

# One UN Fund for Malawi Final Narrative Report

*prepared for*

United Nations in Malawi



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*by*

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## Participating Organizations

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Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

International Labor Organization (ILO)

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS)

United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UNHABITAT)

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UNWOMEN)

World Food Programme (WFP)

World Health Organization (WHO)

## Contributing Donors

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United Kingdom Department for International Development

Flemish Government

Government of Germany

Government of Norway

Private Sector

UN Resources

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## Abbreviations and Acronyms

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ART	Antiretroviral Treatment
CPR	Contraceptive Prevalence Rate
CLAN	Community Leaders on Action for Nutrition
DaO	Delivering as One
DoDMA	Department of Disaster Management Affairs
ECD	Early Childhood Development
GHI	Global Hunger Index
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
JP	Joint Programme
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MEC	Malawi Election Commission
MGDS	Malawi Growth and Development Strategy
MNH	Maternal, New-born & Child Health
MoH	Ministry of Health
MPTF	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
PRP	Preliminary Response Plan
QCPR	Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review
RCO	Resident Coordinator's Office
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
TCPR	Triennial Comprehensive Policy Review
UN	United Nations
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDG	United Nations Development Group
UNDS	United Nations Development System
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
VHC	Village Health Committees
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
YFHS	Youth-Friendly Health Services

## Definitions

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### **Allocation Amount**

approved by the Management Committee for a project/programme.

### **Approved Project/Programme**

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

### **Contributor Commitment Amount(s)**

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

### **Contributor Deposit Cash**

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

### **Delivery Rate**

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

### **Indirect Support Costs**

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

### **Net Funded Amount**

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

### **Participating Organization**

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

### **Project Expenditure**

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

### **Project Financial Closure**

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

### **Project Operational Closure**

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

### **Project Start Date**

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

### **Total Approved Budget**

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

### **US Dollar Amount**

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

## Executive Summary

The Malawi One UN Fund started in 2009 and was originally established to support the UNDAF 2008-11 as part of the One UN Initiative in Malawi. The UN in Malawi has worked since 2006 to progressively implement elements of Delivering as One (DaO) and implemented 13 of the 15 UNDG Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on DaO, with the remaining two to be included in the new UNDAF 2019-2023. Recognizing the benefits of the One Fund in bringing agencies together for joint programming, empowering the Resident Coordinator to promote coordination and coherence in programming and reducing transaction costs for UN agencies and development partners, the UN in Malawi expanded the use of the One Fund to support the 2012-2016 UNDAF, including the UNDAF's extension until 2018. The two UNDAFs set out the Fund's main programmatic framework and funding themes. In addition, thematic funding windows have been gradually established for earmarked funding since 2012. Formal funding windows other than the UNDAF themes were gradually established for Humanitarian Work, Right to Food, and Human Rights.<sup>1</sup>

The Malawi One UN Fund mobilized a total of USD 120,550,943 from donors between 2009 and 2018. Net funding received by participating UN organizations amounted to USD 117,291,237 (including direct costs), of which USD 117,291,237 have been implemented at a resulting delivery rate of 99.7%.

<i>Deposits</i>	<i>Net Funded Amount</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Delivery rate</i>
<b>120,550,943</b>	<b>117,673,303</b>	<b>117,291,237</b>	<b>99.7%</b>

The annual use of funds accelerated noticeably from 2015 to 2018 with rates between 11-14% and a peak year 2016 with 22%. This upwards trend correlates with the humanitarian crises in Malawi between 2015 and the first quarter of 2017.

The main areas of UN Malawi's interventions remained consistent across the two UNDAFs supported by the One UN Fund. Based on the two UNDAFs' results frameworks and in line with reported money flows across funding themes and windows, this report summarizes the Fund's overall impact and major achievements under the One Fund through 5 themes:

	<i>UNDAF 2008-11</i>	<i>UNDAF 2012-16</i>	<i>Fund Window</i>	<i>Expenditure USD</i>
<i>1. Sustainable Economic Growth and Food Security, including Social Support and Disaster Risk Management</i>	Theme 1 Theme 2	Theme 1	Right to Food	21,163,584
<i>2. Basic Social Protection Services</i>	Theme 3	Theme 2		14,643,425
<i>3. Response to HIV/AIDS</i>	Theme 4	Theme 3		8,563,729
<i>4. Good Governance</i>	Theme 5	Theme 4	Human Rights	11,647,892
<i>5. Humanitarian Response</i>	-	-	Humanitarian	59,601,024

The largest share of resources by far was received by the Humanitarian Window, which absorbed more than USD 59 million or 51% of the entire Fund. This was due, to a large extent, in response to persistent and recurrent natural disasters and humanitarian crises during the life of the Fund. Accordingly,

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

operations in the second half of the Fund's duration were largely dominated by the humanitarian response in close collaboration with the Government of Malawi and other development partners.

### ***Sustainable Economic Growth and Food Security***

The One Fund's support to Malawi's economic development, as outlined in the government's MGDS and MGDS II, focused on **the agricultural and food sector** to improve the countries chronic food insecurity. The Global Hunger Index (GHI), representing one element for the reporting on SDG indicator 2.1.1 in Malawi, indicates the positive impact of MGDS and MGDS II, including the Fund's substantive contribution through the two UNDAFs, on the country's food and nutrition security, showing a steady decline from an overall score of 37.8 in 2005 to 26.5 in 2018. This is mostly due to improved child nutrition, in particular a sharp reduction in stunting of under five-year old children to below 40%. Important contributions and achievements under Sustainable Economic Growth and Food Security include:

- The percentage of households with food reserves in critical months increased from 78% in 2010 to 83% in 2013 with UN support to farm management techniques and the use of improved seed and fertilizers.
- Land under irrigation farming increased by 671ha (84% of the planned 800ha) in 2011 alone, benefitting 2,283 people and filling the food shortage gap from November to March. In addition, a total of 9,844 farmers and staff were trained in production of different crops & livestock as well as fish rearing in Mzimba and Kasungu.
- 132,000 vulnerable households gained access to labour in 10 food insecure districts under the 2017 Integrated Resilience project through District Councils and NGO cooperating partners.
- With regard to **private sector** development, 12 microfinance institutions increased their client outreach by 34 percent (from 888,684 to 1,192,733 clients) between 2009 and 2011. The outreach to female clients increased from 46% to 51% during the same period. The UN Malawi supported 12 microfinance institutions with loans, grants and capacity building, including technology improvements, human resource, financial management and monitoring and evaluation systems.

### ***Basic Social Protection Services***

Regarding the improvement of **basic health services**, main key indicators identified in the UNDAF 2012-16 show overall positive trends. Maternal and under-five mortality continuously decreased by 94% and 66%, respectively, over the last decades compared to 2016 values. Important **education** measures of the Fund's two UNDAFs, such as primary net enrolment, increased by almost 15% from 2010 to 2017 and the Gender Parity Index (GPI) at the primary level improved considerably to around 1.0 for Standards 1-6. Enrolment in Early Childhood Development (ECD) programmes also increased from 30% in 2010 to 54% in 2018 due to improved sector coordination, management and policy development. Important achievements in the area of Basic Social Protection Services include:

- The Government's Child Health Days campaign supported by the Fund was instrumental in decreasing vitamin A deficiencies in pre-school children from 22% in 2009 to 4% in 2015. Coverage of vitamin A supplementation provided during the Child Health Days reached 92% (2,215,559 out of 2,450,698) in 2013, up from 85.6% in 2011.
- The expansion of community based child care centres (CBCCs) from 10 000 to 11 000 between 2016 and 2017 through which approx. 20,000 children received school meals, and the establishment of public Teacher Training Colleges reaching out to more than 3000 teachers, teacher students and lecturers in 2015 alone.



- In the context of **water and sanitation**, between 2009-12 the UN provided water supply to more than 600,000 people through water access points, more than 270,000 latrines in selected districts, approx. 470,000 pupils were served with WASH facilities in schools, and more than 1,900 villages reached Open Defecation Free (ODF) status.
- Regarding **child nutrition**, the UN employed innovative real-time solutions, such as the use of rapid SMS, to collect nutrition data, initially implemented in the two districts Chikhwawa and Salima. The rapid SMS system was expanded into a total of 21 districts which have access to real-time nutrition and growth statistics.

### **Response to HIV/AIDS**

Malawi's HIV prevalence remains one of the highest globally, but impressive progress has been made over the last decade. According to recent UNAIDS data,<sup>2</sup> there were approx. 1 million people living with HIV in Malawi in 2017, the HIV prevalence rate among adults aged 15 to 49 being 9.6%. New infections are estimated around 39,000 for the same year, a substantial decrease compared to 74,000 in 2005.<sup>3</sup> With a 71% ART coverage rate, Malawi is meeting its target for 2016–2017 based on the National Strategic Plan, and on course to meeting the 2020 second 90 target in line with the UN's 90-90-90 Initiative. However, the current coverage for children on antiretroviral treatment in Malawi is only 63%. Nonetheless, this number represents a steady increase from 46% in 2013. Likewise, there is a gender disparity with women being more affected by HIV than men (12.8% compared with 8.2%, aged 15-64). Important achievements in this area include:

- In 2015, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria approved USD 332 million for Malawi via two principal recipients, i.e. the Ministry of Health (MoH) and Action Aid following technical and financial assistance by the UN on the Global Fund Concept Note. At the time, this represented the Global Fund's highest per capita grant under 90-90-90 alignment.
- Simultaneously, a new National HIV and AIDS Strategic Plan (NSP) and Prevention Strategy was completed and launched, making Malawi the first country in the world to align its NSP to the 90-90-90 programme established by the UN in 2013. The Joint United Nations Team on AIDS in collaboration with other development partners played a key role in supporting the implementation of the national programmes funded by the Global Fund. In 2017, Malawi successfully signed the next Global Fund grant of USD 500 million for the period 2018-2021.
- In close collaboration with the UN on the prevention of HIV, sex work networks were reconstituted in Dedza, Mchinji, Nkhata Bay, Mangochi and Chiradzulu in 2016. An increasing number of sex workers accessed condoms and other sexual reproductive health (SRH) services, including sexually transmitted infections (STI) treatment. This interventional correlates with condom uptake among sex workers which increased from below 50% in 2015 to 74% in 2016. This increased uptake in condoms further correlates with a decreasing number of STI cases reported over the same period suggesting that condoms are being used by sex workers.

### **Good Governance**

**Gender inequality** remains a persistent issue based on prevalent social norms and customs. Key indicators such as domestic violence against women or seats held by women in parliament show either negative trends or fluctuate below targets. SDG 5 thus represents a major challenge in Malawi.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. <https://www.unaids.org/en/regionscountries/countries/malawi>

<sup>3</sup> Cf. UNAIDS Data Book 2017

Likewise, frequent **Human Rights** violations particularly in the context of LGBT and albinism continue to severely impact and threaten the lives of minorities in Malawi. Important achievements under the One Fund in the context of the Good Governance theme include:

- The UN managed a USD 50 million project for the creation of a civil registry that registered 9,168,689 aged over 16 years, including the issuance of biometric ID cards. Through this initiative, Malawi is on steady path to achieve SDG 16 target 9. The UN also supported the review of electoral laws, among them the recommendation for Malawi Electoral Commission (MEC) to migrate from an outdated optical mark recognition system to biometric voter registration. Consequently, MEC entered into an agreement with National Registration Bureau to use biometric ID for 2019 elections.
- In order to strengthen the legislative framework for gender equality and equity, three out of a target of five laws were reviewed and or approved as part of UNDAF 2008-11 outputs. The UN supported advocacy for the Deceased Estates Bill and the Gender Equality Statute, both laws were approved in 2011. The Prevention of Domestic Violence Act was reviewed and disseminated. In addition, policy makers have been trained in gender budgeting, monitoring and gender analysis.
- In 2016, the UN, through UNDP, UN Women and UNFPA, supported the elaboration of simplified versions of the Gender Equality Act (GEA) and other Gender Related Laws such as the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act, Deceased estates, Wills and Inheritance Act, Marriage Divorce and Family Relations Act, which have also been translated into Chichewa and Tumbuka for easy understanding by women, men, boys and girls in rural areas. As a result, there has been an increase in the reporting of Gender based Violence cases by 50% which were directly reported to relevant authorities and documented and were brought to formal courts for prosecution.
- After noting a growing number of human rights violations in Malawi, in 2016 the UN established a dedicated human rights window under the One Fund, initially to work on the rights of persons with albinism and the LGBTI community. The Window allowed the UN to attract unearmarked funding, tackle sensitive human rights issues and respond to emerging human rights situations. Increased respect for rights of persons with albinism was strengthened through community awareness raising and civic education around the Penal Code Amendment Act. Access to justice was strengthened through the development of a Handbook for prosecutors and magistrates (finalised in November 2016) accompanied by training workshops.
- On rights of the LGBTI community, the UN supported ten transformative dialogues with key stakeholders, constitutional and strategic public interest litigation, and provided training for CSOs and LGBTI community based organizations. In addition, a real-time monitoring and reporting system for human rights violations against LGBTI persons was initiated in 2016.

### ***Humanitarian Response***

Although already established in 2012, most of the activities under the Humanitarian Window have taken place during the humanitarian crises between 2015 and the first quarter of 2017, caused by one of the worst floods in Malawi's history in January 2015 followed by erratic rainfalls and an El Nino-induced drought in the following year. In October 2016, 6.7 million people in 24 districts (40% of Malawi's population) were declared to be food insecure. The collective humanitarian response by Government, the UN, and several other partners was effective in improving household food security as evidenced by the findings under the Food Consumption Score, Coping Strategies Index as well as the Food Expenditure Share. These findings showed that the proportion of targeted households with

poor food consumption was reduced by 68%. In total, USD 43.7 million or 37% of the One Fund's resources have been expended through the Humanitarian Window between 2015 and 2017. Major contributions to the humanitarian relief and response programmes in collaboration with the Government of Malawi and other development partners include:

- During the flood response, the UN distributed a total of 11,296 metric tonnes of food supplies to a total of 368,182 people (80,809 Males, 88,592 Females & 198,781 Children).
- As part of the Humanitarian Food Response, the UN supported 437,504 people (96,002 Males, 105,270 Females and 236,232 Children) with direct food distribution and cash transfer modality.
- The UN supported 298,000 people in camps (146,000 males, 152,000 females of which 197,000 were children) with protection and health services covering: provision of essential drugs and distribution of supplies and commodities such as emergency contraceptives and condoms; provision of ambulance, mobile clinics, treatment and maternity delivery shelters; safe spaces for women and young people; cholera surveillance, prevention and control; measles campaign.
- Through the Agriculture Cluster, 240,000 households affected by the El Nino-induced drought were reached in 2016 with inputs (seed and fertilizer) for rain-fed season through seeds fairs or direct distribution as part of the response implementation.
- By the end of the peak of the lean season January to March 2017, the UN in Malawi, through WFP, had reached six million food insecure people with lifesaving in-kind food and a hybrid voucher and cash scheme. The remaining 700,000 food insecure people were reached by an INGO consortium.

## 1. Introduction

The Republic of Malawi is a landlocked country in south-eastern Africa and is demarcated into three major regions of diverse geographical features, namely the Northern, Central and Southern provinces. Home to 17.6 million people, the total population increased by roughly 35% between 2008 and 2018, 51% of the population being under 18 years.<sup>4</sup> Malawi belongs to the group of least developed countries with a GDP (PPP) of 23.7 billion in 2018.<sup>5</sup> Its growth rate fluctuated significantly between 7.6 and 3.5% over the last decade due to a weak fiscal situation, high inflation and low resilience to recurrent shocks and food crises, such as experienced in the period from January 2015 to the first quarter of 2017.

Malawi faces major challenges despite its relative political stability and democratic governance over the last decades. Fundamental needs such as food and health security are provided insufficiently and unequally, education is poor with high levels of illiteracy, and the country's economy is dependent on small-scale, rain-fed agriculture, which limits productivity and increases the country's vulnerability. The situation is aggravated by population growth as well as environmental challenges, such as land degradation and frequent natural disasters. Multiple forms of inequality further exacerbate threaten the safety and rights of women, children and marginalized groups, particularly the LGBTI community and people with albinism. This is due to persisting negative social norms and practices, low implementation of existing policies, and limited awareness of human rights.



### ***The One UN Initiative in Malawi***

The One UN Initiative in Malawi was initiated in early 2006, following the General Assembly's *Triennial comprehensive policy review (TCPR) of operational activities for development of the United Nations system*, A/RES/59/ 250 of 17 December 2004. This resolution stressed that 'the purpose of reform is to make the United Nations development system more efficient and effective' and requested that funds, programmes, and specialized agencies create joint implementation offices. Since 2006, UN Malawi has progressively implemented 13 of the 15 UNDG Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on Delivering as One. The remaining two will be included in the new UNDAF 2019-2023. The One UN Initiative in Malawi is being collaboratively implemented under the leadership of that country. In line with the UNDG SOPs, the One UN Initiative in Malawi is comprised of five pillars: One Programme, One Budgetary Framework (incl. One UN Fund), One Leader, Operating as One, and Communicating as One. The Malawi One UN Fund has been an important contributor to enhanced coordination and UN Reform in that country.

<sup>4</sup> Malawi Population and Housing Census Report 2018.

<sup>5</sup> World Bank, International Comparison Program database.

## 2. The Malawi One Fund

The Malawi One Fund was originally established in 2009, to support the UNDAF 2008-2011, as part of the transition to the UN Delivering as One model. The project successfully brought agencies together for joint programming, while empowering the Resident Coordinator, increasing programming coherence, and reducing transaction costs for UN agencies and development partners. UN Malawi expanded the use of the One Fund to support the 2012-2016 UNDAF, including the UNDAF's extension until 2018. Since 2012, UN Malawi moved to establishing earmarked projects within the thematic funding windows that were in addition to the UNDAF themes. These earmarked funds were used for humanitarian response, right to food, and human rights.<sup>6</sup>

### Purpose

One Fund's objective was to support cohesive resource mobilization, allocation, and disbursement of pooled donor funds to compensate for the unfunded gap of the UNDAF. The UNDAF and Annual Work Plans are therefore the programmatic documents that served as the basis for funding requests and allocations.

Directed by the UN Resident Coordinator for Malawi and guided by the Joint Strategy Meeting (JSM), the Fund facilitated strengthened planning and coordination process', and channelled consistent funds towards the highest priority needs thereby better realizing UNDAF's objectives. Additionally, it facilitated partnerships and improved communication between all stakeholders engaged in the country's sustainable development.

### Governance Arrangements

Administered by the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office) hosted by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the governance of the funds structure consisted of the following six key entities:

#### ***The UNCT Special Session/Joint Strategy Meeting***

The Malawi JSM comprised of the Chief Secretary as Chair and the Resident Coordinator as Co-Chair. The sitting members were Principle Secretaries of the Malawi Government and UN representative agencies that signed the existing UNDAF. The members of the JSM guided and decided on the overall strategic orientation of all aspects of delivering the UNDAF in that country. UNDP as the Administrative Agent participated in the UNCT Special Session as an ex-officio member.

#### ***The Resident Coordinator***

The Resident Coordinator was responsible for the overall management and resource mobilization, of the One UN Fund with the objective of improving delivery at country level. This was done in consultation with the Participating UN Organizations.

#### ***Allocation Committee***

Under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator and the guidance of the JSM, in accordance with the agreed allocation criteria and processes, prioritization and allocation of un-earmarked funds in the One Fund was the UN Country Teams (UNCT) responsibility. This was. They provided oversight for the

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<sup>6</sup> The Malawi One UN Fund TOR provides a more detailed description of the Fund.

management and operations of the fund while programme implementation was the primary responsibility of the Country Directors/Head of Participating UN Organizations.

### ***The UNDAF Programmatic Clusters***

Recommendations on the allocation of the resources within each UNDAF Outcome was the responsibility of the UNDAF Programmatic Clusters, or Humanitarian Clusters in the case of the Humanitarian Funding Window. The recommendations were based on the Fund's agreed criteria and processes listed in the TOR and other reference documents.

### ***The Administrative Agent***

The MPTF Office was responsible for the administrative management of the Fund. Its responsibility included the signing of the Standard Administrative Agreement with Donors, the Memorandum of Understanding with Participating UN Organizations, maintenance of the Fund account, receipt of contributions from donors, and disbursement of funds in accordance with the approved Annual Work Plans.

### ***Resident Coordinator's Office***

The Resident Coordinators Office (RCO) supported the strategic leadership role of the Resident Coordinator for the One UN Fund. This office provided its services for the designated tasks of the Resident Coordinator as outlined in the TOR of the One Fund. These included progress analysis, lessons to be learned for future programme implementation, consolidation of narrative and financial reporting amongst others.

## **Programmatic Framework**

Established in January 2009, the Malawi One UN Fund provided financial support for the implementation of two consecutive UNDAFs in Malawi, UNDAF 2008-2011 and UNDAF 2012-16, and was operationally closed in December 2018. The two UNDAFs set out the Fund's main programmatic framework and funding themes. Thematic funding windows have been created since 2012 for earmarked funding, such as humanitarian efforts.

## Overview of Programmatic Framework and Funding Themes/Windows

<b>UNDAF 2008-2011</b>		<b>One UN Fund Contribution (USD expenditures)<sup>7</sup></b>
<b>Theme 1</b>	<b>Sustainable Economic Development and Food Security</b>	<b>11,908,063</b>
<b>Theme 2</b>	<b>Social Protection and Disaster Reduction</b>	<b>5,424,637</b>
	Social Protection	
	Disaster Risk Reduction and Management	
<b>Theme 3</b>	<b>Social Development</b>	<b>13,150,648</b>
	Health	
	Nutrition	
	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion	
	Basic Education	
<b>Theme 4</b>	<b>HIV and AIDS</b>	<b>6,729,700</b>
<b>Theme 5</b>	<b>Good Governance</b>	<b>7,087,096</b>
<b>UNDAF 2012-2016</b>		
<b>Theme 1</b>	<b>Sustainable and Equitable Economic Growth and Food Security</b>	<b>3,830,884</b>
	Food Security	
	Employment	
	Private Sector Development	
	Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change	
	Social Support and Disaster Risk Management	
<b>Theme 2</b>	<b>Basic social and protection services</b>	<b>1,492,777</b>
	Health	
	Nutrition	
	Education	
	Child Protection	
	Water and Sanitation	
<b>Theme 3</b>	<b>HIV and AIDS</b>	<b>1,834,029</b>
<b>Theme 4</b>	<b>Good Governance</b>	<b>4,560,796</b>
	Democratic governance	
	Human Rights	
	Capacity Development	
	Integrated Rural Development	
	Gender	
	Population and Youth Development	
<b>Additional Formal Funding Window<sup>8</sup></b>		
<b>Window</b>	<b>Humanitarian Funding</b>	<b>59,601,024</b>

<sup>7</sup> Financial data retrieved from <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/MW100> - August 2019.

<sup>8</sup> Ad-hoc windows without dedicated fund accounts were used as well, largely for resource mobilization purposes.

### ***UNDAF 2008 – 2011***

Starting one year prior to the Malawi One UN Fund, the central purpose of the UNDAF 2008-11 was to support the Millennium Development Goals, as locally articulated in the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS), and in full compliance with the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. Promoting economic growth to reduce poverty, aid dependency and achieve the Millennium Development Goals, the MGDS outlined a national policy framework comprising of five themes: (1) Sustainable Economic Growth, (2) Social Protection, (3) Social Development, (4) Infrastructure, and (5) Good Governance.

To leverage UN Malawi's comparative advantage and maximise its effectiveness, the UNDAF 2008-11 provided programmatic support to 4 of the 5 themes, which excluded infrastructure, but added HIV/AIDS as a fifth thematic area. Relevant to each of the 5 UNDAF thematic areas have been 4 cross cutting issues, each of which has been mainstreamed in the five UNDAF theme areas: (1) Gender equality, (2) Human rights, (3) Disaster risk reduction, and (4) Capacity development for implementation.

During the first year of implementation of the UNDAF 2008-11, certain areas of activity in the UN system were not adequately captured. Consequently, UNDAF failed as a strategic framework for a coherent and cohesive United Nations. The reason being that implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of UNDAF was difficult, and at times unmanageable, due to the lack of an operational plan bridging UNDAF and the individual Agency Annual Workplans. To address these shortcomings, the Malawi UNCT decided to develop an operational document at its annual retreat in early March 2009, resulting in the Malawi One Plan 2009-11.

### ***UNDAF 2012 – 2016***

'Moving from Poverty to Prosperity' represented the overarching theme of the UNDAF 2012- 2016. The foundation of the UNDAF was formed by substantive multi-stakeholder consultation processes, UN Malawi Country Assessment, and MGDS II. MGDS II (2011-2016) continued to focus on the reduction of poverty through inclusive sustainable growth and infrastructure development. It was structured around six thematic areas: (1) Sustainable Economic Growth, (2) Social Development, (3) Social Support and Disaster Risk Management, (4) Infrastructure Development, (5) Improved Governance, and (6) Cross-Cutting Issues

Guided by the UN comparative advantage findings of the UN Country Assessment, and aligned with the goals and targets of the MGDS II, four priority areas of cooperation were identified as critical for the United Nation to support the people and Government of Malawi: (1) Sustainable and equitable economic growth and food security, (2) Basic social and protection services, (3) HIV and AIDS, and (4) Governance.

### ***Humanitarian Window***

The concept of establishing a Humanitarian Window was already initiated in 2009 to strengthening humanitarian response in Malawi. It came as part of a global effort of implementing humanitarian reform as recommended, during the 2005 Humanitarian Response Review, by the Inter Agency Standing Committee at the global level.



### ***Right to Food Window***

In 2014, the United Nations, with the support of the Government of Flanders, established separate funding dedicated to implementing the UN Special Rapporteurs recommendations of the for the right to food contained in his report, following his Malawi mission (A/HRC/25/57 Add.1).

### ***Human Rights Window***

In 2016, as a response to increasing human rights violations in Malawi, the UN established a focus on human rights with funding from DFID. The funds initially earmarked for persons with albinism and the LGBTI community. These funds allowed the UN to leverage unearmarked resources, tackle sensitive human rights issues, and respond to emerging human rights violations.

### 3. Overall Achievements and Impact of the Malawi One UN Fund

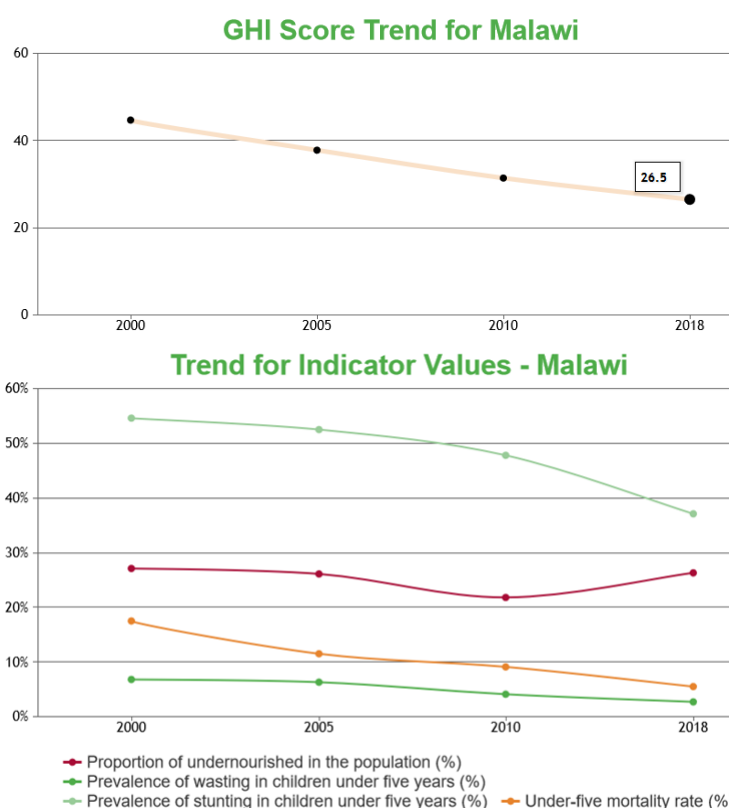
UN Malawi’s core interventions, supported by the One UN Fund, remained consistent across both UNDAFs. The resulting framework, in line with reported money flows across funding themes and windows, indicate the One Funds major achievements summarized into 5 themes below.

	UNDAF 2008-11	UNDAF 2012-16	Windows	Expenditure
6. Sustainable Economic Growth and Food Security, including Social Support and Disaster Risk Management	Theme 1 Theme 2	Theme 1	Right to Food	21,163,584
7. Basic Social Protection Services	Theme 3	Theme 2		14,643,425
8. Response to HIV/AIDS	Theme 4	Theme 3		8,563,729
9. Good Governance	Theme 5	Theme 4	Human Rights	11,647,892
10. Humanitarian Response	-	-	Humanitarian	59,601,024

#### Sustainable Economic Growth and Food Security

The One Fund’s support to Malawi’s economic development, as outlined in the government’s MGDS and MGDS II, focused on **the agricultural and food sector**. The goal being to improve the countries chronic food insecurity and break the country’s dependence upon small-scale rain fed agriculture. Food security interventions were targeted towards small farmers with the objective of boosting and diversifying production and adding value to agricultural produce. Further initiatives included enhancements to agricultural productivity, especially at household level, and stimulated commercial production by connecting producers to processors and exporters. Simultaneously, the UN identified business and investment opportunities that linked the private sector to producers.

The Global Hunger Index (GHI), representing one reference point for the reporting on SDG indicator 2.1.1, indicates the positive impact of MGDS and MGDS II in Malawi. It also highlights the One Fund’s substantive contribution, through the UNDAFs, to the country’s food and nutrition security. The GHI Report 2018 shows the country’s food insecurity steadily declining from 37.8 in 2005 to 26.5 in 2018. This downward shift is related to an improvement in child nutrition, most notably the ‘stunting in children under five-years’ to below 40%.



Source: <https://www.globalhungerindex.org/malawi.html>

In contrast, the general under-nourishment fluctuated for the ten years of the Fund's duration reflecting the country's macro-economic and social reality. In 2010, undernourishment had declined to 21.8% of the population, however, that number increased to 26.3% in 2018. This was due to extensive flooding that occurred in 2015 and the subsequent drought that severely impacted Malawi's agricultural sector<sup>9</sup>. The same trend is reflected in the latest Integrated Household Survey (IHS), showing an increase of food from 2010-2017 (NSO 2017).

UN Malawi, through the UNDAFs, implemented multiple initiatives to contribute to the national development strategy and to sustainably strengthen food security for that country. The initiatives included improved seed and fertiliser training and farm management techniques, which led to an increase from 78% to 83% between 2010 and 2013 for households with food reserves in critical months. Annual household staple food production also increased from 3% to 4% and the percentage of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption reduced from 15% to 14%. Similarly, due to the pass-on programme for livestock, the percentage of population keeping various types of livestock increased from 57% to 60% between 2010 and 2013.

The UNDAF 2008-11 also emphasized the irrigation of farming land as well as the introduction of new technologies in agriculture. In 2011 alone, land under irrigation farming increased by 671ha (84% of the planned 800ha) and benefitted 2,283 people closing the food shortage gap, which is normally experienced during the lean period from November to March. In addition, a total of 9,844 farmers and staff were trained in the production of different crops & livestock as well as fish rearing in Mzimba and Kasungu. A complementary intervention to diversify food consumption included the training of 90 women, mostly farmers, in preparing varied diets from the diversified farm produce. New adaptive research technologies such as Conservation Agriculture (CA) and Manure Making and Application were introduced to, and practiced by, 400 new farmers. In addition, about 800,000 trees were planted.

UN Malawi's food security activities from 2015 to early 2017 were mostly defined by short-term humanitarian response (see below). Initiatives aiming at long-term impact, both during and after the humanitarian crisis, included the successful mentoring of 189 (143 male and 43 female) extension officers in gender mainstreaming to increase their reach to rural women farmers. The UN, through FAO and UN Women, also supported the passing of the long-awaited land act and related laws. In June 2016, parliament passed 4 of the 10 laws, namely; the Land Act, Land Survey Act, Customary Land Act and the Physical Planning Act. The UN, under the 2017 Integrated Resilience project, also supported 132,000 vulnerable households with labor for 10 food insecure districts with cooperation from District Councils and partner NGO's. The support enhanced community skills and knowledge development as well as assisting in the creation of different productive assets, including: 87,000 kitchen gardens; 66,000 pit latrines; 65,000 improved stoves; 1,300 shallow wells; 17 micro irrigation schemes; 740 tree nurseries; 5 million assorted seedlings and 900km of community access roads.

Despite UN Malawi's primary focus on food security, partially due to the urgency of the lasting food crises, it made achievements in **employment and the private sector** beyond. For example, it supported 12 microfinance institutions with loans, grants, and capacity building including: technology, human resources, evaluation systems, and financial management and monitoring improvements. These institutions increased their client outreach by 34% between 2009 and 2011 from 888,684 to 1,192,733 clients. Outreach to female clients, during the same period, also increased from 46% to 51%, from 480,784 to 611,409.

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<sup>9</sup> Cf. Global Hunger Index 2018, Malawi Case-Study *A Closer Look at Hunger and Undernutrition in Malawi*.

The UN helped the Government of Malawi to develop a National Export Strategy (NES). Launched in December 2012, the NES represents a road map for building Malawi's productive base to generate sufficient exports to match the upward pressure of the country's imports.

The Trade, Industry and Private Sector Development Sector Wide Approach (TIPSD SWAp) was established in 2013, under the leadership of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, as the implementation mechanism for the NES. The UN also set up the Malawi Innovation Challenge Fund (MICF), USD 8 mil Enterprise Challenge Fund based on the prioritised product clusters of the National Export Strategy (Sugar, Oil Seeds and Manufacturing) with the intention of boosting the expansion and diversification the country's productive base.

In 2017, UN Malawi reported 250,100 people experienced a net positive income through the country's Innovation Challenge Fund: 900 low income and unskilled people got permanent employment; 25,000 smallholder households benefited from new or enhanced income generation, or livelihood improvement; and 25,000 low income direct consumers have been utilizing new or enhanced products/services for their basic needs. New products, entirely manufactured in Malawi included: a Water Filtration System for drinkable water; non-refrigerated margarine, 100% small-holder led specialty tea (herb and flower flavoured); and a UHT flavoured milk with a 100% small-holder diary supply chain amongst others.

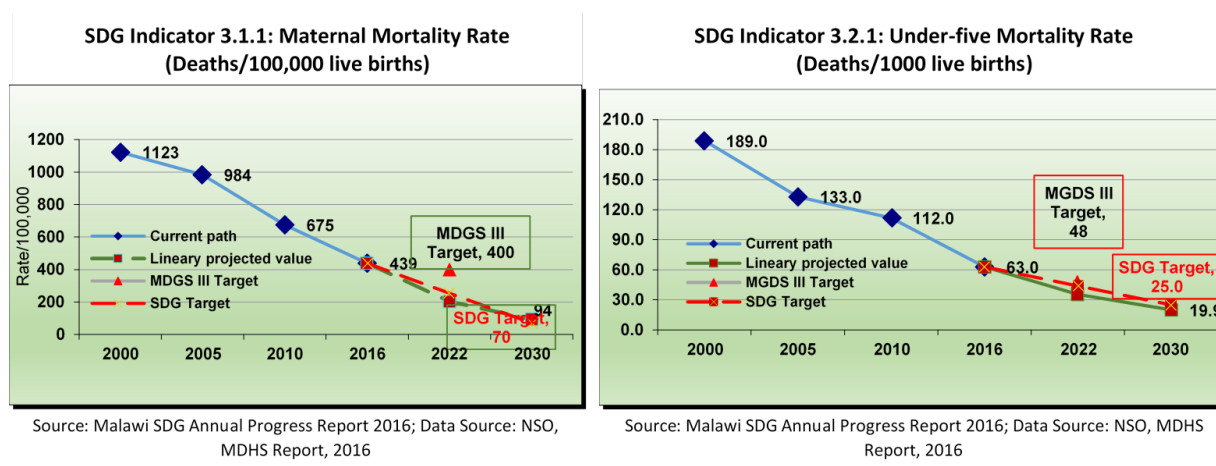
As part of UN's **social support and disaster risk management** strategy under the One Fund's UNDAFs, the Government of Malawi's Social Cash Transfer Programme (SCTP; locally known as the Mtukula Pakhomo) has been expanded since 2009, under the UN's technical support and guidance, to reach 18 out of 28 of the country's districts. The SCTP was a priority under theme 1 of the UNDAF 2012-2016 reaching an impressive 163,000+ beneficiary households between 2012 and 2015.<sup>10</sup> UN Malawi also achieved its target to reduce the average number of days taken by government to initiate disaster response assistance from 10 (2014) to 4 days (2017). In 2017, the UN was also involved in the formulation of the National Resilience Strategy and Operational Guidelines for Disaster Response, which supported the development of disaster risk management and adaptation plans for three cities and districts. The UN also supported government efforts to develop a national climate change fund to coordinate and enhance access to climate finance. A total of 23,000 people in 5 disaster prone districts were supported with flood mitigation structures and four evacuation centres.

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<sup>10</sup> Cf. [https://www.unicef.org/evaldatabase/index\\_94228.html](https://www.unicef.org/evaldatabase/index_94228.html)

## Basic Social Protection Services

Regarding the improvement of **basic health services**, key indicators identified in the UNDAF 2012-16 show overall positive trends. Based on 2016 values, maternal and under-five mortality declined by 94% and 66% respectively over the last decades. In contrast, neonatal-mortality, another key indicator in the UNDAF 2012-16, fluctuated over the same period, but also declined moderately from 31 to 27 deaths per 1000 births since 2010.



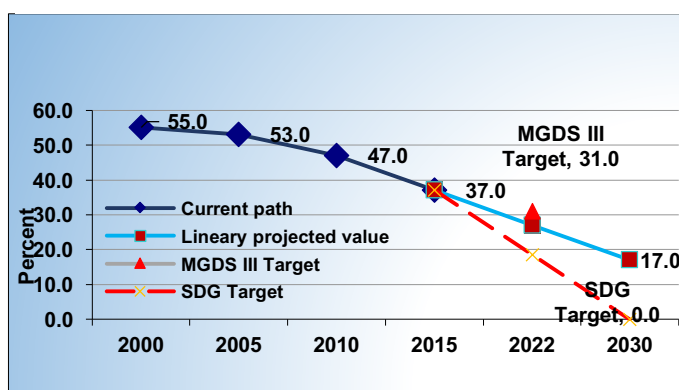
These key indicator trends correlate with UN's engagement in improving maternal and child health services. In 2011, the UN reported major achievements regarding the increasing number and quality of health services: youth clubs and youth corners providing youth friendly health services (YFHS) reached more than 1,600 (target: 180); the number of districts with community outreach activities for maternal, new-born and child health (MNH) increased to 17 (target: 10); health facilities providing 3 modern family planning methods increased to 85%; deliveries done by skilled health workers reached 75%; postnatal mothers receiving modern contraceptives increased from 42% (2010) to 52%; and the proportion of functional village health committees (VHCs) increased to 70% (target: 65%). In 2016, births attended by skilled personnel further and Modern Contraceptive Prevalence Rate (CPR) increased to 91% and 58% respectively.

Vitamin A deficiencies, an important factor in child health, decreased in pre-school children from 22% (2009) to 4% (2015) due to the Government's Child Health Days campaign supported by UNICEF and other development partners. The Child Health Days campaign increased its Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children aged 6 to 59 months. The coverage increased from 85.6% (2011) to 92% (2,215,559 out of 2,450,698) in 2013. In June 2017, a total of 2,943,501 children (1,398,188 boys and 1,545,313 girls) received vitamin A supplements to boost their immunity and 2,783,044 children 12-59 months (1,330,970 boys and 1,452,074 girls) were de-wormed, representing almost 100% coverage.

The UN provided technical and financial support for **child nutrition initiatives**.

Two of these initiatives included the development and finalization of the National Nutrition Education and Communication Strategy (NECS) as well as district-level roll-out plans for the Scaling-up Nutrition (SUN) Movement focussing on reducing malnutrition and stunting. For example, in 2015 almost 8,000 Community Leaders on Action for Nutrition (CLAN), in 5 districts received skills and knowledge training on the SUN intervention package. The result was knowledge transfer of child and maternal care to over 150,000 households. The Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement successfully gained momentum over several years due to the UN’s technical and financial support, which is indicated by the reduction of stunting across the country. The Malawi Demographic and Health Survey (MDHS) findings indicated a downward trend for stunting from 47% (2010) to 37% (2015). In addition, there was also a decline in anaemia among women of child bearing age from 44% (2004) to 32% (2016) (MDHS, 2015-2016).

**SDG Indicator 2.2.1: Prevalence of Stunting, (%)**



Source: Malawi SDG Annual Progress Report 2016;  
Data Source: NSO, MDHS Report, 2016

The result was knowledge transfer of child and maternal care to over 150,000 households. The Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement successfully gained momentum over several years due to the UN’s technical and financial support, which is indicated by the reduction of stunting across the country. The Malawi Demographic and Health Survey (MDHS) findings indicated a downward trend for stunting from 47% (2010) to 37% (2015). In addition, there was also a decline in anaemia among women of child bearing age from 44% (2004) to 32% (2016) (MDHS, 2015-2016).

Technological solutions such as the use of Rapid SMS for providing real-time nutrition data were employed by the UN. Initially implemented in two districts, Chikhwawa and Salima, where growth monitoring of children was being reported. The rapid SMS system was expanded into a total of 21 districts by 2014 and now have access to real time nutrition and growth statistics.

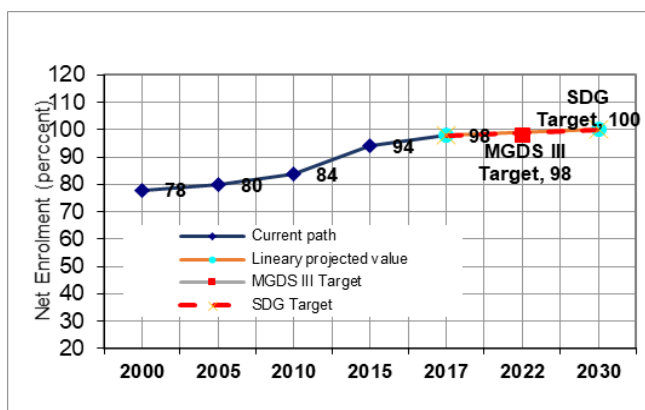
In 2014, the UN played a pivotal role in developing the Food and Nutrition Bill and has advocated for the Right to Food to be integrated in the bill. Simultaneously, a National Nutrition Policy for 2013-2017, together with strategic documents for its coordination, were developed in conjunction with technical support offered by various UN agencies.

The UN also successfully advocated for the inclusion of a micronutrient component in the 2015 Demographic Health Survey. This ensured a detailed source of data on micronutrient consumption throughout the country. The UN also negotiated the inclusion of a nutrient support policy within the HIV National Strategic Plan and assisted in the establishment of Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) programmes. Only in 2014, 18,223 of 20,903 severely acute malnourished (SAM) children and 47,665 of 53,659 moderately acute malnourished (MAM) children were treated and discharged. For both SAM and MAM, the cure, death and default rates of the CMAM programmes stayed within WHO SPHERE standards across the country.

With UN technical and financial support, a revised National Nutrition Monitoring and Evaluation Framework was put in place in 2016. This was aligned with the National Nutrition Policy and Strategic Plan 2017-2021.

Important UNDAF **education** measures, funded by the One Fund, increased primary net enrolment in line with gender parity goals. Primary net enrolment increased by almost 15% between 2010 and 2017. The Gender Parity Index (GPI) also improved considerably at the primary level and is currently around 1.0 for Standards 1 - 6. Enrolment in Early Childhood Development (ECD) programmes also increased from 30% (2010) to 54% (2018)<sup>11</sup> due to efforts to improve sector coordination, management and policy development. While access to education has improved in these areas, transition to secondary school, including drop-out rates, remain a major challenge with net enrolment declining from approximately 30% (2000) to 15% (2015). The GPI also shows less improvement for Standards 6-8 and is now around 0.9 (favour boys) in Standard 8. Other problematic areas include the high level of youth illiteracy (15-24 years), though declining, still at 17% (2015 data).

**SDG Indicator 4.3.1: Trends in Net enrolment**



Source: Malawi SDG Annual Progress Report 2016;  
Data Source: NSO, MDHS Report, 2016, MOEST EMIS, 2017

These positive trends can be contributed to UN Malawi through its strategic assistance to several initiatives over the years. For example in 2011, the UN’s contributions provided 500 public primary schools a comprehensive package of child friendly schools (CFS) and 2,500 teachers with training. Child Friendly infrastructure and resources for schools, i.e. classrooms, latrines, teacher housing and training as well as learning materials provided benefit to over 300,000 learners. Overall, more than 13,200 teachers (27.5% of primary school teachers) were trained in the principles and practices of CFS, which benefitted over 945,000 learners between 2008-2011. In 2013, UNCT Malawi reported, using the 5 CFS components as the basis of quality education, that the concept of Child Friendly Schools (CFS) had been successfully mainstreamed by the Malawian School Improvement Programme.

In 2012, the UN supported the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, and Ministry of Youth and Sports Development to develop Free Primary Education Policy Guidelines in an effort to develop a Free Education Policy pronouncement for 20 years. Other efforts to improve Malawi’s education sector included: Policy advise; Mainstreaming CFS and complementary basic education (CBE); Expansion of Community Based Child Care Centres (CBCCs) from 10,000 to 11,000 (2016-2017) providing approx. 20,000 children with school meals; Performance based financing (PBF) to improve education quality in schools; and the establishment of Public Teacher Training Colleges reaching more than 3,000 teachers, student teachers, and lecturers in 2015 alone

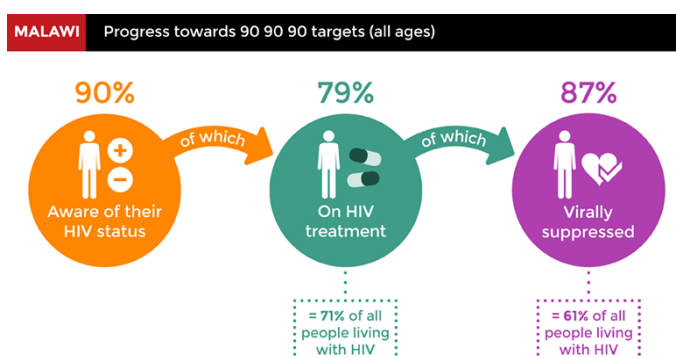
To retain pupils in schools and improve their nutritional levels, in 2013 the UN provided 803,210 students (796,176 students in 681 primary schools and 7,034 students in 35 ECD centres) with a school meal through the school feeding programme. The UN also scaled up home grown school feeding to reach 3,859 students in 5 pilot schools while simultaneously providing technical support to the development of the National School Health and Nutrition Policy (NSHNP). This was endorsed and approved by four key ministries in 2017 providing the first ever framework for a more coordinated, sustainable delivery of school health and nutrition programmes.

<sup>11</sup> Malawi SDGs Annual Progress Report 2018

The UN also supported Social Protection Services initiatives, with **water and sanitation** being a priority concern. Data based from the UNDAF 2012 Annual Report (2009-2012), the UN provided: Water supply to over 600,000 people at various water access points; 270,000+ Latrines in selected districts; Approx. 470,000 pupils were served with school WASH facilities; and over 1,900 villages were declared Open Defecation Free (ODF). The implementation of WASH, ODF, and other programs continued successfully in subsequent years. However, the focus shifted from long-term development to humanitarian relief during the 2015 floods and resulting crises (see below).

## Response to HIV/AIDS

Malawi's HIV prevalence remains one of the highest globally, but progress has been made over the last decade. According to recent UNAIDS data,<sup>12</sup> in 2017 there were approx. 1 million people living with HIV in Malawi, with a HIV prevalence rate of 9.6% for adults aged 15 to 49. Approximately 39,000 new infections were estimated for the year, a substantial decrease compared to 74,000 in 2005.<sup>13</sup> The estimated 17,000 AIDS-related deaths that year represent a decline of 50% when compared to 2010 figures. Malawi reported 738,929 people being on Anti-Retroviral Therapy (ART), representing a 71% ART coverage rate, which met the country's target for 2016–2017 based on the National Strategic Plan. Therefore, Malawi is on course to meeting the 2020 second 90 target of the UN's 90-90-90 Initiative. However, the trajectory masks some underlying gaps in treatment coverage of children aged 0-14 years. Currently, 63% (44,656 of an estimated 71,000) of Malawian children in this age group are on ART's, which indicates a 17% increase (previously 46%) since 2013. A gender disparity is also present with women aged 15-64 being more affected by HIV (12.8%) compared to men of the same age (8.2%).



Source: <https://www.avert.org>, UNAIDS Data 201816

Positive trends were reported due to the UN contributions under the Malawi One UN Fund. Most noteworthy, the UN provided technical and financial assistance to the Malawi Government in 2015 to complete and submit the Global Fund Concept Note (Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria), which was subsequently approved with an allocation of USD 332 million. The Malawi Ministry of Health (MoH) and Action Aid were the two principal recipients of these funds. At the time, this represented the Global Fund's highest per capita grant under 90-90-90 alignment. A new HIV and AIDS National Strategic Plan (NSP) and Prevention Strategy was also completed and launched that year, making Malawi the first country in the world to align its NSP to the 90-90-90 programme established by the UN in 2013. The Joint United Nations Team on AIDS, in collaboration with other development partners, played a key role in supporting the implementation of the national programmes. In 2017, Malawi successfully signed the next Global Fund grant of USD 500 million for the period 2018-2021.

The UN also lobbied for the HIV and AIDS Management and Prevention Bill which was passed by Parliament in November 2017 after years of consultations. The HIV and AIDS Management and Prevention Act provides for inclusive planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of national HIV response.

<sup>12</sup> Cf. <https://www.unaids.org/en/regionscountries/countries/malawi>

<sup>13</sup> Cf. UNAIDS Data Book 2017



UNAIDS and UNFPA assisted the office of Malawi's First Lady Gertrude Hendrina Maseko, who was the president of African First Ladies Against HIV and AIDS (OAFLA) between 2016-2018. OAFLA is dedicated to high level advocacy on: Eliminating mother to child transmission of HIV; Reducing HIV infection among adolescents and young girls; Addressing cervical cancer particularly among young women Living with HIV; and harmful cultural practices such as child marriage.

The UN was a major contributor to the prevention of HIV and other STI's through the procurement and distribution of over 50% of condoms provided by the public sector in 2013 (52 million male and 2.6 million female condoms). This substantially reduced condom stock outs previously experienced in districts and health facilities which reported inadequate supply in previous years.

UN Malawi supported several HIV/AIDS initiatives to scale ART coverage and other related health services in Malawi. These initiatives included training health care workers in Preventing Mother-to-Child Transmission (PMTCT) and providing ART guidelines in specific districts, which contributed to increased coverage. The number of ART sites increased from 433 (2011) to over 650 (2013) resulting in an increase of adults starting ART from 391,003 to more than 450,000 in the same period. There was also increase in the number of exposed children commencing ART due to the introduction of rapid SMS technology at more than 300 sites. The UN provided additional promotional support to ART services in subsequent years.

The UN also assisted Banja La Mtsogolo (BLM) and Baylor College of Medicine in the provision of adolescent-sensitive HIV services to Teen Clubs in 2015. 5,280 adolescents accessed HTC and 151,253 male and female condoms were distributed at facilities and within communities. 177 adolescents were also enrolled in teen clubs, which provided psychosocial and adherence support as well as sexual and reproductive health (SRH) information and services. 30 teachers were trained to help decrease stigma and discrimination towards HIV positive people in schools. 45 facility-level mentors were also trained to increase support to ALHIV.

In 2015, the UN supported the Ministry of Education Science Technology (MoEST) to provide in-service training on Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) to 350 secondary school teachers. The training provided new skills to teachers enabling them to deliver sexuality and HIV education in classrooms. An additional 60 teachers were trained through an online CSE course who were estimated to reach a cumulative 205,000 secondary school learners with CSE related information.

In close collaboration with the UN on the prevention of HIV, sex work networks were reconstituted in Dedza, Mchinji, Nkhata Bay, Mangochi and Chiradzulu in 2016. An increasing number of sex workers accessed condoms and other sexual reproductive health (SRH) services that included of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI). Prior to 2015 condom usage among sex workers was estimated to be below 50% but increased to 74% in 2016. Increased condom usage combined with the decrease in number of STI cases reported by sex workers in the same period, suggests not only that condoms were being used by sex workers but also that the communication tools being employed were effective.

Based on a situational assessment conducted in 2016, a gap was identified in the SRHR/HIV services provided to tertiary education institutions. UNFPA was instrumental in supporting capacity building efforts to service providers so they could offer more youth friendly health services. The result was 70% higher condom distribution to tertiary institutions (5,000 in 2016 to 45,000 in 2017).

Several UN agencies were involved in community mobilization initiatives developed to create demand for HTC, VMMC and condoms. These initiatives included the Protect the Goal, CONDOMIZE!, and WIZE UP campaigns.

## Good Governance

One of the UN’s most significant achievements was to manage a USD 50 million project that created a civil registry, which contained information for 9,168,689 people over the age of 16 years, and included the issuance of biometric ID cards. This initiative put Malawi on a steady path to achieving SDG 16, target 9. The UN also supported a review of the electoral laws, one recommendation was for the Malawi Electoral Commission (MEC) to migrate from an outdated optical mark recognition system to biometric voter registration. This supported the use of biometric ID for the 2019 elections and resulted in the MEC entering an agreement with National Registration Bureau.

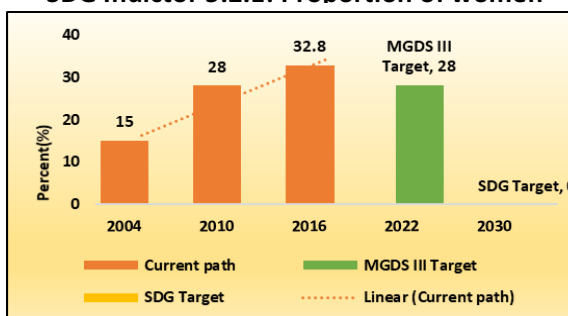
**Gender inequality** remains a persistent issue based on prevalent social norms and customs. Key indicators such as domestic violence against women or the number of seats held by women in parliament showing either negative trends or fluctuations below targets. SDG 5 thus represents a major challenge in Malawi’s sustainable and equitable development.

However, positive progress was made through UN support for legal frameworks in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination based on sex (SDG Indicator 5.1.1). To strengthen the legislative framework for gender equality and equity, 3 out of a targeted 5 laws were reviewed and/or approved as part of UNDAF 2008-11 outputs. The UN supported advocacy for the Deceased Estates Bill and the Gender Equality Statute, both laws were approved in 2011. The Prevention of Domestic Violence Act was reviewed and disseminated. In addition, policy makers were trained in gender budgeting, monitoring and gender analysis. This training allowed policymakers to participate in the development of the Gender Responsive Budget guidelines which were disseminated to 45 District Officials. The UN also provided pivotal technical support for mainstreaming gender into MDGS II.

In 2014, the 2nd National Gender Conference took place with the UN’s support, providing a platform for those working in gender equality to be engaged in women's empowerment. The objective of the conference was to continue gender dialogue, support further developments within the national gender network, and meet with gender equality advocates.

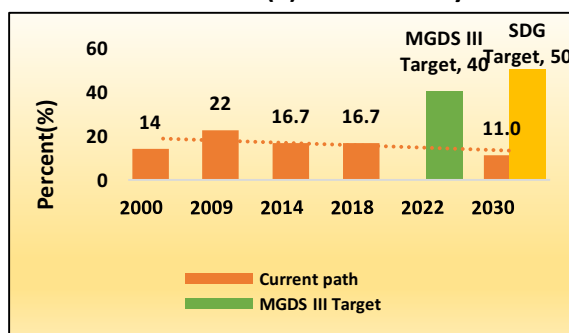
In 2016, the UN, through UNDP, UN Women and UNFPA, supported the elaboration of simplified versions of the Gender Equality Act (GEA) and other Gender Related Laws such as: Prevention of Domestic Violence Act; Deceased Estates; Wills and Inheritance Act; and the Marriage Divorce and Family Relations Act. These simplified versions were also translated into Chichewa and Tumbuka for easy understanding by residents of rural areas. 5,000 copies of simplified English, 4,000 copies of Chichewa, and 5,000 copies of Tumbuka were printed and distributed to communities across the country. This increased nation-wide awareness on gender related laws and helped the prevention of Gender Based Violence (GBV). This is indicated a 50% increase in the reporting of Gender based

**SDG Indicator 5.2.1: Proportion of women**



Source: Malawi SDG Annual Progress Report 2016;  
Data Source: MDHS 2004-2016, NSO16

**SDG Indicator 5.5.1(a) Seats held by women**



Source: Malawi SDG Annual Progress Report 2016;  
Data Source: MDHS 2004-2016, NSO16

Violence cases, which were directly reported to relevant authorities, documented, and brought to formal courts for prosecution.

Independent of legislative requirements, the UN trained 1,659 (2011) women entrepreneurs in business development and management over a period of 4 years (target: 3,328). Support was also extended to the development of Gender Based Violence (GBV) reporting guidelines that assisted in strengthening nationwide monitoring interventions and service provisions on GBV. Police Victim Support Units throughout the country were provided data bases for GBV cases. In addition, 184 paralegals were trained in the management of GBV cases who in turn cascaded the training to their communities. During 2011, the first 87 cases of GBV were reported – none had been reported before this time.

In 2017, the UN supported the Ministry of Gender to develop a web-based information management system with three operational modules namely: Women empowerment; Child protection; and Gender-based violence. The system, using disaggregated data, will assist the country in evidence-informed decision making. In the same year, councils of 4 public universities approved and launched their Gender Policies with the technical support from the UN. These policies were designed to: Strengthen the participation of women in senior management; Ensure student and staff selection compliance with the gender equality act; and mainstream gender in all course curriculum.

During 2015, a gender responsive National **Human Rights** Action Plan (NHRA) 2016-20 was developed and led by the Government, in collaboration with the Malawi Human Rights Commission, Civil Society and supported by the UN. The plan provides strategic guidance for human rights interventions in the country incorporated recommendations from Universal Periodic Review on Human Rights and State Party Reports submitted by the Malawi Government. The UN also supported mapping institutions working in the human rights sector. The aim was to inform the Human Rights Coordination Forum and thereby support the Government and Civil Society in their engagement with UN Human Rights Mechanisms, which included the UN Treaty Bodies. Malawi submitted 4 state party reports to international bodies becoming the first country with a combined report on the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights and the Protocol on the Rights of Women. This represents Malawi's progress and prioritization of its international reporting obligation.

In 2016 the UN, after identifying a growing number of human rights violations in Malawi, established a dedicated human rights window under the One Fund, which had been initially established to focus on the rights of persons with albinism and the LGBTI community. This window allowed the UN to attract unearmarked funding to tackle sensitive human rights issues and respond to emerging human rights situations. Government, Police, Judiciary and Civil Society worked together to protect the human rights of persons with albinism and was strengthened further with the support of community based systems, victim assistance and psycho-social support. Respect for the rights of persons with albinism was also achieved by raising community awareness and civic education of the Penal Code Amendment Act. Developing a handbook for prosecutors and magistrates (November 2016) accompanied by training workshops helped strengthen the justice system on these issues. The UN supported the rights of the LGBTI community using ten transformative dialogues with key stakeholders, constitutional and strategic public interest litigation, and training for CSOs and LGBTI community based organizations. In addition, a real-time monitoring and reporting system for human rights violations against LGBTI persons was initiated in 2016.

The UN supported Civil Society and the Law Society by holding a roundtable discussion on civil society space and the national launch of the Human Rights Defenders Forum (HRDF) in Lilongwe on 20th December 2017. The Forum created a platform for human rights defenders in Malawi to engage with

others, exchange information, confront ongoing threats, and respond with recommendations and action points to strengthen defenders' protection and widen civil society space in the country. The UN also led development partner comments on draft NGO Policy which, if adopted, had the potential to shrink civil society space and may be in violation of the right to freedom of association.

## Humanitarian Response

The Humanitarian Window received USD 59 million or 51% of the entire Malawi One UN Fund. This was by far the largest allocation for that fund and was in response to persistent and recurrent food crises from 2015 to 2017. These crises were caused by one of the worst floods in Malawi's history in January 2015, followed by erratic rainfalls, and an El Nino-induced drought in 2016. On 13th January 2015, the President of Malawi declared a state of disaster in the 15 worst flooded districts, which affected approx. 1,101,364 people and caused 336,000 people to be displaced. A year later, on 12th April 2016, the President declared a State of National Disaster appealing for humanitarian relief assistance from the international community and the private sector. In October 2016, the Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) declared 6.7 million people in 24 districts (40% of Malawi's population) to be food insecure.

UN Malawi supported the government's humanitarian response to the crisis with multiple initiatives using the One Fund's Humanitarian Window. These funds were instrumental in meeting the needs of the population affected by acute food insecurity. Additionally, they enabled better coordination within the UN and the Malawi Government's led response ensuring that each cluster had funds to undertake the most urgent priorities.

In the aftermath of the 2015 floods the Government of Malawi, with the UN's support, coordinated two operational responses in parallel: the Food Insecurity Response and the Flood Response with responsibility residing with the Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA). The UN also supported the government with the development of a Preliminary Response Plan (PRP) and assisted with the following:

- Flood Response: Distributed 11,296 metric tonnes of food supplies to a total of 368,182 people (80,809 Males, 88,592 Females and 198,781 Children).
- Humanitarian Food Response: Direct food distribution and cash transfer modality to 437,504 people (96,002 Males, 105,270 Females and 236,232 Children) .
- Protection and Health Services: Providing 298,000 people in camps (146,000 males, 152,000 females of which 197,000 were children) with provisional coverage of essential drugs. This included the distribution of supplies and commodities such as: Emergency contraceptives and condoms; Provision of ambulance, mobile clinics, treatment, and maternity delivery shelters; Safe spaces for women and young people; Cholera surveillance, prevention and control; Measles campaign; 1927 people in Machinga district were placed in a long-term resilience building programme by linking them to 47 Village Savings Loans (VSL) programme.

Due to the worsening food crisis in 2016, the UN assisted several government led humanitarian response clusters as follows:

- Nutrition Cluster: The Community Based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) program was maintained in all the 28 districts of Malawi as a part of the nutrition emergency response. UNICEF supported 707 health facilities, 603 of these facilities provided Out-Patient Program (OTP) services and 104 were Nutrition Rehabilitation Units (NRU). 707 health care

facilities represents 97% coverage, just short of the 731 target for that year. Overall, the OTP program demonstrated cure rates over 75% and death rates of under 10% across all districts.

- *Agriculture Cluster:* The El Nino-induced drought affected 240,000 households, which were provided inputs such as seed and fertilizer for the rainy season at seeds fairs or via direct distribution. This initiative complemented government efforts that supported 900,000 small-scale farmers during the 2016/17 growing season with inputs through the Farm Input Subsidy Program (FISP). The WASH Cluster provided vital support to the affected communities by providing an estimated 4,732 people in emergency prone districts with access to safe water resulting in the mitigation of a cholera outbreak. Safe water was also provided through the rehabilitation of protected water points, involving community members to ensure sustainability.
- *Education Cluster:* Worked hand in hand with the Food and Nutrition cluster to provide meals to 121 primary schools, reaching 172,400 children with emergency meals and take-home rations. Schools with meal programmes have shown an increase in first-time enrolment and a 70% decline in drop-out figures and absenteeism.
- *UN Women:* A gender sensitive Malawi Drought Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) in 2015-2016 was created using data and informed the development of the Disaster Recovery Strategy for the country.

The UN in Malawi, through WFP, had reached six million food insecure people with lifesaving in-kind food and hybrid voucher-cash scheme by the end of the lean season peak (January to March 2017). The remaining 700,000 food insecure people were reached by an INGO consortium. The humanitarian response effectively improved household food security as evidenced by the findings in the Food Consumption Score, Coping Strategies Index, and the Food Expenditure Share. The reports show that the proportion of targeted households with poor food consumption declined by 68%. In total USD 43.7 million, or 37% of the Fund's resources, were used through the Humanitarian Fund between 2015 and 2017. Net funding contributions of USD 37.6 million were disbursed by donors to the UN agencies participating in the El Nino response programmes in 2016 alone.

## 4. Financial Overview<sup>14</sup>

<i>Deposits</i>	<i>Net Funded Amount</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Delivery rate</i>
<b>120,550,943</b>	<b>117,673,303</b>	<b>117,291,237</b>	<b>99.7%</b>

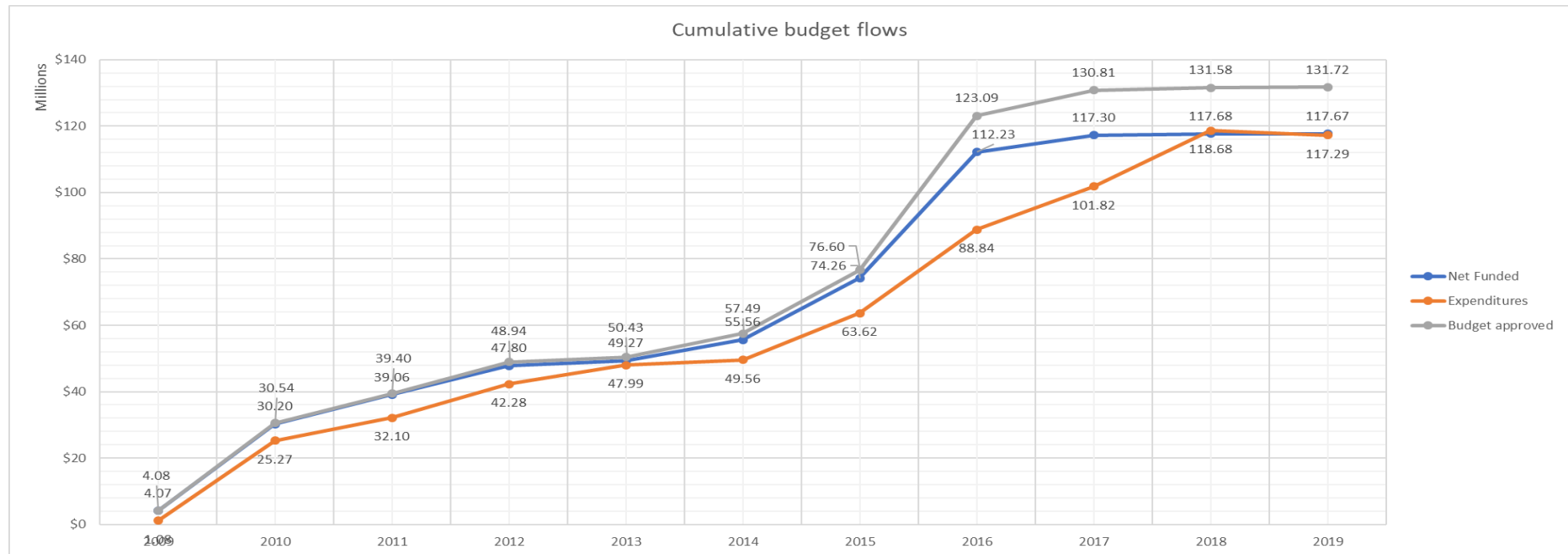
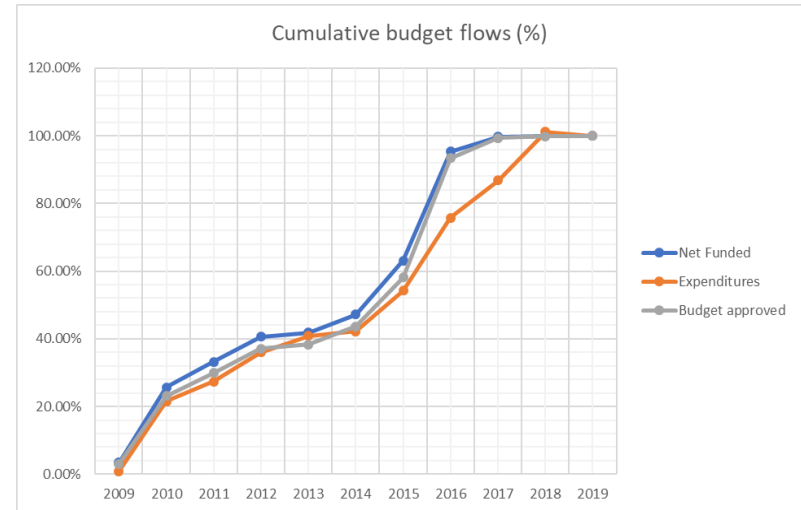
The Malawi One UN Fund mobilized USD 120,550,943 between 2009 and 2018. Net funding received by participating UN organizations amounted to USD 117,291,237 (including direct costs), of which USD 117,291,237 have been implemented at a resulting delivery rate of 99.7%.

<b><i>Funds with Administrative Agent</i></b>		<b><i>USD</i></b>
<i>Contributions from Donors</i>		120,550,943
<i>Interest and Investment Income (from Fund)</i>		267,171
<i>Interest (from Participating Organizations)</i>		80,962
<i>Refunds by Administrative Agent to Contributors</i>		(2,013,771)
<b><i>Total source of funds</i></b>		<b>118,885,305</b>
<i>Transferred to Participating Organizations</i>		119,189,846
<i>Refunds from Participating Organizations</i>		(3,188,128)
<i>Administrative Agent Fee</i>		1,205,509
<i>Direct Cost</i>		1,671,585
<i>Bank Charges</i>		785
<b><i>Total use of funds</i></b>		<b>118,879,598</b>
<i>Balance with Administrative Agent</i>		<b>5,707</b>
<i>As a percentage of contributions</i>		-
<b><i>Funds with Participating Organizations</i></b>		<b><i>USD</i></b>
<i>Transfers to Participation Organizations (incl. Direct Cost)</i>		120,862,802
<b><i>Total resources</i></b>		<b>120,862,802</b>
<i>Participating Organizations' Expenditure</i>		117,291,237
<i>Refunds from Participating Organizations</i>		(3,189,499)
<b><i>Total expenses</i></b>		<b>120,480,737</b>
<i>Balance with Participating Organizations</i>		382,065
<i>As a percentage of transfers</i>		0.3%
<b><i>Total Balance of Funds</i></b>		<b>387,773</b>
<i>As a percentage of contributions</i>		0.3%

USD 2,013,771 has been refunded by the Administrative Agent to the contributing donors. Overall administrative fees amounted to USD 1,205,509, or 1% of the total deposits (USD 120,550,943). The One Fund's remaining balance of USD 387,773 has been transferred into the new Malawi SDG Acceleration Fund as agreed by donors (Section 5: Outlook).

<sup>14</sup> All data retrieved from <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/MW100> in August 2019.

The cumulative budget flows show two significant trends regarding the expenditures channelled through the One Fund. First, the annual use of funds remained below 10% of the Fund’s overall expenditures until 2014 except for the year 2010 with a rate of 21%. In this year, all 5 themes of the UNDAF 2008-11 reported 7-digit expenditures with Social Development alone absorbing USD 9.3 million. Second, the annual use of funds accelerated from 2015 to 2018 with rates between 11-14% with a peak of 22% in 2016. The higher absorption of resources during the second half of the Fund can be related to the fact that large-scale programmes typically require a “warm-up period” and tend to increase delivery towards the end. In addition, this upwards trend correlates with the humanitarian crises in Malawi between 2015 and the first quarter of 2017. In the height of the crisis, USD 37.6 million have been disbursed to the Humanitarian Window alone with approximately USD 38 million total funding received through the One Fund in 2016. Likewise, expenditures of the Humanitarian Window amounted to USD 22 million compared to total expenditures of USD 25 million in the same year.



## Donor Contributions

<i>Contributor/Partner</i>	<i>Commitments</i>	<i>Deposits</i>	<i>Deposit rate</i>
Department of International Development (DFID)	57,497,178	57,497,178	100%
Expanded DaO Funding Window	46,043,000	46,043,000	100%
Government of Norway	7,380,784	7,380,784	100%
Flemish Government	4,850,816	4,850,816	100%
Delivering Results Together	3,000,000	3,000,000	100%
United Nations Children's Fund	925,000	925,000	100%
Government of Germany	851,429	851,429	100%
Private Sector	2,736	2,736	100%
<b>Malawi One UN Fund Total</b>	<b>120,550,943</b>	<b>120,550,943</b>	

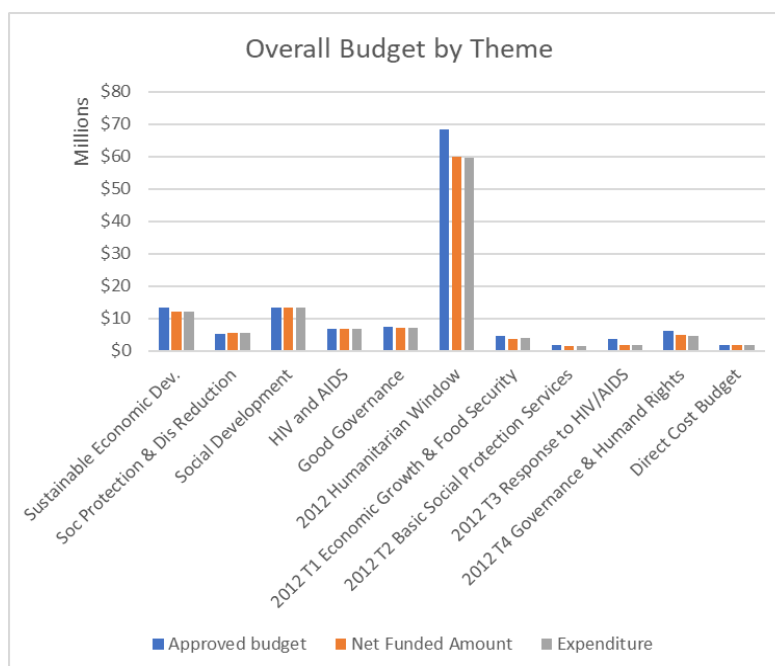
Deposits into the Malawi One Fund started in December 2008 and were received until January 2018. The Expanded DaO Funding Window, Delivering Results Together, and the United Nation's Children's Fund all represent different types of UN funding mechanisms. The top three bilateral contributors to the Fund are United Kingdom-DFID (USD 57 million), the Government of Norway (USD 7 million), and the Flemish Government (USD 5 million).

## Budget by Theme

<i>Theme</i>	<i>Net Funded Amount</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>% of Total Expenditure</i>
Sustainable Economic Development	11,908,063	11,908,063	10%
Social Protection & Disaster Risk Reduction	5,424,637	5,424,637	5%
Social Development	13,150,648	13,150,648	11%
HIV and AIDS	6,729,700	6,729,700	6%
Good Governance	7,087,096	7,087,096	6%
2012 Humanitarian Window	59,886,557	59,601,024	51%
2012 T1 Economic Growth & Food Security	3,528,990	3,830,884	3%
2012 T2 Basic Social Protection Services	1,491,427	1,492,777	1%
2012 T3 Response to HIV/AIDS	1,834,025	1,834,029	2%
2012 T4 Governance & Human Rights	4,960,576	4,560,796	4%
Direct Cost Budget	1,671,585	1,671,585	1%
<b>Malawi One UN Fund Total</b>	<b>117,673,303</b>	<b>117,291,239</b>	



38% of the overall funds were used for the 5 UNDAF 2008-11 themes compared to only 10% of the resources that had been implemented during the UNDAF 2012-16, including the extension to 2018. This is the result of the Fund's resources being channelled through the Humanitarian Window in the aftermath of the 2015 floods and 2016 drought periods. Overall, the Humanitarian Window absorbed 51% of total expenditures. Direct Costs amount to 1% of UN organizations total expenditures. Based on net funding received, the top three recipients of the are: The Humanitarian Window (USD 59.9 million); Social Development (USD 13.2 million; UNDAF 2008-11), and Sustainable Economic Development (USD 11.9 million; UNDAF 2008-11).



## Budget by Organization

Organization	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure	Delivery rate
FAO	9,702,453	9,412,447	97.01%
ILO	1,037,521	1,037,521	100.00%
IOM	134,307	134,307	100.00%
NGO/UNDP	0	0	0.00%
UNAIDS	2,237,333	2,234,053	99.85%
UNCDF	139,327	139,327	100.00%
UNDP	17,652,203	17,432,827	98.76%
UNESCO	155,425	155,425	100.00%
UNFPA	4,787,304	4,787,304	100.00%
UNHABITAT	435,850	435,850	100.00%
UNHCR	178,053	178,053	100.00%
UNICEF	23,522,214	23,522,217	100.00%
UNIDO	815,223	815,224	100.00%
UNODC	50,000	50,000	100.00%
UNWOMEN	1,452,411	1,461,066	100.60%
WFP	52,094,413	52,216,354	100.23%
WHO	3,279,263	3,279,263	100.00%
<b>Malawi One UN Fund Total</b>	<b>117,673,303</b>	<b>117,291,237</b>	

Based on the net funded amount and expenditures, all organizations reached a delivery rate of above 97%. The top five recipients have been WFP (USD 52.1 million), UNICEF (USD 24 million), UNDP (USD 22 million), FAO (USD 10.3 million) and UNFPA (USD 4.9 million).

## 5. Outlook: The SDG Acceleration Fund

As a way of operationalizing the recommendations of the 2016 Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR), the UNDS in Malawi is establishing the Malawi SDG Acceleration Fund as a follow-up to the Malawi One UN Fund. Considering the UNDS Reform note of 31st May 2018, this emphasizes adequate, predictable and sustainable funding to be made available for a coherent, effective, efficient and accountable response to national needs and priorities.

Starting in 2019, the SDG Acceleration Fund aims at improving the quality of non-core resources to support the Government of Malawi in achieving its SDGs targets. Simultaneously, the SDG Acceleration Fund reflects the UN's financing approach, as outlined in the UNDG companion piece "Funding to Financing", including the need to use limited UN resources as a catalyst to influence much larger financing flows.

Learning from the experience of the Malawi One UN Fund, the SDG Acceleration Fund includes an improved Governance Structure. This is to ensure adequate involvement of all relevant stakeholders as well as transparency and ownership of responsibilities under the co-direction of the UN's Resident Coordinator and the Government of Malawi.

Aligned with the aspirations of the current MGDS III and the needs of the new UNDAF 2019-2023, the SDG Acceleration Fund aims to complement other resources already being implemented by: i) Providing targeted resources for multi-agency initiatives that strengthen national capacities for integrated policy implementation; ii) Developing the country's SDG financing ecosystem; iii) Implementing catalytic SDG programming and investments; iv) Ensuring effective and sustainable development results at national and sub-national levels.

### ***Arrangements for the One UN Fund's balance***

The Malawi One UN Fund reports a total of USD 2,401,544 unused funds. In agreement with donors, USD 2,013,771 have been refunded by the AA with all remaining balances (USD 387,773) being moved to the SDG Acceleration Fund upon financial closure of the Malawi One UN Fund as recommended by the Joint Strategy Meeting.

## 6. Accountability and Transparency

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

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