IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON EDUCATION IN MALAWI'S PRIMARY SCHOOLS

HEAD TEACHER'S SURVEY

ITRODUCTIO

GENERAL INFORMATION

District		
Zone		
School Name		
Head teacher's Name		
Head teacher's ID		
Head teacher's phone number		
Head teacher's age	[_ _ _]	
Head teacher's gender	[1] Male [2] Female [3] Do not want to say	
School Location	1. Rural	2. Urban
Proprietor	1. Government	2. Religious Agency
Date collected	DD/MM/YYYY | _ _ / _ _ / _ _ _ _	
Name of research assistant		
Name of research supervisor		

Introduction

A. BACKGROUND

1. How many years (including current year) of experience as a head teacher do you have? _____
2. For how many years (including current year) have you been the head teacher at this school? _____
3. Are you aware of the COVID 19 guidelines for school re-opening that the Ministry of Education developed.
   a. Yes
   b. No
   c. Do not want to say.
4. Has the school received any direct support in kind or cash for COVID-19 mitigation measures?
   a. Yes
   b. No

If yes, what type of support has the school received? [Select all that apply].

i. COVID-19 guidelines

ii. Training of Head teacher on COVID-19 issues

iii. Training of staff on COVID-19 issues

iv. Construction of school blocks

v. Provision and setting up of tents.

vi. Provision of PPEs (hand sanitisers, face masks, water buckets, soap, etc)

vii. Extra teachers

viii. Extra teaching and learning materials

ix. Other (Specify) _____

B. REMOTE LEARNING

B-1 Remote learning during first school closure March to September/ October 2020

5. Did your school make any arrangements for remote learning during the first school closure from March to September 2020?
   a. Yes.
   b. No. *Go to Q12*
   c. I don't know/ Not sure. *Go to Q12*

6. If yes, explain the arrangements made? [Enumerator reads list and select all that apply]

a. provided assignments for students to complete

b. our teachers held in-person sessions/meetings to tutor students
c. used a mobile learning app
d. telephone calls to students
e. provided guidance to parents on how to support their children
f. arranged radio programs
g. arranged TV programs
h. other, please specify _____

7. Were there any arrangements made by the school to monitor remote learning?
    a. Yes.
    b. No. *Go to Q9*
    c. I don't know/ Not sure. *Go to Q9*

8. If yes, how was the monitoring done?
    a. Through monitoring visits to the communities by school personnel.
    b. Through monitoring visits to the communities by community members.
    c. Parents giving monitoring reports to school.
    d. Other. Please specify _____

9. What was the role of teachers in remote learning during school closure?
    a. Did not take any part in remote learning.
    b. Involved in the development/preparation of lessons.
    c. Involved in development of materials.
    d. Providing support to students/caregivers remotely.
    e. Sensitisation of parents/community about remote learning.
    f. Other. Please specify _____

10. Which of these remote learning strategies were used by your students during school closure?
    a. Completed assignments provided by the teacher
    b. Used mobile learning apps
    c. Listened to educational programs on radio
    d. Studying/reading on their own
    e. Taught by parent or other household member(s)
    f. Session/meeting with Lesson Teacher (tutor)
    g. Watched educational TV programs
    h. Teacher teaching for a fee.
    i. Teacher teaching free of charge.
    j. Someone (not a teacher teaching) teaching for a fee.
    k. Other. Please specify _____

11. What were the **three** main challenges (in order of importance) that were encountered by students in accessing remote learning during the period of the first school closure (start with the most pressing one)?

Options Enumerator to ask the respondent to list three main challenges. Then work with the respondent to order the challenges from most challenging to least challenging. If the respondent is not able to list the challenges, please read these challenges out.	Select **<u>one option</u>** per column		
	Biggest challenge (1)	Second biggest challenge (2)	Third biggest challenge (3)
Lack of access to television			
Lack of access to radio			
Lack of access to internet			
Lack of access to educational programs			
Lack of access to textbooks or learning materials			
Lack of motivation			
Lack of support from teachers and schools			
Children are working to earn money			
Children are taking care of their siblings			
Children are doing housework			
Lack of supervision from adults in the household			
There is not a good/quiet place to study			
Children need to spend their time doing other things			
Other, please specify _____			

B-2 Remote learning after re-opening from the first school closure September/ October 2020

12. Did your school adopt any remote learning strategies to reduce congestion after re-opening in September 2020?

    a. Yes.

b. No. *Go to Q15*
c. I don't know/ Not sure. *Go to Q15*

13. What remote learning strategies did your school adopt after the first reopening in September 2020 to reduce congestion?
    a. Radio.
    b. Printed materials (textbooks, study guides, reading lists, newspaper).
    c. Study circles/ peer study groups.
    d. Teaching After school hours.
    e. Television.
    f. Digital technology (online, SMS, videos-online and offline, WhatsApp.
    g. Homework
    h. I don't know.
    i. Other. Please specify_____

14. What were the **three** main challenges (in order of importance) that were encountered by students in accessing remote learning after re-opening from the first school closure September/ October 2020 (start with the most pressing one)?

Options Enumerator to ask the respondent to list three main challenges. Then work with the respondent to order the challenges from most challenging to least challenging. If the respondent is not able to list the challenges, please read these challenges out.	Select **<u>one option</u>** per column		
	Biggest challenge (1)	Second biggest challenge (2)	Third biggest challenge (3)
Lack of access to television			
Lack of access to radio			
Lack of access to internet			
Lack of access to educational programs			
Lack of access to textbooks or learning materials			
Lack of motivation			
Lack of support from teachers and schools			
Children are working to earn money			
Children are taking care of their siblings			
Children are doing housework			

Lack of supervision from adults in the household			
There is not a good/quiet place to study			
Children need to spend their time doing other things			
Other, please specify _____			

B-3 Remote learning during second school closure from January to March 2021

15. Did your school make any arrangements for remote learning during the second school closure from January to March 2021?
    a. Yes.
    b. No. *Go to Q22*
    c. I don't know/ Not sure. *Go to Q22*

16. If yes, explain the arrangements made?

i. provided assignments for students to complete
j. our teachers held in-person sessions/meetings to tutor students
k. used a mobile learning app
l. telephone calls to students
m. provided guidance to parents on how to support their children
n. arranged radio programs
o. arranged TV programs
p. other, please specify _____

17. Were there any arrangements made by the school to monitor remote learning?
    a. Yes.
    b. No. *Go to Q19*
    c. I don't know/ Not sure. *Go to Q19*

18. If yes, how was the monitoring done?
    a. Through monitoring visits to the communities by school personnel.
    b. Through monitoring visits to the communities by community members.
    c. Parents giving monitoring reports to school.
    d. Other. Please specify _____

19. What was the role of teachers in remote learning during school closure?
    a. Did not take any part in remote learning.
    b. Involved in the development/preparation of lessons.
    c. Involved in development of materials.
    d. Providing support to students/caregivers remotely.

e. Sensitisation of parents/community about remote learning.
f. Other. Please specify _____

20. Which of these remote learning strategies were used by your students during school closure?
    a. Completed assignments provided by the teacher
    b. Used mobile learning apps
    c. Listened to educational programs on radio
    d. Studying/reading on their own
    e. Taught by parent or other household member(s)
    f. Session/meeting with Lesson Teacher (tutor)
    g. Watched educational TV programs
    h. Teacher teaching for a fee.
    i. Teacher teaching free of charge.
    j. Someone (not a teacher teaching) teaching for a fee.
    k. Other. Please specify _____

21. What were the **three** main challenges (in order of importance) that were encountered by students in accessing remote learning during the school closure period of January to March 2021 (start with the most pressing one)?

Options Enumerator to ask the respondent to list three main challenges. Then work with the respondent to order the challenges from most challenging to least challenging. If the respondent is not able to list the challenges, please read these challenges out.	Select **<u>one option</u>** per column		
	Biggest challenge (1)	Second biggest challenge (2)	Third biggest challenge (3)
Lack of access to television			
Lack of access to radio			
Lack of access to internet			
Lack of access to educational programs			
Lack of access to textbooks or learning materials			
Lack of motivation			
Lack of support from teachers and schools			
Children are working to earn money			

Children are taking care of their siblings			
Children are doing housework			
Lack of supervision from adults in the household			
There is not a good/quiet place to study			
Children need to spend their time doing other things			
Other, please specify _____			

B-4 Remote learning after re-opening from second school closure in March 2021

22. Has your school adopted any remote learning strategies to reduce congestion after re-opening in March 2021?

    a. Yes.
    b. No. *Go to Q25*
    c. I don't know/ Not sure. *Go to Q25*

23. What remote learning strategies did your school adopt after the second re-opening in March 2021, to reduce congestion?
    a. Radio.
    b. Printed materials (textbooks, study guides, reading lists, newspaper).
    c. Study circles/ peer study groups.
    d. Teaching After school hours.
    e. Television.
    f. Digital technology (online, SMS, videos-online and offline, WhatsApp.
    g. Homework
    h. I don't know.
    i. Other. Please specify_____

24. What were the **three** main challenges (in order of importance) that were encountered by students in accessing remote learning during the school closure period of January to March 2021 (start with the most pressing one)?

Options Enumerator to ask the respondent to list three main challenges. Then work with the respondent to order the challenges from	Select **<u>one option</u>** per column		
	Biggest challenge	Second biggest challenge	Third biggest challenge

most challenging to least challenging. If the respondent is not able to list the challenges, please read these challenges out.	(1)	(2)	(3)
Lack of access to television			
Lack of access to radio			
Lack of access to internet			
Lack of access to educational programs			
Lack of access to textbooks or learning materials			
Lack of motivation			
Lack of support from teachers and schools			
Children are working to earn money			
Children are taking care of their siblings			
Children are doing housework			
Lack of supervision from adults in the household			
There is not a good/quiet place to study			
Children need to spend their time doing other things			
Other, please specify _____			

C. DECONGESTING

25. What decongesting measures has your school adopted?
    a. Shift schooling.
    b. Alternate school days by grades.
    c. Hiring of additional teachers.
    d. Hiring of volunteers.
    e. Use of existing non-school structures.
    f. Use of school grounds/ open air classes.
    g. Use of temporary shelters.
    h. Remote learning
    i. None.
    j. Other. Please specify.

26. What are the **three** main challenges that your school has faced in implementing the decongesting measures?

Options Enumerator to ask the respondent to list three main challenges. Then work with the respondent to order the challenges from most challenging to least challenging. If the respondent is not able to list the challenges, please read these challenges out.	Select **<u>one option</u>** per column		
	Biggest challenge (1)	Second biggest challenge (2)	Third biggest challenge (3)
a. Reduced school time			
b. Increased workload for teachers.			
c. Shortage of staff.			
d. Lack of teaching space			
e. Inadequate infrastructure			
f. Shortage of teaching learning materials			
g. Resistance from teachers			
h. Resistance from pupils			
i. Resistance from community.			
j. Lack of access to remote learning7 gadgets			
k. Other. Please specify _____			

D. REMEDIAL LEARNING TO REDUCE LEARNING LOSS

27. Is your school implementing remedial learning to reduce learning loss as a result of school closures?
    a. Yes.
    b. No. *Go to Q32*
    c. I don't know/ Not sure. *Go to Q32*
28. Do all learners at the school receive remedial learning?

a. Yes.
b. No. *Go to Q29*
c. I don't know/ Not sure. *Go to Q29*

29. How does the school determine who receives the remedial learning?
    a. Teacher judges
    b. Through assessment
    c. For certain grades only
    d. Students choose to go
    e. At the request of parents
    f. Other, please specify

30. What strategies are being used to implement remedial learning to reduce learning loss as a result of school closures?
    a. After school lessons or weekend lessons at school by a teacher.
    b. After school lessons or weekend lessons at home through homework.
    c. Peer to peer lessons.
    d. Study circles.
    e. Other. Please specify _____

31. What challenges is your school encountering in providing remedial learning? [Please indicate all that apply].
    a. Shortage of staff.
    b. Increased workload for teachers.
    c. Students are much far behind as a result of school closure
    d. Not enough time in the school day.
    e. Lack of interest on the part of learners.
    f. Lack of teaching and learning materials.
    g. None.
    h. Other. Please specify _____

Thinking about the average student in Standard 4 at your school, what is their learning level today compared to where it was one year ago, before the first school closures in March 2020?

a. They are ahead of where they were in March 2020, and at about the level I would expect after one year
b. They are ahead of where they were in March 2020 but not as far ahead as I would expect after one year
c. They are at about the same level today as they were in March 2020
d. They are behind where they were in March 2020 but should be able to catch up quickly

e. They are behind where they were in March 2020 and will need to do a lot to catch up
f. Do not want to say
g. Do not know

E. COVID 19 PREVENTION MEASURES

32. Has your school received any of these COVID 19 PPEs from the government? [Enumerator to read out the answers and enter the right answer]
    a. Water buckets
    b. Soap
    c. Sanitizers
    d. Face masks for teachers
    e. Face masks for students
    f. Tents
    g. Additional teachers
    h. Training of teachers
    i. Training of head teacher
    j. Radios
    k. Provided money
    l. Provided COVID 19 guidelines
    m. Received in kind support
    n. Other please specify
    o. None

Item	Yes	No	Do not want to say	Do not know
1. Water buckets				
2. Soap				
3. Sanitizers				
4. Face masks for teachers				
5. Face masks for students				
6. Tents				
7. Additional teachers				

8. Training of teachers				
9. Training of head teacher				
10. Radios				
11. Provided money				
12. Provided COVID 19 guidelines				
13. Received in kind support				
14. Other please specify				

33. Has the school received support for PPEs from anyone else apart from the Government?
    a. Yes.
    b. No. *Go to Q36*
    c. I don't know/ Not sure. *Go to Q36*

34. What kind of support was received?
    a. Provided money
    b. Provided PPEs
    c. Provided in kind support
    d. Other (Specify): _____

35. What COVID 19 safety precautions are available at the school?
    a. Hand washing points
    b. Tap/Borehole
    c. Hand sanitizers
    d. Face masks
    e. Face shield
    f. Temperature checks
    g. Social distancing
    h. Reduced number of persons per class to meet social distancing guidelines
    i. School fumigated
    j. Sick bays
    k. Other (Specify): _____
    l. None
    m. Don't know

36. How satisfied are you with the COVID-19 protection measures put in place at your school?
    a. Very satisfied.
    b. Satisfied.
    c. Indifferent.
    d. Not satisfied.
    e. Very dissatisfied.

37. How compliant are students with the COVID 19 guidelines?
    a. Fully compliant
    b. Somewhat compliant
    c. Not compliant

38. How compliant are teachers with the COVID 19 guidelines?
    a. Fully compliant
    b. Somewhat compliant
    c. Not compliant

39. What challenges are faced by students in observing COVID 19 protection measures? [Select all that apply - Enumerator to read out the options].
    a. Lack of water for washing hands.
    b. Lack of soap for hand washing.
    c. Pails are not adequate.
    d. Inadequate classroom space.
    e. Enrolment is too high.
    f. Students not adhering to the measures put in place.
    g. Lack of protective wear for teachers.
    h. Students lack protective wear.
    i. None.
    j. Other. Please specify _____

40. What are the **three** main challenges faced by teachers in observing COVID 19 protection measures? [Select all that apply - Enumerator to read out the options].
    a. Lack of water for washing hands.
    b. Lack of soap for hand washing.
    c. Pails are not adequate.
    d. Inadequate classroom space.
    e. Enrolment is too high.
    f. Students not adhering to the measures put in place.
    g. Lack of protective wear for teachers.
    h. Students lack protective wear.

i. None.
j. Other. Please specify _____

41. Before school closure in March 2020 did the school offer a school feeding programme?
    a. Yes.
    b. No. *Go to Q44*
    c. I don't know. *Go to Q44*

42. If yes, how was the school feeding programme implemented?
    a. Learners given take home ration.
    b. Learners receive porridge at school.
    c. Other please specify_____

43. During the period when the schools were closed between March and September 2020 did the school continue with the school feeding programme?
    a. Yes.
    b. No. *Go to Q46*
    c. I don't know. *Go to Q46*

44. If yes, what arrangements were made for school feeding during the period of school closure?
    a. Learners given take home ration.
    b. Learners receive porridge at school.
    c. Other please specify_____

45. Since reopening, what arrangements have been made for school feeding?
    a. Learners given take home ration.
    b. Learners receive porridge at school.
    c. The school no longer runs a school feeding programme
    d. Other please specify_____

46. In your opinion has the Ministry of Education been forthcoming with communication regarding COVID 19?

    a. Yes.
    b. No.
    c. I don't know

47. For the following statements please indicate whether you strongly agree, agree, or not sure, disagree or strongly disagree with the statements

	Statement	Strongly agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
48.1	Teacher morale has gone down because of COVID 19					
48.2	Teachers are not satisfied with the support they are receiving from the Government					
48.3	COVID 19 has increased teacher turnover at the school					
48.4	The school has received adequate support from the community					
48.5	The school has received adequate support from the DEM/ PEA					
48.6	Teaching has become more hazardous during COVID 19					

This is the end of the questionnaire. Should you have any comments, please contact Dr. E. Kadzamira on ekadzamira@cc.ac.mw or [redacted]. Thank you for taking your time to answer this questionnaire.