

## Abstract “Human Rights Monitoring in disaster affected areas: a baseline study in Mangochi district, Malawi”

In January 2015 Malawi has been affected by devastating floods, which have washed away houses and gardens of thousands of people. The country declared the state of emergency, but the response of the government and humanitarian actors has not been effective, in particular regarding the human rights fulfillment of the most vulnerable people. Following this situation of emergency CISP (Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli) together with CHRR (Centre for Human Rights Rehabilitation) decided to carry out a project of “Human Rights Monitoring, Documentation and reporting in the disaster affected areas in Malawi”. The main objective of the project is to raise the awareness on the human rights condition of the population affected by the floods and to stimulate government and humanitarian actors to take in consideration the Human Rights Based approach in all the stages of the disaster response.

The following study is the baseline study of the project, which shows a wide picture of the condition of the victims of the floods in the three T/As in Mangochi district in Malawi concerning the enjoyment of their human rights. These people have suffered hunger, lack of access to health services, lack of shelter, diseases and violence following the devastating effects of the disaster.

The violations which came out in the study call for a deeper monitoring of the human rights of the victims to realize an accurate analysis which will be transformed into a useful report which can be used to make the government and the other relevant stakeholders aware of the weaknesses of their measures to respond to the disaster. In particular, following the objectives of the project the report will encourage the diffusion of the Human Rights Based Approach in the planning of the humanitarian response to disaster.