



CRS Build Back Better Malawi

faith. action. results.

Presentation outline

- Background of CRS Shelter response
- CRS districts of Implementation in Malawi
- CRS Shelter approach
- Community engagement and dissemination of information
- Experience and perceptions
- Studies

Background of CRS Shelter Response

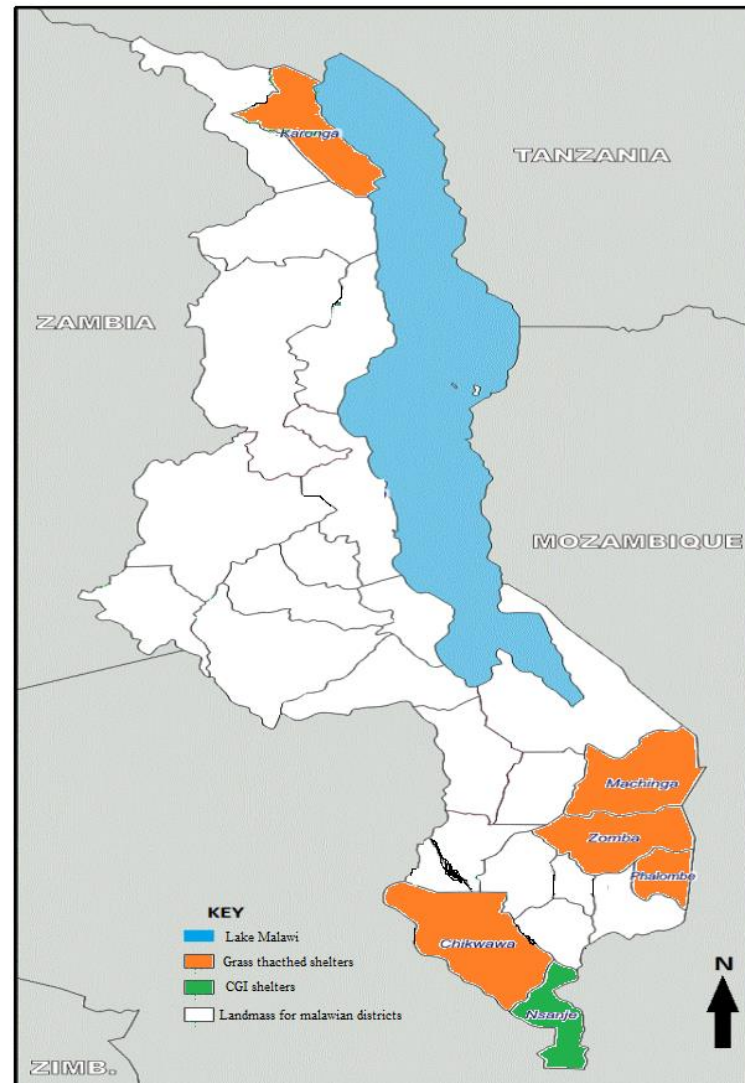
- 2015 floods displaced more than **230,000** households in Phalombe, Karonga, Zomba, Machinga, Nsanje and Chikwawa (*Malawi floods 2015; post disaster needs assessment; 31 March 2015*) .

CRS responded in Machinga, T/A Mkula **375**; Zomba, T/A Mwambo **315**; Phalombe, T/A Chiwalo **206** and Karonga, T/A Kilupula **2**

- 2019 Cyclone Idai floods led to **23,914** households in Zomba and **10,882** in Chikwawa to need shelter assistance (*Malawi's National Disaster Management Response report, 15 April 2019*).

CRS supported in Zomba, T/A Chikowi **486**; Phalombe T/A Jenala **302**; Chikwawa; T/A Makhuwira, Ngowe, Kasisi and Kalima **137**; Nsanje;T/A Ngabu, Chimombo and Ndamera **150**.

CRS districts of implementation in Malawi



CRS Shelter Approach

- Promote self recovery through model houses for replication
- Affordable local materials, to achieve social, cultural and economic sustainability
- Local knowledge by considering traditional building techniques and materials
- Key features of deep and raised foundation, hipped over hanged roof and Plinth wall to ensure resilience.



Community engagement and dissemination of information

- CRS and partners view shelter programs and IEC production as **processes** rather than products. Therefore, working with masons to find the best construction materials and techniques for each project is a main priority.
- The type of shelter selected for the projects is the continuation of an ongoing **learning process** with communities and local masons in Malawi.
- Once the most adequate housing solutions are determined, CRS and its partners work to produce communication materials that support the dissemination of solutions, **emphasizing the key DRR features** of the shelter design.

Community engagement and dissemination of information

Construction Manual for Shelter Recovery

- The manual is based on the **Govt. of Malawi Safer house construction guidelines** and **adapted to reflect the specific context.**
- Rather than a detailed how-to guide to construction, the manual focuses on **reinforcing and disseminating best practices** for site selection, shelter construction and construction site safety, as well as healthy homes and COVID-19 prevention.

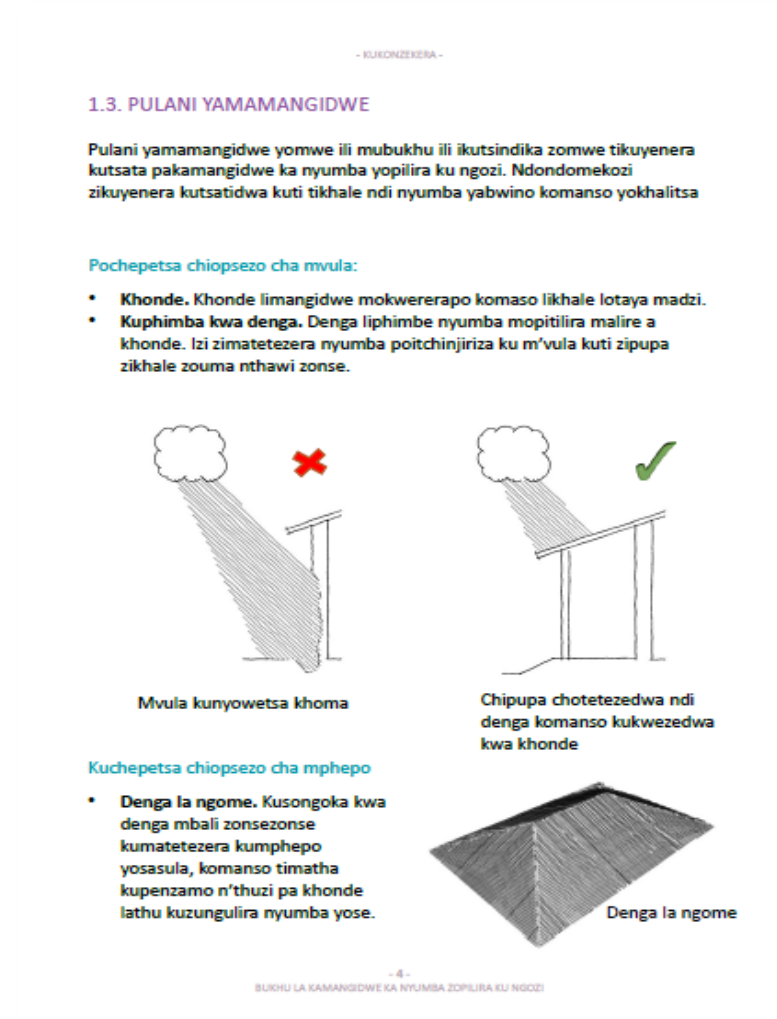


**Bukhu Landonomeko za
Mamangidwe a Nyumba
Zopilira ku Ngozi**

KAMANGIDWE KANYUMBA ZOLIMBA MUMADERA A NGOZI

Community engagement and dissemination of information

- The manual is **translated into Chichewa** and used to support the training of masons
- After the trainings, **feedback from the masons and the field team is collated and included in the manual**, to produce a final draft which is shared as printed copies with all the participants of the trainings.



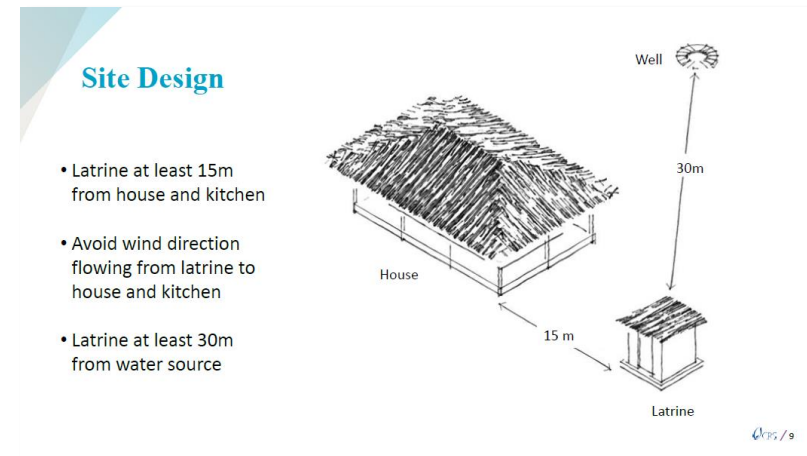
Community engagement and dissemination of information

Training Curriculum

- To support field staff in the training of local masons and artisans, a **training curriculum** accompanied by a **facilitation guide** were produced.
- The training has **theory** and **practical** based on three phases **Foundation, Wall and Roofing**



Facilitation guide



Presentation

Community engagement and dissemination of information



Trainings in Chimombo



Trainings in N'gabu



Trainings in Ndamela

Experience and perceptions

- Local artisans and community leaders value trainings and IEC materials
- Translation of IEC materials to local language is very important
- Graduation and certification of local masons motivates them
- Involvement of local leaders facilitate sustainability of construction techniques in the community



Studies

Evidence still mounting

- 2019 Phalombe replication study
- **185** replicas in T/A Jenala
- 88% reported to have replicated due to **strength** and **resilience of the shelter**
- The **trainings** on local artisans and local leaders were reported to be key to the replication
- Plans of a bigger replication study and **documentation** (February and March 2021)

