






**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS**

**Malawi SDG Acceleration Fund
2019 ANNUAL REPORT**

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Participating agencies



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Food and
Agriculture
Organization



World Food
Programme

World Food
Program



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

United Nations
Development
Program



UNWOMEN



unicef

United Nations
Children's Fund

Contributors



Flanders
State of the Art



UKaid
from the British people

FOREWORD



The Malawi SDG Acceleration Fund becomes a key tool for the international community, under the leadership of the Government and the Resident Coordinator, to support this national agenda leveraging the capacities of the UN system in the country. Under the Fund, the Government of Malawi, Development Partners and the United Nations jointly agree on priorities and mobilize resources for those key and catalytic investments that support SDGs acceleration in Malawi.

The SDG Acceleration Fund directly reflects on recommendations included in global resolutions and strategic documents, such as the 2016 Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review of United Nations system, the 2019 Resolution 72/279 on UN Development System repositioning, the Funding Compact 2019, the UN Sustainable Development Group Mutual Accountability Framework, among others. Not least, the Malawi Fund is one of the few Country Pooled Funds in the world that has as its main objective the acceleration of SDGs, providing it with the necessary tools to support this ambitious task.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Agenda is a historic opportunity to achieve more fair and equitable societies. Malawi has made steady progress on that agenda: Poverty and hunger reduction, improved education and health systems, access to a digital ID, addressing violence against women and girls, are just some of the key areas where Malawi has been improving. While the gains in the development agenda are important; Malawi continues to face complex challenges linked to climate variations, degrading environment, increasing social and political polarization, rapid population growth, rising income and wealth disparity, and chronic diseases still unabated –all happening at the same time. The United Nations in Malawi enjoys a strong partnership with the national institutions leading the development agenda, as well as with the civil society. Only together we can make the difference and accelerate the SDG agenda.

With the pledge to Leave No One Behind, Malawi has committed to accelerate progress for those furthest behind first. In consequence, SDGs agenda in Malawi is an ambitious attempt to bring the country to several life-changing 'zeros', including zero poverty, hunger, AIDS and discrimination against women and girls, all of these prevalent challenges in the Malawi of today.

In its first year of implementation, the Malawi SDG Acceleration Fund has demonstrated to be a strategic tool that facilitates joint definition of priorities and programming within the UN System and among the development partners that support Malawi in the advance of the 2030 agenda.

The year 2020 will mark the launch of the Decade of Action for delivering the SDGs by 2030. This decade will be decisive for both current and future generations and for all life on this planet. It is the world's responsibility and within its power to make it a decade of action and delivery for sustainable development. In Malawi, we cannot afford to lose the opportunity of the next 10 years to deliver on the people's ambitions for a better life. The United Nations and the SDG Acceleration Fund stand ready to continue partnering, innovating and actively promoting Leave No One Behind.

Maria Jose Torres
Resident Coordinator of the United Nations in Malawi



INTRODUCTION



This report highlights the overall operation and implementation of the Malawi SDG Acceleration Fund (onwards ‘the Fund’) in 2019. The Fund represents a joint effort between the Government of Malawi, Development Partners, and the United Nations, materialized in a financing coordination tool aimed at supporting the utmost SDG priorities in the national agenda. It also represents the willingness of its stakeholders for advancing in the leave no one behind agenda, having in the core of its implementation the most vulnerable populations in the country.

The Fund lays its foundations in an initial joint resource mobilization effort through the set up and implementation of the One UN Fund (2009-2018). Under the leadership of the Government of Malawi, the One Fund aimed at supporting coherent resource mobilization allocation and disbursement of donor resources. The Malawi One Fund closed on December 2018, and stakeholders agreed on the establishment of a similar coordination and financing mechanism. As a result of this agreement, the Malawi SDG Acceleration Fund was approved in December 2018.

2019 represents the year of the early implementation of the SDG Acceleration Fund. Due to the closure of the One Fund in 2018, different stakeholders agreed in allocating remaining resources and existing projects under the umbrella of the new fund. In consequence, most of the activities implemented in 2019 are a continuation of existing initiatives that had been approved under the One Fund. This has represented both a challenge and an opportunity. Given the new character of the Fund with specific focus on SDG Acceleration and its improved governance and management, existing initiatives and stakeholders had to adapt to a new institutional, programmatic and administrative setup. Nonetheless, these changes have represented a great opportunity to enhance coordination, realign previous initiatives looking forward to greater impact on SDGs, and broadening participation of stakeholders.

2019 represents the year of the early implementation of the SDG Acceleration Fund

From ONE Fund to the SDG Acceleration Fund

The Malawi SDG Acceleration Fund is a financing coordination mechanism that finds its genesis back in 2006 when the One UN Initiative in Malawi was initiated, following the General Assembly's Triennial comprehensive policy review (TCPR) of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, A/RES/59/ 250 of 17 December 2004. This resolution stressed that 'the purpose of reform is to make the United Nations development system more efficient and effective'. The UN in Malawi has since 2006 worked to progressively implement elements of Delivering as One (DaO).

Under that framework, in 2009 the One Fund was setup for bringing agencies together for joint programming, empowering the Resident Coordinator to promote coordination and coherence in programming and reducing transaction costs for UN agencies and development partners. The objective of the One Fund was to support the coherent resource mobilization, allocation and disbursement of donor resources to the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF). As such, the One Fund represented one of the proposed vehicles for new resources pooled by donors to compensate the unfunded gaps of the UNDAF.

Given the proven efficiency of the One Fund, the UN in Malawi expanded its use to support the 2012-2016 UNDAF, including its extension until 2018. The two UNDAF's set out the Fund's main programmatic framework and funding themes. In addition, thematic funding windows have been gradually established for earmarked funding since 2012. Formal funding windows other than the UNDAF themes were gradually established for Humanitarian Work, Right to Food, and Human Rights.¹

The One UN Initiative in Malawi was implemented in a collaborative manner under the leadership of the

Government of Malawi. In line with the UNDG SOPs for Delivering as One, the One UN Initiative in Malawi was comprised of five pillars:

- One Programme
- One Budgetary Framework including the One UN Fund
- One Leader
- Operating as One
- Communicating as One

The Malawi One UN Fund has been an important contributor to enhanced coordination and UN Reform in Malawi. The One UN Fund managed to mobilize a total of US \$120,550,943 from donors between 2009 and 2018.

The largest share of resources was received by the Funds' Humanitarian Window, which absorbed more than US \$59 million or 51% of the entire Fund. This was due, to a large extent, in response to persistent and recurrent natural disasters and humanitarian crises during the life of the Fund. Accordingly, operations in the second half of the Fund's duration were largely dominated by the humanitarian response in close collaboration with the Government of Malawi and other development partners. Nowadays, under the SDG Acceleration Fund, the Humanitarian Window remains operative, but a more preventive approach towards crisis, including the enhanced discussion and of the triple nexus has been advancing and likely to be implemented through the SDG Acceleration Fund.

Besides supporting the recurrent humanitarian needs of the country, the One Fund was critical in supporting key areas of development such as basic social protection services, education, child health, water and sanitation, response to HIV/AIDS, governance, gender inequality, among others.

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¹ In addition, ad-hoc windows without dedicated fund accounts were used as well, largely for resource mobilization purposes.

Rationale for the SDG Acceleration Fund

A mission of experts deployed to Malawi in late 2018 was in charge of supporting the closure of the UN ONE Fund and preparing its final report. With the idea among stakeholders of advancing with a similar but fresh mechanism, the mission was endeavored to analyze and provide strategic advice and opportunities for such.

With that initial input, an also as a way of operationalizing the recommendations of the 2016 Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR), including the lessons learned from the One Fund, the UNDS in Malawi established in December 2018 the Malawi SDG Acceleration Fund. Considering the UNDS Reform note of 31st May 2018, the Fund emphasizes adequate, predictable and sustainable funding to be made available for a coherent, effective, efficient and accountable response in accordance with national needs and priorities.

The main objective of the Fund is to support the most critical, catalytic and strategic priorities jointly defined between the Government of Malawi, the United Nations, and other key stakeholders in the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF).

The UNSDCF incorporates the goals and principles that underpin Agenda 2030 and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals that lie at its heart. It further guides the UN Agency programmes ensuring coherence and represents a strong collaborative link with the Government of Malawi's development strategy expressed in the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDSIII).

Namely, the 2019 approved UNSDCF focuses on 3 pillars: 1. Peace, Inclusion and Effective Institutions; 2. Population Management and Inclusive Human Development; and, 3. Inclusive and Resilient Growth.

2019 represents the first year of implementation of the Fund. It aims at improving the quality of non-core resources to support the Government of Malawi in achieving its SDG targets. At the same time, the Fund reflects the UN's financing approach, as outlined in the UNDG companion piece "Funding to Financing", including the need to use limited UN resources as a catalyst to influence much larger financing flows.

Learning from the experience of the Malawi One UN Fund, the SDG Acceleration Fund includes an improved Governance Structure to ensure adequate involvement of all relevant stakeholders as well as transparency and ownership of responsibilities under the co-direction of the UN's Resident Coordinator and the Government of Malawi. In fact, one of the main objectives of the Fund has been enhancing ownership and participation of stakeholders, particularly the Government.

In that sense, aligned with the current national development aspirations reflected in the MGDS III, and the strategic support areas of the new UNSDCF 2019-2023, the SDG Acceleration Fund aims to complement other resources already being implemented by:

- I) Providing targeted resources for multi-agency initiatives that strengthen national capacities for integrated policy implementation.
- II) Developing the country's SDG financing ecosystem.
- III) Implementing catalytic SDG programming and investments.
- IV) Ensuring effective and sustainable development results at national and sub-national levels.

This rationale has translated in specific initiatives that have or are still under implementation. This report highlights the joint efforts and results achieved through these initiatives.

The main objective of the Fund is to support the most critical, catalytic and strategic priorities jointly defined between the Government of Malawi, the United Nations, and other key stakeholders in the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF).



THE MALAWI SDG ACCELERATION FUND IN 2019

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2019 at a glance

In 2019, the Fund begun activities and has been steadily progressing in the implementation of SDG aligned initiatives that had been approved under the UN One Fund. Through its projects, the Fund reflects the Country's efforts and commitment towards achieving the SDG's, particularly SDG 1 of No poverty and SDG 2 of Zero hunger, with a special focus on the needs of vulnerable groups particularly women, SDG 5. A total of four projects have been implemented through the Fund in 2019, namely:

- (I) Promotion of Secure Land Rights for Women and other Vulnerable groups.
- (II) Joint UN Resilience Programme.
- (III) Enhancing Advocacy on the Right to Food.
- (IV) Information Management Support to Cyclone Idai Response.

Under each of the projects this report provides an overview of the initiative, a highlight on the key activities included, and the achieved/expected change result from these activities. The report focuses in identifying the results in the reporting period, but it also highlights challenges that were encountered and lessons that were learnt within the course of implementation.

Besides the specific results of each initiative, the overall results of the 2019 implementation of the Fund can be summarized as:

Enhanced coordination mechanisms: For effective and efficient planning, implementation and monitoring, progress was made in improving engagement of partners and stakeholders using different avenues such as establishing coordination units at national and district levels, such is the case of the Joint Resilience programme. The strengthened coordination mechanisms among projects has facilitated a joint approach among UN agencies and other stakeholders, while enabling the achievement of substantial results and wider impact.

More and better capacity building: Through Fund's projects, there has been an improvement in capacity of both systems and duty bearers, around sectors and thematics that are key for SDG agenda advance. Systems have been improved through the development of Monitoring and Evaluation Frameworks, namely Disaster Management Information System (DMIS) and Shock-Responsive Social Protection (SRSP) approaches. In addition, through all the projects of the Fund officials from different Ministries, Agencies and Departments have been capacitated with specific skills and knowledge relating to their fields. This includes officers from the Judiciary, the Ministry of Gender and agriculture

extension workers. Particular attention should be brought to the work that the Promotion of Secure Land Rights for Women and other Vulnerable groups initiative, has done by enhancing knowledge and capacities of district and national authorities around the rights of women on regards of land access and tenure.

Empowerment: The projects have led to community empowerment to make informed decisions. This has been achieved through awareness campaigns and improved access to information activities implemented under the various interventions. For example, stakeholders in the Joint resilience Programme analyzed seasonal rainfall forecasts for the 2019/2020 agricultural season. Customized messages based on the forecasts were then produced and disseminated to vulnerable communities enabling them to inform decision making. The Enhancing Advocacy on the Right to Food project conducted awareness campaigns on the right to food in villages, covering the different pillars of availability, accessibility and sustainability. Through the campaigns, there was a noticeable decrease in the number of people selling maize during the harvest time.

Sustainability and ownership: the projects have nurtured ownership of the interventions by national institutions, thereby fostering sustainability. Under the Promotion of Secure Land Rights for Women and other Vulnerable groups, for example, the Malawi Government has enacted 10 land and related laws. It is envisaged that the recently adopted land laws, when implemented, will provide an enabling environment for improving land governance through decentralized land administration functions, whilst safeguarding the rights of vulnerable groups especially women.

It's worth noting that these results have been achieved amidst several challenges. On the first hand, the transition from the One Fund to the SDG Acceleration Fund represented administrative challenges, reflected particularly in delays on disbursement of resources to projects. Second, the political climate in Malawi given the electoral calendar also posed challenges as it delayed certain processes that required political support. Finally, low literacy levels on some targeted populations have also delayed the adoption of knowledge and skills, necessary for the steady advance of activities.

The Fund's projects in 2019

Promotion of Secure Land Rights for Women and Other Vulnerable Groups

- Participating UN Agencies: FAO, UN Women
- Government Partners: Ministry of Land Housing and Urban Development, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MoAFS),
- Implementing Partners: Land Net (local NGO)
- Geographic scope: Salima, Dedza, Ntcheu, Nkhotakota, Karonga, Mzimba, Chikwawa, Thyolo, Phalombe, Mangochi
- Budget: US \$142,141
- SDGs targets: SDG 1: No Poverty, SDG 2: Zero hunger, SDG 5: Gender equality, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 10: Reduced inequalities.

Overview

UN Women and FAO, in partnership with Land Net a local NGO, have been implementing a Joint Programme on Right to Food through access to land. The project is a continuation of one started in 2018. That first phase of the programme was designed as a stopgap in the absence of a progressive land law that could protect people's land rights. As a result, targeted communities managed to enhance their tools and advocacy in defence of their land rights.

The project supported by the Malawi SDG Acceleration Fund, has been built on the successes of the previous, where government at both national and district level has become aware of the several gender issues in land administration, and have started playing a role in ensuring both men and women have equal land rights for food, land, income and livelihoods security.

This second phase has focused on supporting the implementation of the land laws, ensuring that preliminary activities for the implementation are done. For example, the project has supported the engendering of the monitoring and evaluation framework as well as the Land Information Management System. The joint programme stimulated debate around women's access to land and secure tenure of land among civil society groups, members of parliament, traditional and religious leaders, women forums, religious and civil servants from different government departments, and raised awareness of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT), and its application to the land law reform process in Malawi. It empowered women to work together, raise their voice on land rights violations and build their leadership and advocacy skills.

Key Activities

The initiative aimed at addressing different dimensions of challenges faced by women in rural communities' in accessing and controlling land. Three key interventions were implemented as:



Providing access to information on land rights and its related policy and legal frameworks



Advocating for change in behavior and attitudes of leadership through increased use of principles of the VGGT



Building accountability and interface discussions with stakeholders and communities to increase collective action for positive change.

Results performance

Overall Results

The project stimulated debates around women's access to land and secure tenure of land among civil society groups, members of parliament, traditional and religious leaders, women forums, religious and civil servants from different government departments, and raised awareness of the VGGT and its application to the land law reform process in Malawi. It empowered women to work together, raise their voice on land rights violations and build their leadership and advocacy skills as they had access to the needed information.

In addition, thanks to the project, the Malawi Government

enacted 10 land and related laws. It is envisaged that the recently adopted land laws, when implemented, will provide an enabling environment for improving land governance through decentralized land administration functions, whilst safeguarding the rights of vulnerable groups especially women by ensuring equitable access to land, tenure security and sustainable socio-economic development and make provision for public, including women, participation in the administration and management of land related matters. This is a milestone in the land law reform process.



Specific Results

Capacity Development of District officials on Land Laws:

The project enhanced capacity of members of the district land networks, together with Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development (MoLHUD) on local and international land governance frameworks, including the Customary Land Law. The officials also enhanced their understanding on land laws as land administration which has been decentralized in the new laws. A total of 148 district government officials (14% women), 157 members of district level civil society organizations (23% women) and 800 community members (51% women) were directly reached. There has been rise in articulation of the land law in the targeted areas.

Boosting Confidence of Women: Previous projects revealed that women usually have low levels of confidence, attributed to culture resulting to little or no active engagement in discussions in public. With the new land laws demanding a 50/50 representation in all land administration structures, it was important to boost the confidence of women in rural areas to strengthen their agency. The project supported 320 women in 8 districts through trainings in confidence building, leadership, advocacy, group dynamics and the new land laws. In Phalombe and Rumphi, women trained have been elected into the Customary Land Committees and Customary Land Tribunal. The women have also indicated that they have been able to apply the lessons in many other aspects of their lives.

Capacity building of 240 Traditional Chiefs: the project has strengthened capacity of Traditional Authorities on the establishment of Customary Land Tribunals and a local land court headed by the Traditional Authorities. These structures were established with the aim of bringing justice closer to the people. With the enactment of the Customary Land Act (2016),

the magistrate's courts no longer handle land cases unless the Customary Land Committees refers them. The project therefore supported MoLHUD to conduct awareness strategies and advocate for nominations from the Chiefs. 240 chiefs were sensitized, and nominations have been coming forth from the Chiefs. The achievement of the 240 has been a big leap from the planned 100 targeted. Awareness with Chiefs was done at district level as opposed to the earlier plan of bringing them together at a central point, hence the good performance. The chosen option proved to be cheaper and therefore, able to reach more. The nominated names are pending endorsement of the Commissioner for Lands and this will be followed by training for all tribunals.

Enhanced capacity of Officials in Gender responsive reforms:

The project equipped 27 gender focal persons from the MoLHUD, coming from the various departments at the headquarters and regional offices with knowledge on gender-sensitive land reforms in Malawi. This knowledge will guarantee that further policy process will incorporate a gender dimension and reflect the achievements of the project.

Developed gender sensitive M&E Framework for land reform:

To further improve on Gender responsive reforms the MoLHUD developed a monitoring and evaluation framework for the land reforms in preparation for the enactment of the land laws. This was done upon noting the gap that the existing framework had and hence the need to be reviewed to ensure that it is not gender blind and is aligned to the new land laws. Previously trained gender focal points reviewed and updated the framework leading to the inclusion of gender-sensitive indicators. The Framework is pending validation by the MoLHUD management.

Specific Results

A major lesson that has been learnt in the implementation of this project is that with the right information and training, women can stand up and defend their right to land. However, to be able to accomplish this, there is need to prepare the authorities to be receptive to the demands of the women.

The project was initially approved in 2018 with an envisaged no cost extension. However, the no cost extension was not granted, and projects had to be closed. Alternatively, the project could extend its work through the SDG Acceleration Fund. Since the establishment of a new Fund and new window took time, this led to a delay in receiving the funds.

Joint UN Resilience Programme

- Participating UN Agencies: FAO, UNDP, UNICEF, WFP
- Government Partners: Ministries of Health, Agriculture, Gender and Social Welfare, Finance and Economic Planning, Local Governance, Natural Resources Management, and Department of Disasters Management Affairs
- Implementing Partners:
 - **Consortium:** Concern Worldwide, United Purpose, GOAL Malawi, Kadale Consultants, CUMO Microfinance
 - **Cooperating:** Find Your Feet, PLAN International, World Vision, CARE Malawi.
- Geographic scope: Balaka, Chikwawa, Mangochi and Phalombe.
- Budget: US \$59,590,000
- SDGs targets: SDG 1: No Poverty, SDG 2: Zero hunger SDG 13: Climate action, SDG 17: Partnerships

This UN Joint Programme is part of a greater consortium called PROSPER – Promoting Sustainable Partnerships for Empowered Resilience – that consists of nine main partners. Four partners make up the UN Consortium: FAO, UNDP, UNICEF, WFP; while three INGOS: Concern Worldwide (CWW), United Purpose, GOAL, and one private sector contractor, Kadale, make up the CWW-led Consortium. Both consortiums together make up PROSPER, that is designed to respond to high vulnerability of households and communities to shocks and stresses in Malawi, which combined with persistent poverty, natural resource degradation, climate change and population growth, results in cyclical crises, which erode development gains and undermine long term poverty reduction.

Using an integrated, multi-layered and sequenced approach, PROSPER helps households meet their

immediate needs, while supporting longer term efforts to enhance natural resource management, strengthen disaster preparedness and response mechanisms, support linkages to safety nets, increase access to appropriate financial services and products, and create functional markets systems.

The programme, as part of the wide consortium, in its first year of implementation supported communities across four districts in southern Malawi to build up their resilience to climate shocks and stresses. In addition to starting interventions to reverse soil erosion and land degradation, improve nutrition and promote informed use of climate information and insurance. The programme also supported climate smart agriculture and livelihoods, and assisted households to cope with lean season food insecurity, preventing negative coping and hunger.

Key Activities



Diversify agricultural production and improve nutrition



Enhance access to productive resources to secure predictable household income



Reduce vulnerability and exposure of communities to risk



Increase capacity of national and sub-national stakeholders to improve resilience programming

Results performance

Overall Results

In its first year, the Joint Programme supported communities across four districts in southern Malawi to build up their resilience to climate shocks and stresses. In addition to starting interventions to reverse soil erosion and land degradation, improve nutrition and promote informed use of climate information and insurance, the programme supported climate smart agriculture and livelihoods, and assisted households to cope with lean season food insecurity, preventing negative coping and hunger.

Additionally, the joint programme set up its coordination mechanisms for effective and efficient implementation. Through Coordination Units at national and district levels, the programme has defined joint technical working groups, quarterly reviews, Monitoring and Evaluation working groups, and a Communications Taskforce. The UN Partners and the INGO Consortium have been coordinating

targeting, monitoring evaluation and learning, and implementation. Over the course of the year, the programme has brought together agencies to work at district level where there is a coordination nexus with the District Coordinators for the UN working closely with their INGO counterparts and government stakeholders.

The Joint Programme also strengthened its coordination with key government stakeholders in the districts, with government extension supporting the implementation of dry-season watershed regeneration activities and disaster assessment training in the new DMIS system before the onset of rains/floods.

These interventions supported resilience during Malawi's main agricultural season, the flood risk period and the lean season. The effects of the interventions will be measured after a full season in 2020.



Specific Results

The programme, in the framework of the overall PROSPER, has one outcome which is to strengthen resilience of the targeted poor and vulnerable households to withstand current and future weather and climate related shocks and stresses. This is being achieved through four joint programme specific outcomes. Some of the results in 2019 are:

Knowledge on Dietary Diversity: The programme

conducted awareness campaigns on dietary diversity, food preparation and utilisation reaching out to 49,415 beneficiaries sensitising communities on dietary diversity with an emphasis on consumption of foods from the Malawi 6 food groups to improve nutrition food preparation, utilisation and preservation.

WASH facilities: Over 90% of the nutrition beneficiaries had habilitated WASH facilities by end of December 2019.

Capacity Development: A first cohort of 30 extension workers and 30 lead farmers benefited from Farmer Field Schools on topics ranging from integrated pest management to trailing new seed varieties. Innovative technologies demonstrated to support diversification for resilience to climate-change associated shocks.

Improved natural resources management: Under Food Assistance for Assets, 39,364 participants received cash transfers to address their immediate food needs while they build or boost assets, such as rehabilitating degraded land. This has led to improvement of their livelihoods by creating healthier natural environments, reducing risks and impact of shocks, increasing food productivity, and strengthening resilience to natural disasters. Apart from cash transfers, communities have also undertaken activities related to forestry, apiculture, land resource management, irrigation, flood mitigation, among others.

Increased access to insurance products: Weather Index Insurance² is provided to participants as a transfer in Food For Assets (FFA) for their participation (Chikwawa, Mangochi); area yield index insurance, combined with weather index insurance³, is provided to participants as a transfer in FFA for their participation (Balaka, Phalombe). Overall, the total number of participants in the insurance scheme in Phalombe, Chikwawa, Mangochi and Balaka is 30,520.

Improved community access to effective climate information services: Upon the release of the seasonal rainfall forecasts for the 2019/2020 agricultural season by the Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services (DCCMS), stakeholders analysed the seasonal rainfall forecasts in respective districts and co-produced messages based on the forecasts for dissemination to vulnerable communities for decision making related to food security.

Provision of Lean Season Top Ups to vulnerable households: unconditional cash transfers to food insecure households are being provided as part of the Government's Lean Season Response Intervention. Under a coordinated approach with USAID, the programme provided the resources to jointly support the 6 districts of Balaka, Nsanje, Neno Karonga, Dedza and Phalombe. The cash transfers were deployed leveraging the social protection system where possible, and in combination with efforts to support

the Government to temporarily expand to reach temporary needs for existing households on the Social Cash Transfer Programme.

Increased capacity of national, district, and community institutions: The project has supported development and strengthening of capacities on the following:

- **Disaster Management Information System (DMIS):** The DMIS system has been put in place at all the four districts at the District Councils. Users have been trained through hands on learning. The DMIS has enabled the districts to be more specific in terms of quantitative and qualitative analytics during needs assessments during occurrences of weather and other shocks affecting district populations. This has enabled clearer accountability and transparency in reporting adhering to humanitarian principles.
- **Shock-responsive social protection:** the project supported the government to further develop Shock-Responsive Social Protection (SRSP) approaches. This work increases Government capacity to respond to shocks, develop and use Government systems, and establish a trajectory for increasing the predictable provision and coverage of social protection, in lieu of annual emergency responses.

Overall, national and districts government officials planned, coordinated and implemented the lean season response using social protection systems. It is expected that this increased capacity of national, sub-national and non-state actors to plan, coordinate and monitor shock-responsive social protection will lead to better management of lean season response for resilience building in subsequent years.

Improved systems for resilience building among government stakeholders: The project has supported improvement of resilience building systems through a Resilience Dashboard, a multi-stakeholder platform led by local planning authorities to strengthen the use of evidence to propel service improvements that target communities, households and people most in need of building resilience to shocks. This integrated management tool is designed to improve decentralized implementation of services across social, economic and environmental sectors, and with real-time data digitalizes and geo-references both well-being indicators and service indicators.

²Weather index insurance (WII) Payouts are triggered when a specific weather parameter such as rainfall measured by a particular weather station or satellite over a given period of time reaches a pre-determined threshold. The terms of the insurance contract are set so as to correlate, as accurately as possible, with the value of loss for a specific crop type or more broadly the impact of a weather event (drought, flood or strong winds). If the index reaches the threshold, subsequently all people insured in the defined area will automatically receive the same payout without assessing individual losses.

³Area yield index insurance (AYI) Payouts are based on the realised average yield of a geographic area such as a county, a district or even a village, not the actual yield of the insured farmer. The insured yield is established as a percentage of the historical average yield for the area. A payout is triggered if the realised yield for the area is less than the insured yield, regardless of the actual yield achieved on the insured individual's farm. Credible and consistent yield data over a multi-year time period at the selected scale of geographic area is required to effectively design this type of index insurance product.

Challenges and Lessons Learnt

The first year of implementation has shown that despite agencies contributions to the whole, it is complex to find ways to implement disparate streams of work jointly. For example, flood mitigation works, and catchment regeneration have demonstrated stronger impact when planned and implemented jointly. However, there are work streams that can progress independently without losses in programme quality and delivery. Therefore, finding the areas where joint implementation is necessary and where it is not has been a challenge. It was found that holding technical

working groups drawing in expertise as determined by the national Coordinator and having quarterly reviews with all partners present has allowed joint work while balancing the need to progress on initiatives.

Another challenge has been the political climate in Malawi given the elections process, which has delayed key forums due to political complexities. While the Government of Malawi is heavily engaged, particularly at District level, there remains the need to improve ownership of the programme at the higher strategic level.

Kicking off a change

“Following the floods which washed away my house and crop field last year, I have rebuilt my house and improved my farming practices to harvest more,” says Janet Tsambalikagwa, from Chiwaya Village in Phalombe District, who is recovering from the 2019 floods.

from flooding during rainy season. This preserves the crops planted and prevents erosion of fertile topsoil. This has in the process revitalized a degraded land which was not producing anything. Now they can grow groundnuts on that land. “With the money received I was able to buy food for my family; my children no longer go to bed hungry. I also bought 2 chickens which have multiplied to four,” says Janet.



Janet Tsambalikagwa and her husband, Enoch.
Photo: WFP/Badre Bahaji

The March 2019 floods swept many households off their feet destroying their livelihoods in the process. To help individuals and households rebuild their lives, the PROSPER initiative is supporting the Government of Malawi to reduce the impact of climate shocks and respond to seasonal consumption needs.

“Last year I only harvested 3 bags of maize because I did not apply manure or fertilizers and part of the crop was washed away. But through this programme I have learnt how to make compost manure which I've applied on my maize field. I expect to harvest more this year,” says Janet.

Janet and fellow participants in the programme also plant trees and dig deep trenches that stop the area

She adds, “the tomato garden you see here, I bought seeds with the same money. I will use the tomatoes for household consumption and will sell the surplus to meet other needs.”

Unlike in the past, like other members of her community, Janet did not see the need to conserve the woodlot in her village. But now she realizes the impact of her action on the environment. “I now use a fuel-efficient stove which has cut the amount of firewood I use in a day. It is also faster; I can cook two meals at the same time. It saves time and firewood.”



Composite manure promises Janet and her husband, Enoch, better yield this year. Photo: WFP/Badre Bahaji

Enhancing Advocacy on the Right to food

- Participating UN Agencies: UNDP
- Government Partners: Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MoAFS)
- Implementing Partners: Centre for Social Concern
- Geographic scope: Mzimba, Lilongwe Zomba, Chikwawa, Blantyre, Mzuzu and Mangochi
- Budget: US \$187,000
- SDGs targets: SDG 1: No Poverty, SDG 2: Zero hunger

Debate and groundwork on development of legislation aimed at upgrading food and nutrition security issues into human rights issues in Malawi has been ongoing for almost a decade. Malawi's right to food bill was drafted in 2002 but has undergone numerous revisions since. The initial push for the right to food bill in Malawi was launched by civil society, who sought a legal framework to give effect to the existing Food Security Policy.

This Project is helping in lobbying and advocating for the progressive realization of the right to food through building capacity of communities in order

to have a fruitful interface between them and the duty bearers. The objective is to advance the agenda on the right to food, following up from the recent visit of the Special Rapporteur for the progressive realization on the right to food. In order to achieve this, the project supports Civil Society Organizations to carry out upstream policy work focusing on duty bearers at national level and downstream policy work focusing rights holders group village levels. The upstream policy work involves research; dialogue, advocacy, and monitoring on the right to food while the downstream policy work will involve building capacity for the grassroots to demand their rights.

Key activities

To support the realization of the right to food (RTF), key interventions are being implemented around:



Policy Research and Analysis on the Right to Food



National level and district level debates on the Right to Food



Community Rights Based Approach to Right to Food



Monitoring the Progressive realization of the Right to Food

Results performance

Overall Results

In the 2019 period, the project has focused on the downstream policy work that involved building the capacity of the grassroots to demand the realization of the Right To Food. The Right to Food Bill that is yet to be passed will play a crucial role in the protection of the right and advocacy for the work will continue in 2020. During this period much work has been done

in community engagement in Blantyre, Mangochi, Zomba, Chikwawa and Mzimba through which various issues such as availability of maize, challenges of the farm input subsidy programme, amongst others, have been assessed and solutions proposed for duty bearers to respond.

Specific results

Research and analysis: a research study was conducted in Chikwawa and Zomba districts on the factors affecting women's attainment of the right to food. Key findings show that some factors affecting women's rights to food are related to: (i) the availability of Agricultural Extension Workers, and where extension services exist the challenge is that they are inaccessible since they do not stay close to the communities needing them. (ii) The control over what to produce and how much to sell is still by men in the household. Another hinderance is that although they do have access to land, access to agricultural inputs such as Farm Input Subsidy Program (FISP) is limited, hence low agricultural productivity.

In addition, research and analysis has been done in order to inform the minimum price index for various agricultural commodities. For the project to come up with the real indicators, it conducts farm gate price studies in selected districts.

Community Rights Based Approach: discussions with communities surrounding the role of duty bearers have been conducted. It was noted that despite the issuance of formal complaints, these were not addressed. Some of these include selling of expired commodities in shops; unavailability of fertilizer in Agricultural Development and Marketing Corporation (ADMARC); unavailability of maize in ADMARC Depots; corrupt practices in the distribution of coupons; among others.

Awareness campaign: awareness campaign was conducted on the right to food in surrounding villages of Bangwe, Blantyre. The campaign covered the pillars on the RTF, i.e availability, accessibility, sustainability, and management.

Interface discussions: interface discussions were conducted between community representatives and duty bearers in Mangochi, Zomba, Chikwawa and Mzimba. During these, the duty bearers were called to respond to various issues related to corruption, access to agricultural products and subsidies, and the role of Agricultural Extension workers.

Continued advocacy has led to the construction of bridges for better access, and the creation of satellite offices that help access to agricultural commodities to farmers in remote villages.

Improved mobility: The project provided 39 bicycles to 20 advocacy group members in Zomba and 19 advocacy group members in Chikwawa. These bicycles ease mobility of the group members when collecting and documenting pertinent issues from the areas. These issues are brought forward to the responsible duty bearers during interface discussions with the aim of holding them accountable.

Monitoring the Progressive realization of the Right to Food: Monitoring was done in 6 districts to assess progress in data collection and document issues affecting households. This information is referred to the Advocacy Group so that they are brought to the attention of duty bearers. For example, some issues that came from the monitoring visits are inadequacy or lack of maize in markets, poor and inadequate targeting of Farm Input Subsidy Programme (FISP). Apart from the Advocacy Group, these issues are publicized through media to stimulate a response from the duty bearers.



Challenges and Lessons Learnt

Low literacy levels in certain populations affect adoption of knowledge and skills on issues that help progressive realisation of Right to Food. Literacy increases the ability to understand issues pertaining agricultural practices and technologies, through the project it was identified that there is low adoption of technologies among the illiterate as compared to the literate. This affects how much they realize from their agricultural activities. Additionally, several studies indicate that Malawi has high levels of illiteracy among women as compared to men.

A holistic approach is proposed in fighting against

issues that affect realisation of the right to food as this is not only the responsibility of Ministry of Agriculture but also other stakeholders such as Ministry of Education, Ministry of Gender and others.

There is still more work to be done in advocacy on right to food. Maize, which is a main staple food is usually politicised and this affects the lives of Malawians more especially the rural poor. The problem is huge which needs enough time for advocacy because duty bearers take long time to respond to issues brought before them from the general public. Since the project is to close in 2020, issues of sustainability are still to be addressed.

The project in the press



Information Management Support to Cyclone Idai Response

- Participating UN Agencies: UNDP
- Government Partners: Department of Disaster Management Affairs DoDMA

- Geographic scope: National
- Budget: US \$59,385
- SDGs targets: SDG 1: No Poverty, SDG 2: Zero hunger

On 8 March 2019, the Government of Malawi declared a State of National Disaster following Tropical Cyclone Idai which formed in the Mozambique Channel and drifted to Malawi on 5th March causing heavy and persistent rains accompanied by strong winds. The rain led to severe flooding across most districts in southern Malawi. More than 800,000 people were affected, including about 87,000 displaced, with 60 deaths and 577 injuries in fifteen districts and two cities. Fifteen districts were severely affected by the flooding. To cushion the effects of the cyclone the Government led three-month Flood Response Plan targeting 162,240 households including the 87,000 displaced.

In responding to this and other emergencies, DoDMA requires to rely on timely and quality data from the districts and clusters on the ground. Challenges have been experienced in data collection resulting in significant information gaps which hinders meaningful analysis. The flow of information is not consistent and regular and needs to flow two ways from districts and clusters to the central level and then back. Additional challenges included lack of IT equipment and software and capacity challenges in managing the systems.

To address these challenges in information reporting and consolidation, this project strengthens and

institutionalizes capacity, reporting mechanism and accountability of DoDMA, Cluster leads and Co- leads and district councils. It provides an opportunity to improve timely feedback into crisis and addresses

the challenges in an ongoing emergency response. The project acts as a first step in strengthening the connections between the humanitarian response and linking to improved preparedness and development.

Key activities

To address the challenges in information reporting and consolidation, the project:



Mapping existing communication flow and gaps



Develop Action Plan to implement DRM Information Management Strategy



Produce Standard Operating Procedures of Information Management

Results performance

This project has been approved in late 2019 and is aimed at having inhouse capacity with DoDMA to manage generation, analysis and provision of information products from disasters being reported from disaster prone districts. Given its approval time, for the 2019 period there aren't detailed results on which to report. Nevertheless, it could be mentioned that a recruitment process of the four positions for the Information management team was launched, and

recruitment is expected to be completed in early 2020. Given the urgency of these positions, the recruitment process will be fast-tracked to ensure that DoDMA is equipped to manage information UNDP is co-financing these positions since the resources would not be enough to cover all four positions for one year, and resources meant for some information management activities have been safeguarded with the co-finance.





THE MALAWI SDG ACCELERATION FUND IN 2020

3

2020 represents the year in which the consolidation of a vision, developed by multiple actors, of an efficient, substantive, and catalytic financing tool for SDGs acceleration in Malawi will be materialized. The Fund aims at supporting inter-sectorial or cross-cutting priorities that target national priorities with the greatest ability to accelerate SDGs through joined-up implementation on the ground. The consolidation of such an ambitious vision requires innovative approaches and continuous learning derived from recognizing lessons learnt, opportunities for improvement, and good practices to optimize its impact. These shall be intrinsic to the Fund throughout its existence.

In 2020 the Fund will define and consolidate its programmatic framework, in support of the 2019 approved United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), in turn aligned with the government priorities set in the MGDSIII. It will also consolidate its governance system, enabling fast approval of strategic initiatives while enhancing

participation and appropriation from stakeholders under the leadership of the Government of Malawi.

The Fund will also enhance the participation of Civil Society Organizations and private sector, allowing their participation in the Fund through its governance setup and as implementors of initiatives supported by the Fund.

2020 will set a benchmark in terms of the Funds' support to gender equality and women's organizations in Malawi. To promote SDGs acceleration, economic, social and political empowerment of women is key. The Fund will include provisions aiming at including a gender marker in all approved initiatives, also financial commitments in terms of guaranteeing that at least 30% of the Fund mobilized resources will be implemented in activities that support gender equality. In addition, efforts will be made to create opportunities, building resilience, social cohesion, safety nets, that support the advance of protective environments for most vulnerable populations.

The Fund aims at supporting inter-sectorial or cross-cutting priorities that target national priorities with the greatest ability to accelerate SDGs through joined-up implementation on the ground.

Furthermore, working with local authorities and with youth organizations is key to triggering development processes. The support to them and to grass roots organizations is pivotal to drive a positive impact on the communities and to accelerate SDGs.

All these improvements require revision, adaptation, and approval of the Terms of Reference of the Fund, a process to be launched in early 2020 in close collaboration and consultation from all the partners to the Fund.

This vision also requires the support and commitment of development partners. While at global level, donor countries have been called to double their support to pooled funding mechanisms, this still needs to be materialized in Malawi.

Additionally, to guarantee a proper and steady operation of the Fund, a Secretariat in charge of its daily operation and of supporting the analysis and complexities of a multi-actor multi-sectorial decision-making process, needs to be set in place. Early steps

have been taken in late 2019, and in 2020 a fully operational Secretariat will be in place.

The early experience of 2019 has demonstrated that the Fund has the potential to boost coordination, facilitate joint priorities definition, while supporting initiatives that can become benchmarks in the design of public policies, become key topics in decision-making spaces, and drive substantial positive change in the communities. This potential shall be unleashed in 2020 and the coming years of implementation.

The Fund has been an instrument that facilitates joint programming within the UN System and among the various development partners that support the Government in the advance of the 2030 agenda. Based on the priorities defined by the Government, the Fund will progress in a coordinated planning, approval and implementation strategy with multiple actors, leading to the progressive consolidation of a joint SDG acceleration program in the country for the benefit of those who are more in need.

**Consolidated Annual Financial
Report of the Administrative Agent
for
the Malawi SDG Acceleration Fund**

for the period 1 January to 31 December 2019

Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office
Bureau for Management Services
United Nations Development Programme
[GATEWAY: http://mptf.undp.org](http://mptf.undp.org)

11 May 2020

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS



Food and Agriculture
Organization



United Nations Development
Programme



United Nations Children's
Fund



World Food Programme

CONTRIBUTORS



Delivering Results Together



DEPARTMENT FOR INT'L
DEVELOPMENT (DFID)



Expanded DaO Funding Window



FLEMISH GOVERNMENT



UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S
FUND

DEFINITIONS

Allocation

Amount approved by the Steering Committee for a project/programme.

Approved Project/Programme

A project/programme including budget, etc., that is approved by the Steering Committee for fund allocation purposes.

Contributor Commitment

Amount(s) committed by a donor to a Fund in a signed Standard Administrative Arrangement with the UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office), in its capacity as the Administrative Agent. A commitment may be paid or pending payment.

Contributor Deposit

Cash deposit received by the MPTF Office for the Fund from a contributor in accordance with a signed Standard Administrative Arrangement.

Delivery Rate

The percentage of funds that have been utilized, calculated by comparing expenditures reported by a Participating Organization against the 'net funded amount'.

Indirect Support Costs

A general cost that cannot be directly related to any particular programme or activity of the Participating Organizations. UNDG policy establishes a fixed indirect cost rate of 7% of programmable costs.

Net Funded Amount

Amount transferred to a Participating Organization less any refunds transferred back to the MPTF Office by a Participating Organization.

Participating Organization

A UN Organization or other inter-governmental Organization that is an implementing partner in a Fund, as represented by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the MPTF Office for a particular Fund.

Project Expenditure

The sum of expenses and/or expenditure reported by all Participating Organizations for a Fund irrespective of which basis of accounting each Participating Organization follows for donor reporting.

Project Financial Closure

A project or programme is considered financially closed when all financial obligations of an operationally completed project or programme have been settled, and no further financial charges may be incurred.

Project Operational Closure

A project or programme is considered operationally closed when all programmatic activities for which Participating Organization(s) received funding have been completed.

Project Start Date

Date of transfer of first instalment from the MPTF Office to the Participating Organization.

Total Approved Budget

This represents the cumulative amount of allocations approved by the Steering Committee.

US Dollar Amount

The financial data in the report is recorded in US Dollars and due to rounding off of numbers, the totals may not add up.

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INTRODUCTION

This Consolidated Annual Financial Report of the **Malawi SDG Acceleration Fund** is prepared by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office) in fulfillment of its obligations as Administrative Agent, as per the terms of Reference (TOR), the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between the UNDP MPTF Office and the Participating Organizations, and the Standard Administrative Arrangement (SAA) signed with contributors.

The MPTF Office, as Administrative Agent, is responsible for concluding an MOU with Participating Organizations and SAAs with contributors. It receives, administers and

manages contributions, and disburses these funds to the Participating Organizations. The Administrative Agent prepares and submits annual consolidated financial reports, as well as regular financial statements, for transmission to contributors.

This consolidated financial report covers the period 1 January to 31 December **2019** and provides financial data on progress made in the implementation of projects of the **Malawi SDG Acceleration Fund**. It is posted on the MPTF Office GATEWAY (<http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/MW200>).

The financial data in the report is recorded in US Dollars and due to rounding off of numbers, the totals may not add up.

2019 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

This chapter presents financial data and analysis of the **Malawi SDG Acceleration Fund** using the pass-through funding modality as of 31 December **2019**. Financial information for this Fund is also available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY, at the following address:

<http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/MW200>.

1. SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDS

As of 31 December **2019**, **5** contributors deposited US\$ **26,364,817** in contributions and US\$ **169,535** was earned in interest.

The cumulative source of funds was US\$ **26,534,352**

Of this amount, US\$ **10,819,128** has been net funded to **4** Participating Organizations, of which US\$ **3,226,159** has been reported as expenditure. The Administrative Agent fee has been charged at the approved rate of 1% on deposits and amounts to US\$ **263,648**. Table 1 provides an overview of the overall sources, uses, and balance of the **Malawi SDG Acceleration Fund** as of 31 December 2019.

Table 1. Financial Overview, as of 31 December 2019 (in US Dollars)

	Annual 2018	Annual 2019	Cumulative
Sources of Funds			
Contributions from donors	-	26,364,817	26,364,817
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income	-	169,535	169,535
Interest Income received from Participating Organizations	-	-	-
Refunds by Administrative Agent to Contributors	-	-	-
Fund balance transferred to another MDTF	-	-	-
Other Income	-	-	-
Total: Sources of Funds	-	26,534,352	26,534,352
Use of Funds			
Transfers to Participating Organizations	-	10,819,128	10,819,128
Refunds received from Participating Organizations	-	-	-
Net Funded Amount	-	10,819,128	10,819,128
Administrative Agent Fees	-	263,648	263,648
Direct Costs: (Steering Committee, Secretariat...etc.)	-	-	-
Bank Charges	-	214	214
Other Expenditures	-	-	-
Total: Uses of Funds	-	11,082,990	11,082,990
Change in Fund cash balance with Administrative Agent	-	15,451,362	15,451,362
Opening Fund balance (1 January)	-	-	-
Closing Fund balance (31 December)	-	15,451,362	15,451,362
Net Funded Amount (Includes Direct Cost)	-	10,819,128	10,819,128
Participating Organizations' Expenditure (Includes Direct Cost)	-	3,226,159	3,226,159
Balance of Funds with Participating Organizations			7,592,969

2. PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS

Table 2 provides information on cumulative contributions received from all contributors to this Fund as of 31 December 2019.

The **Malawi SDG Acceleration Fund** is currently being financed by 5 contributors, as listed in the table below.

The table below includes commitments made up to 31 December 2019 through signed Standard Administrative Agreements, and deposits made through 2019. It does not include commitments that were made to the fund beyond 2019.

Table 2. Contributors' Commitments and Deposits, as of 31 December 2019 (in US Dollars)

Contributors	Total Commitments	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2018 Deposits	Current Year Jan-Dec-2019 Deposits	Total Deposits
Delivering Results Together	41,469	-	41,469	41,469
DEPARTMENT FOR INT'L DEVELOPMENT (DFID)	32,602,477	-	24,836,795	24,836,795
Expanded DaO Funding Window	636,454	-	636,454	636,454
FLEMISH GOVERNMENT	837,312	-	837,312	837,312
UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND	12,786	-	12,786	12,786
Grand Total	34,130,499	-	26,364,817	26,364,817

3. INTEREST EARNED

Interest income is earned in two ways: 1) on the balance of funds held by the Administrative Agent (Fund earned interest), and 2) on the balance of funds held by the Participating Organizations (Agency earned interest) where their Financial Regulations and Rules allow return of interest to the AA.

As of 31 December 2019, Fund earned interest amounts to US\$ 169,535.

Details are provided in the table below.

Table 3. Sources of Interest and Investment Income, as of 31 December 2019 (in US Dollars)

Interest Earned	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2018	Current Year Jan-Dec-2019	Total
Administrative Agent			
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income		169,535	169,535
Total: Fund Earned Interest		169,535	169,535
Participating Organization			
Total: Agency earned interest			
Grand Total		169,535	169,535

4. TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Allocations to Participating Organizations are approved by the Steering Committee and disbursed by the Administrative Agent. As of 31 December 2019, the AA has transferred US\$ 10,819,128 to 4 Participating Organizations (see list below).

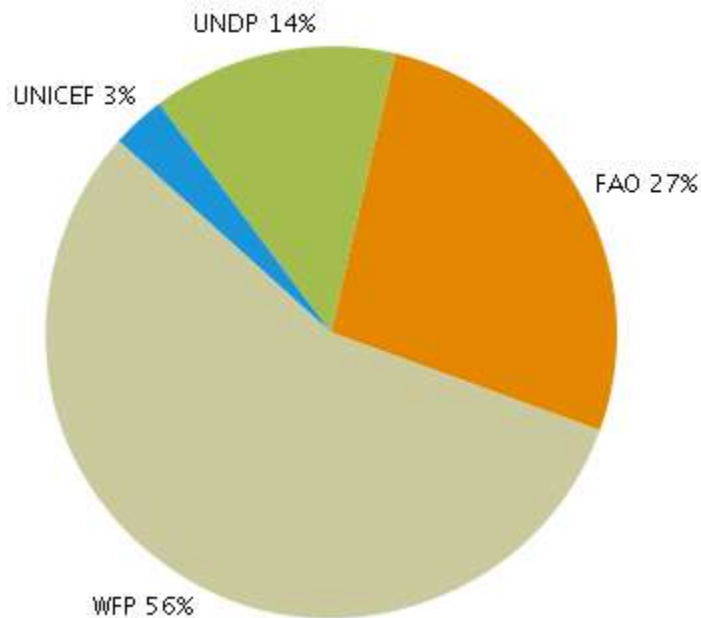
4.1 TRANSFER BY PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION

Table 4 provides additional information on the refunds received by the MPTF Office, and the net funded amount for each of the Participating Organizations.

Table 4. Transfer, Refund, and Net Funded Amount by Participating Organization, as of 31 December 2019 (in US Dollars)

Participating Organization	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2018			Current Year Jan-Dec-2019			Total		
	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded
FAO				2,942,442		2,942,442	2,942,442		2,942,442
UNDP				1,503,957		1,503,957	1,503,957		1,503,957
UNICEF				366,628		366,628	366,628		366,628
WFP				6,006,100		6,006,100	6,006,100		6,006,100
Grand Total				10,819,128		10,819,128	10,819,128		10,819,128

Figure 2: Transfers amount by Participating Organization for the period of 1 January to 31 December 2019



5. EXPENDITURE AND FINANCIAL DELIVERY RATES

All final expenditures reported for the year **2019** were submitted by the Headquarters of the Participating Organizations. These were consolidated by the MPTF Office.

Project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organization, and are reported as per the agreed upon categories for inter-agency harmonized reporting. The reported expenditures were submitted via the MPTF Office's online expenditure reporting tool. The **2019** expenditure data has been posted on the MPTF Office GATEWAY at <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/MW200>.

5.1 EXPENDITURE REPORTED BY PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION

In **2019**, US\$ **10,819,128** was net funded to Participating Organizations, and US\$ **3,226,159** was reported in expenditure.

As shown in table below, the cumulative net funded amount is US\$ **10,819,128** and cumulative expenditures reported by the Participating Organizations amount to US\$ **3,226,159**. This equates to an overall Fund expenditure delivery rate of **30** percent.

Table 5.1. Net Funded Amount, Reported Expenditure, and Financial Delivery by Participating Organization, as of 31 December 2019 (in US Dollars)

Participating Organization	Approved Amount	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure			Delivery Rate %
			Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2018	Current Year Jan-Dec-2019	Cumulative	
FAO	2,942,442	2,942,442		1,185,218	1,185,218	40.28
UNDP	1,503,957	1,503,957		449,453	449,453	29.88
UNICEF	366,628	366,628		166,182	166,182	45.33
WFP	6,006,100	6,006,100		1,425,306	1,425,306	23.73
Grand Total	10,819,128	10,819,128		3,226,159	3,226,159	29.82

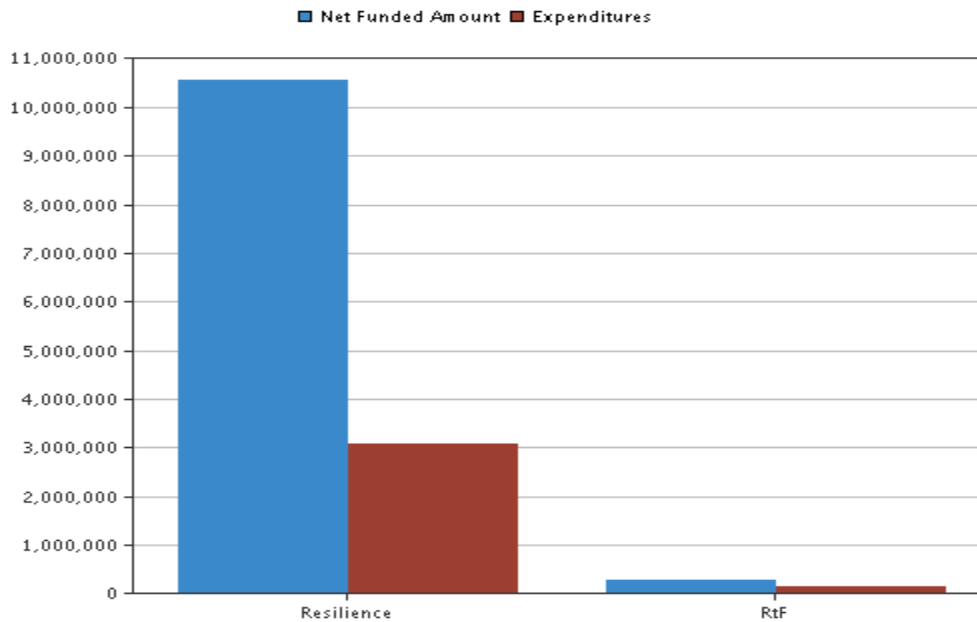
5.2 EXPENDITURE BY UNDAF OUTCOME

Table 5 displays the net funded amounts, expenditures incurred and the financial delivery rates by UNDAF Outcome

Table 5.2 Expenditure by UNDAF Outcome, as of 31 December 2019 (in US Dollars)

Country/Sector	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2018		Current Year Jan-Dec-2019		Total		Delivery Rate %
	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure	
Malawi							
Resilience Window			10,542,128	3,066,365	10,542,128	3,066,365	29.09
Right to Food Window			277,000	159,794	277,000	159,794	57.69
Malawi Total:			10,819,128	3,226,159	10,819,128	3,226,159	29.82
Grand Total:			10,819,128	3,226,159	10,819,128	3,226,159	29.82

Figure 4: Cumulative Net Funded Amount and Expenditure with Breakdown by Sector



5.3 EXPENDITURE REPORTED BY CATEGORY

Project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organization and are reported as per the agreed categories for inter-agency harmonized reporting. See table below.

Expense Categories

1. Staff and personnel costs
2. Supplies, commodities and materials
3. Equipment, vehicles, furniture and depreciation
4. Contractual services
5. Travel
6. Transfers and grants
7. General operating expenses
8. Indirect costs

Table 5.3 Expenditure by UNDG Budget Category, as of 31 December 2019 (in US Dollars)

Category	Expenditure			Percentage of Total Programme Cost
	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2018	Current Year Jan-Dec-2019	Total	
Staff & Personnel Cost (New)	-	793,855	793,855	26.28
Suppl, Comm, Materials (New)	-	199,047	199,047	6.59
Equip, Veh, Furn, Depn (New)	-	353,604	353,604	11.70
Contractual Services (New)	-	615,304	615,304	20.37
Travel (New)	-	90,240	90,240	2.99
Transfers and Grants (New)	-	562,913	562,913	18.63
General Operating (New)	-	406,364	406,364	13.45
Programme Costs Total	-	3,021,328	3,021,328	100.00
¹ Indirect Support Costs Total	-	204,831	204,831	6.78
Total	-	3,226,159	3,226,159	

¹ **Indirect Support Costs** charged by Participating Organization, based on their financial regulations, can be deducted upfront or at a later stage during implementation. The percentage may therefore appear to exceed the 7% agreed-upon for on-going projects. Once projects are financially closed, this number is not to exceed 7%.

6. COST RECOVERY

Cost recovery policies for the Fund are guided by the applicable provisions of the Terms of Reference, the MOU concluded between the Administrative Agent and Participating Organizations, and the SAAs concluded between the Administrative Agent and Contributors, based on rates approved by UNDG.

The policies in place, as of 31 December 2019, were as follows:

- **The Administrative Agent (AA) fee:** 1% is charged at the time of contributor deposit and covers services provided on that contribution for the entire duration of the Fund. In the reporting period US\$ **263,648** was deducted in AA-fees. Cumulatively, as of 31 December 2019, US\$ **263,648** has been charged in AA-fees.
- **Indirect Costs of Participating Organizations:** Participating Organizations may charge 7% indirect costs. In the current reporting period US\$ **204,831** was deducted in indirect costs by Participating Organizations. Cumulatively, indirect costs amount to US\$ **204,831** as of 31 December 2019.

7. ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

In order to effectively provide fund administration services and facilitate monitoring and reporting to the UN system and its partners, the MPTF Office has developed a public website, the MPTF Office Gateway (<http://mptf.undp.org>). Refreshed in real time every two hours from an internal enterprise resource planning system, the MPTF Office Gateway has become a standard setter for providing transparent and accountable trust fund administration services.

The Gateway provides financial information including: contributor commitments and deposits, approved programme budgets, transfers to and expenditures reported by Participating Organizations, interest income and other expenses. In addition, the Gateway provides an overview of the MPTF Office portfolio and extensive information on individual Funds, including their purpose, governance structure and key documents. By providing easy access to the growing number of narrative and financial reports, as well as related project documents, the Gateway collects and preserves important institutional knowledge and facilitates knowledge sharing and management among UN Organizations and their development partners, thereby contributing to UN coherence and development effectiveness.