

## ITS TIME TO TEST, TREAT & ELIMINATE TUBERCULOSIS

On 24 March, the world commemorated World Tuberculosis (TB) Day, under the theme is 'It's Time'. TB is the leading infectious killer of people with HIV and the second leading infectious cause of death for adults globally.

Now, more than ever, it's time to accelerate action and efforts to test, treat and terminate TB.

TB kills more than two million people a year, impacting the poorest of families, communities and countries. World TB Day was launched to raise public awareness on the causes, effect and impact of TB around the world. Fighting disease and health promotion is a central theme underscoring the efforts of the Federation Humana People to People and its members in the global south,



so we joined hands in celebrating this important commemoration.

DAPP Malawi has been actively involved in TB programming for more than 15 years now in Malawi.

It adopts a community-centered approach to TB programming in behavior change, health systems strengthening and TB treatment.

Currently, DAPP is implementing a TB Prevention, Care and Support project in Traditional Authority Kapeni in Blantyre district which is designed to improve prevention of the spread of TB and improve care and support for people infected with TB, and increase knowledge of HIV/TB including symptoms, testing, treatment, side effects, prevention, transmission.

## IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CORONAVIRUS



In the midst of the new coronavirus also known as Covid-19 outbreak which was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organisation (WHO) on 11 March 2020, DAPP Malawi is putting in place measures aimed at protecting its staff members and beneficiaries from contracting the virus.

Among the measures is securing that there are hand washing facilities in the work places and hand sanitizers, and allowing employees to work from home in order to decongest offices.

With schools closed, some of the DAPP graduated teachers in rural Malawi primary schools have also taken up roles to secure that trees planted around their schools survive.

Nenani Mpezeni is a teacher at Tomali primary school in Mbewe zone in Chikwawa district. She says that while learners are at home, she has been watering the trees and flower beds around their school.

"This is a task done by learners when they are in schools but with the schools closed, I and my fellow teachers around the school have taken over this. We cannot lose these trees to wilting as they are key in the fight against climate change," she explained.

Mpezeni is a member of the DAPP graduated teachers also known as 400 Primary schools that voluntarily stick together to share ideas and experiences on how they can improve the environments around their schools.

The network was established in 2012 with 16 members and has to date grown to a 100 member network of teachers.

## MINISTRY IMPRESSED WITH PROGRESS IN MACADAMIA NUTS PROJECT



On 5 March 2020 officials from the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development and the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism visited the Macadamia Nuts project in Mzimba district.

The project is working with 3000 farmers in Mzimba and Thyolo district who are growing Macadamia Nuts under the Public Private Partnership program to contribute to the Macadamia Nuts' value chain in partnership with Sable Farming Company.

Visiting the Macadamia fields to appreciate how farmers are training their trees and applying the farming technologies acquired through the project were representatives from the Ministry of Industry and Trade and Ministry of Agriculture and Water Development.

The Deputy Director in the Ministry of Industry and Trade Charity Musonzo expressed satisfaction in the progress made in the project.

She highlighted on the need to ensure smooth transition when rolling out the project so that farmers will have reliable markets for their produce as highlighted in the partnership with Sable Farming Company in order for them to benefit.

DAPP Malawi with funding assistance from Dutch Government via Sympany of Netherlands has been implementing the Macadamia Nuts project which aims to enhance the Macadamia Nuts value chain and increase production of Macadamia.

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## IWD FOR GENERATION EQUALITY

On the 8th of March 2020, DAPP Malawi joined the rest of the world in commemorating International Womens Day (IWD).

The day aims to help nations worldwide eliminate discrimination against women.

It also focuses on helping women gain full and equal participation in global development.

In 2020 the day was commemorated under the theme "I am Generation Equality: Realising Women's Rights". DAPP Malawi prides in being part of this day as it works to create communities which are self-sustainable and have improved quality of life.

Specifically, DAPP Malawi implements programs that seek to equip youth with technical and entrepreneurial skills for them to become self-reliant and eradicate poverty. In 2019, DAPP completed the training of 720 adolescent girls and young women who received training in tailoring and entrepreneurship.

Additionally, 280 adolescent girls have also been trained in similar trades under a Mobile Training centre in hard to reach areas within Neno, Phalombe, Thyolo and Mwanza districts.

DAPP contributes to the national development and achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals through implementations in programs related to education, agriculture, health and community development.



For further inspiration; read a story of one of our Mobile Training Centre beneficiary on this link; <https://malawi24.com/2020/03/25/phalombe-girl-escapes-hunger-through-tailoring/?fbclid=IwAR07KGCZkvOekp2OycyXUA5LYdAj6YkKuJ0-AcSFHVj8188aCiNX-GbxX4>