



Building Resilience of Disaster Affected Families and Organizational Capacity at Habitat Malawi:

Enhancing disaster resilience of 14,000 families in Chikwawa over a period of 3 years (2017 - 2020) and launching a systematic DR3 program in the country.

PROJECT GOAL: \$690k

MATCHING CONTRIBUTION:

67% ~ \$465k ~ JTI Foundation;
5% ~ \$32k ~ Aktion Deutschland Hilft;
28% ~ \$193k ~ Habitat for Humanity;

In recent years most of the meteorological disasters have been linked with climate change. Due to the crises that currently hugely affect Sub-Saharan Africa Habitat has developed a new Disaster Risk Management strategy which emphasizes recovery from disaster, building community preparedness, capacity building of local authorities and policy change. Based on the need are all these aspects incorporated in the program that Habitat together with the JTI Foundation and Aktion Deutschland Hilft implement in Malawi with the aim to increase our capacity for disaster risk management.



Project Summary

Overall objective: Within the three years the project aims to help 14,000 families to prepare for future disasters and also enable to build the capacity of Habitat Malawi and launch a systematic DR3 program in the country.

Specific objective: Mainstreaming of DR3 through the provision of technical assistance, direct construction support and knowledge that facilitates safer and disaster resilient homes & raising awareness and DRR capacity building.



Project Background:

Habitat established a Disaster Risk Reduction and Response (DR3) Department in 1998 and since then Habitat's DR3 initiatives have contributed technical expertise in humanitarian response, home building and sustainable shelter construction. In addition, Habitat is training people in disaster preparedness and mitigation to reduce vulnerability. As a result of recent meteorological disasters in Malawi and East Africa, Habitat has developed a new Disaster Risk Management strategy and after testing of various models for the flood-resilient houses in Malawi would like to create as a sub-regional hub for Habitat DR3 operations in the region of East Africa. After the finalization of this project the evaluation and assessment should thus serve as the baseline for establishment of a larger DR3 program in the region serving not only when a disaster strikes but also in the field of disaster prevention.

Estimated results

- **R1** ~ 1,589 families in flood-prone areas will live in houses that are more resilient to disasters
- **R2** ~ 14,000 families in flood-prone areas will be empowered to repair or re-build their damaged homes
- **R3** ~ 150 trained artisans will have skills and tools for building houses that are resilient to disasters. They will continue to build better and safer for the recovering families in the community beyond the project period.
- **R4** ~ Floods resilient house design and construction technique is tested, disseminated and accepted by the local communities.
- **R5** ~ District Council, Area Civil Protection Committees, and Traditional Authorities have the capacity to timely prepare for, respond to, and lead recovery from flood disasters.
- **R6** ~ National forum promotes disaster resilient construction techniques and results in common understanding of policy options for addressing disaster risk management issues
- **R7** ~ DR3 capacity of HFHM built up to disseminate good DRRR practices in the country and the region.

Final beneficiaries

The project will directly help 14,000 families (7,813 families that were affected by the 2015 floods and another 6,187 families that are living in flood prone areas). All these 14,000 families that will get advice from civil protection committees on Back Better/Build Back Safe and PASSA approach and out of these, 1,589 families will receive construction technical assistance from the trained artisans.

Main activities

- Conducting a comprehensive field assessment
- Training 150 local artisans
- Constructing 35 model disaster resilient houses
- Constructing 25 core houses for the most vulnerable families
- Retrofitting 29 existing damaged homes by providing both construction materials and labour support
- Providing technical assistance to 1,500 families
- Development and distribution a visual and user friendly Back Better/Build Back Safe brochures
- Training the affected community on PASSA methodology
- Providing emergency kits and equipment to first responders
- Organizing a national DR3 forum

