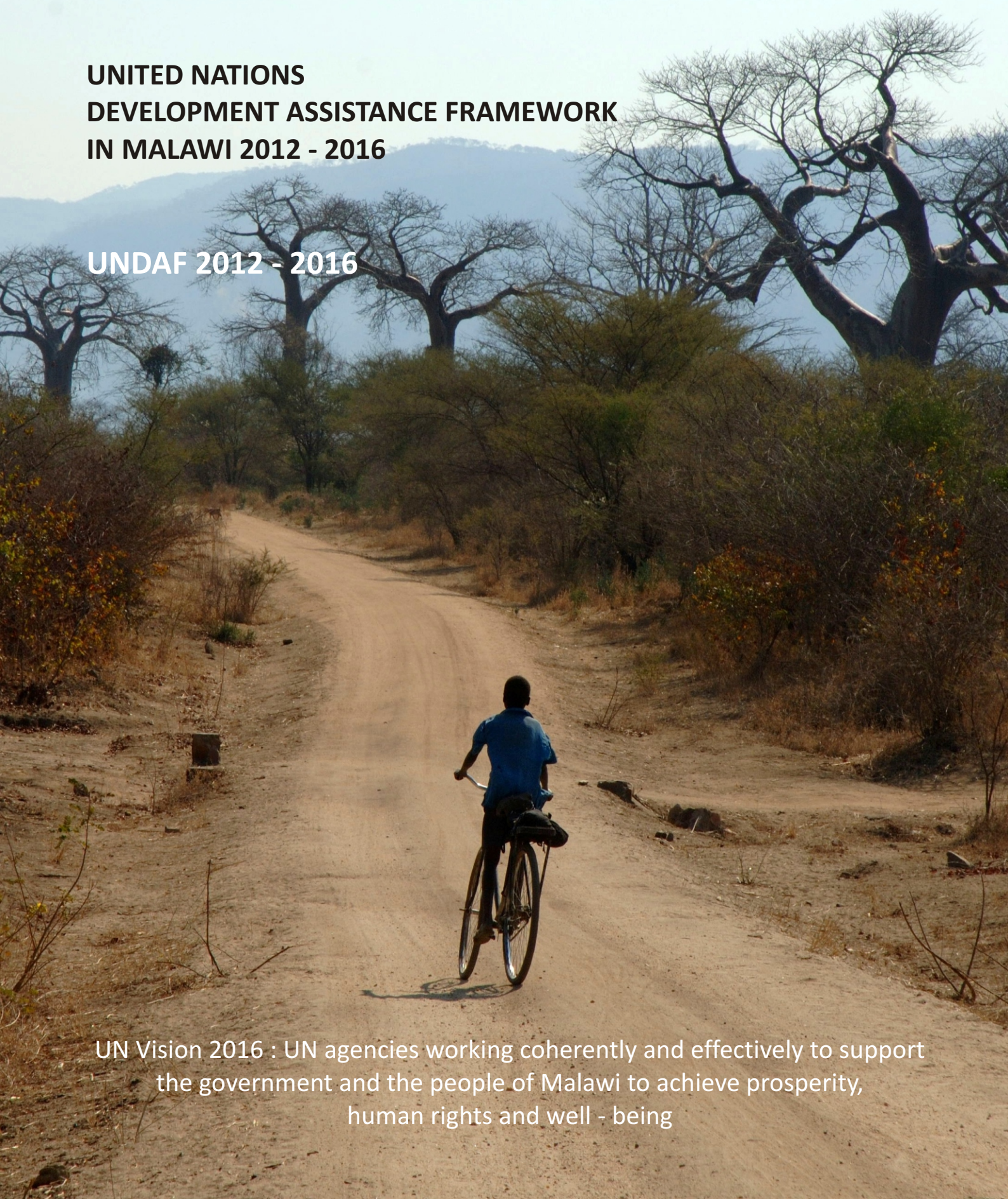




UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE FRAMEWORK IN MALAWI 2012 - 2016

UNDAF 2012 - 2016



UN Vision 2016 : UN agencies working coherently and effectively to support the government and the people of Malawi to achieve prosperity, human rights and well - being

United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2012 – 2016

UNDAF Malawi

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ARV	Antiretroviral
ASWAp	Agriculture Sector Wide Approach
CA	Country Assessment
CMR	Child Mortality Rate
CPR	Contraceptive Prevalence Rate
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
DAS	Development Assistance Strategy
DC	District Commissioner
DPs	Development Partners
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
ECD	Early Childhood Development
EHP	Essential Health Package
EMIS	Education Management Information System
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GoM	Government of Malawi
HIV and AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
HMIS	Health Management Information Systems
HRBA	Human Rights Based Approach
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ILO	International Labour Organization
IRD	Integrated Rural Development
ITN	Insecticide Treated Nets
JSM	Joint Strategy Meeting
KPA	Key Priority Area
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MDHS	Malawi Demographic and Health Survey
MGDS	Malawi Growth and Development Strategy
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MMR	Maternal Mortality Rate
MPVA	Malawi Poverty and Vulnerability Assessment
OVC	Orphans and Vulnerable Children
PFM	Public Financial Management
PLHIV	People Living With HIV
PMTCT	Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission
RBM	Results Based Management
RCO	Resident Coordinator's Office
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
SWAp	Sector Wide Approach
SWGs	Sector Working Groups
TB	Tuberculosis
TFR	Total Fertility Rate
TWG	Technical Working Group
UN	United Nations
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNCDF	United Nations Capital Development Fund

UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UN-HABITAT	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNWOMEN	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization

FOREWORD

The Government of the Republic of Malawi and the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) are committed to the realization of the values and principles enshrined in the Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The purpose of the United Nations Development Assistance framework (UNDAF) is to provide a comprehensive framework and approach through which the United Nations will collaborate with the Government of Malawi and channel its combined resources to Malawi during 2012-2016.

This UNDAF is the outcome of close consultations and dynamic partnership between the Government of Malawi and the United Nations and reflects the response of the United Nations Country Team to critical national development priorities. As such, this framework bears testimony to the commitment by the Malawi Government and the United Nations Country Team to the partnership to achieve goals and promote development.

The Government of Malawi is deeply appreciative of the collaboration with the United Nations Country Team, which facilitated the co-operative development of the UNDAF. This Development framework is based on a common understanding of the strengths of the United Nations system and how the United Nations could be best placed to add value to Government's national Development Strategy in the pursuit of its objectives and priorities. In keeping with the principles of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the UNDAF is aligned to the country's National Development Strategy, the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy II and the vision 2020. In this respect, therefore, it is hoped that the UNDAF will assist Government in achieving its main objective of improving the quality of life of all Malawians. The signing of the UNDAF for Malawi is an important milestone in the UN system's strategic commitment to support the development goals of Malawi. The full and effective implementation of this UNDAF would help to ensure the attainment of the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (2011-2016).

My sincere gratitude and appreciation should go to the officials in Government and representatives of the United Nations Country Team in Malawi for their tireless efforts and useful contributions in the production of the Development Assistance framework for Malawi 2012-2016. The Government of Malawi is committed to a strong cooperation and greater partnership with the United Nations Country Team and other cooperating partners as we tackle development challenges and work towards the realization of our national development agenda.



Abbie Marambika Shawa, MP

MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AND COOPERATION

UNDAF VALIDATION WORKSHOP 10 MAY 2011 – DECLARATION

In my capacity as UN Resident Coordinator in Malawi, and on behalf of the United Nations Country Team in Malawi, I wish to thank the Government of Malawi, Development Partners, NGOs and CSOs for their support and assistance in the consultations for, and formulation of, the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for Malawi for the period 2012-2016. I am grateful for your cooperation so that we may work together in a coordinated manner towards the common goal of the development of Malawi.

The UNDAF is the collective and strategic response of the UN agencies in Malawi— resident and non-resident – to the national priorities and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. In Malawi, these priorities have been reflected in the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS) II. The UNDAF builds on the achievements and takes into account implementation challenges and lessons learnt from Delivering as One during the last UNDAF Cycle 2008-2011.

This UNDAF document represents the culmination of extensive consultations, deliberations and consensus-building with a broad range of stakeholders. We have worked intensely to develop a new standard for programme consultation, aimed at deeper integration into the national planning process. We have kept the transaction costs for our partners at a minimum level while not compromising national ownership of the UN's programmes. To put in context the journey we have made, the distance we have travelled, and to appreciate the effort that went into the elaboration of this UNDAF; it is necessary to explain briefly— about both the process and the content – of the UNDAF document.

The UN Country Team in Malawi laboured long and hard during the UNDAF process, starting with the launch of the UNDAF Plan of Action after the UNCT annual retreat in April 2010. The Plan of Action built upon the MGDS formulation roadmap and identified milestones, critical processes and timelines in the process of developing the UNDAF.

The first of these milestones was the Country Assessment (CA) which was undertaken in March 2010 at the start of the MGDS process. The assessment was anchored in the national vision and strategies. It took into account various studies and assessments conducted by different stakeholders including the Government, Development Partners and the UN. The assessment analysed the three binding constraints on development (Population Growth, Capacity and Resources); identified five key strategic development priorities (Poverty Reduction, HIV and AIDS, Children and Young People, Gender and Sustainability) and recommended 10 strategic policy messages. The launch of the CA was conducted with active participation from Government, Parliament, Development Partners, Civil Society and the media.

The second milestone was the UNDAF familiarisation workshop, held in August 2010, to equip UN staff and stakeholders with the knowledge and skills on the strategic planning processes. The subsequent causality analysis, which was undertaken jointly by UN staff and key implementation Partners, validated the challenges reflected in the CA and identified their common root causes. The four Priority Areas of the new UNDAF emerged from this process. Apart from the five UN mandatory cross-cutting themes (gender equality; capacity development; environmental sustainability; results based management and human rights based approach) the UN Country Team also unanimously agreed to jointly tackle the issues of the most vulnerable and women.

Strategic consultations were undertaken in different forms including UNDAF cluster-level consultation workshops and technical discussions within Sector Working Groups. This UNDAF has also benefited greatly from the UN playing an active role in the Government-led

consultation on the MGDS. We have truly come together to establish a collaborative plan on how the UN can work together to do what it can do best in Malawi through building on its capacity and partnerships with the various stakeholders. The four UNDAF Clusters, which mirrored the four priority areas of the previous UNDAF, comprising the UN, Government and other stakeholders, worked diligently to develop results and M&E matrices for each of the UNDAF 2012-2016 outcomes.

Through this document, we have set ourselves the goal of elaborating the UNDAF for the next 5 years with the expected outcome of the UN partnering as one team to support human rights including gender equality and sustainable development for the Malawian people. The UN in Malawi has taken the spirit of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness on board beyond alignment; the UNDAF has been drafted to be a sibling to the MGDS, reflecting the partnership between Malawi and its United Nations. The UNDAF identifies the following four thematic priority areas for action for the next 5 years:

1. Sustainable and Equitable Economic Growth and Food Security
2. Basic Social and Protection Services
3. HIV and AIDS
4. Governance

For each of these priorities, we have identified a number of UNDAF outcomes amounting to 17 in all. The UN coherence agenda is implemented through an integral part of this UNDAF – the UN Transformation Plan- containing the governance model, M&E Framework, anticipated joint programmes and the UNDAF Action Plan, which led to the identification of the respective roles of implementing partners, donors, civil society, academics and UN agencies.

The deliberations during the consultative process have brought forward a number of salient issues that are worth highlighting;

- *National Ownership*; the participatory nature of the consultation process at the national levels has established clear coherence with national development frameworks, plans and strategies.
- *UN Focus*; the UNDAF proposes a broad menu of development dialogue areas that reflect the UN's analysis of national plans and strategies and maximize the UN's comparative advantage, positioning and capacity to deliver.
- *Aid Effectiveness*; the UN is progressing on its journey to improve internal coordination and effectiveness, as well as seeking further engagement in the Malawi agenda on aid effectiveness and efficiency including strengthening capacity at the national level. There is a focus on strengthening existing governance structures for the implementation of the UNDAF through the division of labour allowing for mutual representation, shared leadership and accountability among UN agencies.

It is important to note that through this process the UN has faced many different expectations. This UNDAF document stands as a statement of intent on the part of the UN to work together with all 18 UN agencies – resident and non-resident – that operate their programmes and projects in Malawi for the next 5 years. Furthermore, we do not doubt that we will face many unforeseen events in the years to come that would require us to adapt to the new situations that arise. And to this extent, we believe that our UNDAF document sets out a flexible but strategic outlook, a clear perspective on how we can work together in meaningful partnership — rather than becoming a meticulous document for ticking the check list of 'things to do' in development.

We, the UN Agencies in Malawi, firmly believe that our UNDAF will guide us to further achieve transformative development results through harmonization, alignment and most importantly partnership. We continue to be committed to working towards aid effectiveness through our planned programme, thereby, approach our work as "business as NOT usual." We have

confidence that this approach, process and plan take joint programming to a new level for the UN and address the level of strategic thinking requested by our development partners.

In implementing the UNDAF, the UN will continue to seek greater coherence through “Delivering as One” and enhanced effectiveness, efficiency and strengthened partnerships. This will find expression in harmonized UN business processes and tools and the development of new Joint Programmes, among which are the issues of Gender Equality; Youth Employment; Climate Change; Private Sector Development; as well as Monitoring and Evaluation. On that note, I am delighted that UN Women – the newest UN entity for gender equality and empowerment of women - is finalising its process to formally set up its resident office in Malawi.

Finally I wish to underline that the UNDAF represents the vision, the broad goals and intended focus of the UN development support between 2012 and 2016. By its nature, therefore, it does not seek to address all the challenges that face this country. Rather, it focuses on those areas where the UN has a comparative advantage and a proven track record of where the UN can add value. Given the very broad spectrum of needs of the population of Malawi despite progress in growth and national food security in recent years, the UN seeks to support the MGDS in a strategic and focused fashion. Malawi still needs all the support it can get and the 18 UN agencies engaged through this UNDAF provide critical technical and policy advice in a coherent and coordinated fashion. The UN will deepen its division of labour to ensure it speaks with One Voice and will increasingly reflect one common position.

In conclusion I would like to sincerely thank all Government counterparts, UN agencies and other Development Partners for the spirit of true UN Reform and aid effectiveness as well as for active participation and contribution to the UNDAF. I would like to express my hope that the level of cooperation within the new programme cycle of 2012-2016 will be even more intense and productive for the realisation of our UN vision 2016 – *UN agencies working coherently and effectively to support the government and the people of Malawi to achieve prosperity, human rights and wellbeing.*

Thank you very much.

Richard Dictus
United Nations Resident Coordinator

TABLE 1 - MALAWI PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE MDGs

Goal/Target	Indicator	2009 Status	2015 Target	Feasibility of achieving the MDG
Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger	Proportion of population living below USD 1 per person per day (percent)	39	27	Likely to be met
	Poverty Gap Ratio (percent)	17.8	8	
	Poorest quintile share in national consumption (percent)	10.1	20	
	Prevalence of underweight children (percent)	17	14	
	Proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption (percent)	15	11.8	
Achieve universal primary education	Net enrolment in primary (percent)	83	100	Unlikely to be met
	Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 reaching grade 5 (percent)	75.7	100	
	Literacy rate (15–24 years) (percent)	84	100	
Promote gender equality and empower women	Ratio of girls to boys in primary education	1.03	1	Unlikely to be met
	Ratio of girls to boys in secondary education	0.79	1	
	Ratio of literate women to men 15–24 Years Old	0.94	1	
	Share of women in wage employment in non-agriculture sector (percent)	15	50	
	Proportion of seats held by women in Parliament (percent)	22	50	
Reduce child mortality	Under-five mortality rate (per 1,000)	122	78	Likely to be met
	Infant mortality rate (per 1,000)	69	44.7	
	Proportion of 1 year children immunized against measles (percent)	84	100	
Improve maternal health	Maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000)	675	155	Unlikely to be met
	Proportion of births attended to by skilled health personnel (percent)	75	100	
Combat HIV and AIDS, malaria and other diseases	HIV prevalence among population aged 15-24 years (UNGASS 2009)	12	0 ¹	Likely to be met
	Proportion of population aged 15-24 years with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS (UNGASS 2009)	M: 42.1 F: 42.1	100 100	
	Proportion of population with advanced HIV infection with access to antiretroviral drugs (UNGASS 2009)	65% ²	100%	
	Ratio of school attendance of orphans to school attendance of non-orphans aged 10-14 years (MICS 2006)	0.97	1.0	
	Deaths rates associated with malaria (percent)	3	-	
	Access to malaria treatment (percent)	22	-	
	Proportion of HH with at least one ITN (percent)	60	-	
	Death rates associated with TB (percent)	8	-	
	Proportion of TB cases under DOTS (percent)	86	-	
Ensure environmental sustainability	Proportion of land covered by forest (percent)	36.2	50	Likely to be met
	Proportion of area protected to maintain biological diversity (percent)	0.16	0.18	
	Proportion of population using solid fuel (percent)	98	0	
	Proportion of population with sustainable access to an improved water source (percent)	75	74	
	Proportion of population with access to improved sanitation (basic sanitation is put at 88% (MICS 2008)(percent)	60*	64	
	Slum population as percentage of urban population (percent)	67.7	-	
Develop global partnership for development	Net ODA as a percentage of Real GDP (percent)	22	-	Likely to be met
	Unemployment of 15–24 year old (urban) (percent)	4	-	
	Telephone lines subscribers per 100 populations (percent)	2.3	-	
	Cellular subscribers per 100 population (percent)	21	-	
	Internet users per 1,000 population (percent)	10.5	-	

¹ The Malawi target for 2015 is for 0% **incidence** of HIV infection (or “zero new infections”) in this age group, rather than HIV **prevalence**.

² Percentage coverage based on pre-June 2010 National ART Guidelines for HIV treatment access.

TABLE 2 - UNDAF AT A GLANCE

MDG	MDG 1, MDG 7, MDG 8	MDG 2, MDG 3, MDG 4, MDG 5, MDG 6	MDG 6	All MDGs
MGDS THEMES, AND KEY PRIORITY AREAS (KPAs)	Sustainable Economic Growth Social Support and Disaster Risk Management KPAs: Agriculture and food security, Climate change, Natural Resources and Environmental Management, Trade,	Social Development KPAs: Health, Education, Child Development, Youth Development, Water and Sanitation	Social Development KPA: HIV and AIDS Management	Improved Governance Social Development KPA: IRD
UNDAF THEMES, KEY PRIORITIES AND OUTCOMES	Theme 1 – Sustainable and Equitable Economic Growth and Food Security Key Priority 1: National policies, local and national institutions effectively support equitable and sustainable economic growth and food security by 2016. Outcome 1.1: Targeted rural households in selected districts are food and nutrition secure by 2016 Outcome 1.2: Women, youth, people with disability and households benefit from decent employment, income generation and pro-poor private sector growth by 2016 Outcome 1.3 Targeted population in selected districts benefit from effective management of environment, natural resources, climate change and disaster risk by 2016 Outcome 1.4 Most vulnerable groups are capable of meeting their basic needs and withstanding shocks by 2016	Theme 2 – Equitable and quality basic social and protection services Key Priority 2: National institutions effectively deliver equitable and quality basic social and protection services by 2016. Outcome 2.1 The population in selected districts has increased access to equitable and quality essential health services by 2016 Outcome 2.2 Children under five years of age, pregnant women and lactating women in selected districts have access to and use quality nutrition services by 2016 Outcome 2.3 Rural and peri-urban underserved areas in selected districts have access to integrated safe water supply, sanitation, hygiene and environmental health services by 2016 Outcome 2.4 Boys and Girls of school-going age in selected low performing districts enrol, are retained, learn, and complete basic education by 2016 Outcome 2.5 Children, young people and women are better protected from violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect and have access to an expanded range of protection services by 2016	Theme 3 – National response to HIV and AIDS Key Priority 3: National response to HIV and AIDS scaled up to achieve Universal Access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support by 2016. Outcome 3.1 Key populations have equitable access to and uptake of quality gender sensitive HIV preventive services by 2016 Outcome 3.2 The population will have increased and equitable access to quality HIV treatment services by 2016 Outcome 3.3 Families and communities in selected districts are protected from social, psychological and economic impact of HIV and AIDS by 2016 Outcome 3.4 The national response to HIV is evidence-informed, coordinated, well-resourced, efficient and based upon a supportive legal and policy environment by 2016	Theme 4 – Governance and Human Rights Key Priority 4: National institutions effectively support transparency, accountability, participatory democracy and human rights by 2016. Outcome 4.1 National institutions foster democratic governance and human rights to promote transparency, accountability, participation and access to justice for all especially women and children by 2016 Outcome 4.2 Public institutions are better able to manage, allocate and utilize resources for effective development and service delivery by 2016 Outcome 4.3 National institutions advance gender equality and status of women by 2016 Outcome 4.4 National laws, policies and public behaviour patterns responsive to population dynamics for sustainable development by 2016

PREFACE

The UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) in Malawi 2012–2016 sets out the specific outcomes that the United Nations and the Government of Malawi will together aim to achieve by 2016.

The UN Country Team in Malawi, representing both Resident and Non-Resident UN agencies, Funds and Programmes, will ensure that the United Nations' collective human, technical and financial resources are marshalled and deployed in the most effective and efficient manner under Government leadership. With this UNDAF, the people of Malawi will receive the fullest value of their partnership with the UN under national leadership, attain the national development targets set for the country by the Government of Malawi, and achieve so far as is practical and reasonable, by 2016, the Millennium Development Goals.

We, the Government of Malawi and members of the United Nations Country Team in Malawi, commit to working together in full accountability to the people of Malawi and with the development community for achieving the outcomes of this UNDAF.

Signatures:

For Government of Malawi



Abbie Marambika Shawa, MP

MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AND COOPERATION

For United Nations Country Team

Mr. Richard Dictus

United Nations Resident Coordinator

Mr. Pinit Korsieporn, Resident Representative Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	Dr. Patrick Brenny Country Coordinator Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

Mr. Ram Shankar Deputy Resident Representative (P) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	Mr. Athanase Nzokirishaka Resident Representative United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
Mr. Abel Mbilinyi Resident Representative United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Ms. Carrie Auer Resident Representative United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
Mr. Abdoulaye Diop Representative and Country Director United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)	Dr. Felicitas Zawaira Resident Representative World Health Organization (WHO)
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Moving from Poverty to Prosperity is the overarching theme for the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2012 – 2016. The formulation of the UNDAF is the result of a UN – Government integrated substantive consultation process that used the UN Malawi Country Assessment and the MGDS II as its foundation.

The Malawi Country Assessment revealed three binding constraints on development in Malawi, identified five key strategic development priorities and recommended ten strategic policy messages.

Three binding constraints:

1. *Population Growth* – the trends in population growth indicate that development gains will remain fragile and will not meet required levels due to the increased pressure of a growing population on a limited resource base. Efforts to slow down population growth, reduce poverty, achieve economic progress and improve environmental protection are mutually reinforcing and slower population growth and sustainable levels of fertility can have a considerable positive impact on quality of life;
2. *Capacity* – the country has been suffering from a chronic capacity deficit at all levels. Whether it is the lack of functional literacy and numeracy or the limited number of medical doctors and teachers, the country needs additional and sustained investment in men, women, youth and children to catch up;
3. *Resources* – it is unlikely that the government revenue growth will keep pace with the required expansion of social services and public investment. If the resource envelope will continue to remain inadequate for some time to come, significant improvement in effectiveness, efficiency and accountability for expenditure will not only maximize impact but also bolster the required partnership for development.

Five key strategic development priorities

1. Poverty Reduction

- Poverty head count has declined from 52 to 39 percent in the last 6 years; still many Malawians remain in poverty and/or are at risk of falling back into poverty, especially rural women and rural youth.
- A high, sustainable growth rate and a pro-poor and employment centred development trajectory are important to reduce poverty.
- Good governance is perceived to be the context and condition for fast economic growth and pro-poor service delivery, and fulfilling human rights in general.

2. HIV and AIDS

- Malawi continues to make laudable progress towards MDG 6 with HIV prevalence reduced by 25 percent since 2001.
- Still more than 70,000 new HIV infections occur annually and heterosexual transmission of HIV accounts for approximately 80 percent of new infections.

- Risky sexual behaviour is the leading cause of mortality. HIV is also attributed as a cause of at least one third of maternal mortality and 20 percent of mortality in children under 5.
- Comprehensive condom programming remains key for the acceleration of HIV prevention.

3. Children and Young People

- Children account for 51.5 percent of the population. Many of them are child labourers, especially in agriculture. Placing children at the centre of the next MGDS would significantly reduce this level of vulnerability while boosting productivity.
- Youth (aged 10-29 years) account for 38.7 percent of the population³. Effective response to and investment in youth development and empowerment, including access to decent employment, will contribute to food security and poverty reduction, improve productivity, reduce health costs and enhance human and social capital.

4. Gender

- Three MDGs where expectations are not being met have very pronounced gender connotations (girl education, women's political and economic empowerment, maternal mortality).
- Gender mainstreaming remains an aspiration; various approaches have not yet impacted on the national M&E system; the MGDS I has been virtually gender blind. Thus, the UNDAF II has to strive to ensure that gender equality goals are effectively and efficiently mainstreamed throughout all its thematic areas.
- The great difficulty with achieving MDG 3 is evidence of a consistent policy and implementation gap that a number of consecutive National Plans of Action have not been able to address effectively.

5. Sustainability

- Potential benefits of sustainable natural resource management for the achievement of key development objectives are not sufficiently reflected in national, sector or district level planning, budgeting and implementation due to capacity gaps.
- Better integration of sustainability goals requires more detailed analysis on the links between environmental, economic and social sustainability, and namely on pro-poor development, capacity development, co-ordination across government and budget allocations on environment and natural resources management.

Ten strategic policy messages:

1. Sustained economic growth, coupled with macro-economic stability and fiscal responsibility, the agricultural input subsidization scheme and five years of good rains have had an unprecedented impact on poverty reduction in Malawi.
2. A high sustainable growth rate and the participation of the poor and women in that growth is essential to ensure an equitable outcome of economic expansion.
3. Greater focus needs to be placed on the poverty impact, vulnerability reduction and environmental sustainability of future investments in agriculture. The sector

³ 2008 Population and Housing Census

contributes 30 percent of GDP, 80 percent of exports and more than half of all economic growth. Agriculture employs 80 percent of the labour force, of which the large majority are rural women. However, unsustainable agricultural practices reduce productivity.

4. MDG achievement will require additional and more integrated efforts (break-through strategies), as well as further targeting of expenditure within social sectors to ensure maximum impact on the most disadvantages and vulnerable segments of society.
5. Gender and specifically the position of women and girls seem to not have found their rightful place in the national development effort as evidenced by higher rate of poverty amongst female headed households and slow progress on MDGs that most affect women and girls.
6. Efficiency and effectiveness (value for money) and accountability for resources would drive a greater focus on Results Based Management, Sector Wide Approaches (Implementation of the Development Assistance Strategy) and ensuring that the MGDS not only has a good indicator framework, but that this is linked to the Medium-Term Expenditure Frameworks and the national budget process to ensure that the annual MGDS review becomes a meaningful performance driven process.
7. Due attention to the inclusion of Climate Change and Natural Resource Management amongst the nine Government priorities, ensuring investments in climate proofing and reducing the countries vulnerability to the increasing frequency and severity of natural disasters to ensure that economic and MDG gains can be sustained over time.
8. Social Protection is essential in the face of continued human suffering and vulnerability. It is also a critical pro-growth and pro-poor measure that will enable the country to move forwards on both fronts at the same time. Emphasis should be placed on developing comprehensive social protection programmes which are well integrated into a broader strategy for social policy and social development, complementing efforts for employment-centred growth. Thus, the coverage of social protection schemes has to be expanded to all segments of society, with a special emphasis on the most disadvantaged groups. In such process, the nature of existing institutions, the level of economic development and fiscal space, and features of social and economic transformation are to be accounted for.
9. Good Governance – combining elements of democratic accountability, strengthening rural institutions and access to justice - is a critical initiative to be able to further plan and benchmark progress of participatory democracy and expand Rights Based Approaches to development.
10. The Public Sector Reform Programme needs to continue to ensure investment in an accountable Public Administration that is fit for purpose and capable of delivering equitable social and development services to the people at all levels.

The MGDS II (2011 – 2016) – Six thematic areas and nine key priorities

The MGDS II (2011-2016) is the overarching medium term strategy for Malawi designed to attain Malawi's long term aspiration as spelt out in its Vision 2020. The objective of MGDS II is to continue reducing poverty through sustainable economic growth and infrastructure development. The MGDS II identifies six broad thematic areas. These

thematic areas are: (i) Sustainable Economic Growth; (ii) Social Development; (iii) Social Support and Disaster Risk Management; (iv) Infrastructure Development; (v) Improved Governance; and (vi) Cross-Cutting Issues. The thematic areas are the pillars that support the nine key priority areas which include (i) Agriculture and Food Security; (ii) Transport Infrastructure and Nsanje World Inland Port; (iii) Energy, Industrial Development, Mining and Tourism; (iv) Education, Science and Technology; (v) Public Health, Sanitation, Malaria and HIV/AIDS Management; (vi) Integrated Rural Development; (vii) Green Belt Irrigation and Water Development; (viii) Child Development, Youth Development and Empowerment; and (ix) Climate Change, Natural Resources and Environmental Management.

Four UNDAF Priority Areas

Guided by the UN comparative advantage, findings of the UN Country Assessment and the goals and targets of the MGDS II, four priority areas of cooperation have emerged as particularly critical for United Nations support to the people and the Government of Malawi. The four priorities which include (i) **sustainable and equitable economic growth and food security**; (ii) **basic social and protection services**; (iii) **HIV and AIDS**; and (iv) **governance** aim to achieve the internationally agreed development goals and MDGs that are enshrined in the Millennium Declaration. During the implementation of the UNDAF, the UN in Malawi will focus on:

Key Priority 1: National policies, local and national institutions effectively support equitable and sustainable economic growth and food security by 2016.

Key Priority 2: National institutions effectively deliver equitable and quality basic social and protection services by 2016.

Key Priority 3: National response to HIV and AIDS scaled up to achieve Universal Access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support by 2016.

Key Priority 4: National institutions effectively support transparency, accountability, participatory democracy and human rights by 2016.

UNDAF Implementation

Throughout the implementation of the UNDAF, the UN will focus on the most vulnerable groups with explicit provisions to ensure their active and effective participation in decision making as a key to sustaining development results.

The key strategies on which the UNDAF is founded are capacity development, promotion of human rights and the application of the human rights-based approach to programming, promotion of evidence-based monitoring systems, the mainstreaming of gender equality goals, women's and youth empowerment, environmental sustainability and fighting HIV and AIDS.

Malawi is on track to meet five out of eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). With less than five years to go until the target date (2015), the UN will enhance its efforts to

intensify and accelerate progress on MDG achievements. Policy measures including MDG breakthrough strategies will be designed to address the lagging MDG indicators (girl education, maternal health and women's empowerment).

Driven by a mutually agreed shared leadership approach, the UN Malawi division of labour will capitalize on UN agency comparative advantage, mandate and expertise to enhance government leadership and national ownership of development strategies to advance policies and upscale resources. A more coherent and coordinated programming support, upstream policy engagement and innovative approaches on the ground are efforts that will be made to sustain progress, mitigate risks and improve the impact of the socio-economic development on the most vulnerable.

The UN will continue to pursue a coordinated approach towards aid effectiveness. Of critical importance and highly valued by the Government is the UN support and active involvement in Sector Wide Approaches or sectors such as Agriculture, Climate Change, Pro-Poor Economic Growth in priority area 1; Education, Health, Nutrition, Social Support, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in priority area 2; HIV in priority area 3; Democratic Governance, Public Administration, and Gender and Youth in priority area 4. As impartial and trusted partner, the UN assists the creation of supportive legislative and policy environments for all stakeholders, supports ongoing dialogue for an effective coordination mechanism and evaluates the impact of development aid.

The UNDAF sees the UN advancing steadily towards better coherence. With 100 percent and 80 percent of results are joint at the outcome and output levels respectively, it is a strong foundation based on which new and innovative joint programmes will be identified and developed during the implementation of the UNDAF. Joint programmes will foster engagement in sector-wide programming initiatives, with a focus on results through policies/systems reform, quality services taken to scale and a focus on life-improving impacts on women and girls, families and communities. Discussions have initiated on possible Joint Programmes in critical areas such as HIV and AIDS, youth employment, climate change, private sector development, M&E, maternal health, adolescent girls (violence against women and children), public sector capacity development, gender equality and women empowerment, renewable and energy saving; disaster risk management, and poverty environment.

The total indicative resources required for the implementation of the UNDAF over a five-year period amount to USD 602,415,570 (core/regular: 161,694,235; non-core/others: 218,409,294; and gaps (to be mobilized): 222,312,041. About 17 percent (USD 102,089,933) of the total resources will be spent within the Key Priority Area 1; 43 percent (USD 256,302,533) on Key Priority Area 2; 16 percent (97,288,104) on Key Priority Area 3; and 24 percent (USD 146,735,000) on Key Priority Area 4.

The implementation of the UNDAF will benefit from the success and lessons learnt from the last UNDAF cycle (2008-2011) and the gains resulted from the implementation of the UN Transformation Plan. The Delivering as One approach enables the UN to work towards a more efficient and effective UN through aligning UN capacities to the operational and substantive challenges, harmonization and simplification of business processes. Ultimately,

development results will be delivered in a more coherent and coordinated manner for the benefit of the people of Malawi.

SECTION ONE –INTRODUCTION

MALAWI GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (MGDS) AND THE MDGs

MGDS II is the overarching medium term strategy to attain Malawi's long-term aspirations as set out in its Vision 2020. The objective of the MGDS II is to continue reducing poverty through sustainable economic growth and infrastructure development. MGDS II recognizes Malawi's commitment to several global agreements and declarations including the MDGs and the internationally agreed development goals.

The 2010 national MDGs report shows that Malawi is on track to meet five out of the eight MDGs⁴. This considerable achievement needs to be set against the country's development challenges: a low-income, landlocked country, Malawi ranks 160 of 182 countries on the 2010 Human Development Index. Whilst the country's successes in respect of the MDGs are commendable, there are no guarantees that the MDG targets will be met by 2015, or recent gains sustained, even with continued focus on macro-economic stability, economic growth and food security which continue to produce new results. Worth noting is that the three MDGs where expectations are not being met each has very pronounced gender connotations, which has prompted the UN in Malawi to implement an MDG Gender Breakthrough strategy to 'fast track' MDG progress in respect of these gender-critical MDGs.

COUNTRY ANALYSIS

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

From 2006, the GoM strategy for reducing poverty has been to pursue macro-economic stability, economic growth and food security. This strategy continues to produce good results: economic growth averages 7.1 percent; the national poverty headcount dropped from 52 to 39 percent (1999-2010); and the proportion of the 'ultra poor' fell from 22 to 15 percent. With rapid urbanization in Malawi (5.3% per annum – UN DESA) there is growing evidence that the locus of poverty is gradually shifting from rural to urban areas and causes various dimensions of urban poverty that are not captured by income based indicators including social exclusion and poor quality of and poor access to basic urban infrastructure and social services.

Agriculture, which is a major contributor to national and household food security, employs over 80 percent of the country's workforce and contributes 35 percent to GDP. Gender disparities in the agricultural sector have emerged as serious constraints to the achievement of development objectives. With the commercialization of smallholder agriculture as well as the development of efficient market systems, employment is fast becoming a critical policy issue. Child labour and other exploitative employment practices are common. Constraints to the creation of decent and productive employment are numerous, especially in rural areas and include significant shortages of skills; poor labour productivity; high population and

⁴ GoM, Malawi Millennium Development Goals 2010 Final Report. This and the following documents provided data for the Situation Analyses: UN Malawi, Malawi Country Assessment Report 2010, Lilongwe, 2010; UN Country Team Malawi, One Plan Annual Report 2010, Lilongwe, January 2011; UNCT Malawi, One Plan Malawi (2009-2011)

labour force growth; high incidence of informal employment particularly in the agricultural sector and rural areas; pervasive gender inequalities; inadequate labour market information; poor foreign exchange policy; inadequate access to finance; inadequate investments and poor infrastructure.

Unsustainable natural resource use costs Malawi USD191 million or 5.3 percent of GDP every year and the percentage of forest cover in the country has decreased from 41 percent in 1990 to 35 percent in 2008. Increased climate variations experienced in the form of prolonged dry spells, droughts, floods, and temperature variability, have compounded the stress on the natural resource base, in turn negatively affecting the performance of sectors such as water and irrigation, agriculture, natural resources and energy, thereby aggravating poverty, especially for the already vulnerable population in marginal areas. Alternative energy technology to burning of natural bio-fuels (98.7 percent of the population still depends on solid fuels, against a target of zero percent in 2015) is either not readily available or expensive, and policies supporting natural resources exploitation and environmental management are not well coordinated. Challenges include weak institutional capacity for managing climate change, inadequate mainstreaming of climate change issues, weak enforcement of laws and regulations, accelerated deforestation, and poor land-use management practices. From the gender perspective, women do not yet have the technical skills and confidence to participate effectively on climate change negotiations yet they are rendered most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Climate change will exacerbate already existing gender inequalities which can lead to larger impacts for the achievement of women's equality.

Despite the food surpluses of the past 5 years, natural disasters have led to food insecurity in certain districts necessitating provision of humanitarian assistance. At present, 14 districts⁵ are classified as disaster prone, against a total of nine in 2001. The GoM has been active in providing social support to the most vulnerable and strengthening Disaster Risk Management (DRM). Nonetheless, challenges are many: key regulatory instruments for targeted programme implementation are undeveloped, sustainable financing is absent, whilst programme continuity is unavailable. Direct assistance and social transfers are also limited in coverage, largely due to financial constraints.

BASIC SOCIAL SERVICES/SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Health

Child mortality

Under-five mortality rates fell from 234/1,000 live births in 1992 to 112/1,000 live births in 2010. It is projected that by 2015, under five mortality rate will reach 59/1,000 live births. The proportion of one-year-old children immunized against measles increased from 79 percent in 2004 to 93 percent in 2010. However, the majority of health facilities are still unable to provide comprehensive child health services. Out of 113 sampled health facilities, only 8.9 percent had the basic infrastructure required to provide child health services.

⁵ Chikwakwa, Nsanje, Phalombe, Zomba, Machinga, Mangochi, Balaka, Ntcheu, Salima, Nkhoskhota, Karonga, Blantyre, Dedza, Rumphi

Inadequate staffing and staff competencies poses a challenge for the health sector in general.

Diarrheal disease remains one of the leading killers of children under five. Safe storage and treatment of water at the household level, access to and effective use of a sanitation facility will each result in approximately a 30-40 percent reduction in diarrheal prevalence, and the combination of these key interventions is critical to sustaining the successes in MDG 4.

Maternal mortality

MDG 5 on improving maternal health is probably the one least on track of all MDGs when there are only four years before 2015. Malawi's maternal mortality ratio (MMR) remains high at 675 deaths per 100,000 live births (preliminary DHS 2010), although there is a significant improvement from an MMR of 984 in 2004⁶, and 807 in 2006⁷. The continued high MMR is largely attributed to early and unwanted pregnancies; complications of unsafe abortion; unmet need for family planning is at 28 percent representing a gap in access and utilization of family planning services by girls and women who need the services; limited access to focused antenatal and postnatal care; and limited availability, access and utilization of emergency obstetrical care services with only 2 percent of health facilities providing basic emergency obstetric care; inadequate equipment, drugs and supplies has compromised the quality of maternal and neonatal health care.

The proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel stood at 73 percent in 2010. It is projected that by 2015 most births will be attended by skilled health workers. Large urban–rural disparities still exist in the proportion of pregnant women attended by skilled health personnel. In 2010, skilled birth attendants delivered 85.4 percent of births in the urban areas; in rural areas the percentage is just 70.9 percent. The growing impact of the HIV and AIDS epidemic has also compounded the situation.

Malaria

Malaria is the leading cause of morbidity and mortality in children under five years of age and pregnant women. Malaria accounts for 40 percent of outpatient visits and 18 percent of all hospital deaths. Insecticide Treated Net (ITN) household coverage increased from 13 percent in 2000 to 56 percent in 2010. Deaths averted grew from 3,614 in 2001 to 6,952 in 2007, with lack of ITNs contributing most to the total (3,668). Challenges to ITN performance include the inadequate ownership and use of ITNs, and large spatial, income and education disparities.

Tuberculosis

Tuberculosis (TB) remains a major public health problem in Malawi, with 7,623 new smear positive TB cases and 4,966 new extra-pulmonary TB cases identified by the Ministry of Health during 2009 (of 24,000 suspected cases). The TB picture in Malawi is seriously aggravated by high HIV prevalence, with 66 percent of all TB-positive patients being co-

⁶ NSO. (2005). *Demographic and health survey 2004*. Zomba: NSO.

⁷ MICS 2006

infected with HIV. Directly Observed Treatment Short-course, when utilized, is highly successful, however case detection rate is only 49 percent due to limited access to TB diagnosis at peripheral levels; limited human resources; and low awareness of TB among the general population.

Health System

The health system in Malawi needs to be strengthened given that due to poor infrastructure and inadequate staff, less than a quarter of the health facilities can deliver essential health services. The average vacancy rate is 67 percent among critical cadres in the Ministry of Health, with the rural areas most affected. . Financing health services is a challenge with the country being heavily reliant on donor funds, which made up 60.7 percent of total health expenditure in 2005/2006 and 48.6 percent in 2008/2009. The Government remains committed to reduce this dependence. The per capita expenditure on health has improved to USD 27 in 2008/2009 from USD 25 per year in 2005/2006 though it is still below the WHO Commission for Macroeconomics and Health recommended threshold of USD 34 per capita per year for a basic health package. Result based planning for district health services and efficient use of resources is a challenge both for the Ministry of Health and District Councils. The Health Management Information System is facility-based with poor community level linkages. The US Government has put in place a temporary parallel procurement and supply chain management because of the inability of the Central Medical Stores to manage drug supplies. The donors and the GoM are working together to transform the Central Medical Stores into a Trust as a step towards improving its performance and improving supply chain management of essential drugs and medical commodities.

Nutrition

According to preliminary DHS 2010 results, GoM has made improvements in reducing chronic malnutrition or stunting in children under the age of five years from 48 percent in 2004 to 47.1 percent in 2010. Wasting has reduced from 5.2 percent to 4 percent and underweight from 22 percent to 12.8 percent. However, malnutrition remains a serious challenge nationally and the major contributor to child mortality. Micronutrient deficiencies constitute another major category of nutritional problems. In addition, the country is also seeing the emergence of the problem of over nutrition⁸.

The consequences of malnutrition in the country are varied and multi-dimensional, including compromised learner achievement, reduced human productivity, and lost future gains at the levels of the individual, families and the nation. The national response to malnutrition in the country has focused on management and treatment of moderate and acute malnutrition. The country needs to invest in both long-term sustainable approaches to prevent the problem of malnutrition from occurring in the first place and short-term approaches to manage the problem where it occurs.

Education

⁸ 11 percent of children under 5 years of age are overweight in Malawi (MICS, DHS and other national surveys, 2003-2008; estimates are calculated according to the WHO Child Growth Standards).

Achievement of universal primary education is one of the three MDG goals unlikely to be attained. The primary education net enrolment rate was 83 percent in 2009 (84 percent female, 82 percent male). The proportion of pupils starting grade one who reach grade five reached 73.5 percent in 2010 (74.7 percent boys, 72 percent girls) – up from 49.8 percent in 1992 (51.8 percent boys, 47.6 percent girls).

Inefficiency in primary schools is due to the high dropout and repetition rates, caused by poor learning environments, household food insecurity and child labour, shortages of teachers and teaching and learning materials, inadequate infrastructure and relevance of curricula. Although school enrolment is the same for boys and girls in lower classes, gender inequalities are large at the senior primary level. The problem is the result of a combination of social issues including early marriages, the domestic division of labour, and the greater negative impact of orphan hood on girls. It takes 23 student-years to produce one primary school graduate instead of 8 years with perfect efficiency. After eighteen years of free basic education, the country is still short of 30,000 classrooms and many thousands of trained educators. Access to early childhood education is very low, reaching only 30 percent of the potential population of learners. The quality is variable and there is little regulation in terms of curriculum and school environment. Access to primary education facilities has also implications on women's engagement in productive activities. Women often face time constraints due to their roles in work related to child care, food preparation and other household responsibilities.

With regards to technical and vocational education and training (TVET), it has been characterised by limited access, low quality and inequity.⁹ While the government has in the last two years increased investment in the area, both in terms of funding and the provision of equipment, the provision of TVET in rural areas, for vulnerable groups such as those with disabilities, women and girls, particularly rural, and youth in general remains poor, and has to be addressed through policy and programmatic reforms and interventions. Young rural people, especially women, are strongly disadvantaged in accessing post-primary education compared to their urban peers. This has a negative impact on their future employability in higher-skilled occupations and in the formal sector, which in turn perpetuates poverty and under-development of rural areas by and large.

Child Protection

GoM has enacted important legislation such as the Child Care Protection and Justice Act, and the Prevention of Domestic Violence and National Registration Act. GoM has also developed national plans of action on Orphan and Vulnerable Children and Child Labour and made efforts to improve access to services through mobilizing resources and establishing Community Based Child Care Centres, among others.

One in five children in Malawi is either orphaned or otherwise growing up without parental care. Twenty six percent of children aged 5-14 years are involved in various forms of child labour, predominantly in rural areas and in agriculture. Thirty three percent of girls in

⁹ These reviews and studies were: GOM/WB/UNESCO-Breda (2009). Country status report; UNESCO (2010). *Malawi TVET Policy Review*. Paris: UNESCO; ILO (2010). *Understanding Informal Apprenticeship – Findings from empirical research in Malawi*; and African development bank (2009). *Skills for private sector development*. ILO.

Malawi are married before the age of 18. Sixty-five percent of girls and 35 percent of boys report experiencing some form of abuse and violence during their lifetime, while 24 percent of all children report experiencing sexual violence and exploitation, further hampering efforts to combat HIV infection. The lack of a robust national child protection system is of concern. Only a small proportion of acts of violence against children are reported and investigated, and few perpetrators held to account.

Water and Sanitation

Water supply coverage increased from 58 percent in 2004 to 76 percent in 2009. Access to water supply in rural areas stands at 75 percent. Malawi has made tremendous progress in achieving universal access to improved basic sanitation (latrines) – estimated at 46 percent (43 percent in rural and 65 percent in urban areas). Access to safe potable water rose from 73 percent in 2005 to 75 percent in 2009.

Nonetheless, Malawi is prone to floods, droughts and epidemic diseases. At community and household level, the poorest and most vulnerable groups, including children, women, the elderly and the disabled, are most affected and require access to clean water in emergencies to prevent diseases such as cholera and malaria, as well as for practicing good hygiene such as hand washing with soap at critical times. Provision of emergency sanitation facilities is seldom evident. Poor hygiene, lack of sanitation, and low quantity and quality of drinking water all contribute to Malawi's poor health indicators for mothers and children, and impact negatively on the women's livelihoods as they take on added responsibility for caring for the sick and fetching fresh clean water. In helping their mothers, children, especially girls, miss the opportunity to attend school and for recreation.

HIV AND AIDS

Globally, Malawi is the ninth most-affected country for HIV, with an estimated 10.6 percent of the sexually active population (15 to 49 years old) being infected¹⁰. HIV prevalence is higher among women (13.3 percent) than among men (10.2 percent) and there are approximately 900,000 people living with HIV in the country. Vertical transmission between mother and child accounts for about 15-20 percent of new HIV infections annually. There are spatial, gender and regional disparities in the prevalence of HIV and AIDS. It is estimated that little more than half of Malawians living with HIV infection actually know their HIV status.

Malawi has recently committed itself to the "virtual elimination" of mother to child transmission through a comprehensive approach to PMTCT programming, and the rapid expansion of antiretroviral services for adults and children has currently led to more than 250,000 Malawians accessing HIV treatment. There is a continuing need for expanding the coverage of service especially in rural areas and for most-at-risk and marginalized populations. The percentage of the sexually active population using condoms at least for high-risk sex is at 57.2 percent for men and 37.5 percent for women.

¹⁰ Malawi Demographic and Health Survey 2010, Preliminary Results, Published by NSO/Measure DHS, ICF Macro

Malawi has seen a 25 percent decrease in HIV prevalence over the course of the epidemic. However, with more than 70,000 estimated new infections annually and risky sexual behaviour identified as the leading cause of deaths in Malawi, substantial new efforts to catalyze a combination prevention revolution in the country will be required if the national response to HIV/AIDS is to remain effective and sustainable.

Gender differences in vulnerabilities to HIV infection are largely attributed to the weak economic status of women and girls due to economic, cultural and social factors, as well as the fundamental gender and power imbalances which continue to exist in the country. There is a pressing need to increase male involvement and health seeking behaviour as well as the promotion of HIV testing and counselling as a gateway to accessing HIV care especially for couples. Similarly, there is a low uptake of ART among children in Malawi. The met need for paediatric ART is currently estimated at 34 percent, which is substantially lower than adult met need (48 percent based on the new national guidelines).

The availability of human resources trained to provide HIV care is critical in ART scale-up efforts. Unfortunately, the total number of health care workers trained and retained in the private as well as the public sectors still has not kept pace with the country's need for expanded access to HIV or other health services. Furthermore, additional impact mitigation strategies to address stigma and discrimination, stimulate proven cash-transfer schemes to minimize vulnerabilities to HIV infection, and workplace- or livelihood-related care and support issues are a critical need for Malawi's economic development future.

GOOD GOVERNANCE

Democratic governance

Democratic governance has taken a significant leap forward in Malawi over the past two-decades. Competitive multiparty democracy has taken a firm hold and the 2009 Presidential and Parliamentary Elections have revealed a changing political landscape. Civil society organizations are contributing to the development process and influence policies in various sectors. However, recent events have demonstrated that the Malawi Government was intolerant and unresponsive to the civil society demands as it denied them to freely participate in the demonstration against the political ills currently prevalent in the country. This was further eroding the remarkable gains that the country achieved in democratic governance.

The MGDS II highlights good governance as a fundamental prerequisite for the achievement of long-term national development goals. A Democratic Governance SWG was introduced to facilitate coordination of the democratic governance interventions and establish a Democratic Governance SWAp.

International independent rankings, however, reflect that Malawi's performance in governance is still lower than the average of Southern African countries. Poor performance on different indicators were attributed to: weak institutionalization of people's rights to freely participate in the country's political system; inadequate operational capacity of watchdog institutions; low participation of women and the youth in national politics (with

women represent 22 percent in the Parliament); domestic and gender based violence; fragmented support/coordination for the justice sector; inadequate or outdated infrastructure; absence of critical justice systems and procedures; and poor protection of the rights of vulnerable groups including women and children.

Human Rights

Malawi is a signatory to some major international treaties promoting human rights and rule of law. However, most international conventions need national ratification through parliament and submission of state party reports on the ratified treaties remains limited posing accountability challenges. In events where state party reports have been submitted, there is limited follow up on recommendations made by UN treaty bodies. Revisions of key laws to align with international conventions are, in a number of instances, overdue. Non-ratification of UN conventions on rights is an important issue for Malawi in consolidation of democratic governance. This could be a factor in the negative trends seen on human rights since 2009 elections. Maintaining political will to address this issue will be important as political and civil rights go together.

Malawi law specifically provides for equal rights for women, forbids discrimination based on language or culture, race, disability, or social status and provides for equality and recognition before the law for every citizen. However, the capacity of government institutions to ensure equal rights for all citizens is limited. Domestic violence is common, though women seldom discuss the issue openly, and victims rarely seek legal recourse. Levels of stigma and discrimination towards people living with HIV infection and towards marginalized populations undermine efforts for a more effective national response to HIV. Legal experts and human rights workers attribute victims' reluctance to report their abusers to lack of awareness of legal rights and fear of retribution and ostracism. Civic education and information are inadequate, together with general efforts to improve literacy and numeracy rates.

Capacity Development

GoM has taken on the challenges of service delivery through the development of a national Capacity Development for Management programme. The development of Public Sector Management Reform, Public Service Charters and the resumption of Public Sector Administration courses for senior Government officials, discussion on decentralization, Human Resource Management, Public Finance Management and Accountability and Public management of information systems provide the elements of a Public Sector Reform Programme. Most of the SWAp or sector plans have included components of capacity building. The Office of the President and Cabinet is leading sector-based assessments, planning and implementation of capacity development initiatives.

While capacity is a binding constraint on development, to date no national strategy has been developed that allows the GoM, DPs and civil society to focus on the critical need for the nation to be able to lead, manage and own the development process in all its facets. Such a strategy would span the issues of human resource development, capacity for effective public service delivery at the national and district levels, and building civil society

and community self-reliance and empowerment. The independent MGDS review of 2010 highlighted weak capacities in the key functional areas of public financial management and procurement. It is also essential that the discussion on RBM is deepened and that a national practice, spanning all ministries and all administrative layers is developed. In order to achieve the national development priorities, greater efficiency and effectiveness in planning and implementation of policies, programmes and utilization of resources are required; facts are well documented in the capacity development needs assessment, including lack of performance orientation in the incentive structure of managers.

Integrated Rural Development

GoM has adopted an integrated approach to rural development, enabled by the adoption of the Decentralization Policy and Local Government Act. The approach calls for thorough re-organization of rural development administrative structures and projects/programmes, significant human resource mobilization and empowerment; and service delivery improvements in areas such as market linkages, credit extension, microfinance and social security and protection, and employment, including labour market information systems. To achieve these goals, GoM has prioritized administrative and operational level integration; implementing partnership strengthening, and leadership, ownership and low-cost technology transfer to communities.

The integrated rural development approach views the transformation of the rural areas as the most effective way of accelerating socio-economic development through establishment of satellite towns, promotion of small-scale industries in rural areas, increasing agricultural production, provision of credit facilities and improvement of infrastructure on specified geographical scale. While the integration of projects and programmes into national systems is an explicit objective of the Development Assistance Strategy (DAS) (pursued by the DPs through SWGs as a means to impact directly on the lives of the most disadvantaged and vulnerable), this orientation has yet to deliver results at the District Level. Progress in decentralization and the resumption of district level participatory democratic processes will hail a new dawn for local level action and accountable, equitable and quality service delivery to Malawi's largely rural population. Strengthening the provision of decent employment for the rural population, particularly women and youth, is of crucial importance for the achievement of a sustainable and integrated rural development which also takes into account population mobility (especially work-related mobility).

Gender

All three MDGs that are unlikely to be met are deeply related to gender issues (MDG 2, MDG 3 and MDG 5). The Gender Index indicates that women's economic and political power in the country is weak, with disparities relative to men being particularly noticeable in agricultural household enterprises; in paid employment, and in senior positions across all sectors of life.

Malawi's progress on gender equality and women's empowerment has been below expectation and attributed to inadequate gender structures in the country to drive gender equality at a policy level. Many of the initial structures to coordinate the national response

following the Beijing Platform of Action were informally institutionalized, and have therefore fallen away. As a result, support for gender programming and projects has often been fragmented and disparate, with little institutional support available from the national Gender Mainstreaming Division within the Ministry of Gender, Children and Community Development which itself faces serious human and financial capacity constraints and lacks institutional support to fulfil its mandate.

In an effort to address this pattern in MDG achievement before 2015, the UN system, Government and Civil Society need to take strategic position on addressing gender issues (Gender Inequality ratio of 0.758¹¹) at the community level, by focusing specifically on the positions of girls. There is an urgent need to integrate and focus multi-disciplinary and inter-institutional programs that address issues like nutrition (43.3 percent of girls under five are malnourished¹²), education (less than 30 percent of girls finish primary school¹³) literacy, life and livelihood skills, maternal health (MMR stands at 675/100,000¹⁴), employment and economic empowerment (70 percent of labour in agriculture is female¹⁵), traditional position of women in decisions-making at the community level, male role behaviour and general family values. While it is clear that there is a flurry of activity, a national strategy that focuses all efforts and achieves synergies between different programs and project based interventions is necessary. This national strategy must also ensure significant up-scaling of efforts that lead to resounding and sustained impact on the position of women and national MDG achievement. To inform these programmes a UN inter-agency fact finding mission was organized in June 2011 to assist the UNCT to identify constraints and challenges that hinder the achievement of gender-related MDGs, whilst also focusing on potential opportunities including entry points to accelerated progress.

Population and Youth Development

The latest figures show a population growth rate of 2.8 percent. The current demographic profile indicates that 40 percent of the population of 13 million is young people aged between 10 and 29 years, the majority of whom live in rural areas. With a median age of 17 years, Malawi's population is very youthful, which has however implications for planning and implementing pro-poor development activities, particularly in the provision of social services, decent employment, vocational trainings, the management of the environment, and general social and economic empowerment.

The main determinant of the growth rate appears to be the high fertility rate, driven by gender-related traditional and cultural practices, religious beliefs, values and norms that make it difficult for young girls and women to use family planning, exacerbated by limited youth access to family planning and reproductive health services in addition to high illiteracy levels amongst women. Population growth is linked to both environmental/natural resource management and pro-poor economic activity. Fast population growth means that the absolute numbers of those remaining in the agriculture sector remains high even as employment in the services and manufacturing sectors grows. Family planning and

¹¹ Human Development Report, 2010, Published by UNDP

¹² Malawi Demographic and Health Survey 2010, Preliminary Results, Published by NSO/Measure DHS, ICF Macro

¹³ EMIS Report 2010, Published by MoEST

¹⁴ Press Release by NSO, June 16 based on DHS data analysis.

¹⁵ Gender and Human Development Report for Malawi, 2010 Published by UNDP

population policy needs to safeguard MDGs progress made to date and ensure that future success will indeed lead to net reduction of poverty ratios and increase social wellbeing. Decent employment opportunities for the youth in rural areas, both in the farm and non-farm economy, are key and interlinked with the achievement of food security and poverty reduction in the country. Agriculture in particular can play a pivotal role in the rural economy of most developing countries and enable rural youth to become active partners in the achievement of economic and social goals. In addition, since many rural youth are more likely to look for opportunities elsewhere, it is necessary to ensure that migration is an informed and voluntary decision. Both men and women, especially youth, have to be informed about their rights and supported in getting access to or creating own organizations and social services (including training, health and social benefits, such as child care and maternity leave).

PAST COOPERATION AND LESSONS LEARNED

Malawi's aid environment is rapidly evolving. The implementation of the DAS 2006-2011 is one aspect. Direct budget support, sector budget support and sector wide approaches in health and education are rapidly changing the landscape with a shift away from project specific consultations towards more macro dialogues.

The visible plurality of the UN and the congregation of a number of UN agencies in social sectors such as Health and Education have increased the demand for tripartite (UN, GoM, DPs) discussions on UN comparative advantages across the board and better coordination among UN agencies through a common UN platform.

The increased overall harmonization, along with a division of labour, and the shift by major donors toward direct budget support and SWAp is challenging the UN to reassess the way it delivers development assistance. The way the UN repositions itself as a development service provider, the role it plays in the SWAp and SWG context are critical for it to remain relevant for the successful implementation of development programmes in the country and in its relationship with the GoM and the DPs.

GoM has recently undertaken some welcome reform efforts. The Paris Declaration Monitoring Survey (2010) preliminary report indicates that donor's use of country systems has improved substantially over the last few years as the increasingly preferred mode of donor aid provision is direct budget support or joint support programs. The PFM system has been the major focus of reform, to the extent that budget execution, financial reporting, and auditing are all seen to have improved. The integrated Financial Management and Information System (IFMSIS) is being rolled out to more government institutions and is expected to improve financial reporting.

The UN is lagging behind most major DPs who on average scored above 20 percent, while the UN can only report on a 7-percent utilization rate (2008 data). As a result, progress towards greater use of country public finance and procurement systems has been limited. One of the major venues for improving the UN performance, as commended by the Paris Declaration Monitoring Survey (2010), is the implementation of the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT), which is applied by UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, WFP and UNESCO. In addition, UN agencies also place themselves behind the capacity development aspects of national systems. UNDP, through its support to the National Capacity Development

Programme of the Office of the President and Cabinet, and others do so through their respective programmes with line ministries.

A midterm review of the UNDAF (2008-2011) carried out in 2009 presented a number of key findings that helped develop the new UNDAF. The following were some of the key findings of the review:

- The UN delivered its support through small projects implemented across a number of sites and targeting a small number of beneficiaries. The UN needs to consolidate such efforts and identify fewer programmes with higher impact through which to deliver support.
- Data from operational research, studies and surveys, as well as practical lessons learned from the implementation of pilots and projects, can adequately inform policy dialogue with GoM, donors and stakeholders on the scaling up of good practices.
- The UN needs to deepen the alignment of the UNDAF to the MGDS. The alignment should not just be at MGDS' priority level but also extend to sector plans and strategies.
- Despite a considerable investment by the UN, capacity constraints continue to affect delivery and results on key development outcomes.
- Internally, there were duplications and overlaps within the UNDAF and there was need for cross-cluster collaboration

The 2010 Country Led Evaluation on DaO and subsequently the 2010 UN Malawi Country Assessment Report reported favourably on the results achieved under the UNDAF. Nonetheless, both documents drew attention to an 'apparent misalignment' of UN activities towards the social sectors and its need to engage more programmatically with pro-poor activities in economic growth including inclusive market development, youth employment, and activities under the Agriculture SWAp.

Factors limiting the impact and effectiveness of the UNDAF identified in the two reports included amongst others the need for:

- increased synergy between the actions of UN agencies in all sectors;
- improved inter-agency information sharing in joint programming and monitoring;
- greater focus on strengthening Implementing Partner (IP) capacity to deliver on intended outcomes; and
- greater emphasis in UN strategies for addressing IP skill shortages, building more critical facilities, and ensuring availability of adequate government infrastructure.

In addition, the UN agencies needed to address:

- UN coherence and cohesion;
- UN responsiveness to national development needs;
- UN upstream, strategic engagement/advice with IP consultation structures;
- UN cross-cutting themes' results achievement (maternal and neonatal health, private sector development, disaster risk reduction, girls education, social protection, climate change, decentralization, women's empowerment); and

- UN 'upscale' of its activities in Malawi.

In 2009, the UNCT developed a new operational document for the UN programme in Malawi (the One Plan). The existence of the One Plan and its associated One Budget helped maximize and effectively use the contribution of all the UN agencies in Malawi by enhancing UN coherence, coordination and programmatic synergies together with Government counterparts. The One Plan also assisted the UNCT to assess and monitor annual progress against agreed priorities and revise gaps requiring UN assistance in UN programmes and budgets.

With the One Plan/One Budget, the UNCT was made aware of the critical need for UN resources, which were in limited supply, to be deployed strategically and catalytically in order to raise additional resources. As a result, both GoM and the UNCT began to contemplate new and innovative funding approaches including the One Fund. Through the One Fund, the UN has been able to address common UN themes, by combining technical and financial expertise for common results. The One Fund has resulted in a measurable up scaling of development results and facilitated additional fund raising through the Expanded Funding Window in response to new and urgent Government development priorities.

Adjustments to the One Budgetary Framework has been on the basis of the results of an annual review which has increased UN transparency; helped coordinate the diversity of UN funding sources and instruments; reduce overlap; and ensure that the programmatic initiatives and priorities of the One Plan/UNDAF have been adequately financed.

UNDAF APPROACH

Building on the successes of Delivering as One in Malawi, the UNCT resolved on full UN participation in the national consultative process for the development of the MGDS II through SWGs.

The UNDAF Roadmap started with the development of a UN Country Assessment. The report was highly appreciated by the GoM as it provided the national planning process with a salient overview of available data and policy options to inform the MGDS and subsequently the UNDAF.

The UNDAF formulation was assisted by the training on the five programming principles (human rights based approach, gender, environment, capacity development and results based management (RBM)) which was attended by UN staff and Government counterparts. Intensive causality analysis took place within and across UNDAF clusters to analyze development challenges, identify common root causes, role of duty bearers and rights holders as well as undertake capacity gap analysis. The prioritization of the UNDAF was informed by national priorities, the MGDS, UN comparative advantage, and lessons learnt from the implementation of the previous UNDAF. Approximately 80 percent of results at output levels are joint and therefore increase the synergy, collaboration and reduce duplication and overlap in agency/cluster interventions.

The UNDAF is fully aligned with the MGDS II. Following a UN Division of Labour exercise, the UN has rationalized and focused its role and interventions, including making provision for resident agencies taking responsibility for shared leadership or mutual representation in different Development Partners and national coordination mechanisms including the SWGs.

UN - Division of Labour (Proposed)

Source: UNCT Malawi, 2011																
SECTOR WORKING GROUP/AGENCY	FAO	IAEA *	IFAD *	ILO *	UNAIDS	UNCDF *	UNHCR	UNICEF	UNDP	UNFPA	UN-HABITAT *	UNIDO *	WFP	WHO	UNEP *	UNESCO *
1. Agriculture	L	FD	AD										AD			
2. Integrated Rural Development	AD		AD			AD			L			AD				
3. Environment, Lands and Natural Resources	FD	FD							L		AD	FD	AD		AD	
4. Tourism, Wildlife and Culture																
5. Water, Sanitation and Irrigation	FD							L			AD					
6. Trade, Industry and Private Sector Development				AD		AD			L			FD	AD			
7. Vulnerability, Disaster and Risk management	FD						AD	AD	AD	AD	AD		L			
8. Health	AD				AD		AD	AD		AD			AD	L		
9. Education	AD						AD	L		AD			AD			AD
10. Gender, Youth Development and Sports	AD			AD	AD		AD	AD	AD	L	AD	AD	AD			
11. Roads, Public Works & Transport																
12. ICT and R&D																
13. Energy and Mining									AD			FD				
14. Economic Governance									L	AD						
15. Democratic Governance				AD				FD	L	AD						
16. Public Administration				AD					L							
Keys:																
L	Lead Agency (L) - Leads all UN Agencies in any classified sector or thematic area, and is the focal contact point in policy dialogue between the Government and DPs in that sector															
AD	Agency actively disbursing (AD) - Supports the UN lead and may lead in a classified sub-sector or sub-thematic area															
FD	Agency future disbursing															
NAME	Agency name with asterisk is non resident															

SECTION TWO – UNDAF RESULTS

UNDAF THEME 1 - SUSTAINABLE AND EQUITABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND FOOD SECURITY

The UN in Malawi supports pro-poor, more inclusive economic growth through initiatives targeting the most poor, who are most likely to be women living on the smallest plots of land engaging in subsistence farming; female headed households supporting persons living with HIV and AIDS or disabilities, as well as all workers in poorly remunerated and unregulated sectors.

Food Security – at the policy level, the UN will support the ASWAp by promoting diversification of food production for improved nutrition with a focus on crops, livestock and fisheries. To increase food security, the UN aims to increase in particular rural household agricultural productivity, especially those headed by women and youth, building government capacity in irrigation, diversification of agricultural production, adaptive research initiatives, agronomic best practices, market linkages, and access to finance.

Employment – the UN provides technical assistance and capacity enhancement across a range of initiatives. Ensuring that socio-economically disadvantaged groups, particularly in rural areas – women, youth, and people with disabilities – engage in gainful decent employment activities and benefit from income generation and employment arising from private sector growth. With UN policy support, GoM will develop a National Employment Policy and establish a National Labour Market Information System benefiting government, employers and worker's organizations. Particular attention will be paid to agriculture and informal employment in rural areas taking into account wage inequalities between women and men. It is also important to ensure that the National Labour Market Information System reaches rural areas.

Private Sector Development – the UN aims to support the GoM to leverage the private sector as the engine for economic growth. Support is given to private sector led and inclusive market

MGDS Theme 1: Sustainable Economic Growth and Food Security

MGDS Theme 3: Social Support and Disaster Risk Management

MGDS KPAs: Agriculture and food security, Mining, Climate change, Natural Resources and Environmental Management

MDG 1, MDG 7, MDG 8

UNDAF Key Priority 1: National policies, local and national institutions effectively support equitable and sustainable economic growth and food security by 2016.

Outcome 1.1: Targeted rural households in selected districts are food and nutrition secure by 2016

Outcome 1.2: Women, youth, and people with disability, particularly in rural areas, benefit from decent employment, income generation and pro-poor private sector growth by 2016

Outcome 1.3: Targeted population in selected districts benefit from effective management of environment, natural resources, climate change and disaster risk by 2016

Outcome 1.4: Most vulnerable socio-economically disadvantaged groups are capable of meeting their basic needs and withstanding shocks by 2016

development in the country as a means to contribute to poverty reduction. The UN pilots key private sector ventures promoting export of Malawi products on international markets in support of enhanced incomes and growing decent employment amongst emerging entrepreneurs and smallholders, many of them women. Youth and people with disabilities receive assistance to access enterprise and vocational training, and micro-financing facilities.

Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change – in the context of rapid and debilitating climate change, the promotion of natural resources conservation and improved management of the environment and disasters enhances the sustainability of economic growth, particularly in districts that are prone to natural disaster. Through direct UN assistance and capacity development, climate change, environment and natural resources, and disaster risk-reduction coordination mechanisms and implementation arrangements will be built at national level, and in all disaster-prone districts. National institutions receive UN support in collecting and disseminating data and analysis on climate change, environmental degradation and natural disaster amongst decision makers in Government, Private Sector and Civil Society. Aiming at the development of a national programme on sustainable energy, the UN will pilot and upscale alternative innovative renewable energy technologies to biomass energy use by the poor in rural and peri-urban areas.

UN SUPPORTS MALAWI NATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE PROGRAMME THROUGH THE ONE UN FUND

The UN supports Malawi in its efforts to respond to the effects of Climate Change through the National Climate Change Programme (NCCP). The One UN Fund with contributions from Norway, DfID, the Expanded Fund Window coupled with the UNDP core resources enables the MoDPC to coordinate climate change activities under the NCCP by various Implementing Partners (IPs), e.g. the Departments of Environment Affairs, Climate Change, Energy, Forestry and others, with Technical Assistance from UNDP, FAO, WFP and the World Bank. This has significantly decreased the transaction costs for Government in dealing with numerous donors and IPs, as well as the reporting burden, which is now administered through one National Technical Committee, one National Steering Committee and a Government – Development Partner Working Group on Climate Change.

Social Support and Disaster Risk Management – social protection has become more relevant in Malawi in response to the onset of the global financial crisis, and rising food and fuel prices. Recognising participation of the ultra poor and other vulnerable groups in disaster risk management is key, the UN supports actions that assist those groups to meet their basic needs and withstand external shocks. The National Social Support Policy is awaiting approval by the Cabinet: the UN provides technical assistance in facilitating Cabinet endorsement and advocacy support for allocation of government funds to the Pool Fund. The UN will continue to play the leading role as an advocate, key technical advisor, capacity developer, M&E and information provider, and mobiliser of resources for social protection in Malawi.

The UN programme provides multi-sector coordination and information management systems and capacity support at all levels for the implementation and monitoring of the social protection programme. Targeted disaster risk management and community based social protection interventions which are available and accessible to the most vulnerable groups in the 14 disaster prone districts of the country receive UN assistance. Multi-sector emergency preparedness, planning, and response capacity is to be developed at national, district and community level, reducing negative social and economic impact.

In line with the UN's global humanitarian mandate the UNDAF will provide the GoM with technical assistance and policy advice in developing a comprehensive national refugee policy, as well as continuing to provide for the basic needs of refugees.

UNDAF THEME 2 – BASIC SOCIAL AND PROTECTION SERVICES

Health – the UNDAF concentrates activities in the critical areas of maternal and child health, reproductive health and epidemic prevention, with a key focus on increasing equitable and quality access to the Essential Health Package (EHP) through support rendered to the Health SWAp. To contribute to achieving the health targets in the MGDS II, and subsequently the MDGs, the UN will assist the GoM by providing technical advice through the SWAp TWGs and the Health Donor Group, with a special attention paid to sexual health and obstetric care because MDG 5 remains off-course for 2015. The UN supports the implementation of the SWAp Programme of Work, especially in the areas of capacity building, disease surveillance, monitoring and evaluation, as well as integrated delivery of the EHP.

In particular, UN support focuses on ensuring the continuity and expanded community access to critical components of the EHP in underserved priority areas within 17 districts. District Health Offices, district councils, community governance structures, with UN support, will develop the capacity to implement Comprehensive Integrated Health Promotion, disease prevention and control interventions to reach underserved areas. In addition, the UN targets these same institutions for advanced capacity development to plan, implement, monitor and evaluate the new Health Sector Strategic Plan to ensure that the EHP is available to all.

MGDS Theme 2: Social Development

MGDS KPAs: Population, health, education, child development, Youth Development

MDG 2, MDG 3, MDG 4, MDG 5, MDG 6

UNDAF Key Priority 2: National institutions effectively deliver equitable and quality basic social and protection services by 2016

Outcome 2.1: The population in selected districts has increased access to equitable and quality essential health services by 2016

Outcome 2.2: Children under five years of age, pregnant women and lactating women in selected districts have access to and use quality nutrition services by 2016

Outcome 2.3: Rural and peri-urban underserved areas in selected districts have access to integrated safe water supply, sanitation, hygiene and environmental health services by 2016

Outcome 2.4: Boys and Girls of school-going age in selected low performing districts enrol, are retained, learn, and complete basic education by 2016

Outcome 2.5: Children, young people and women are better protected from violence, abuse, exploitation including child labour and particularly its worst forms, and neglect and have access to an expanded range of protection services by 2016

UN support aims at increasing access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health; strengthening child survival interventions; enhancing institutional capacity to deliver quality health services; strengthening mechanisms to improve the healthcare seeking behaviour of individuals/communities; and fostering community involvement in health issues and multi-sector approaches in line with the Primary Health Care Approach, with a focus on rural and underserved areas.

Nutrition – the UN focus is on interventions that increase availability of and access to a wide range of nutrition services to break the intergenerational cycle of malnutrition. Resources are available for community health facilities at the district level targeting acute malnutrition in children under five through medical treatment and education on dietary needs of children, as well as amongst PLHIV. The UN programme supports expansion of micronutrient deficiency services for children and amongst pregnant and lactating mothers. The UN provides GoM with technical support and advocacy expertise to ensure that Malawi's Nutrition Act is developed, nutrition policies and guidelines are updated, and an enabling environment exists to improve nutrition amongst all vulnerable groups. Focus is on strengthening inter-sector coordination including the efforts of the various SWApS to promote nutrition friendly agricultural production, improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the national nutrition information system, promotion prevention and treatment of chronic and acute malnutrition; promote infant and young child feeding, improve maternal nutrition to break the intergenerational cycle of malnutrition, and control micronutrient deficiencies. Stunting being still a major problem, UN will shift its focus towards prevention programmes. GoM has adopted the Global Scale up Nutrition initiative - the 1000 days campaign - and UN will support it. The initiative will encompass nutrition through pregnancy and children in the first two years of life.

In particular, because stunting is still a major problem in the country, UN support is focused on the '1000 days campaign' targeting pregnant women through to the first two years of the life of their children. This is to be achieved through up-scaling high impact interventions and behaviour change communication. In select underserved priority districts of Malawi, the UN will further ensure that quality services are available to address micronutrient deficiency and moderate and severe acute malnutrition, delivered through health facilities, and that households are provided with the information and skills to improve their maternal nutrition, infant and young child feeding and care practices.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) – the UN will support national efforts to achieve the MDGs relating to increased access of disadvantaged households to integrated safe water supply, sanitation, hygiene and environmental health services.

UN engagement is moving upstream in dealing with national strategic issues such as working within a SWAP modality, sector coordination, and harmonization of approaches, sector investment plans, and sector information systems including performance measurement, policy development and implementation. The UN will work with other partners to support policy and systems development, guidelines and standards; strengthening of planning and implementation capacity at district and community level; mapping of water points; access to and safe disposal of waste and excreta; and mass campaigns for hygiene promotion.

In particular, the UN will develop the capacity of district and city councils in 14 underserved areas to address the safe water, sanitation, hygiene and environmental health needs of the vulnerable rural and peri-urban communities.

It also will contribute to the child-friendly, rights-based school concept to ensure increased access of pupils to safe water supplies, hygiene promotion in a comprehensive school health programme and gender sensitive sanitation facilities.

Education – the overall UNDAF priority will be to ensure that all boys and girls, in and out-of-school, enrol, learn, are retained and complete, basic education by 2016. The UN also will advocate for all children in the age group 0 to 8 years, especially the most vulnerable in rural areas, to have access to quality Early Childhood Development services.

A further priority is to ensure that the most vulnerable out-of-school non-literate adolescents and young people have basic literacy and numeracy skills particularly in underperforming districts.

The UN contributes to improving early learning and primary school enrolments, quality of learning, and school completion rates. The National Education Sector Plan is the basis for the education sector SWAp and a coordinated donor support to the sector through a common financing mechanism of which UN is part. With UN support, the child friendly school concept will be institutionalized, with standards at each school defined around the following components: health and nutrition, school feeding meals, hygiene, water and sanitation; inclusiveness; child-centred, interactive and gender sensitive learning processes; strong partnerships with the community; and child leadership in governance. Life skills for HIV prevention will be scaled up. In 10 underperforming districts (with the lowest education access, participation and equity indicators), the UN will provide direct support to primary schools so that they can rapidly attain child friendly school status. This targeted effort will improve equity of access for the marginalised and improve national averages which often hide disparities across the country and accelerate achievement of the MDGs and Education For All goals.

The UN will support capacity development for the good quality delivery of TVET of both formal and informal settings. Such support will target those areas that hold the highest potential for future economic growth and employment growth.

Protection Services – the UN will work with GoM to ensure that national legal and regulatory frameworks for a national child protection system are fully developed and coordination mechanisms put in place and enforced. Mechanisms for the prevention and mitigation of gender-based violence will be enhanced.

The UN, together with DPs and GoM, will also address the huge human resources challenge in the sector, both nationally and at district level. The UN will work with the implementing partner to develop systems that ensure national and district institutions have sufficient capacity to deliver protective services for women and children and are held accountable for demonstrating results. The UN priority is to ensure that children, young people and women are better protected from violence, abuse, exploitation, including child labour and particularly its worst forms, and neglect, and have access to an expanded range of

protection services, by 2016, through availability of services, sufficient funding and presence of trained professionals. Figures from the Malawi's Child Labour National Action Plan indicate that 95 percent of children engaged in economic activities are based in rural areas; most child workers dropped out of school or combine work and education, and over three quarters of the children who never attended school are in rural areas. Children work both on plantations and family farms and the overwhelming majority of child labourers are unpaid family workers. Tackling this enormous development challenge will represent a priority and will also contribute to the achievement of Outcome 2.4 on education.

UNDAF THEME 3 – HIV AND AIDS

The overarching goal of the UNDAF on HIV and AIDS is to provide unified support and leverage UN funding to scale up the national response to HIV and AIDS to achieve universal access to prevention, treatment, care and support. The UN works in collaboration with GoM and partners to support the nationally defined priorities, develop strategies in HIV for addressing financing sustainability and cost-efficiency, stigma and discrimination, and health system strengthening and HIV and AIDS -related education outreach.

The UN supports the national effort to ensure that key and most-at-risk populations – which continue to evolve with the HIV epidemic in Malawi, but currently include sexually active youths and adults, sex workers, sexual minorities including men who have sex with men (where HIV prevalence is as high as 21 percent), persons engaged in highly mobile occupations, orphans, vulnerable children, women and young girls, amongst others – have universal and equitable access to and uptake of quality gender sensitive HIV preventive services. Prevention efforts supported by the UN will focus on provision of quality services where new HIV infections are arising including PMTCT, sexually active youth and adults, age disparate sex, and couples (including discordant couples) in the general population.

In particular, the UN focuses on capacity development of national institutions in the use of new and innovative technologies and evidence-informed best practices to deliver cost-effective, quality, gender-sensitive combination HIV prevention services to the key populations, including quality HIV testing and counselling services. National Institutions' capacity to deliver comprehensive PMTCT services to pregnant women in all districts is a key UNDAF priority. The UN will support national and district level action to change the traditional PMTCT programme focus from coverage of ARV prophylaxis to focus instead on the health of mothers and the HIV-free survival of children. This will be done by closing the

MGDS Theme 2: Social Development

MGDS KPA: HIV and AIDS Management

MDG 6

UNDAF Key Priority 3: National response to HIV and AIDS scaled up to achieve Universal Access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support by 2016.

Outcome 3.1: Key populations have equitable access to and uptake of quality gender sensitive HIV preventive services by 2016

Outcome 3.2: The population will have increased and equitable access to quality HIV treatment services by 2016

Outcome 3.3: Families and communities in selected districts are protected from social, psychological and economic impact of HIV and AIDS by 2016

Outcome 3.4: The national response to HIV is evidence-informed, coordinated, well-resourced, efficient and based upon a supportive legal and policy environment by 2016

gaps in access to and utilization of PMTCT services - including primary prevention of HIV among women of childbearing age, family planning, counselling and testing, and antiretroviral treatment of eligible mothers with new and more effective ART regimens.

Parallel to this, the UN will work with government and civil society stakeholders in developing enabling policies, operational guidelines and tools towards the new targets leading to the elimination of MTCT. In addition, the UN will continue to advocate for an increase in the met needs for paediatric ART, as well as strengthen the national and district health teams' capacity for better coordination, planning, and integration of services at district level. This will include the use of new and innovative technologies to increase early infant diagnosis, follow up of the results and rapid access to ART for those who are eligible. The UNDAF includes support for new approaches that aim to reduce stigma and vulnerability amongst marginalized groups and women, as well as the use of combined biomedical and behavioural prevention interventions such as the promising new interventions of microbicides and male circumcision. Strengthening the national procurement system and supply-chain management so that quality HIV prevention commodities, including male and female condoms, can be procured, delivered and made available to all key populations is a key UN priority under the UNDAF outcomes. This includes ensuring that national institutions have the capacity to forecast, procure, supply HIV and Opportunistic Infections drugs and commodities and can deliver quality antiretroviral therapy to all eligible adults and children living with HIV.

The UN will provide direct support to increase the number of vulnerable households with PLHIV and OVC accessing basic social services, safety nets and livelihood development opportunities. Similarly, working through the national structures, the UN will support expanded provision of psychosocial services to PLHIV, OVCs and their households. UN support for the provision of infant and young child feeding counselling, nutrition counselling, care and support to PLHIV, and TB patients in local and district health facilities is a key UNDAF priority.

At the institutional level, the UN addresses gaps that continue to impede the effective national response to HIV and AIDS including the use of evidence-informed decision-making, national coordination mechanisms, and supportive legal and policy environments. The UN will use its analytical expertise in qualitative information and analytical research to build national capacity and skills to develop and implement human rights and gender-appropriate HIV and AIDS related legal

MGDS Theme 5 Improved Governance

MGDS KPAs: IRD

All MDGs

UNDAF Key Priority 4: National institutions effectively support transparency, accountability, participatory democracy and human rights by 2016.

Outcome 4.1: National institutions foster democratic governance and human rights to promote transparency, accountability, participation and access to justice for all especially women and children by 2016

Outcome 4.2: Public institutions are better able to manage, allocate and utilize resources for effective development and service delivery by 2016

Outcome 4.3: National institutions advance gender equality and status of women by 2016

Outcome 4.4: National laws, policies and public behaviour patterns responsive to population dynamics for sustainable development by 2016

frameworks, policies, plans and strategies.

UNDAF THEME 4 – GOOD GOVERNANCE

The UN promotes the development of capacity of national institutions to advance transparency, accountability, participatory democracy, sustainable economic growth, achievement of the MDGs, and human rights.

Democratic Governance – the UN supports five key democratic accountability and justice institutions in developing strategic plans for implementation to further promote and protect human rights, participatory democracy, and access to justice for vulnerable groups – children, women, people living with disability and the poor. The UN co-leads the Democratic Governance SWG established to facilitate coordination of the democratic governance interventions in Malawi. The UN also provides the financial and technical assistance for the operationalisation of the Democratic Governance SWAP.

Malawi's decentralization process, strongly supported by the UN system and other development partners, requires further support both through strengthening local/district-level management capacities, strengthening women participation in decision making; data sources relating to the most vulnerable, and in conducting local elections.

Integrated Rural Development – the UN supports the Government to develop an Integrated Rural Development Strategy to advance growth and human development in rural areas, and thereby strengthen decentralisation efforts. UN support in particular focuses on creating an enabling framework and strengthening the capacity for coordination of development initiatives at the district level to ensure that District Councils are able to integrate social and economic development services and improve effectiveness and efficiency in the management of development resources and delivery of services based on the needs identified through participatory planning processes taking into account gender equality goals.

Economic Governance – the UN furthers the national effort to strengthen public administration, finance and economic management through support of a Public Administration SWAP to improve public service delivery through, amongst others; strengthened results based management and M&E capacity for better planning, decision-making and resource utilization. The UN develops and enhances national capacity and ownership in the critical area of development assistance, to ensure that GoM has sufficient capacity to negotiate, manage, monitor, report and account for AID in line with the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the DAS.

Gender Equality – in support of the MGDS, the UN prioritizes support for gender mainstreaming in the Agriculture, Education, Gender and Youth, Governance and Health SWAPs. A precondition for effective gender mainstreaming is the UN support to institutionalization and capacity development of the National Gender Machinery through the Gender and Youth SWG, to strengthen the Gender machinery and to promote the advancement and socio-economic empowerment of women and gender equality through advocacy, resource mobilization, policy influence and coordination of implementation and monitoring and evaluation of the Gender agenda. In selected sector Ministries and District

Councils, the UN focuses on developing capacity for gender specific allocation, utilization and reporting on the use of public resources. Violence against women and reproductive health including HIV are inextricably linked; GoM recognizes these facts and, in a process that the UN will support, proposes a legal review of all gender related laws and further to develop and implement a functional framework to address GBV in all its dimensions.

The UN system will also address gender issues at the community level, by focusing specifically on the position of adolescent girls, particularly in rural areas. As stated in the country analysis, there is an urgent need to integrate and focus programs that address the needs of adolescent girls. Issues to be addressed include nutrition (43.3 percent of girls under five are malnourished¹⁶), education (only 31 percent of girls finish primary school¹⁷) literacy, life and livelihood skills, maternal health (30 percent of maternal death is attributed to abortions in teenage women), economic empowerment (70 percent of labour in agriculture is female¹⁸), traditional position of women in decisions-making at the community level, male role behaviour as well as general family values and cultural practices.

While it is clear that there is a flurry of activity between UN system, Civic Society and Development Partners supported programs and projects, a national strategy that focuses all efforts and achieves synergies in an integrated manner is required. Significant up-scaling of efforts leading to a resounding and sustained impact on the position of women and national MDG achievement will be the aim of the national gender equality strategy.

Population – the UN has comparative advantage in population programming, both technically and in terms of policy expertise, that will be made available to the GoM in exploring the implications of population dynamics for sustainable development. Accordingly, the UN will ensure that national institutions have the capacity to generate, disseminate and integrate data on population dynamics and inform development policies and programs. In the process, the UN supports the GoM to develop and implement a National Population Policy, and ensure that Government Ministries and academic institutions have the capacity to educate the public on the impact of population growth on socio economic development so as to encourage public behaviour patterns that are responsive to population dynamics for sustainable development.

¹⁶Malawi Demographic and Health Survey 2010, Preliminary Results, Published by NSO / Measure DHS, ICF Macro

¹⁷EMIS Report 2010, Published by MoEST

¹⁸Gender and Human Development Report for Malawi, 2010 Published by UNDP

SECTION THREE – UNDAF ESTIMATED RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS

UNDAF Key Priority and Outcomes	Core Resources	Non-Core Resources	Gap	Total Resources
UNDAF Key Priority 1: National policies, local and national institutions effectively support equitable and sustainable economic growth and food security by 2016				
1.1 Targeted rural households in selected districts are food and nutrition secure by 2016	1,500,000	9,935,000	11,453,594	22,888,594
1. Women, youth, and people with disability, particularly in rural areas, benefit from decent employment, income generation and pro-poor private sector growth by 2016	1,710,000	7,760,000	1,158,000	10,628,000
1.3 Targeted population in selected districts benefit from effective management of environment, natural resources, climate change and disaster risk by 2016	9,590,000	13,678,500	14,238,900	37,507,400
1.4 Most socio-economic disadvantaged groups are capable of meeting their basic needs and withstanding shocks by 2016	17,013,708	3,397,458	10,654,773	31,065,939
Key Priority 1 Totals	29,813,708	34,770,958	37,505,267	102,089,933
UNDAF Key Priority 2: National institutions effectively deliver equitable and quality basic social and protection services by 2016				
2.1 The population in selected districts has increased access to equitable and quality essential health services by 2016	16,335,739	14,875,000	15,918,809	47,129,548
2.2 Children under five years of age, pregnant women and lactating women in selected districts have access to and use quality nutrition services by 2016	16,756,001	12,156,774	20,724,923	49,637,698
2.3 Rural and peri-urban underserved areas in selected districts have access to integrated safe water supply, sanitation, hygiene and environmental health services	3,532,000	17,949,358	13,056,385	34,537,743

UNDAF Key Priority and Outcomes	Core Resources	Non-Core Resources	Gap	Total Resources
by 2016				
2.4 Boys and Girls of school-going age in selected low performing districts enrol, are retained, learn, and complete basic education by 2016	31,712,124	35,984,159	38,581,036	106,277,319
2.5 Children, young people and women are better protected from violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect and have access to an expanded range of protection services by 2016	4,031,318	6,911,708	7,777,200	18,720,226
Key Priority 2 Totals	72,367,182	87,876,999	96,058,352	256,302,533
UNDAF Key Priority 3: National response to HIV and AIDS scaled up to achieve Universal Access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support by 2016				
3.1 Key populations have equitable access to and uptake of quality gender sensitive HIV preventive services by 2016	9,594,960	20,800,000	17,682,000	48,076,960
3.2 The population will have increased and equitable access to quality HIV treatment services by 2016	3,542,973	4,650,000	5,968,861	14,161,834
3.3 Families and communities in selected districts are protected from social, psychological and economic impact of HIV and AIDS by 2016	3,081,412	5,805,337	5,994,561	14,881,310
3.4 The national response to HIV is evidence-informed, coordinated, well-resourced, efficient and based upon a supportive legal and policy environment by 2016	7,005,000	5,690,000	7,473,000	20,168,000
Key Priority 3 Totals	23,224,345	36,945,337	37,118,422	97,288,104
UNDAF Key Priority 4 National institutions effectively support transparency, accountability, participatory democracy and human rights by 2016				

UNDAF Key Priority and Outcomes	Core Resources	Non-Core Resources	Gap	Total Resources
4.1 National institutions foster democratic governance and human rights to promote transparency, accountability, participation and access to justice for all especially women and children by 2016	12,200,000	18,300,000	18,060,000	48,560,000
4.2 Public institutions are better able to manage, allocate and utilize resources for effective development and service delivery by 2016	18,390,000	19,200,000	17,010,000	54,600,000
4.3 National institutions advance gender equality and status of women by 2016	3,205,000	17,300,000	12,360,000	32,865,000
4.4 National laws, policies and public behaviour patterns responsive to population dynamics for sustainable development by 2016	2,494,000	4,016,000	4,200,000	10,710,000
Key Priority 4 Totals	36,289,000	58,816,000	51,630,000	146,735,000
UNDAF TOTAL	161,694,235	218,409,294	222,312,041	602,415,570

Total resources required for UNDAF are estimated at USD 602 million; of which USD 162 million is core resources, USD 218 million is non-core resources and USD 222 million will need to be mobilized over the course of the UNDAF. It should be noted that these amounts are only indicative. The estimation resulted from a UNDAF strategic planning exercise, a careful analysis of potential development growth; resource mobilisation trends; interest and numbers of interventions in the country by Non-Resident Agencies.

It is foreseen that there might be some discrepancy in the final figures between the UNDAF and the UNDAF Action Plan. The actual amounts will be adjusted and can only be confirmed after a detailed technical programming and planning exercise including the formulation of the UNDAF Action Plan, annual or multi-year workplans, programmes or projects. The final figures will also be informed by availability of UN system agencies' resources and contributions from funding partners and agreed in full consultation with the Government and concerned stakeholders.

SECTION FOUR – UNDAF IMPLEMENTATION

UN COHERENCE: UNDAF AND THE UN TRANSFORMATION PLAN

The UN Transformation Plan builds on the gains in Delivering as One (DaO) made in Malawi since 2007. Through the Transformation Plan, the UNCT hopes to achieve the following results:

1. Implementation of the UNDAF and the UNDAF Action Plan (One Plan) that closely aligns with the MGDS and is a clear expression of the UN's comparative advantages, corporate strengths and mandates.
2. UN capacities aligned to the operational and substantive challenges posed by the One Plan, with a clearly articulated capacity development plan for UN agencies that will allow for a continued build up of excellence in policy and service delivery.
3. Business process harmonized, simplified and made more efficient and effective, with real net savings being calculated and elsewhere utilised.

PARTNERSHIPS

Government of Malawi

The implementation of the DaO approach has renewed GoM leadership and ownership of UN programmes, led to better alignment to national priorities, and brought about enhanced coherence and effectiveness to UN support. GoM expectations are high that transaction costs in dealing with the UN will be reduced as a result of the DaO approach and the impact on the efficiency and effectiveness of the UN will increase.

Civil Society

Civil Society has an important role in ensuring that diverse voices are heard during the formulation of policies and implementation of plans. DaO is having a positive impact on a transformative relationship between the UN, GoM, development partners and Civil Society at the country level. Via the strengthened partnership, Civil Society expects to have better access to national development dialogues resulting in improved integration of their role and contribution in the national development processes. The strengthened Civil Society representation on key development issues has been one of the success factors in DaO although further improvement is required.

Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups

The UN is expected to amplify the voices of those who would otherwise be voiceless – the poor, the most vulnerable and marginalized. These groups seek direct UN support, advocate for their position in policy debates and create new and innovative interventions to support their engagement with GoM on policy issues to achieve specific development objectives.

Development Partners

Development Partners (DPs) recognize the UN's role and responsibility as advocates of the MDGs in coordinating Development Partners' support to GoM in areas where the UN has comparative advantages. DPs call on the UN to measure progress in efficiency and

effectiveness and to showcase UN programmes which are responding to national priorities in a coherent and cohesive manner. DPs also rely on the UN to develop substantive and operational partnerships, including supporting the development Partners' engagement with GoM on policy issues, to reduce the heavy transaction costs to GoM in dealing with a multiplicity of development partners.

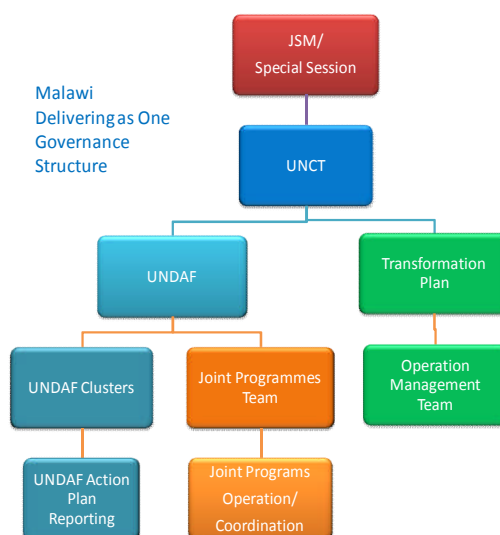
COORDINATION, MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The DAS outlines important institutional arrangements for effective aid coordination in Malawi. The UNCT is committed to implementing the UNDAF in tandem with the MGDS, ensuring greater alignment of priorities and reduced transaction costs for stakeholders. However, making use of GoM's existing coordination mechanisms such as the SWGs and DAS/JSM will present considerable challenges. The prospect of UN agencies engaged in all 16 SWGs is daunting from a workload perspective and therefore requires UN agencies to establish a division of labour allowing for mutual representation, which in turn will enhance shared accountability and reduce transaction costs.

The UNDAF challenges the UN to strive for better alignment of its activities within national strategies and priorities and enables periodic monitoring thanks to its robust M&E Framework. The implementation of the UNDAF will be overseen by the GoM and the UN under the JSM, which allows for enhanced government leadership and national ownership, improved planning, programme delivery, monitoring and evaluation, and accountability for results.

The DaO governance structure will be established for the implementation of the UNDAF. While the UN Resident Coordinator retains overall leadership and accountability to the GoM, the delivery and reporting of the four UNDAF Key Priorities is managed by cluster conveners at the Head of Agency level. Each of the 17 outcomes is delivered by a technical team led by an Outcome lead. The Outcome lead comes from a technical lead agency, nominated by respective cluster convener(s).

The governance structure outlined above successfully enabled joint programming efforts by UN agencies, both resident and non-resident. Moving forward, UN agencies aim to have a number of Joint Programmes implemented during this UNDAF cycle. With a view to ensure investment and transaction costs at a manageable level, it is proposed to establish a Joint Programme Committee to assist and be accountable to the UNCT on Joint Programme related issues including conceptualization, development, implementation, monitoring and reporting.



JOINT PROGRAMMING AND JOINT PROGRAMMES

The UNDAF has different repercussions for different agencies, depending on the positions taken by their governance mechanisms. Country-driven joint programming processes, resulting in new and innovative joint programmes will increasingly be identified and developed during the implementation of the UNDAF. Joint programming by UN agencies will be enhanced by the encouragement of and engagement in national sector-wide programming initiatives, with a focus on results through policies/systems reform, quality services taken to scale and a focus on life-improving impacts on families and communities. During the formulation of the UNDAF, discussions have initiated on possible Joint Programmes in critical areas such as gender equality, HIV and AIDS, youth employment, private sector development, climate change, M&E, maternal health, etc.

AID EFFECTIVENESS

All aid is nationally managed, owned and led. Accordingly, UN assistance will respond to national priorities and be guided, to the extent possible, by the national authorities. The UNCT seeks to consistently consult GoM, Civil Society and DPs to reaffirm its responsiveness through consultation mechanisms. The UNCT will endeavour to build and/or strengthen aid coordination capacities at the national level. Malawi has around 18 different coordination structures among development partners. The transaction cost of UN participation across these structures requires the UN to review and agree on a division of labour which allows for mutual representation, shared leadership and accountability.

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

As the main comparative advantage, the UNCT is committed to coordinating development assistance in the area of capacity development at various levels in the GoM as well as empowering the citizens of Malawi with the tools necessary to managing their own economic and social development. While adhering to the international conventions on the new aid environment, developing capacity for Malawi's people becomes a means of enhancing their ownership of the development agenda. As such, in this UNDAF the UN presents itself as a catalyst for coordinating development assistance towards capacity development at various levels of the Malawian society.

COMMON SERVICES

Harmonized business practices provide important opportunities for economies of scale. The UN in Malawi has benefited from common services in areas of travel, telecommunication, and emergency response. A process of business rationalization for procurement for all UN agencies has been ongoing. This will hopefully result in improved reliability and quality of services and net savings from implementing real changes to the current procurement business practices projected in a range from USD 300,000 to USD 600,000 per annum. Similarly, a process has started to increase the harmonization and integration of ICT services. An integrated ICT can be used to enhance efficiency and effectiveness, particularly through the development of country-level shared ICT services. The extension of the common ICT solutions will help ensure programmatic benefits through data warehousing for

country level programme planning, monitoring and reporting, using the common ICT infrastructure and cost savings, which could be up to 25 percent. Further attention is required to accelerate the achievements of increased efficiency, in particular in human resources and finance.

HARMONIZED APPROACH TO CASH TRANSFERS

The Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT) allows the UN to focus their efforts more on strengthening national capacities for management and accountability, with a view to gradually shifting to the use of national systems. While some challenges to full HACT implementation remain, the initial feedback confirms that partners see HACT as contributing to better planning and monitoring, with great potential to reduce transaction costs. The UNCT has estimated savings of about 20 percent of GoM and UN staff time with the adoption of HACT. During this new UNDAF cycle, further efforts continue to be made to encourage other agencies apart from UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP to adopt HACT. In this context, continued support to the independence and capacity of key institutions of accountability such as the Auditor General, Internal Auditor, Ombudsman could be an important priority for capacity building and one that could benefit from both individual and institutional level strengthening.

COMMUNICATIONS

Findings from the 2009 Perception Survey reaffirmed the need for more comprehensive and better targeted internal and external communication efforts. The UN Communications Group will serve the UNCT with strategic and effective communications efforts. Moving from communicating on UN reform process to the successes in the UN's policy and advocacy work will be the focus of the strategy to create more awareness on key development issues including the achievements of the MDGs. The Communications team will also assist the UN reform process through the expression and promotion, both internally and externally, of a more efficient and coherent UN, with a clear focus on results, real value-added and relevance of UN reform, rather than on process. This in turn will have a positive effect on staff morale and influence the UN's credibility as a qualified and effective partner.

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

The joint UN Resource Mobilization Strategy provides focus to the joint resource mobilization efforts of the UN system in Malawi while complementing the efforts by individual agencies. Additional un-earmarked funding from the One UN Fund will enable UN agencies to upscale and prioritize activities for development results as planned in the UNDAF and timely delivery on emerging strategic interventions.

In the context of the current global financial and economic crisis, funding from various sources is diminishing. In order to stabilize the contribution to the One UN Fund, the UN in Malawi will continue implementing DaO principles, show-casing better development outcomes as results of additional un-earmarked funding from the One UN Fund. Eligibility and performance-based allocation criteria have enabled the GoM to exercise their leadership role, and the UNCT to gradually sharpen the focus of the UNDAF/One Plan. Funds

from the One UN Fund have been allocated to further improve the strategic focus of UN programmes and upscale UN interventions based on overall priorities agreed in advance with the GoM.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The UNCT in Malawi will take immediate action on challenges in reporting and benchmarking progress and achievements. Knowledge management, better use of existing data generated from DevInfo/MASEDA by both the UN and the GoM in planning and reporting, closing development data gaps by targeted studies and research are recommended measures among others to address results-based reporting challenges. The evolving role of the UN M&E Technical Working Group (M&E TWG) coupled with complementary functions of the UN Communications Group will help the UN address the weak reporting performance and the lack of capacity to communicate on both development results and DaO progress.

The UNDAF will be monitored using indicators, baselines and, where relevant, annualized targets. At the outcome level, indicators will be aligned as far as possible with national MDG indicators, thus relying on the same means of verification used in the national report on MDG and progress reports for the MGDS. The UN will strengthen the capacity of government partners to measure development effectiveness and the attainment of MDGs, and to collect, analyze, use and disseminate data and information.

The M&E TWG will be responsible for tracking overall UNDAF performance, based on the UNDAF M&E matrix and plan, and for promoting a harmonized approach to M&E activities. The M&E TWG will support the UNDAF clusters and joint programmes to review and strengthen indicators; provide technical support to (i) baseline data collection, (ii) effective monitoring mechanisms for the UNDAF and (iii) joint UN data collection, analysis and evaluation.

An UNDAF annual review will form an integral part of the Joint Strategy Meeting to assess the progress made in achieving annualized expected results and contribution towards the country programme outcomes. UNDAF annual reports will be based on inputs and reports prepared by four UNDAF clusters. Findings and recommendations of the UNDAF report will inform the Resident Coordinator's annual report.

The UNDAF mid-term review will be organized in early 2014, drawing on UNDAF annual reviews, studies, surveys and evaluations conducted by UN agencies and other partners. It will examine to what extent the UNDAF results are achieved and how they are contributing to priorities in the MGDS. A final evaluation will be conducted during the first half of 2016 to inform the formulation of the next UNDAF Action Plan.

While resources required for M&E activities will mainly come from individual agency level budget, the Transformation Plan will prioritize an adequate allocation of resources for UNDAF level M&E to ensure monitoring of progress on UNDAF.

ANNEX TWO - MGDS II, SWGs, UN STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND PROPOSED UN DIVISION OF LABOUR

Lead UN agency: Leads all UN Agencies in any classified sector or thematic area, and is the focal contact point in policy dialogue between the Govt and DPs in that sector
Active UN agency: Supports the UN lead and may lead in a classified sub-sector or sub-thematic area

Thematic Areas, Sector Working Groups, Government Chair and DP Co-chair		MGDS Key Priority Areas	MDGs	UN Strategic Priorities	UN Division of Labour
THEME 1: SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH Sub-theme 1: Agriculture Sub-theme 2: Natural resources and Environment Sub-theme 3: Mining Sub-theme 4: Private Sector Development, Industry and Trade Sub-theme 5: Rural Development Sub-theme 6: Tourism, Wildlife and Culture Sub-theme 7: Labour and Employment Sub-theme 8: Land	1. Agriculture Chair: MoAFS Co-chair: Irish Aid	1. Agriculture and food security	1. Eradicate extreme hunger & poverty	FAO and UNDP: Capacity Development for SWAP Management and Accountability FAO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote agricultural sustainability and access to markets Post harvest management Capacity Development for Government and farmers, farmers' organizations and unions Pest and disease control ASWAp Labour saving technologies Gender equality promotion WFP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced productivity through capacity building and improved access to markets Early warning system on food security. 	Lead: FAO Active agencies: UNDP, WFP, UNIDO
	2. Integrated Rural Development Chair: MoLGRD Co-chair: EU	6. Integrated Rural Development	1. Eradicate extreme hunger & poverty	UNDP: Strengthening Decentralisation and local governance FAO: Rural Development, including strengthening national capacities in the promotion of gender equality goals and gender-equitable decent rural employment	Lead: UNDP Active agencies; FAO, UNCDF, UNICEF, IFA D, UNIDO
	3. Environment, Lands & Natural Resources	9. Climate change, Natural Resources & Environment	7. Ensure environmental sustainability	FAO and UNDP: Sustainable land management UNDP: Energy and Environment; policy and evolving environment	Lead: UNDP Active Agencies:

Thematic Areas, Sector Working Groups, Government Chair and DP Co-chair		MGDS Key Priority Areas	MDGs	UN Strategic Priorities	UN Division of Labour
	Chair: DoEA Co-chair: Norway	Management		<p>WFP: Adaptation and mitigation measures to climate change related impacts</p> <p>UNFPA: Population and Environment</p> <p>UNESCO: Water adaptation, Biosphere reserves</p> <p>ILO: Green Jobs</p>	FAO, UNHABITAT, WFP, IAEA, UNHCR, UNIDO, UNEP, UNESCO
	4. Tourism, Wildlife & Culture			UNESCO: Culture and Cultural Heritage	
	5. Water, Sanitation & Irrigation Chair: MoIWD Co-chair: ADB	7. Green Belt Irrigation & Water Development.		<p>UNEP: Agenda 21</p> <p>UNDP: Energy and Environment Policy and Enabling Environment</p> <p>UNICEF: rural water supply; household sanitation; policy</p> <p>FAO :water harvesting and irrigation development</p>	<p>Lead: UNICEF</p> <p>Active agencies: FAO, UNDP, UNEP</p>
	6. Trade, Industry & Private Sector Development Chair: MoIT Co-chair: WB		8. Develop a global partnership for development	<p>Trade & Development (UNCTAD/UNIDO), ILO</p> <p>UNIDO: Industrial Development</p> <p>UNCDF: Private Sector Development</p> <p>ILO and FAO: Inclusive Market Development</p> <p>UNDP: Inclusive Financial Sectors</p> <p>WFP: Improved access to structured markets for smallholder farmers (commodity exchange and warehouse receipt system)</p>	<p>Lead: UNDP</p> <p>Active agencies: UNCDF, WFP, ILO, UNIDO, FAO</p>
<p>THEME 2: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>Sub-theme 1: Population</p> <p>Sub-theme 2: Health</p>	8. Health Chair: MoH Co-chair: WHO	5. Public Health, Sanitation, Malaria and HIV and AIDS Management	4. Reduce child mortality 5. Improve maternal health 6. Combat	<p>Health (WHO),</p> <p>UNICEF: child health, nutrition, HIV/AIDS –PMTCT & pediatric AIDS; maternal health; policy; SWAp; domestic violence; violence against children</p> <p>ILO: Convention 183 + 4 Equality conventions</p>	<p>Lead: WHO</p> <p>Active agencies: UNICEF,</p>

Thematic Areas, Sector Working Groups, Government Chair and DP Co-chair		MGDS Key Priority Areas	MDGs	UN Strategic Priorities	UN Division of Labour
<p>Sub-theme 3: Education</p> <p>Sub-theme 4: Child Development and Protection</p> <p>Sub-theme 5: Youth Development</p> <p>Sub-theme 6: Nutrition</p>			<p>HIV/AIDS, malaria & other diseases</p>	<p>UNDP: UNV Doctors and Capacity Development in Health Sector</p> <p>UNHCR: Provision of health services to refugees and Malawians in villages surrounding Dzaleka refugee camp in Dowa district.</p> <p>WFP: Nutrition Support for malnourished children and women and people living with HIV and AIDS</p> <p>UNAIDS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy and support for sustained leadership on Universal Access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support services; • Coordination and Support of National and Local Responses to AIDS with a human-rights-based approach; • Strategic Information generation, analysis and use for national and local response to AIDS; • Integration and capacity development of infected and affected groups and communities in the response to AIDS; • Mobilization of and ensuring accountability for resources and results <p>UNDP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning and Management of National HIV/AIDS Response • MSM <p>UNFPA: Sexual and reproductive health including HIV prevention, Reproductive Health Commodity Security</p> <p>FAO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nutrition security policy development and nutrition programme outreach • Strengthen Capacity development on nutrition within the Government (MoH, MoAFS) • Capacity development on the prevention and reduction of child labour in agriculture <p>ILO: Workplace Policies and implementation of Recommendation 200</p>	<p>UNAIDS, UNFPA, ILO, UNDP, UNHCR, WFP, FAO</p>

Thematic Areas, Sector Working Groups, Government Chair and DP Co-chair		MGDS Key Priority Areas	MDGs	UN Strategic Priorities	UN Division of Labour
	9. Education Chair: MoEST Co-chair: GDC	3. Education Science & Technology	2. Achieve universal primary education	<p>UNESCO and UNICEF: Education for All</p> <p>ILO: Skills development</p> <p>UNICEF: child friendly schools; infrastructure; school water and sanitation; girls' education; policy; quality education; life skills education; protection</p> <p>WFP: Universal School Meals Programme for Malawi</p> <p>UNFPA: Life skills Education</p> <p>UNHCR: Education for refugees and Malawians in villages surrounding Dzaleka refugee camp</p>	<p>Lead: UNICEF</p> <p>Active agencies: WFP, UNFPA, UNESCO, ILO, UNHCR</p>
<p>THEME 3: SOCIAL SUPPORT & DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT</p> <p>Sub-theme 1: Supporting the Disadvantaged Groups</p> <p>Sub-theme 2: Disaster Risk Management</p>	7. Vulnerability, Disaster & Risk Management Chair: DoDMA Co-chair: DFID			<p>UNDP: DRM and DRR</p> <p>UNFPA: Humanitarian response (SRH, GBV and data)</p> <p>UNHCR: Protection, assistance and solutions to refugees, stateless persons and mixed migrants in Malawi.</p> <p>WFP: (iv) Prevent and mitigate transient food insecurity resulting from impact of shocks from disasters; (ii) Vulnerability Analysis</p> <p>UNICEF: Social protection policy; social cash transfers; design of national social protection programme with joint M&E implementation and financing modalities; financing automation of national social protection database and website; effectiveness of targeting; impact evaluation of SCT model</p> <p>FAO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vulnerability Assessments and analysis; • Major Agriculture commodities Price Monitoring systems; • Early Recovery and rehabilitation of agricultural livelihoods in communities affected by natural disasters; • Building resilience to communities affected by the impact of climate change; • Junior Farmer Field and Life Schools/ Youth Farmers Associations/Clubs 	<p>Lead: WFP</p> <p>Active agencies: UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, FAO, ILO, UNHCR</p>

Thematic Areas, Sector Working Groups, Government Chair and DP Co-chair		MGDS Key Priority Areas	MDGs	UN Strategic Priorities	UN Division of Labour
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in the Contingency Planning process <p>ILO-Elimination of Child Labour particularly in its Worst Forms (Support to National Action Plan on Child Labour)</p>	
THEME 4: INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT Sub-theme 1: Energy Sub-theme 2: Transport Sub-theme 3: Water Development Sub-theme 4: Information and Communications Sub-theme 5: Housing and Urban Development	11. Roads, Public Works & Transport	4. Transport Infrastructure and Nsanje World Inland Port		ILO: Employment Intensive Investment Program (EIIP)	
	12. Information, Communication & Technology & Research & Development			UNESCO: Universal access to Information & Knowledge	
	13. Energy & Mining	9. Energy, Mining and Industrial Development		UNIDO: Energy UNDP: E&E	
THEME 5: IMPROVED GOVERNANCE Sub-theme 1: Economic Governance Sub-theme 2: Corporate Governance Sub-theme 3: Democratic Governance	14. Economic Governance Chair: MDPC Co-chair: DFID			UNDP: Capacity Development for Accountability UNFPA: Institutionalisation of data (collection and management)	Lead: UNDP Active agencies: UNFPA
	15. Democratic Governance Chair: MoJCA Co-chair: UNDP		8. Develop a global partnership for development	UNDP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UN Support for Institutionalisation and SWAP Capacity Development for Democratic Accountability Capacity Development to Enhance Access to Justice Support to Capacity Development for Decentralisation 	Lead: UNDP Active agencies:
	16. Public Administration Chair: OPC			UNDP: Capacity Development for Public Administration Reform ILO: Capacity Development for Public Administration Reform (Tripartite Constituents)	Lead: UNDP Active

Thematic Areas, Sector Working Groups, Government Chair and DP Co-chair		MGDS Key Priority Areas	MDGs	UN Strategic Priorities	UN Division of Labour
	Co-chair: UNDP				agencies: ILO
THEME 6: CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES Sub-theme 1: Gender Sub-theme 2: Capacity Development	10. Gender, Youth Development & Sports Chair: MoGCCD Co-chair: UNFPA	8. Child Development, Youth Development and Empowerment	3. Promote gender equality and empower women	UNAIDS, FAO, WFP, UNCDF, UN-HABITAT : Gender UNICEF : prevention of HIV/AIDS; adolescent girls – SISTA’s programme; life skills; livelihood development; protection; gender based violence; informal justice through community victim support units; implementation of the Child Care Act UNFPA : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gender Based Violence prevention and management Adolescent Sexual reproductive health and Life skills education UNDP : Support to Revitalisation of National Gender Machinery ILO : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participatory Gender Audits Gender-equitable Youth Entrepreneurship Development FAO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of vocational skills development and training in agriculture in a gender-equitable manner <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance gender mainstreaming of gender equality goals in national strategies, policies and programmes related to rural and agricultural development; Promote gender equitable rural employment for rural adults , youth and socio-economically disadvantaged groups Strengthening policy coherence and mainstreaming of child labour prevention and reduction in agriculture Support Government to launch, implement and monitor gender and HIV and AIDS strategy in agriculture Agriculture academic institutions to integrate gender equality knowledge into their curricula. 	Lead: UNFPA/UN WOMEN¹⁹ Active agencies: UNICEF, UNAIDS, UNDP, FAO, ILO, WFP, UNCDF, UNHABITAT

¹⁹ UNFPA is currently the co-chair of the SWG 10 (Gender, Youth Development and Sport). UNCT further discussion on the arrangement might need to take place once UN Women officially opens the representation office in Malawi in 2011

