

**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
BACK TO OFFICE REPORT**

Prepared by: Titus Kavalo		Date: 10 October 2017
Reference Number (if available):		Distribution : Tariq Malik, Chief Technical Advisor, Claire Medina Agnes Chimbiri, NRB & all NRIS team
Place(s) visited: Neno, Mwanza, Chikwawa, Nsanje, Thyolo, Mulanje, Phalombe, Blantyre	Field visit date	Co-travelers, if any:
	(s): 01 – 07 October 2017	
<p><u>Purpose of visit:</u></p> <p>Filed mission to phase 3 districts to check status of registration by the permanent registration teams</p>		
<p><u>Objectives of Mission:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. monitoring performance of permanent registration staff in phase 1 and phase 2 districts 2. checking performance of BRKs 3. monitor the numbers that are now coming to the permanent district centers as mass registration will be ending soon with phase 5 deployment 4. verify data that is being collected in the BRKs 5. Find out if there are any challenges and issues that registration staff might have which need to be addressed 6. Supply the registration teams with NR1 forms and stickers where there is short supply. 		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Visit to Neno</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) <u>Performance of registration staff</u> – Staff are committed to their work. This was also corroborated by the Assistant District Registrar (ADR) b) <u>Performance of Biometric Registration Kits (BRKs)</u> – Both BRKs were reported to be functioning well. c) <u>Number of people registered/Biometric data captured in the week beginning 25th September 2017:</u> 		

BRK 0071:

25 Sept - 2 people

26 Sept – 3 people

27 Sept – 2 people

28 Sept – 2 people

29 Sept – 2 People. Team also went to Lilongwe Warehouse to offload data

BRK 0126:

25 Sept - 2 people

26 Sept – 2 people

27 Sept – 3 people

28 Sept – 2 people

29 Sept – 3 People. Team also went to Lilongwe Warehouse to offload data

- d) **Availability of NR1 forms and stickers** – Sufficient supplies still in stock.
- e) **Verification of data** – Registration staff are trying their best not register foreigners. When suspicious, they engage the ADR. Chiefs, police and the ADR are working hand in hand to make sure that only eligible Malawians are registered.
- f) **Observations** – During the interaction with the ADR and the registration staff, it was people still do not know that there is registration going on at the DC's center as people especially from far distances keep coming to the ADR asking about where else they could go to register after missing the mass registration in their localities.

The ADR indicated that they intend to communicate messages about the ongoing registration through community radios which cover almost all Neno. The ADR also indicated that messages were also sent to all Ward Councilors to tell people that the center at the DC is still open for those not registered. The ADR further indicated that he told the Ward Councilors that ROs can only be taken to some TAs/Villages on request even though the biggest challenge will be fuel because Neno receives little funding for Other Recurrent Transactions (ORT).

2. **Visit to Mwanza**

- a) **Performance of registration staff** – Staff are committed to their work. This was also corroborated by the NRB's Logistics Officer. The Assistant District Registrar (ADR) was away to Lilongwe during my visit.
- b) **Performance of Biometric Registration Kits (BRKs)** – Both BRKs were reported to be functioning well.
- c) **Number of people registered/Biometric data captured in the week beginning 25th September 2017:**

BRK 0670:

25 Sept – 13 people
26 Sept – 6 people
27 Sept – 3 people
28 Sept – 4 people
29 Sept – 3 People.

BRK 0671:

25 Sept - 7 people
26 Sept – 1 people
27 Sept – 2 people
28 Sept – 5 people
29 Sept – 3 People.

- d) **Availability of NR1 forms and stickers** – Sufficient supplies still in stock.
- e) **Verification of data** – Registration staff are trying their best not register foreigners. When suspicious, they engage the ADR. Chiefs, police and the ADR are working hand in hand to make sure that only eligible Malawians are registered.
- f) **Observations** – During the interaction with the NRB’s Logistics Officer and the registration staff, it was raised that the numbers being registered are getting lower because most of the people that are not from the distant places to the DC’s office have registered and that the people from far places and cannot travel to the DC’s office for one reason or another might have still not been registered.

3. **Visit to Chikwawa**

- a) **Performance of registration staff** – Staff are committed to their work. This was also corroborated by the Assistant District Registrar (ADR)
- b) **Performance of Biometric Registration Kits (BRKs)** – Both BRKs were reported to be functioning well.

c) **Number of people registered/Biometric data captured in the week beginning 25th September:**

BRK 0899:

25 Sept – 0
26 Sept – 2 people
27 Sept – 1 person
28 Sept – 0
29 Sept – 0

BRK 1010:

25 Sept – 2 people
26 Sept – 1 person

27 Sept – 1 person
28 Sept – 0
29 Sept – 0

- d) **Availability of NR1 forms and stickers** – Sufficient supplies still in stock.
- e) **Verification of data** – Registration staff are trying their best not register foreigners. When suspicious, they engage the ADR. Chiefs, police and the ADR are working hand in hand to make sure that only eligible Malawians are registered.
- f) **Observations** – During the interaction with the ADR and the registration staff, it was raised that the numbers being registered are very low, as for some days there is no person at all registered. They suspected that most of the people that are not from far distant places to the DC's office have registered and that the people from far places and cannot travel to the DC's office for one reason or another are the ones that might have still not been registered. Examples were given of Therere and Chang'ambika villages in N'gabu as among those where more people might have not been registered. People from these two villages for example came in a lorry to the DC's registration center with 94 people and reported that more than a thousand people are still unregistered from their localities. The sad part was that the 94 were not even registered as they had come with no TA and documents they also have were not enough to proof their citizenship as they could not add up 1005 as required. As such they were sent back without being registered.

A suggestion was therefore made by the ADR that if there was provision of fuel, arrangements and communication could be made on specific days with respective Traditional Authorities (T/As) to mobilise those still not registered, and the registration staff could be taken there to register them.

4. **Visit to Nsanje**

- a) **Performance of registration staff** – Staff are committed to their work.
- b) **Performance of Biometric Registration Kits (BRKs)** – Both BRKs were reported to be functioning well.
- c) **Number of people registered/Biometric data captured in the week beginning 25th September:**

BRK 1100:

25 Sept – 8 people
26 Sept - 4 people
27 Sept - 2 people
28 Sept – In Lilongwe Warehouse for offloading
29 Sept – Still in Lilongwe

BRK 1298:

25 Sept – 9 people
26 Sept - 6 people
27 Sept - 9 people
28 Sept - 2 people
29 Sept - 4 people

- d) **Availability of NR1 forms and stickers** – Sufficient supplies still in stock.
- e) **Verification of data** – Registration staff are trying their best not register foreigners. When suspicious, they engage the ADR. Chiefs, police and the ADR are working hand in hand to make sure that only eligible Malawians are registered.
- f) **Observations** – During the interaction with the ADR and the registration staff, it was raised that the numbers being registered going down most of the people that are not from far distant places to the DC's office have registered and that the people from far places and cannot travel to the DC's office for one reason or another are the ones that might have still not been registered. Examples were given of Phokera and Khuluvi primary schools where they had taken the ROs to registered people, following reports of many people to have not been registered. On the day they went to these schools, 142 and 164 people were registered in these two primary schools respectively.

A suggestion was therefore made by the ADR that if there was provision of fuel, arrangements and communication could be made on specific days with respective Traditional Authorities (T/As) to mobilise those still not registered, and the registration staff could be taken there to register them. The ADR mentioned that they tried funds from little Other Recurrent Transaction (ORT) which they receive to buy fuel and take the registration staff to the two primary schools mentioned above.

5. **Visit to Thyolo**

- a) **Performance of registration staff** – Staff are committed to their work. This was also corroborated by the Assistant District Registrar (ADR)
- b) **Performance of Biometric Registration Kits (BRKs)** – Both BRKs were reported to be functioning well.
- c) **Number of people registered/Biometric data captured in the week beginning 25th September:**

BRK 1549:

25 Sept – In Lilongwe Warehouse for data offloading
26 Sept – In Lilongwe
27 Sept – In Lilongwe
28 Sept – 22
29 Sept – 40

BRK 1038:

25 Sept – In Lilongwe Warehouse for data offloading

26 Sept – In Lilongwe

27 Sept – In Lilongwe

28 Sept – 21

29 Sept – 34

- d) **Availability of NR1 forms and stickers** – Sufficient supplies still in stock.
- e) **Verification of data** – Registration staff are trying their best not register foreigners. When suspicious, they engage the ADR. Chiefs, police and the ADR are working hand in hand to make sure that only eligible Malawians are registered.

Observations – During the interaction with the ADR and the registration staff, it was observed that more people are still coming to the DC registration center for registration. This was also evident from the numbers being registered and the queue that I found.

6. **Visit to Mulanje**

- a) **Performance of registration staff** – Staff are committed to their work.
- b) **Performance of Biometric Registration Kits (BRKs)** – Both BRKs were reported by the ADR to be functioning well.
- c) **Number of people registered/Biometric data captured in the week beginning 25th September:**

BRK 0570:

25 Sept – 29 people

26 Sept – 6 people

27 Sept – 5 people – Went to Lilongwe warehouse for data offloading

28 Sept – In Lilongwe

29 Sept – 0

BRK 1094:

25 Sept – 3 people

26 Sept – 5 people

27 Sept – 4 people – Went to Lilongwe warehouse for data offloading

28 Sept – In Lilongwe

29 Sept – 8

- d) **Availability of NR1 forms and stickers** – Sufficient supplies still in stock.
- e) **Verification of data** – Registration staff are trying their best not register foreigners. When suspicious, they engage the ADR. Chiefs, police and the ADR are working hand in hand to make sure that only eligible Malawians are registered.

- f) **Observations** – During the registration staff as the ADR was away to on other official duties, it was pointed out that numbers being registered at the DC center keep varying from one day to another with some days registering more and less on other days. It was indicated however that overall, the numbers are not as large as they were when the teams first came to the DC center, implying that perhaps people surrounding the center might have registered in large numbers except those from distant places.

7. **Visit to Phalombe**

Due to allegations of blood sucking incidences and for the safety of the ROs, the ADR advised temporary closure of the DC's center until come is restored.

8. **Visit to Blantyre**

- a) **Performance of registration staff** – Staff are committed to their work. This was also corroborated by the Assistant District Registrar (ADR).
- b) **Performance of Biometric Registration Kits (BRKs)** – All six BRKs were reported to be functioning well.
- c) **Number of people registered/Biometric data captured in the week of 4 to 8 September:**

BRK 1714:

25 Sept – 0, there was no registration as ADR called for a meeting on this day
26 Sept – 19 people
27 Sept - 28 people
28 Sept – 16 people
29 Sept – 19 people

BRK 1190:

25 Sept – 0, there was no registration as ADR called for a meeting on this day
26 Sept - 7 people
27 Sept - 20 people
28 Sept - 12 people
29 Sept - 20 people

BRK 1146:

25 Sept – 0, there was no registration as ADR called for a meeting on this day
26 Sept - 11 people
27 Sept – 16 people
28 Sept – 16 people
29 Sept – 3 people

BRK 1262:

25 Sept – 0, there was no registration as ADR called for a meeting on this day
26 Sept - 15 people
27 Sept – 28 people
28 Sept – 17 people
29 Sept – 19 people

BRK 1669:

25 Sept – 0, there was no registration as ADR called for a meeting on this day
26 Sept - 9 people
27 Sept – 15 people
28 Sept – 5 people
29 Sept – 7 people

BRK 0180:

25 Sept – 0, there was no registration as ADR called for a meeting on this day
26 Sept - 17 people
27 Sept – 0
28 Sept – 8
29 Sept – 5

- d) **Availability of NR1 forms and stickers** – Sufficient supplies still in stock.
- e) **Verification of data** – Registration staff are trying their best not register foreigners. When suspicious, they engage the ADR. Chiefs, police and the ADR are working hand in hand to make sure that only eligible Malawians are registered.
- f) **Observations** – During the interaction with the ADR and the registration staff, it was raised that people are still coming for registration but that the numbers being registered are now getting lower as opposed early days because most of the people that are not from the distant places to the DC's office have registered and that the people from far places and cannot travel to the DC's office for one reason or another are the ones that are still not registered.

The ADR pointed out at the last full council meeting, it was decided that Members of Parliament and Ward Councilors should take initiative of reporting to the ADR and DC of any areas where more people might have not registered so that ROs can be taken there.

On registration of foreigners, it was reported that almost every week, foreigners are sent back. It was further mentioned that some Mozambicans and other foreigners were taking advantage of the exercise and connive with some Malawians who could stamp forms as T/As or village heads for these foreigners to get registered. One Malawi and some Mozambicans were picked by police.

Conclusion:

- a) Registration by the teams that were left to continue the exercise in phase 3 districts is going on well. However, it appears that there is a significant number of people in areas very far from the DC that still did not register. If arrangements to take registration staff to such areas is viable and if fuel can be provided to some of the districts including provision of security where necessary, then coverage of registration would be wide and good as many people will be registered. If that arrangement was made, then the registration staff that were left in these districts can also be retrieved earlier.
- b) I also recommend follow up on the issue of registration of foreigners especially on those that were picked by police but also to establish if other foreigners were registered and if there was a way of tracing their data.

Other general observations:

One general observation was the issue of payments as some other ROs claimed to have not been receiving their dues in full. I promised to take up the issue with PwC for verification of such claims.