

UNDP in Malawi



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

About UNDP

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) works in more than 170 countries and territories, helping to achieve the eradication of poverty and the reduction of inequalities and exclusion. We help countries develop policies and leadership skills, institutional capabilities and build resilience to sustain development results.

UNDP In Malawi

UNDP has been present in Malawi since 1964 and implements projects nationwide. We are working closely with the Government of Malawi, civil society, the private sector, and other partners to contribute to economic growth, sustainable environmental management, and democratic governance and accountability.

Our work is closely aligned to the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MDGS III) 2017–2022, which is the overarching national development strategy.

UNDP's work and funding are also inspired by the vision and ambition of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted by all UN Member States in September 2015 to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030. In particular:

“ Leaving no-one behind demands new ways of doing business, with more emphasis on empowering the poorest. The 2030 Agenda offers a unique opportunity to put the whole world on a more prosperous and sustainable development path

UNDP Administrator, Achim Steiner

#NEXTGENUNDP: A new UNDP

To ensure stronger results, UNDP recently adopted an ambitious Strategic Plan that sets out the direction for a new UNDP, by building on decades of experience, becoming more innovative, and working closer with partners, to help achieve the 2030 Agenda.



UNDP has identified a set of approaches that we call our Signature Solutions to help deliver the 2030 agenda

- » Keeping people out of **POVERTY**
- » **GOVERNANCE** for peaceful, just, and inclusive societies
- » Crisis prevention and increased **RESILIENCE**
- » **ENVIRONMENT**: nature-based solutions for development
- » Clean, affordable **ENERGY**
- » Women's empowerment and **GENDER** equality

Our Programmatic Focus



1. Respect for Human Rights



2. Access to Justice



3. Peace and social cohesion



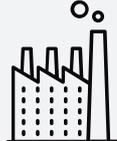
4. Democracy and Strong Institutions

Responsive Institutions and Citizen Engagement

Resilience and Sustainable Growth



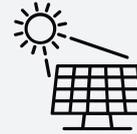
5. Gender Equality



6. Support to the Private Sector



7. Disaster Preparedness and Climate Adaptation



8. Access to Sustainable Energy



1. RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

In Malawi, UNDP is working jointly with Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), UNICEF, UN Women and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in the promotion and protection of human rights of minority groups including the youth, elderly, people with disabilities, people living with albinism and others.



- » Hospital Ombudsman platform established for improved quality health service delivery.
- » Supported the Access to Information Bill (2017) to ensure access to timely and accurate information for members of the public and to promote transparency and accountability of Public Officers.
- » Supported the development of a Disability Mainstreaming strategy providing a framework for ensuring that persons with disability are not left behind in the enjoyment of human rights.



“Malawians have the right to be heard when they are not satisfied with services they get from the public sector. Accountability is therefore an important part of service provision by the public sector,”

– Martha Chizuma, The Ombudsman for Malawi.



2. ACCESS TO JUSTICE

Access to justice remains a key governance challenge, particularly for rural women and children. UNDP in Malawi is working to provide a more cost-effective, efficient and inclusive approach to increasing access to justice, through paralegal and mediation services – diverting cases from the formal to informal justice systems; and especially for women, youth, persons with disabilities, marginalized groups, and displaced communities.



- » More than 60, 000 cases to be resolved through village mediation.
- » Over 6,836 people have accessed justice through village mediation, of which 3,623 are women, representing 53%.
- » A total of 27,719 releases facilitated by Paralegals in 2018 through provision of legal assistance and advice in promotion of access to formal justice in Malawi.



“My motivation is to help my fellow women resolve some of the challenges they face. Since we started village mediation, there has been a significant change in our community. We work together to ensure that issues are resolved amicably before they escalate to more serious conflicts like gender-based violence”

– Stella Chibwe, Village Mediator in Mzimba



3. PEACE AND SOCIAL COHESION

There can be no sustainable development without peace and social cohesion. UNDP Malawi is supporting an inclusive, gender sensitive National Peace Architecture and the establishment of District Peace Committees and Women and Youth Fora to advocate for a peaceful Malawi.



- » National Peace Policy launched and under implementation. Six District Peace Committees established so far in conflict – sensitive districts.



Through the peace-building workshops, we have learnt how fragile peace is and how we ought to value and work to sustain the peaceful environment we have in Malawi. I have learnt that as a young person, I have an important role to play in contributing to this peace,”

–Member of the National Youth Peace Forum



Malawi joined the rest of the SADC countries in establishing a permanent and continuous National Registration and Identification System, to provide Biometric Identification cards to all Malawians aged 16 years and above which will transform service delivery. The National Registration and Identification System project is led by the Government's National Registration Bureau (NRB) with technical support from UNDP.

UNDP is also supporting the Government of Malawi to create demand for multiple use of the ID card by ensuring system linkages with service providers such as Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies, and private sector institutions.

For the 2019 Elections in Malawi, UNDP Malawi is supporting the Malawi Electoral Commission (MEC) to hold free, inclusive, and credible Tripartite Elections, through the Electoral Support Basket Fund. Through partnership with UN Women, the project is also providing support to enhance the participation of women and youth in the electoral processes.

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“The voters’ roll in the past elections had been a problem. Voters were having transposed photographs, misspelt names, sometimes not found at all at the centre they registered, multiple registrations and the Commission in some cases inadvertently was also registering foreigners or the under-aged due to lack of proper identification system. With the electronic biometric voter registration, these problems will now automatically be eliminated”.

– Chairperson for the Malawi Electoral Commission, Dr. Jane Asah



When I heard about the call for applications for the National Registration Officers, I was immediately interested and decided to try my luck. Being in a wheelchair, I was a bit sceptical about my chances, but here I am, getting my Certificate of Accomplishment for successfully completing my role and being one of the outstanding officers. I used this opportunity as a Registration Officer to show people that I am just as capable as everyone else,”

– John Mwangonde, Former Registration Officer



5. GENDER EQUALITY

Promoting women’s empowerment is a key issue that UNDP in Malawi continues to advance in all its work, in close cooperation with other UN agencies, including UN Women.

‘Spotlight’ – A new EU-UN initiative will accelerate efforts towards elimination of violence against women and girls including sexual gender-based violence and harmful practices.

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“My message to the women out there struggling and being excluded simply because of their gender; Let us stand up and demand to be treated as equal human beings. There is no such thing as a field that is more suited for men than women. Find what you are passionate about, get the required skills and education and follow your dreams”

– Diane Mgemzulu Mwanza, Technician for NRB Biometric Registration Kits, Lilongwe City.



6. SUPPORT TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND JOB CREATION

As a key partner in the achievement of SDGs, UNDP in Malawi is supporting inclusive- markets models in the Private Sector that take into consideration small and medium size enterprises to expand into new markets, meet quality standards, and create new jobs, with a focus on women and youth.

- » Ongoing support to the Buy Malawi Strategy to promote the production and consumption of locally produced goods and services.
- » 17 Malawi Innovative Challenge Fund investments are ongoing which have so far resulted in livelihood improvement of 252,356 (32% women) poor people; 35,088 (31% women) smallholder households benefiting from new or enhanced income generating opportunities; 1,215 (33% women) low income, unskilled people getting permanent employment.
- » Malawi’s first Business Acceleration programme launched to equip ambitious entrepreneurs with the right skills and access to capital to enable them to grow their business.



- » Accreditation of the MBS testing laboratories ISO 17025 to Aflatoxin testing in cereals, pulses and related products achieved in December 2018.
- » Malawi Bureau of Standards will have a new building for more effective operations.



Through the Buy Malawi campaign, we now have big organizations giving us significant procurement orders for their institutions which is helping boost our businesses.”

– Elizabeth Chikoya, Lilongwe Textile and Tailoring Cooperative Society



7. DISASTER PEPAREDNESS AND CLIMATE ADAPTATION

UNDP is working alongside national and local structures to build the capacity of key actors to improve weather and climate forecasting and develop and disseminate climate related information and services for vulnerable communities to save lives and safeguard livelihoods from extreme climate events and disasters.



- » The resilience of 5,650 households in Nkhata-Bay, Ntcheu and Zomba Districts have been strengthened with community- based adaptation initiatives aimed at climate change mitigation.
- » Supporting expansion of the hydro-meteorological installation of 33 automatic weather stations, 37 hydrological monitoring stations and 2 lake-based weather buoys.
- » Supporting development, packaging and dissemination of weather and climate information through mobile, ICT and radio channels targeting 1,6 million farming communities, 60,000 fishing communities and 115,000 flood prone communities.

- » 4,057 farmers (49% are women) in four districts have been trained on how to use Climate Information and Seasonal forecasts in farming decision-making.
- » Supporting capacity development of national district and community level actors on disaster and climate management in 8 highly disaster-prone districts through training and establishment of emergency operation centres.
- » Established 2 Waste Management Stations and waste management activities in Peri-urban areas of Lilongwe City.
- » Facilitating the establishment of a National Green Climate Fund for Malawi
- » Establishment of a Small Grant Scheme for community groups to build their resilience to disaster risks; with a total of 4 evacuation centres, 2 dykes and 2 check dams constructed to improve resilience to shocks to over 5,000 households in disaster prone districts.
- » Created an enabling framework for Disaster Risk Management governance through the formulation of the Policy Framework, handbook, Communication strategy and National Platform Strategy.



Some families used to be hit by serious food shortage, due to climate change. However, through diversification of crops from our advice, they no longer experience severe food shortage,”

- Eldec Msonda, Small holder farmer in Rumphi District

“Before the Evacuation Centre was constructed, when the floods came, women became even more vulnerable. We would struggle to find a safe place whilst ensuring that our children, property and the elderly are safe. The camps we would go to were also not safe for us and our children.

- Mary Chapi, Area Civil Protection Committee, Karonga District



“This integrated water supply system is an improvement from the manually-handled water cans which we previously used to get water from rivers to irrigate our crops. Using water cans was time consuming and demanding for farmers to irrigate their crops,”

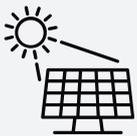
- Charles Malizani, chairperson of integrated water scheme in Zomba District



8. SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

As population and urbanisation rates continue to rise in the country, there is demand for more affordable access to modern energy services. UNDP is working to promote energy access for households, small and medium-sized businesses and communities, with an emphasis on clean energy for the poor and increased adoption of sustainable off-grid renewable energy technologies.

- » 3 mini-grids established as social entrepreneurs with thousands of rural households, businesses and public institutions connected.
- » Developed 5 Mini Grid Case Studies of MEGA in Mulanje, Kavuzi in Nkhatabay, Likoma, Sitolo in Mchinji and 6 Solar Villages.
- » Supported the development of a new National Renewable Energy Strategy in Malawi with a focus on mini grid deployment.
- » Supported the revision of the National Energy Policy to respond better to future energy services aspirations of Malawians.
- » Supporting the Health Sector with energy needs assessments, energy efficiency and development of Power for Health Master Plan.
- » Building institutional capacity of both central and local governments in Renewable Energy.
- » Supporting the establishment of Malawi Renewable Energy Partnership Group promoting the information sharing and better coordination of energy sector players in Malawi Establishment of Mulanje Electricity Generation Agency (MEGA)'s expansion plan under a newly signed agreement between the Government and MEGA.



“Having access to the MEGA Electricity is helping us a lot here at Bondo Health Centre. We now have electricity for our Maternity Unit, and we are even using it to power up our medical refrigerators for safe storage of medical or pharmaceutical supplies”

– Ben Friday, Medical Technician at Bondo Health Center in Mulanje District

OUR DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS



german
cooperation

DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT

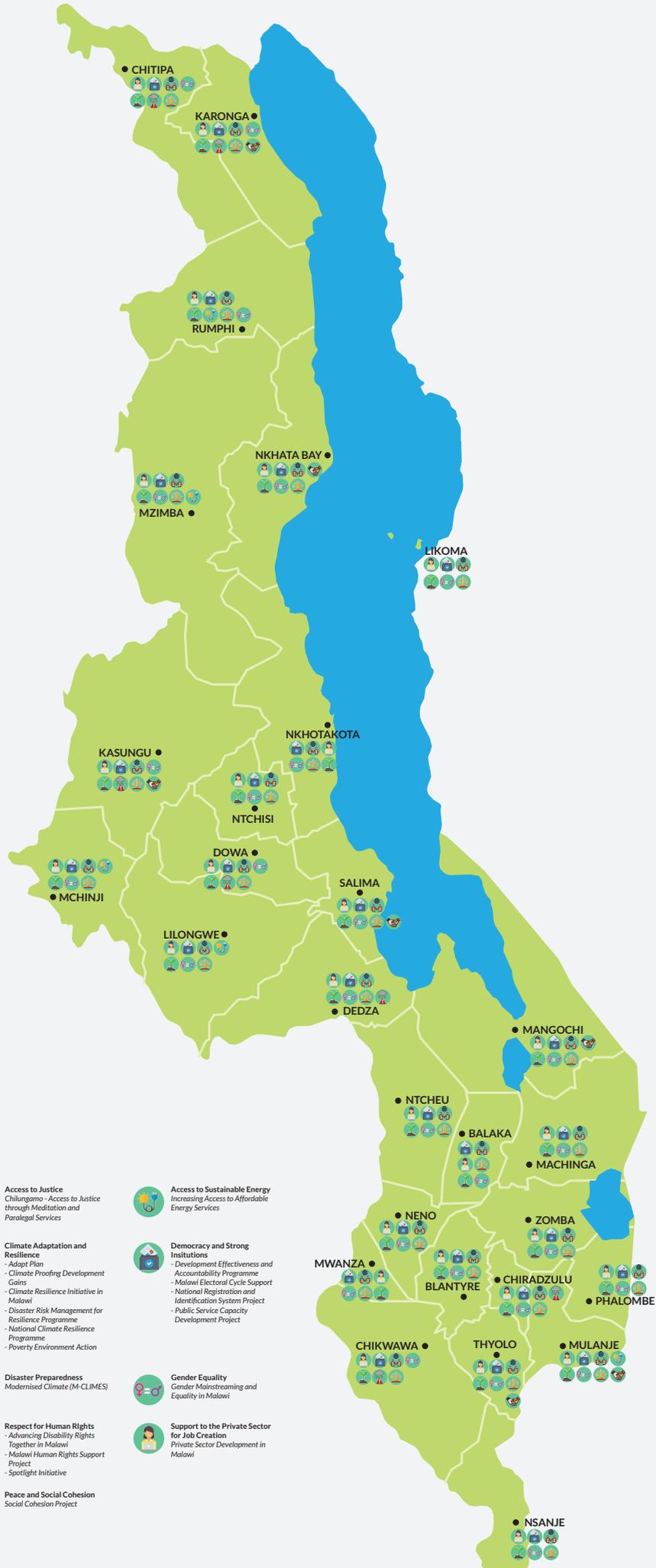
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NORWEGIAN MINISTRY
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

UNDP Projects In Malawi



- Access to Justice**
 Chilungamo - Access to Justice through Mediation and Paralegal Services
- Climate Adaptation and Resilience**
 - Adapt Plan
 - Climate Proofing Development Gains
 - Climate Resilience Initiative in Malawi
 - Disaster Risk Management for Resilience Programme
 - National Climate Resilience Programme
 - Poverty Environment Action
- Disaster Preparedness**
 Modernised Climate (M-CLIMES)
- Respect for Human Rights**
 - Advancing Disability Rights Together in Malawi
 - Malawi Human Rights Support Project
 - Spotlight Initiative
- Peace and Social Cohesion**
 Social Cohesion Project
- Access to Sustainable Energy**
 Increasing Access to Affordable Energy Services
- Democracy and Strong Institutions**
 - Development Effectiveness and Accountability Programme
 - Malawi Electoral Cycle Support
 - National Registration and Identification System Project
 - Public Service Capacity Development Project
- Gender Equality**
 Gender Mainstreaming and Equality in Malawi
- Support to the Private Sector for Job Creation**
 Private Sector Development in Malawi



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