



UNITED NATIONS  
MALAWI



COVID-19  
RESPONSE



# 2020 UN COUNTRY ANNUAL RESULTS REPORT

March 2021







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## Foreword by Resident Coordinator

The United Nations welcomed the year 2020, as the beginning of the “Decade of Action” on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The purpose is to deepen momentum for accelerating development, leaving poverty behind, taking action to stop the devastating effects of the climate crisis and supporting countries and communities living in conflict to transition to a peaceful world in line with the aspiration of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In 2020, the UN Country Team (UNCT) worked collaboratively with all stakeholders to journey with Malawi through elections and the fight against COVID-19. Malawi transitioned peacefully to a new Government overcoming a year of protests and political impasse since May 2019. The Economist declared Malawi Country of the Year due to her achievements. The COVID-19 pandemic hit Malawi in March 2020, seriously undermining the country's prospects for development and exacerbating the already strained social and economic situation.

Malawi presented its first Voluntary National Review report for the implementation of the SDGs in June 2020. The report highlights progress after five years of SDGs implementation. Malawi has made significant progress on 29 of the 169 targets (17%), moderate progress with performance gaps on 59 of the targets (35%), and shows insufficient progress on 81 of the targets (48%). The report raised the need to overcome present challenges to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs in the decade of action.

The annual report presents UN Malawi's results under adverse circumstances, showing tangible progress on how lives were not just saved but bolstered; hunger was not just fought but diminished; jobs were not just safeguarded but more were created; the marginalised were not just counted but empowered, and Malawi's democracy was not just strengthened but transitioned towards palpable maturity.

By July 2020, the UNCT had repurposed USD 50 million to strengthen institutions at the national

and local level to prevent and address the socio-economic impact and treat those infected by COVID-19. The UNCT mobilized additional resources to establish an oxygen plant with the capacity to generate one million litres of oxygen per day; provide cash transfers under the social protection schemes reaching 2.6 million Malawians in the rural areas and for the first time in the cities, and regularly reach over 14 million people with preventive messages across Malawi.

Sadly, one of the visible effects of the pandemic in Malawi was a spike in child pregnancies, unveiling the extent of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), which resulted in 40,000 reported child pregnancies and 13,000 child marriages. The UN used the Spotlight Initiative to expand and work with the national institutions, NGOs and other partners in nationally-led efforts to eliminate SGBV and child abuse. Over 40,000 cases of child rights violation were reported for action through UN-supported channels while 50 centres providing critical support to survivors of gender-based violence were supported. The UN is moving closer to our goal of ensuring that no woman or girl suffers any form of violence and is committed to the gender equality agenda that looks into women's education, participation and economic empowerment as one of the most powerful accelerators of the SDG agenda.

UN Malawi is fully committed to the mandate of the General Assembly; to reposition the development system (A/RES/72/279) to a better-defined collective identity as a trusted, reliable, cohesive, accountable and effective partner in the 2030 Agenda in 2020, and is working towards:

- 1) Greater impact; placing the 'leave no one behind' agenda at the centre of our interventions by systematically enhancing SDG data, focusing on work at the district level (the last mile) in a coordinated way, coupled with a dynamic context analysis and the systematic application of the rights-based approach.
- 2) Greater cohesion by leveraging on the capacities of all agencies, funds

and programmes to address complex development issues: girls' education, strengthening health systems, resilience building at the community level, eliminating violence against women and girls, social protection, integrating financing for SDGs, maternal wards connected to the COVID-19 centres and blended capital for agribusiness. Pool funding, from New York or locally-based through the Malawi SDG Acceleration Fund, ensured that over two years we increased from two joint programmes to the current eight involving most of the UNCT members.

- 3) Greater transparency guided the UN communications team to focus on SDGs, intensifying efforts during the COVID-19 period. A weekly situation report and numerous stories from the field helps in decision-making at the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT). The UN75 initiative provided a “whole of society” dialogue platform that was used for the national visioning 2063 exercise.
- 4) Visible shared results as we invest in a new way of working based on the co-leadership of Heads of Agencies and the Resident Coordinator.
- 5) Greater ownership of the Joint Annual Workplan per UNSDCF' pillars by national authorities, thanks to the results-based dialogues.

With gratitude to the Government of Malawi for their leadership and the partnership of the international community present in Malawi, I invite you to read our report of activities in 2020 that presents some of the most salient results, successes and lessons learned.

Our success is counted in meaningful improvements in the lives of the people of Malawi. We will spare no effort to achieve this.

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







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## Agencies under the Cooperation Framework

The United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Malawi comprises 21 United Nations agencies, fund, and programmes with a presence in the 28 Districts of Malawi.

### Resident UN Entities



### Non-Resident UN Entities



## Key Development Partners of the UN Development System in Malawi



The United Nations in Malawi collaborates with ten key implementing partners include District Councils, Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare (MoGCDS), Ministry of Health (MoH), Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Economic Planning, Development and Public Sector Reforms, Ministry of Local Government (MoLG), Ministry of Finance (MoF), Ministry of Education (MoE), and the Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA).

Collaboration with the National Planning Commission (NPC) includes the review of Vision 2020, formulation and launch of the Vision 2063, and development of the National Socio-Economic Recovery Plan which will be finalized in 2021. The NPC has two mandates: (1) coordinate the development of long and medium-term national development plans for Malawi, including the flagship projects that would operationalize them; and (2) oversee the implementation of those plans and coordinate the efforts of different stakeholders in achieving common objectives defined in the overall national development agenda. In 2021, the UN will further strengthen the collaboration with NPC.



The UN signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Parliament to support the delivery of its legislative, oversight and representational roles efficiently and effectively and to strengthen good governance and accountability in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

### Top 10 donors of the UNSDCF in 2020, excluding the UN agencies, include:





# Overview: Cooperation Framework Priority Areas

20% of the population living in extreme poverty

Malawi economy grew at 0.9% due to COVID-19

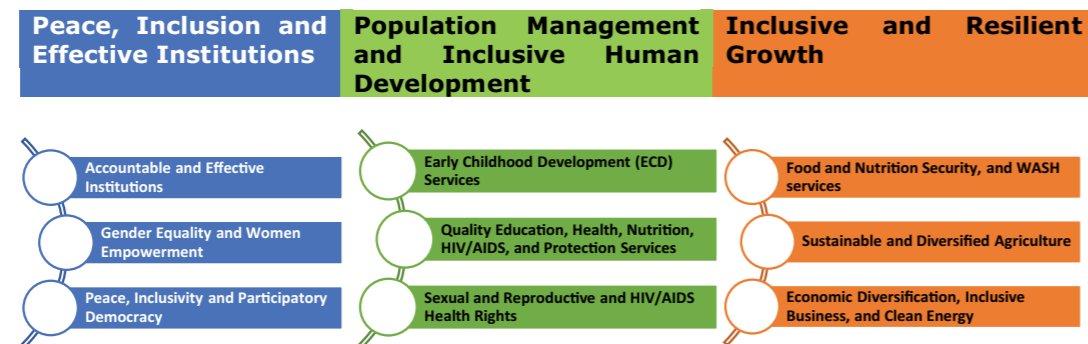
1.8 million food-insecure households during the lean season

Malawi is ranked 129 out of 180 countries on the corruption perception index

50% of the population youth aged 10 - 35 years

The United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) supports the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS III). In support of national priorities, the Cooperation Framework supports the government in three interlinked and mutually reinforcing strategic priority areas, commonly referred to as pillars: 1) Peace, Inclusion and Effective Institutions; 2) Population Management and Inclusive Human Development and 3) Inclusive Resilience Growth.

The Cooperation Framework is operationalised through annual Joint Work Plans (JWPs) signed with the government and translate to the nine outcomes listed below into concrete, measurable and time-bound outputs that provide clear, normative-operational linkages and enable the UN and partners to contribute to national priorities.



UN entities contributing resources and technical capacity in the implementation of interventions under the three pillars of the Cooperation Framework.



# Chapter



# Key developments in the country and the regional context





Political protests on the disputed May 2019 presidential election



Malawi is classified as a low human development country with a Human Development Index value of 0.483 and ranked 174 out of 189 countries (UNDP Human Development Report (HDR), 2020).

The landmark court verdict on the May 2019 elections, election campaigns amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, post-election protests and other non-election protests, the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the lean season food insecurity response defined the year 2020 for Malawi.

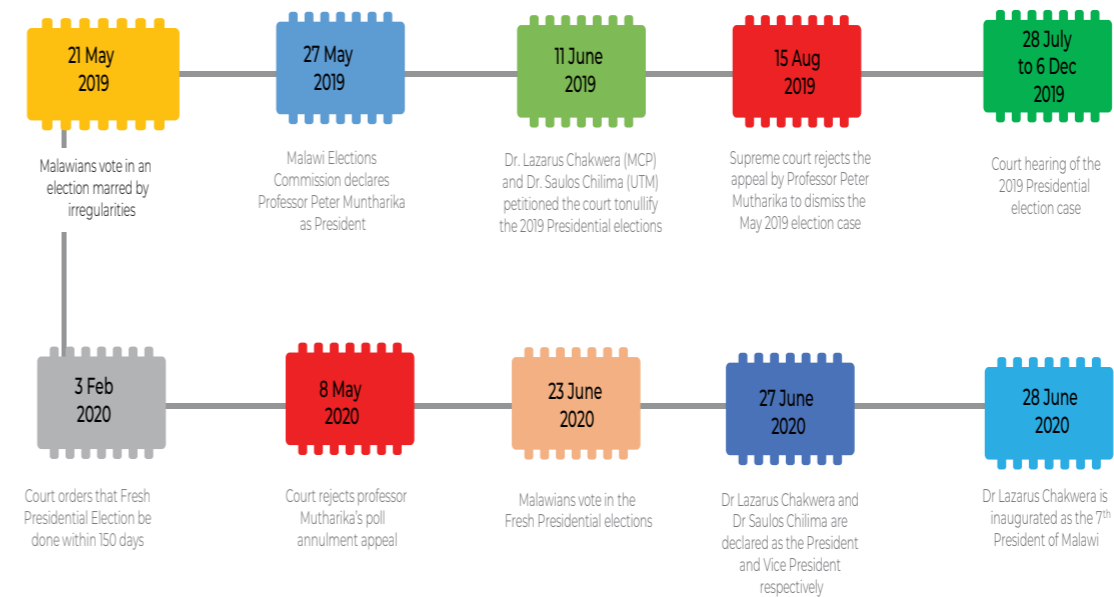


Figure 1: Timeline to the Fresh Presidential Election

Throughout 2020, Malawians protested to express their concerns, initially focused on the political situation but increasingly on socio-economic and governance grievances. The protesters encompassed urban elites, the urban poor and the rural poor, coming together to address the full range of issues in society.

Mob Justice attacks significantly increased. Drivers of such attacks included a loss of confidence in the police and the criminal justice system, partly due to corruption and unprofessional behaviour by law enforcement and judicial actors. Other mob justice attacks were on older women accused of practising witchcraft.

Malawi remained an active participant in the international human rights system during 2020. In addition to being chair of the UN Least Developed Countries Group, Malawi was elected to be a member of the Human Rights Council. The country underwent its 3rd cycle Universal Periodic Review (UPR) before the Human Rights Council in 2020.

The first case of COVID-19 was reported in Malawi

in April 2020. The transmission was mainly through returning residents from neighbouring countries, specifically South Africa. The period saw the stepping up of political campaigns ahead of the June 2020 fresh presidential elections when social distancing and other hygiene protocols were flouted.

The President declared a State of Disaster to address the pandemic, and the government gazetted the COVID-19 regulations. The pandemic wiped out Malawi's growth momentum as the annual economic growth was 0.9 per cent against a projected growth of 5.2 per cent and brought about a steep deterioration of the public finances. Alongside these developments, the Office of the Ombudsman issued a report showing evidence of serious corruption in the use of COVID-19 funds.

COVID-19 has had indiscriminate impacts on populations, livelihoods, and economic well-being. The closure of schools from April to October 2020 resulted in increased reports of child labour, teenage pregnancies, child marriages and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). Between April and November

167 protests in 2020, up from 70 in 2019

\$50.2 million reprogrammed to support COVID 19 response in 2020

Estimated economic growth of 0.9% against 5.2% target

35,000 Job losses in the hospitality industry

13,000 early marriages reported

40,000 teenage pregnancies reported



2020, official figures recorded 13,000 child marriages, 40,000 teenage pregnancies and increased reports of rape and sexual abuse of women, girls and boys.

School closure led to higher malnutrition amongst children who missed out on daily school lunches and an estimated nine-month loss of education per child. The hospitality industry closed, and tens of thousands of people lost their jobs. The ability of the Government to protect and promote human rights was significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The evolving COVID-19 context prompted adjustment to the Government-UN 2020 JWP as the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) re-programmed USD 50.2 million to support the government in the development and

implementation of the National COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan.

The Heads of State of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) participated virtually in the 40th Ordinary Summit, on 17th August 2020. The summit elected His Excellency Filipe Jacinto Nyusi, President of the Republic of Mozambique as Chairperson of SADC, and His Excellency President Dr Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera, President of the Republic of Malawi, as Incoming Chairperson of SADC. President Chakwera will take over as Chairperson of SADC at the 41st SADC summit to be hosted by the Republic of Malawi in August 2021. The Head of States expressed solidarity and commitment to supporting Mozambique in addressing the terrorism and violent attacks and condemned all acts of terrorism and armed attacks in the Cabo Delgado region.

# Chapter



## UN socio-economic response to the COVID-19 pandemic



Frontline workers step up screening of people at various points, including health facilities.

Photo: UNICEF Malawi.







*A health worker demonstrates how to properly wash hands as a measure to prevent COVID-19 infections.*

*Photo: WFP/Badre Bahaji.*

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COVID-19 disrupted the implementation of the 2020 JWP. Most activities on the issuance of the National ID card, mass child registration, early child development (ECD) services, immunization, sexual reproductive and health rights, nutrition-sensitive agriculture, inclusive business and entrepreneurship, renewable energy services were either cancelled or postponed. Most of the activities at the community level were affected.

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The UN in Malawi supported the government to fight the COVID-19 pandemic, and contributed to the five pillars of the Social Economic Monitoring Framework as follows:

#### **Health First: Protecting Health Services and Systems During the Crisis**

**Strengthened coordination:** The Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) co-chaired by DoDMA and the United Nations Resident Coordinator enhanced coordination and collaboration with all key stakeholders, including the Government, development partners and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs). Through the coordination, a USD 213 million National COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan and a USD140 million COVID-19 Flash Appeal were developed to finance the gap in the national response plan. The UN, with WHO as the technical lead, utilized the cluster system to support the government in developing and implementing various guidelines including surveillance, use of masks, standard procedures for the management of returnees, and the COVID-19 prevention guidelines for schools.

**Resource mobilisation:** The UN Resident Coordinator activated the Humanitarian Window of the Malawi SDG Acceleration Fund (national Multi-Partner Transfer Fund), to support coherent and coordinated resource mobilization efforts. The fund mobilized over USD 1 million to support the COVID-19 response in addition to USD 50.2 million reprogrammed funds. The resources were used to acquire Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) for 1,800 health workers and to reach over 14 million people with messages on COVID-19 prevention through multiple channels, including community radio stations.

**Humanitarian Flights:** The UN in Malawi facilitated the transportation of 168 passengers through Humanitarian Flights when commercial flights were interrupted by COVID-19. This sustained availability of critical expertise to support the response and national development initiatives.

**COVID-19 Supply Portal:** The UN in Malawi

supported the government to establish a Supply Portal to facilitate the acquisition and delivery of critical supplies at the request of national authorities and humanitarian partners. The portal registers requests for procurement of personal protective equipment (PPEs), diagnostics, and biomedical equipment. By December 2020, about USD 2.5 million worth of COVID 19 supplies were submitted through the supply portal.

#### **Protecting People: Social Protection and Basic Services**

The UN in Malawi supported the government to ensure access to social services and protection.

Some of the key achievements include:

- Maintained essential food and nutrition services for 1.1 million children during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Reached 45,490 people with a safe water supply and about 6,500 with sanitation and hygiene services.
- Secured sustained learning for 2.6 million children supported with distance- or home-based learning.
- Rescued 720 girls from early child marriages.

Economic Response and Recovery: Protecting Jobs, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, and Vulnerable Workers in the Informal Economy

The UN in collaboration with the Employer's Consultative Association of Malawi (ECAM) assessed the effects of COVID-19 on the livelihoods of people in Malawi. The study found that the pandemic was likely to affect the labour income with an estimated loss of MK 84.6 billion (US\$109 million) in monthly earnings. The results assisted the UN in Malawi to provide immediate financial support to 202 micro, small and medium enterprises. Besides, the supply bottlenecks for 17,605 food suppliers were addressed in 2020.

#### **Macroeconomic Response and Multilateral Collaboration**

UN in collaboration with Development Partners carried out a socio-economic impact assessment







Cylinders of hope for Malawi. Quick procurement and delivery of essential supplies and equipment boosted the national response to the pandemic

Photo: UNICEF Malawi.



Intensive screening at the Songwe border between Malawi and Tanzania enabled frontline workers to identify suspected cases of COVID-19, helping to track infections and reduce the spread of the pandemic.

Photo: UNICEF Malawi.



of the COVID-19 pandemic in Malawi. The analysis informed the development of a 2020 National COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan, and the Socio-economic Recovery Plan for Malawi expected to be finalized in 2021.

**Social Cohesion and Community Resilience**

The UN in Malawi worked with the Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Health, Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA) and other sectoral ministries to foster social dialogue and consensus on key measures related to COVID-19 response.

Over 59 traditional leaders and 2,780 Area Development Committee (ADC) members across the country were oriented through the Spotlight Initiative on COVID-19 prevention and mainstreaming of gender equality, including

prevention of gender-based violence (GBV) and HIV/AIDS in the context of COVID-19.

Besides, over 335 community-based organisations (CBOs) were capacitated to respond to the pandemic and mitigate its impact, fight against COVID-19 related domestic violence and other forms of discrimination, and prevent and remedy human rights abuses.

The UN in Malawi promoted the use of digital engagement platforms, such as U-Report to mobilise community engagement. In this reporting period, 14 opinion polls were broadcast, including polls on knowledge, attitudes and practices on COVID-19. The information, among other issues, assisted UNCT to track misinformation and rumours during the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.



A community member washes her hands before engaging with other stakeholders in the community. The UN promoted an extensive social behavioural change communication campaign to address COVID-19.

Photo: WFP/Badre Bahaji.





*A comedian engages people in a community on measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The use of multiple communication tools and approaches to reach over 14 million people with preventive COVID-19 messages across Malawi.*

*Photo: WFP/Badre Bahaji.*

## Chapter

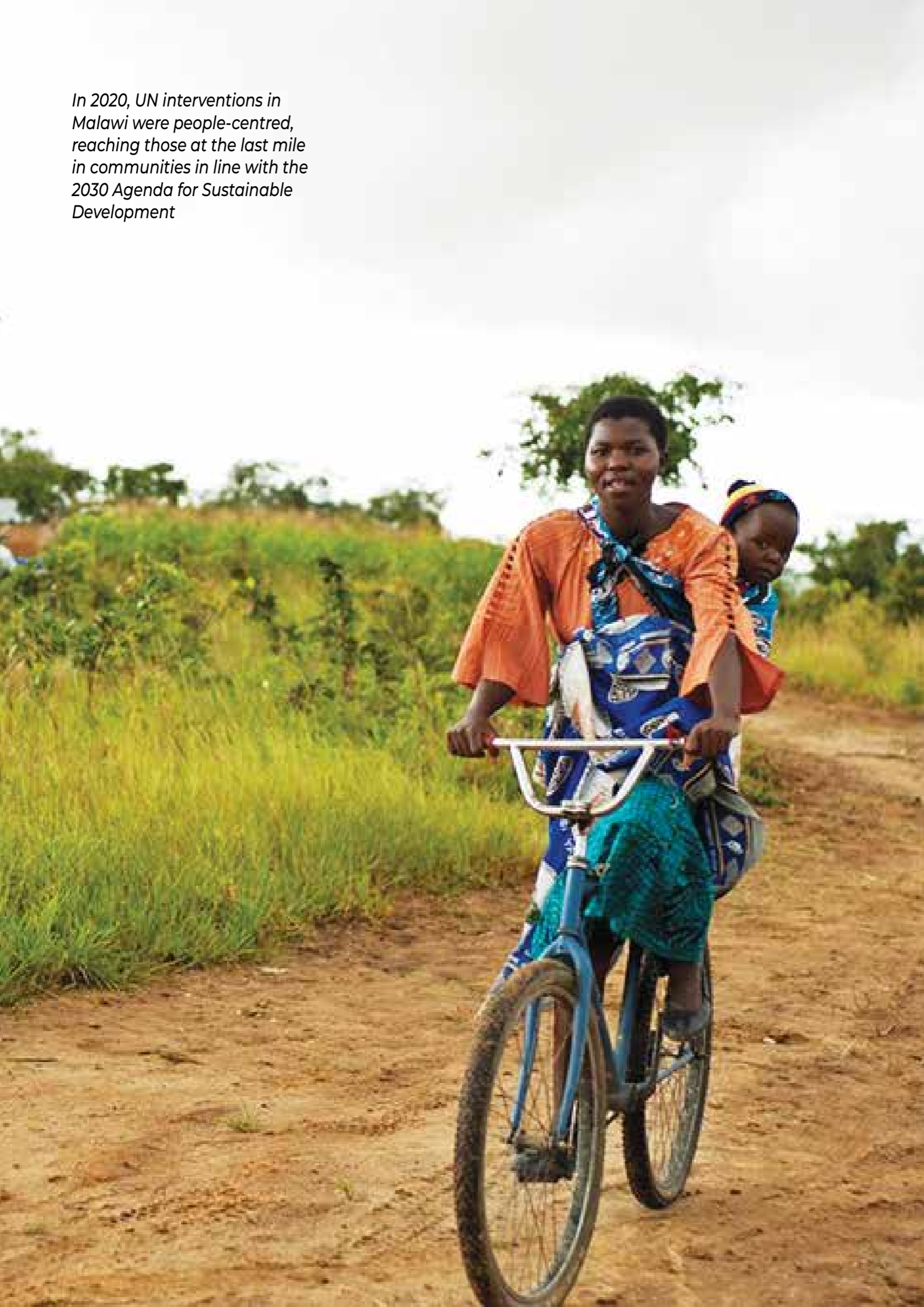


# UN development system support to national development priorities through the Cooperation Framework





In 2020, UN interventions in Malawi were people-centred, reaching those at the last mile in communities in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



During this period the Resident Coordinator (RC), with the support of the Senior Conflict Prevention Adviser and the Human Rights Adviser and working closely with the UNDP senior team, effectively engaged national stakeholders, development partners and SADC countries to explore effective avenues of promoting dialogue and providing the best possible technical advice.

### 3.1. Overview of Cooperation Framework Results

#### 3.1.1 SDG Implementation

Implementation of the UNSDCF: The 2020 JWPs were developed under the leadership of UNCT and the Programme Management Team (PMT). All the JWPs and the Result Framework have been digitized in UN INFO to track how the UN system at the country level supports the government to deliver on the SDGs.

The UNSDCF available resources have increased from US\$173 million in 2019 to US\$356 million in 2020. Overall, 52 per cent of the mobilised resources have been utilised. Implementation in 2020 was affected by the evolving COVID-19 situation, hence US\$50.2 million was reprogrammed to life-saving interventions.

Voluntary National Review: The UN provided both financial and technical support that enabled the Malawi Government to undertake the first Voluntary National Review (VNR) for the implementation of the SDGs in the country. The VNR report was presented to the UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in June 2020. The VNR report was instrumental in the mid-term review of the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III and the formulation of the country's long-term development vision, Malawi 2063.

Common Country Analysis: The UNCT initiated the updating of the Common Country Analysis (CCA) to inform the implementation of the Cooperation Framework and the policy dialogue with the authorities and various stakeholders in the country. The draft CCA was completed in December 2020 and the final report is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2021.

Policy support: Through NPC, the UNCT provided technical and financial support that promoted dialogue among Malawians on Vision 2063. The process captured the aspirations of Malawians to reinforce the pursuance of inclusive and sustainable development as expressed in the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and Africa Agenda 2063.

Besides, the UNCT assisted government to draft policy documents and legal frameworks, undertake various assessments, and develop thematic reports using data from the 2018 Malawi Housing and Population Census (See Annex 1).

#### 3.1.2. Operationalizing the SG's Prevention Vision

The UN Secretary-General's prevention agenda was at the core of the UN's work in 2020 due to an exceptionally long elections period (2019-2020). Malawi witnessed increasing incidents of civil unrest, widespread protests, and violence. A



Conflict prevention efforts through effective engagement with key stakeholders, leading to de-escalation of violent protests.





prevention strategy was adopted by the UNCT in November 2019 and integrated into the work of the 2020 UNCT work plan. This included ongoing and integrated analysis to guide the UNCT, including early warning alerts of potential triggers to facilitate early action.

During this period the Resident Coordinator (RC), with the support of the Senior Conflict Prevention Adviser and the Human Rights Adviser and working closely with the UNDP senior team, effectively engaged national stakeholders, development partners and SADC countries to explore effective avenues of promoting dialogue and providing the best possible technical advice. A high-level good offices mission led by Hanna Tetteh (Special Representative of the Secretary-General to the African Union and Head of the United Nations Office to the African Union) came to Malawi at the time of elections in June 2020.

### 3.1.3 Strategic Financing and Partnerships

The UNCT in Malawi is part of a handful of countries that succeeded in the last two calls of the Joint SDG Fund. First, on the 2019 call on Integrated Social Protection, Malawi received a USD 2 million grant for the Joint Programme “Social Protection for the SDGs in Malawi: Accelerating inclusive progress towards the SDGs” by WFP, ILO and UNICEF. Second, on the 2020 Call on SDG Financing, Malawi received support in both components: 1) USD1 million currently implemented by UNDP and UNICEF on the “Strengthening Malawi’s Financing Architecture at National and Local Level” and 2) Build Malawi, USD 8 million allowing UNDP, FAO and UNCDF to roll out a blended finance facility

for on-lending to riskier small and medium enterprises (SMEs).

Two additional multi-year Joint Programmes were approved through the Malawi SDG Acceleration Fund. One, implemented by UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP, with a USD41.5 million budget, focusing on accelerating SDGs through girls’ education. The second focuses on improving health systems in the country with a total of USD49.7 million commitment implemented by UNFPA, UNICEF and WHO.

In 2020, the Fund had an exponential growth expanding from just 2 donors in 2019 to 5 donors in 2020 with more donors expected to channel Funds through the Fund in 2021. With the expansion, the Fund grew from USD34 million in 2019 to USD140 million in 2020, representing a 312 per cent growth.

The Fund was also instrumental in supporting COVID-19 efforts in Malawi. The Fund rapidly re-programmed and allocated approximately USD1 million in four projects on key and catalytic areas of the early COVID-19 response: logistics, coordination in the districts, social protection and support to the most vulnerable populations.

### 3.1.4 Leaving No One Behind, Human Rights and Gender Equality

Human Rights/ LNOB Advocacy: In collaboration with the Spotlight Initiative and with the Resident Coordinator’s Office, there was a coordinated UNCT/NGO response to an emblematic rape case through advocacy and support to the survivors.

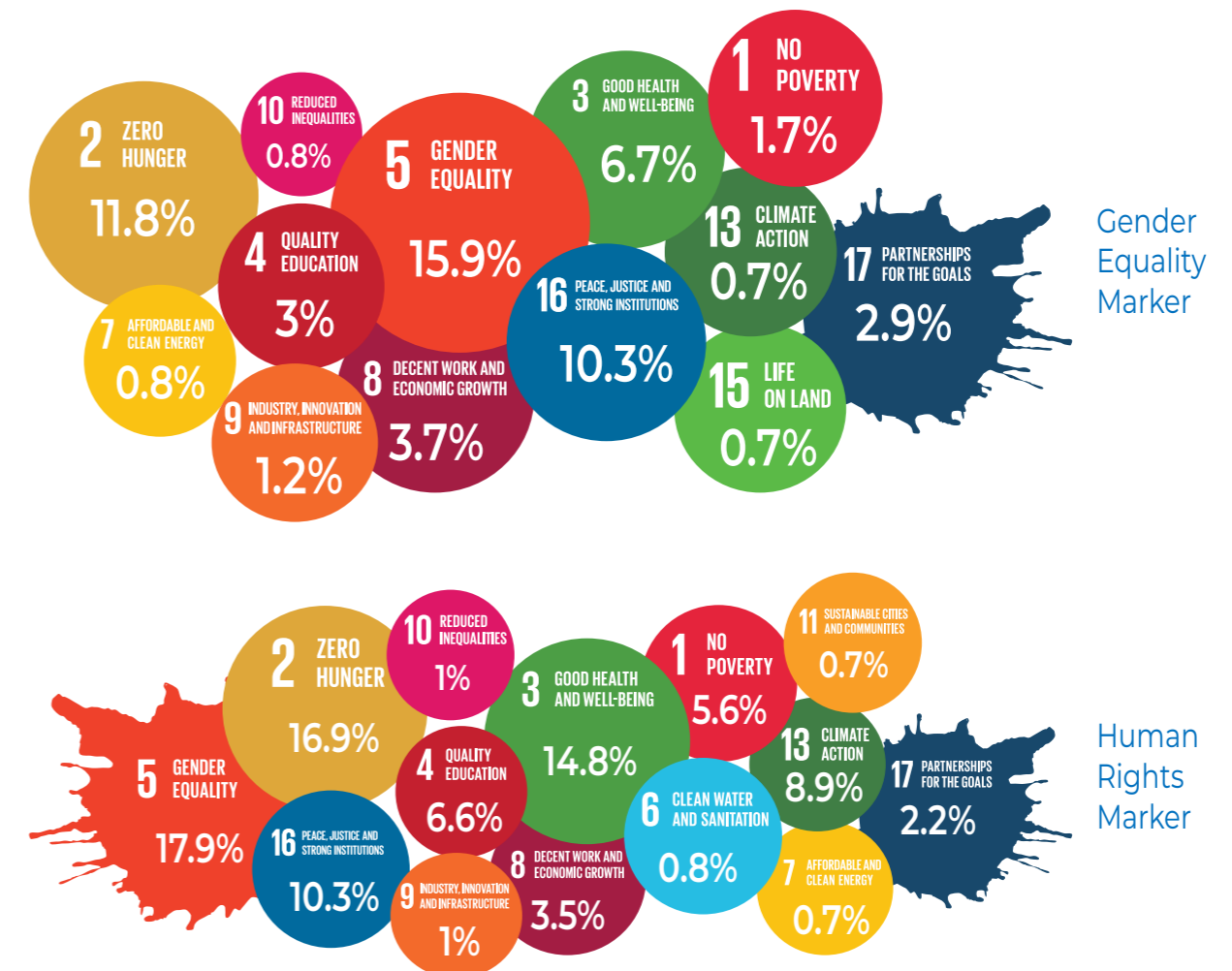


Figure 2: Marker distribution by SDGs

Timely press statements and op-eds were issued on human rights violations, highlighting persons with disabilities, persons with albinism and the central role of human rights in the COVID-19 response.

Issues related to returnees in the context of COVID-19, migrants and refugees were also discussed with the support of IOM and UNHCR. These efforts through the Joint Programmes contributed significantly to mainstreaming of human rights issues in most JWP activities with a strong presence for activities aligned with SDGs 2, 3, 4, 5, and 16 (See Figure 1).

Engagement with UN human rights mechanisms: The Government of Malawi undertook its 3rd Universal Periodic Review in November 2020, delayed from May due to COVID-19. The UN hosted a screening of the session for the government, MHRC, NGO and UN colleagues. The UN also ensured NGO engagement with the UN Special Procedures on particular areas of human rights concern (i.e., Albinism, NGOs).

Gender Equality and Ending Violence against

Women and Girls: To date, six UN joint programmes contribute to accelerating the implementation of SDG 5 on gender equality and women empowerment. These include Spotlight Initiative, KULIMA, UBRAF, PROSPER, 2Gether4SRHR Joint Programme, and Joint Programme on Girls Education.

During the reporting period, four UN joint programmes developed a joint comprehensive response to teenage pregnancies and child marriages, which spiked due to school closures. Overall, eight million people were reached with awareness-raising messages to address the increased risks faced by women and girls due to the pandemic.

Besides, seven hundred and twenty girls were rescued from early child marriages, and 941 cases of child marriage were referred to relevant authorities and actors for action. These efforts through the joint programmes contributed significantly to mainstreaming of gender issues in most JWP activities with a strong presence for activities aligned within SDGs 2, 3, 5, 8, and 16 (See Figure 1).



The UN stepped up advocacy to stop human rights violations against persons with disabilities, persons with albinism, and highlight the central role of human rights in the COVID-19 response.

Photo: UNRCO/ Bennet Phunyanya.



## 3.2 Cooperation Framework priorities, outcomes, and outputs

### 3.2.1 Peace, Inclusion and Effective Institutions



Civic engagement and participation in Malawi's democratic processes progressed in 2020, resulting in a population that is increasingly demanding effective delivery of socio-economic services.

#### Alignment to SDGs:



#### Participating agencies:

FAO, ILO, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNWOMEN, WFP

This pillar addresses the root causes of poor governance through supporting governance institutions at all levels to harmonize legal and organizational frameworks, strengthen data systems for enhanced accountability, strengthen gender and human rights frameworks, civic engagement and participation, and the national peace architecture through early warning systems.

The subsections below provide the results achieved for the three outcomes under this pillar. Some joint programmes implemented under this pillar include Build Malawi, Spotlight Initiative, and Strengthening Malawi's Financing Architecture at National and Local Level.

#### 3.2.1.1 Accountable and Effective Institution

#### Alignment to SDGs:



#### Participating agencies:

FAO, ILO, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP

The UN in Malawi supported the Ministry of Finance to undertake a physical pensioners verification exercise that resulted in savings of US\$513,907 (MK388 million) per month after removing from its payroll 4,024 pensioners who failed to present their national identity cards. The Ministry carried out the verification exercise in collaboration with the National Audit Office, the Anti-Corruption Bureau, the National Registration Bureau (NRB), the Malawi Defence Force, the Malawi Police Service, and the Department of Human Resource Management and Development.

 Government is saving **MK388 million per month** after removing 4,000 unverified pensioners from its payroll

 Government saved **US\$27 million** after removing 600,000 ghost farmers in the AIP

 **81% of the 16,137 cases** resolved through village mediation and paralegal services

 Refurbished **33 out of 65 selected post offices** to make them centres for National ID registration

Furthermore, the government saved US\$27 million after removing at least 600,000 ghost farmers identified in the 2020/2021 Affordable Input Programme (AIP). The utilisation of the National ID Card assisted in the identification and cleaning of ghost farmers in the National Registration Identification System database.

The UN in Malawi supported the Human Rights Section at the Ministry of Justice and the Malawi Human Rights Commission (MHRC) in following up on reporting and implementation of treaty obligations. The Justice Ministry and MHRC were also supported to present Malawi's Report to the UPR process.

Furthermore, the capacity of MHRC was strengthened to deliver on its mandate for protection and promotion of human rights through tailored training for the 7th Cohort of Commissioners on the Mandate and Role of the Commission.

The Commission was provided with technical and financial assistance to conduct investigations on human rights violations in the areas of violations of rights of the elderly and persons with disabilities and sexual harassment. For instance, the Commission investigated sexual assault of women and girls from Msundwe, Mpingu and M'bwatalika in Lilongwe Rural whose preliminary findings revealed that 16 women and girls were raped by the officers from the Malawi Police Service (MPS). Subsequently, the Women Lawyers Association of Malawi is taking legal action against the Police officers.

During the reporting period, the Office of the Ombudsman was supported by the UN in Malawi to conduct investigations on maladministration in public service and issue determinations that promote accountability of public institutions in the delivery of their mandates. For instance, the Ombudsman released a report on allegations concerning lack of transparency and accountability in the implementation of

the National COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan.

The UN in Malawi supported the Parliamentary Budget Office in producing and delivering analyses of the budget proposals and mid-term reviews to the relevant parliamentary clusters and committees as well as the holding of public budget hearings with CSOs. Through the holding of public budget hearings and the coordination with the Government on the production of the Open Budget Survey (OBS) as well as the follow up on its recommendations, Malawi is on track to see improvements in its levels of budget transparency and public engagement in the budget process.

The inclusion of NGO Coalition on Child Rights (NGO-CCR), an umbrella organization of CSOs active in upholding the rights of women and children, as OBS researcher will contribute to further include the perspective of marginalized groups into the budget transparency discourse. The UN in Malawi provided technical and financial support to the Government through the National Statistical Office (NSO) in the production and dissemination of 17 thematic reports through the undertaking of a further disaggregated analysis of the data from the 2018 Population and Housing Census. The reports were officially released in October 2020, aimed at enhancing the understanding of the Malawi population.

The new disaggregated data will assist the government in evidence-based planning and monitoring the implementation of the MGDS III. Besides, the UN has utilized U-report to gather citizen-generated data on various topical issues to aid programming anchored on "leaving no one behind". Of late, U-report has been used to gather feedback on UN75 from Malawians on what future they want and how to achieve it.

#### Key challenges

1. The designing, progress and completion of the councils' data system at the district level was affected by the absence and non-enforcement of effective coordination measures amongst development actors. The Hotspots programme has drafted a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for signing between the District Commissioner and district actors to push for a more coordinated agenda, but to date, efforts remain disjointed.
2. The process of registration for national ID as well as linking the national ID with different Ministries, Departments and Agencies were also slowed down due to the pandemic.





*Critical UN assistance to conduct investigations on violations of rights of the elderly and persons with disabilities, and sexual harassment leading to increased access to justice for victims.*

*UNRCO/Bennet Phunyanya.*



### 3.2.1.2 Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

#### Alignment to SDGs:



#### Participating agencies:

UNFPA, UNHCR, WFP

Access to services for survivors of gender-based violence increased following the strengthening of the capacity of 50 victim support units, leading to increased protection of the rights of vulnerable girls and women.

UNRCO/ Phillip Pemba



Under this outcome, the UN in Malawi supported the government in the implementation and monitoring of all global, regional and national obligations and commitments on gender equality and empowerment of women and girls; improving coordination and management of the national gender machinery; and production, analysis and dissemination of sex-disaggregated data. The Spotlight Initiative has been crucial to supporting the government address some of the disparities in gender equality and women's empowerment.

The UN supported the Ministry of Justice to develop the 8th State Party report for the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), which was presented to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). The report highlights how Malawi addressed and implemented the 7th report's concluding observations including additional updates on progress made on implementing CEDAW.

Besides, the Ministry of Gender, Community Development and Social Welfare was supported in the review of the 63rd session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 63) and the development of an action plan towards preparations for the 64th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW64) and the commemoration of the 25th anniversary

of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (Beijing+25) in 2020.

The budget on gender and social welfare slightly increased in nominal terms from 15.8 billion (\$20.4 million) in 2018/19 to MK34.7 billion (\$44.7 million) in 2019/20. This resulted from sustained lobbying for increased allocations towards the gender and social sector by the UN and other CSOs. As part of promoting gender-responsive budgeting, the UN and CSOs engaged with the Parliamentary Budget Office, Members of Parliament representing various Parliamentary committees, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Local Government and other CSOs.

The UN provided capacity-building support to the government to generate gender-disaggregated data by supporting various training sessions. Specifically, staff from institutions such as the National Statistical Office, Ministry of Gender, Community Development and Social Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture and Department of Disaster Management Affairs benefited from the training. This builds on previous training and works on the development of the 2020 Gender thematic report on the National Census. These capacity-building initiatives are expected to improve the collection of gender statistics, analysis, production and use, especially in programming and policy development. Key Challenges



National budget allocation for gender and social support in 2019/2020 increased by more than double that of the 2018/19 fiscal year to close disparities in gender equality and women's empowerment.

Photo: UNRCO.



The budget for gender and social support increased from **15.8 billion kwacha** in 2018/19 to **34.7 billion Kwacha** in 2019/20



**15,506 girls**



**25,098 boys**

benefited from reporting channels on GBV



**50 Community Victim Support Units** had their capacity on capacity strengthened



**5 million people** reached with messages on PSEA and GBV



**150 implementing partners** capacitated on PSEA and GBV



**210 GBV survivors** enrolled in adult literacy schools

**212,262 adolescent learners** equipped with knowledge to detect and report SGBV and harmful practices

#### Key Challenges

1. Limited implementation of existing gender-related laws. This was evidenced by the unbalanced appointments of women in decision making positions which negates Section 11 of the Gender Equality Act (2013) which provides for the 60/40 quota of either sex in public appointments.
2. Long term school closure increased gender-based violence, especially sexual violence that has increased teen pregnancies and child marriages resulting in high school dropouts among adolescent girls.
3. Greater coordination at the national level on women political empowerment is needed. There were many interventions on women political empowerment. If these were better coordinated and planned, they would have yielded more positive results than what was achieved.

A comprehensive engagement strategy (360 degrees approach to CSO engagement and women empowerment targeting) covering such key areas as advocacy, civic education on women's economic, social, political empowerment is needed. The UN should use its convening power to open a national discussion with international partners.

4. Disaggregation of data by sex and age in reports has improved but challenges still exist to report on disability disaggregated data



### 3.2.1.3 Strengthened Institutional Capacities

#### Alignment to SDGs:



#### Participating agencies:

UNHCR, UNWOMEN



Malawi Parliament facilitated the drafting of the resolution that led to the adoption of the 23 June date for the fresh presidential election.

Under this outcome, the UN in Malawi focused on support for the development of an enabling policy, legislative frameworks and institutional and functional capabilities for the effective implementation of policies and programmes.

The Malawi Peace Commission Bill and the draft Refugee Bill were drafted with the support of the UN through a comprehensive public consultation process that involved government, legal experts and CSOs, both at the national and local levels. The legislations are in their final stages of adoption and tabling in Parliament for passage into an Act.

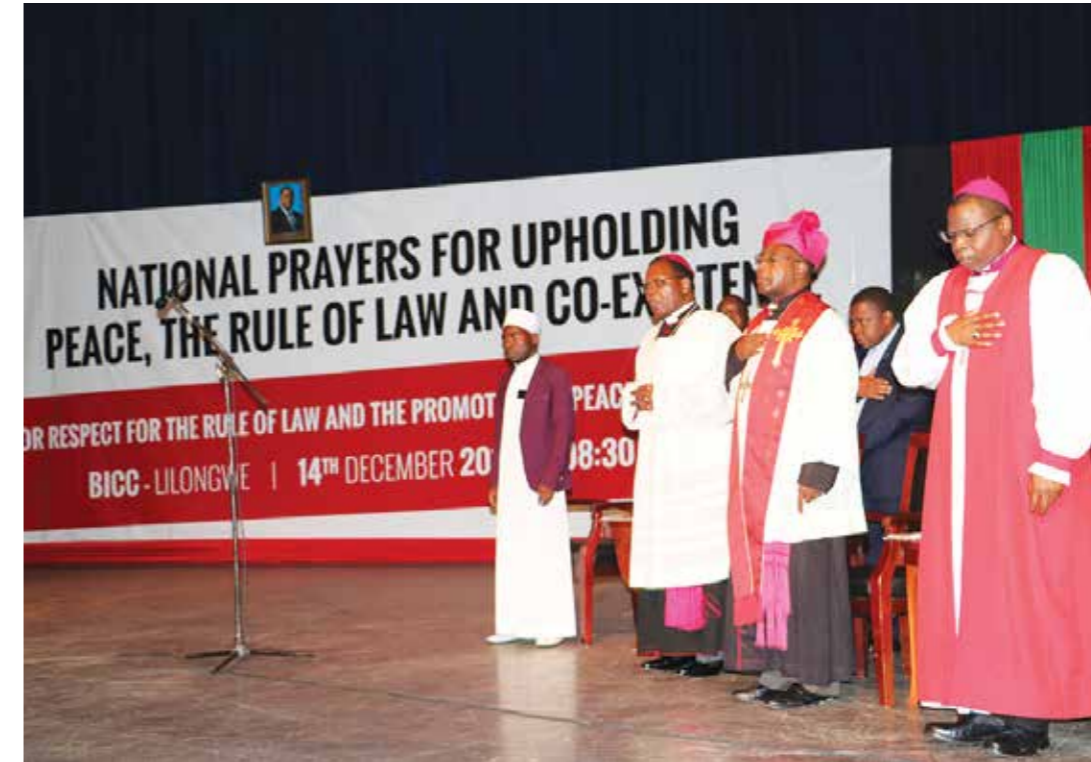
The Malawi Parliament was supported with legal expertise through a consultant who facilitated the drafting of the resolution that led to the adoption of the 23 June date for the fresh presidential election. This was a crucial exercise given the sensitivity and uncertainties that surrounded the date for the Fresh Presidential Election and the potential it had to destabilize the political and social space in the country.

The UN provided capacity-building support to Malawi Electoral Commission (MEC) in the form of Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections (BRIDGE) training on election operations and administrative management to the new Board of Commissioners which helped in preparing them for the conduct and

management of the fresh presidential election held on 23 June 2020. The UN further supported a BRIDGE Facilitator (Train-the-Facilitator) training which enabled MEC to build a pool of BRIDGE facilitators who will lead future capacity support to key aspects of the electoral cycle.

The UN in Malawi also provided institutional support to the government, MEC, Malawi Parliament, the Judiciary and MHRC in the form of orientation and sensitization on COVID-19 prevention and management and ICT connectivity support. This enabled these key institutions, including government ministries, Parliament, the Judiciary and the Human Rights Commission deliver their functions within a safe and protected environment.

With technical and operational support of the UN, the Public Affairs Committee (PAC) implemented a conflict early warning system that enabled it to collect, analyse and monitor electoral and related social tensions, demonstrations, and violence at the local community level. The system centred on using mobile phones and social media. The data from these interventions fed into the UN Prevention platform and informed PAC's inputs to the Presidential Taskforce on COVID-19. The data from the 200 youth and women volunteers across the country also informed the UN reprogramming on COVID-19 related interventions.



A conflict early warning and prevention system defused social and political tensions and de-escalated violence, promoting peaceful co-existence among divergent groups in Malawi.

Photo: UNRCO.

The data also informed conflict prevention and dialogue engagements organized by the Centre for Multiparty Democracy (CMD) with political parties at district and constituency levels which ensured electoral disputes were resolved peacefully through mediation and dialogue. Key examples include Multiparty Liaison Committee meetings in Mangochi, Karonga, Nsanje, Chikwawa, Rumphi, Salima, Mzimba and other districts in the run-up to both the 2019 Tripartite and 2020 fresh presidential election.

Despite COVID-19 fears and uncertainties that surrounded the 2020 fresh presidential election, voter turnout was still above 60 percent which was far better than some countries in the SADC region that have held elections recently (e.g. Lesotho, 46.4%; Namibia 60.8%). Among many factors, the UN support towards a communication campaign that used broadcast, print and digital media platforms, contributed to the voter turnout.

The UN support to political parties and CSOs through CMD and PAC in promoting inter-party dialogue ensured political consensus on key processes of the fresh presidential election. With the support, CMD organised two inter-party dialogue sessions for political party leaders at the

Secretary-General level where issues of concern to political parties, including inter-party tensions and disagreements were discussed and resolved peacefully.

CMD also organised similar sessions for regional governors, and district political party leaders in hotspots districts like Karonga, Mangochi, Nsanje before the announcement of the court verdict. Party leaders committed to accept the court verdict irrespective of which party wins. PAC also engaged in shuttle diplomacy with the presidential candidates. As a result of these interventions. All the major parties issued radio messages through their Secretary General's committing to accept the outcome of the court decision and also urged their supporters to do so, and respect and uphold the rule of law, peace and respect for human rights.

The UN in Malawi further provided technical and logistics support for post-election review conferences that included key stakeholders such as MEC, CMD and the Malawi Police Service. This led to the formation of an Electoral Reform Taskforce that compiled a comprehensive electoral reform programme supported by the UN and other partners.

#### Key challenges

1. The change of government slowed down the implementation of some activities, as the new Ministers and Heads of Agencies had to be briefed and review documents before activities could be implemented.
2. Limited capacity for data mining and analysis by stakeholders negatively affected the availability of reliable socio-economic and conflict data for effective early warning and response analysis.
3. Political uncertainties on the election date and status of MEC Commissioners following the court's decisions affected the planning and approval of activities.

5002 polling centres were supplied with adequate PPEs for staff and monitors and agents

150 lorries were provided to MEC. This ensured that electoral materials were delivered on time to all polling centres



Despite COVID-19 challenges, Malawi successfully conducted the fresh presidential election in June 2020, which registered a voter turnout of above 60 percent – higher than in some southern African countries.



### 3.2.2 Population Management and Inclusive Human Development

#### Alignment to SDGs:



#### Participating agencies:

ILO, IOM, UNAIDS, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, UNWOMEN, WFP, WHO



A woman in Nsanje district accessing family planning services to empower women to take control over their sexual and reproductive health rights and childbearing in 2020.


Photo: UNFPA Malawi/ Joseph Scott


Interventions under this pillar address the root causes of poor governance (through improving birth registration at facilities, provision of safe schools), managing rapid population growth (through interventions on family planning and information on Sexual and Reproductive Health) and addressing negative social norms (through advocacy, behavioural change interventions, and community engagement, particularly regarding negative impacts on the girl child and HIV/AIDS).

During this reporting period, the UN in Malawi supported the government to maintain essential lifesaving health services amidst the pandemic.

The subsections below provide the results achieved under the three outcomes of this pillar.

Most of the results were achieved through the implementation of six joint programmes, namely, AFIKEPO, Joint Programme on Girls Education, Strengthening integrated sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)/HIV and Sexual & Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), Joint Programme on Health System Strengthening, Promoting Sustainable Partnerships for Empowered Resilience (PROSPER), Spotlight Initiative and Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework (UBRAF).

  
**150 women**  
 repaired from fistula

  
**98%** of the mothers  
 tested for HIV



### 3.2.2.1 Early Childhood Development Services

#### Alignment to SDGs:



#### Participating agencies:

ILO, IOM, UNAIDS, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, UNWOMEN, WFP, WHO



**Over 2 million** children from 500,000 families benefited from messages on positive parenting and responsive caregiving



**Over 20,000 children** in targeted districts have increased access and quality of ECD services in **39 out of 72 targeted CBCCs**



**23,588 children** (6 months to 5 years old) treated for severe acute malnutrition and discharged with a 93% cure rate



**350,000 births** registered surpassing the target by 34%



**820 unaccompanied and separated children** verified



**728 health facilities** provided with nutrition supplies



**400,098 children** protected from intestinal worms with deworming medication in 10 districts



**30,000 children** reached with the treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition



**69% of HIV exposed infants** were tested within the first 8 weeks of life



**292,000 children** under the age of 12 months received a third dose of DTP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis) vaccine



**79,907 eligible children** in 11 districts had received the first dose of the Malaria vaccine



**325,000 children** aged 12-59 months had their immunity improved with vitamin A supplements

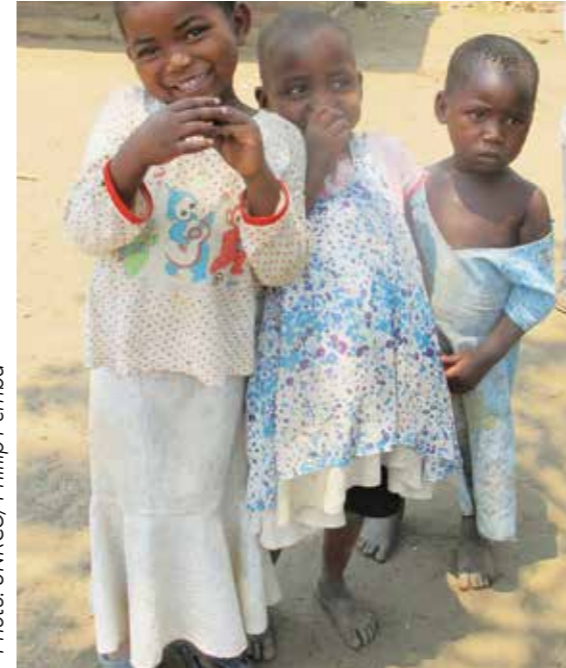


**82%** of health facilities in 6 districts provided with basic and Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (EmONC) services



Early infant diagnosis of HIV using point of care or near POC has increased from **10 per cent in 2019 to 12 per cent in 2020**

Photo: UNRCO/ Phillip Pemba



Early childhood development (ECD) services were provided to more than 20,000 children, providing critical early learning, care for healthy brain development and capacity to learn better in future. This support helps address inequalities, break the cycle of poverty and improve outcomes in later life.



Early childhood development (ECD) services were provided to more than 20,000 children in targeted districts, providing them with critical early learning, care for healthy brain development and capacity to learn better in future. This support helps address inequalities, break the cycle of poverty and improve outcomes in later life. Photo: UNRCO.

Despite COVID-19, Malawi Government sustained the provision of essential lifesaving health services, including vaccinations for children, promoting good health and wellbeing.

The UN in Malawi provided an integrated package of interventions to support the efforts of the Government to improve the quality of Early Childhood Development (ECD) services.

This package included promoting learning for 3 to 5-year old children in a nurturing environment coupled with positive parenting; supporting birth registration including at health facilities. It also included promoting and supporting infant and young child feeding, community management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) and severe acute malnutrition, as well as nutrition supplementation. The package included deworming, growth monitoring and promotion; HIV interventions for early infant diagnosis as well as testing and retention in care for mother and infant pairs; and maternal, neonatal and child health.

#### Key challenges

1. Systemic issues that challenge the health system continue to exist, like staff attrition, staff discontent with their incomes, inadequate financing of the health system and poor infrastructure continued to affect programme implementation.
2. The need to address various concerns around incentives for community volunteers is still evident, and there is a need to engage the Government on this issue and share practical models for integration in government systems to ensure the sustainability of investment made by the UN for community-based nutrition programmes.
3. Lack of funding to support the strengthening of continuous birth registration, provision for traditional vaccines and Human Papillomavirus (HPV) roll out in 2021.
4. Some cultural beliefs promote giving birth at the hands of traditional healers. This hinders mothers from giving birth at health facilities.

Furthermore, many refugees and asylum seekers still have limited understanding of the importance of birth registration due to their limited access to social services such as education and health.



### 3.2.2.2 Quality Education, Health, Nutrition, HIV/AIDS and Protection Services

#### Alignment to SDGs:



#### Participating agencies:

ILO, IOM, UNAIDS, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, WFP, WHO

**600,000 children** at the pre-school level accessed ECD services.

**472,673 learners** in nine districts were equipped with knowledge on child protection.

**90,653 children** aged 6 and above accessed psycho-social support services through children's corners nationwide.

**220,000 adolescent girls** reached with menstrual hygiene messages through social media and U-report.

**120,000 women** reached with messages on Cervical cancer prevention and management

**1.9 million primary school learners** reached with emergency education, radio programmes covering English, Chichewa and Mathematics

**40,000 new cases** of violence against girls and boys reported.

**350,000 learners** in 500 schools provided with hand washing buckets.

**240,444 adolescent girls** aged 10-19 years and **55,000** out of school-girls reached with Iron and Folic acid supplements

**21,844 malnourished** adolescents and **530,009 PLWHIV** supported through the Nutrition Care Support and Treatment Programme

**71,552 secondary school learners** were supported for online learning and **50,000** received self-study materials during school closure.

**4,400 calls** received through the Child Helpline and GBV Crisis Line.

**5.8 million people** reached with messages on gender-based violence, violence against children, child rights and COVID-19 prevention through community radios.

**6,000 girls** enrolled in the functional literacy programme and **10,301 enrolled** for Complementary Basic Education

This outcome focuses on the holistic strengthening of systems supporting girls' education and health for girls in and out of school. The Joint Programmes on Girls' Education, and adolescent girls and sexual reproductive health rights (SRHR) have addressed education and SRHR concerns of adolescents, together with issues of social protection, gender equality and gender-based violence, and developing life skills. The closure of schools due to COVID-19 greatly disrupted learning for all school-aged learners. To ensure continuity of learning, various distance learning programmes were introduced to support learners from preschool to secondary school levels.



Bottom Left to right:

In 2020, more girls accessed quality education, making them less likely to marry young and more likely to lead healthy and productive lives in future.

Malawi has one of the world's highest rates of child marriage. In 2020, the UN scaled up the fight against deep-rooted cultural practices, poverty and other drivers of child marriage.

Nancy, 16, is now back in school after she dropped out of school to marry during the COVID-19 pandemic. More girls are returning to school due to UN-supported efforts to end child marriage in Malawi.

Photo: UNICEF Malawi.

#### Key challenges

1. Most vulnerable learners were not reached through online learning platforms and radio programmes because they lacked radios and connectivity. The Joint Programme on Girls Education III will mitigate this by procuring radios and tablets with preloaded lessons for primary school learners.
2. Lack of disaggregated data for adolescents and young people at national and sub-national level to inform programming and better response for both HIV and COVID-19 interventions.
3. Poor service integration resulting in low service uptake and client retention in care, including mother/infant pairs.
4. While much of the quality of care activities are aimed at the medical aspects of the service; emotional support, respect, dignity and privacy not prioritized by health workers. This attitude should be addressed and data collected to support evidence and track changes systematically.





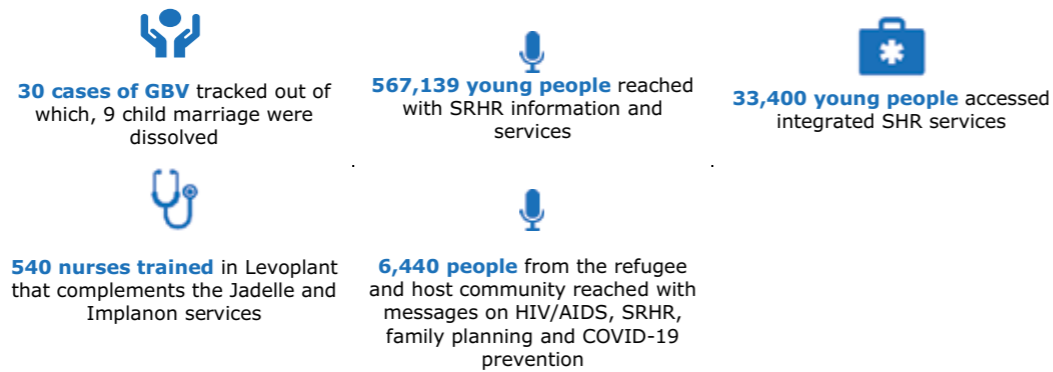
### 3.2.2.3 Sexual and Reproductive and HIV/AIDS Health Rights

#### Alignment to SDGs:



#### Participating agencies:

IOM, UNAIDS, UNHCR, UNODC, UNWOMEN, WFP, WHO



#### Key challenges

1. Nutrition support for adolescents and adults living with HIV is underprioritized in HIV treatment and response activities.
2. The absence of a one-stop centre in Dzaleka has negatively affected the response and management of cases of sexual and gender-based violence. A one-stop centre should be established.
3. Data management is inadequate. Nevertheless, rich data and knowledge is available in health institutions, but not documented nor made visible. Digitizing information and supporting data management in health institutions is pivotal.



Malawi President Lazarus Chakwera and First Lady Monica Chakwera light a candle as Malawi Vice President Saulos Chilima looks on during the 2020 World Aids Day commemoration.

Photo: UNRCO/Bennet Phunyanya

The UN in Malawi addressed the HIV-related needs of children, adolescents, and young women through expanding and enhancing community capacities to target the most vulnerable and marginalized populations. Access to services on family planning, comprehensive sexual and reproductive health, HIV and AIDS, and gender-based violence increased with UN support.

### 3.2.3 Inclusive and Resilient Growth

#### Alignment to SDGs:



#### Participating agencies:

FAO, ILO, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNODC, UNWOMEN, WFP

Malawi is prone to adverse effects of climate change, with few resources or institutional mechanisms to adapt or mitigate them. The UN focuses on supporting the Government's agenda for more inclusive and resilient development. The UN supports inter-related actions concentrating on the three outcomes below where the UN has a comparative advantage.

Most of the results have been achieved through the implementation of the following joint programmes: AFIKEPO; Catalysing private investment, enterprise, and SDG impact through innovative finance (BUILD Fund Malawi); KULIMA; Social Protection for the SDGs in Malawi; Poverty-Environment Action for the SDGs; and Promoting Sustainable Partnerships for Empowered Resilience (PROSPER).

#### 3.2.3.1 Food and Nutrition Security, and WASH services

#### Alignment to SDGs:



#### Participating agencies:

FAO, ILO, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF


This outcome focuses on a human rights and people-centred approach to increase food and nutrition security, reduce developmental inequalities, promote equitable access to benefits derived from healthy ecosystems, and scaleup support for resilient households and livelihoods and WASH activities.

The UN focused on five intervention areas: (i) Sub-national government capacity for resilience programmes; (ii) disaster risk management and early recovery from shocks; (iii) strengthening the capacity of the Malawi National Social Support Programme (MNSSP II); (iv) nutrition-sensitive agriculture and resilience to climate change; and (v) water, sanitation and hygiene programme.



  
**450,000 people** provided with cash transfers


  
**317 hectares** of catchment area conserved

  
**1,290 MT** of complementary fertilizer distributed

  
**247,011 smallholder farming households** in Climate Smart Agriculture interventions

  
**11,800 households** received weather and climate information


  
**70,000 households** supported with insurance products

  
**MK1.5 billion** of access loans provided to 18,700 rural households

  
**332,000 new accounts** opened in rural areas

  
**20,800 ultra-poor households** identified and **6,828 households** received initial seed money for enterprises

  
**16,000 community-based financial organisations** enhanced their skills

  
**632,447 households** benefited from the Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture interventions

  
**5,339 care groups** were revamped

  
**811,927 children** benefited from nutrition services

  
**24,139 people** accessed basic sanitation services and **69,035 people** accessed safe piped water supply

#### Key challenges

1. The provision of incentives to smallholder farmers and other key stakeholders is a concern for the sustainability of various programmes
2. Linking community-based financial organisations (CBFOs) to formal financial institutions posed a constraint for some CBFOs because of the perception that financial institutions are expensive. There has been a significant drop in bank agents' transactions, indicating that the uptake of the banking agency model is not very encouraging.
3. Whilst implementation of interventions is well on course, resources remain a limiting factor affecting scaleup. The focus should be on more resources to scale up the implementation of solar-powered water schemes and market-based sanitation to achieve results under this component. Strategic partnerships with key funding agencies will be explored to raise more resources.
4. Vandalism of solar-powered water infrastructure is a major bottleneck. The UN continues to engage with district authorities to strengthen security measures of the water infrastructure.

### 3.2.3 Inclusive and Resilient Growth

#### Alignment to SDGs:



#### Participating agencies:

UNDP, UNEP, UNHCR, UNIDO, UNODC, UNWOMEN, WFP

  
**2 solar-powered irrigation schemes** developed in Dowa on 45 hectares

  
**500 refugee households** benefited from access to land initiatives

  
**215 refugee households** benefited from business enterprise development funds

  
**30,000 smallholder farmers** adopted climate-smart technologies

  
Total volume savings increased from **MK140 million to MK237 million** for the 11,857 farmers


  
**134.9 MT of certified seeds** produced by different farmers

  
**94.8 hectares** of land was reforested

  
Goat production increased from **22,923 to 50,027**

  
Chicken production increased from **47,871 to 211,873**

  
**40 business clusters** comprising 4,033 smallholder farmers established and equipped with business skills

  
**232 community-managed sites** with a cumulative 62 hectares established

  
**166 farmers** engaged in greenhouse production of horticultural crops



The UN's contributions aim to accelerate the achievement of SDGs and support Malawi in attaining improved productivity and timeliness of agricultural operations, the efficient and sustainable use of resources, enhanced and equitable market access, improved access to agricultural extension and advisory services, and an improved ability to mitigate the effects of climate-related hazards.

The four key interventions under this outcome include (i) Agriculture service delivery to address the challenges of modern sustainable agriculture, value chains, (ii) enabling environment for agricultural entrepreneurship, agro-processing and commercialization, and (iii) tenure rights.





A woman plants a tree to mitigate the effects of climate change in Malawi. In 2020, 317 hectares of catchment areas were conserved.

### Key challenges

1. Limited availability of improved groundnut varieties on the market. This is limiting farmers, especially those in women-led cooperatives to progress in groundnut production
2. The effects of climate change, such as the unavailability of moisture, are affecting the development of value chains that depend on rain-fed irrigation for groundnuts and horticultural crops.
3. Non-commitment of the private sector to sign contracts with farmers to buy their produce after harvest limits the development of value chains, namely groundnut and horticultural crops.
4. Refugees and asylum seekers have limited legal rights, preventing them from accessing land and productive natural resources; freedom of movement and association; and accessing formal employment.
5. Underfunding to scale up the graduation approach under livelihoods and self-reliance interventions despite high demand from Persons of Concerns, and insufficient food rations due to funding constraints.

### 3.2.3.3 Economic Diversification, Inclusive Business and Clean Energy

#### Alignment to SDGs:



#### Participating agencies:

ILO, UNESCO, UNIDO, UNDP



Innovative business financing was provided to increase value addition and manufacturing in Malawi's undercapitalised sectors, helping to create jobs, substitute imports and grow the economy.

Photo: UNDP Malawi.



Power lines for the mini-grid installed in the community to increase power generation capacity for the rural population from 379 kW in 2019 to 385 kW in 2020. Rural communities have access to electricity for improved wellbeing and local economic activities to support livelihoods. Photo: UNDP Malawi.

#### Key challenge

- The business environment has not been fully favourable for the private sector companies participating in the Malawi Innovation Challenge Fund due to among other things, intermittent power supply, and high costs of importing raw materials.

Under Malawi's National COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan, the UN worked with key districts to track implementation of their district plans to inform critical action and budget mobilization by the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT). Efforts were made to accelerate the country's green recovery from the impacts of COVID-19 focused on vulnerable sectors of the economy.



**3.3. Support to Partnerships and Financing the 2030 Agenda**

The 2019-2023 Cooperation Framework is financing all the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) except SDGs 12 and 14. Overall, SDG 2, followed by SDG 1 and SDG 13 take up the lion share of the cumulative available resources amounting to US\$279.7 million (See Figure 1). This is expected as Pillar III is the major contributor towards these SDG 1, SDG 2 and SDG 13 and has 63 per cent of the cumulative available resources. SDG 6, SDG 10, and SDG 11 are the least funded.

Further analysis shows most of the investment

on SDG 2 goes downstream to complement government implementation. On the contrary, most of the investment for SDG 1 and SDG 13 goes upstream to provide technical assistance and capacity building.

1. As part of leveraging the National Registration Identification System (NRIS), the National Registration Bureau (NRB) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Financial Intelligence Authority, Old Mutual, Department of Immigration and Citizenship Services, Credit Reference Bureau, banks and insurance companies.
2. The UN entered into a partnership with

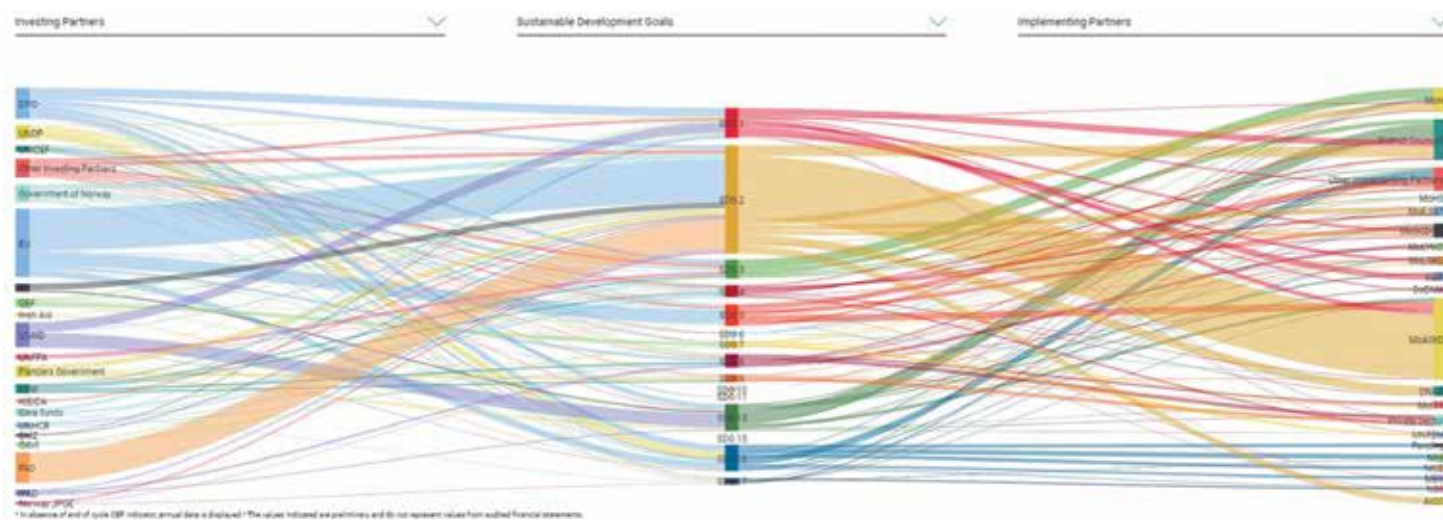


Figure 3: Linking Investing Partners, Geography and the Sustainable Development Goals in Malawi  
 Note: Malawi implies that the support focuses on policy and legal framework covering the whole country



Agricultural diversification reduced hunger and provided sustainable livelihood options among vulnerable households in Malawi.  
 Photo: RCO/Phillip Pemba



Lucy Masina, 16, of Khomani village in Lilongwe is one of the girls the UN helped withdraw from child marriage and return to school. The UN stepped up efforts to get the girls out of child marriages and return to school.

Photo: UNICEF Malawi.

Nkhoma Synod, which is one of the largest faith communities in Malawi with an estimated membership of two million people, to end child marriage. Although the implementation has been delayed due to containment measures for COVID-19, some initial activities, including face-to-face capacity building activities were conducted.

**3.4. Results of the UN working more and better together: UN coherence, effectiveness and efficiency**

In 2020, the UN in Malawi increased coherence in various areas ensuring efficiency and effectiveness in its delivery. One event under high international public scrutiny requiring a strong and coherent UN response was the presidential election. A multi-agency joint effort to the election operation coupled with support to the development of an enabling policy and legislative frameworks assisted in ensuring a free and fair election process.

UN coherence and effectiveness were tested early in 2020 with the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The UN led the international community in the production of a Flash Appeal, facilitated by UN-led clusters to mobilise resources. Quick adoption through a reprogramming exercise of the Joint Work Plans showcased the flexibility of the UN to reprioritize over USD 50 million during the pandemic.

UN efficiency was also displayed under the duty

3. In 2020, the UN in Malawi strengthened its partnerships with national universities, and research institutions to identify linkages and potential collaborations in reducing hunger among vulnerable households in Malawi through sustainable livelihood options. As a result, the UN signed a total of five Letter of Intent with local universities.
4. The strengthening of the capacity of the Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) through the secondment of the Deputy Director of Kenya's Parliamentary Budget Office for 2021 will open the possibility of an increased role for South-South cooperation in improving budget oversight and transparency.



of care. The UN Country Team set up a COVID-19 Treatment Centre with the participation of all agencies for the benefit of the international community.

Programmatically, the UN developed several joint activities, for example, the Health System Strengthening for Equitable Health and Nutrition Outcomes programme, while others created the grounds for further development for joint programmes like the Common Agenda for Climate Change (CafCA) or the Human Rights Joint Programme.

The UN completed its Business Operation Strategy (BoS) to ensure joint business operations to eliminate duplicity, leverage the common bargaining power of the UN and maximize economies of scale. The UNCT to set up the SDG Acceleration Fund which is the financial tool to leverage and support the UN coherence and efficiency.

Together with the International NGOs, the UN reinforced the coordination of interventions at the district level through the support to district focal points during COVID-19.

The UN led joint efforts on preparedness through the anticipatory action pilot, led by

OCHA and a Joint Contingency Planning on the possible effects on border areas of population displacement relating to the Cabo Delgado situation in Mozambique.

The UN reviewed and adapted its coordination structures, changing the leadership of some of the UNCT working groups, revitalising the UN-led clusters, and ensuring better accountability to the UNCT.

#### Business Operations Strategy:

In line with the Secretary-General's UN reform targets, Malawi has designed a Business Operations Strategy (BOS) that focuses on more effective programme delivery on the 2030 Agenda.

The UNCT in Malawi developed BOS version 2.0 (2021 to 2023) to streamline the implementation of Malawi's UNSDCF to coordinate and align its activities for more efficient and effective service delivery, including in the COVID-19 response, mitigating duplication of processes, curtailing transaction costs and enhancing operational efficiency.

The BOS 2.0 aims to support the UN collective advantage in addressing the humanitarian-

development-peace nexus and align it to the four guiding principles of the Cooperation Framework: People, Peace, Prosperity and Planet.

The BOS was developed through the BOS online platform on 28 February 2020. It will go through an annual monitoring phase and will be reviewed on 28 August 2021.

The BOS version 2.0 (2021-2023) was developed through the BOS online platform on 24 December 2020. It will go through an annual monitoring phase and will be reviewed on 28 August 2021. The BOS focuses on common services that are implemented jointly or delivered by The One UN entity on behalf of one or more UN entities. Common services for future collaboration were identified in the areas of Common Administration services, Common Finance services, Common Human Resources services, Common Information and Communications Technology (ICT) services, Common Logistics, and Procurement services. The implementation of the BOS 2.0 will result in net cost avoidance of USD 4,638,535 through the harmonization of business operations over the three years (2021 to 2023).

#### One UN House:

The One UN House in Malawi is a top priority for the UNCT. Its erection and occupation are linked with the UN reform and anticipated to yield significant savings and is designed to serve as a common back office for the UNCT.

The UN in Malawi funded a feasibility study by the Public-Private Partnership Commission and the completed feasibility argues a viable business case, in terms of affordability and efficiency gains. The One UN House final feasibility study was submitted on 4 December 2020 and confirmed the viability of implementation of the project under the Public-Private Partnership arrangement.

However, inability to raise debt and the unavailability of funds and advice from the UN Headquarters, the UNCT is exploring a new arrangement under the capitalization model where the UN Agencies in Malawi will take the lead in the procurement of the project with upfront capital contributions. When participating agencies confirm capital funding, a Business Case will be submitted to The Task Team on Common Premises and Facilities Service for endorsement after which the procurement process for the One UN House will commence.

### 3.4.1 Results of Communicating as One

**COVID-19 Communications:** In 2020, the UNCT formed a UN Communication for Development (C4D) Group to work in collaboration with members of the United Nations Communication Group (UNCG) in coordinating UN COVID-19 communications with partners. The coordination efforts resulted in the UN Team and its partners reaching over 14 million people with messages on COVID-19 prevention measures to tackle the pandemic.

UN-supported COVID-19 communications included targeted messages on GBV, refugees, children and avoiding politicizing of COVID-19, using celebrities and influencers on various communication platforms, including radio and television. UNCG and C4D groups also strengthened community engagement and feedback.

**Advocating as One UN:** Throughout 2020, the UNCT communicated and advocated as one on several issues, including condemnation of attacks against persons with albinism, standing up for human rights, patient rights and safety, COVID-19, and peace and social cohesion. This was done through Press Statements, Op-eds and other UNCT engagements with different stakeholders.

**UN75 Engagements:** Shaping Our Future Together: The United Nations, in collaboration with the Government of Malawi, joined global efforts to promote a conversation on shaping a better future for all by 2045. The people in Malawi participated in the conversation through multiple avenues, expressing their views on the kind of world they want by 2045 and how to achieve it. The avenues included a one-minute online survey, opinion poll through U-Report, media outreach, social media and dialogues, including the UN75 National Dialogue hosted by the President of Malawi Dr. Lazarus Chakwera on 24th November 2020. The UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed joined the national dialogue in Malawi.

The UN75 views collected from over 30,000 people in Malawi have formed part of a pool of knowledge and solutions to inform international and national development efforts around the world. Apart from informing a global pool with people's views and recommendations on how to shape a better future for all, the UN75 conversation also strengthened Malawi's long-term envisioning process that led to the launch of a new Malawi Vision 2063 as the National Planning Commission (NPC) used it to fill any

Front line workers taking a COVID-19 sample from a university student at Bwaila Hospital in Lilongwe. With scaled-up testing, Malawi was able to detect COVID-19 positive cases, trace contacts and reduce the spread of the pandemic.

Photo: UNICEF Malawi.







A frontline worker sensitizes rural communities on how to prevent COVID-19 infections.

Photo: WFP/Badre Bahaji.



Malawi joined a global conversation on shaping a better future for all with over 30,000 people giving their views, for Malawi's long term development strategy for the next 43 years.

Photo: UNRCO/ Phillip Pemba

gaps in the issues captured in the new Vision 2063.

The UN75 conversation in Malawi informed the UN System and partners about new solutions proposed by diverse groups of people to enhance Malawi's efforts to achieve inclusive and sustainable development. The UN75 conversation also elevated the need for cooperation to tackle communion development challenges and brought high visibility to key development issues that need to be addressed in Malawi. Thus, the UN75 dialogue successfully advocated for urgent actions to transform lives and communities in Malawi.

**Communicating Results of UN Contributions:** The UNCG continued to coordinate the production of the UN Malawi newsletter and results, human-interest stories which were disseminated to development partners, Malawi Government officials, CSOs, UN staff, the media and other stakeholders, through emails, website, social media.

**New UNCT Website:** In 2020, the UNCT worked with the Department of Global Communications in DCO to develop and launch a new UNCT website for Malawi. The new website is designed to offer a user-friendly experience to visitors. It has improved navigation and functionality that enables users to access a wide range of information about the work of the United Nations in Malawi. The site includes new features that highlight UN contributions to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in collaboration with

the Government of Malawi and development partners. In particular, the site allows users to visualize investments in the SDGs in the country.

**Coordinating Communication and Visibility of Joint Programmes:** In 2020, the UN coordinated communications for joint programmes, including the Spotlight Initiative, the Joint Programme on Social Protection, Joint Programme on Girls' Education, and PROSPER. This resulted in improved visibility of the joint programmes using communication products such as social media assets, press releases, stories and short videos.

**UN Media Engagement:** the UN worked with the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA) – Malawi Chapter to provide two SDG Media Awards that recognized the best stories on the principle of leaving no one behind. The awards have generally increased reporting on SDG reporting.

### 3.5. Evaluations and Lessons Learned

#### 3.5.1 Lessons Learned during Emergencies Response including COVID-19

With much focus on in-house training in the country, the pandemic demonstrated that virtual training could work better, thus decreasing the loss of staff time in the workspace. While mentorship programmes require site visits, the pandemic provided an opportunity to innovate in telemedicine, an innovation that will be underway at Area 25







Over 14 million people in Malawi reached with messages on COVID-19 and other development issues, promoting the effectiveness of development interventions.

Photo: WFP Malawi.



Health Centre within Lilongwe to ensure on-the-spot specialized mentorship that does not involve travelling through Artificial Intelligence in fetal monitoring.

The speedy development of guidelines to support immunization and other health programs in sustaining service continuity in the context of COVID-19 are proving key to in-country efforts to maintain services despite COVID-19.

The Hygiene and Sanitation module in the SUN Movement is instrumental in strengthening the COVID-19 key messages, especially on the frequent handwashing with soap. There is an increase in the number of households practising handwashing with soap and ownership of rubbish pits.

Radio and mobile platforms are reliable for the delivery of integrated ECD services. Radio messaging has ensured the delivery of positive parenting messages to parents and caregivers to support children for early stimulation and early learning during the COVID-19 pandemic. It has also reached out to children in most remote areas that initially had no access to IECD messages.

Case management can and should be utilised to address most, if not all, challenges that affect vulnerable children including those being deinstitutionalized/reintegrated from either child care institutions or children living on the streets during normal programming and emergencies like the current COVID-19 pandemic. The initiative of incorporating case

management in reintegration tools is yielding good results in sustaining the impact of reintegration.

### 3.5.2 Lessons Learned during Normal Programming

Local governance structures such as Area Development Committees and Village Development Committees need strengthening as they present a good opportunity to make local interventions sustainable. District councils need should focus on cost recovery models to finance council operations. The councils must begin the process of developing a fee structure for council services. This could start small and expand over time and would be best paired with the adoption of new financial structures/enforcement/mitigation measures to overcome the pitfalls of limited financial transparency.

The use of volunteers for conflict and violence monitoring is a good practice and should be institutionalised. The UN in Malawi should explore the potential of using big data to enhance analysis and early warning and response.

The UN supported evidence generation on utilization of diets amongst women and children. There is significant evidence pointing to poverty, cultural beliefs and lack of empowerment as key drivers of low dietary diversity. Using this evidence, the UN is tailor-making the approaches to improve low dietary diversity amongst women and children.

The identification of integration and referral



The UN tailored solutions to improve dietary diversity for women and children in rural areas to tackle poverty, cultural beliefs and lack of empowerment that drive low dietary diversity.

Photo: UNRCO



Movement for the rights of women and girls gained momentum in 2020 with different stakeholders rallying behind the call to end gender-based violence







*The UN promoted girls' education and increase their access to services on sexual reproductive health and gender-based violence.*

*Photo: UNICEF Malawi.*

approaches for linking children with acute malnutrition to existing community platforms including care groups, growth monitoring, child health days (CHDs) and integrated community case management has improved the sustainability of the program on Community Based Management of Acute Malnutrition.

Integration of drones in the supply chain system is very critical to iron out some supply challenges in difficult to reach districts. To make the undertaking cost-effective drones can also be used to do other things including data capturing while it is on a delivery mission.

The delivery of the Complimentary Education programme (CBE) is more cost-effective than previous approaches where NGOs were contracted to deliver the programme. The

programme is well integrated with nutrition, child protection and ECD. This has enabled adolescent girls to access IFA tablets and ensure a safe environment for learning. The child Care component has ensured that the adolescents, most of whom are mothers, are provided with the requisite skills for caring for their children.

An evaluation of the Joint Programme on Girls Education showed that a child-centred approach was essential to achieve results in child protection and education; directly working with girls was essential and necessary. A conducive environment is crucial for the girls and trust must be created, to share and work on sensitive issues like SRHR and GBV. Listening to the children was an important part of JPGE, which ensured the suitability of the approach .



*Business financing to support and encourage value addition and manufacturing to create jobs and women's economic empowerment.*

*Photo: UNDP Malawi.*



### 3.6. Financial Overview and Resource Mobilization

#### 3.6.1. Financial Overview

The budget in 2020 reduced from USD271 million in 2019 to USD 268 million. However, USD183 million was mobilized compared to USD 173 million in 2019 with 76 per cent of the available resource utilized compared to 43 per cent used in 2019.

A disaggregated analysis by strategic priority level showed that in 2020 Pillar II had a higher utilisation rate of 87 percent followed by Pillar III (86 percent) and Pillar I (17 percent). Among all the Pillars, Pillar III had a huge funding gap of USD 54 million, followed by Pillar II (USD 22.5 million) and lastly Pillar I (USD 8.4 million).

#### 3.6.2. Resource mobilization

The Malawi SDG Acceleration Fund is a nationally lead Multi-Partner Trust Fund supporting financing coordination to accelerate the achievement of SDGs agenda while also mobilizing critical and catalytic contributions in support of the COVID-19 response.

The Fund emphasizes adequate, predictable and sustainable funding for a coherent, effective, efficient and accountable response in line with national needs and priorities. The objective is to support the strategic priorities concurrently with the Malawi Government, Development Partners, and the United Nations.

While 2019 represented the year of early implementation of the Fund, 2020 was a year of consolidation and expansion. After a thorough

re-design exercise that involved all stakeholders, the Fund rolled out an improved governance and operations mechanism, aligned with the UNSDCF and national development frameworks and featuring fewer governance layers making it more efficient.

The experience of 2019 early implementation demonstrated that the Fund had the potential to grow and an opportunity to demonstrate the Fund's ability to rapidly respond to the crisis. The Fund rapidly re-programmed and allocated approximately USD 1 million in 4 projects on key catalytic areas of the early COVID-19 response, such as logistics, coordination in the Districts, Social Protection and support to the most vulnerable populations such as migrants, returnees, people living with disabilities and HIV/AIDS, survivors of GBV among others.

The Fund embraced the spirit of the Build Back Better agenda with the approval of two multi-annual joint programmes: (i) Joint Programme on Girls Education: investing in improving access to inclusive quality education, life skills and services, and health and nutrition for boys and girls with a strong gender lens; (ii) Joint Programme on Health Systems Strengthening: aimed at a responsive and resilient health system that ensures the availability of the "4 Ps" - People, Product, Place, Policy- for quality and integrated service delivery. Overall, exponentially grew compared to 2019.

From 2 donors, it expanded its base to 5 while an additional is confirmed for 2021. From a USD 34 million portfolios in 2019 it expanded to USD 140 million in contributions in 2020, representing a 312% growth. The Fund grew from supporting 3 projects in 2019, to 11 in 2020.

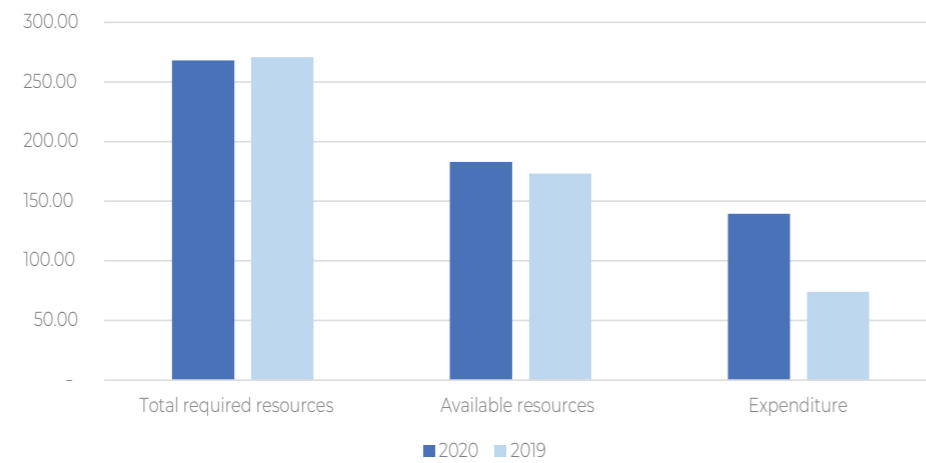


Figure 4: Annualized Financial Overview (In million US\$)

Resource mobilisation in 2020 (In million US\$)

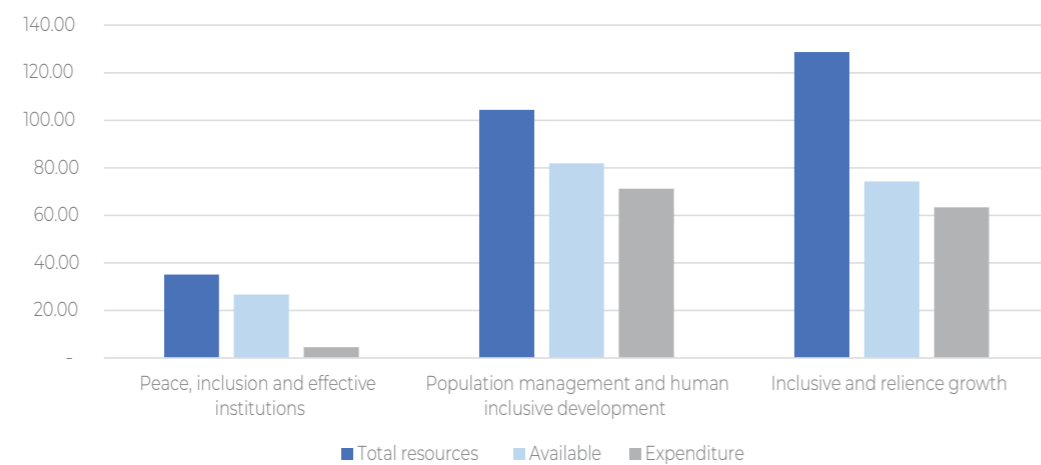


Figure 5: Financial Overview by Strategic Priority (In million US\$)



Increasing the private sector's role in accelerating the SDG agenda and addressing COVID-19.

Photo: UNRCO/ Phillip Pemba





# Chapter



UNCT key  
focus for  
next year







The UNCT has considered the root causes of development challenges and potential risks to identify the six priority areas for 2021. The risks include COVID-19 and its effects on the socio-economic landscape, political and governance risk, security risks concerning the insurgency in Carbo Delgado in Northern Mozambique, and climate and environmental risks. The priority areas will be operationalised through the 2021 Government-UN Joint Work Plan endorsed by Government at the high-level Joint Strategy Meeting.

**a. COVID-19 Response:**

The second wave of COVID-19 poses real risks for the achievement of the SDGs, the Malawi 2063 vision, and the African Union 2063 Vision. The pandemic is not only a health crisis in the short term but also a social and economic crisis over the months and years to come. Efforts to support the government on the COVID-19 response will include:

- Support the Government through the cluster system to develop and implement the Malawi COVID-19 Vaccine Deployment Plan
- Support the Government to finalize and implement the policy recommendations of the National Socio-Economic Recovery Plan

**b. System Strengthening**

Malawi is policy-rich but implementation poor. In 2021, the focus will be on policy coherence and policy implementation at national and sub-national levels. Some of the key activities under this focus area will include:

- Implement Joint Programmes on Health Systems Strengthening
- Implement the MoU with Parliament
- Roll out SDG Acceleration at district level (Delivering as One at the District Level)
- Support Government to implement the recommendations of the Voluntary National Review of the SDGs and UPR

**c. Governance, accountability, and public finance management**

Corruption in Malawi is endemic, with Malawi ranking at position 123 out of 180 countries in 2019 to 129 in 2020 on the Corruption Perception Index worsening. The Ombudsman released a report in November 2020 that showed evidence of serious corruption in the use of 6.2 billion kwacha COVID-19 funds. Notwithstanding, corruption issues have received a new impetus and urgency under the new administration with the President making it clear that fighting

corruption at all levels is a priority. The UNCT will harness the opportunity to support the government in the following key activities:

- Implement Joint Programmes on anti-corruption, and human rights, and strengthening Malawi's Financing Architecture to address the bottlenecks in governance, accountability, and public finance management
- Implement the UN Prevention Platform

**d. Data for Development and Digitalisation**

The utilisation of National ID's in the AIP and pension verification exercise has helped the government to save over US\$ 30 million through the elimination of ghost beneficiaries. Besides saving resources, embracing data for development and digitalisation in the public sector reforms will assist the government to streamline business processes. Furthermore, COVID-19 has revealed serious vulnerabilities in the country's economy where normal-business life hitherto needed physical interfacing.

The Digital Economy Strategy under development will support the COVID-19 recovery strategies by promoting e-commerce, e-learning, e-health, e-finance, e-government, and many other virtual ways of transacting so that the country moves to an ICT-driven economy. Efforts to enhance Data for Development and Digitalisation will include the following:

- Support government to embed digitalisation and e-governance in the public sector reforms
- Support the Ministry of Education in implementing the project on Evidence on Education Resources (STEER) - Tracking Platform
- Support government undertake a comprehensive mapping and diagnostic analysis of ongoing and planned data systems.
- Explore the feasibility of establishing an online monitoring system for Planning and Monitoring the goals of the MGDS III, SDGs,





Vision 2063 by building on the existing data systems in the line ministries and NSO.

#### e. Climate Action

Malawi continues to face episodes of natural disasters, related to climate change and environmental risks which poses a threat to a lot of rural Malawians and the agrarian economy. The Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) has determined that 2.6 million food-insecure people will require assistance during the 2020/2021 Lean Season. The UN in Malawi will support the government through the following activities:

- Implement Joint Programmes such KULIMA, Poverty Environmental Action,

Joint Programme on Social Protection and PROSPER

- Provide oversight and support in the implementation of the Climate Action Agenda in Malawi, including hosting a Regional Green Conference.

#### f. Strategic Financing & Partnerships

The UNCT will promote joint resource mobilisation through the SDG Acceleration Fund. Besides, efforts will be made to strengthen partnership with the Malawi Government, Parliament of Malawi, NPC, development partners, NGO, Civil Society, academia and other key stakeholders through active engagement and strategic collaboration in the implementation of the SDGs.







## Acronyms

AIP	Affordable Input Programme
BRIDG	Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections
CBFO	Community-Based Financial Organizations
CCA	Common Country Analysis
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
DoDMA	Department of Disaster Management Affairs
ECD	Early Childhood Development
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
HCT	Humanitarian Country Team
JWP	Joint Work Plan
LNOB	Leave No One Behind
NRIS	National Registration Identification System
NPC	National Planning Commission
NSO	National Statistical Office
MEC	Malawi Electoral Commission
MHRC	Malawi Human Rights Commission
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MoGCDSW	Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPS	Malawi Police Service
OBS	Open Budget Survey
PAC	Public Affairs Committee
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PBO	Parliament Budget Office
PROSPER	Promoting Sustainable Partnerships for Empowered Resilience
RC	Resident Coordinator
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
UN	United Nations
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
VNR	Voluntary National Review
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene







## Annex 1: Policy documents and assessments developed with UN support

1. Employer's Consultative Association of Malawi. (2020). Assessment of the Impact of COVID-19 on Employment in Malawi
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5. Government of Malawi. (2020). National Male Engagement Strategy for Gender Equality, GBV, HIV and SRHR (2020-2023)
6. Government of Malawi. (2020). National Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Strategy
7. Government of Malawi. (2020). Standards for Improving Quality of Maternal and New-born Care in Health Facilities in Malawi
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13. Integrated Phase Classification (IPC). 2020. IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analysis (July 2020 – March 2021)
14. Ministry of Gender, Children, Disabilities and Social Welfare. (2020). A Rapid Assessment Study of Teenage Pregnancies and Child Marriages During COVID 19 In Malawi
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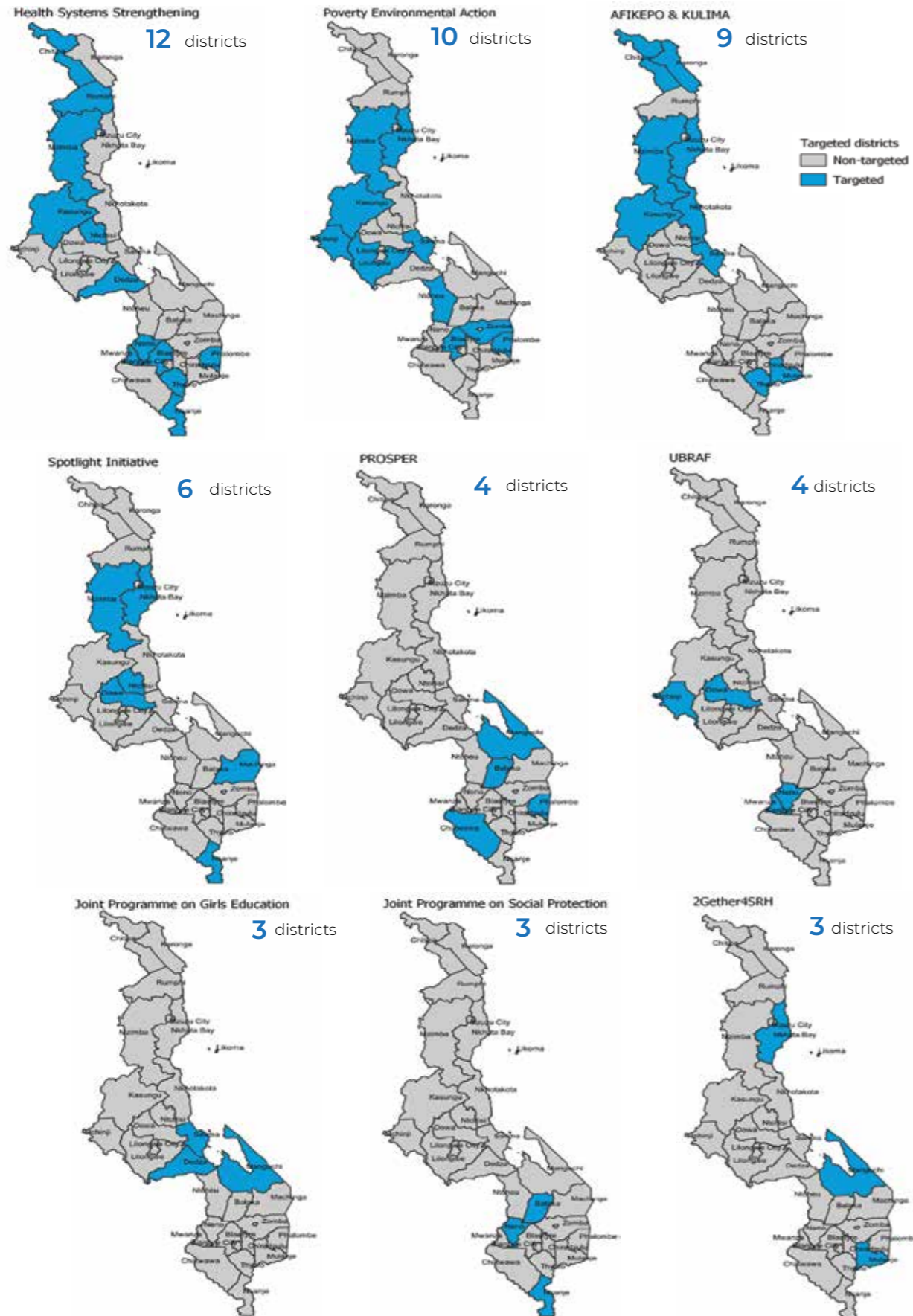


# Annex 2:



## Maps for Ongoing Joint Programmes

10 Joint Programmes (JPs) distributed in 26 districts (excluding JP's strengthening policy & legal frameworks)











## **IMPORTANT LINKS**

COVID-19 Data Portal: [https://data.uninfo.org/Home/\\_CountryProfile/Malawi](https://data.uninfo.org/Home/_CountryProfile/Malawi)

SDG Investments in Malawi: <https://malawi.un.org/en/sdgs>

UN Malawi Website: <https://malawi.un.org/>

