

act:onaid



2018

ActionAid Malawi

Annual Report

Key Organisational Identities



Who we are

ActionAid Malawi is an affiliate member of ActionAid Federation, established as a UK charity organization in 1972. It started working in Malawi in 1990 and registered as a local Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) in 2007 under the companies limited by Guarantee Act. Our core business is poverty eradication and we put citizens, especially women at the center of our interventions.



Moureen Phiri, the survivor of sexual violence, is now championing a campaign to end GBV in the workplace



Our Vision

A nation without poverty and injustice in which every person enjoys their right to a life of dignity.



Our Mission

To work with poor and excluded people to eradicate poverty and injustice.



Our Values

Mutual Respect, Equity and Justice, Honesty and Transparency, Solidarity with the poor, Courage of Conviction, Independence Humility.

COVER PHOTO : Edess Jambo is reading from a book in class. She is a star performer, having undergone ECD supported by ActionAid Malawi

Working Area coverage of ActionAid Malawi

(Map of where ActionAid Malawi is working)

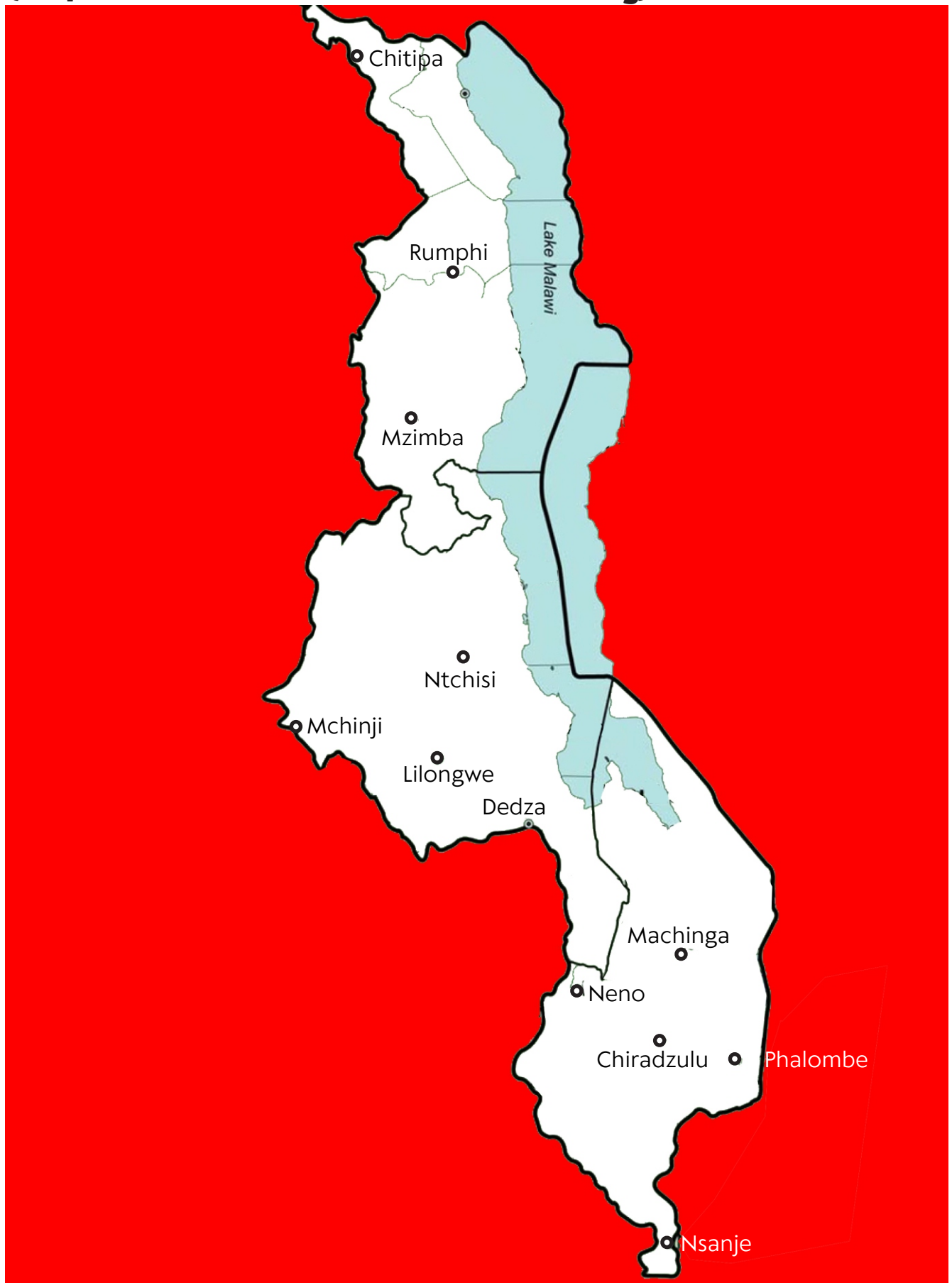


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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AAM	ActionAid Malawi
ACPC	Area Civil Protection Committee
ADC	Area Development Committee
AEC	Area Executive Committee
AGYW	Adolescent Girls and Young Women
AIDS	Acquired Immodeficiency Syndrom
BICC	Bingu International Convention Centre
CBCC	Community Based Child care Centres
CDSS	Community Day Secondary Schools
CISANET	Civil Society Agriculture Network
COP	Conference of Party
CRSA	Climate Resilient Smart Agriculture
CSO	Civil Society Organisations
CSP	Country Strategy Paper
COWFA	Coalition of Women Farmers
DADO	District Agriculture Development Office
DEC	District Executive Committee
DEM	District Education Manager
DHO	District Health Office
DRR	Disaster Risk Reductions
ECD	Early Childhood Development
EU	European Union
FFS	Farmers Field Schools
FSW	Female Sex Workers
GAWE	Global Action Week on Education
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
IFF	Illicit Financial Flows
LRP	Local Rights Programme
LUANAR	Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources
MA	Management Agency
MBC	Malawi Broadcasting Corporation

MIJ	Malawi Institute of Journalism
MISA	Malawi Institute for Southern Africa
MLS	Malawi Law Society
MNG	Multinational Corporations
MSM	Men having Sex with Men
NGO	Non-governmental Organisation
OSISA	Open Society for Southern Africa
PSAM	Public Service Accountability Monitoring
PTA	Parents Teachers Association
RFA	Ready for Anything
SFA	Strategy for Action
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SMC	School Management Committee
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights
TA	Traditional Authority
TB	Tuberculosis
UN	United Nations
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls
VCPC	Village Civil Protection Committee
VDC	Village Development Committee

Message from AAM Board Chairperson

On behalf of all the stakeholders of ActionAid Malawi (AAM), I have the honour of presenting to you the 2018 Annual Report. The 2018 was momentous for AAM, particularly due to the launch of the Country Strategy Paper (CSP) V titled *Action for Social Justice*. Launched in August, 2018, the CSP V gives AAM a renewed and ambitious commitment towards fighting for a just, equitable, and sustainable Malawi.

Emboldened by the call in the new strategy, AAM in 2018 implemented various interventions focusing on women, young women, children and other vulnerable groups living in poverty. The interventions also emanated from CSP IV, *People's Action to a Poverty Free Malawi*. Thus, it's safe to say 2018 was a bridge year for AAM.

Using our Rights-based Approach (RBA) as our overarching pillar of theory of change, we rolled interventions on gender and women empowerment, resilience and emergencies and civic participation as well as state accountability for distribution of public resources and delivery of quality and gender-responsive services.

We did this through working with grassroots partners who are part of the vulnerable groups living in poverty. We also worked by empowering local networks such as coalition of women farmers, women forums, widows association of Malawi and youth activists to amplify their agency and voice on social, legal, and economic ills limiting their realization of full potential.

We also championed advocacy at an international level in favour of the poor people. Our international advocacy has been on key sectors such as education and health, with a particular focus on TB and HIV/Aids, climate change and governance.



It, however, would not have been easy to accomplish all we did in 2018 without the unwavering support of our individual supporters and institutional donor partners. I, therefore, express my profound gratitude to all those who rendered their financial support to AAM in 2018. We will continue to count on your support for us to deliver AAM's vision. I should thank the General Assembly members and fellow Board of Directors for the untiring support in 2018. Most importantly, my gratitude goes to members of staff for your dedication and fidelity to ActionAid Malawi.

On a sad note, I am heart-broken to report that in March 2018, we lost one of our own, McDonald Mkwaila, who together with four colleagues were involved in a car accident on their way to Chitipa for official duties. Two people died in the accident, the other one being Ephraim Nyirenda, a journalist at Tuntufye Radio in Karonga. May their souls continue resting in peace.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. Malata". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Professor Address Malata.

Message from the Executive Director

Warm greetings to you all. ActionAid Malawi (AAM) is a firm believer in social justice. As such, I am pleased to present to you, our important form of accountability. At AAM, we are fully awake to the fact that getting financial support from donors is one thing. However, maximizing the utilization of the resources by impacting the lives of our target stakeholders is what defines us as a leading Non-Governmental Organisation.

Despite dwindling levels of support globally, especially from our regular individual sponsors, we at AAM, have demonstrated our courage of conviction and continue to register changes in the lives of people we draw our mandate from. For instance, through our comprehensive Early Childhood Development, we ensured that a child in the remote corner of rural Malawi enjoys the right to early childhood development education.

Our women-centred programming has seen young women like Takondwa Lino in Mchinji benefit from vocational skills and chart her own way towards economic and social empowerment. The joint TB/HIV and Aids programme has yielded much gains in significantly reducing TB cases and new HIV infections.

This has also been coupled with social and economic empowerment of adolescent girls and young women to abstain from harmful practices that hinder the realization of their rights. In governance, AAM continued to strengthen capacity of rights holders to demand accountability and transparency and improve understanding on taxation issues and raise voices against illicit financial flows in the country.

Our interventions on climate change and resilience have certainly struck chords with the communities living in disaster prone areas, as most of them are now adopting adaptation measures, while advocating for lasting solutions to climate-change induced disasters.



In all these interventions, I am grateful to the AAM staff, partners and government for the support. Poverty eradication will never be a one man's show. It needs every hand. To those who gave us financial support in 2018, we say thank you. To those who believed in our voice and joined the cause, we say let's stick together. For the duty bearers who acted on some of our demands, we say well done for delivering on your mandate.

To the Board of Directors, General Assembly members, I say thank you for your strategic support and direction. We will surely need you even more in the implementation of the new CSP V, Action for Social Justice, that takes us all the way to 2023.

The journey towards a just, equitable and sustainable Malawi is long and tedious. But we will not rest till we have a Malawi that is just, equitable and sustainable. We know together we can.

Limodzi Tingathe!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Assan Golowa Phiri', written in a cursive style.

Assan Golowa Phiri

Executive Summary



Pupils from schools surrounding Lilongwe posing with their role models during the day of the girl child

Spurred by the desire to see a just, equitable and sustainable Malawi, ActionAid Malawi (AAM) in 2018 continued to spearhead its implementations around Country Strategy Paper IV, titled People's Action to a Poverty Free Malawi, bridging into CSP V, Action for Social Justice.

The year 2018 was largely headlined by the finalization and launch of the Country Strategy Paper V. AAM successfully managed to develop and launch the ambitious strategy that took on board the aspirations and priority areas etched in the Federation's strategy, "Action for Global Justice" as well as the local development blue-print, the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III and Sustainable Development Goals.

Thus, this 2018 annual report largely captures key achievements registered in line with the newly launched CSP V which focusses on promoting and securing realization of women, young women and girls' rights; building resilience of people living in poverty while strengthening women-led secure livelihoods, preparedness and emergency response and enhancing civic participation and state accountability for the re-distribution of resources, delivery of quality, gender-response public services.

As a highlight, AAM supported young women to spearhead a campaign to confront spates of sexual violence in the work-places. Dubbed **#Ndiulula (#Iwon't be silent campaign)** the initiative sparked a conversation around violence in the work space, and marked a bold step towards bringing the sexual violence in the world of work on the spotlight.

Convinced by the significance of the campaign, the Malawi Government, through the Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare, adopted the campaign and officially launched it on 23rd November, 2018 as part of the 16 Days of Activism against gender-based violence in Malawi.

As of December, 2018, partners such as Malawi Victim Police, Malawi Congress of Trade Union, Youth Activista, Young Women Living with HIV, Domestic Workers Union and Malawi Cross-Border Traders Union had joined the campaign.

The 2018 was also the year when preparations for the 2019 tripartite elections geared into a more vigorous mode. Being an organisation deeply rooted in feminist principles, AAM was the lead

partner of the 50:50 Management Agency that was aimed increasing female representation at parliamentary and local government level. AAM also worked through its grassroots partners in lobbying for increased women representation in local governance structures such as the VDC and ADC.

Cognizant of the role of quality education in the development and empowerment of women, AAM used its flagship campaign, the tax justice campaign in calling upon the Malawi Government to intensify the domestic mobilisation of revenue through, among others, abandoning the harmful tax incentives offered to multinational corporation. AAM's belief rested on the fact that the funds mobilised domestically could significantly improve gender responsive public services, such as improved quality of education for girls in Malawi. It's refreshing to note that relevant institutions such as the Parliamentary Committee on Education nodded to AAM findings and recommendations and promised to progressively scrutinize the tax regime.

The tax justice campaign was implemented alongside social accountability projects which sought to empower the communities in budget tracking and monitoring. Resultantly, empowered communities were able to flush out malpractices in various development initiatives funded by CDF, LDF and District Development Fund. In most cases errant public officers got punished and dismissed for their hand in mismanagement of public funds, thanks to the vigilance of the empowered communities.

Most importantly, there was notable power shift in the accountability spectrum as more women engaged actively in monitoring

public resource management in the communities and ensuring promotion of gender-sensitive development plans and priorities at community and district levels.

On a national level, AAM and other partners, joined hands in championing advocacy against the retrogressive policies and laws. For instance, AAM, through its national partners such as Coalition of Women Living with HIV/Aids successfully advocated for the removal of vague and discriminating provisions in the HIV and Aids Bill.

On the climate change and emergencies, AAM continued to work with its grassroots partners in implementing climate resilient sustainable agriculture practices as one way of withstanding the climate-induced disasters such as dry spells. Most importantly, through the Food for Assets project, with financial support from World Food Program in Nsanje District, AAM reached to 18,000 households affected by disasters by way of distributing relief items, provision of seeds as well as involving community members in the rehabilitation of earth roads in return for cash.

On a national level, AAM supported a number of engagements around climate change with a view to lobbying the government to meet key demands in response to climate change. Internationally, AAM through the Emergency and Resilience Theme played a significant role in joining various international civil society organisations in impressing upon the developed countries to adopt a low-cost carbon economy as well as living up to a US\$100 billion pledge for the developing countries most affected by effects of climate change.

However, these gains were affected by a number of challenges on social, economic, cultural, political fronts. On a gender front, women and girls in Malawi continued to face widespread forms of violence including sexual harassment and abuse in many of the spaces they populate, starting from their homes, workplaces, the streets and on public transport.

In both private and public spaces, violence against women and girls remained both a cause and a negative outcome of women and girls' multidimensional disadvantages in social, political and economic life.

Women remain seriously under-represented in Malawi's political sphere despite the commitment expressed by a broad spectrum of political and civil society leaders to encourage their greater political participation and deal with all stereotypes that negate the participation of women in leadership spaces, through the 50-50 campaign.

Overall, there is under-representation of women in positions of leadership and decision making in many key institutions like political parties, cabinet, parliament and even local councils. The target for AAM is to see increased number of women in Parliament, local government and other forums of decision-making and influence.

“ On a national level, AAM and other partners joined hands in championing advocacy against the retrogressive policies and laws. For instance, AAM, through its national partners such as Coalition of Women Living with HIV/Aids successfully advocated for the removal of vague and discriminating provisions in the HIV and Aids Bill

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Our major achievements in 2018

Promoting and securing realization of women, young women and girls' rights.



ActionAid Malawi's Head of Fundraising and Communications, Tiwonge Kumwenda-Simkonda, and Chief Gender Officer, Fred Simwaka, officially opening KACODO Resources centre at Kapiri in Mchinji. Financially supported by AAM, the Centre was constructed by KACODO a partner under AAM.

Promotion of women rights remained key to AAM programming and implementation in 2018. AAM continues to believe that poverty in Malawi has a woman face and that investing in women, young women and girls could prove a turning point in the country's

efforts towards poverty eradication. In 2018, AAM, guided by the CSP V, *Action for Social Justice* focused on four major strategic programme priority areas aimed at empowering women, young women and girls.

Addressing structural causes of violence against women, young women and girls and promoting effective response mechanisms for survivors of violence

Mindful of the fact that unpaid care work is another form of violence against women and girls, AAM trained women, and young women in paid and unpaid care work, reaching out to 30819 women and young women across all the 11 local rights programmes where AAM is working. Worth noting is women, young women and girls who have gained knowledge and skills in unpaid care work and decent work sensitised community leaders and members against VAWG, unpaid care work and indecent work.

The trained agents have also been able to challenge patriarchy that predisposes them to violence and exploitation and demanded for responsive structures, systems, practices and laws that ensure access to timely justice.

Most importantly, AAM programming ensured that implementation of VAWG is a cross cutting issue. Hence it was mainstreamed into all its activities. AAM through its grassroots partners conducted awareness meetings to disseminate information against VAWG and HIV stigma



Hands off! Children carrying placards to pass the message on violence against women and girls during the anti-GBV awareness campaign at Chatata, Lilongwe

and discrimination and on how this affects HIV prevention and treatment. Women, young women and girls were able to access some elements of the VAWG Response Comprehensive Packages, Legal Literacy and VAWG Essential Services.

Women were also trained in score-card analysis to assess provision of VAWG services. LRPs supported training and awareness on instruments that promote and protect women rights, child rights and prevention of early marriages and

providers of justice system were engaged to train community protection structures on how to handle VAWG cases.

Notably, women, young women and survivors of violence have been empowered to report cases of violation of their rights and are able to access elements of the VAWG Response Comprehensive Package through counselling and psychosocial support, examination and treatment services, referral mechanisms and access to justice in their VAWG clinics.



ActionAid Malawi young female staff taking part in the Ndiulura Campaign

Promoting women's economic justice

In 2018, AAM, through its implementing partners, empowered 7246 women and girls to demand economic justice. LRPs supported women forums to conduct trainings on unpaid work and participatory tools for gender workload analysis.

The trainings explored the correlation between overburden of unpaid care-work and women's rights, especially women's economic rights. After the training, participants initiated gender work-load discussions in various villages as a way of

making women aware of the challenges of unpaid care work and fight for their economic rights and action points have been developed to address gender workload imbalance between men and

women. Moreover, partners in LRPs mobilized young women and trained them in various vocational skills as one way of empowering them economically.



Nkhulambe VSL group enjoying the sweat of the savings culture. For sure, their lives will not be the same

Story of change: Goat pass-on initiative transforms Agness' fortunes

For Agness Kumwenda, 42, her journey to economic independence reads like a miracle. Her husband dumped her in 2007, leaving her with two children to fend for. Weighed down by poverty, she saw a dark, hopeless future ahead. Successive seasons of poor harvest due to unreliable rainfall pattern in her Kopakopa Village, T/A Chikulamayembe in Rumphi District made life almost unbearable for her.

A ray of hope flickered for Agness when, later in 2007, she joined the goat pass-on programme spearheaded by ActionAid Malawi through Chikulamayembe Women Forum. "Upon joining the VSL, I was given one goat as a start-up. The rule was that the offspring should be passed on to other beneficiaries," says Kumwenda. Kumwenda's handwork paid off as she now

has 10 goats, to which she, turns to sort out her needs.

"Last year, I managed to sell two goats at a combined price of K54 000. I used part of the proceeds to pay secondary school fees for my son at Chirambo Community Day Secondary School. I also use goat manure in my garden to increase production. I thank ActionAid Malawi for their support through Chikulamayembe Forum," she narrates. Looking ahead, Kumwenda says she plans to build a modern house for herself and opens a shop of groceries.

In furtherance of women's economic empowerment, LRPs through implementing partners conducted gender sensitive awareness campaigns in the communities on access and control over land amongst the women.



She has finally seen the light: Agness Kumwenda in her goat kraal

Promoting the participation of women, young women and girls in leadership and decision-making position to influence state accountability on gender equality

Bringing women in decision-making positions remains a critical area if women's aspirations will be profiled in national development agenda. However, in Malawi, women remain seriously under-represented in Malawi's political sphere despite the commitment expressed by a broad spectrum of political and civil society leaders to encourage their greater political participation through the 50-50 campaign.

Overall, there is under-representation of women in positions of leadership and decision making in many key institutions like political parties, cabinet, parliament and even local councils with statistics standing at 16% and 8% for parliamentarians and ward councilors, respectively as at December, 2018. The situation is no different at a grassroots level where women are reduced to handclappers, for male politicians. Moved by the gapping challenge, AAM together, with its partners, mobilized a total of 8042 women to engage governance structures such as ADC, VDC, AEC, traditional leaders and DEC to lobby for more women representation in key decision-making positions.

Furthermore, AAM women's rights theme continued to work with different stakeholders to document gender-related challenges and to advocate for participation of women in politics and decision-making. This included action on influencing the state to adopt gender related electoral reforms such as gender quotas to address the slow pace of change in the participation of women in decision making.

Most importantly, AAM through the 50:50 Campaign Management Agency (MA) engaged various stakeholders key to the campaign. Among others being the Malawi Law Society (MLS) membership in all three regions through planned meetings.

We had engagements with the media at national level through Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA Malawi Chapter) during the annual award ceremony in Blantyre and at a regional level with editors and Bureau Chiefs in Lilongwe, Blantyre and Mzuzu.

Due to media engagement, there was increased reporting on 50-50 campaign and related issues in newspapers as well as online publications.



The general feedback showed that communities are now more aware of the programme and are able to isolate various norms, practices, beliefs and traditions that deter women from participating in politics.

The MA continued with high levels engagement with key stakeholders such as political parties and the clergy. The MA held advocacy meetings with party Secretaries General and the executive of Public Affairs Committee. The meetings helped the Agency understand the attitude toward women participation in politics within political parties.

The MA also engaged the private sector to solicit support. NBS and FDH banks came in to support the campaign during the launch and promised capacity building of Women Aspirants in Finance Literacy on pro-bono basis.

In addition, the MA developed a digital strategy and used both high tech and low-tech options for advocacy, enhancing visibility, raising awareness, engagement with stakeholders, beneficiaries and demystifying negative socio-cultural and religious norms, practices, beliefs and traditions through digital interactions.

The MA also engaged 32 artists that included dramatists, musicians, visual artists, and an illustrator at national level. The MA wanted to have a by-in from the artists so they speak the 50-50 language and change attitude amongst voters to vote for women, demystify negative social norms, practices, traditions and beliefs, condemn violence against women in elections, coerce voters to vote for women and break barriers to gender inequality through artistry.

The MA wanted to leverage on the large following dramatist, comedians, musicians, visual artists and illustrator command in society. Most remarkably, the MA allocated MK364,212,000.00 across the country to 21 sub-grantees to assist in championing the campaign.

Ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive health services is essential for achieving many, if not, all development goals, especially those related to education, maternal health, HIV/AIDS and gender equality.

Despite this, young women and girls in Malawi continue to experience barriers to realize their sexual and reproductive health

Promoting women, young women and girls to control their bodies inwardly and outwardly



One of the meetings ActionAid Malawi supported to ensure that the youth are trained in sexual and reproductive health rights

rights due to challenges in delivery of sexual and reproductive health care supplies and information, as well as lack of autonomy in sexual and reproductive decision-making. This is sustained by state formal rules and patriarchal social norms and practices that put pressure on women and girls to conform to their traditional reproductive roles, including having no control over their bodies and sexuality. In response to this, AAM through its grassroots partners, in 2018, conducted

awareness on SRHR targeting adolescents, community leaders, service providers, young women and activists. A total of 11573 youth including adolescent girls and young women were reached with SRHR services. Worth underscoring is the fact that many youth understand their rights and responsibilities as regards to accessing of SRHR services and engaged duty bearers to challenge traditional practices, religious and social norms that deny women, young women and girls SRHR.

Story of change: Once beaten; twice shy

At 20, Dorica Jere is wiser and empowered enough against another trap of unplanned and unwanted pregnancy. At 14, while in form two, Dorica fell prey to unprotected sex, which led to unplanned pregnancy. Helpless, she gave birth to her first child. Nine months after giving birth, her parents sent her to school again, giving her a second chance.

Looking back, Dorica blames lack of sexual and reproductive health programmes in her Mbulawa Village, T/A Khosolo in Mzimba as the culprit to her unwanted pregnancy.

"In 2016, I joined Youth Activista which accorded me first-hand experience of effects of early pregnancies and sexual involvement for girls.

I promote sexual abstinence as the best option for girls as the method of using condoms failed me before," she says.

Currently, Dorica is also a member of Work for Asset project which sets aside a Fund for the needy. Dorica got enrolled after the Youth Activista Committee negotiated to have her included.

As a member of the Fund, Dorica gets K14 000 every month, which enables her to support her education needs and that of her child.



Dorica got her life back and is now raring to pursue her dream

"My message to my fellow girls is that they should say no to sex and concentrate on education."

On a national level, AAM organised a national and international advocacy on

Corporate Accountability in solidarity with "Feminists for a Binding Treaty Global Coalition. AAM led national level processes to strengthen collective actions of women, young women and feminist organizations to urge Malawi Government to support adoption of a gender-Just UN Binding Treaty for Transnational Corporations.

The civil society taskforce for "Gender-Just UN Binding treaty on Business and Human rights" was established through a partner NGO - Gender Coordination Network and further support was provided for members to attend working group meeting at Palais des Nations, Geneva from 15-19, October 2018, where the zero draft of UN Binding treaty as well as the zero draft optional protocol annexed to the instrument was discussed.

In 2018, AAM supported women, young women and girls in the development of women's manifesto. This is a joint political statement for women in Malawi covering a wide range of issues and requests women's collective position to elect feminist transformative leaders during 2019 elections. Beyond 2019, Women's manifesto will be a key accountability instrument and a starting point for holding elected leaders accountable.



Dorica (right) with her friends after an awareness meeting on SRHR



Former ActionAid Malawi Executive Director, Grace Malera, leading the organisation in the development of the Women Manifesto at BICC (The launch of #Ndiulula (#Iwont be silent campaign)



People from all walks of life participated in the solidarity march against sexual violence

In a move to challenge the alarming spate of sexual violence against girls, young women and women in the world of work and as part of a process to localize the **Decent work for women advocacy**, AAM together with survivors of sexual violence and like-minded young women organized series of country-level processes to engage national and local partners towards building a national campaign strategy. The **#Ndiulula#Iwont be silent campaign** was therefore launched in 2018 to bring on the spotlight issues of VAWG in the workplace and to lay down

a strong foundation for the upcoming ActionAid's Global campaign on "Women's Labor, Decent Work and Public services".

The campaign was officially launched by the Former Minister of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare (GCDSW) Honourable Cecilia Chazama, M.P, in partnership with AAM, United Nations, Malawi Police, Malawi Congress of Trade Union (MCTU), NGO-Gender Coordinating Network (NGO-GCN), Youth Activista Malawi, Young Women Living with HIV/AIDS, Malawi Cross Border Traders, Coalition of Women Farmers (COWFA),



Former Minister of Gender, Honorable Cecilia Chazama (centre) also took part in solidarity march at the launch of 16 DOA.

Women Forum, and other women's rights-focused organisations. The launch took place on 23rd November, 2018, alongside the kick-start of the 16 Days of Activism "

Against Gender-Based Violence (GBV) commemorated under the theme, "Ending GBV in work places and tertiary institutions"



Young women performing during the launch of the #Ndiulura (I won't be silent) campaign)

Build resilience of people living in poverty while strengthening women- led secure livelihoods, preparedness and emergency response



Rumphi women, supported by ActionAid Malawi showing the cooking stoves which require less firewood

Women and other vulnerable groups like the youth have suffered hunger due to climatic shocks that have occurred rapidly over the last few years. Such shocks have been on the rise also due to unsustainable farming practices, inaccessibility to productive resources -

land inclusive and due to misuse of the commons that includes wanton cutting down of trees, unsustainable use of land and water sources. In 2018, AAM programmes and implementation focused on the following key areas:

Food and nutrition sovereignty, agroecology and natural resource rights and defense of the commons (natural resources for common good)

Through partners, AAM disseminated climate change-related information to a total of 24449 community members, including smallholder farmers. The communities used climate information to plan their agriculture practices which have resulted in good crop stand and good crop harvests. People who stayed in disaster prone areas also used the information to move upland before the rains started. Using the same information, 7175 women through COWFA have been practicing agroecology and this has enabled them to have enough food at household level and feed the families.

Furthermore, LRP supported partners to conduct Farmer Field School (FFS) sessions on manure-making, Agro-ecology, and irrigation farming to farmers in Lead Farmer Schools and trained women in Livestock Farming and continued with the pass on livestock. COWFA members participated in the Agriculture Fair to show-case their work, thereby opening market opportunities. They also learnt how they can store and preserve their crops for a long time, how they can save their farm earnings and make them grow and find reliable markets for their produce.

Build capacity and support agency of women and their collectives, to promote and implement agroecology including their engagement with markets for resilient livelihood



One of the FFS members, Marita Banda, during her work in the field in Nkhatabay

Under this, Khosolo, Mchinji, Phalombe, Rumphi, Nsanje LRPs in partnership with women forum supported 937 villages in the implementation of 5-year resilience plans as model villages that aspire to create their villages to be self-sufficient. They also supported farmers to participate in the 6th District Agriculture Fair to promote food security, household income and resilience building. Through community meetings and training, the LRP raised an awareness on climate change and the need to create livelihood assets to overcome livelihood shocks and gain resilience.

In Rumphi and Machinga, the LRPs conducted training for 17,837 in composite manure making and conversation agriculture as a sustainable way to boost their food production in the face of climate change. Open days on climate change effects in communities helped farmers to adapt, mitigate and transform their actions and power relations to enhance sustainable livelihoods.

Villages that promoted agro-ecology villages were supported with goats and able to use goat manure (organic manure) to enhancing agro-ecological farming practices.

Goat pass on program is still being scaled up, supported by the Ready for Anything project. The LRPs conducted community awareness meetings and trainings for beneficiaries of the Food For Asset project, on climate change and climate resilient agriculture practices and in emergency preparedness and response including disaster assessments, rescue, resourcing and utilization and women's rights.

Through the European Union-funded Better Extension Training Transforming Economic Returns (BETTER) and Kutukula Ulimi m'Malawi, (KULIMA) project which is being implemented in Chiradzulu and Nkhatabay in consortium led by Self Help Africa,, AAM trained 446 Community Based Facilitators who later formed a total of 446 FFS groups.

A total of 13,380 farmers were reached out, to with 9366 of them whom being are females. Moreover, the project procured and distributed mango fruit tree seedlings to over 9480 farmers in Chiradzulu and some parts in Nkhatabay.

Though the project implementation started late in 2018, it is already contributing to strong network and good relationship with partner organisations, suppliers and beneficiaries.



Zione and Alfred Valaiye relishing a bumper harvest from the soybean field in Chiradzulu

Technical and livelihood skills capacity building of youth living in disaster prone areas

AAM supported women and young people to gain control over resources by building their collective capacity to influence decision-making in emergencies and conflicts and facilitate a women-led, adequate and effective response. Specifically, Nsanje and Khosolo LRP supported 6 collectives, and 3,800 young women with training and open days on CRSA to women, young women, activists, and partners and lead farmers on CRSA and community awareness meetings and training for women and beneficiaries of the Food For Asset project, on climate change and climate resilient agriculture practices and training for young people in emergency preparedness and response including disaster assessments, rescue, resourcing and utilization and women's rights.

CRSA trainings and open days for the lead farmers have enhanced the knowledge of the farmers to understand how they can become resilient to shocks and hazards as a result of climate changes. Farmers are also practising CRSA to enhance their adaptation, adoption, and transform their power relationships, especially for the women lead farmers. Beneficiaries have been using climate information to plan their agriculture practices which have resulted in good crop stand and good crop harvests.

In Nsanje, the LRP organised advocacy meetings involving women and young people living in disaster prone areas with duty bearers and the local (ADCs, ACPs) and district levels (council members) to advocate for the development and

effective implementation of policies and laws governing emergencies. The meeting targeted key decision-makers on issues of emergencies at community level such as ADC, VCPC, ACPC VDC and community leaders in IDP resettlement sites from Nyachikadza, Ndamera Mbenje and Mlolo. The meeting also responded to issues that emerged from the earlier DRR trainings with women and young people in disaster prone areas.

Traditional leaders committed themselves to supporting IDPs with land if they were willing to relocate to new sites but upon entering a mutual agreement with Malawi government on issues of compensation to the original land-owners.

ACPCs and ADC also committed to prioritize development initiatives to new resettlement sites upon mutual-agreement

with councils on incorporation of the new sites within the existing development structures.

On a national level, AAM mobilised COWFA members to attend **Farmers Conference (MAFAAS-Malawi Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services)**: In the quarter, 30 women famers from COWFA attended the first farmers day held at Bunda campus-LUANAR. The women displayed their products they are producing using the agro ecological practices. They also partook in the trainings on post-harvest management and were able to clearly voice out women farmers concerns. The output of the conference was an issue paper on what can be included in the drafting of the extension strategy. Women also demanded social accountability in the extension programming to ensure that the planning and budgeting to implementation should be women-centred.



Towards justice: COWFA women marching during the MAFAAS in Lilongwe

The AAM Emergency and Resilience Theme supported **National Youth Climate Change Conference** - in line with its theme of integrating youth in climate change and emergencies led by youth. It was clear that the youth were ready and

the youth need to be involved from the design stage of interventions so that they become more home-grown and provide real solutions to the challenges in climate change.



Internationally, AAM thematic manager, Chikondi Mkawa, attended **United Nations Conference on the Convention of Climate Change in Bangkok, Thailand**. Mkawa attended the mobilization campaigns in preparation for the upcoming COP 24 held in Poland.

The session adopted several draft negotiating texts with elements as bases for further work and decisions to be adopted in Poland. Malawi continued its leadership roles for the African Group and the 47 least developed countries on climate finance, technology development and transfer, National Adaptation Plans, and gender and climate change.

Story of change: **Wezi now ready for anything**

Wezi Malunda, aged 37, used to be one of the hunger victims in her area in Chigwere Village, T/A Chukulamayembe. That was mainly due to climatic induced hazards such as dry spells, floods and strong winds.

"Despite investing a lot of energy in the fields, the harvest would always be less than expected," she bemoaned. The situation made it difficult for Malunda to feed, let alone, educate her four children.

However, the coming of the Ready for Anything (RFA) project in the area started changing the fortunes for Malunda and other 229 women.

AAM trained 230 women in early warning and the identification of climatic hazards.

The communities then developed community resilience plans. AAM worked closely with Agricultural Extension officers, the district Disaster Risk Reduction Desk Officer and village chiefs to support the women and the Village Civil Protection Committee (VCPC) to implement their plans.

The initiative also promoted increased food security and alternative livelihood strategies. Some activities under this include: compost manure making, pursuing mulching and crop diversification, multiplication of local fertilisers and use of local seed varieties. Two years since she joined the project, Malunda is all smiles.

Using knowledge she acquired from the project, she is now able to harvest enough and diversify in other practices such as backyard gardening.

"I now feed my family year-round due to effective agricultural practices I acquired from the project. Thank you, ActionAid and your partner, Chikulamayembe Women Forum."



No more vulnerable: Malunda in her vegetable garden

Enhancing civic participation and state accountability for the redistribution of resources and delivery of quality gender-responsive public services

Provision of comprehensive Early Childhood Development programme

It is a well-documented fact that investing in children is investing in the future. It is in light of this that AAM, in 2018, continued with implementation of the comprehensive early childhood development programme

(ECD) in ten of the county's districts, namely; Chitipa, Rumphi, Ntchisi, Mchinji, Lilongwe Peri-Urban, Dedza, Machinga, Phalombe, Neno and Nsanje.



Centre of ECD excellence Zaonekera CBCC in Lingwan'gwa in Machinga was the 80th to be constructed by ActionAid Malawi

In 2018, AAM continued to improve the lives and well-being of 58,000 poor and vulnerable children aged between four to six in ten districts through promoting

access to quality and sustainable ECD services with particular emphasis on consolidating gains realized in the past seven years.



Edess Jambo is reading from a book in class. She is a star performer, having undergone ECD supported by ActionAid Malawi

Since the project began a new phase of its implementation in June 2018, it was introduced to DEC in all the district councils where the project is being implemented. The project has so far added 150 CBCC, bringing the total number of centres to 480. Sensitization meetings took place in the surrounding villages to lobby parents to send their children to the CBCC centres.

The community sensitization meetings addressed most of the misunderstandings and negative attitudes that some parents had on the importance of ECD and CBCC operations. For instance, other parents thought CBCCs are for only the orphaned and vulnerable children, and also that no serious lessons happen at the CBCCs unlike in private nursery schools.

During the reporting year, a total of 1,115 caregivers from seven districts were trained in caregiving. A total of 699 of those trained were female.

The trainings helped caregivers to appreciate the holistic development of a child. It has also inculcated a team working spirit in care-givers through production of play materials for their respective centres.

Caregivers have also gained relevant knowledge and technical know-how for conducting child assessment and records keeping. It has shaped care-givers to bear positive attitudes towards working with children with disabilities. The training, therefore, had assisted the caregivers to provide better ECD in their respective CBCCs.

The project also trained other caregivers as mentors who are expected to be training other caregivers on the job as one way of reminding each other as on what they are supposed to be doing.



Village Headman in Machinga dancing in appreciation of the Model CBCC constructed by ActionAid Malawi in his area

Story of change: When communities embrace ECD

Rabecca Banda, 37, is a typical case of what embracing Early Childhood Development (ECD) means in Chinyonga Village, T/A Dambe in Mchinji District. Married with three children, she started sending her children to community-based child care (CBCC) in 2012. She went a step further by volunteering herself to be a care-giver at Chinyonga CBCC.

"However, the challenge was that we were using churches and grass-thatched structures as CBCCs, which means the sessions were disrupted on a regular basis. Come rainy season, we experienced a lot of disturbances, high absenteeism, lessons were affected due to the leaking roof," she narrates.

It was a dream come true when, later in 2012, Rabecca and ten volunteers were identified by Kapiri Community Development Organisation (KACODO) with financial support from ActionAid Malawi (AAM) to attend ECD training. The training focused on child protection, caregiving and service delivery.

"When we came back from the training, we organized a REFLECT circle with financial support from AAM. We resolved to address the challenge of inadequate and poor infrastructure by mobilizing 200 000 bricks. We then approached AAM which supported us with cement and iron sheets."

Rabecca and other community members' interest in ECD paid off, as the new model Chinyonga CBCC was constructed in 2018. The new CBCC has seen enrolment rise from 31 in 2012 to 96.

"It is pleasing to note that children who have graduated from Chinyonga CBCC perform extremely well when they proceed to primary school comparing to those directly from the community. Moreover, children are growing health and in strong because of the food that is mobilized by the CBCC and parent committees. I thank ActionAid for the support through a partner called Kapiri Community Development Organization (KACODO) in Mchinji district."



Banda (Centre) can now afford a smile at the growing community interest in ECD in the area

Collective action to end violence against children in schools in Malawi

In further quest to protect the rights of children, AAM in 2018, implemented a project titled "Collective Action to End Violence against Children in Schools in Malawi" with funding from UNICEF. Seeking to increase participation of students and communities in the prevention of violence against children in the project's target areas

of Lilongwe, Dedza, Machinga, Nkhatabay and Mzimba, the project conducted refresher training on child youth participation in their own protection and governance of the school promoted through student council and child rights clubs, reaching out to 571 learners, 71 patrons and 29 matrons.



A girl placing her complaint in the box at Mlomba Primary School in Machinga

The project further trained 201 teachers in positive discipline techniques. Teachers got trained in positive discipline techniques as alternative to corporal punishment. The training equipped teachers with knowledge on the illegality of corporal punishment and importance of engaging positive discipline measures to create a school environment which is safer and child friendly. Following the training of teachers in use of alternative discipline techniques, there is significant

reduction of incidences of teachers beating children in the targeted schools as evidenced by findings of cases identified through complaint boxes.

The project also supported the Judiciary in holding mobile court sessions to increase access to justice for victims of abuse through bringing justice closer to the people. A total of 31 cases were heard in the 5 districts covered by the project. The cases bordered of defilement, assault and theft.



Flora Wilson explaining why she decided to go back to school to pursue her dream to become a nurse

Furthermore, the project team conducted continuous monitoring of the complaints boxes placed in schools. A total of 76 boxes were placed in schools and are operating to date. In 2018, a total of 146 cases were identified through complaint boxes in all the five districts. Complaint boxes are being managed by police officers and school-based complaint box management committee which comprises representatives from learners' councils, head teachers, patrons, matrons, SMC, PTA, mother group, child protection committees and traditional leaders.

Overall, the project has led to increased coordination among child protection structures at district and community level. The project has been able to collectively bring together stakeholders working around child protection issues in the districts which are implementing the activities. For instance, Malawi police

service through the lower police formation has been able to condemn corporal punishment in schools across all the districts and encouraged all the schools' management to make the complaint boxes more accessible to the learners. Children are actively participating in reporting and responding to violence against children through various means that are accessible to them such as the presence of the one police officer per school and the complaint boxes.

The project has also seen strengthened participation of learners' council in school governance. Pupils are able to influence decision making on issues that affect them at the school's environment by advocating for their rights through the school improvement grant.

Thanks to the project interventions, targeted communities are able to quickly recognise cases of abuse and are reporting

to community policing officers. For example, there have been incidences where head teachers are able to report cases of teenage pregnancies at their particular schools together with community structures such as mother groups.

The mobile justice courts are assisting communities, especially children to easily access justice at community level by bringing forth the court officers to the communities.

Menstrual Cup Initiative

In some districts, such as Lilongwe and Ntchisi the project was complimented by the Menstrual Cup initiative which focused on promoting girls to stay in school through proper menstrual health management. In 2018, the project, through school health and nutrition coordinators, conducted an orientation training for 517 girls drawn from Chimwa, Mkomachi, Kasakura and Katete CDSS. The training, which was also attended by females from all the target schools, focused on the characteristics of the menstrual cup,

how to use it, the rules of the menstrual cup, storage of the menstrual cup, disadvantages and advantages and fully explained how a menstrual cup can help keep girls in school.

A total 35 women from Ntchisi and Lilongwe were trained on how to use a menstrual cup so to become menstrual cup champions and graduate to menstrual cup trainers after being able to use a menstrual cup for three months. The project has so far seen an increase in use of the menstrual cup among the beneficiaries, thereby allowing them to stay in school.



Take it and be safe:
Lucy Nkhoma, Menstrual
Cup Project Coordinator
distributing the cups to
girls



Girls in one of the remote secondary schools in Lilongwe undergoing an orientation on how to use the menstrual cup

Tax Justice for Gender Responsive Public Services

Privatisation is not the solution:
Spend public funds on public education to stop discrimination!

#FundEducation
<https://bit.ly/31HLkuB>

PHOTO: MAKEMENDE/ACTIONAID

Norad actionaid

Infographic: One of the campaigns tools used on social media to ask government to domestically generate resources and channel them towards education

However, for the aforementioned to be achieved, AAM in 2018 launched to implement a Tax Justice for Gender Responsive Public Services project with a goal towards an increased Public Tax Revenue as a result of progressive and equitable tax reform supporting increased and progressive government spending on quality public education for all children, especially girls and marginalized children.

Implemented in Chitipa, Ntchisi, Lilongwe Peri Urban and Neno, the project started with implementation of an inception meeting held from 2nd to 4th May 2018 at Simama Hotel in Lilongwe.

The meeting was attended by 22 people including AAM staff, the District Education Managers (DEMs) representing the Ministry of Education from the four districts where the project is being implemented, national level strategic partners such as the Civil Society Education Coalition (CSEC) and Teachers Union of Malawi (TUM) and the Ministry of Finance.

The project participated in the Global Action Week on Education (GAWE) activities. On 23rd April, 2018, a media press briefing was held at ActionAid national office.

There were 5 panelists including CSEC, DVV International, TUM, Activista and AAM was represented by the former Head of Programmes and Policy, Peter Pangani. The aim of the media press briefing was to influence increased citizen participation in

holding the government and the international community accountable to commitments made for SDG4 and to keep their promises on the realization of quality education.



Inspired: Girls drawn from various primary schools displaying what they want to become in future

Furthermore, the project conducted media orientation for journalists to know the Tax Justice for Gender Responsive Public Services project to understand the rationale behind the project and AAM work on Tax Justice (Why Tax Justice?) and generate media interest on Tax Justice for quality public services, especially education. Journalists from both print and electronic media houses at national as well as community levels participated in the orientation.

project facilitated the stakeholder engagement meeting which mainly composed of Parliamentary Committees of Education, Budget and Finance and Social Welfare on 20th June, 2018 at Golden Peacock Hotel, Lilongwe to disseminate the findings of the two studies conducted by ActionAid using the previous project called "Promoting Quality Education through Progressive Domestic Resource Mobilization". The two studies were the Tax Loss and Girls Education and Budget Performance Analysis of the 2014/2015, 2015/2016, 2016/2017 National Education Sector Budget Allocation.

To lobby parliamentarians for increased budgetary support towards education, the



A cross section of participants listening to a presenter during the meeting at Golden Peacock

The project participated in the engagement meeting with Parliament on the social sector budget allocation and the project focus was on the Education budget. This meeting was held on 18th June 2018 at BICC in Lilongwe and it provided a platform for civil society to present analysis of the national budget sector allocations and provide recommendations to the relevant Parliamentary committees. The representatives from Government ministries also presented their concerns on budget allocations to their ministries and provided responses to queries on expenditure of the 2017/2018 budget.

The budget analysis showed that 40% of total development expenditure would be domestically financed, signifying a 2% increment from the 2017/18 budget which demonstrates that the country is becoming pro-active in financing its own investment. It was noted that despite the education sector getting the lions share from the national budget, the allocation is only 11% which is way below the UNCESO recommendation of 15-20% and also represents a 42% decline compared to the 2017/18 education budget allocation. It was recommended for the Parliamentarians to lobby for increased revision of the education budget especially on the procurement of teaching and learning materials, teacher recruitment and construction of school infrastructure which is girl child and disability friendly.

Most significantly, the project facilitated a stakeholder engagement meeting which mainly composed of parliamentary committees on Education, Budget and finance and Social welfare on 20th June, 2018 at Golden Peacock Hotel in Lilongwe.

The main objective of the engagement meeting was to share the findings of the two studies conducted by AAM during the previous project implementation period for the Promoting Quality Education through Progressive Domestic Resource Mobilization.

The two studies were the Tax Loss and Girls Education and Budget Performance Analysis of the 2014/2015, 2015/2016, 2016/2017 National Education Sector Budget Allocation. This engagement was done in line with the World Public service day as education is a public service and parliamentary committees should therefore ensure effective resourcing of the education sector to meet the unmet needs. The reports also presented important findings on education financing and education spending which are crucial to the realisation of the right to education.

The essence of the engagement was also for members of parliament to prioritize domestic resource mobilisation as a key element to financing the education sector and influence policies and laws on taxation and the ensure transparency in the processes of granting tax incentives to MNCs. At the end of the meeting, participants through the chairpersons of the committees commended the good work that AAM is doing in promoting quality education. The members appreciated the knowledge gained through the research findings and how AAM is promoting the safeguarding of resources to ensure tax justice and increased domestic resource mobilization.

At a national level, the theme attended a number of meetings relevant to priority area:

International platform 2 meeting in Arusha Tanzania: The Acting Theme Manager and the Head of Programmes and Policy participated in the International Platform 2 meeting in Arusha on Public Services and Civic Participation. The meeting discussed priority areas for Gender Responsive public services and Tax Justice. The discussions centred on the global context and mapping out strategic actions at country and global levels. This meeting defined key issues on programming of Gender Responsive public services and Gender Responsive Public Education.

SADC NGO Meeting in Windhoek Namibia:

The Acting Thematic Manager and Governance Officer, Chisomo Manthalu attended the SADC NGO meeting in Windhoek, Namibia in August 2018. AAM participated through the NORAD project in hosting the Education Now! Thematic café, which focussed on mobilising and demanding progressive education financing by SADC governments and influencing changes in policy to ensure progressive taxation.

AAM presented a report for a study which was done on education financing and girls education in Malawi and shared Malawi context experiences and the challenges prevalent in the education sector and provided recommendations for collective action by CSOs in the SADC region to collectively demand progressive domestic resource mobilisation.

Africa Union conference on Ending Child Marriages in Accra Ghana:

In November 2018, through the Girls Not Brides national partnership, the Acting Thematic Manager who is also the Vice Chair of GNB-Malawi, Yandura Chipeta attended the Africa Union 2nd Ending Child Marriage Conference in Accra, Ghana. During this conference, different African governments highlighted the work they have been doing on the AU Campaign to End Child Marriage in Africa. Panel discussions were held on innovations in relation to working with Chiefs and local leaders, menstrual hygiene management, human rights approaches and how education can help to end child marriages. During the conference, a World Bank report was shared on the need for governments to invest in education as it is a tool that can lead to end poverty in the world including ending child marriages. The report showed the various economic benefits of keeping girls in school longer.

Enhancing citizen participation in budget tracking and monitoring for equitable and sustainable development in Malawi

Apart from the Tax Justice for Gender Responsive Public Services project, AAM in 2018 implemented the "Enhancing Citizen participation in Budget tracking and monitoring for equitable and sustainable development in Malawi" Project which sought to achieve to improve public service delivery through strengthening social accountability and citizens' oversight role.

Implemented in Rumphi, Phalombe, Mchinji and Nsanje, the project, among others, conducted training to build the capacity of councillors in gender sensitive budgeting such as gender responsive planning and budgeting; and ensure that gender is mainstreamed in the council budget. The project further conducted live radio debates at local community level on budget tracking and monitoring.

The project facilitated a radio programme with Zodiak Radio Station in Mzuzu on 28th March 2018, and a similar one in Blantyre with Times Radio on 26th April, 2018. The radio programme centered on community participation in the district budget processes.

In Phalombe, on 4th April, 2018 the project supported budget review process for Phalombe District Council. This was attended by council secretariat, budget and finance committee and representatives of the civil society, totaling to 30 participants.

The meeting was highly rated by stakeholders in the district as it improved information flow from the council to the district stakeholders, thereby improving council's accountability and transparency. The council secretariat made a commitment to be meeting annually



to increase ownership of the budget by stakeholders.

The project further conducted district-based pre-budget consultations review of the 2018/2019 Budget Processes for Mchinji and Rumphi. The activity was done to review the processes that Mchinji and Rumphi councils followed in the formulation of the 2018/2019 council budgets.

As part of the decentralization process, the National Budget and Council Budgets ought to be aligned with the needs of the people. At national level, the government had conducted pre-budgetary consultations with various stakeholders in

the formulation of the 2018/2019 National Budget and, as such, it was expected that the district councils would follow suit.

As such, the project carried out a study which was commissioned to assess the level of pre-budgetary consultations in the formulation of the 2018/19 Local Council Budgets in Mchinji and Rumphi districts. The study focused on the district level decision makers such as; council personnel, office of the DHO, DEM and DADO; CSOs and community members (VDCs) in the respective districts. The findings were disseminated to inform advocacy campaigns.

Story of change: Community rescues abused grant in Rumphi

There was a time people of Chinyolo area in Rumphi district hardly knew how duty bearers were spending public funds. They were always at the receiving end and did not participate in the development processes.

However, this is now a thing of the past as Chinyolo Area Development

Committee (ADC) is now able to track public expenditure to ensure that all public funds are used for their intended purpose. "We used to wonder how some institutions spend public funds as the budgeted funds could sometimes not match with the work done," said Chinyolo ADC chairperson, Harvey Chihana.

Chihana, boasts that Chinyolo ADC is now on top of their game in as far as watchdog role on public funds and work are concerned. He picked out Lungazi Primary school where Chinyolo ADC managed to track the public funds and discovered financial abuse by the school officials, including the head teacher.

He explained: "At this school, the officials received School improvement Grant (SIG) and another money for school rehabilitation from government.

The community was not convinced on how the school used these funds. Therefore, the ADC, the councillor and Primary School Advisor went to investigate and found that K293, 710 was missing. We squeezed the school officials and we are happy that they returned the money."

Chihana attributes this success to the social accountability project which ActionAid Malawi (AAM) and Civil Society Agriculture Network (CISANET) have been implementing with funding from European Union (EU). Through the project, Chinyolo ADC was trained in budget tracking, the knowledge which they lacked before the project rolled out in February 2016.

Apart from Rumphu, the project was also implemented in Mchinji, Nsanje and Phalombe. Senior chief Kaduya from Phalombe district echoed her Rumphu counterpart by describing the project which ended in January 2019 as a success and best governance gift from AAM, CISANET and EU.



Harvey Chihana explaining how the funds were recovered

Strengthening Social Accountability and oversight in health and agriculture

The implementation of the project was supported by another social accountability project called "Strengthening Social Accountability and oversight in health and agriculture," with a view to improving public service delivery in agriculture and health. In 2018, the project supported the development of a localized PSAM training

curriculum focusing on Agriculture sector using Mchinji district council as a case study. The curriculum development focused on access to farm inputs and extension by smallholder farmers in Mchinji within 2016/2017 financial year. The curriculum unearthed key service issues in the Agriculture sector in Mchinji district.

The issues informed key advocacy and capacity building interventions at both district and national levels. The project built the capacity of some community members in Nsanje to conduct budget tracking and social accountability monitoring.

The training workshop targeted civil society organizations under Governance sub-committee and Mbang'ombe Health Centre officials and Health Advisory Committee and structures. This was facilitated by TICOSO (Tipherane Community Support Organisation). The outcome of the workshop was, the tracking of accountability with Nsanje District Council officials, and the local people on the construction of Mbang'ombe Health Centre.

Most significantly, the project successfully advocated for the establishment of the Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO). To that effect, AAM held series of meetings with Parliament to discuss plans of Parliament of Malawi to review its five-year strategic plan(2015 - 2020).

AAM's interest in the process was to see the PBO reflected and sufficiently resourced in

the revised version of the strategic plan. Once operationalized, the PBO will enhance the capacity of Members of Parliament (MPs) to critique the Budget as they will have a better understanding of the budgeting process. The PBO will, further lessen the burden on the part of the Ministry of Finance to give technical explanations of the Budget to MPs. The PBO will also eliminate wastage of resources that are done through the procurement of consultancies by parliament secretariat to analyze the voluminous budget documents on behalf of Mps.

In addition, the PBO will facilitate that the expertise remain within parliament secretariat and will demystify the budget process as the MPs will have an alternative reliable source to cross check the information or reports provided by the executive.

The project further conducted an advocacy and interface meeting for government to review Public Finance Management Act (PMFA) of 2003 to include PBO in the revised PMFA version. This will enhance sustainability of the office as it will be established and protected by statute.

Enhancing citizen action in curbing illicit financial flows in Malawi

Cognizant of the devastating effects illicit financial flow have on Malawi, AAM in 2018, implemented the "Enhancing citizen action in curbing illicit financial flows in Malawi" with funding from OSISA. Implemented in Mzimba, the project thought to mobilise and enhance citizen engagement and dialogue with the government to curb illicit financial flows and promote progressive taxation.

Through a Reflection Action (RA) cycles, the project managed to raise awareness campaigns in villages and schools by RA circles, facilitators, Activista network,

women farmers, community-based organisations and ActionAid staff Awareness campaigns were used to reach out to the wider public to raise awareness on IFFs as well as engage the public on their opinion.

It is refreshing to note that RA circles are now citizen forums for gaining knowledge on tax justice and illicit financial flows by communities in Mzimba in Khosolo.

The RA circles have also become important forums for citizen analysis of development and poverty as a result of Tax injustices and illicit financial flows.

Resultantly, there has been increased awareness and knowledge on tax injustices among people living in poverty in tax raising, tax allocation and tax spending which has led to communities engaging with leaders to address gaps and meaningfully involve them in issues of taxes

and illicit financial flows. There is increased debate on progressive taxation in the project areas as a result.

There is also more engagement of duty bearers, both political and administrative by women and youth on development with linkage to tax injustice and illicit financial flows.

The Joint TB/HIV Global Fund Programme



AGYW Club members displaying the products they make and sell in Mangochi

As a Principal Recipient (PR) of Non-Biomedical- component of the joint TB/HIV Global Fund Program, which is based on the strategic objectives of the National Strategic Plan for HIV and AIDS 2015-2020 and the National Strategic Plan for TB 2015-2020, AAM in 2018 started implementation of the three-year (2018-2020) programme with a budget of USD 30, 082, 198.

The programme focused on reducing morbidity and mortality from Tuberculosis, reducing HIV-related morbidity and mortality and reducing the number of new infections towards elimination of HIV transmission.

Reaching out to the general population, people living HIV and Aids, young women aged between 10 to 24, those in prisons and other closed settings, key populations, AAM

focused on improving Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) uptake, retention and adherence through focused public and patient education, and national scale up of peer support groups.

The programme also centred on expanding TB case detection through multiple strategies including active case finding in health facilities, communities and other settings such as prisons.

AAM further supported communities through Civil Society Organization (CSOs) to participate in the HIV/TB response and to play a role in community systems, strengthening advocacy for removal of legal barriers and developing capacity to address needs of the males, females, key populations and vulnerable groups in TB/HIV interventions.

Nationally, the programme participated in a number of activities including the launching of the National Adolescent Girls and Young Women Strategy, national

commemorations including the Candlelight Memorial Service, International Women's Day, and 16 Days of Activism and World AIDS Day.

Story of change: Intensifying Community TB Identification through Volunteers

Considering that TB affects the citizenry, both economically and socially, the Government of Malawi through the Ministry of Health and Population and various stakeholders are implementing different TB interventions across the country.

At community level, the Government is using Community Sputum Collection Points (CSCPs), which are community led structures that support TB case identification of presumptive and supports treatment adherence of TB patients. These CSCPs are manned by volunteers.

AAM, a Principal Recipient for the non-biomedical part of the Joint TB/HIV Global Fund Programme, is one of the organizations that are training CSCP Volunteers to build their capacity in identifying and reporting TB.

According to the AAM TB Technical Coordinator, Kondwani Mshali, the organization is working through Episcopal Conference of Malawi and has facilitated training of 14,000 volunteers from 1400 CSCPs across the country in passive case finding in 2018. It has also established 180 hotspot villages in eight TB high risk districts where it has trained 360 volunteers to be conducting symptomatic house to house TB screening. In total, these volunteers have referred 9,254 TB presumptive to their nearest health centres and 1,040 of these were diagnosed with TB in 2018.

Idah Mchelenje is one of the volunteers at Chikompolasi CSCP in Mzimba. Their CSCP started in December 2016 and reports to

Ekwendeni Mission Hospital. In 2018, the volunteers referred 53 presumptive cases to the hospital and out of these, 10 were diagnosed with TB. By 26 March 2019, 9 of those diagnosed with TB had finished their treatment.

According to Idah, establishment of the CSCPs has brought TB services closer to the community and this is encouraging more people to submit their sputum for examination. "People are no longer walking long distance neither are they spending money for transport to have their sputum examined at the hospital or to collect their results," she said.

49-year-old Synate Kaunda is one of the people that were referred to the hospital to have his sputum diagnosed by Idah. Synate said TB affected his work as a builder because his health deteriorated.

"For a year I could not work. I am grateful to the volunteers for encouraging me to adhere to drugs. I am now cured and back to my work which brings food on the table. My advice to all people is to encourage them to go for testing when they suspect TB signs and adhere to drugs if they are diagnosed with TB. TB can kill, but I am a living testimony that there is TB treatment," he said.

Through the Joint TB/HIV Global Fund Programme, AAM has been supporting the CSCPs with enablers including sputum bottles, bicycles, tables, chairs, umbrellas, registers, reporting forms, but also protective wear to prevent the volunteers from contracting the disease.

Organisational Highlights

Enhancing Programme Quality and Effectiveness (PQE)

Under Programme Quality and Effectiveness unit, AAM developed CSP V organization M&E framework including indicators. AAM monitoring and evaluation framework indicators and their definitions were developed as yardstick to measure the performance of the interventions implemented in the organization under the

CSPV. Indicators were used during baseline study to establish benchmarks on which to measure progress towards the realisation of the programme priority areas and objectives, as well as the basis to measure the overall impact at the end of the strategic period.



AAM further conducted monitoring visits to eight districts. Partners that were visited implemented at least all activities planned for 2018.

The AAM also participated in eastern and southern region planning meetings to provide the direction in setting of activities to be in line with the AAM M&E framework priority areas and objectives and guidance on setting up milestones and performance targets within the CSP V period. LRP needed to be oriented before planning exercises for them to have clear planning concepts and understanding.

Through the guidance from the PQEU, plans were re-visited and re-developed based on the priority areas and objectives set in the AAM M&E framework.

AAM also conducted Early Childhood Development (ECD) comprehensive internal assessment in all 10 LRPs where the project is being implemented.

The exercise conducted to assess the deviations and challenges facing early childhood development programmes in all ten AAM impact areas. It also assessed the process of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and impact of the project.

The assessment informed improvements in the implementation of the project during its lifetime, and taking up approaches and activities that have proven to work to scale up the project during the next implementation phase.

Enhancing fundraising and visibility profile

In 2018, AAM child sponsorship unit committed itself to engage in supporting empowerment of communities and their organizations to critically challenge the root causes of poverty in their localities. This organizational approach and engagement has called for much resource both financially and well-equipped personnel. The Unit positioned itself to realizing this commitment through increased efforts in partnership development, retention of child sponsorship individual sponsors and profiling of the organizations' work.

The sponsorship operation and processes is being managed centrally by a unit consisting of three sponsorship team members responsible for overall sponsorship activities at various levels to ensure supporters are satisfied with service provided as per agreement.

In terms of performance in the year 2018 on servicing our supporters, by the end of the first and second reporting period AAM had 89% overall Child Sponsorship score in both periods.

In 2018 AAM had 14,261 supporters at the beginning of the year and 14,022 by 31st December, 2018.

For non-child sponsorship products AAM had 1,333 Next step supporters and 1,721 SFA supporters and by 31st December there was 1267 Next step and 1064 SFA supporters. Italy has remained the biggest funder of AAM ever since. Increased accountability of supporter communication was achieved through providing quality and timely service to existing and new supporters.

On visibility, AAM kick-started 2018 with a one-day media orientation to enable the country's media appreciate the organisation's achievements under Country Strategy Paper IV: *People's Action to a Poverty Free Malawi*, and foster closer partnership and collaboration between the two partners.

A total of 20 media institutions, were invited to the meeting that was conducted at the organisation's office in Lilongwe.

The meeting saw AAM programme heads from Women Rights, HIV/AIDs, Resilience, Education and Governance make presentations on their thematic areas by highlighting major achievements recorded under the CSP IV.



ActionAid Management discussing with the media on how best to work together to maximise impact

Another notable achievement recorded by AAM under its Communications Unit in 2018 was the development of the 2018-2023 Communications Strategy, Social Media Visibility Strategy and Communications Guidelines. The documents were developed through soliciting inputs from members of staff, Federation partners and a member of the Board of Directors with expertise in communications. The production of the documents was necessitated by the need to align all supporting documents to the new CSP V titled: Action for Social Justice. Thus, the three documents are expected to support the implementation of the CSP V which runs from 2018 to 2023.

In 2018, Communications Unit played a key role in providing editorial, production and hyping and facilitating media support towards the launch of the CSP V. The Unit led members of staff in the production of the Information, Education and Communications (ICE) materials such as the background banner, wrappers, caps, T-shirts, SCP V document, CSP V summary booklet and video documentary entitled: ActionAid Malawi Journey under CSP IV".

Moreover, the unit facilitated the hyping of the launch through providing regular media updates on the launch. Most importantly, the unit facilitated the participation and subsequent

coverage of the CSP V in various media outlets in the country. The Unit also led in the production of the pictorial focus on the launch of CSPV.

As one way of raising visibility of AAM's interventions, the communications unit produced a quarterly online newsletter which was shared through its media platforms such as website, Facebook page and Twitter Handle. A total of four quarterly newsletters were produced in the 2018, which documented in greater detail, various engagements, stories of change, and case studies under programmes, campaigns and projects by AAM.

In response to the growing social media appeal, the communications unit regularly grew and refreshed its social media pages, namely, Facebook Page and Twitter Handle. The media outlets were used to immediately update the donors, stakeholders, partners and the general public on AAM's engagements. Most importantly, the unit used the social media pages to raise profile and visibility of AAM online campaigns such as the Tax Justice, #Ndiulula and GAWE campaigns. Due to the regular updates, the social media pages grew in numbers of followers, likes, impressions, clicks, engagements, and replies. The table below shows how AAM social media pages performed in 2018.

2018 Facebook Insights



2018 Twitter Analytics



ActionAid Malawi
@ActionaidM

An international anti-poverty agency working in over 40 countries, taking sides with poor people to end poverty and injustice together. In Malawi since 1990.

Malawi actionaid.org/malawi Joined March 2017

1,472 Following 1,716 Followers

Tweets Tweets & replies Media Likes

Edit profile

Strengthening Human Resource, Administration and Organisational Development

In order to align and appropriate the staff to the newly launched CSP V: Action for Social Justice, the Human Resources and Organisational Development (HROD) Unit led the organizational re-structuring process by way of preparing as well as periodically engaging the staff, Board and AA Federation on the process with a view to ensuring a transparent and responsive exercise. In 2018, the exercise laid a strong foundation for the subsequent phases under the exercise aimed at ensuring the organisation comes with a team of staff that is fit-for-purpose and capable enough to deliver the promises under the CSP V.

In 2018 the Uni also continued to build the capacity of members of staff on key policies that contribute to an enabling working environment for all members of staff, regardless of gender or sexual orientation. The Organisation, thus, conducted an orientation exercise for all members on the organisational sexual harassment policy

in line with the current **#Ndiulura (I won't be silent) campaign** being championed by the organisation.

Furthermore, to enhance and easily track staff performance, the Unit conducted a participatory review and update of the staff performance appraisal document.

The updated document, which takes effect in 2019, is expected to boost staff performance in line with the demands of the CSP V.

More refreshing is the fact that, in the reporting year, AAM continued to do better on the 60-40 staff representation threshold in terms of gender. As an organisation founded on strong feminist principles, AAM is pleased to note that more and capable women joined AAM as members of staff in 2018. At the end of 2018, AAM had achieved 40% representation of female staff at the organisation.

ActionAid Board of Directors in 2018

No	Name	Gender	Expertise/Field	Professional Background
1	Prof. Address Malata Board Chairperson	F	Fundraising	Academia
2	Frank Zambezi Vice Chairperson	M	Law	Legal Practitioner
3	Rodgers Kamphinda Board Treasurer	M	Finance	Accountant
4	Prof. Dorothy Nampota	F	Fundraising	Academia
5	Judith Kamanyi	F	Programme/ Policy	Consultant
6	Joyce Mataya	F	Organisational Development	Consultant
7	Emily Mkamanga	F	Advocacy	Media
8	Laston Masumba	M	Organisational Development	Consultant
9	Noris Mangulama Chirwa	F	Human Rights	International Law
10	Chipiliro Kansilanga	F	Media and Communications	Journalist
11	Bertha Chiudza	F	Women's Rights	Gender Justice and Community Development Specialist
12	Mary Nsemwa	F	Organisational Development	Fundraiser/Accountant
13	Felistas Chikusilo	F	Auditing	Accountant
14	Mandala Mambulasa	F	Law	Legal practitioner
15	Myness Mkandawire	F	Academia	Activist

General Assembly members in 2018



Senior Chief Kachere



Beatrice Makawa



Bethel Chihana



Catherine Chiwaya



Syned Mthatiwa



Maganizo Mazeze



Getrude Chimbalanga



Oliver Mkandawire



Mrs Ntonthozeni
Kachitsa



Rose Muyaya



Saiti Chikwapulo



Patrick Siwinda



Lilian Chirambo



Frank Godfrey Msiska



Madalisto Chaphera
Ngwira



Lilian Kufase
Dindi Kumwenda



Alex Mzungu Jere



Ellen Matupi



Tiwonge Gondwe

General Assembly members in 2018 (continued)

No	Name
1	Rachel Silungwe
2	Felistus Chikusilo
3	Felisa Kilembe
4	Murphy Kajumi
5	Mandala Mambulasa
6	Harrison Kalua
7	Maganizo Mazeze
8	Ellen Matupi
9	Tionge Gondwe
10	Catherine Chiwaya
11	Prince Kapondamgaga
12	Madalo Chaphera Ngwira
13	Saiti Chikwapulo
14	Mtonthozeni Kachitsa
15	Betty Chinyamunyamu
16	Frank Godfrey Msiska
17	Bethel Chihana
18	Syned Mthatiwa
19	Oliver Mkandawitre
20	Ms. Lilian Chirambo
21	Ms Charity Kapalamula
22	Mr Lackson Kalua
23	Mrs Getrude Chimbalanga
24	Ms Beatrice Makawa
25	Ms Tadala Thembakako
26	Mrs Rose Muyaya
27	Mrs Lilian Kumwenda
28	T/A Kachere
29	Alex Mzungu
30	Patrick Siwinda

2018 Financial Report and Audited Reports



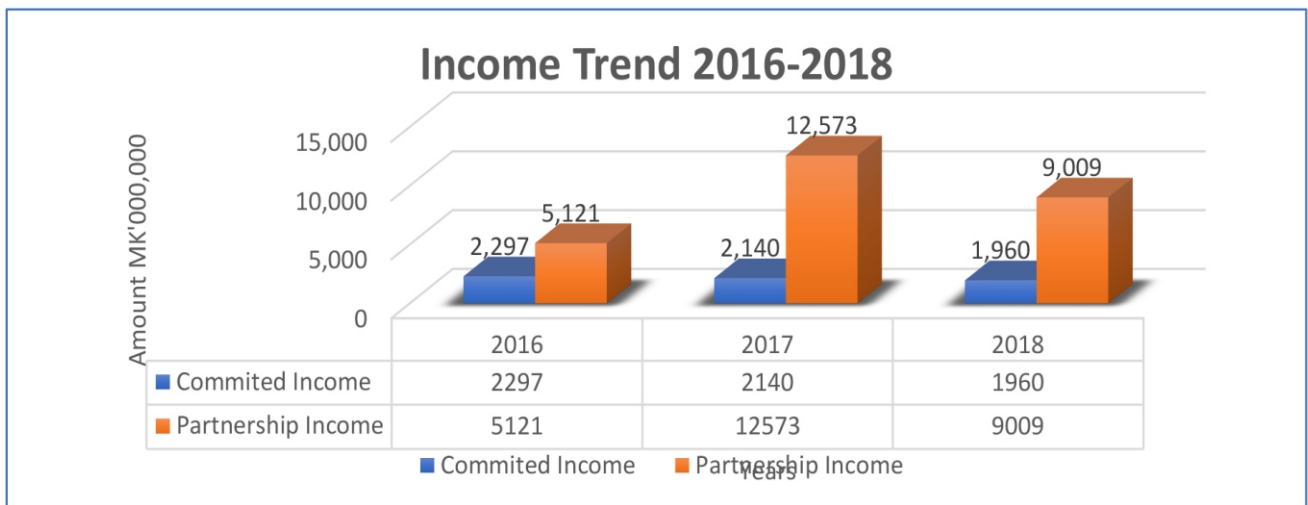
As one way of enhancing efficiency in the implementation of financial systems, AAM in 2018 migrated to an upgraded accounting package that has significantly offset gaps in the previous systems. The milestone has managed to integrate all financial systems within the ActionAid Federation and link them to an online banking system.

Dubbed the Global Financial Systems (GFS) the new, automated accounting package, has eased the work for the finance and audit team as it does not require a lot of paper-work.

The package has multi-currency applications which has enabled AAM finance team to easily conduct the analysis of the accounting systems and enhance accountability of funds at ActionAid.

Most significantly, the integration of the systems from the across the Federation, has eased the analysis and improvement in the accounting systems, a development that has instilled donor confidence in the Federation, including AAM.

"The GFS system has brought positive developments, to the organization and to my work personally. Through the system, I can attach supporting documentation for each payment which ensures effectiveness, provides history of invoices and payments. In addition, the system is cloud-based which means that I can access the system anywhere and don't have to be physically at the office, this enhances effectiveness, efficiency and is a genius innovation for ActionAid Malawi!!", Dan Likungwe, Early Childhood Development Project Accountant".



Summary of Financial Performance

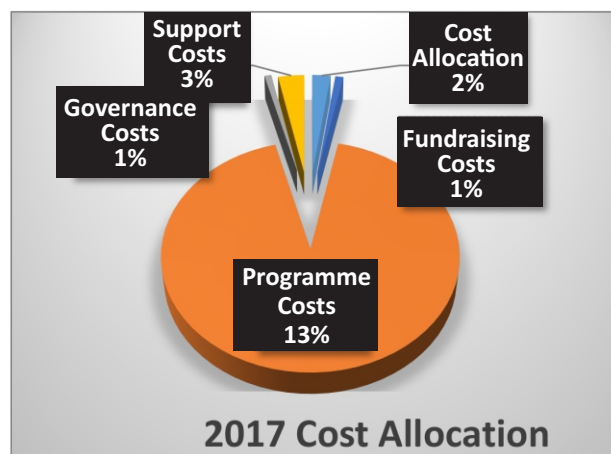
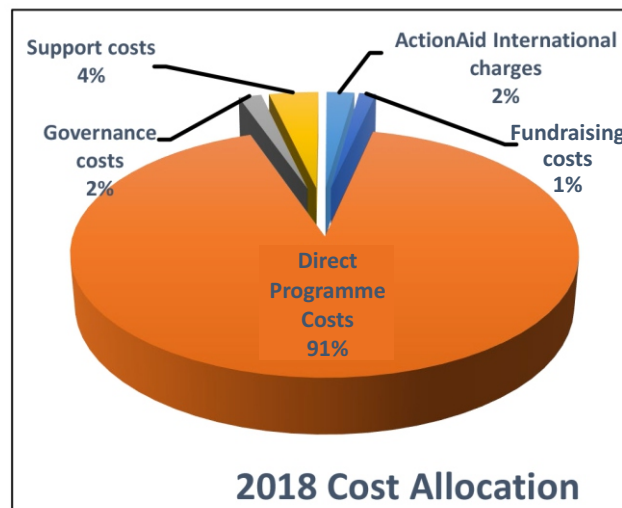
Income

In 2018, ActionAid Malawi raised MK11,411 billion representing a drop of 23% from previous year income of MK14.911 billion. The drop was mainly due to the late start in implementation of some key partner grants resulting into low uptake of funding due to low absorption. Overall Partnership income reduced by 28% while Committed Income reduced by 8% due to pulling out of Spain and attrition of supporters. A total of sixteen grants were operational in 2018 with some closing during the year while all eleven Local Rights Programs (LRPs) were operational. The LRP were funded by supporters from Italy, the United Kingdom, Brazil and Spain.

Expenditure

Total fund utilisation for 2018 amounted to MK11.378 billion, representing a drop of about 24% from 2017 expenditure of MK14.968 billion. As noted in the income drop, expenditure declined due to late start of implementation of key projects such as the Global Fund caused by prolonged inception processes at the beginning of a new grant.

Extracts of 2018 Audited Financial Statements and Auditor's Report to the Board of Directors



Statement of Directors' responsibilities

For the year ended December 2018

The Companies Act 2013 requires directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of the operating results for the year.

The Act also requires directors to ensure that the company keeps proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors accept responsibility for the following:

- Maintenance of proper accounting records that correctly record and explain the transactions of the company;
- Selection of suitable accounting policies and applying them consistently;
- Making judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Compliance with applicable accounting standards subject to any material departures' being disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- enable the financial statements to be readily and properly audited; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors also accept responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the company and to maintain adequate systems of internal control to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The directors have assessed the company's cash flow forecasts and budget for the year ending 31 December 2019 and confirm the going concern assumption adopted in the preparation of financial statements.

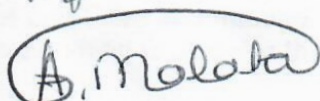
The directors confirm that they have complied with the company's Corporate Governance regulations 2016 with respect to corporate governance.

The directors are of the opinion that the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the financial affairs of the company and of its operating results.

Director:



Director:



12 July 2019

Independent auditor's report

To the members of ActionAid International Malawi



Building a better
working world

Chartered Accountants (Malawi)

Ernst & Young Villa, Area 14
Pacific Villas
PO Box 30697
Lilongwe, Malawi

Tel: +265 (0) 1 770 363 / 770 368
Fax: +265 (0) 1 770 361
ey.com

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of ActionAid International Malawi set out on pages 4 to 25 which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2018 and the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of ActionAid International Malawi as at 31 December 2018, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the requirements of the Companies Act 2013.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code) and other independence requirements applicable to performing audits of financial statements in Malawi. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other Information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information consists the Statement of the directors' responsibilities. The other information does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed on the other information obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Statements

The directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the requirements of the Companies Act 2013, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of

financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the company and its activities to express an opinion on the financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the company's audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide the directors with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

Chartered Accountants (Malawi)
Chiwemi C Chihana, Partner
Registered Practicing Accountant
12 July 2019

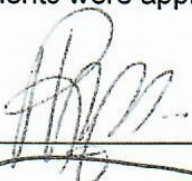
Member firm of Ernst & Young Global Malawi

Statement of Financial Position

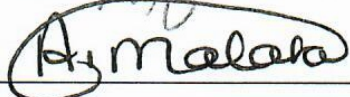
As at 31 December 2018

	<u>Note</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
		K'000	K'000
Assets			
Non-current assets			
Vehicles and equipment	5	447,185	404,291
Current assets			
Amount due from implementing partners	6.1	1,188,039	518,507
Other receivables	7	243,303	263,061
Amount due from related parties	8.2	152,557	482,993
Cash and short-term deposits	9	2,652,163	5,642,626
		<u>4,236,062</u>	<u>6,907,187</u>
Total assets		<u>4,683,247</u>	<u>7,311,478</u>
Reserves and liabilities			
Reserves			
General reserve		2,071,291	2,037,840
Current liabilities			
Deferred income	10	1,655,401	4,198,410
Amounts due to related parties	8.3	276,544	214,954
Amounts due to implementing partners	6.2	105,104	340,673
Other payables	11	574,907	519,601
		<u>2,611,956</u>	<u>5,273,638</u>
Total reserves and liabilities		<u>4,683,247</u>	<u>7,311,478</u>

The financial statements were approved by the board of directors on 12 July 2019 and were signed on its behalf by:



Director



Director

Statement of comprehensive income

For the year ended 31 December 2018

	<u>Note</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
		K'000	K'000
Income			
Committed income	12	1,960,772	2,140,715
Partnership income	13	9,009,260	12,572,742
Other income	15	441,648	197,609
		<u>11,411,680</u>	<u>14,911,066</u>
	'kp[
Expenditure			
Fundraising costs	16	146,228	147,298
Programme Costs	17	10,366,713	13,884,437
Governance costs	18	197,966	127,037
Support costs	19	427,137	476,196
ActionAid International charges	14	240,185	333,998
	21	<u>11,378,229</u>	<u>14,968,966</u>
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		33,451	(57,900)
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive income/(deficit) for the year		<u>33,451</u>	<u>(57,900)</u>

Statement of changes in reserves

For the year ended 31 December 2018

	K'000
Balance at 1 January 2017	2,095,740
Deficit for the year	<u>(57,900)</u>
Balance at 31 December 2017	<u><u>2,037,840</u></u>
Balance at 1 January 2018	2,037,840
Surplus for the year	<u>33,451</u>
Balance at 31 December 2018	<u><u>2,071,291</u></u>

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 December 2018

	<u>2018</u> K'000	<u>2017</u> K'000
Cash flows from operating activities		
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	33,451	(57,900)
Adjustments for:-		
Depreciation charge	127,894	79,164
Net cash generated from operating activities before Working capital changes:	<u>161,345</u>	<u>21,264</u>
(Increase)/decrease in amounts due from implementing partners	(669,532)	22,113
Decrease/(increase) in other receivables	19,758	(33,908)
Decrease in amount due from related parties	330,436	187,966
Increase in amount due to related parties	61,590	214,954
(Decrease)/increase in amounts due to implementing partners	(235,569)	340,673
(Decrease)/increase in other payables	55,306	249,016
Decrease in deferred income	(2,543,009)	(1,033,579)
Net cash generated from operating activities	<u>(2,819,675)</u>	<u>(31,501)</u>
Investing activities		
Purchase of vehicles and equipment	<u>(170,788)</u>	<u>(182,303)</u>
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	(2,990,463)	(213,804)
Cash and cash equivalent at beginning of year	5,642,626	5,856,430
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>2,652,163</u>	<u>5,642,626</u>

Country Strategy Paper V Launch



Honourable Atupele Muluzi, giving a key-note address during the launch



Part of AcionAid Malawi staff and partners with their pavillions at the launch



Guest of Honour, Honourable Dr. Jean Kaliliani speaking at the launch



High table attentively following the proceedings during the launch



ActionAid Malawi chairperson, Professor Address Malata, giving the remarks at the launch



Women dance to celebrate the launch of the CSP V



Guest of Honor, Dr. Jean Kalilani, showing a copy of the CSP V and Atupele Muluzi looks on



ActionAid Malawi Executive Director, Grace Malera, making a speech during the function



Guest of Honor, Dr Jean Kalilani and Atupele Muluzi pose with the ActionAid General Assembly, Board, Staff and Partners after the function.



Guest of honour, Dr. Kalilani (left) and ActionAid Malawi Board Chairperson, Professor Address Malata after cutting the ribbon to mark the official launch of the CSP V

Dr. Kalilani and Muluzi listening to the presentation on the Global Fund Programme by ActionAid Malawi Staff, Edward Chileka Banda





Judith Chitsulo, an ex-sponsored child is now financially independent after AAM supported her with skills in tailoring

For queries and Feedback contact:

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