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NATIONAL REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM (NRIS) PROJECT

Quarterly Progress report (01 April 2019 to 31 June 2019)

Project Title:	National Registration and Identification System
UNDP Project #:	00100113
Project Duration:	01 November 2016 – 31 December 2019
Project Resources:	Basket Fund
UNDP Focal Point:	Titus Kavalo

UNDAF Outcome:	National institutions foster democratic governance and human rights to promote transparency, accountability, participation and access to justice for all especially women and children
Corporate SP Outcome:	Citizen expectations for voice, development, the rule of law and accountability are met by stronger systems of democratic governance
Project Specific Outcome:	The establishment of a permanent and continuous national registration and identification system in Malawi.
Output(s):	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Up to 9 million Malawians are registered and issued with a National Identity card in 2017. 2. NRIS is transitioned to a permanent and continuous registration system. 3. Government MDAs are assisted to adopt the use of the NRIS. 4. Project is efficiently managed, staffed and coordinated, and is implemented with national ownership.
Project Location(s):	Lilongwe, Malawi

Project Donors



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Acronyms

ADR	Assistant District Registrar
BRK	Biometric Registration Kit
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CRB	Credit Reference Bureau
CRVS	Civil Registration and Vital Statistics
DFID	Department for International Development
DHRMD	Department of Human Resource Management and Development
DRO	District Registration Office
EBRS	Electronic Birth Registration System
ESCOM	Electricity Supply Commission of Malawi
EU	European Union
FCB	First Capital Bank
GWAN	Government Wide Area Network
HQ	Headquarters
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
MEC	Malawi Electoral Commission
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MISO	Management Information System Officer
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NRB	National Registration Bureau
NRIS	National Registration and Identification System Project
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

1. Executive Summary

The purpose of the National Registration and Identification System (NRIS) Project is to establish a permanent and continuous national registration and identification system in Malawi. The project will contribute to Government's efforts to guarantee the fundamental right to identity, entitlement and enjoyment of full citizenship in Malawi.

The initiative is consistent with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 to: "promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels". Specifically, the NRIS will address SDG Target 16.9 that refers to providing legal identity for all and will also facilitate the goal of achieving comprehensive birth registration by 2030. The Whole of Government impact of the system will offer improvements in planning, service delivery, and the operation of administrative systems supported by a functional NRIS.

This progress report presents a summary of work completed for the NRIS project for second quarter (01 April – 30 June) of 2019.

Some of the key milestones achieved during the reporting period include the following:

- Continuous registration is progressing well in all the 28 District Registration Offices (DROs) without any challenges. However, registration figures are low. Total number of registrants for January to June 2019 is 11,858. Data collection by the NRIS Project team is in progress to find out the cause of low registration.
- To enhance the registration capacity of NRB registration centers, IT equipment including desktops, and multifunctional devices have been deployed to all the 28 DROs. Vests, NR forms (NR 1,2,6,8) have also been distributed to all the 28 DROs across the country.
- The Last Mile Connectivity activity to connect district registration centres which include Post Offices with the NRB Headquarters (HQ) central database at Capital Hill for real time registration data synchronisation is in progress. So far, 51 of the 65 first phase Post Offices to be registration centers have been connected to the NRB HQ's central database.
- The draft NRB strategic plan has been prepared and was reviewed for feedback and comments in a workshop held in Lilongwe from 27th to 31st May 2019. The next step is to collectively review the budget and Sustainability Plan in a workshop to be held in the second week of July and finalize the report.
- As part of continuous efforts in capacitating NRB staff, 5 out of 9 selected customized professional management courses have been completed. These are conducted by Malawi Institute of Management The remaining four courses are expected to be completed by the third quarter of 2019.

- As one way of creating demand and encouraging multiple use of the National ID card as well as identification of ghost workers in the Civil Service, the Principle Secretary (PS) in the Office of the President and Cabinet (OPC) has issued a letter to all public employees warning them that those who fail to provide ID numbers by 31 July 2019 will not be receiving their salaries moving forward.
- Further on the use of the national ID card, the National Registration Bureau and FDH Bank Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 9th June 2019 where the latter will now be recognising the national ID as the primary form of identification of its clients in bank transactions.
- Regarding a feasibility study to scope out the e-wallet functionality of the National ID as a means of introducing cost and service-efficiencies for payment transfers across various programmes, an e-Wallet Feasibility Assessment report has been submitted by the consultant who was hired to do this study. The report is now being reviewed by UNDP.
- The National validation workshop to review the Citizenship Act was conducted in Lilongwe on 26th June 2019 where the proposed amendments were shared with key stakeholders. The amendments are expected to be tabled in the cabinet in due course of time.
- As one way of encouraging people to register for a national ID in view of low numbers in the ongoing continuous registration, UNDP and NRB have designed 5 civic education campaigns targeting children who are turning 16 years, vulnerable segments of the society such as physically impaired, disabled and special persons, senior/elderly citizens (aged above 60). The campaigns, under execution are also aimed at advising the citizens on the importance of looking after their national ID to reduce the numbers being lost, stolen, and damaged.

2. Implementation Progress

Brief Background

Malawi endures a structural development challenge in the absence of an authoritative, comprehensive and accurate system of national identification. Fundamentally undermining most citizens' right to identity, the consequences are multi-sectoral, where citizens' access and entitlement to services are uncertain.

Unlike many countries in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) or Common Market for Southern and Eastern Africa (COMESA), Malawi has had no functional national registry and identification system for decades. Moreover, Malawi is only now starting to re-establish its system of civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS), to comprehensively register births, deaths, and marriages. The absence of these two systems (NRIS and CRVS, collectively known as a population register), which are mandates of the NRB within the Ministry of Home Affairs and Internal Security, undermines an individual's ability to claim their citizen's rights and services, as well as Government's ability to fulfil its obligations to

provide inclusive social services, accountable administrative systems, and to foster evidence-based policy formulation and decision-making.

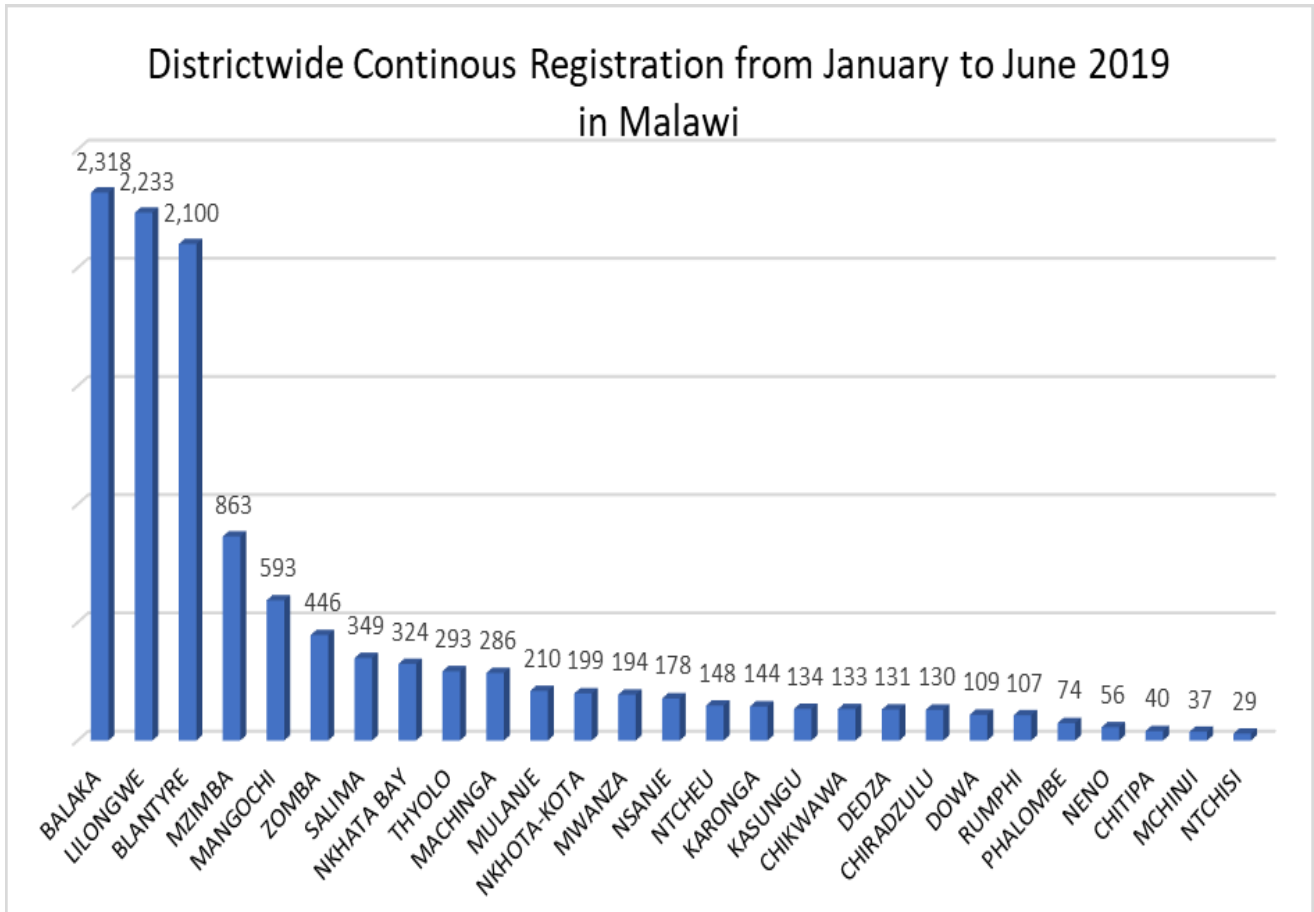
Efforts in various arenas have led to fragmented initiatives, creating costly or unsustainable silos of information, while also imposing institutional and technical obstacles to interlink information. The Malawi National Registration Act (No. 13 of 2010) which entered force in August 2015 requiring all Malawians 16 years of age and older to be registered in a National Registry and to be issued with an identity card, mandates the National Registration Bureau (NRB) to fulfil this task.

As such, UNDP – with financial and technical support from key Development Partners - and in partnership with the National Registration Bureau is implementing a multi-Donor Basket funded National Registration and Identification System (NRIS) Project (2016 – 2018). The Project seeks to actualize the Right to Identity, ensuring that all Malawians 16 years and older are uniquely registered in a permanent and continuous system that provides proof of their identity, and to be issued with an identity card that is evidence of that identity. Correspondingly, the system will establish the management information systems that will allow Government and stakeholders to access and use that information in aggregate for planning, and as a central reference point for individual identity to be linked across multiple systems. Simultaneously, the management information systems and identity cards will enable the strengthening of accountability and verification processes within both the public and private sector domains that will enhance services for Malawi's citizens.

The expected results of the Project were to: design, establish and manage the necessary systems, infrastructure and equipment for the National Registration and Identity system, employing biometrically secure Smartcards; supervise the mass registration for all eligible Malawians (an estimated 9 million) within the country in 2017; transition the system to a continuous registration model in 2018 and to develop the capacity and systems of NRB to maintain and operate the system; provide an interface to other public and private sector systems that allow for appropriate data sharing within a legal framework that complies with international principles and standards for the right to privacy and data protection; and to ensure the effective management of the Project.

Following some amendments and addenda resulting from discussions for a one-year extension of the NRIS project to 31 December 2019, Cost-Sharing Agreements have been signed between UNDP and the Government of Malawi (US\$20,747,497), DFID (10,485,000 pounds), Irish Aid (2,978,944 Euros), USAID (US\$2,000,000), Norway (NOK 4,600,000) and the EU (9,100,000 Euros). UNDP has allocated US\$2,850,000 from UNDP core resources to the project. In addition, UNDP signed an Inter-Agency Agreement with UNICEF (US\$44,366). The entire project budget is now estimated at USD \$55,183,181.

The design of the card (shown in Figure 1, below) has been approved by the Minister of Home Affairs to meet the three tier (visible to the eye security features; enhanced security features that require minimal equipment to verify; and, forensic analysis features that require high end equipment such as a microscope to verify) security requirements of International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the information requirements elaborated in Section 8 of the law. As well, the card allows for data to be manually read or for various forms of machine reading (QR code, swipe read, and chip read) that will avoid traditional challenges with data accuracy. Overall, the design and features of the card draw on key technologies and processes that make forgery of the card improbable and enables



The average number registrations per month is approximately 2,000 instead of expected estimated figure of 41,000. This may be due to long distance that communities have to walk to the District Registration Office. After the operationalization of Post Offices as Registration Centres, the project anticipates that the issue of distance will be solved to a large extent. An assessment however, is going on to find out the exact cause of the low registration across the country.

Output 2

NRIS is transitioned to a permanent and continuous registration system.

Progress

The NRIS system was transitioned along with source code application and technical knowledge in 2017-18 to NRB. Under this Output, the following has been accomplished in the reporting period:

- Civic Education to sensitive people on National ID registration:** Considering that continuous registration figures for National ID are very low across the country, an assessment is being conducted by the NRIS project team to find pout the exact cause of this. In the meantime, UNDP and NRB have designed 5 civic education campaigns, maximising communication channels such as electronic and print media (national

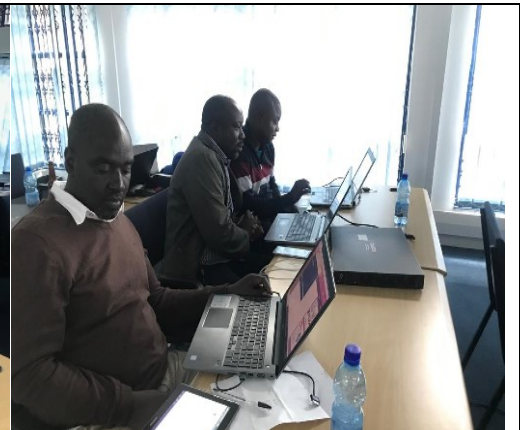
newspaper and community radio broadcast), to increase registration targeting the for following groups:

- Children who are turning 16 years
 - Vulnerable segments of the society such as physically impaired, disabled and special persons, senior/elderly citizens (aged above 60)
 - The campaigns will also advise on the importance of looking after your ID to reduce the numbers being lost, stolen, and damaged.
- **Last Mile Connectivity:** The work on Last Mile Connectivity activity kicked off on 10th April 2019 and is expected to be completed by 15th August 2019. The kick off followed completion of the technical evaluation of bids by the UNDP's Procurement Services Unit (PSU) in Copenhagen which selected 'Cancom' from Germany to oversee overall implementation of this activity. Cancom has partnered with local suppliers namely Business Computer Services (BCS) for Local Area Network (LAN) services, and Telekom Networks Malawi (TNM) Limited for Telco services. So far, 51 of the 65 first phase Post Offices to be Registration Centers are now connected to the NRB HQ's central database for real time registration data synchronization.
 - **Hands on Training on Connectivity:** The batch 1 hands on training was conducted from 19 to 20 June 2019 in Blantyre. The participants were District Management Information System Officers (MISOs) from the Southern Region and NRB HQ staff. The aim of this training was to provide the participants with hands on training on the devices used in the last mile connectivity. These devices are Switches (HP Aruba), and Routers (D-Link LTE VPN routers). The 2nd batch training is scheduled for 26th to 27th June for District Management Information System Officers (MISOs) from the central and northern Regions and NRB HQ staff.

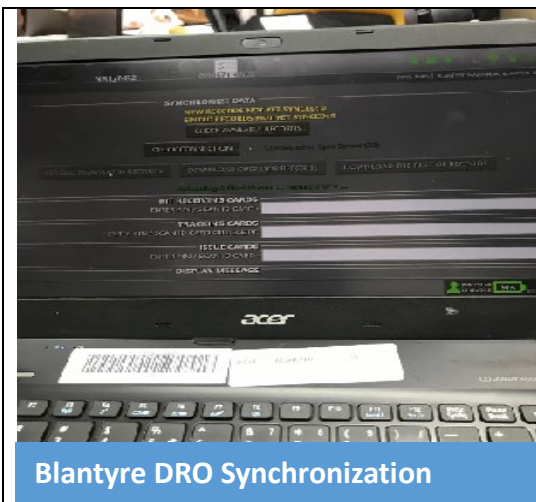




Participants in MISOs' training in Blantyre



UNDP & GWAN participants in last mile connectivity training in Blantyre



Blantyre DRO Synchronization



Switch Cabinet in Limbe Post Office

- **Refurbishment of the 65 Post Offices:** The evaluation of proposals for the refurbishment of 65 Post Offices slated to become registration centres to expand outreach for citizens is in progress. The bid opening was done on 17th June 2019. A total of 24 bids were received. The evaluation panel is evaluating the bids based on the following 3 steps:
 - Preliminary qualification and eligibility assessment
 - Technical evaluation
 - Financial evaluation

The evaluation is expected to be completed by end of July 2019. The refurbishment of these 65 post offices is divided in 3 lots i.e., North, Centre and South. The refurbishment is expected to be completed by December 2019.
- **Configuration and Deployment of IT Equipment for the 28 DROs:** IT equipment including desktops, and multifunctional devices have been configured and deployed

to all the 28 DROs across the country. Vests, NR forms (NR 1,2,6,8) have also been distributed to all the 28 DROs across the country.



Configuration and Deployment of IT Equipment for the 28 DROs in progress

- **Refurbishment of the model Registration Centre in Blantyre:** The refurbishment work of the Blantyre DRO is in progress. As of 30st June 2019, almost 40% of total work had been completed. The work will be completed by August 2019 as planned.



Refurbishment of the Blantyre District Registration Office (DRO) in progress

- **Capacity Building of NRB Management:**
As per the capacity development assessment done by the independent consultants last year, 9 customized management short courses were developed. The 9 short courses are:

- Effective Leadership and Management
- Internal Communication Management
- Professional Customer Service
- Finance for Non-finance Manager
- Effective Procurement Management
- Inventory Management
- Logistics and Supply Chain Management
- Public Sector budgeting and implementation
- Total Quality Management

5 out of these 9 selected courses have been completed. The remaining four courses are expected to be completed by the third quarter of 2019. The Malawi Institute of Management (MIM) which is a local institute was selected to conduct these courses to build the capacity of the NRB management so that even if new management comes in at NRB, MIM can build the capacity again.



Participants during the inauguration of the MIM training in MIM along with CD-NRB and CTA

- **Strategic Plan 2019-23:**

This Strategic Plan for the National Registration Bureau (NRB) has been developed to provide it with a clear and focused direction in the implementation of the National Registration and Identification System (NRIS) and other operations for the period 2019 – 2024. The development of the Plan is one of the key deliverables of the 2013 – 2018 Strategic Plan Implementation Assessment that was sanctioned by the Chief Director (CD) with the aim of establishing the performance of NRB following the operationalisation of the NRIS.

The development of this Strategic Plan is an outcome of a highly consultative and participatory process involving members of staff and key stakeholders. The Plan articulates NRB's strategic focus in the next five years to 2024. Specifically, the Plan outlines the strategic context within which NRB operates, highlighting changes it has undergone following the implementation of the 2013 – 2018 Strategic Plan which expired in June 2018. The Strategic Plan by its nature will serve as a decision-making framework for NRB's top management in the next five years.

The draft NRB strategic plan has been prepared and was reviewed for feedback and comments in a workshop held in Lilongwe from 27th to 31st May 2019. The next step is to prepare the budget and Sustainability Plan review workshop to finalize the report. Almost 95% of the report is done.



- **Participation in ID4Africa Conference**

The fifth annual meeting of ID4Africa took place from June 18-20 in Johannesburg, South Africa. ID4Africa is a closely knitted community of concerned parties and individuals who understand that robust digital identity systems can accelerate inclusiveness, growth and socio-economic development in Africa – hence they meet annually in an African country to share, learn from experiences. As last year, the delegation of seven NRB Management Staff spearheaded by Chief Director, NRB represented Malawi.

The NRB delegation shared and learnt the identity issues involved from foundational identity programs such as national ID and civil registration, to functional applications such as the use of digital identity in social protection and labor, elections, health care, mobile payments, to improving national security, border management and population management of refugees and other migratory groups. The event served as a capacity building forum, where 1600 worldwide delegates specially including African delegates could learn about their options and explain their problems and

challenges and seek input and advice from domain experts. NRB held meetings side meetings with various countries including but not limited to Morocco, Botswana, Rawanda, Namibia, Nigeria, Kenya, Somalia, South Africa, and Zambia.

Output 3

Government MDAs are assisted to adopt the use of the National Registration and Identification system (NRIS).

Progress

In this reporting period, Malawi went through a scheduled election cycle and thus the project focused more on the private sectors.

Under this Output, the following milestones were accomplished in the reporting period:

- **KYC Compliance and use of National ID in Banking sector:** The strategy was to target a bank which has branches in all the districts in Malawi and is involved in social Cash transfer and financial inclusion programs. In this regard, a sustained effort, comprising of number of meetings with FDH Bank Limited was completed by convincing the bank to sign a mutually agreed MOU with NRB. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on 9th June 2019 between the National Registration Bureau and FDH Bank Limited for use of the national ID as the primary form of identification. Currently an Application Program Interface (API), software programme, is being developed to link the FHD banking system with NRB.

FDH, NRB sign MoU

BY TAONGA SABOLA

ONE of the country's commercial banks, FDH Bank, on Friday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the National Registration Bureau (NRB) which seeks to foster collaboration on issues of customer identification for the bank.

The MoU comes after the Reserve Bank of Malawi (RBM), in 2018, issued a directive that the National ID should be the primary identification tool for opening of new bank accounts of Malawian nationals by banks.

The central bank also requested banks to verify the authenticity of the Customer's National ID Cards with the NRB after updating the Know Your Customer (KYC) information.

In this regard, the NRB has been having consultative meetings with the Bankers Association of Malawi (Bam) as well as individual banks to operationalise this directive.

NRB Chief Director, Harry Kanjewe, said the MoU will go a long way in fostering credible, authentic and legal identification of the bank's clientele in all its branches across the country.

"I am very much confident that the signing of this MoU will assist FDH Bank to improve verification of customer's details, fraud management, account linkages, credit rating and reduction of money laundering practices through the harmonisation of the KYC database and the use of the National ID Card.

"Above all, the public at large stand to benefit and this shall go a long way in addressing the financial inclusion agenda which the Government of Malawi is advocating and pursuing, Kanjewe said.


He commended FDH Bank for being the first bank to come forward and sign the MoU with NRB.

"You have made a bold step and we, as NRB, believe you have set the pace of identification business in the banking sector. We, therefore, expect more banks to follow suit in the near future," Kanjewe said.

Currently, number of Malawians with bank accounts stands at slightly above 2 million though NRB has registered over 10 million Malawians above the age of 16 years.

FDH Bank Managing Director Eric Ouattara, said the MoU would help as many Malawians as possible to open bank accounts.

Ouattara said, with the coming of the national ID system, it was easier for commercial banks to know the customers than before.



DEAL—Ouattara (left) and Kanjewe exchange documents after signing the MoU

- **e-Wallet Feasibility Assessment:** Work on exploring a feasibility study to scope out the e-wallet functionality of the National ID as a means of introducing cost and service-efficiencies for payment transfers across various programmes, UNDP has hired a short-term technical consultant to:
 - Assess the options of operating an e-Wallet system with National ID (offline and online) with cost analysis.
 - Cost of equipment, software and systems required for each of the possible solutions.
 - Cost of operationalizing the implementation of both options (online/offline).

The assessment report has been submitted by the consultant which is being reviewed by UNDP.

- **National ID in Tax reform:** After conducting 15 meetings, sessions, workshops with various stakeholders, the Malawi Revenue Authority (MRA) was convinced to add national ID number in the Tax form followed by modification in ITAS (Integrated Tax Administration System). In this reporting period, all interoperability and connectivity issues between NRIS and ITAS were resolved. An API to exchange data related to identity authentication was designed and deployed for unit system and user acceptance testing. 7000 tax payers' records were processed through the system. Additionally, NRIS project helped MRA to run civic education campaign – Adverts in electronic and print media channels currently running.

- **Department of Human Resource Management and Development (DHRMD):** As one way of creating demand and encouraging multiple use of the National ID card as well as identification of ghost workers in the Civil Service, a letter from Principal Secretary (PS) in the Office of the President and Cabinet (OPC) was issued warning all public employees to provide their national ID number by 31st July 2019. According to the letter, those public employees who will fail to provide their ID numbers by July 31st will not be receiving their salaries moving forward. The names of those public employees without ID numbers will be kept in the system until September 2019, after which they will be declared as Ghost workers if they don't provide their national ID numbers.
- **The National Conference on the review of the Malawi Citizenship Act:**
The National Conference on the review of the Malawi Citizenship Act took place in Lilongwe on 26th June 2019. The Special Law Commission presented nine legal papers on the acquisition of citizenship, forms of citizenship, naturalization and registration of stateless persons. Each paper contained recommendations for legal amendments of the Citizenship Act. A final report will be presented and handed over to Minister of Justice.



National Consultative and National validation workshops in Lilongwe

	Meetings with Judiciary									
	Requirement for integration with their information system									
	MOU drafting									
	MOU signing ceremony									
	Assessing Linkage's impact with Judiciary									
24	Ministry of Justice									
	Meetings with MoJ									
	Creation of a harmonized process for marriage and divorces									
	MOU drafting									
	MOU signing ceremony									
	Monitoring Linkage with MoJ									

Output 4

Project is efficiently managed, staffed and coordinated, and is implemented with national ownership.

Progress

Under this Output, the following milestones were accomplished in the reporting period:

- The 21st and 22nd Monthly Technical Committee meetings were held on 16th April and 6th June respectively to review project performance against the milestones.
- The Sixth Steering Committee meeting was held on 04 April 2019 and approved the 2019 Annual Work Plan.

Monitoring and Evaluation of project implementation: There was continuous monitoring of project implementation and management of risks in the reporting period to make sure the project stays on track.

- **Assessment to find out the cause of low registration for National ID during continuous registration:** The NRIS project has developed a questionnaire to collect data to find out the cause of low registration for national identity card across the country. In the questionnaire, distance to Registration Centre, don't know where to register, found difficulties in the registration process and other causes (or not collected) have been included as options for respondents. There is also a question on the use of the national ID by the citizens who have already received their ID cards. The options for the use include, Banking, Voter Registration, Identification, Job Application, Education Enrolment, Farm Income Subsidy Programme (FISP), Student Exam, access to medical care in Hospitals and Other. The data collection is in progress. The data will be analyzed and shared with NRIS project development partners top management by August 2019. The findings will help the NRB and the NRIS project team to work out a strategize to increase registration.

- **Monitoring visit to Thyolo, Blantyre and Lilongwe DRO:** The Monitoring and Evaluation Analyst for the NRIS project visited Thyolo, Blantyre and Lilongwe DROs to check progress on the distribution of remaining ID cards. The distribution is progressing well and about 80 to 100 people in Lilongwe and 60-80 people in Blantyre are collecting their cards on daily basis. The continuous registration process is also going smoothly in these DROs. In Thyolo, the remaining cards are very few and collection rate is also low. On average, 4 to 5 citizens are getting registered for the national ID on daily basis in Thyolo.
- **Monitoring Plan for the next quarter:**
 - Analysis of the data to find out the causes for low registration for National ID cards in the ongoing continuous registration but also on use of the national ID.
 - Monitoring of civic education campaigns.
 - Monitoring the completion of refurbishment of all post offices to ensure that all 65 are functional and registering Malawians for the National ID.
 - Monitoring and testing of last mile connectivity with registration offices across the county.

3. Progress against Results Framework Indicators

Annex I.

4. Way forward

Moving forward, the project will continue to prioritize:

a. NRB capacity

The NRIS and NRB teams will continue to prioritise NRB's additional capacity needs for sustainability of the NRIS including smooth continuous registration process. The 30 Registration and 110 Assistant Registration Officers will be deployed to the 65 Post Offices after getting hands-on training at DRO level. The selected 65 Post Offices that will serve as first phase registration points will be connected to the NRB HQ by the month of August 2019.

b. NRIS linkages with MDAs

As it is indisputable that the success of optimizing multiple use of the ID system depends on creating demand for the same through various channels, the project will therefore continue and intensify engagement with various MDAs so that further and clear linkages between the ID system and other systems across MDAs are established. This will allow clear multiple uses of the ID card to be identified and agreed on for the benefit of everyone in Malawi. A detailed roadmap has been developed for the linkages with different MDAs and shared with the development partners.

c. Public awareness to create demand for continuous registration:

In view of the low continuous registration numbers, the project will continue with customised public awareness on continuous registration so that those that did not register during mass registration and those turning 16 years of age can go and register. In this period 5 civic education campaigns were developed and are current running as observed earlier in this report. The portfolio of Civic education campaign was transferred to Ministry of Civic Education, Culture and Community Development.

Legal frameworkThe project will also continue its engagement with the Law Commission in the ongoing work on the amendment of both the Citizenship Act and the National Registration Act. Further, the project will also prioritize support for the amendment of the National Registration Act.

NRA workshop and recommendations: A workshop on the National Registration Act and Regulations review took place on 23-25 April with all the NRB PROs. The main objective of this internal consultation was to learn more about the international and national obligations on civil registration and to consolidate recommendations and propose them as required amendments to MoJ. A final legal note with seven major consolidated recommendations is being finalized and will be sent to MoJ in Q3 2019.

d. Privacy and data protection:

This deliverable is part of a World bank's project in collaboration with the department of e-government. The consultancy firm Macmillan Keck Attorneys and Solicitors from USA was selected to draft data protection legislation which is expected to be finalized within 22 weeks after the contract signing.

5. Conclusion

The 2019 second quarter progress report has highlighted activities undertaken and achievements made against the milestones. As reported, the project is on track in most of the areas as demonstrated by the project deliverables completed in time, within budget and as per signed Project Document.

6. Future Plans

The project has developed the 2019 Annual Work Plan to implement activities from January 2019 to 31 December 2019 which was approved by both the Technical and Steering Committees. The AWP is in line with the signed project document. The following are the major activities planned for the third quarter of this year.

- **Linkages: MoU between NRB and Various Banks:** Preliminary work through various meeting with banks (First Capital Bank, Standard Bank, MyBucks Banking Corporate) are expected to be concluded in few weeks' time and will resulting signing of mutually agreed MoUs. After the signing of the MoUs, the banks will be able to be sending to NRB a request, through the API, to confirm the identity of Malawians applying to access banking/financial services.

- **Review of Citizenship Act:** Publication of a report with proposed legislation on citizenship is expected by end of August 2019.
- **Refurbishment of Blantyre DRO:** The Blantyre DRO refurbishment work is expected to be completed by August 2019.
- **Initiation of the 65 Post office refurbishment work:** UNDP received 24 proposals for the refurbishment of the post offices. The evaluation of the proposals is in progress. The refurbishment work for the 65 post offices is expected to start in July and complete by Dec 2019.
- **Assessment on the causes of low registration:** The data collection to find out the causes of low registration but also utilization of national ID is in progress. The data will be analyzed, and the findings will be shared with UNDP top management and development partners by August 2019. The findings will help the project to strategize on how to increase the registration numbers.
- **Registration equipment for 65 Post offices:** The registration equipment for the 65 post offices will be configured and deployed by the 3rd Quarter of 2019.
- **Foreign Resident and Refugee Cards:** The Card designs have just been approved by the minister. The software is being developed, tested and expected to be deployed for printing of Foreign resident and Refugee Cards.
- **Personalization of the new chip version and configuration of HSM (Hardware Security Module):** Finalizing the Software to personalize new chip version and configuration of HSM so that the card production systems meet the recommended ways of managing smart chip encryption keys.
- **Training of NRB ICT staff:** Procurement process started for out-sourcing of 7 identified skills gaps and the courses to be given to address the skills gap. These courses will equip the NRB ICT teams to be able to modify the software and better manage the servers and related environment. Source code training to new NRB ICT staff members will also be organized in the next quarter.
- **Updating Linkages APIs:** Monitoring and updating linkages APIs to meet the diverse needs of MDAs and private entities as they come on board and validate their client's data with NRB database.
- **Accountable DSA management system:** Improvements and anticipated roll out of the accountable DSA management system, using the national ID.
- **MIM Courses:** The remaining four courses out of 9 will be completed by the 3rd Quarter 2019.
- **Meeting with Chief Secretary:** The meeting with Chief Secretary on linkages is scheduled for 23rd August 2019.

- **Video on mandatory registration and Security features:** A video will be prepared to show to the public that registration for national ID is mandatory. The video will also show the security features of the correct Malawian national ID.
- **Last Mile connectivity:** All the 65 post offices are expected to be connected to the NRB HQ central database for real time transmission of national ID registration data by August 2019.
 - Theory Training on network management and administration for batch 1 is scheduled for 9th to 12th July 2019 in Blantyre. The participants will be NRB personnel, and Districts Management Information System Officers (MISOs) from the Southern region. The objective of the training is to provide an understanding on the theory of network management and administration of the last mile connectivity.

The batch 2 training on these topics is scheduled for 15th to 18th July. The participants will be NRB HQ staff and MISOs from the Central and North regions.

- **Development of Network Monitoring System at Capital Hill:** The Network Monitoring System at Capital Hill is the application that will be used to monitor network performance and status of the registration centers. The network monitoring system will monitor the following:
 - Capacity utilization i.e. how much data is being sent to and from the central database.
 - Device status i.e. whether the switches and routers at registration centers are up (working) or down.
 - Reports generation i.e. Daily, weekly, monthly reports of status of registration centers' network performance.
- **Proposal of Mass Children Registration:** The proposal for the mass registration of children has been developed by NRB, UNICEF and UNDP, and is ready for fund raising. The total budget is USD 25 million. The 22nd Technical Committee held on 6th June 2019 approved the extension of the NRIS project for another 2 years to complete the mass registration of children. There are four outputs in this project which are mutually agreed by all stakeholders. The outputs are given below:
 - **Output 1:** Up to 9 million Malawian children are registered with a unique ID number and issued with a Birth Certificate by 2020.
 - **Output 2:** A permanent and continuous birth registration system will be functional by 2020.
 - **Output 3:** MDAs assisted to use the unique ID and the Birth Certificates in “whole of the government approach” aligned to policy guideline.
 - **Output 4:** Project is efficiently managed, staffed and coordinated, and is implemented with national ownership

7. Financial Section

All financial data (Annexes III) presented in this report is provisional. From UNDP Bureau of Management/Office of Finance and Administration, an annual certified financial statement as of 31 December, will be submitted every year no later than 30 June of the following year.

Annexes

Annex I: Progress against Results Framework Indicators:

Results Framework

Outcome Goal: The establishment of a permanent and continuous national registration and identification system in Malawi.
Outcome Indicators:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of MDAs using NRIS for administrative or operational systems (Baseline (2016): 0; Target (2019): >10; Source: Official records) • Percentage of eligible resident Malawians registered and issued with an identity card (Baseline (2016) 0; Target (2019): >90%; Source: National Register, NSO) • Assessed capacity of NRB to operate and maintain the NRIS (Baseline (2016): None; Target (2019): Good capacity; Source: Project Evaluation Report)

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		TARGET	STATUS	Remarks
			Value	Year	Project Target	30 June 2019	
Output 1 Up to 9 million Malawians are registered for issuance of a National Identity card in 2017	1.1 Number of Malawians registered in the National Register as part of mass registration, disaggregated by gender	National Registry	0	2016	More than 9 million	9,168,689 (4,201,175 males and 4,967,514 females)	Surpassed the project target.
	1.2 Number of Malawians issued with a National ID card as part of mass registration, disaggregated by gender	NRB Records	0	2016	More than 8.5 million	Over 8.94 million	Inventory of the left-over card is prepared, and personalized SMS is sent to respective individuals to

							collect their card from the District Registration Office.
	1.3 Proposed amendment of National Registration Act submitted to Ministry of Justice	Public Record	0	2016	1	1	Proposed amendments of the National Registration Act were submitted to the Ministry of Justice which responded by requesting more internal consultations on a specific issue related to the NRB internal structure.
	1.4 Number of paid information campaign products aired on radio	Project records	0	2016	10	More than 10	Surpassed project target.
Output 2 NRIS is transitioned to a permanent and continuous registration system	2.1 Number of District Registration Offices equipped for continuous registration	NRB Records	0	2016	28	28	Reached project target.
	2.2 Percentage of registrars trained in rules and procedures.	Training records.	0	2016	100%	100%	Surpassed target. According to the laws of Malawi, District Commissioners (DCs) are the registrars. There are 28 District Commissioners in Malawi, which implies 28 registrars. All the 28 registrars have been trained on rules and procedures regarding the mass registration process, ID Card distribution, continuous registration protocols, ID Card

							replacement, registration of naturalized citizens and resident foreigners, etc. These trainings were also extended to all NRB district registration office staff, which include the Principal Registration Officers, formerly called Assistant District Registrars (ADRs), Logistics Officers, and Data Processing Clerks.
	2.3 Number of Malawians issued with a National ID card in 2018 as part of continuous registration, gender disaggregated	NRB Records	0	2016	0.77 million	More than 0.3 million	By 31 March 2019, 726,088 (441,806 males and 284,282 females) citizens had registered, as part of continuous registration and included those that registered during voter registration. Out of these records, almost 700,000 cards were printed for distribution.

<p>Output 3</p> <p>Government MDAs and private institutions are assisted to adopt the use of the NRIS</p>	<p>3.1 Number of inter-institutional agreements between NRB and Government Ministries, Departments, Agencies (MDAs) and private institutions on the use of the ID card system.</p>	<p>NRB records</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>2016</p>	<p>>10</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>On track. One MoU signed between NRB and MEC, and one MoU between NRB and MRA, one MoU between CRB and NRB, and one MoU between NRB and FDB Bank Limited. Other agreements have been established not based on MoUs such as with DHRMD and MACRA.</p>
<p>Output 4</p> <p>Project is efficiently managed, staffed and coordinated, and is implemented with national ownership</p>	<p>4.1 Agreed M&E activities implemented</p>	<p>Project records</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>2016</p>	<p>Satisfactorily</p>	<p>Satisfactorily</p>	<p>On track. Most of the agreed activities in the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework are being implemented.</p>
	<p>4.2 Percentage of Project positions filled</p>	<p>UNDP records</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>2016</p>	<p>100%</p>	<p>100%</p>	<p>Surpassed project target.</p>
	<p>4.3 Steering and Technical Committee meetings held per year</p>	<p>Project records</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>2016</p>	<p>9/24</p>	<p>6/22</p>	<p>TC meetings are on track and will surpass target but not with SC meetings.</p>

Annex II: Risk Log:

Project Title: National Registration and Identification System	Award ID: 00100113	Date: 06 June 2019
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#	Description	Date Identified	Type	Impact & Probability	Countermeasures / Mngt response	Owner	Updated by	Last Update	Status History
2	Slippage on operational timelines	20 Oct 16	Operational Total: 20	Timelines are constrained with census in 2018 and elections in 2019. If not implemented on schedule major deviations off plan may need to be considered. P = 4 I = 5	Monthly monitoring of progress in Technical Committee to determine corrective actions as necessary. TC and SC meetings taking place regularly and according to timeline. The project is on track so far.	Technical Committee	CTA	06 June 2019	06 June 2019
3	Institutional national capacities	20 Oct 16	Operational Total: 20	Lack of sufficiently trained national staff, lack of sustainable financial model for NRB and delays in setting up the ID card production facility site will compromise sustainability of continuous registration, data recovery and deny some	Government conducted a functional review to increase NRB staffing. Government sanctioned recruitment of 16 IT Officers for NRB to support mass registration. For further recruitment of additional staff as recommended by the functional review in relation to the sustainability of continuous	GoM UNDP	CTA	06 June 2019	Amended. (19 January 2017) P amended from 3 to 4 in view of delays in the functional review and the increase in NRB staffing required.

				<p>Malawian citizens their right to identity.</p> <p>P = 5</p> <p>I = 5</p>	<p>registration, 30 Registration Officers and 110 Assistant Registration Officers have been recruited, pending offer letters to be sent. Training plan of these officers is being developed. Recruitment of other officers to follow in 2019 once Government disburses funding for such.</p> <p>Regarding the DRS, it has been moved to the Malawi Revenue Authority premises (MRA) in Blantyre.</p> <p>As for the ID card production facility site, NRB reinforced and is making use of what is currently available for printing of the ID cards and the procurement of a pre-fabricated container for the setting up of a pre-fabricated containerized printing facility is in process.</p>				<p>Escalated for the attention of the SC on 5th April 2017.</p> <p>Escalate to SC in anticipation that there might be a gap in NRB's capacity for continuous registration if the new approved positions are not filled at all or on time.</p> <p>Amended (22 March 2018) Upgraded P=4 to P=5 with reference to the removal of key and management staff that were already well trained.</p>
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									Narration of Impact & Probability amended on (19 Feb 2019) No change. (06 June 2019)
6	Technology adoption	20 Oct 16	Operational Total: 12	Introduction of new technologies and systems introduces unprecedented challenges for implementation and sustainability. P = 3 I = 4	International expertise to implement under the Project, supported by contractor arrangements. Skills transfer for the new technologies is built into the design of the Project.	UNDP/NRB	CTA	06 June 2019	No Change. (06 June 2019)
7	Adequate data protection provisions	20 Oct 16	Legal Total: 12	Failure to protect privacy and data can undermine confidence in registering and erodes the right to privacy of individuals. P = 4 I = 4	A review of the National Registration Act and development of amendments is part of the Project deliverables. A meeting took place at the end of January 2018 between the UNDP Legal Specialist and NRB to discuss the amendments of the National Registration Act. A legal note is being finalized which will be the basis for a memo from the	UNDP /GoM	CTA	06 June 2019	Amended. (02 October 2017) 2017) P amended from 3 to 4 given the level of current data protection provisions in Malawi.

					<p>Ministry of Home Affairs and Internal Security to the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs (MoJ) requesting the necessary amendments of the law.</p> <p>The introduction of the Electronic Transactions Bill will strengthen rights to privacy and data protection. The Electronic Transaction Bill was passed by Parliament on 04 July 2016 and the President assented to it on 20 October 2016. Its publication was on 04 November 2016.</p> <p>On Data Protection Act, UNDP team will be following up and work with the World Bank team to support the development of a comprehensive Data Protection Act for Malawi. World Bank is leading this through their supported Digital Malawi project.</p>				No Change. (06 June 2019)
8	Network connectivity	20 Oct 16	Operational Total: 10	Limited or unstable access to connectivity can undermine data movement and synchronisation during	NRB and E-Government will ensure that systems for data transfer have been developed. UNDP will support.	GoM	CTA	06 June 2019	Amended. (01 December 2017)

				continuous registration. P = 5 I = 3					No change. (06 June 2019)
14	Lack of clarity on communication strategy on ID Card distribution and consistent engagement with the media create negative political perception and anxiety among citizens and political parties	02 Oct 2017	Political Total:12	Lack of proper communication channels with key targeted public messages regarding collection of ID cards may create confusion on ID distribution resulting in negative perception on NRIS P=3 I=4	NRB will use proper communication channels (radio, SMS, USSD system) in phased approach to inform public to collect their ID cards. UNDP will support the initiative. NRB and UNDP will consistently engage the media to update them on the status of ID Card distribution.	UNDP/NRB	CTA	06 June 2019	New Risk (02 Oct 2017) Amended. (01 December 2017) No change. (06 June 2019)

Note: P stands Probability and I stands for Impact.

Annex III: Financial Utilization

A. 2019 Quarter Two Expenditure Summary Report:

Quarter 2, 2019 Variance Analysis				
Outputs Name & Description	Budget (US Dollar)	Expenditure (US Dollar)	Difference (US Dollar)	Comments on Main Reasons for Variances
Output 1: Up to 9 million Malawians are registered and issued with a National Identity card in 2017.	160,000	72,715	87,285	BRK Warranty extension yet to be paid. Procurement process finalised.
Output 2: NRIS is transitioned to a permanent and continuous registration system.	1,030,450	538,779	491,671	Contract for last Mile connectivity expected to end in Q3. The renovation of Post Offices expected to start in Q3, and procurement process is still ongoing.
Output 3: Government MDAs are assisted to adopt the use of the NRIS.	96,000	90,053	5,947	Activities are ongoing and with regular project review meetings mostly held at the project office.
Output 4: Project is efficiently managed, staffed and coordinated, and is implemented with national ownership.	479,774	414,136	65,638	
SUB-TOTAL OUTPUTS	1,766,224	1,115,683	650,541	
Technical Support for Unforeseen Capacity Gaps (5%)	-	-	-	
UNDP Procurement Support Office (PSO) (4.5%)	29,741	11,827	17,914	
General Management Service Fees (GMS) (variable)	248,165	80,708	167,457	Most of the GMS for Q2 has been posted.
<u>TOTAL</u>	2,044,130	1,208,218	835,913	

B. Cumulative Expenditure (Q4 2016, 2017, 2018, Q1 & Q2 2019) Summary Report:

Cumulative Budget Variance Analysis

OUTPUTS NAME	Cumulative Budget (US Dollar)	Cumulative Expenditures (US Dollar)	Cumulative Variance (US Dollar)	Comments on Main Reason for Variances
Output 1: Up to 9 million Malawians are registered and issued with a National Identity card in 2017	37,571,697	37,000,278	571,419	Reasons for Variance: - NRIS Software Quality Assurance Review switched from Q2 to Q4; - Savings on ROs Payments - Activities on community engagement are under process
Output 2: NRIS is transitioned to a permanent and continuous registration system	3,776,001	1,444,601	2,331,400	Reasons of Variances: - Gwan activities have just commenced and expected to be completed in Qtr 3. - Renovation of District Offices and Post Offices are still ongoing.
Output 3: Government MDAs are assisted to adopt the use of the NRIS.	196,000	138,406	57,594	Reasons of Variances: - Activities being undertaken at project office and NRB. Due to election in Q2, some of the activities are shifted to Q3
Output 4: Project is efficiently managed, staffed and coordinated, and is implemented with national ownership	7,099,192	6,645,441	453,751	
SUB-TOTAL OUTPUTS	48,642,890	45,228,726	3,414,164	
Technical Support for Unforeseen Capacity Gaps (5%)	2,295,373	-	2,295,373	
UNDP Procurement Support Office (PSO) (4.5%)	1,204,676	906,590	298,086	
General Management Service Fees (GMS) (variable)	2,677,368	2,535,928	141,440	
TOTAL	54,820,307	48,671,244	6,149,063	

