



DAPP MALAWI JOINS CAMPAIGN TO TACKLE LEARNING POVERTY

DAPP Malawi joined the Malawi Government in launching the End Learning Poverty for All in Africa (ELPAf) campaign, a bold continental initiative to strengthen foundational literacy and numeracy skills among young learners.

Held at Mkwichi Secondary School in Lilongwe under the theme 'Read, Write, Count: Foundation4Life', this program directly addresses critical learning gaps in Malawi's primary schools.

Minister of Basic and Secondary Education Madalitso Kambauwa-Wirima called it a "crucial wake-up call" for all stakeholders, stressing that no learner should be left behind especially those with disabilities.

"Every child deserves the skills to succeed in school and life," she said.

At the event, DAPP Malawi showcased different education initiatives it is implementing to complement the Government's efforts in enhancing foundational learning, access to quality education and promotion of inclusive learning across the country.

Originally launched at the African Union Conference on Foundational Literacy and Numeracy in September, 2024, ELPAf aims to ensure all African children can read, write, and perform basic math by 2035 through awareness, scalable teaching methods, and inclusive policies.

DAPP Malawi's education programs fully align with this mission, supporting both the UN Sustainable Development Goals and Malawi 2063 to equip learners with the knowledge and skills to build a brighter, more inclusive future.



MVANGALA CLUSTER LEADS THE WAY IN NUTRITION-FOCUSED FARMING



The Annual Nutrition Awareness Campaign in Chulu Extension Planning Area (EPA), Kasungu, brought together farmers, leaders, and stakeholders under the theme “Promoting Healthy Diets for a Healthy Community.” Organized by DAPP Malawi under the Transforming Agriculture Through Diversification and Entrepreneurship (TRADE) Program, the event highlighted the success of the Mvangala Cluster comprised of 90 members growing diverse backyard gardens with vegetables, legumes, and fruits to improve household nutrition.

Members like Agnes Kamkwamba shared how dietary diversity has improved health in their families.

“We used to eat the same kind of food every day but through the training we received, I’ve learned to mix different food groups. Now, my children are healthier and rarely fall sick.”

Government and project representatives reaffirmed support for nutrition-sensitive farming. The campaign also featured cooking demonstrations, quizzes, and seed distribution, turning learning into action and inspiring more families to take charge of their nutrition.

Supported by IFAD and OPEC, the TRADE Program is a six-year programme whose main objective is to contribute to improved sustainable livelihoods of rural people in 11 districts across Malawi.



BREAKING BARRIERS: DOREEN'S JOURNEY TO HIGHER EDUCATION



Doreen Chigwenembe, a bright and ambitious young girl from T/A Ntchemba in Chiradzulu, is beaming with joy as her dream of pursuing higher education becomes a reality. As a beneficiary of the DREAMS Club under the Loto Langa Project, Doreen’s life has been transformed through valuable life skills training, empowering her to protect herself from HIV, STIs, and unplanned pregnancy.

With the support from the project, Doreen received an education bursary while in Form 3 at Malimba Community Day Secondary School, fueling her passion for learning. She scored 21 points in her Malawi School Certificate of Education (MSCE) examinations. Although she did not get to study her preferred course in nursing, Doreen is thrilled to be pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Land Surveying at Mzuzu University in the 2025/26 academic year, a field often dominated by males.

As a pioneer in her family, Doreen is proud to be the first girl to attend a public university. Her achievement has not only boosted her confidence but also inspired her peers, who now seek her guidance on academic and life skills matters. Doreen’s story showcases the impact of the Loto Langa Project in empowering young women to break barriers, challenge stereotypes, and reach their full potential.

The Loto Langa Project by DAPP, funded by the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), runs for five years and is reaching out to over 33,900 adolescent girls and young women in Blantyre and Chiradzulu districts. The project responding to the high prevalence rate of HIV affecting girls in the age ranges of 10 to 24 years.

