



UNITED NATIONS  
**MALAWI**

UNIFYING RESILIENT TOGETHER FOR MALAWI



# UN MALAWI 2017 UNDAF REPORT

“ For Malawi’s economy, the weather remains a major part of the economic cycle, with the negative impact of bad weather compounded by factors such as population growth and environmental degradation. For the 2017/18 production season, the outbreak of Fall Armyworms which have damaged close to 300,000 ha of maize, some cases of reported flooding especially in the Northern Districts and the serious dry spells which have seriously affected Southern Region districts, posing fears of looming food insecurity during the 2018/19 consumption season. ”

Maria Jose Torres - UN Resident Coordinator

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RCOs Office

Concept, layout, editorial & graphic support by Joy Kimanzi  
Design support by Lee Mutuku



# Acronyms

AECDM	Association of Early Childhood Development
ASP	Area Stakeholder Panels
CBCC	Community Based Childcare Centers
CBE	Complementary Basic Education
CFM	Common Funding Mechanism
CMAM	Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition
DNHA	Department of Nutrition, HIV and AIDS
ECD	Early Childhood Development
ESMP	Emergency School Meals Programme
JPGE	UN Joint Programme on Girls' Education
LUANAR	Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources
MAD	Minimum Acceptable Diet
MAM	Moderate Acute Malnutrition
MHEN	Malawi Health Equity Network
MNSSP	Malawi National Social Support Programme
MoGCDSW	Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare
MRCS	Malawi Red Cross Society
NNIS	National Nutrition Information Systems
ODF	Open Defecation Free
PACHI	Pediatrics and Child Health Association of Malawi
PICSA	Participatory Integrated Climate Service for Agriculture
PSI	Population Services International
PWA	Persons with Albinism
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
SCI	Save the Children International
SCREAM	Supporting Children's Rights through Education, Arts and the Media
SCTP	Social Cash Transfer Programme
SHN	School Health and Nutrition
SIA	Supplementary Immunization Activity
SMART	Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions
THR	Take Home Rations
YONECO	Youth Net and Counseling

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# Foreword

On behalf of the United Nations Country Team, I would like to first thank the Government of Malawi, Development Partners, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), civil society organisations (CSOs) and the private sector for their cooperation throughout the year in the implementation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF). We extremely appreciate your cooperation in advancing development progress in Malawi.

This cooperation helped to achieve several key milestones in 2017, including the finalisation of the third Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS III), a key national development policy, which has also domesticated the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, providing a seamless mechanism for advancing socio-economic progress and achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Malawi.

In 2017, our partnerships also enabled the successful implementation of the mass registration campaign in which about 12.6 million Malawian citizens (9.17 million aged at least 16 and 3.47 million children aged below 16) were registered, with those from age 16 getting national identity cards, contributing towards achievement of SDG 16.9 on provision of legal identity for all, including birth registration. We find this National Registration and Identification System to be vital for policy decisions, development interventions and improved access to socio-economic services, and look forward to continued collaboration to ensure its maximum use and impact.

To promote human rights for all, in 2017, the UN continued working with several partners to ensure protection and promotion of rights of marginalised groups such as persons with disabilities, children, women and prisoners. One

critical contribution in this area was the support to address the attacks and killings of persons with albinism through social behavioural change communication and strengthened protection and justice systems, contributing towards realisation of SDG 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions. Besides, to address HIV and AIDS and promote achievement of UNAIDS' 90:90:90 targets, the UN supported interventions aimed at improving HIV prevention, access to treatment and survival of people living with HIV. For instance, more HIV positive children were integrated into early detection and treatment programmes, while pregnant mothers continued to access Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) services – all supporting efforts to achieve SDG 3 on good health and wellbeing.

I am also delighted that UN's advocacy work in 2017 contributed to the amendment of Malawi's Political Parties Act to, among others, strengthen the functioning of political parties by ensuring that parties are transparent in their financing, membership, and inclusion of women and youth. An equally important accomplishment in 2017 in this regard was the development and launch of the National Peace Policy. The policy provides an instrument for proactive conflict prevention, management, resolution and transformation, also contributing towards achievement of SDG 16, which aims to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, access to justice for all, and building of effective, accountable and inclusive institutions. We hope such legal and policy instruments will further enhance an enabling environment for inclusive participation in the forthcoming Tripartite Elections, so that no one is left behind, including women and people with disabilities.

The year 2017 also showed that natural disasters, coupled

with environmental degradation, continue to threaten Malawi's economy, as seen by the vulnerability of the economy to the impacts of dry spells, floods and pest infestation on agricultural productivity. To help address such vulnerabilities which endanger people's livelihoods, in 2017, the UN also supported Malawi Government to develop the National Resilience Strategy and its Implementation Plan. The strategy offers an opportunity to address the causes and minimise the effects of climate change, and food and nutrition insecurity in Malawi, putting the country on a path to achieve SDG 2 on Zero Hunger and SDG 13 which calls for urgent actions to combat climate change and its impacts.

Lastly, I would like to reaffirm UN's commitment to enhance existing and forge new partnerships for implementation of interventions that support achievement of Malawi's national development aspirations as espoused in the MGDS III.

Thank you very much,



*Ms. Maria Jose Torres Macho*  
UN Resident Coordinator, Malawi





## Key Development Trends

*In 2017, Malawi witnessed greater stability on the macroeconomic front, as compared to the last two years largely due to improved food security and fiscal management. On the other hand, political tensions and challenges in governance continued to make the headlines. Incidences of corruption and misuse of public funds were reported regularly putting a question mark on the efficacy of the public-sector reforms.*

In 2017, Malawi witnessed greater stability on the macroeconomic front, as compared to the last two years largely due to improved food security and prudent fiscal management. Following sustained progress in achieving macroeconomic stabilization with a rebound in growth, inflation reduced to single digits. On the other hand, political tensions and challenges in governance continued to make the headlines. Incidences of corruption and misuse of public funds were reported regularly putting a question mark on the efficacy of the public-sector reforms.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) recently approved a new Extended Credit Facility (ECF) for Malawi worth \$112.3 million, aimed at entrenching macroeconomic stability and fostering higher, more inclusive and resilient growth. The World Bank also approved an \$80 million credit to the Malawi Government for general budget support in May 2017. The budget support referred as the Agricultural Support and Fiscal Management Development Policy Operation aimed to improve incentives for private sector participation in agricultural markets and strengthen fiscal management

through more effective expenditure controls and greater transparency. The budget support continues to be effective in 2018/19. It is also expected that the EU could approve budget support for Malawi during the 2018/19 fiscal year.

Favourable rains in 2017 helped to increase production due to favourable rainfall conditions. Productivity of maize, which is the staple crop, doubled compared to 2016 levels. According to the Ministry of Agriculture Production Estimates Survey (APES) figures, the country produced a total of 3,464,139 metric tons of maize against a national maize requirement of 3.2 metric tonnes, giving a surplus of about 260,000 metric tonnes). This led to a substantial decline in food inflation which in turn reduced headline inflation to 9.3% in August 2017 compared to 22.8% in August 2016. Although this boosted consumer purchasing power, it negatively impacted the household income of subsistence farmers with a reduction in food retail prices. Despite this better production during the year, the 2017 Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) Annual Assessment report identified a total of 1,043,000 people in 20 districts missing

food entitlements and requiring humanitarian food assistance. Most of those food insecure people (887,655 people) were from the Southern Region districts. Because of this food insecurity, the Government of Malawi in collaboration with its partners developed the Food Insecurity Response Plan (FIRP), which identified food security, nutrition, agriculture, health, education and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) as the key priorities for immediate assistance. About 159,800 children aged 6-23 months, pregnant and lactating women and people living with HIV and AIDS were particularly identified as at risk of food insecurity and malnutrition.

The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was projected to grow by 4.5% in 2017, an increase from 2.6% in 2016. Despite these positive developments, unreliable electricity and water supply remained key constraints hindering private sector development and investment. To a significant extent, UN support to social enterprises is enabling sustainable energy access through clean energy mini-grids.

Corruption also remained a challenge, reflected in Malawi's ranking of 120/176 and a score of 31 on the Corruption Perception Index. Incidents of violent attacks motivated by rumours of 'bloodsuckers' costed lives of nine people and, were considered to be in part expression of grievances over poverty, unemployment and social inequality.

In 2017, a new national development strategy, the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS III) for 2017 to 2022, integrating the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), was produced with support from UN, to accelerate the country's transition to a productive, competitive and resilient nation. The support included engagement of consultancy to provide technical guidance to the formulation process, financing coordination meetings and printing and dissemination of the strategy document. An integrated SDGs model (iSDGs model) was produced with UN support to engage technical assistance from the University of Malawi (UNIMA), Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR) and Millennium Institute (USA). The iSDGs model became instrumental in guiding the setting of the five key priority areas in the MGDS III. The forthcoming UNDAF (2019 -2023) has been fully aligned to the MGDS III.

In addition, sustained advocacy, public awareness raising, and outreach messaging on SDGs in urban and rural areas were supported with UN support which included engaging Zodiak

Radio Station to air panel discussions and jingles on the SDGs. SDGs awareness was also done to Parliamentary Committee on Government Assurance and Public Reforms; Principal Secretary Committee on the Economy and Social Development; Ministry of Information Regional staff; Youth Organizations; Community Radio Station; UNV staff at annual retreat and the private sector. Further, an SDGs localization workshop was undertaken by Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development and Malawi Local Government Association (an NGO) with support from UN to create and establish capacity for the integration of the SDGs in the District Development Plans (DDPs) and other local plans at the grassroots level. Multiple partnership with organizations such as Oxfam were initiated by UN to undertake an SDGs fair in one of the local townships in Lilongwe to showcase SDGs with the ultimate purpose of building more awareness at community level.

On decentralisation, despite progress being recorded on devolution of human resources, challenges with decentralised systems persisted including financial management. As a result, some sectors were still resistant to devolve their fiscal management systems.

Political tensions also ratcheted up throughout the year. The Electoral Reform package was not approved in Parliament in December 2017. Nonetheless, a Political Parties Bill was adopted, which completely bans the use of handouts by candidates and is a step forward to ensure transparency in the electoral system. The Government of Malawi, with support from the UN, launched the National Peace Policy in December 2017. This policy will establish a framework for stakeholders involved in conflict prevention to collaborate, respond to early warning signs of conflict and promote peace.

Parliament passed the National Planning Commission (NPC) Bill in July 2017, which paved way for the establishment of the NPC in October 17 which will oversee the implementation of the MGDS and the formulation of a Vision 2050. Parliament also passed the HIV and AIDS (Management and Prevention Bill) after removing contentious provisions which would have criminalised the transmission of HIV, violated the right to informed consent to treatment and testing and which would have required compulsory testing.

The Government also launched the National Resilience Strategy (2018-2030) in November to make the country resilient to economic and environmental shocks and able to sustain



inclusive growth, food and nutrition security. The National Resilience Strategy (NRS), for which the UN coordinated development partner inputs, will scale-up household resilience to shocks through prioritizing investments in agricultural growth, flood prevention and early warning systems, social protection and livelihood diversification, and sustainable natural resources management. Support to COP23 Malawi delegation enabled Malawi's active and informed positioning on the proposed rules governing the implementation of the Paris Agreement. The UN also supported the rollout of an integrated water system and climate smart infrastructure in vulnerable communities.

With support from the UN and Development Partners, the Government of Malawi registered a total of 9,168,689 citizens through the National Registration and Identification System Project, which was launched in 2016. This marked the official closure of mass registration exercise and the project was handed over to the National Registration Bureau

The commission is mandated to oversee implementation of the MGDS and formulation of a Vision 2050. Parliament passed the HIV and AIDS Management and Prevention Bill after agreeing to remove two contentious provisions: compulsory testing and making it criminal offence to transmit the virus willfully.

for continuous registration. Discussions are underway with various Government entities and the Electoral Commission on how the ID card can be used to improve services.



Economic Growth and Food Security.



Cluster

Results of the  
One Programme

Malawi continued to respond to short-term needs, including the historic humanitarian caseload of 6.7 million people (approximately 40% of the population). The humanitarian response was effective in improving household food security as evidenced by the findings under the Food Consumption Score, Coping Strategies Index, as well as the Food Expenditure Share. The results show that the proportion of targeted households with poor food consumption was reduced by 68%.

The UN supported the promotion of integrated watershed management capacity building to support resilience under the MNSSP II. This included the creation of best practice guidelines on Public Works and Productive Asset Creation Programmes as a step towards the harmonization of tools across implementers. The UN also supported implementation of shock sensitive social protection (3SP) model in partnership with the Department of Climate Change and Met Services (DCCMS) and with technical support from Columbia University International Research Institute (IRI) hosted a multi-stakeholder workshop on Using Forecasts as Triggers for the Expansion of Support to the Most Vulnerable to inform contingency support. The UN and United Purpose also worked with its partners, including the INGO Consortium and GIZ, among others, to operationalize a trial linking the Government's developing Unified Beneficiary Registry to humanitarian targeting processes.

The UN supported the formulation of the National Resilience Strategy and Operational Guidelines for Disaster Response. Furthermore, the UN supported government efforts to develop a national climate change fund, which will coordinate and enhance access to climate finance.

Through the Strengthening Community Resilience to Climate Change intervention, the UN supported Farmer Field School approach through a tailor-made FFS curriculum, which was agreed with the Department of Agriculture Extension Services (DAES).

The UN provided technical assistance to the expanded access by rural communities to affordable renewable energy services, including the design of two new clean

energy mini-grids to service over 2,100 households, as well as businesses, health clinics and schools.

The UN supported the Government on Safe disposal of POPs and other obsolete pesticides and remediation of heavily contaminated sites.

Through the Malawi Innovation Challenge Fund, 250,100 poor people experienced a net positive income; 900 low income and unskilled people got permanent employment; 25,000 smallholder households benefited from new or enhanced income generating, or livelihood improvement opportunities; 25,000 low income direct consumers utilizing new or enhanced products/services that impact on their basic human needs. New products entirely manufactured in Malawi as an import substitute and for export include, amongst others, a Water Filtration System for drinkable water; a non-refrigerated margarine; a specialty tea (herb and flower flavored) that is 100% small-holder led; a UHT (long shelf life) flavored milk with a 100% small-holder dairy supply chain.

Through the Gender and Agriculture Program, there has been increased access to extension services. Women have doubled their access to agricultural extension from 20% to around 40%. This has resulted from five (5) major gender-mainstreaming trainings that the UN provided to 219 extension officers in three districts under the Gender and agriculture programme in Malawi. Through the same program, rural women farmers have gained skills in business management, market literacy, financial management, and gender equity in all the target districts. 146 rural farmers (94 women, 52 men) have developed business plans, which will act as a road map for their efforts in transforming their farming activities into business enterprises.

On Improved Land Access, the UN supported the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development in developing a pilot land reform implementation plan. Support was also provided for the development of the subsidiary legislation for the Customary Land Act of 2016, a prerequisite for operationalizing the law.

The Ministry of Trade and Industry was supported with



**132,000** vulnerable households with labour in 10 food insecure districts of Malawi



**10,000** farmers have been reached through radio

No. of days disaster response assistance has reduced  
**10 days** → **4 days**

**4,693** households through field studies on **good agricultural practices**, with a climate change adaptation component.



**23,000** people in 5 disaster prone districts were supported with flood mitigation structures and **four** evacuation centres.



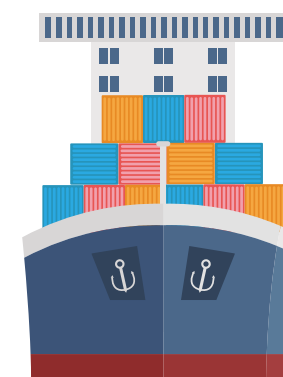
**42** Community Based Facilitators were trained in the FFS approach for improved effectiveness.

**110** Government Agricultural Extension Officers and NGO Staff from Blantyre, Chikwawa and Nsanje districts were trained in Participatory Integrated Climate Service for Agriculture (PICSA) methodology.

**UN** provided technical assistance to the expanded access by rural communities to affordable renewable energy services, including the design of two new clean energy mini-grids to service over **2,100 households**, as well as **businesses, health clinics and schools.**

**238** metric tonnes and **13 methyl bromide cylinders** were repackaged and shipped to disposal facilities in Europe and Uganda in

**December 2017**



**146** rural farmers (**94 women, 52 men**) have developed business plans, which will act as a road map for their efforts in transforming their farming activities into business enterprises





the formulation of the Buy Malawi Strategy Marketing and Communication plan. Some of the efforts include development of a dedicated website for the Ministry of Trade and Industry. Efforts for the enrollment into the campaign of the private sector are also underway. The Buy Malawi Strategy (BMS) is aiming at promoting consumption of locally produced goods and services, enhanced local firms' trade and business competitiveness, stimulate local production to create jobs, and propel industrialization.

On Skills and Technical Education Programme (STEP), the UN supported the drafting of Training, Development and Assessment manual and the establishment of a National Association of TEVET Principals.

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On Improved Land Access,  
the UN supported the  
Ministry of Lands, Housing  
and Urban Development  
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reform implementation  
plan

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# Challenges for Cluster One:

- Insufficient capacity to provide regular technical and supervisory support to communities; lack of accountability and difficulty in getting accurate and reliable financial report as well as poor quality and inconsistent reporting.
- Limited functionality due to scarcity of financial resources at district councils to build their capacities to execute duties diligently in agricultural development.
- Due to a very rapid deterioration of the macro-economic environment, making access to foreign exchange and finance was particularly difficult for all companies in the MIF portfolio.
- There is need for proper mechanism to integrate indigenous knowledge (local weather forecasting) and the scientific knowledge.
- Planning for projects where new knowledge is to be generated requires careful thought, otherwise opportunities are lost for innovation and creativity. Too much time is wasted on crisis management and especially the procurement process.



# 2017 Emerging Priorities for Cluster One:

- The key opportunity in 2018 will be the implementation of the MNSSP II and the positioning of the UN as the driving force behind the framework's implementation and support towards Government on social protection, ensuring a coherent implementation on the basis of a strong internal UN coordination framework.
- With additional funding from Government of Netherlands, the UN will continue supporting the scale up of the SCTP linkage and referral programme-cash plus, a component that links SCTP beneficiaries to other service providers.
- One of the priorities under the Gender and Agriculture program implemented by the UN is to ensure that producer groups share their knowledge and skills to more farmers in their communities.
- There is a push to mainstream Climate Services activities into national and district level plans and budgets as one way of securing sustainability. More discussions will be required at national and district level to ensure that there is a concrete strategy in place.
- There is an opportunity to integrate PICSA methodology as a topic into extension courses at Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR) as a sustainability mechanism, with the potential of enhancing innovation in climate services.



Social and Protection Services



# Cluster 2



**15,000** children benefitted from child protection case management services through front-line government social workers

**239,000** children received psycho-social services through Children's Corners

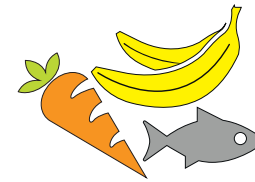
**56,000** victims were assisted through Community and Police VSUs



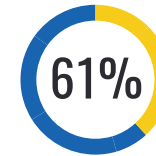
**50,000** children (**25,673 Female, 26,275 Male**) under 5 had their births registered



**18,567** children received school meals



Emergency school meals programme reached **62,000** learners in four districts



of UN targeted **255** school met the quality standards aimed at reversing low survival, high repetition, and achievement of pupils

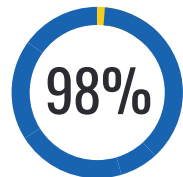
The adoption of a functional literacy programme in which **24,000** youth were enrolled. A total of **515** children have been mainstreamed back into formal primary education

**288** schools in Lilongwe, Ntcheu, Dowa and Kasungu have been trained in child labour using the UN tool Supporting Children's Rights through Education, Arts and the Media (**SCREAM**) methodology



**353** persons with albinism (PWA) (**101** children; **252** adults – **193 Female, 160 Male**) received protection strengthening materials

Establishment of alternative education pathways for out of school children including the provision of afternoon classes to **1224** children (**617** boys and **607** girls), vocational training for **1163** youths (**627** boys and **536** girls), and Complementary Basic Education (CBE) that focused on child labour and literacy for a collective total of **19,561** children through **540** learning centres



Primary net enrolment rate. The primary completion rate for girls and GPI in STD8 stayed at **47%** and **0.88**, respectively

**44% → 45%** Increase in Gross Enrolment Rate for ECD

**63%** Refugee camp schools registered lower enrolment, and **49%** were girls



**USD 865,385** allocation to government for ECD



**69,600** children (**35,496** girls and **34,104** boys) were supported to access safe water, gender appropriate and improved latrines and urinal facilities in **116** schools



**2,467** communities and **616,750** people (**326,878** women and **289,872** men) acquired knowledge on hand washing with soap in the **15** targeted districts.



December 2017 reached a total of **2,848,156** children (**1,327,882** boys and **1,520,274** girls) reached with vitamin A supplementation coverage

## Ending child marriages

- The constitutional amendment in April raised the minimum age of marriage from 15 to 18 years, for girls and boys.
- The process of harmonizing legislation in line with the amendment has commenced.
- Community awareness and mobilization to end child marriage was catalyzed through a national mass media campaign to end child marriage launched through Zodiak National Broadcasting Station.

## Community mobilization to end harmful practices

- Three district based dialogue sessions took place, providing an enabling environment for youth to interact with authorities and leaders and share their lived experiences.
- A research partnership with the University of Zurich commenced to build the evidence on harmful practices, especially harmful sexual initiation rites and child marriage, to provide the basis for programming and policy advocacy.

## Protection services

- Over 21,000 children benefitted from child protection case management services through front-line government social workers.

- Over 56,000 victims were assisted through Community and Police VSUs.
- The Essential Services Package for GBV was rolled out to 40 service providers.
- The UN addressed international protection needs of 34,974 refugees and asylum seekers in Dzaleka and Luwani camps through campaigns to improve mechanisms for prevention and response, and interventions to reduce SGBV including child marriage. 98 refugee survivors were supported with appropriate response services focused on four key response areas including medical, psychosocial, legal aid, and safety/security.
- Backlog in Child Justice and Magistrates Courts was largely cleared and magistrates through a pilot initiative deploying law students to courts in 17 districts
- Over 239,000 children received psycho-social services through Children's Corners.
- Over 50,000 children (25,673F, 26,275M) under 5 had their births registered. 3.9 million children captured through the mass registration for the national ID.
- 353 persons with albinism (PWA) (101 children; 252 adults – 193F, 160M) received protection strengthening materials and 125 women with disabilities received training on GBV and SRHR.
- 91 schools were supported to provide greater access to safe, inclusive, gender-equitable education, responsive to all forms of violence, through the Safe Schools program



## Quality education

- The primary net enrolment rate remains high as 98%.
- The primary completion rate for girls maintained at 47% and GPI in Standard 8 was 0.88.
- Gross Enrolment Rate for ECD increased from 44% to 45%.
- On the other hand, refugee camp schools registered lower enrolment with 63% being overall enrolment, and 49% were girls. Preschool enrolment was approximately 10% with 52% of the children being girls.

## Policy environment

The UN supported improving the policy environment:

- The development of policy and strategic frameworks such as the development of the national School Health and Nutrition (SHN) Policy and Strategy.
- The National Inclusive Education Strategy was being prepared for its launch and the national reading programme was being implemented.

## Improving access to quality social services

The UN contributed improving access to quality services in three ways:

- CBCCs increased from 10,000 to 11,000 centres in which 18,567 children received school meals
- 36,500 adolescents accessed to adolescent friendly services,
- Emergency school meals programme reached 62,000 learners in four districts.
- A review of teacher training curriculum was initiated while a functional literacy programme for out of school adolescent was adopted by the Ministry of Labour and Youth.
- Together with the Ministry of Health and other actors, the UN continued to support health care in Dzaleka and Luwani camps, targeting both refugees and host populations. The services offered include primary health care, HCT and ART services, under five clinic services, safe motherhood and sexual and reproductive health care. Cases requiring secondary attention continued to be referred to Dowa or Neno District Hospitals or more specialised central and private hospitals in Lilongwe and Blantyre. Outreach work in 5 established static clinics and 120 outreach clinics was supported both within Dzaleka camp and the surrounding villages through the existing 32 Health Surveillance

Assistants. In addition, the UN funded the expansion of the maternity wing in Dzaleka camp to upgrade from a 15-bed facility to over 30 beds, with 4 delivery beds in the labour ward. Despite these efforts, the Dzaleka camp health facility is still constrained as it serves a population six times its intended target and is therefore marred with congestion and insufficiency of drugs and personnel. It remains a strong example of integrated national services that are inclusive of refugees and asylum seekers.

- Overall, the youth literacy rate improved from 75% to 80%, and it can be attributed to increased resource mobilisation.

## Improving quality of education

UN agencies supported the government to embark on three initiatives to improve the quality of education:

- Piloting of a performance-based financing initiative for effective school improvement 61% of UN targeted 255 schools achieved quality standards aimed at reducing repetition and improving achievement of pupils.
- The reviews of the initial primary teacher education curriculum and development of a Continuous Professional Development framework improved learning outcomes.
- The piloting of a decentralized procurement of teaching and learning materials (TLMs) ensured better textbook availability.
- The capacity for results tracking was enhanced through a various statistical capacity building support such as an establishment Real Time Monitoring (RTM) and improvements in EMIS.

## Improving resource mobilisation strategies

The UN contributed to improving an enabling policy environment through support to resource mobilisation strategies for predictable sector funding and policy advocacy:

- First, an establishment of Common Funding Mechanism (CFM) was agreed, and it catalysed the approval of the GPE program whose value was USD 45 million.
- Nearly 300% increase in funding available for youth and adolescent sector.



## Improving adolescent friendly services

- Establishment and expansion of youth and adolescent friendly centres through which more than 36,500 youths were reached.
- Establishment of alternative education pathways for out of school children including the provision of afternoon classes to 1224 children (617 boys and 607 girls), vocational training for 1163 youths (627 boys and 536 girls), and Complementary Basic Education (CBE) that focused on child labour and literacy for a collective total of 19,561 children through 540 learning centres;
- The adoption of a functional literacy programme in which 24,000 youth were enrolled. A total of 515 children have been mainstreamed back into formal primary education.
- Establishment of youth and adolescent friendly centres via an expanded partnership with WV, AGLIT, AYISE, etc.; and
- The adoption of a functional literacy programme in which 24,000 youth were enrolled. A total of 515 children have been mainstreamed back into formal primary education.

## Ending child labour

- Teachers in 288 schools in Lilongwe, Ntcheu, Dowa and Kasungu have been trained in the UN tool Supporting Children's Rights through Education, Arts and the Media (SCREAM methodology) and how they can promote child participation in their schools.

## Promoting child rights

- In a bid to promote child participation and giving a voice to children, child rights clubs were established. Open day activities in schools were held where children children voiced out to communities on child labour/protection issues were displayed, messages centered on the need to promote children's right to education not child labour.

## Youth friendly services

- Increased demand for quality youth-friendly services created through C4D activities community mobilisation and training on the issue of child labour; and
- Utilising multimedia communication strategies for girl's education, 85 percent of selected communities were reached, 60 percent Chiefs took effective action, and 19 by-

laws were established and implemented the re-admission policy. In schools, action plans are in place incorporating commitments of teachers, parents, and children.

## Early childhood development

- Access to ECD improved from 44% to 45%.
- Preschool enrolment was approximately 8.5% with 51% being girls. Access to ECD in Dzaleka camp for refugee children was at 8.5% due to limited capacity. 28 ECD Community Educators in privately owned ECD centers in refugee communities were trained to develop their capacity.
- A total of 1.5 million children accessed quality ECD services.
- 59 percent of children 36 to 59 months are developmentally on track in at least three of the following domains; literacy and numeracy, physical, social-emotional and learning.
- Continued advocacy by the UN and partners helped raised the profile and relevance of ECD and resulted in increased allocation of government funding to this sector i.e. USD 865,385 despite declining allocations to other social services in 2017/2018 fiscal year, representing 18% of the overall budget allocation of the Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare compared to 9% allocated in 2016/17 financial year.

## Functional literacy and child development

- UN contributed to i) an integration of care for child development into functional literacy classes and ii) development of a stand-alone module on early care, learning, and stimulation for national care group approach for the health sector. This has enhanced positive parenting skills for teen mothers, pregnant and lactating mothers.
- An incorporation of ECD into the teacher training curriculum enabled teachers to teach children within a developmental phase effectively.
- UN supported a development of a stand-alone module on early care, learning, and stimulation for national care group approach for the health sector. This will enhance the provision of positive parenting skills to pregnant and breastfeeding mothers

## School meals and ECD services

- UN supported 93 ECD centres with onsite meals to improve enrolment, attendance, and understanding of the importance of nutrition amongst parents reaching 18,567

children.

- Provision of farm inputs and improved farming methods to ECD centres for establishment of gardens for improved nutrition status of children and sustainability of the programme.
- Other key activities included:
  - i. training of 85 caregivers, strengthening of the ECD networks in Chikwawa and Nsanje
  - ii. provision of farm inputs and improved farming methods to ECD centres for establishment of gardens for improved nutrition status of children and sustainability of the programme.
- School Meals Program (SMP) was scaled up and reached a total of 783 schools in 13 districts.
- Emergency School Meals Programme (ESMP) reached 62,000 learners in four most food insecure districts. An ESMP case study demonstrates that schools maintained a 20 percent improvement in daily attendance for both boys and girls in February 2017.
- Emergency School Meals Programme (ESMP) was implemented in 71 primary schools reaching 62,000 learners in four most food insecure districts from November 2016 to April 2017 as part of a historic humanitarian response where 40% of the population were identified as requiring lean season support.
- 94,000 learners including girls and orphan boys in eight districts were supported with Take Home Rations (THR) as an incentive to keep them in school during the lean period.
- An ESMP case study demonstrates that schools maintained a 20 percent improvement in daily attendance for both boys and girls in February 2017, while the rate in schools which did not implement ESMP dropped by 12 percent since August 2016.

## Improving policy environment for ECD services

- On the sector policy advocacy, following support to the drafting process, the UN supported the government to launch and disseminate the National School Health and Nutrition Policy which was endorsed and approved by four key ministries.
- As the focus is the development of the MNSSP-II which is in its own right a major focus for the UN family and should not be seen as an offshoot of support to the School Meals programme. This bullet should only refer to strong linkages with the MNSSP-II. The MNSSP-II should be part of the foreword and policy environment.

- The UN supported the Malawi Government to review the School Health and Nutrition Strategic Plan and Guidelines, which has since been finalized and awaits validation, printing and dissemination.
- The UN also supported the review of the nutrition education curriculum to complement the school feeding program in the national schools. This will lead to inclusion of Nutrition Education as a standalone subject at teacher training level in Malawi. Teaching nutrition to children is key to developing healthy eating habits. School based nutrition is an important component of comprehensive school health. Therefore, the upcoming generation of teachers in Malawi will be comprehensively prepared to transfer comprehensive nutrition education to the thousands of Malawian young learners.
- Additionally, nutrition education curriculum materials have been developed to support the teaching of the newly introduced subject, the materials include a teaching syllabus, teacher and learner handbooks, sourcebooks on Nutrition Education and School Gardens, Big Books for specific topics within nutrition education that required special emphasis, and posters. The curriculum materials will be used for not only Teacher Training but also for Primary Schools. The primary schools in Dzaleka came continued to benefit from the school meals provided through Mary's Meals.

## Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

- As a result of the UN direct support, a total of 30,250 people (15,428 women and 14,822 men) gained access to improved water source through 126 boreholes that were either constructed or rehabilitated in 2017.
- The government was supported with the provision of WASH services in institutions, which consisted of rural primary schools, health centers, and community based child care centers (CBCCs).
- 182,000 people in institutions (schools, CBCCs and health facilities) accessed appropriate hand washing facilities.
- A total of 69,600 children (35,496 girls and 34,104 boys) were supported to access safe water, gender appropriate and improved latrines and urinal facilities in 116 schools.
- UN has improved the WASH situation at the borders where asylum seekers mainly enter, providing facilities to cater to increased arrivals.
- In Dzaleka camp, additional water points, communal latrines and other facilities were constructed, and hygiene

campaigns were conducted. Notably, with the expanding population in Dzaleka camp, the needs concerning WASH requires increased attention and support and is currently below acceptable standards, with a ratio of over 1 latrine/700 persons.

- UN in Malawi played a critical role in ensuring that there is continued coordination in the implementation of the Open Defecation Free (ODF) strategy at national level despite major staff turnover in the Ministry of Health which affected the operations of the National Task Force on ODF and hand washing strategy in 28 districts.
- The National ODF task Force certified that over 71 out of 263 Traditional Areas as being ODF; 28 of these attained ODF status with financial support from the UN.
- CLTS triggering was achieved in 2467 villages; resulting in 1200 villages being declared Open Defecation Free. This resulted in 1,200 villages becoming ODF, representing a 49% conversion rate, which is above the national average of 40%.
- Over 300,000 people (159,000 women and 141,000 men) now live in safe and clean environments free of faecal matter, thereby contributing to reducing the risk of diarrhea and other water-borne diseases.
- 2,467 communities and 616,750 people (326,878 women and 289,872 men) acquired knowledge on hand washing with soap in the 15 targeted districts.
- The hygiene promotion interventions also resulted in the installation of 74,943 hand washing facilities in communities.
- UNICEF Malawi also supported 182,000 people in institutions (schools, CBCCs and health facilities) to access appropriate hand washing facilities.

The UN supported the National ODF Task force in revising the National ODF and Hand washing strategy which is scheduled for completion in 2018. Three critical studies were commissioned in 2017. They include:

- i. Evaluation of the Community Led Total Sanitation and Hygiene Programme in Malawi;
- ii. Assessing Hand Washing Practices among Breastfeeding Mothers in ODF Villages: A case study of Dowa and Kasungu Districts;
- iii. Research study into Open Defecation Free (ODF) sustainability”.

Findings from these studies will greatly inform the next UNDAF and UN agency specific country programmes in the WASH sector.

## Fighting malnutrition and stunting

- Malawi has made significant strides in reducing stunting in children under five years from 47% in 2010 to 37% in 2015-16 (Malawi Demographic and Health Survey, 2015-16).
- Vitamin A deficiency in pre-school children has decreased from 22% in 2009 to 4% in 2015 (MDHS, 2015-16).
- As per the National Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) database, there has been equitable access to CMAM services with at least 44,778 (93.6%) and the 139,378 lives improved of children, pregnant and breastfeeding women with Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) treatment out of the 156,913 discharged from January to December 2017.
- Seventy seven percent (47,447: 23,248 boys and 24,199 girls) SAM children treated out of the target and 153,162 (47,556 pregnant and breastfeeding women, 51,745 girls and 53,861 boys) MAM clients treated in the CMAM program with improved performance though lower admissions than same period in 2016.
- The cessation of active case finding in May 2017 coupled with improvement in food security across the country as per Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) survey results conducted in May 2017 showed improved nutrition situation compared with same season in 2016 contributed to reduced number of SAM and MAM children admitted.
- The UN through the 21 Nutrition Field Monitors (NFM) positioned at district level conducted capacity building of district health workers on CMAM service delivery through mentoring and supportive supervision in all the 618 OTPs and 104 NRUs across the country.
- Attainment of a minimum acceptable diet among children 6-23 months remains a challenge in Malawi as evidenced by only 8 per cent meeting the requirements for frequency and diversity of meals.
- To address this challenge, the UN supported adoption of an innovative approach to improve the quality of complementary feeding of children 6-23 months through point of use home fortification with Micronutrient Powders (MNPs) which has been rolled-out in 2 districts (Nkhatabay, Ntcheu) which resulted in 47,713 children 6-23 months (23,914 boys, 23,799 girls) registering an improvement in quality of their diets using MNPs in these districts.
- Registered improved food security indicators in 6 districts enrolled onto the UN resilience programmes (Phalombe, Chikwawa, Nsanje, Zomba, Blantyre and Karonga) as





revealed by a majority of the households (90%) had acceptable food consumption score, 12% minimum acceptable diet (MAD) of the children aged 6 to 24 months higher than 8% national average. Ntchisi registered 36.4% MAD in 6 to 24 months children.

- Additionally, micronutrient interventions for children 6-59 months were successfully delivered through the integrated Measles-Rubella campaign conducted in June 2017 (first semester) with a total of 2,943,501 children (1,398,188 boys and 1,545,313 girls) reached with vitamin A supplementation boosting their immunity and 2,783,044 children 12-59 months (1,330,970 boys and 1,452,074 girls) were reached with de-worming representing a 100% coverage.
- The preliminary results of second round conducted in December 2017 reached a total of 2,848,156 children (1,327,882 boys and 1,520,274 girls) reached with vitamin A supplementation and 2,306,609 children (1,064,640 boys and 1,241,969 girls) were reached with de-worming representing a 99% and 100% coverage, respectively.
- For refugees and asylum seekers in Malawi, the overall nutrition situation based on GAM in 2016 is within the 'acceptable' level of < 5%. The acute malnutrition level found in Dzaleka camp is low and similar to those levels found in previous nutrition surveys conducted in 2012 and 2014, indicating that the acute malnutrition situation at the camp is being contained.
- The prevalence of stunting (chronic malnutrition) in children in all survey areas was found to be high and well above the 'acceptable level' of <20%. The stunting results are in the 'serious' category (30-39%) according to WHO thresholds in three of the survey areas (Dzaleka camp, Dzaleka host community and Luwani host community) and in the 'critical' category (>40%) in Luwani camp. In Dzaleka camp, chronic malnutrition remains high and the level is similar to survey results obtained in 2014. The prevalence of stunting increased from 22.4% in 2012 to 36.1% in 2014 but slightly dropped to 34.8% in 2016, with these survey statistics have a two-year validity period.

#### - Nutritional information system

- The National Nutrition Information Systems (NNIS) in Malawi was strengthened as evidenced by timely availability of critical nutrition situation data and accurate reporting of CMAM program data.
- Additionally, monitoring of the nutrition emergency was strengthened through partnership with Lilongwe University

of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR) and the Department of Nutrition, HIV and AIDS (DNHA).

- Through this partnership, the UN provided technical and financial support towards the implementation of the Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) survey in all 7 livelihood zones in the country which was conducted in May 2017.
- The results of the SMART survey showed an improvement in the nutrition situation compared to the same period in the 2015/2016 season.
- Timely availability of data on the nutrition situation, ensured that evidence-based decisions were made and nutrition emergency response plans were realigned throughout the 2017 emergency period which secured 100% funding of the response plan.

#### Maternal, neonatal and child survival services

- Malawi is making steady progress in utilization of high impact maternal, neonatal and child survival services such as ANC, skilled birth attendance, immunization and treatment of common childhood illnesses including diarrhea, pneumonia and malaria as seen by a continued downward trend.
- During the year proportion of children immunized with DTP3 increased to 89% from 84% and BCG vaccination coverage increased to 89% from 86%.
- A total of 473,871 and 465,448 children received the recommended doses of DPT and measles containing vaccines respectively.
- Malawi succeeded to achieve high coverage of measles-rubella (MR) vaccination (100%) through Integrated MR Supplementary Immunization Activity (SIA) in 2017.
- During the year, 30% of the Basic Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (BEMONC) facilities remained fully functional, 35 MDSR committees remained functional and addressed most of the recommendations from maternal death reviews which helped in reducing maternal deaths.
- 169 fistula patients were repaired successfully and focus districts were supported with Maternal and Newborn Health (MNH) equipment and IP materials and supplies including uniforms. Stockouts were reduced to a minimum at 5% at all levels. 520,325 young persons (318,225 F: 218,100M) were reached with ASRH information and services and 24 health facilities providing YFHS were accredited.
- The skills lab at Kamuzu College of Nursing (KCN) was strengthened,



- The Association of Malawian Midwives (AMAMI) strategy reviewed and validated,
- Midwifery standards, Scope of practice and Code of Ethics have been disseminated to practicing midwives and tutors.
- Major achievement is that the country has maintained a status of no-stock out for vaccines.
- Cold chain management was ensured through the introduction of 480 solar refrigerators and freezers and through improved skills of health workers through training on vaccine and cold chain management.
- Low performing districts were also enabled to reach more children through Periodic Immunizations campaigns.
- The country was also technically and financially supported for the official introduction of measles second dose into the routine EPI delivery system.

### Social mobilisation for early health care seeking behaviour

- UN approach to social mobilization focused on promoting early health care seeking behaviour, facilitating the engagement of communities, especially pregnant mothers, to report for ANC in the first trimester to have effective maternal care.
- To improve early care seeking behavior, health promotion messages were delivered both at household and community levels. This created awareness on immunization benefits.
- The awareness campaign included printing and distribution of print materials, radio messages and TV spots as well as public announcements using fliers.
- This has resulted high coverage of measles-rubella vaccination and vitamin A supplementation during Integrated Measles Rubella campaign in 2017.
- Malawi made major strides in cold chain management, provision of care for sick children at the community and health facility level, to continue reducing deaths amongst children and new-born focused in low performing districts.

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# Challenges and Lessons Learnt

- There are challenges in accessing services, especially for women and children in rural areas who are constrained by limited mobility to service points and negative social norms including those related to gender, violence and bribery. The provision of transport, such as bicycles and vehicles provided to service providers has addressed some of these mobility issues. In order to overcome the entrenched challenges relating to harmful gender norms that perpetuate violence, there is a need to invest in evidence-based programming – working with both males and females – to shift attitudes and practices such as the work being undertaken through the UN Joint Programme on Girls' Education. To address bribery etc. there is a need for further work to increase transparency and accountability.
- Most PWA have withdrawn from economic activities due to insecurity including stigma and discrimination in their communities. PWA rarely participate in economic activities such as Malawi Social Action Fund and public works programs. Few are participating in Village Savings and Loans Associations and Small Medium Enterprises because they lack start-up capital. Women are disproportionately affected as men run away from their households when a child with albinism is born in the families. There is a need to engage PWA in income generating activities and build their skills to manage enterprises while at the same time ensuring secure spaces for them.
- Limited government capacity paired with lack of ownership; economic situation (limited government funding) and donor restrictions on using government systems continued to restrict government participation. This had an impact on the implementation of some projects; based on some successes, increasing government budget advocacy and supporting resource mobilisation will be a focus.
- To strengthen emergency response and coordination in education cluster, hiring a dedicated Cluster Coordinator should be considered. It was challenging to rapidly respond to the drought and refugee emergency over the 2016/17 lean season limiting preparedness and response in the education cluster.
- Setting up/development of web-based Management Information Systems by the government was slow /delayed, more specifically, the establishment of the Real-Time Monitoring (RTM) took some time and is still delayed which impacted on progress assessment as well as planning.
- Insufficient infrastructure in camp schools is a major challenge and causes overcrowding, low enrolment, as well as affecting quality of education. The fact that camp schools are not integrated in the nationwide education system makes it difficult to access support from other donors as they fund Government directly.
- Inadequate capacity of health workers to provide counselling and support to mothers, lack of the enabling environment to support breastfeeding in facilities and poor access to quality complementary food are some of the challenges facing infant and children feeding. To address these bottlenecks of sub-optimal breastfeeding, the UN successfully advocated with Ministry of Health and adopted establishment of the breastfeeding corners in maternity hospitals for mothers/caregivers access support and counselling to improve skills for optimal breastfeeding, which will be rolled out in 2018 in all maternity facilities in 28 districts across the country.
- Inadequate supervision from government and delays in rolling out of CMAM guidelines affected the quality of service delivery. Enhanced coordination and partnerships has resulted in high coverage of service delivery for

maternal, infant and young child feeding practices; UN provided technical and financial support and advocated the development of nutrition cluster emergency plans informed by the periodic SMART surveys which secured 100% funding of the response plan; the UN also established eight partnerships with Civil Society which resulted in improved coordination of the emergency response at sub-district level and ensured that monthly mass screening was conducted which resulted in early identification of children with SAM before they developed medical complications.

- Challenge on immunization coverage remains with continuity of immunization as measles vaccination (82%) and Td2+ vaccination among women of child bearing age is very low (21%). The less than desired progress on immunization was mostly due to inadequate fuel and transport to conduct outreach sessions. Traditionally outreach sessions occurred once a month, are now down to 4 times a year. Furthermore, challenges around the accuracy, timeliness and completion of administrative data has contributed toward poor reporting of antigen coverage.
- Despite concerted efforts, the WASH situation in Dzaleka camp remains dire, with the least adherence to acceptable standards due to congestion, absence of WASH corridors, poor drainage systems and poor sanitation and hygiene. Currently, the water source per population ratio is at 1:800, and 1:482 for communal latrines. This situation of congestion is complicated by a growing population, limited space and the current encampment policy. Decongestion of the camp and more awareness raising are a priority.
- The joint UNICEF and FAO AFIKEPO program which is nutrition sensitive and specific supported by European Union to enhance synergy is a great opportunity for an effective delivery of integrated nutrition services across the sectors.



# 2018 Emerging Priorities

- Malawi has extremely low birth registration coverage, estimated at 6% (MES 2014). The UN successfully advocated for the inclusion of children under 16 in the mass national ID registration campaign and the linking of the national ID and birth registration databases. Civic education to increase children's registration as part of the mass ID campaign was rolled out and the campaign registered 4.5 million children below 16. The linking of the birth registration and ID systems is now required to increase birth registration coverage and enable Malawi to better plan, implement and monitor policies and programmes affecting children. The registration of refugees and asylum seekers in Malawi under subsequent phases of the national ID registration campaign has also emerged as an important issue.
- High rates of teenage pregnancies and child marriages persist in Malawi. A number of significant steps have been taken and supported by the UN to address these interconnected issues, including the Constitutional amendment on the age of marriage, the launch of the nationwide end child marriage campaign, the development of a strategic plan on child marriage, the commencement of research into the behavioural economics relating to harmful practices including child marriage, as well as important developments in strengthening the response to sexual abuse and exploitation in humanitarian contexts. Continued momentum, investment, and coordination will be necessary to effectively address these issues.
- Collaboration and harmonization among UN agencies are essential to maximize impacts of the intervention. The UN Joint Programme on Girls' Education (JPGE) demonstrated joint programming and programme convergence among UN agencies. Additional partnerships were also reached

among WFP, UNICEF and World Vision to bridge work on literacy promotion. WFP and UNICEF also worked to develop concepts and strategies to improve nutritional outcomes for adolescent girls which also effect on education outcomes and succeeded to include in proposal for next JPGE.

- Three initiatives to improve quality with a focus on learning outcomes and school learning environments will include the following: i) teacher curriculum reviews; ii) implementation of functional literacy curriculum, and iii) continued piloting of the performance-based financing of the school improvement programme.
- Continued strengthening and development of Management Information Systems (MIS) especially completion of the ongoing capacity building for EMIS and establishment of the YouthMIS. Advocacy for development of key policy on teacher development and management as well as a legal framework for ECD.
- Despite very good progress in terms of households gaining access to sanitation facilities by constructing their own latrines and achieving an open defecation (ODF) status, sustaining a ODF rate continues to be a challenge. At the technical level, the UN is working with Mzuzu University smart center to develop better latrine designs and marketing strategy. District partners continued to face financial, logistical and capacity challenges to supervise, monitor and manage the Programme. Another challenge has been the low financial absorption capacity of district councils which ultimately has implications on achievement of results. The UN continues to engage NGO and the private sector that have demonstrated efficiency and effectiveness in service delivery to provide back up support and complement district efforts. The UN will also take

advantage of the Development Partner Group to advocate for the review of outdated policies, strategies and guidelines in the WASH sector while considering the SDGs.

- Evidence generation on barriers to consumption of minimum acceptable diets by children 6 - 24 months its key emerging priority, as the indicator remains very low, and complementary feeding contributes to stunting.
- Supplementary Immunization Activity (SIA) integrated with nutrition interventions into the campaign enhancing the benefits from the financial and human resource investments. UNICEF is working with its partners namely the MOH, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, Luke International Norway, Malaria Alert Centre at College of Medicine, Malawi Health Equity Network (MHEN), Malawi Red Cross (MRC), Parent and Child Health initiative, Paediatrics and Child Health Association of Malawi (PACHI), Population Services International (PSI), Save the Children and Youth Net Counselling (YONECO) to support the government both technically and financially in expanding and sustaining the reach as well as quality of essential health services for community and home-based care, as well as in health facilities, including in emergency response.
- The MGDS III's alignment with the SDGs and its emphasis on 'no one left behind' enables a positive environment for greater inclusion of refugees and asylum seekers into national systems and ultimately as viable contributors to Malawi's development.





HIV/AIDS



Cluster 3

Malawi is deeply committed to meet the ambitious 90-90-90 targets by 2020. The country is particularly invested in reinvigorating the prevention efforts, by developing a National HIV Prevention Strategy which is due for finalisation and dissemination in the first quarter of 2018. The Government, through the Minister of Health, has taken the lead and ensured the active participation and commitment of several development partners and national stakeholders.

Through sustained advocacy efforts and technical assistance from the Joint United Nations Team on AIDS (Joint Team) during the 2016–2017 biennium, several key achievements are noteworthy, particularly the passing of the HIV Prevention and Management Bill by the Malawi Parliament. This milestone paves the way for a conducive policy and legal environment, which will no doubt facilitate significant gains in the country quest to end AIDS as a public health threat by 2030.

#### HIV testing and treatment

At the end of 2017, the estimated number of people living with HIV was 1 000 000, according to the latest Spectrum HIV estimates. Moreover, Malawi reported having as many as 738 929 people on antiretroviral therapy (ART), representing a 71% ART coverage rate and at the same time, meeting the target for 2016–2017 according to Malawi's National Strategic Plan. Malawi is, therefore, on course to meeting the 2020 second 90 target. However, this trajectory masks some underlying gaps in treatment coverage with respect to children aged 0–14. The current coverage for children on antiretroviral treatment in Malawi is 63% (the estimated number of children aged 0-14 living with HIV is 71 000, and only 44 656 of them are on treatment).

To further enhance the ART coverage and outcomes, the country started a major revision of the treatment guidelines, as follows:

1. Tenofovir DF/Lamivudine/Dolutegravir for new and existing patients on first line treatment. Full national roll-out to come into effect from January 2019;
2. Isoniazid Preventive Therapy was adopted as prophylaxis against tuberculosis for people living with HIV;
3. Differentiated services delivery models including Teens Clubs, nurse led community ART, Community ART Groups.

Regarding the first 90 target, the country has embarked on an ambitious HIV testing drive to reach the majority of the nearly 300 000 Malawians that need to be placed on ART. The Joint Team intends to support the government into incorporating the following aspects in the national guidelines: i) Introduction of self-testing; and ii) Increased focus on targeted community HIV testing. Middle-aged men and women will specifically be targeted, as this is where the largest gap in ART is. Also, Malawi will reach and maintain high Provider Initiated Testing and Counselling (PITC) in all routine Service Delivery Points (SDPs) such as antenatal care, maternity, paediatric, wards, tuberculosis, sexually transmitted infections, etc. The mantra 'no patient who comes to our facility and consents for HIV testing should walk away without diagnosis and ART' is to be at the centre of service provision at all levels in the country. In addition, a more pointed focus on regular re-testing for key populations (female sex workers, men who have sex with men) will be prioritised.

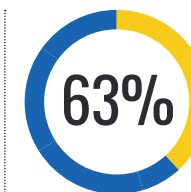
#### Elimination of mother-to-child transmission (EMTCT)

Under the leadership of UNICEF, the Joint Team supported various interventions to prevent vertical transmission that have contributed to good performance of indicators at national level. HIV ascertainment rate at antenatal care remains high, with up to 97% of pregnant women receiving their HIV test results in the second quarter of 2017. ART initiation for HIV positive pregnant women has also been increasing: in the second quarter of 2017, 91% of the estimated number of HIV infected pregnant women were on ART, an increase from the 89% ART initiations in the last trimester of 2016. In addition, 77% of adults and 77% of children were retained on ART 12 months after initiation. In UNICEF-supported districts, 6-months retention on treatment averaged 83%, an increase from 71% in Quarter 4 of 2016.

However, early infant diagnosis (EID) of HIV remains a challenge, with low uptake and high turnaround times from sample collection to receipt of results by a parent/guardian. In 2017 UNICEF continued to contribute towards innovative approaches to EID through points of care (POC) testing. The number of health facilities providing POC increased from 7 to 16 by the end of 2017, resulting in an increase in HIV diagnosis and treatment initiation among children.

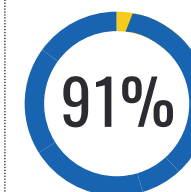


The estimated number of people living with HIV was **1 000 000**



(the estimated number of children aged **0-14** living with HIV is **71 000**, and only **44 656** of them are on treatment)

**77%** of adults and **77%** of children were retained on ART 12 months after initiation



of the estimated number of HIV infected pregnant women were on ART



The number of health facilities providing POC increased from **7** to **16** by the end of 2017, resulting in an increase in HIV diagnosis and treatment initiation among children

**738 929** people on antiretroviral therapy (ART), representing a **71%** ART coverage rate and at the same time, meeting the target for **2016–2017** according to Malawi's National Strategic Plan



**50** new peer educators, provided safe spaces for adolescent men who have sex with men, distributed condoms and lubricants, and made referrals for HIV testing



**60** young men received testing, of whom one tested positive



Condom distribution rose from **5000** in 2016 to **45 000** in 2017 (**70%** more condoms delivered to tertiary institutions)

## HIV prevention among young people and key populations

In 2017, Malawi initiated the development of a National HIV Prevention Strategy, in line with the Global Coalition 100-day roadmap. The Government provided high level leadership to this effort, through the Minister of Health who remained actively engaged in the proceedings and keen to steer the country towards ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2030. The Minister of Health convened a high-level meeting with development partners on HIV prevention to obtain their buy-in on the prevention roadmap and solicit their support in revising the national strategy.

The National Assembly of Malawi finally passed the HIV Bill, in the last quarter of 2017. UNDP and the UNAIDS Secretariat were steadfastly committed to this positive outcome through constant and unstinting advocacy and regular provision of technical guidance on amendments and enactment of the new law.

The focus on key populations continues to be high on the agenda of Malawi's HIV response. For instance, in 2017 alone, as many as 25 sex worker community-led organizations were created resulting in an increased uptake of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)/HIV services for female sex workers. In addition, UNICEF partnered with the Centre for Development of People (CEDEP) to implement "NdineDolo" ("I am clever, intelligent, and sharp"), a campaign encouraging young men to practice safe sex and know their HIV status. CEDEP's peer support groups, including 50 new peer educators, provided safe spaces for adolescent men who have sex with men, distributed condoms and lubricants, and made referrals for HIV testing. As a result, 60 young men received testing, of whom one tested positive.

Noting a gap in service provision of SRHR/HIV services in tertiary education institutions and based on the gaps from situational assessment conducted in 2016 in these institutions, UNFPA supported capacity building of the service providers to provide Youth Friendly Health Services. This resulted in increased uptake of services. Condom distribution rose from 5000 in 2016 to 45 000 in 2017 (70% more condoms delivered to tertiary institutions). Intensive condom demand creation activities contributed significantly to this rise in condom distribution. In addition, two major CONDOM! Campaigns for students were conducted in 2017 with the Joint Team's technical support.



## Gender inequality and gender-based violence (GBV)

Gender is high on the national HIV response agenda. As such, work with the traditional leaders, female chiefs and chief's spouses has been key to the Joint Team initiatives (especially UN Women in collaboration with the UNAIDS Secretariat and UNFPA). The finalization of the chiefs' bylaw framework resulted in several female chiefs now standing up to speak against GBV, which is one of the underlying factors to HIV transmission. In addition, female chiefs led the development of these bylaw framework in their communities. These bylaws have since been launched by the First Lady of Malawi, who is also providing education support to girls who have been rescued from early marriage through her Beautify Malawi Trust.

### Secretariat functions

The work of the Joint Team continued to be pivotal to the national HIV response in Malawi in 2016 and 2017, particularly in the context of the development of the new HIV Prevention Strategy, the revision of national guidelines on HIV testing, and the development partners' commitments going forward. The Joint Team and other development partners have continued to play a key role in supporting the implementation of the national programmes funded by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund). Following significant advocacy and technical guidance, the Principal and Sub – Recipients of the Global Fund funding showed signs of improvement in the absorption of the grant, currently at over 75 percent. Malawi successfully signed the Global Fund grant of amount US\$ 499 779 073 for the period 2018-2021. Furthermore, the country's implementation of the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) resources amounting to US\$ 216.7 million is well underway. Under the leadership of the UNAIDS Secretariat, the Joint Team is actively engaged in the planning processes as well as monitoring, reporting and reviewing of progress made on the implementation of those grants.

### Challenges

- The legal environment is still challenging in terms of ensuring an effective design and implementation of key populations programmes (female sex workers, men who have sex with men, prisoners). Although sex work is not criminalized, benefiting from the proceeds is

prohibited under the penal code. Additionally, the rogue and vagabond provisions of the penal code have been declared unconstitutional in 2016; however sex workers continue to face arbitrary arrests and are heavily stigmatized as they conduct their work. Similarly, the sodomy provisions in the penal code continue to limit the LGBTI persons' access to HIV services.

- Displaced persons, refugees and asylum seekers do not have access to work and freedom of movement. This has negative effect in camps, such as, alcohol abuse, drug use and teenage pregnancies becoming common occurrences.
- Religious-based tertiary institutions in Malawi have been resistant to accept some of the key interventions supported by the Joint Team, such as condom distributions, in their institutions. This is despite the overwhelming evidence of unprotected sexual activities taking place in the institutions.
- According to population-based surveys conducted in Malawi (2015-2016), comprehensive knowledge on HIV remains low (less than 50% for both young females and males) and shrouded in myths and misconceptions despite many years of awareness raising activities.
- Continuous professional development of teachers is expensive. This is critical as there are still parents and other stakeholders that perceive comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) as encouraging young people to engage in early sex. This issue must be addressed to reach maximum impact.
- The limited financial resources hampered the work for some of the United Nations agencies.

#### Key future actions

- Strengthen the youth corners in camp settings with development of youth friendly clinics, and support different sport, music and art clubs.
- Promote engagement of women's who are practicing survival / commercial sex in to livelihood programmes

and build capacity of national and district structures to accommodate sex work interventions.

- Support the establishment of women support groups.
- Create more livelihood opportunities for young people.
- Advocate on the right of sexual orientation with government.
- Introduce initiatives on CSE with primary school management and teachers and intensify radio messages on CSE and SRHR for young people.
- Build the capacity of tertiary institutions to provide comprehensive SRHR/HIV services in the institutions. Efforts will also be directed at working with religious-based institutions to avail SRHR/HIV services towards students.
- Strengthen planning, implementation and monitoring of Joint activities for better results in Malawi.
- Support the finalisation of the Chiefs' one bylaw framework and its implementation of in districts.
- Support capacity building activities on GBV for spouses of chiefs.
- Contribute towards innovative approaches to EID through POC testing.
- Strengthen facility - community linkages for adolescents, including adolescents living with HIV, key populations and emergency/post-emergency populations (e.g. teen clubs, peer supporters/educators).
- Advocate for equitable access to gender-sensitive HIV services for children, adolescents and pregnant/breastfeeding women including differentiated service delivery models, and other relevant aspects for an effective and efficient HIV response for children and adolescents in Malawi.
- Roll-out self-testing and voluntary assisted partner notification strategy to accelerate the achievement of the first 90
- Tenofovir DF/Lamivudine/Dolutegravir for new and existing patients on first line treatment. Full national roll-out to come into effect from January 2019
- fully implement the undetectable equals un-transmittable (U=U) campaign









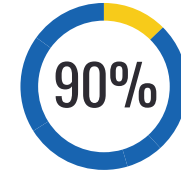
Governance and Human Rights



# Cluster 4



A civil registry created with **12,623,093** citizens (**9,168,689** over **16 years** and **3,467,808** below **16 years**) registered.



of population issued with biometric ID cards



Public-sector program-based budgeting and performance evaluation adopted

**6** electoral reform bills recommended to Government/Cabinet



Agreement to use Biometric ID for voter registration



Political Parties Bill passed and enacted. Referendum bill passed and enacted



Action plan for sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR) adopted



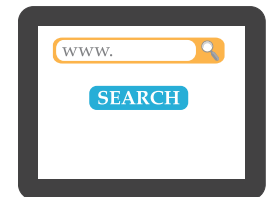
Constitutional minimum legal age of marriage rose from **16** to **18 years**



National Peace Policy launched



Strengthening Social Cohesion and Access to Justice



Online aid management platform fully operational

Web-based information management system for Gender Equality and Women Empowerment; child protection and gender-based violence operational

### National IDs and elections

- In 2017 the UN managed USD\$50 million project, which created a civil registry that registered 12,623,093 citizens (9,168,689 over 16 years and 3,467,808 below 16 years) and were issued with biometric ID cards.
- With this support, Malawi is on steady path to achieve SDG 16 target 9.
- The UN also supported the review of electoral laws, among them the recommendation for Malawi Electoral Commission (MEC) to migrate from an outdated optical mark recognition system to biometric voter registration.
- Consequently, MEC entered into an agreement with National Registration Bureau to use biometric ID for 2019 elections.

### Political Parties Bill

- The UN provided advisory and technical support to the revision of the Political Parties (PPs) Bill that will strengthen PPs transparency and accountability ahead of 2019 elections and beyond.
- Further, a National Peace Policy, produced with the UN support, will enable the institutionalization of a National Peace Architecture.
- Support was given to access to justice through support to the Office of Ombudsman that developed partnerships with community-based organizations to facilitate referrals of complaints on maladministration.
- This will enhance systemic investigations and strengthen accountability and responsiveness in public service delivery. Public sector transparency and accountability also improved with program-based budgeting, public sector performance evaluation and the online aid management platform fully adopted by Government.

### Accountability for sexual, reproductive, maternal child and neonatal health and human rights

- Following the finalisation of the country assessment on the cycle of accountability for sexual, reproductive, maternal child and neonatal health and human rights and related public inquiry report, an action plan arising from the multi stakeholder dialogue on sexual and reproductive health rights was adopted, followed by open air-sensitization meetings and tracking of implementation of relevant recommendations.
- Through IPAS, the UN supported high level meetings around the Termination of Pregnancy Bill with MPs, religious leaders, traditional leaders and Government officials and

examined the magnitude of unsafe abortion and ensuring increased support for the Bill.

- The Bill expands on the exceptions to the prohibition on abortion in Malawi.

### Human Rights Defenders Forum

- In the context of the narrowing of civil society space in Malawi, the UN supported civil society and the Law Society to hold a roundtable discussion on civil society space and the national launch of the Human Rights Defenders Forum (HRDF) in Lilongwe on 20th December 2017.
- The Forum creates an engagement platform for human rights defenders in Malawi to exchange information, confront ongoing threats against defenders and respond with recommendations and action points to strengthen the protection of defenders and widen civil society space in Malawi.
- The UN also led development partner comments on draft NGO Policy, which if adopted have the potential shrink civil society space and may be in violation of the right to freedom of association.

### Constitutional amendment of marriage age

- The UN provided support and technical assistance to the Government 2016-17 regarding proposed constitutional amendments to the age of marriage to bring Malawi's constitution in line with its international obligations.
- On 14 February 2017 parliament passed Bill No 36 of 2016 amending section 22 of the Constitution, raising the minimum legal age of marriage to 18 years of age.
- Malawi has one of the highest rates of child marriage in the world, with 1 in 2 girls married by the age of 18.

### Development Effectiveness and Accountability Programme

- Through the Development Effectiveness and Accountability Programme, Public institutions are able to plan, reform and develop interventions; coordinate sector-level interventions and development aid; and develop program-based budgets.
- The new national development plan, the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III that integrates Sustainable Development Goals and targets was formulated and adopted by stakeholders.
- As such, the district plans to be developed in 2018 will be based on an SDG-based national development plan. The ISDG modelling helped prioritise efforts for SDG achievement.
- The National Planning Commission which was established



in late 2017 is expected to provide oversight of the MGDS III implementation.

- Sector Working Groups continued to provide a coordination forum for sectoral interventions thus reducing duplications in funding and development partner interventions.
- Further, programme-based budgets have been used to focus Government and donor funding.
- The Aid Management Platform was maintained and efforts to include NGO reporting have been initiated, thus increasing transparency and accountability.

### Gender policies in public universities

- With the technical support from the UN, Councils of 4 public universities approved and launched their Gender policies.
- These policies will ensure the participation of women in senior management, ensure selection of students and staff is compliant with the gender equality act and that gender is mainstreamed in the curriculum of all courses.

- The capacity of the University of Malawi was enhanced as evidenced by the development of an implementation plan of its policies and all its constituent colleges are developing their specific gender policies implementation plans.
- Two (2) constituent colleges (Kamuzu College of Nursing and College of Medicine) have already finalized and approved their gender equality implementation plans.

### Information management system on gender and protection services

- The UN supported the Ministry of Gender to develop a web-based information management system with three operational modules namely women empowerment, child protection and gender based violence modules.
- This will assist the country in evidence-informed decision making through availability of disaggregated data in the system.

# Cluster Four Challenges:

- The UN support towards fostering human rights was limited due to Malawi Government's delays to approve the National Human Rights Action Plan developed in a participatory manner and envisaged to be a blue print for the national interventions on human rights.
- In terms of building capacities for national entities to sustain peace and prevent conflicts, progress of achieving desirable results was limited due to lack of human capacities in the National Peace Architecture Secretariat to roll out to additional 6 district peace committees as envisaged at the beginning of the year.
- Additionally, UN's support towards review and development of a 2018-2022 strategic plan for the Malawi Electoral Commission was delayed due to a prolonged procurement process to identify the right expertise to carry out the assignment. The strategic plan has a bearing on how MEC reforms its functions, to ensure institutional efficiency and effectiveness, ahead of the 2019 elections.



# 2017 Emerging Priorities for Cluster Four:

- In 2018, projects contributing towards gender and human rights will ensure corrective actions and budget allocations to gender activities are undertaken. This will be achieved through operationalization of institutional gender strategies such as the gender strategy for Center for Multiparty Democracy to enhance women political participation in Political Parties and rollout the implementation of the MEC gender strategy. Furthermore, projects dealing with Human Rights issues will ensure no one is left behind by mainstreaming gender issues in initiatives including those dealing with People with Albinism. The Malawi Human Rights Commission will be allocated funds to support the implementation of the Gender Equality Act. Additionally, all activities related to women's political empowerment will be implemented through a comprehensive electoral assistance project to ensure it is part and parcel of the electoral process to avoid fragmentation and to enhance visibility of women during elections, either as candidate or electoral administrators.
- Support to the Ministry of Gender to undertake a gender audit of all ministries in collaboration with department of human resources to generate baseline data on the status of gender equality in public service to ensure evidence-informed decision making in relation to gender using sex disaggregated data will also be prioritised. The UN support to the Ministry of Gender will also look at the development of the Joint Sector Strategic Plan, which will be used to advance gender equality in the country for the next 5 years following the development of the new country's strategy.

# Results of the One UN Fund



## Humanitarian Funding Window

### Vulnerability to food insecurity

- In 2017, Malawi experienced improved food production due to favourable rainfall conditions.
- Productivity of maize, which is the staple crop, doubled over 2016 levels. According to the Ministry of Agriculture Production Estimates Survey (APES) figures, the country produced a total of 3,464,139 metric tons of maize against a national maize requirement of 3.2 metric tonnes, giving a surplus of about 260,000 metric tonnes) leading to substantial decline in food inflation which in turn reduced headline inflation to 7.7% in November 2017 compared with 19.9% in November 2016.
- Although this boosted consumer purchasing power, it negatively impacted the household income of subsistence farmers with a reduction in food retail prices.

### Food insecurity response

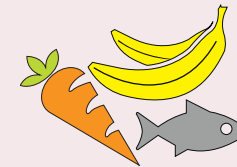
- According to the June 2017 Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) Annual Assessment report, a total of 1,043,000 people in 20 districts were identified to be missing food entitlements and requiring humanitarian food assistance.
- Most of those food insecure people (887,655 people) are from the Southern Region spread over all the districts in the region.
- Because of the food insecure households, the Government of Malawi in collaboration with its partners developed the Food Insecurity Response Plan (FIRP), which identified food security, nutrition, agriculture, health, education and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) as the key priorities for immediate assistance.

- About 159,800 children aged 6-23 months, pregnant and breastfeeding women and people leaving with HIV and AIDS were particularly identified as at risk of food insecurity and malnutrition and nutritional treatment.

### Maize Market Assessment Study

- In-order to inform the response options for the 2017/18 Consumption Season, the MVAC had also commissioned the Market Assessment Study to understand market dynamics (number and capacity of traders in a market, availability of stocks – food items, response capacity of markets, access to source and destination markets and price projections).
- The study recommended that the Lean Season Response be a “Cash Based Response” as it had noted that:
  - a. Market prices were still low in many areas with traders having some maize in stock;
  - b. Agricultural Development and Marketing Corporation (ADMARC) and the National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) were active on the market such that in case of emergency they could be able to offload maize on the market;
  - c. That physical access to most markets was good. But more importantly most of the affected Traditional Authorities had caseloads of less than 50,000 affected people.
- Through the humanitarian fund, the UN used a total of US \$ 2,477,509.09 to support the 2016/17 government led humanitarian response.
- Specifically, the UN supported in the following areas;
  - a) Response Coordination where a Food Security and Agriculture Cluster Coordinator was recruited;
  - b) supported the re-location of Mozambican refugee relocation from Kapise village to Luwani Camp;
  - c) supported the government with procurement of pesticides for the Fall Army Worm (FAW) control;
  - d) supported the Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee during the MVAC/IPC assessment and analysis;

- e) supported in meeting twinning costs for maize bought by Government of Malawi which was being distributed to beneficiaries during the 2016/17 humanitarian response and
- f) supported the Comprehensive Evaluation of the 2016/17 Humanitarian Response. The response also continued to link humanitarian beneficiaries to longer term development and resilience building activities such as household and community asset creation activities and promoting village savings and loans activities (VSL) and promotion of livestock production through restocking programme.



## Right to Food Window

The UN, through the right to food window of the One Fund, The UNCT contributed to build national capacity and increased awareness around land rights in Malawi, including the Voluntary Guidelines on the Governance of Land Tenure and ten landmark Land Bills, adopted by parliament in 2016, with the support of the right to food funding window. The UNCT, also submitted comments to Government from a right to food perspective on the latest draft of the Food and Nutrition Bill and supported the revision of the Food and Nutrition Bill, participating in the Government's drafting team, thereby integrating a legal framework on the right to food and supported briefings on the Bill for a wide range of stakeholders.



## Human Rights Window

- The UN with support from the Human Rights Window of the One UN Fund, strengthened programmes on the rights of persons with albinism and the LGBT community aimed at building national capacity.
- Protection of human rights of persons with albinism was strengthened, through the strengthening of community based protection systems, together with increased awareness raising on the rights of persons with albinism, Access to justice was strengthened through support for prosecutions.
- In addition, the Government was supported by the UN to review its albinism national response plan, and investigations and prosecutions have been supported.
- On the rights of LGBT persons, the UN also supported training for CSOs and LGBT Community Based Organizations, a real-time monitoring and reporting system for human rights violations against the LGBT community.
- The UN successfully supported briefings and meetings of MPs on the HIV (Prevention and Management) Bill from a human rights perspective thereby contributing to the adoption by parliament in November of the long-deliberated with amendments rejecting initial provisions which would criminalise the transmission of HIV, violate the right to informed consent to treatment and testing and require compulsory testing.

# Results of Operating as One

## 2017 Priority Areas for Business Operations Strategy:

### ICT

The ICT will continue to explore on finding a better Common Internet Service Provider in all the agencies. This is envisaged that a total of US 122,166 \$ will be saved by agencies having a common ISP. Harmonisation of ICT maintenance and common ICT Officers' training is also another area that is going to be piloted in 2018.

### Human Resources

Increasing usage of the common consultancy database (redefining the themes on the database to suit other agencies), Establishment of UN national consultancy rates for all UN agencies in Malawi, building further capacity of UN female national staff to access senior leadership positions are areas that the Human Resources Working group would focus on in 2017.

### Procurement

Establishing and monitoring common LTAs in security services, air travel, fuel, banking services and Joint procurement of tyres and spare parts for vehicles are some of the main initiatives the Joint Procurement group would implement.

### Pooled Funding

Since the UN is using JAWP for the Malawi Human Rights Commission and the Ministry of Gender, the pooled funding modality to the commission will continue. This is envisaged to reduce transaction costs to allow greater focus on implementation rather than administration and facilitating genuine joint implementation for UN.



### Common Mailing and Transport system

The Transport and Administration TWG will continue to use common mailing system for agencies located in Evelyn Court that houses 4 Agencies (FAO, UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNWomen and UNDSS). Exploration of the car-pooling will also be explored in 2018.



# Results of Communicating as One

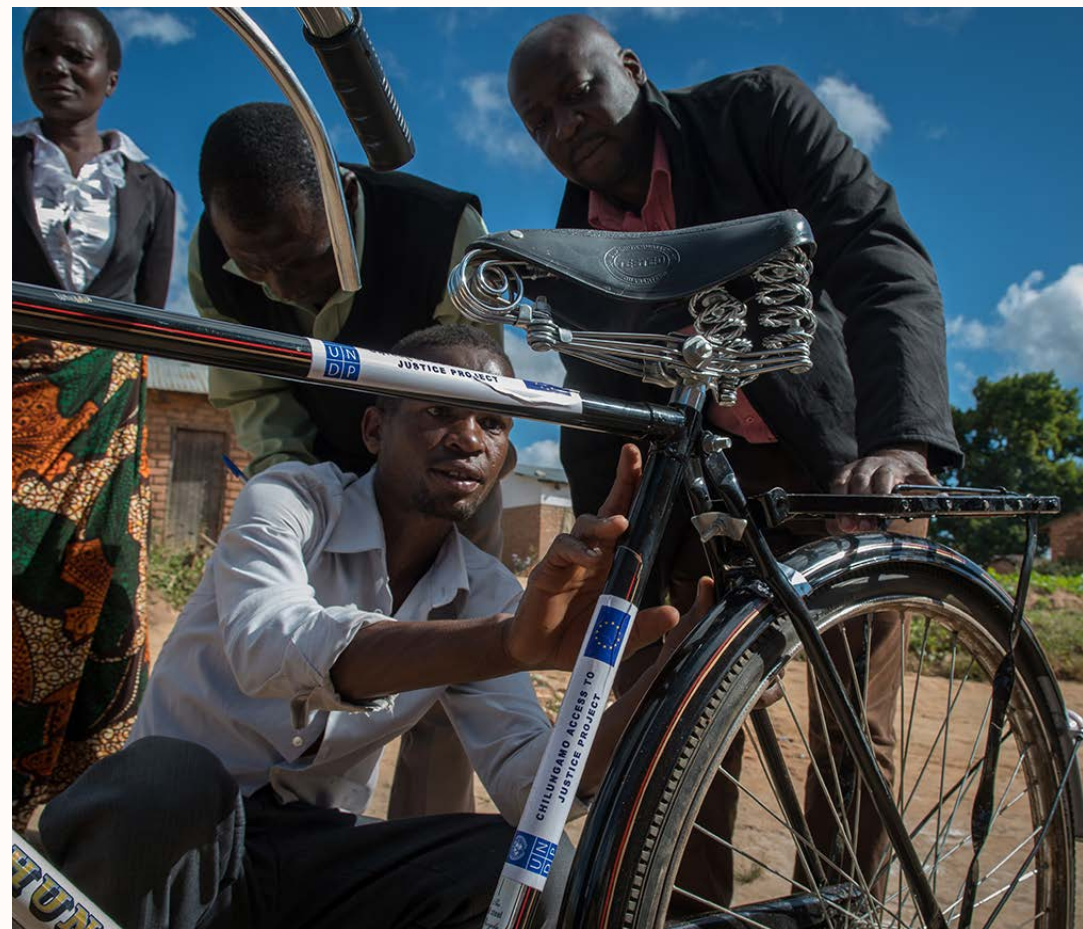
## 2017 Priority Areas for Business Operations Strategy:

In 2017, focus was on raising awareness through high level briefings, engaging with the media, op-ed pieces in the national press, using the UN Day celebrations to publicize and get buy-in of partners to support different priorities, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), keeping girls in school, building resilience, HIV prevention and investing in youth. UNCG helped to coordinate child marriage advocacy as well as commemoration of key UN days like World Food Day and Disaster Reduction Day where messaging was coherent. After the 2017 cabinet re-shuffle, the UNCT held Joint briefing meetings with new Cabinet Ministers (Ministers of Information, Agriculture, Gender, Internal Security and Advocacy and Community Services). These briefing meetings were held as another platform where the UN engaged with government on priority areas the UN was working in their respective sectors but also lobbying for political commitment.

The UN jointly advocated for keeping girls in school through the Joint Programme on Girls Education being led by UNICEF, WFP and UNFPA as well as key commemoration days including the International Day of the Girl Child in October 2017. Media coverage on issues affecting girls' education and UN support towards keeping girls in school was mobilised through two joint media visits to UN-supported programme sites in Dedza and Salima districts.

The UNCG engaged youth on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through music shows conducted at two tertiary institutions, reaching over 1,600 youth. One other notable initiative was the first SDGs Fair in October where over 50 organisations showcased their work contributing towards SDGs achievement in Malawi. The Fair brought SDGs closer to people in a peri-urban community of Mtsiliza on the outskirts of Lilongwe City.

On social media use, 127 and 29 updates were posted/shared on UN Malawi Twitter and Facebook platforms. Twitter and Facebook reached 6,588 and 5,628 users, respectively. 66 success stories and 9 publications were published on UN Malawi website. The publications recorded 11,133 downloads. The 2018 UN Calendar was designed, printed and distributed (2000 copies). 4 Results Updates for general circulation were produced and circulated in January, April, June and November, while



3 Results Updates for non-resident donors were produced and circulated in January, March and August.

The UNCG conducted the first SDG Fair to commemorate the UN Day on 24th October and advocate for the SDGs. The Fair brought together over 50 organisations which showcased their work contributing to SDGs achievement in Malawi. The Fair brought SDGs closer to people in peri-urban community of Mtsiliza in Lilongwe, raising awareness about SDGs at community level. About 1,000 people, mainly youth, attended the Fair. Three community radio stations in Mzimba (Mzimba radio), Mangochi (Dzimwe radio) and Mchinji (Mudziwanthu radio) were engaged to promote SDGs advocacy/ awareness in their communities. The stations, with combined listenership of about 4.9 million rural Malawians, produced 12 panel discussions aired 32 times. The stations also produced 51 SDG jingles aired about 700 times. This improved SDGs awareness in targeted communities as monitoring showed many people heard about the SDGs on the radio stations, and could mention what the SDGs are about and list some of them.

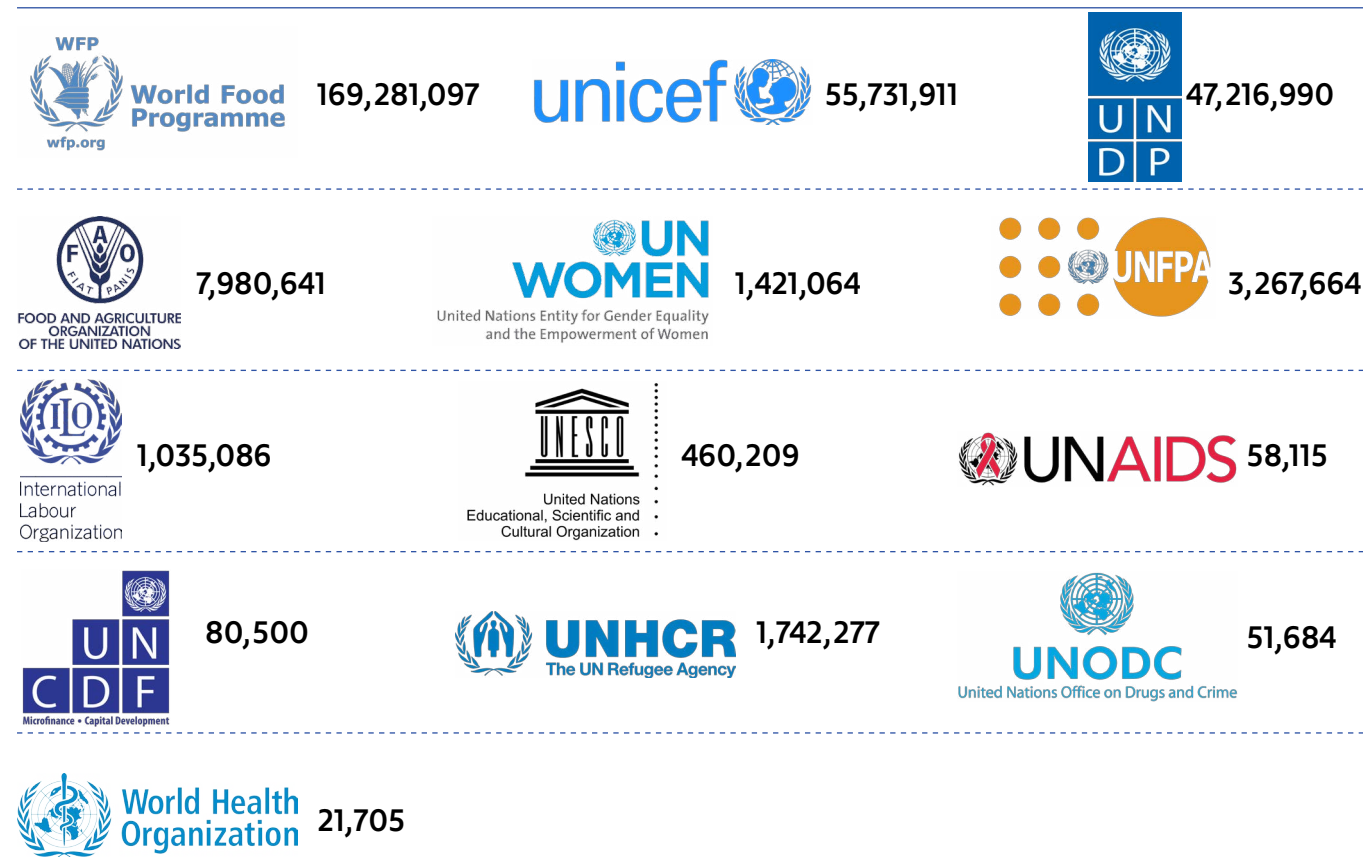
WFP, UNFPA and UNICEF coordinated advocacy/visibility activities for the UN Joint Programme on Girls Education (JPGE), including production of a special JPGE Booklet, containing human interest success stories from the programme and its overall achievements. WFP and FAO also coordinated messaging on resilience building during commemoration of the World Food Day, Disaster Reduction Day and launch of the 2017/18 Food Insecurity Response. The UNCG also explored coordination of public information around use of the national IDs, with each agency encouraged to integrate messaging on the multiple uses of national IDs to ensure their maximisation.

Utilization of the UN Website by all UN agencies and the use of community radio stations to advance SDGs advocacy in Malawi coupled with capacity building efforts to ensure improved knowledge and understanding of SDGs on specific SDG themes among journalists are some of the opportunities that the UNCG can use to communicate.



# Financial Overview

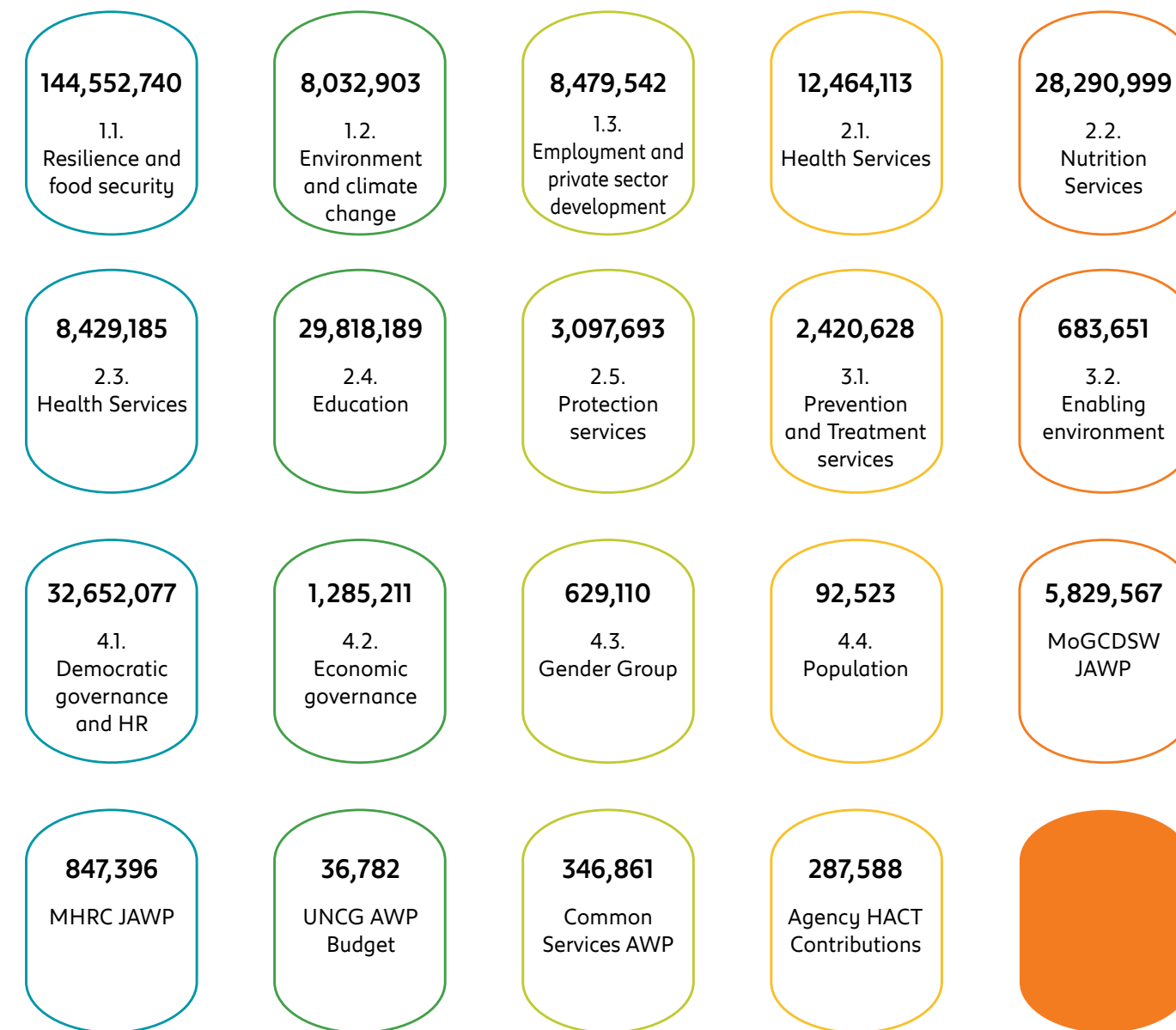
## Total Agency Expenditure (US\$)



### Joint Resource Mobilization

In 2017, the UN managed to mobilise a total of **US \$ 3, 951, 007.13** from its traditional donors, Department for International Development (DfID) and the Flanders International Cooperation Agency (FICA) into the One UN Fund to support the humanitarian response and human rights (LGBTI and albinism). Of the total, DFID contributed **US \$ 3,198,574.66** (US \$ 2,545,480.26 towards Humanitarian Funding Window and **US \$ 653,094.40** towards the Human Rights Funding Window) whilst Flanders contributed a total of **US \$ 752,432.47** (of which **US \$ 189,893.97** went into the Humanitarian Funding Window and **US \$ 562,538.50** supported the Right to Food Funding window).

## 2017 Outcome Expenditure (US\$)



**Table 1: 2017 Total Agency Expenditure by Outcome**

Agency	Outcome	2017 Expenditure (US \$)
FAO	1.1: Food & Nutrition Security	5,085,704
	1.2: Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change	1,393,303
	1.3: Employment and Private Sector Development	1,068,707
	2.4: Basic Education	131,091
	Common Services Budget	23,026
	UNCG TWG AWP	3,500
<b>Total Expenditure for FAO (from RMS as of 31/12/2017)</b>		<b>7,705,331</b>
ILO	1.1: Food & Nutrition Security	250,000
	1.3: Employment and Private Sector Development	697,100
	2.4: Basic Education	82,250
	3.2: Enabling Environment for HIV/AIDS	-
	Common Services Budget	5,736
<b>Total Expenditure for ILO (from RMS as of 31/12/2017)</b>		<b>1,035,086</b>
UN Women	1.1: Food & Nutrition Security	425,685
	1.3: Employment and Private Sector Development	305,000
	2.5: Protection Services	138,000
	3.1: Prevention and Treatment Services	130,000
	3.2: Enabling Environment for HIV/AIDS	60,000
	4.2: Economic Governance/Capacity Development	-
	4.3: Gender Equality	233,110
	UNCG TWG AWP	3,500
	HACT	11,056
	Gender TWG AWP	-
	Malawi Human Rights Commission JAWP	21,000
	Common Services Budget	10,713
	Ministry of Gender JAWP	83,000
<b>Total Expenditure for UNWomen (from RMS as of 31/12/2017)</b>		<b>1,421,064</b>
UNAIDS	3.1: Prevention and Treatment Services	-
	3.2: Enabling Environment for HIV/AIDS	4,000
	UNCG TWG AWP	1,500
	HACT Contribution	6,556
	Malawi Human Rights Commission JAWP	40,000
	Common Services Budget	6,059
Ministry of Gender JAWP	-	
<b>Total Expenditure for UNAIDS (from RMS as of 31/12/2017)</b>		<b>58,115</b>

UNCDF	1.3: Employment and Private Sector Development	80,500
<b>Total Expenditure for UNCDF (from RMS as of 31/12/2017)</b>		<b>80,500</b>
UNDP	1.2: Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change	6,437,670
	1.3: Employment and Private Sector Development	5,872,042
	3.2: Enabling Environment for HIV/AIDS	16,000
	4.1: Democratic Governance/Human Rights	32,292,807
	4.2: Economic Governance/Capacity Development	822,369
	4.3: Gender Equality	416,000
	UNCG TWG AWP	3,500
	HACT Contribution	92,281
	Ministry of Gender JAWP	596,117
	Common Services Budget	56,574
Malawi Human Rights Commission JAWP	611,630	
<b>Total Expenditure for UNDP (from RMS as of 31/12/2017)</b>		<b>47,216,990</b>
UNESCO	1.3: Employment and Private Sector Development	456,193
	Common Services Budget	4,016
<b>Total Expenditure for UNESCO (from RMS as of 31/12/2017)</b>		<b>460,209</b>
UNFPA	1.1: Food & Nutrition Security	40,000
	2.1: Health Services	1,812,932
	2.4: Basic Education	900,000
	2.5: Protection Services	154,000
	3.1: Prevention and Treatment Services	-
	3.2: Enabling Environment for HIV/AIDS	-
	4.3: Gender Equality	83,000
	4.4: Population	92,523
	UNCG TWG AWP	3,500
	HACT Contribution	40,380
	Ministry Gender JAWP	86,000
	Common Services Budget	28,329
	Malawi Human Rights Commission JAWP	27,000
<b>Total Expenditure for UNFPA (from RMS as of 31/12/2017)</b>		<b>3,267,664</b>

UNHCR	2.1: Health Services	331,242
	2.2: Nutrition Services	20,000
	2.3: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	460,082
	2.4: Basic Education	639,389
	2.5: Protection Services	206,370
	3.1: Prevention and Treatment Services	63,436
	Common Service Budget	18,258
	<b>Total Expenditure for UNHCR (from RMS as of 31/12/2017)</b>	<b>1,738,777</b>
UNICEF	1.1: Food & Nutrition Security	2,884,675
	2.1: Health Services	10,319,939
	2.2: Nutrition Services	14,862,512
	2.3: Water, Sanitation & hygiene	7,969,103
	2.4: Basic Education	12,429,546
	2.5: Protection Services	2,599,323
	3.1: Prevention and Treatment Services	2,206,807
	3.2: Enabling Environment for HIV/AIDS	573,565
	4.1: Democratic Governance/Human Rights	278,193
	4.2: Economic Governance/Capacity Development	462,842
	UNCG TWG AWP	5,500
	HACT Contribution	181,374
	Ministry of Gender JAWP	770,730
	Common Services Budget	73,220
Malawi Human Rights Commission JAWP	114,582	
<b>Total Expenditure for UNICEF (from RMS as of 31/12/2017)</b>	<b>55,731,911</b>	
UNODC	3.1: Prevention and Treatment Services	20,385
	3.2: Enabling Environment for HIV/AIDS	30,086
	Common Services Budget	1,213
<b>Total Expenditure for UNODC (from RMS as of 31/12/2017)</b>	<b>51,684</b>	
WFP	1.1: Food & Nutrition Security	135,866,675
	1.2: Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change	201,930
	2.2: Nutrition Services	13,133,176
	2.4: Basic Education	15,635,913
	3.1: Prevention and Treatment Services	-
	3.2: Enabling Environment for HIV/AIDS	-
	UNCG TWG AWP	3,500
	HACT Contribution	18,058
	Common Services Budget	128,126
Ministry of Gender JAWP	4,293,720	
<b>Total Expenditure for WFP (from RMS as of 31/12/2017)</b>	<b>169,281,097</b>	

WHO	2.1: Health Services	-
	2.2: Nutrition Services	-
	3.1: Prevention and Treatment Services	-
	3.2: Enabling Environment for HIV/AIDS	-
	UNCG TWG AWP	3,500
	Common Services Budget	18,205
<b>Total Expenditure for WHO (from RMS as of 31/12/2017)</b>	<b>21,705</b>	

## Table 2: 2017 Outcome Budgets Vs Expenditures

Outcome	2017 Budget (US \$)	2017 Expenditure (US \$)	% Expenditure
<b>Cluster One: Economic Growth &amp; Food Security</b>			
1.1: Resilience and Food Security	166,994,912	144,552,740	87
1.2: Environment and Climate Change	10,422,736	8,032,903	77
1.3: Employment and Private Sector Development	9,467,570	8,479,542	90
<b>Total Cluster One</b>	<b>186,885,218</b>	<b>161,065,184</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>Cluster Two: Social and Protection Services</b>			
2.1: Health Services	6,400,600	12,464,113	195
2.2: Nutrition Services	43,268,933	28,290,999	65
2.3: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	5,204,000	8,429,185	162
2.4: Education	34,133,080	29,818,189	87
2.5: Protection Services	4,291,000	3,097,693	72
<b>Total Cluster Two</b>	<b>93,297,613</b>	<b>82,100,178</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>Cluster Three: HIV/AIDS</b>			
3.1: Prevention and Treatment Services	2,155,679	2,420,628	112
3.2: Enabling Environment	859,000	683,651	80
<b>Total Cluster Three</b>	<b>3,014,679</b>	<b>3,104,279</b>	<b>103</b>
<b>Cluster Four: Governance and Human Rights</b>			
4.1: Democratic Governance and Human Rights	42,232,595	32,652,077	77
4.2: Economic Governance/Capacity Development Group	868,822	1,285,211	148
4.3: Gender Group	873,515	629,110	72
4.4: Population	172,523	92,523	54
<b>Total Cluster Four</b>	<b>44,147,455</b>	<b>34,658,921</b>	<b>79</b>
Programme Groups			
Ministry of Gender Joint Annual Workplan Plan	9,077,000	5,829,567	64
Malawi Human Rights Commission Joint Annual Workplan Plan	917,822	847,396	92
UNDAF Gender Technical Working Group AWP	-	520,730	-
UN Common Services Budget	416,315	346,861	83
UNCG AWP Budget	41,500	36,782	89
HACT TWG	337,825	287,588	85
<b>Total Programme TWGs</b>	<b>10,790,462</b>	<b>7,868,924</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>Total 2016 UN Expenditure</b>	<b>338,135,427</b>	<b>288,797,486</b>	<b>85</b>



1. NO POVERTY



2. NO HUNGER



3. GOOD HEALTH



4. QUALITY EDUCATION



5. GENDER EQUALITY



6. CLEAN WATER & SANITATION



7. RENEWABLE ENERGY



8. GOOD JOBS & ECONOMIC GROWTH



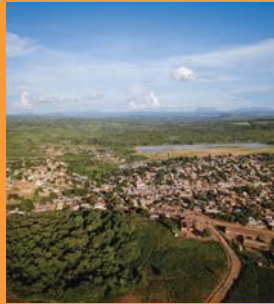
9. INNOVATION & INFRASTRUCTURE



10. REDUCED INEQUALITIES



11. SUSTAINABLE CITIES & COMMUNITIES



12. RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION



13. CLIMATE ACTION



14. LIFE BELOW WATER



15. LIFE ON LAND



16. PEACE AND JUSTICE



17. PARTNERSHIP FOR THE GOALS



UNITED NATIONS  
MALAWI

DELIVERING RESULTS TOGETHER FOR MALAWI