maprooms, CDT, ADT, and NextGen forecasting tools. These systems support routine climate monitoring, forecast generation, verification, and visualization, enhancing DCCMS' ability to provide timely and reliable hazard monitoring across multiple climate-related risks.	
# of hazards monitoring, analysis and forecasting processes developed or improved					Contribution to improving these through Strategic and Operation Plans of DCCMS Forecasting processes have been improved through the development and implementation of DCCMS Strategic and Operational Plans, enhanced seasonal forecast verification workflows, training on impact-based forecasting, and strengthened institutional procedures for forecast production, review, and dissemination.	
# of forecasting and prediction products developed and/or accessed from WMO Global Prediction Centers (GPCs), Regional Specialized Meteorological Centers (RSMCs) and NMHSs.	0	2	2	100	Technical support for Radar meteorology Access to weather and early warning information has been strengthened through updates to the climweb public website and expanded dissemination via community-level channels, including the Zanyengo bilingual weather application, radio, SMS. DCCMS has access to GPCs (ECMWF, NOAA/NCEP, UKMet) and RSMCs Pretoria and La Reunion products, and the Severe Weather Forecasting Program for Southern Africa.	

Output 2.3 Warnings are communicated by the countries based on common alerting protocols under agreed standard operational procedures (SOPs)

# of warnings issued in CAP format				41	Alerts are disseminated through the ClimWeb CAP Alerts platform, including via CAP RSS feeds, and are increasingly integrated with external dissemination channels, supporting public awareness, disaster risk management, and the ongoing onboarding of Malawi's alerts onto Google platforms (e.g. Google Search and Maps) for wider reach and accessibility across the country.	
# of updated LDCs and SIDS entries in the WMO register of alerting authorities					CAP alerts by DCCMS disseminated through WMO Severe Weather Information Centre (SWIC) hence enhancing the availability of authoritative warnings and information related to extreme and/or potentially high-impact weather, water, and climate events	
# of communication channels through which warnings are disseminated in the area covered by a prediction service for a given hazard(s)					Communication channels for warnings have been expanded and strengthened through the operationalisation of the ClimWeb platform, increased issuance of CAP alerts, dissemination via radio, SMS, mobile applications (Zanyengo), and integration with global platforms including the WMO Severe Weather Information Centre (SWIC), Google Search, and Google Maps.	

Output 2.4 Warnings are received, understood, and acted upon based on co-produced preparedness and response plans by the countries

# of preparedness and anticipatory action plans or Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) that are operational and linked to prediction and warning services					- Update and operationalization of public website (climweb package) at DCCMS thus increasing DCCMS rate of CAP alerts publishing - Design and development of early warning products to be published - Community-level preparedness and response were further strengthened	
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					through the operationalisation of electronic contingency plans (e-CPs) in Zomba and Mzuzu. The e-CPs link validated warnings issued by DCCMS and DoDMA to pre-identified anticipatory and response actions at ward and community levels. Development and validation involved MRCS, DCCMS, DoDMA, WDRMCs, VCPs, and community representatives, improving the early warning–early action continuum and reducing response delays. • At national and district levels, DCCMS-supported seasonal forecasts at the beginning of the season (once) and at mid season (once), district downscaled advisories, and State of Climate products (once a year) have been used to inform preparedness planning, sectoral coordination, and anticipatory actions by government institutions, humanitarian partners, and civil protection structures, strengthening the linkage between early warning information and decision-making. • Baseline evidence from ACT activities in Ntcheu further highlights how early warning information can be operationalised through livelihood-specific decision pathways. Findings indicate that aligning early warning advisories with crop phenology and farmer decision calendars enhances understanding, trust, and timely action, providing an important foundation for linking forecasts to anticipatory actions and insurance triggers.	
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# of risk maps, advisory and other warning products that are available and adapted to the user group/development sector needs	1	4	4	100%	Support for socializing usage of MHRA, ODSS and other tools (technical dissemination through RCRP2 engagement for district level resilience grants program and through the DCRM symposium) 20 Risk maps across 10 wards in both Mzuzu and Zomba developed, seasonal advisories, and early warning messages disseminated by DCCMS were contextualised and operationalised at community level through the electronic contingency plans, enabling user groups to translate warnings into locally appropriate preparedness and response actions.	
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CREWS Outcome 3: Early warning programmes are driven by people-centered and gender-responsive principles and promote private sector engagement

Indicator	Baseline level	End-of project target level	Target for reporting period	Progress by ____ (Set as a percentage)	Progress summary justification as of ____	Progress rating
Level of integration of people centered and gender responsive approaches ³					Based on the gender report developed in 2025, women are more involved	
Level of users' engagement satisfaction in the people-centered and gender-responsive approaches/activities ⁴						
Output 3.1 People of different backgrounds, gender, youth, older persons, people with disability, poor, marginalized, displaced, and non-native, as well as related institutions have co-produced climate and weather information products tailored to their needs						

³ Please grade your project based on the following criteria: **Low**- The project did not perform consultations, activities to promote gender quality, and activities /developed products with a people-centered approach. **Medium**- There is evidence of the project performing at least one consultation, one activity to promote gender equality, and one activity/product developed with a people-centered approach. **High**- There is evidence the project performed more than one consultation, activities to promote gender equality, and activities/products developer with a people-centered approach.

⁴ This indicator will only be completed when the survey is performed. Please provide the overall result of your survey result based on the following criteria: **Low**- Users do not feel the project considered their opinion, context and experience when developing or strengthening early warning systems. **Medium**- Users feel the project somewhat considered their opinion, context and experience when developing or strengthening early warning systems. **High**- Users feel the project considerably considered their opinion, context and experience when developing or strengthening early warning systems.

# of climate and weather information co-designed to users' needs by group representing vulnerable segments of exposed populations						
# of women and men trained through X # of capacity building programmes provided by CREWS	0				3-year training programme developed for DCCMS.	
# of CREWS projects that have included gender equality in early warning as an objective or outcome						
# of targeted outputs and activities towards gender implemented						
Output 3.2 Private sector is engaged to foster innovation and sustainability in delivery of early warning services						
# of agreements with private sector to co-finance or co-implement EWS initiatives	0	1	1		Private sector engagement has been initiated through collaboration with ACT to develop weather index-based insurance (WII) models linked to early warning information for smallholder farmers. Engagement has been undertaken with three insurance providers, with discussions currently ongoing with Union General Insurance and CIC Insurance following initial engagement with NICO General Insurance. Baseline findings and a preliminary insurance model are informing these discussions, including technical input on product design, risk assessment	

					and actuarial considerations. The proposed pilot portfolio modelling exercise will help generate evidence for the development of viable risk-transfer products that complement early warning and anticipatory action, while supporting the sustainability and scalability of people-centred early warning services.	
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12. Risk Status

Insert ALL the risks identified at project proposal, those from previous/current project status reports, and the new risk identified for the current reporting period. If a risk has been mitigated or is no longer a risk, please specify it in the "current situation" column.

Description of risk <i>What is the cumulative risk status of the project in comparison to what was identified in the project proposal?</i>	Risk management actions. <i>What mitigation measures have been developed to address the risk status? <u>In bullet points</u></i>	Current situation <i>If mitigation measures have been undertaken, what is the current status of the risk? If a risk has been mitigated or is no longer a risk, please specify it here.</i>
Moderate. The CREWS proposal outlined an ambitious agenda given the institutional and capacity weakness as well as underestimated the cost of activities in Malawi (given the current macro-economic situation).	A detailed consultation with the Government has been completed to align the CREWS WB activities closer to the governments priorities and to investments planned and undertaken under the Regional Program for Climate Resilience 2 that also leverages regional activities (AU and SADC) that would benefit Malawi. Prioritization of advisory, capacity-building, and system-strengthening activities with high sustainability and multiplier effects. Strengthened coordination mechanisms among DCCMS, DWR, DoDMA, WMO, World Bank, and partners to reduce duplication and optimize resource use. Integration of CREWS activities within national policy and planning frameworks (e.g. Strategic and Operational Plans, NFWCS, EW4All roadmap).	This closer alignment with RCRP2 (as well as key activities of aligned project eg Radar acquisition through MWASIP) means that the technical assistance provided by CREWS is embedded fully into the Government institutional strengthening and investment program. While macro-economic pressures persist, they are not expected to materially affect the achievement of CREWS objectives during the remaining implementation period
Moderate: Potential politicisation of ward-level DRM structures due to the	Restructuring DRM committees to include diverse non-political	Inclusive committee structures and diversified representation have reduced

involvement of elected ward councillors.	actors (women groups, youth, faith leaders, sectoral representatives, persons with disabilities). • Capacity-building on humanitarian principles, neutrality, and inclusive decision-making.	the risk of undue political influence and strengthened legitimacy and ownership of early warning systems at community level.
Moderate: Potential low initial trust and understanding of weather index-based insurance among smallholder farmers, which may affect uptake and effective use of insurance linked to early warning services	• Use of participatory baseline assessments to understand perceptions, trust levels, and decision-making processes. • Co-development of insurance indices and advisories with farmers, cooperatives, extension services, and DCCMS. • Progressive awareness-raising and demonstration through pilots before scale-up.	Baseline findings indicate strong interest in formal risk transfer mechanisms when linked to trusted early warning information and existing cooperative structures, suggesting manageable risk with appropriate engagement

13. Knowledge management and social media

Provide a list of knowledge activities / products (when applicable) produced during this reporting period only. Include any links to press releases, videos or communication items and/or social media. Please attach with this report any supporting files, including photos, videos, stories, and other documents.

- Key learning from community engagement includes the effectiveness of non-traditional dissemination channels such as markets, churches, and social gathering spaces, identified through community consultations. Another critical learning was the initial limited understanding of anticipatory action at community level, which informed the integration of anticipatory action concepts into subsequent trainings and contingency planning. Community feedback also highlighted priority structural risk reduction measures, including drainage maintenance, tree planting, and safer shelter construction.
- Learning from ACT baseline activities highlights the importance of trusted communication channels, cooperative structures, and livelihood-specific framing of early warning information. Evidence confirms that grounding early warning and advisories in crop phenology and farmer decision cycles increases relevance and uptake, offering valuable lessons for scaling people-centred early warning services under CREWS and EW4ALL.
- Additional knowledge products generated during the reporting period include State of Climate reports (2023 and 2024), seasonal forecast verification reports, district downscaled forecast posters, ENACTS Maproom outputs, and media training materials, which have supported knowledge sharing, public awareness, and institutional learning.

14. Partnerships & stakeholder engagement

Optional: If the project worked with any of the following partners in this reporting period, please provide a summary of the partnership activities.

Civil Society Organisations and/or NGOs	Discussion with UK FCDO to better align support. Discussions with ACT, MRCS to address last mile.
Academic Institutions	
Private Sector	Discussion with Google on flood forecasting related information

15. Impact stories

Provide a brief summary of any especially interesting and impactful project result that is considered to be worth sharing in the annual report to the Steering Committee, with concrete examples of the contributions to CREWS value propositions (gender-responsive, multiplier, people-centered, promote coherence, solution-oriented, unique) (max 500

words).

- **WMO 1:** An important impact observed during the reporting period is the strengthening of community-level preparedness and anticipatory action in Zomba and Mzuzu districts. Through inclusive training, restructuring of civil protection committees, and integration of early warning information into local contingency planning, communities demonstrated improved capacity to interpret warnings and take early action, particularly in response to floods and cyclones. The trained VCPCs and WDRMCs successfully interpreted early warnings related to Cyclone Jude, activated electronic contingency plans, and coordinated anticipatory actions ahead of impact. Inclusive participation ensured that women and vulnerable groups were involved in decision-making and dissemination. This experience demonstrates a shift from warning dissemination to early action, reflecting CREWS' people-centred, gender-responsive, and solution-oriented value proposition. This reflects CREWS' people-centred, gender-responsive, and solution-oriented value proposition.
- **WMO 2:** Early impact from ACT activities demonstrates how integrating early warning systems with financial risk transfer can enhance resilience among smallholder farmers. In Ntcheu District, baseline findings show that coffee farmers already apply adaptive strategies and actively seek climate information. The introduction of weather index-based insurance linked to early warning services responds directly to identified climate risks, laying the foundation for anticipatory action, income protection, and sustained livelihoods in climate-vulnerable upland regions.
- **WMO 3:** These community-level impacts were underpinned by sustained national investments in climate services led by DCCMS, including improved forecasting tools, verification processes, CAP-enabled dissemination, and district-level downscaling, demonstrating the multiplier effect of CREWS investments across the national-to-local early warning value chain.

16. Financial management

Total financing approved (in approved project proposal):	\$3,000,000
Cumulative amount for the reporting period (<i>how much has been used, actual expenditure</i>):	WB Total: of US\$1,400,000, US\$ 1,006,232.46 has been disbursed. WMO Total: WMO total of USD 1,460,000 Disbursed: 984,210.00 Committed: USD 475,790.17
Percentage used as of (<i>state end date of reporting period</i>):	

17. Supporting documents

List and annex to the report any documents providing details on project activities conducted during the reporting period such as reports of training sessions, assessment reports, online solutions and tools, manuals, summaries of high-level discussions etc.

18. Certification on Use of Resources

Each Implementing Partner to provide a certification of the use of resources signed by their authorized representative.

19. Annex. Progress rating

Interpretation of color coding		
Achieved		The indicator has achieved its end-of-project target.

Partially achieved		The indicator is on track to achieve its end-of-project target.
Not achieved		The indicator has not had any advancement towards achieving its end-of-project target.