

Malawi

Oxygen systems in Malawi do not adequately meet the population's current needs, which were further strained because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As of 2020, the Malawi Ministry of Health, with support from PATH and other partners, carried out multiple initiatives to improve reliable supply of oxygen, including:

ASSESSMENT

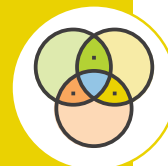
+ With support from PATH and UNICEF, conducted a **national oxygen needs assessment** of 541 health facilities throughout the country:

- » The national oxygen need was estimated at **3.78 million liters a day**.
- » An additional **1.73 million liters a day** (a 45% increase) was estimated for COVID-19 needs.
- » Existing equipment could not produce enough oxygen to meet this demand.



COORDINATION & STRATEGIC PLANNING

Leveraged the **Malawi Oxygen Emergency Taskforce** to bring together key partners across the Ministry of Health as well as other stakeholders, including PATH, Partners In Health, and UNICEF, to collectively develop and launch the country's first national **Medical Oxygen Ecosystem Roadmap**. The roadmap aims to reduce morbidity and mortality from hypoxemia and ensure oxygen is available to treat all who need it. The plan closely aligns with Malawi's **Critical Care Strategy** to ensure a strong framework for increasing access to respiratory care.



EQUIPMENT PROCUREMENT & REPAIR & CAPACITY-BUILDING

With support from PATH and Unitaidd, **procured and distributed** equipment to more than 70 health facilities across all levels of care throughout the country:

1,500
oxygen
cylinders

150
oxygen
concentrators

150
pulse
oximeters

100
patient
monitors

5,500
face masks



As part of the oxygen roadmap, will train **biomedical engineers and health care workers** in the use and maintenance of respiratory care equipment, including developing updated standard operating procedures, training modules, and guidelines.



With a solid framework and strong partnerships for oxygen scale-up, Malawi is well positioned to improve access to this lifesaving commodity across all levels of the health system.

Ensuring effective stakeholder coordination and appropriately aligning partner activities will be critical priorities for maximizing implementation of the oxygen roadmap.