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KUPITITSA CHITUKUKO CHATHU

PATSOGOLO

# MALAWI CONGRESS PARTY MANIFESTO

## <u>~ 2025 - 2030 ~</u>

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, Taking Our Development Forward



KUPITITSA CHITUKUKO CHATHU PATSOGOLO

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Taking Our Development Forward



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### **ABBREVIATION AND ACRONYMS**

ABBREVIATION	MEANING
ACB	Anti-Corruption Bureau
ADCs	Area Development Committees
ADL	Airport Development Limited
ADMARC	Agricultural Development and Marketing Cooperation
AGCOM	Agricultural Commercialization Programme
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
AIP	Affordable Inputs Programme
AI	Artificial Intelligence
ATM+M	Agriculture, Tourism, Mining, and Manufacturing
CDF	Constituency Development Fund
CMS	Case Management System
Covid-19	Coronavirus Disease 2019
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
DODMA	Department of Disaster and Management Affairs
DPP	Democratic Progressive Party
DDPs	District Development Plans
ECD	Early Childhood Development
EGENCO	Energy Generation Company of Malawi
ETA	Electronic Travel Authorization
EU	European Union
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
FUM	Farmers Union of Malawi
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GESD	Governance to Enable Service Delivery
G2G	Government-to-Government
ніх	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ІСТ	Information and Communication Technology
LDC	Least Developed Countries
LUANAR	Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources
MACRA	Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority
MAIIC	Malawi Agricultural and Industrial Investment Corporation
MAMICO	Malawi Mining Company
MBS	Malawi Bureau of Standards
МСР	Malawi Congress Party
MDC	MDC Holdings
MDAs	Ministries, Departments, and Agencies
MDF	Malawi Defence Force
MERA	Malawi Energy Regulatory Authority
MFIs	Microfinance Institutions
MIAC	Malawi International Arbitration Centre

### **ABBREVIATION AND ACRONYMS**

ABBREVIATION	MEANING	
MIP-1	Malawi Implementation Plan	
MRA	Malawi Revenue Authority	
MUBAS	Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences	
MVAC	Malawi Vulnerability Assessment	
Mzuni	Mzuzu University	
NAHEC	National Arts and Heritage Council	
NASFAM	National Association of Smallholder Farmers of Malawi	
NEEF	National Economic Empowerment Fund	
NFRA	National Food Reserve Agency	
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization	
NHSF	National Health Services Fund	
NIDF	National Infrastructure Development Fund	
NIS	National Intelligence Service	
NRB	National Registration Bureau	
NYC	National Youth Council	
NYCOM	National Youth Council of Malawi	
NYS	National Youth Service	
ODPOP Act	Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions Act	
OPC	Office of the President and Cabinet	
OPEC Fund	OPEC Fund	
OVOP	One Village One Product	
РРР	Public-Private Partnerships	
SAATM	Single African Air Transport Market	
SADC	Southern African Development Community	
SEZs	Special Economic Zones	
SGR	Strategic Grain Reserves	
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises	
SOEs	State-Owned Enterprises	
SPC	Secretary to the President	
SUPER HI-5	Servant Leadership, Uniting Malawians, Prospering Together, Ending Corruption, and Rule of Law	
SVTP	Shire Valley Transformation Programme	
TAZARA	Tanzania Zambia Railway	
TEVET	Technical, Entrepreneurial and Vocational Education and Training	
UN	United Nations	
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS	
UNCTAD	United Nations Commission for Trade and Development	
UniPod	University Innovation Pod	
VDCs	Village Development Committees	
VIP	Ventilated Improved Pit Latrine	
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	
who	World Health Organisation	
YIF	Youth Innovation Fund	

# Our Vision, Mission, Leadership Philosophy

# Our Vision: A New Malawi \_\_\_\_

A NEW MALAWI that is a strong society capable of defining its own identity, feeding itself, developing its own human capital, protecting its most vulnerable, and being resilient in the face of adversity;

A NEW MALAWI that is a strong economy capable of creating productive industries in strategic sectors with sustainable and diversified opportunities for decent work and shared prosperity for every citizen;

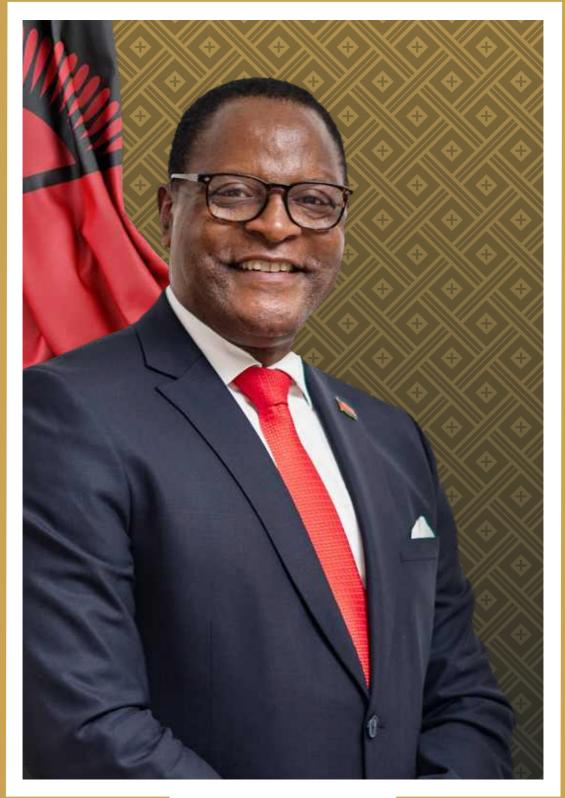
A NEW MALAWI that is a strong democracy capable of upholding the rule of law through functional public institutions that safeguard the rights of citizens, respect their collective will, and protect the sovereignty of their State.

# Leadership Philosophy

MCP's leadership pholosophy is the CHAKWERA SUPER Hi-5, a commitment to exemplifying and fostering a culture of Servant Leadership, Uniting Malawians, Prospering Together, Ending Corruption, and Rule of Law.

# Our Mission

To serve the people of Malawi and take their development forward by acting in their interest through excellence in public service delivery, public resource management, and public sector governance across all sectors.



HIS EXCELLENCY DR. LAZARUS MCCARTHY CHAKWERA PRESIDENT MALWI CONGRESS PARTY & PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALAWI

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Fellow Malawians, I would like to thank you most sincerely for trusting me to be your President, which has been an incredible honour. Since June, 2020 when we started this journey together to build a new Malawi we have experienced a lot together – both painful and joyous moments. On the painful side we have had to contend with multiple threats to our shared dream of building an inclusively wealthy, industrialized, and self-reliant upper middle-income nation as stipulated in the Malawi 2063 vision.

First, we were hit by the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020 whose negative effects continue to this day; we were hit by tropical storms Ana and Gombe in 2022, which affected close to 1 million people and led to loss of lives, livelihoods, and infrastructure. That same year, the Russia-Ukraine war broke out triggering dramatic global price increases, especially for essential commodities like food, fertilizer and fuel. That war and its devastating effects on our economy continue to this day. As if that year was not painful enough, Malawi witnessed the worst cholera outbreak in its history, which affected and killed thousands of Malawians in every district in the country. We did not know that the worst was yet to come because in the first quarter of 2023, we were hit by Cyclone Freddy, which was the worst climate related event in our history, it killed thousands of people, left over half a million Malawians homeless, and affected over 2 million people through destruction of crops, businesses and infrastructure that will take decades and cost trillions to restore. In 2024, flash floods and prolonged droughts related to El nino conditions destroyed food crops in 23 districts leaving 5.7 million Malawians facing hunger.

The impact of these disasters on Malawi's economy and your living conditions, as Malawians, has been excruciating. Our farmers have felt the pain of rising fertilizer prices, loss of their crops, livestock and loss of access to markets as a result of destruction to infrastructure and global supply-chain disruptions. Our women have lost businesses due to rising cost of imported merchandise, which they sell. Our youth have felt deep levels of despair because of unemployment occasioned by disruptions to businesses and markets. Our civil servants have struggled to keep up with the rising cost of living to meet their daily needs. Workers in all sectors of the economy have struggled to make ends meet, to pay bills, and care for their families. There is no household or citizen that has not felt the pain or paid the cost of living in an economy that has suffered these unprecedented calamities, which have required me to declare a State of Disaster every year since I took office. As such, we were already a nation in pain from these assaults, when we lost our beloved Vice President, Dr. Saulos Klaus Chilima and 8 other Malawians in a tragic plane crash; a moment in our journey together that felt like the end of our dreams and hopes.

If it was not for the grace of God, combined with both your resilience as Malawians and your hard work in all sectors of our economy where we have rolled out programmes and projects, our nation would have collapsed and I would not have delivered any of the things I promised. That grace, resilience, and hard work are what have made it possible for my Government to deliver the kind of progress that should not even have been possible. For instance we should not have been able to build infrastructure such as roads, rail, ports, bridges, schools, hospitals and health centres, offices, water projects, stadia and other public buildings and houses for security agencies, but we did. We should not have been able to deliver the MK55 billion, which has improved service delivery by Local Councils demonstrated by delivery of new projects such as new markets, bus depots, stadia, classrooms, public toilets, water points and other projects that have to improve the lives of Malawians living in rural areas, but, through the Governance to Enable Service Delivery (GESD), we did. We should not have been able to deliver new infrastructure for transport, education, health, water and sanitation, security needs in every constituency, but through the increase of the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) from MK30 million prior to my administration to MK230 million during my administration, but we did. We should not have increased access to electricity for Malawians from 11% to 25%, but we did. We should

not have been able to create 275,000 new businesses through the disbursement of MK250 billion in loans to mostly youth and women, but, through the National Economic Empowerment Fund (NEEF), we did. We should not have been able to remain united and peaceful, as a nation, but, through our active engagement with various stakeholders, such as religious leaders, traditional leaders, civil society organizations (CSOs), development partners, and others, we did. We should not have been able to create over 2.4 million formal jobs that have put to work 30% of the previously unemployed youth, but through ATM+M investments, construction projects, NEEF funded enterprises, we did. We should not have been able to regain donor and investor confidence or restore cordial relations with neighbouring countries and the global community, but through reforms in macro-economic management, governance institutions and economic diplomacy, we did.

These achievements and many others outlined in this manifesto have been a fulfilment of the pledges I made under the SUPER HI-5 agenda namely, Servant Leadership, Uniting Malawians, Prospering Together, Ending Corruption and Rule of Law. They serve as a solid foundation on which you and I will build the pillars of a better and prosperous Malawi for all by 2030. For this reason, this manifesto is both a report of how far we have come on the journey against all odds and an invitation on the journey that lies ahead to finish what we started. It will be a journey guided by and building on the aspirations of the Malawi 2063 vision, the ATM+M strategy, the SUPER HI-5 achievements of the 2020 Manifesto, and the philosophy of a capable Democratic Developmental State. The upcoming election is not a choice between who can prevent economic pains arising from global disruptions and climate disasters that cause price hikes and economic slowdowns. No one has the power to do that. Rather, the upcoming election is a choice about who is able to remain steady, inspire unity, provide hope and deliver progress in our development when disaster strikes. Having co me this far on our journey together, this manifesto is my humble appeal for us to stay the course by taking our development forward until we finish what we started, under my steady and focused leadership.

DR. LAZARUS McCARTHY CHAKWERA PRESIDENT OF THE MALAWI CONGRESS PARTY AND PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALAWI LILONGWE, MALAWI 19th JULY, 2025

# 1.0 **INTRODUCTION: THE CHOICE BEFORE US**

The September 2025 Elections are a defining moment for us as nation to make a fundamental choice between the steady leadership that will take us forward and the unstable leadership that will take us backwards. That choice will shape the country's political, economic and social development trajectory for generations to come. Our offer to Malawians is the continuation of the steady, focused, inspiring, and forward-looking leadership of President Chakwera, a stark contrast to the unstable leadership of failed past regimes under parties driven by greed, retribution, tribalism, dishonesty and impunity that set the country on the path of becoming a failed state.

The trail of destruction that the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) and its offshoots left are self-evident. They distorted and manipulated key macroeconomic fundamentals for selfish ends; falsified progress while concentrating wealth in the hands of a few; tribalized employment opportunities in the public sector; institutionalized and systematized bribery, fraud and corruption without consequences for culprits; politicized the state apparatus by capturing public institutions through appointees that promoted selfish personal interests over national interests; presided over a reign of terror that cannibalized law enforcement agencies, hunted down persons with albinism and cracked down on the enjoyment of fundamental

Diversifying The Economy Through Mining

rights, and violated the country's constitution through the rigging of elections and displays of executive arrogance and defiance towards oversight bodies like the judiciary, legislature, Office of the Ombudsman, the Anti-Corruption Bureau. As a result of these vices, which still prevail in the DPP and its unstable leaders, the favourable conditions for economic progress that existed when they were in power were squandered.

By contrast, under the most difficult circumstances and unfavourable conditions, President Chakwera has provided steady and focused leadership to the country demonstrating civility, calmness, pragmatism, honesty, humility, and accountability which has helped to effectively weather the storms. He never wavered, remained steady, and shepherded the country with a great sense of purpose and unity, ignoring petty fights and political mudslinging to focus on cushioning Malawians from the vagaries of disasters and bringing development to the people.

For these reasons, another term of office for President Chakwera is the best choice Malawians can make to build on the strong foundation he has laid for Malawi's transformation going forward. That foundation includes numerous achievements he has registered under the SUPER HI-5 agenda, a foundation on which his second term will be built. Accordingly, as a servant who has always been accountable to the Malawian people who elected him, an honest report of the foundational developments he has delivered in his first terms under the SUPER HI-5 is hereby presented.

# PRESERVING FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

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Upholding Human Rights for People with Albinism



# 2.0 WHAT PRESIDENT CHAKWERA & MCP HAVE DELIVERED SINCE 2020

Key achievements for which President Chakwera deserves the vote of every well-meaning Malawian as outlined below are a testament to his commitment to the SUPER HI-5 as an anchor to his governance philosophy. These achievements underlie President Chakwera's commitment to servant leadership, uniting Malawians, prospering together, ending corruption and respecting the rule of law. The SUPER HI-5 remains an anchor for President Chakwera's governing philosophy within the framework of a capable Democratic Developmental State. Foundational SUPER HI-5 achievements in the 1st term of President Chakwera's administration include the following:



### 1.1 SERVANT LEADERSHIP

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- a) He has continued and completed hundreds of development projects initiated by predecessors, including the completion of the Thyolo District Council Offices that had been left at less than 15% and the Blantyre Police Station that had been left at less than 5%.
- b) He has appeared before Parliament regularly to answer questions more than any President in history.
- c) He has restored decency, dignity, and

decorum to the Presidency despite facing false and slanderous accusations.

- d) He has gone to the communities affected by natural disasters like Cyclone Freddy to offer comfort and hope.
- e) He has distributed emergency maize to 5 million Malawians whose maize fields were destroyed by drought.
- He has saved thousands from Cholera by leading a campaign that ended the nationwide outbreak in 2 weeks.

- He has refused to be a stay-at-home g) President, choosing instead to engage Malawians and hear their concerns directly by touring all regions and districts of the country, including Likoma Island, and gracing all major cultural and religious ceremonies in the country.
- h) He has embodied the philosophy of a listening Government by meeting regularly with and receiving counsel from Malawi's community leaders, including interfaces with the Public Affairs Committee, interfaces with the Catholic Conference of Bishops, interfaces with the CCAP General Synod, interfaces with leaders of the Muslim community, interfaces with Rastafarians, and interfaces with all six Paramount Chiefs.
- He has transformed the State House from i) the President's house to the People's house by opening up the State Residences to the public through the hosting of press briefings, town-hall meetings, banquets,

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ceremonies, interfaces with the youth, teachers, health professionals, and social entrepreneurs, and by availing himself to both traditional and new media, including being the first sitting Head of State to appear on podcasts to hear directly from the people he was elected to serve.

- He has championed service to country i) by promoting role models of patriotism through initiatives like the Zikomo Presidential Awards, Women's Voices 4 Chakwera, and Chakwera Classroom Heroes.
- He has raised over K500,000,000 through k) the Presidential Golf Charity Initiative and donated the funds to needy University students and vulnerable communities affected by natural disasters.
- I) He has reduced presidential powers by repealing laws that his predecessors kept in place and that criminalized insults against the President, thus subjecting himself to greater public scrutiny.



### He has championed the Malawi 2063 a) Vision as a unifying blueprint for Malawi's development and made it a legal requirement for political party Manifestos to align with its pillars and enablers.

- b) He has restored Malawi's relations with neighboring countries and standing on the world stage.
- c) He has begun constructing houses for some Traditional Leaders, and plans to

scale this effort up across the country to strengthen the social cohesion and communal.

He has treated Former Presidents with d) dignity and respect, including visiting Former President Arthur Peter Mutharika, ending the political witch-hunt against Former President Bakili Muluzi, and ending the political exile of Former President Joyce Banda.

- e) He has established the Malawi Peace Commission to address political, religious, and tribal conflicts that threaten to divide Malawians.
- f) He has rallied Malawians to unite in support of our nation's flag-carriers, including the Malawi Queens, the Flames, the Scorchers, the Region 5 Games Malawi Athletes, the Chawinga Sisters, Tay-Grin, and Giddes Chalamanda.
- g) He has challenged Malawians to unite in mourning the passing of prominent Malawians who had served Malawi in their lifetime, leading by example either through public expressions of condolences or by according them a State funeral regardless of political differences.
- He has consistently been the unifying voice of reason in times of crisis and confusion, and has regularly spoken out against

the use of national tragedies, national events, and national assets for political divisiveness, even going as far as banning political party followers from crowding the apron of the airport during his arrivals and departures.

- i) He has led Malawians by example in respecting all the country's tribes and religions by gracing the religious ceremonies of Islam, the Catholic Church, the Presbyterian Church, the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Pentecostal Churches, and the cultural ceremonies of Lomwes, the Yaos, the Ngonis, the Tumbukas, among others.
- j) He has established Umodzi Day as an annual occasion when Malawians come together to celebrate their rich and diverse culture and national identity.



- He has transformed Malawi's Capital City with a new face, modernizing the network to the city's neglected roads, including the six-lane Chilima Highway that is the first of its kind in Malawi, and the Crossroads-Kanengo dual carriageway.
- b) He has raised student loans for tuition fees from less than K200,000 to K650,000 per student per annum; raised student upkeep loans to K560,000 per student per annum, with a total of K64,000,000,000

disbursed to-date and a total of over 30,000 beneficiary, surpassing the number of beneficiaries under previous Administration four-fold.

c) He has walked the talk on investing in the human capital development of Malawian youth, completing the de-linking of Universities to improve access to and enhance specialization in higher learning; launching the construction of 34 Schools of Excellence; the construction of the

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TAKING OUR DEVELOPMENT FORWARD

Entrepreneurs Training and Incubation Centre and Library at Mzuzu University; the establishment of the e-Campus at the Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources; the Clinical Research Excellence and Training Open Resource (CREATOR) facility at Kamuzu University of Health Sciences (KUHeS); the construction of the University Innovation Pod (UniPod) and Nanjiri campus ODeL buildings at Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences (MUBAS).

- He has embarked on the ambitious d) development of over 600 infrastructure projects across the country, turning Malawi into a construction site, including major works on the MI that had been nealected for three decades; the Champhira and Msaka Water Supply Systems project to benefit over 140,000 households in Mzimba; the Fish Feed Mill in Mzuzu to give fishing communities access to cheaper feed; the Mzuzu Civic Office Complex to house all the workers of the Mzuzu City Council under one roof for ease of access by the public; the Blantyre Roads Network that includes roads in Sunny Side, Namiwawa, Chilobwe, Kamba, Chichiri, Chinyonga, New Lands, Manje, and Makhetha-Machinjiri-Ndirande, to ease the movement of traffic in Blantyre; the 20MW Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project in Lilongwe for the conservation of power and the stabilization of the national grid; the upgrading of Makhuwira Health Centre into a Community Hospital in Chikwawa; the Osiyana Health Centre to replace the Makhanga Health Centre that was washed away by floods in East Bank, Nsanje; the Mlooka Solar-Powered Irrigation Scheme in Zomba; the upgrading of the Monkey Bay - Cape Maclear Carriageway; the Mangoch District Council Chamber and Finance Building; the upgrading of Zomba Community Ground to a 20,000-seater Zomba Stadium; the reconstruction of the Benga-Nkhotakota-Dwangwa M5 Road.
- He has revived Malawi's rail system e) which was abandoned by previous Administrations, enabling Malawians in Lilongwe to see the arrival of a train for the first time in over 20 years and in Nsanje for the first time in over 40 years.
- He has reduced the number of brands that f) contain lead paint in Malawi by 50% in his fight to eliminate the exposure of 3,000,000

Malawian children to lead poisoning, and has made two-thirds of all manufacturers in Malawi commit to going lead-free.

- He has facilitated the establishment g) of over a dozen mega-farms through Mega-Farms Support Unit to the ensure that Malawian farming is on a commercialization trajectory that will create wealth for farmers.
- has made dozens of historic h) He appointments of women to key positions, including Cabinet, the Speaker of Parliament, Justices of the Supreme Court, Judges of the High Court, Magistrates, Ambassadors, Secretary to Cabinet and Principal Secretaries, Boards, and other statutory bodies like the Ombudsman, the Anti-Corruption Bureau, the Human Rights Commission, the Financial Intelligence Authority.
- K250,000,000,000 i) He has provided in finance to over 275,000 people for business through the National Economic Empowerment Fund (NEEF).
- He has facilitated the disbursement of j) K209,000,000,000 in Mtukula Pakhomo social cash transfers to support over a million Malawians in 340,000 vulnerable households nationwide.
- He has disbursed K8,200,000,000 in k) business loans to thousands of faith leaders through the Faith Leaders Empowerment Fund to sustain the livelihoods of clergy who serve Malawians sacrificially everyday.
- He has successfully negotiated great 1) prices for tobacco and pigeon pea farmers who were previously robbed of their produce by unscrupulous traders preying on the desperation of the poor.
- m) He has provided support to 3,700,000 smallholder farmers under the Affordable Inputs Programme (AIP), four times the number of beneficiaries under the Farm Inputs Subsidy Programme (FISP) during the DPP Administration.
- He has facilitated the provision of over n) K12,500,000,000 in finance to farmers for commercialization.
- He has secured our nation's stake in the o) Accord for a Healthier World, through which Malawi will access critical medicines at a discounted cost in partnership with Pfizer Pharmaceuticals and the Gates Foundation.

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- He has increased electricity access from p) 11% to 25%, stabilized electricity generation and significantly reduced the daily blackouts that crippled the economy in the DPP-era.
- He has completed 92% of the q) Mozambique-Malawi Interconnection Project that he launched with Former President Nyusi, and has secured funding for the commencement of the 350MW Mpatamanaa Hydroelectric Power Project.
- He has constructed over 100 houses for r) persons with albinism.
- He has increased development funding s) for each constituency from K30,000,000 under the DPP-era to K220,000,000, a 7-fold increase.
- He has gazetted an SME Order to reserve t) the supply of various categories of goods and services for indigenous Malawians.
- He has gazetted a Restriction Order to end u) the importation of various agricultural and other commodities that can be sourced from Malawians locally.
- He has brought dozens of new investors v) to Malawi by focusing on economic diplomacy in his foreign trips and diplomatic appointments, including German investors who have committed to developing new vessels to operate on Lake Malawi.
- w) He has established the National Youth Service that has trained hundreds of youths in marketable skills for income generation
- He has restored donor confidence and x) direct budgetary support for Malawi's development after a 10-year absence, leading to his successful hosting of the first ever Malawi-EU Investment Forum, the Economist Investment Summit, the 52<sup>nd</sup> Global Fund Board Meeting, and the Malawi Partners Conference in New York.
- He has completed the construction of 1,852 v) classrooms and 293 sanitation blocks.
- He has completed the construction of z) 200 Health Posts across the country, thus taking the country closer to its target of 900 Health Posts to achieve Universal Health Coverage that guarantees a Health Post within a 5km radius.
- aa) He has ended Malawi's suspension from the Global Fund as a result of the DPP's

abuse of funding to the National AIDS Commission, and has since fast-tracked Malawi's progress in the fight against HIV and AIDS so that Malawi has already reached the 95-95-95 cascade target for Testing, Treatment, and Suppression that the UNAIDS set to be achieved by 2030 five years ahead of schedule.

- ab) He has completed Phase II of the construction of Zomba Stadium, and is on course to complete the construction of several stadia around the country, including in Mzimba (60%), Mwanza (95%), Thyolo (65%), among others.
- He has established the Youth Innovation ac) Fund (YIF), with an initial roll out of K2,000,000,000 being disbursed to young people to acquire digital literacy, entrepreneurship, technical and soft skills.
- ad) He has provided bursaries for 44,604 youths in Secondary Schools across the country.
- ae) He has provided nutrition assistance for child-headed families, lactating mothers, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, who are often forgotten in times of scarcity.
- af) He has completed the development of the One-Go-Border-Post at the Mchinji and Dedza Borders to facilitate the ease of movement for people and goods, thereby increasing trade between Malawi and its neighbors, and has commenced the development of the One-Go-Border-Post in Karonga to boost trade with Tanzania and East Africa.
- ag) He has significantly brought down the cost of data services in Malawi, achieving one of the cheapest data rates in the world, where Malawi ranks 29th globally.
- ah) He has promoted thousands of public servants, including police officers, teachers, soldiers, and District Commissioners who had served Malawians for years without any recognition.
- ai) He has ended the DPP era of tensions with neighbouring countries and irrelevance on the world stage, using his mastery in international diplomacy to heal relations between Malawi and its neighbours -Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe; shining the world's spotlight on and goodwill towards Malawi by warmly hosting world leaders in our beautiful

country, including State and Working Visits by the leaders of Iceland, Mozambique, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, South Korea, United Arab Emirates, India, Namibia, and Liberia; and boldly assuming leadership on the world stage, including the Chair Southern being African Development Community (SADC) and Chair of the Least Developed Countries (LDC) group at the United Nations; and confidently enagging in bilateral talks abroad with the Presidents Biden of the United States, Xi of the People's Republic of China, Mohammed bi Zayed of the United Arab Emirates, Kenyatta and Ruto of Kenya, El-Sisi of Egypt, Steinmeier of Germany, Kagame of Rwanda, Nyusi of Mozambique, late Magufuli and Suluhu of Tanzania, Ramaphosa of South Africa, Lourenço of Angola, Mbasogo of Equatorial Guinea, Mnangagwa of Zimbabwe, Masisi of Botswana, Tshisekedi of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Buhari of Nigeria, late Lungu and Hakainde of Zambia, Bio of Sierra Leone, and late Pope Francis of Vatican City, among others, all of which has ensured that Malawi's linkages to the global economy are vibrant.

- He has contributed to Malawi's regional ai) economic integration by fostering regional peace and security through Malawi's brave participation in peace-keeping missions in the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- ak) He has established and capitalized the Minerals and Mining Reguratory Authority and the Malawi Mining Company to safeguard the stake of Malawians in the mineral riches in the country, thus laying the foundation for his plan to capitalize a National Sovereign Fund through which Malawi will wean itself from donor dependency and achieve economic and developmental sovereignty.
- He has turned a number of state-owned al) enterprises that were making losses as a result of being hallowed out by corrupt operatives of the DPP regime into profitable companies, including a K15,000,000,000 profit for Airport Development Limited (ADL); K3,000,000,000 а profit for Technical, Entrepreneurial, and Vocational Education and Training Authority

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(TEVETA); a K5,000,000,000 profit for Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority (MACRA); a K5,000,000,000 profit for Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS); a K9,000,000,000 profit for Energy Generation Company of Malawi (EGENCO), just to name a few, resources which are now being deployed to meet the needs of Malawians.

am) He has completed the construction of the National Cancer Treatment Centre, with the capacity to treat 3,000 adult patients and 250 children every month, thus saving lives and the time and money Malawians were spending in search of cancer treatments abroad.

an) He has signed 62 Money Bills for the deployment of funds towards the socioeconomic development of critical and strategic parts Malawi, including the following seminal ones:

- Development African Fund 0 Authorization for investment in the Tourism sector.
- OPEC Fund Authorization for 0 diversifying Agriculture.
- OPEC Fund Authorization for 0 Dowa Water Project.
- European Investment Bank Loan 0 Authorization for works on the Ml.
- World Bank Authorization for 0 projects under Governance to Enable Service Delivery (GESD).
- World Bank Authorization for 0 Phase 2 of the Shire Valley Transformation Project.
- OPEC Fund Authorization for 0 the construction of the Benga-Nkhotakota-Dwangwa M5 Road.
- African Development Fund 0 Authorization for Water and Sanitation services in Rumphi.
- Saudi Fund Authorization for 0 the rehabilitation of Mangochi-Makanjira Road.
- OPEC Fund Authorization for 0 the rehabilitation of Mangochi-Makanjira Road.
- World Bank Fund Authorization 0 for the development of Mpatamanga Hydro Power Plant.



- He appointed Ms. Martha Chizuma to a) head, energize, and depoliticize the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) in the face of great opposition.
- He ended the practice of Presidential b) interference in the independent operations of the ACB.
- c) He ordered the immediate release of the ACB Director-General when she was unlawfully arrested.
- He has fulfilled his promise to increase d) funding to the ACB, from an allocation of K3,558,500,000 when the DPP lost power to allocations of K5,282,837,000 in 2020/2021, K4,373,058,000 in 2021/2022, K7,147,520,000 in 2022/2023, K6,668,001,000 in 2023/2024, and K9,159,273,000 in 2024/2035.
- has safeguarded the ACB's He e) independence from foreign interference by having Government fully fund the ACB's budget, thus ending the previous practice of having the ACB run on donor funding.
- He has significantly increased the number f) of staff at the ACB to intensify investigations against corruption.
- He has amended the Corrupt Practices g) Act by removing the legal requirement for the ACB to seek the Director of Public Prosecution's approval to initiate court cases.
- He withdrew all delegated duties and h) powers from Senior Officials charged with corruption, regardless of the seniority of their position, and either suspended or fired those found in the wrong.
- He ended the DPP era practice of public i) money in Parastatals like Waterboards, Malawi Revenue Authority, and others

being used to fund party activities.

- He has established the Financial Crimes i) Court to fast-track the prosecution of corruption and fraud cases.
- He conducted a forensic audit of the k) Reserve Bank of Malawi to expose and end years of misreporting of macroeconomic data, falsification of key macroeconomic indicators, and abuse of office.
- I) He has reorganized and restructured the Accountant General's office to purge it of corrupt and fraudulent elements.
- He has changed Malawi's procurement m) and disposal of assets law to close procurement loopholes used for corrupt procurement deals.
- He has ended the corruption-riddled n) open-tender system for procuring fertilizer and fuel and established a Governmentto-Government arrangement that offers Government value for money and does not defraud taxpayers.
- He has given testimony to the ACB o) regarding corruption activities in the public sector, the first sitting president to do so.
- He has promoted the fight against p) corruption in all public institutions by hosting the Anti-Corruption Conference and signing the Pledge against corruption.
- He has secured Malawi's qualification for q) membership in the Open Government Partnership by opening up the operations of public institutions to scrutiny by Civil Society Organizations and international bodies.
- He has issued an Executive Order for the r) regulation of forex to address fraudulent black market dealings.

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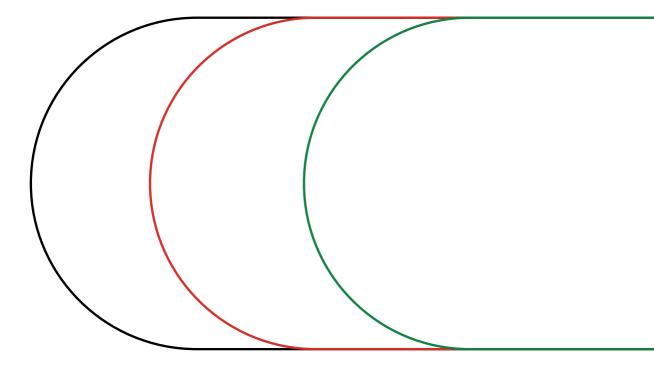
- He has ended the inhumane a) and cannibalistic killing of persons with albinism.
- He has commenced the construction of b) over 4000 houses for security agencies.
- He has recruited over 6000 police officers, c) thus increasing the number of officers by 30%.
- He has completed the construction of the d) Commercial Division of the High Court.
- He has established the Malawi International e) Arbitration Centre (MIAC) for the legal settlement of international disputes.
- He has secured China's commitment to f) finance the construction of the Judicial Headquarters in Lilongwe, whose perimeter fence has already been constructed.
- g) He has strengthened the capacity and independence of regulatory bodies like MACRA, MRA, MERA, Ombudsman, Malawi Police Service.
- He has ordered the inspection of various h) industries to end incidents of illegal hoarding of goods and abuse of workers.
- He has resisted public pressure to i) abuse the powers of his office and practice mob justice against anyone based on unsubstantiated social media propaaanda and unlawful smear campaigns, thus fulfilling his Oath of Office to "do right to all manner of people according to law without fear or favour, affection or ill will."
- He has complied with the 60:40 quota i) required by the Gender Equality Act in public appointments.
- He has complied with the Political Parties k) Act by ensuring that the Malawi Congress Party accounts for its usage of the funds it

receives from the public.

- He has complied with the Public Officers I) (Declaration of Assets, Liabilities, and Business Interests) Act by ensuring that he and all Senior Officials of his government declare their assets every year.
- He has ensured that the Malawi Human m) Rights Commission has the resources required for maintaining Malawi's A-rating on the International Human Rights Index.
- He has appointed and sworn in Judges n) to the High Court and Justices to the Supreme Court to increase Malawians' access to justice.
- He has established the NIS Complaints o) Tribunal to address abuses against Malawians by the National Intelligence Service.
- He has ensured that the Malawi Electoral p) Commission is fully funded to end its dependence foreign donations on that compromised its constitutional independence.
- He has signed into law 110 pieces a) of legislation to correct decades of lawlessness in multiple sectors, including the following landmark bills that cement President Chakwera's legacy of strengthening the rule of law for generations to come:
  - 0 Energy Regulation Amendment Act
  - Judicial Service Administration 0 Act
  - Insurance Act 0
  - Financial Services Amendment 0 Act
  - Value Added Tax Amendment 0 Act

- Courts Amendment Act
- o Copyright Amendment Act
- Public Procurement and Disposal of Assets Act
- Presidential, Parliamentary, Local Elections Act
- Companies, Registration and Intellectual Property Centre Act
- Supreme Court of Appeal Amendment Act
- Financial Crimes Amendment Act
- Prisons Act
- Penal Code Amendment Act
- Sugarcane Industry Act
- Mental Health Act
- Construction Industry Act
- Tourism Act
- Property Valuation Act
- o Older Persons Act
- o Real Estate Management Act
- o Irrigation Act

- Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises Act
- National Arts and Heritage Act
- o Mines and Minerals Act
- o Disaster Risk Management Act
- Roads Authority Act
- Public Roads Act
- Pension Act
- o Fertilizer Act
- o Gaming and Lotteries Act
- Corrupt Practices Amendment Act
- Public-Private Partnership Act
- o NGO Amendment Act
- o Seed Act
- Peace and Unity Act
- o Land Act
- Parliamentary Service Act
- Revenue Appeals Tribunal Act
- o Labour Relations Amendment Act
- Political Parties Amendment Act



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# PRESIDENT **CHAKWERA'S 1ST TERM AT A GLANCE**

¶L 100⊕ Abandoned Projects Completed

New Public University

Under Construction

Facilities Completed or

\$\$10€

50 Appearances Before Parliament to Answer Ouestions

Private Sector Jobs Created

**T** 1 MILLION Malawians Given

B 1000KM ●

Of Road Worked On

Access to Clean Water

41 Years of Waiting For Rail Transport Ended

🕤 K64 BILLION

Reaching 30,000+

Beneficiaries, an increase of Over \Lambda 300%

in Student Loans Disbursed,

 $\sim 50\%$ Of Lead-Contaminated Products Removed from

the Market

‱012+ Mega Farms Established

### ₽ K250 BILLION

NEEF Loans Disbursed And 275,000 Businesses Created

### \$340,000

Vulnerable Households Supported with Mtukula Pakhomo Cash Transfers worth

### **K209 BILLION**

■ 3.7 MILLION Smallholder Farmers

**Reached with AIP Fertilizer** 

★K12.5 BILLION Disbursed to Commercial Farmers

**3 MILLION** People Newly Connected To Magetsi

140 € \_\_\_\_\_ 🔒 600% Houses Built For Persons With Albinism

Increase in Constituency

₿K2 BILLION Youth Innovation Fund Launched

1850+ Classroom Blocks Constructed

### ■200 Health Posts Completed

2월 44,600 Secondary School Students Given Bursaries

5000 🛛 —— Public Service Promotions Effected

💩 K40 BILLION⊕ 🗳 In Profits for State Companies That Used to Only Make Losses

National CANCER Centre Built

**- 1 0 0 € −** Bills Signed Into Law **K34 BILLION** In Funding For the Anti-Corruption Bureau

Amended the Law to End the ACB's Need for Permission to Prosecute **Corruption Cases** 

- Removed Official **Duties From Each** Person Charged with Corruption
- Secured Malawi's Qualification for Membership In the Open Government Partnership by Meeting OGP International Requirements for Transparency

Construction of 4000 +

> Houses for Security Agencies Underway.

### 윤 60:40

Gender Ratio Required by Law in Public Appointments Complied With.

Data Costs Reduced, Making Malawi the 29th **Cheapest Rates** In the World

Funding for Judicial Complex Secured

Funding for Makanjira Road Secured

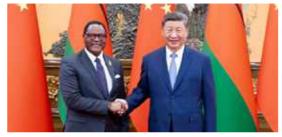
MTUKULA PAKHOMO

Social cash transfers to support over a million Malawians in 340,000 vulnerable households nationwide





Dr. Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera with His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates and Ruler of Abu Dhabi.



Dr. Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera with His Excellency Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China.



Dr. Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera addressing the UN Gernal Assembley.



Dr. Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera with Her Excellency Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of Tanzani.



Dr. Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera with His Excellency Paul Kagame, President of Rwanda.



Dr. Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera with Pope Francis, Jorge Mario Bergoglio, 266th Pope of the Catholic Church.



His Excellency the State President receiving a memorabilia guitar from reggae icon, Burning Spear, at Kamuzu Palace.



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### **CHAKWERA'S GALLERY**





President Chakwera salutes new cadets at Armed Forces College, Salima.

Dr Chakwera receives rupturous applause from football fans at Bingu National Stadium during one of the football national team matches.



Dr Chakwera celebrating with the women national football team, Scorchers, after their triumph at the COSAFA Cup



The President honoured with a jersey by women football stalwarts and sisters, Temwa and Tabitha Chawinga.



FIT AS A FIDDLE: President Chakwera takes an energetic stroll in Blantyre Central Business District enroute to Sanjika Palace.





# 3.0 WHERE PRESIDENT **CHAKWERA AND MCP WILL TAKE MALAWI NEXT**

Building on these achievements. President Chakwera seeks a second term of office to further propel Malawi's development momentum forward. The future that President Chakwera and Malawi Congress Party seek to build in the next five years is built on a solid foundation that has four enduring layers, namely a focus on the Malawi 2063 Vision, in particular the Malawi Implementation Plan (MIP-1) that runs until 2030; a resolve to execute the ATM+M Strategy that focuses on boosting production and value-addition in the sectors of Agriculture, Tourism, Mining, and Manufacturing; a commitment to build on the aforementioned SUPER Hi-5 achievements of our 2020 Manifesto; and our unwavering belief in the philosophy of a capable Democratic Developmental State that compels us to intervene in strategic areas of our economy. Our approach to governance and our priorities in the management of the economy in the next five years will build on this four-layer foundation, and what we offer to build on this foundation until 2030 are five pillars that will unlock unprecedented prosperity for all Malawians. The five pillars we will build and deliver are Food Security, Job Creation, Wealth Creation, Service Delivery, and Governance Reform.

4.0 FOOD SECURITY: **MAKE MALAWI** FEED MALAWI

# 41 **SETTING THE CONTEXT FOR** FOOD SECURITY

The MCP led government has laid a strong foundation for sustainable food security for all. During the last five years, the government continued to implement the Affordable Input Programme (AIP) while at the same time reforming it to make it more effective. In addition, the government intensified efforts to commercialize the agricultural sector principally through the MK600 billion Agricultural Commercialization Programme (AGCOM) and rolled out the Mega Farm Initiative to expand agricultural productivity for both domestic consumption and export markets. However, the country's progress in attaining food security has been undermined by a combination of natural disasters and external contingencies such as Covid-19 and the Russia-Ukraine War. Successive bouts of cyclones punctuated by flash floods and prolonged dry spells, negatively affected the productivity of the agricultural sector while the Russia-Ukraine War triggered dramatic price increase in the prices of essential inputs, especially fertilizer, making it unaffordable for the majority of the farmers.

Building on the strong foundation that has been created, and recognizing that food security still remains a challenge for the majority of Malawians due to worsening climate change, the legacy of inappropriate agricultural policies by the regimes post 1994, and the increasingly challenging economic environment, the MCP government commits itself to implementing practical, bold and people-centred policies and strategies that will provide Malawians with immediate relief and guarantee long-term sustainability.

All the critical focus areas identified for achieving food security in the country will be brought together in the "Make Malawi Feed Malawi Campaign". The MCP government believes that hunger has grown not because we lack land, water, or willing hands, but because we lacked bold leadership and action between 1994 and 2020. This has resulted in over 4 million Malawians facing food insecurity annually not from scarcity, but from broken systems and billions of kwachas spent on food imports and emergency relief. The MCP government believes that the Make Malawi Feed Malawi Campaign can change all this following the bold leadership demonstrated in reforming the agricultural sector during the last five years as a national movement for self-reliance, pride, and prosperity driven by our farmers, our technology, and our political will. Through this campaign, the commitment of the next MCP government is to achieve a food sovereign Malawi by 2030 whereby every household has nutritious food year-round; every farmer has the tools to succeed from seed to market; no child goes to bed hungry; and no mother walks miles in search of food. The focal policy areas of our Make Malawi Feed Malawi Campaign shall include the following:

- a) Affordable fertilizer and affordable input programme.
- b) Strategic management of national food reserve and strategic grain banks.
- c) Intensification of climate-smart agriculture and irrigation.
- d) Promotion of large-scale commercial farming and agri-business support.
- e) Introduction of village-based food security programmes.
- Strengthening agricultural cooperatives f) and market access.
- Enacting food security legislation and g) governance.
- h) Promoting fisheries and livestock development.
- i) Promoting "Proudly Malawian" food labelling.
- i) Promoting agricultural innovation and home-grown solutions.

- Engage the private sector, NGOs and k) donor partners in a collective food security agenda.
- I) Investing in research and technology in institutions of higher learning.
- m) Offer the Nkhokwe Tax Discount in exchange for donations of excess food.
- n) Public messaging about the Make Malawi Feed Malawi Campaign

Through these strategies, we believe Malawi will achieve zero hunger, boost farmers' incomes, and create thousands of jobs in the agricultural sector.

#### 4.1.1 **AFFORDABLE INPUTS PROGRAMME** (AIP)

The MCP government realizes that fertilizer is a critical ingredient for agricultural productivity in Malawi. In addition to ensuring that the right kind of fertilizer is available for various agroecological zones across the country, the MCP government is committed to making farm inputs, especially fertilizer, affordable and accessible to all through the open market and the AIP, which will be continuously improved and reformed to increase its efficiency and effectiveness. The key policy strategies shall include the following:

- Expedite the procurement of fertilizer a) through Government to Government (G2G) agreements to make it available at affordable prices for rain-fed as well as irrigation farming throughout the year.
- Continue with the implementation of AIP b) while continually improving and reforming it to maximize efficiency and effectiveness including working on its exit strategy linked to the provision of affordable agricultural loans through the National Economic Empowerment Fund (NEEF).
- c) Accelerate the establishment of a fertilizer manufacturing plant in the country to lower its cost and ensure that it is widely available within the next three to five years of the next MCP administration.
- d) Promote the use of organic fertilizers alongside inorganic ones to reduce overreliance on the expensive imported fertilizers.

- Enter into a strategic partnership with input e) suppliers to ensure timely delivery of farm inputs as a stop-gap or complementary measure to the G2G fertilizer procurement initiative.
- Introduce targeted subsidies for farmers f) based on land size and needs anchored by a robust production strategy targeting a diversified range of crops such as legumes, rice and even other cash crops.
- Ensure that extension and veterinary g) services for both crop and livestock production are widely accessible to farmers including new climate resilient technologies through the revival of the Ministry of Agriculture's research facilities across the country.
- h) Increase the number of extension workers to 10,000 in the next 5-10 years to ensure that our farmers are adequately served with extension services to drive the agricultural transformation agenda.
- Ensure that all extension workers reside i) in their respective areas of duty within the Extension Planning Areas (EPAs) and provide them with the necessary tools to enable them work effectively, including housing, transport, demonstration plots, among others.

#### 4.1.2 NATIONAL FOOD RESERVE AND **STRATEGIC GRAIN BANKS**

The MCP government will ensure that Malawi maintains adequate food in its Strategic Grain Reserves (SGR) to guarantee availability even in tough seasons, reducing hunger and famine. As a pioneer of the SGR, the MCP government will further consolidate the reform efforts targeted at the National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) to ensure that its operations guarantee food availability, national and household food security at all times. The reforms that the MCP government is implementing shall guarantee food security and national stability. The reforms will ensure that the reserves act as a buffer stock against market failures, supply grains during times of crisis, and help stabilize prices. The

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main policy measures that the MCP government will take to consolidate these reforms include the following:

- a) Expand and modernize Agricultural Development and Marketing Cooperation (ADMARC) and National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) storage facilities with climate-resilient designs.
- Strengthen the ability of ADMARC and NFRA b) to stockpile over 200,000 metric tons of maize and other grain staples at any given time to ensure national food security.
- Create community grain banks in every c) district to store food to reduce post-harvest losses, ensure efficiency and effectiveness in food access, marketing and distribution during times of need.
- d) Work with institutions such as Farmers Union of Malawi (FUM), the National Association of Smallholder Farmers of Malawi (NASFAM), and others to encourage a culture of cooperative farming building on the irrigation schemes that the government is either rehabilitating or building across the country as well as collective storage to minimize postharvest losses estimated at 35%.
- Link food reserves management with the e) Malawi Vulnerability Assessment (MVAC) forecasts and early warning systems.
- Integrate Agricultural f) the Commercialization (AGCOM) project to reserve supply chains with commercial farming efforts.
- g) Continue ensuring fair producer prices so that farmers can benefit from their hard work.

#### 4.1.3 **CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE** AND IRRIGATION EXPANSION

It is no longer debatable; climate change is essentially an existential threat to the long-term viability of the Malawi state with potential serious consequences including economic losses, food insecurity and increased poverty. Malawi has experienced 16 major floods, a rainfall-related landslide, five storm

disasters and two severe droughts since 2010. The World Bank estimates that climate change could reduce Malawi's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 3-9% by 2030 and push 2 million more Malawians into poverty within the next decade. Moreover, as high as 90% of Malawians rely exclusively on rain-fed agriculture, which is heavily impacted by floods and droughts. The MCP government takes the threats posed by climate change seriously underlined by its commitment to the finalization and enactment of the climate change policy framework and the Disaster Risk Reduction legislative framework. The MCP government is committed to securing Malawi's future by transforming agriculture through climate smart irrigation, protecting our natural resources, and empowering communities with tools and knowledge to thrive in a changing climate. The MCP government commits to undertake the following:

- Accelerate the rehabilitation and a) establishment of new irrigation facilities across the country targeting to reduce the proportion of Malawians relying exclusively on rain-fed agriculture from 90% currently to 60% within the next five years.
- Provide affordable solar-powered water b) pumps to smallholder farmers individually or as cooperatives to enhance their productivity capacity.
- Promote drought tolerant and fastc) growing crops such as castor oil, drought tolerant maize varieties, Nerica Upland rice, legumes, finger millet, sorghum suited to Malawi's climate through revamping the Ministry of Agriculture's research and technology infrastructure.
- d) Invest in reforestation, agro-forestry and conservation agriculture to restore soil fertility especially among smallholder farmers.
- Establish a National Climate and Irrigation e) Fund to leverage donor and private capital to promote climate friendly technologies and farming.
- f) Empower Malawians to take part in climate and water solutions by integrating climate education in school curricula and adult training and agricultural research for climate resilient seeds and techniques.
- g) Conserve the country's natural resources and biodiversity, which will also optimise the potential benefits from the carbon markets.

# MEGA FARM

KATSU

Expanding agricultural productivity for both domestic consumption and export markets



#### LARGE SCALE COMMERCIAL 4.1.4 FARMING AND AGRIBUSINESS

Through the Mega Farm Initiative and other related initiatives, the MCP government is reviving largescale commercial farming coupled with the requisite agribusiness support for it to flourish. Large-scale farming is designed to increase agricultural production, productivity and commercialization as well as to contribute to urbanization and industrialization. It creates jobs, boosts the economy and attracts youth into farming. The other initiatives that are being implemented include: MK20 billion financing from NFRA targeting commercial farmers with 20 hectares or more; MK20 billion financing from ADMARC targeting farmers with a minimum of 5 hectares or ready to do irrigation; MK30 billion NEEF financing for medium-scale farmers desiring to transition into commercial agriculture; and MK 600 billion AGCOM targeting those farmers with ambition to mechanize their farming. The MCP government's ambition is to ensure that large-scale commercial farming accounts for between 25% and 50% of Malawi's growth targets by the year 2030.

MCP's commitment to large-scale farming is a Malawi where no one goes to bed hungry, where the youth are employed in thriving modern farms, and where we export what we grow and not our jobs. With large-scale, well-managed farms, the MCP government believes that we can stop relying on imports and grow what we eat right here at home. With viable agribusiness support, the MCP government is committed to reducing poverty, empowering women and youth while also fostering innovation and technology adoption in the agricultural sector. A well-fed, working Malawi is a strong Malawi. Key policy priorities to achieve this vision shall include the following:

- In partnership with the private sector, a) continue to establish and support commercial farming estates in every region across the country for large-scale food production.
- b) Offer tax incentives and funding opportunities for agribusiness investors to enhance its catalytic role in improving food security, strengthening rural economies, driving economic growth and contributing to sustainable practices.

- Continue to engage companies such as c) Illovo and Salima Sugar, other private sector players such as Press Agriculture, Pyxus Agriculture and other partners such as institutions of higher learning (LUANAR, Mzuni), prison services and Malawi Defence Forces in contract commercial production to produce dedicated tonnage through winter cropping to ensure ready availability of maize.
- Expedite the transformation of NEEF into d) an agricultural bank to provide loans to farmers at an affordable cost for both micro and macro-production, industrialization of the agricultural sector, and marketing of the agricultural produce.
- e) Ensure that all facilities under the Mega Farm Initiative, namely: off-taker linkages; farm mechanisation; supplementary affordable irrigation; input; farm management; youth incubation; and policy are fully operationalized to make large scale farming viable.
- f) Train youth and women in agribusiness and modern farming techniques for them to fully benefit from the large-scale agricultural revolution.
- Develop small-scale processing plants in g) all districts across the country for products like maize flour, cooking oil, peanut butter, tomato sauce, dhal (from pigeon peas) to reduce food imports, enhance disposable income, nutritional value and create jobs for local communities.

### **VILLAGE BASED FOOD SECURITY** 4.1.5 PROGRAMMES

The MCP government is determined to move Malawi to zero hunger within the next five years. The next MCP government will introduce village-based food security programmes that shall ensure that every village can feed itself, no child sleeps hungry, no family fears drought, and no community is left behind. Through these programmes, the MCP government shall ensure that local farmers are empowered with the right tools, knowledge and

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support so that Malawi grows from its roots, not just from its cities. Village food security programmes are crucial because they directly address hunger and malnutrition, improve health, and contribute to overall social and economic stability. Under this initiative, every Malawian village will have the power, the tools and the support to feed itself because food security is national security. The MCP government believes that every Malawian has the right to affordable, nutritious food and that begins in the village. With access to good seeds, fertilizers and extension workers, village farmers can feed the nation and build wealth in their communities. To end the cycle of hunger through the village-based food security programmes, the MCP government commits to do the following:

- Establish a) and support village-level irrigation schemes using solar powered pumps and gravity fed systems.
- b) Expand backyard garden initiatives with training and starter packs working with NGOs already promoting this initiative.
- Establish Smart Villages which will have c) village-based demonstration farms to showcase modern, climate-smart farming across the country.
- Construct community grain banks in d) food insecure areas, managed by local appropriate committees with local government oversight and technical backstopping.
- Create youth for food programmes e) combining farming with entrepreneurship and agri-tech.
- Establish Village Food Security Committees f) under traditional leaders and village heads to oversee annual food production and storage planning.
- Integrate food security targets in Area g) Development Committees (ADCs) and District Councils across the country.
- h) Publicly publish district food security reports to provide transparency and competition as an integral part of accelerating efforts to ensure that every Malawian is adequately fed.

### 4.1.6 STRENGTHENING AGRICULTURAL **COOPERATIVES AND MARKET** ACCESS

The MCP government is committed to improving and transforming the welfare of farmers as it subscribes to agriculture as the economic heartbeat of the country. For the last five years, the MCP government has worked hard to raise prices of farm produce after years of neglect of our hardworking farmers struggling with low and exploitative prices and limited market access. Building on these ongoing efforts and buoyed by our initial success, the next MCP government is committed to empowering farmers by promoting vibrant cooperatives and guaranteeing market access. Functional cooperatives play a crucial role in market access for farmers, particularly smallholder farmers, enabling them to collectively pool resources, negotiate better prices, and access to larger markets. The MCP government strongly believes that its time to shift from subsistence to surplus, from isolation to collaboration to ensure fair markets, better markets and improved incomes for farmers. Key policy priorities for the MCP government shall include the following:

- Promote professionalization of a) cooperatives through capacity building and training focusing on such areas as financial management, marketing, leadership, and conflict resolution.
- b) Improve cooperatives' access to finance through innovative solutions such as microfinance, cooperative banks, and government backed credit schemes.
- Encourage financial institutions to develop c) tailored financial products for cooperatives such as group loans or credit guarantees.
- d) Encourage cooperatives to engage in value-addition activities such as processing, packaging, and branding to increase their competitiveness and capture a larger share of the value chain.
- Provide policy support to cooperatives e) in areas such as land tenure, access to finance, market regulation and trade.
- f) Promote partnerships and collaboration

between cooperatives, the private sector and development partners to scale up the impact of cooperatives.

- g) Invest in rural storage, processing and transport infrastructure to cut postharvest losses and market access.
- Ensure that farmers receive real-time market data, weather updates, and mobile access to market prices for them to make informed decisions and reduce exploitation.

- Ensure that ADMARC markets start buying produce early during the crop harvest time since now it has the capacity to dry grain in its warehouses.
- j) Ensure strict adherence to minimum farmgate produce prices published by the Ministry of Agriculture.

## **Restructuring ADMARC as a Market for Inputs and Produce**

The Chakwera administration is reforming ADMARC to boost its functionality as a market both for inputs and produce after 26 years of neglect, disinvestment and near collapse. The reforms implemented in the last five years have effectively stabilized the operations of ADMARC making it ready to perform its core mandates which include the following: provide readily available markets for smallholder farmers for all agricultural commodities and farm implements; contribute to the implementation of government agricultural policies such as food security and stabilization of the agricultural commodities and services; and contribute to macroeconomic development through the marketing of agricultural commodities, products and services and value addition to agricultural produce for both local and export markets.

Through these reforms, the Chakwera administration is recapitalizing ADMARC to the tune of MK3.3 trillion to guarantee financial sustainability, operational efficiency, increased value addition, market expansion, enhanced stakeholder engagement, human resource performance and administrative efficiency. The goal of the MCP government is to ensure that ADMRC reclaims its position as a leader in agricultural production, marketing and value addition serving not only as a commercial company but also as a trusted partner to the farming community and a cornerstone in Malawi's economic development. More specifically, ADMARC will venture into crop production and contract farming with mega farmers on specific crops; value addition and agro-processing of agricultural commodities; agricultural commodities and inputs trading ensuring availability of markets and export of commodities; and adoption of digital transformation to ensure efficient and effective operations.

Under the leadership of President Chakwera, ADMARC intends to invest in the following value addition facilities: maize flour milling factory; pre-packaging factory for rice, groundnuts and dry beans; rice colour sort machine for rice for both export and local market; commissioning of the 2 dhal factories in Liwonde and Luchenza that have been idle since 2017; cornflakes making machine to process maize into cornflakes; soya pieces making machine; groundnut sheller to enable ADMARC to buy unshelled groundnuts from farmers; cassava flour processing plant (4Mt/hr); biomass pellets making machine; multi seed oil expeller; peanut butter and confectionary production factory; and maize drying machines which will enable ADMARC to buy maize and other grains soon after harvest thereby reducing post-harvest losses.

### NUTRITION PROGRAMMES FOR 4.1.7 SCHOOLS AND VULNERABLE GROUPS

The MCP government takes nutrition programmes for schools as a critical entry point for a viable and robust social protection system in the country. During the last five years, the MCP government has fully embraced social protection reorienting the policy framework from labelling it social support to social protection. The MCP government believes that as Malawi confronts escalating vulnerabilities from climate change, economic instability, and persistent poverty, there is need to adopt comprehensive policies to strengthen its social protection system. It further recognizes that a nation's strength lies not only in its resources but in how it uplifts the vulnerable amongst its people.

The MCP government is committed to propagating a Malawi which is resilient and where social safetynets are strong, inclusive, and proactive thereby breaking the cycle of poverty and shielding families from shocks. Our commitment to social protection is not charity; it is justice as we believe that a protected people are a productive people. Consequently, the MCP government sees nutrition not as an expense, but an investment in Malawi's future as a critical lever for human capital development as expressed in Malawi 2063 Vision. MCP's key policy priorities shall include the following:

- Provide hot, nutritious meals in every public a) primary school boosting attendance, performance, and health within the next five years.
- Expand food and nutrition assistance for b) child-headed families, lactating mothers, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, those often forgotten in times of scarcity.
- Source school and community meals from c) Malawian farmers, especially women and youth to stimulate local economies while feeding our people.
- End chronic nutrition in most affected d) districts through fortified foods, early childhood feeding programmes and aggressive malnutrition screening by 2030.
- Invest in public campaigns e) and

community-based education to promote smart, sustainable nutrition habits across all age groups.

- f) Expand and protect access to essential healthcare, quality education, and safe water for all, especially vulnerable groups.
- Scale-up targeted cash transfers to g) combat child poverty and malnutrition across the country.
- Ensure that women and youth have tools to h) thrive not just to survive through targeted skills programmes, financial inclusion, and safety nets.
- i) Implement policies that ensure that persons with disabilities, including persons with albinism live with dignity, free from discrimination and economic exclusion.
- Invest in systems that protect livelihoods j) before crises hit and not after including introducing elderly pension in conformity with the newly Older People Pension Act.
- k) Allocate sufficient budget to the Department of Disaster and Management Affairs (DODMA) to procure and distribute maize to the most vulnerable households and communities across the country.
- I) Rachet the operational agility of DODMA by strategically prepositioning food supplies in high risk areas to ensure prompt response when disaster strikes.

#### 4.1.8 FOOD SECURITY LEGISLATION AND GOVERNANCE

The MCP government considers food security legislation and governance a priority because the problem of enduring hunger in Malawi is not entirely a failure of nature but also a failure of policy, planning and political will. The MCP government is committed to end this cycle of vulnerability by establishing a legally binding food security framework that ensures access to affordable, nutritious food for every Malawian regardless of income, location or season. We are also committed

to ensuring government prioritizes agriculture, food reserves, and rural livelihoods in national planning and resilience to climate change, droughts, floods, and price shocks through early warning systems and strategic grain reserves.

Food security legislation and governance are crucial because they ensure stable and accessible food supply, which is essential for health, economic and political stability. They establish the rules and standards for food production, processing, distribution, and consumption, ensuring that everyone has access to the food they need. These culminate in a stable and equitable food system in which food security is not dependent on chance, but guided by a strategic mix of institutions, regulations and systematic interventions. The underlying belief of the MCP government is that when we guarantee food for every Malawian, we unlock the full potential of the nation. The policy priorities in food security legislation and governance shall include the following:

- Better policy coordination between and a) among key institutions such as the Ministry of Agriculture, NFRA, ADMARC and the National Food Security Council to ensure seamless implementation of government programmes designed to address food insecurity challenges.
- b) Establish a National Food Security Council mandated to coordinate and oversee grain stock levels, food responses, food pricing, food distribution and nutrition programmes within the next five years.
- c) Integrate food security targets in the Malawi 2063 Vision, annual budgets, District Development Plans (DDPs) and Public Sector Investment Programmes.
- d) Root out any form of corruption from procurement, subsidy programmes and grain reserves coupled with strict enforcement of sanctions provided for in the law.
- Make Strategic e) Grain Reserves management transparent and accountable by defining minimum and maximum stock levels, procurement procedures, and release criteria.

- Establish Local Food Security Committees f) to monitor household food access, enforce rights, flag local shortages, and participate in budget planning and feedback loops and stability.
- Create an independent Food Security g) Ombudsman (FSO) office within the framework of the National Food Security Council to investigate fraud and rights violations in food security matters.
- Enact Special Food Crops Act to guide h) production, management and marketing of food crops in pursuit of food security for every Malawian at all times.

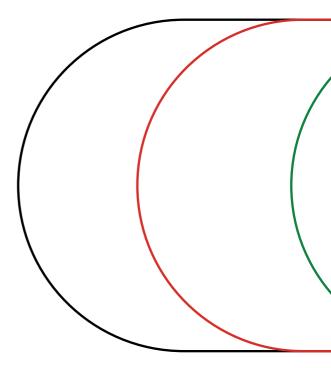
#### FISHERIES AND LIVESTOCK 4.1.9 DEVELOPMENT

Even though the fisheries and livestock sectors are underdeveloped, they play a critical role to the country's economic development, which the MCP government believes has to be fully exploited to power and drive Malawi's development revolution as envisioned in the Malawi 2063 Vision. Over 2 million Malawians depend directly on fishing for their income, food and livelihoods, and fish provides over 40% of Malawi's dietary animal protein. Consequently, the MCP government believes that Malawi's lakes, rivers, and fish dams hold the key to a new blue economy that can feed Malawians, empower the youth and earn forex. Livestock is key to food security, income generation, soil fertility, and resilience against climate shocks. The paradox is that while 70% of the rural households keep livestock, its contribution to the country's GDP is estimated at about 3%. Yet, the global demand for meat, milk and animal products is rising, which means Malawi is missing out on this opportunity by still importing a wide range of animal products into the country. Moreover, livestock is more than just animals; it is wealth in motion; nutrition in hooves; and hope for tomorrow. This is in sync with MCP's belief that livestock is the backbone of rural prosperity and it is therefore committed to working tirelessly to unleash its full potential. The key policy priorities in the fisheries and livestock sectors shall include the following:

## **Fisheries Sector**

- Work with communities to enforce a) regulations against the use of illegal fishing gear and prevent the destruction of breeding grounds.
- Encourage fish farming in both ponds and b) cages to diversify income streams and reduce pressure on wild fish.
- Implement a fisheries strategy that c) focuses on sustainable management of both capture fisheries and aquaculture to improve food security, livelihoods and economic growth.
- d) Support communities in adapting to climate-smart fishing practices and adapting to changing weather patterns.
- Encourage fish processing and packaging e) to increase the value of fish products.
- Rehabilitate wetlands and spawning f) community-based grounds through conservation.
- Promote research on fish biology, fisheries g) management, and climate change.

- Invest in research to develop new f) technologies and practices, and provide extension services to farmers.
- g) Establish a Livestock Development Fund offering microloans, grants, and insurance tailored for small-scale livestock farmers.
- Promote livestock integration with crop h) farming to improve soil fertility and resilience.
- Introduce a National Livestock Disease i) Surveillance System with real time tracking of outbreaks.
- Introduce rural mobile vet clinics to reach i) even remote areas across the country
- Recruit and deploy more veterinary k) professionals and animal health technicians in every EPA.
- I) Enforce strict regulation of veterinary services to ensure that farmers are protected from the proliferation of personnel offering these unqualified services.



## Livestock Sector

- Rehabilitate and livestock a) restock multiplication centres to ensure consistent supply of quality breeding stocks for farmers.
- Rehabilitate dipping tanks and promote b) strategic dipping programmes to combat diseases.
- Support the processing and value-adding c) of livestock products to increase income.
- d) Ensure that veterinary services are readily available and affordable to farmers.
- Invest in roads, storage facilities, and e) other infrastructure to support livestock production and marketing.

5.0 JOB CREATION: **JOBS4ALL-JOBS4LIFE** 



# 51 SETTING THE **CONTEXT FOR JOB CREATION**

Using the 2019 employment figures as a baseline, the MCP government has delivered on its one million job promise in the 2020 electoral campaign. The Chakwera administration has created over 2,408,634 formal jobs in various key sectors of the economy<sup>1</sup>. While a strong and solid foundation has been created for sustainable job creation, the MCP government remains concerned with the high levels of unemployment, particularly among the youth. Working with the private sector, the MCP government commits to adopt practical, high impact strategies that stimulate investment, entrepreneurship and skills development.

The next MCP government's drive to create jobs for Malawians shall be anchored by the Jobs4Life concept that represents an unprecedented commitment to long-term, sustainable job creation. This concept will transform Malawi's employment landscape by creating an enabling economic environment where every Malawian, regardless of background, has access to dignified and lasting work opportunities. Central to this vision is a strategic shift toward deeper private sector engagement, with government not only facilitating business growth but also co-investing in strategic industries such as mining and agro-processing through the establishment of national entities like the Malawi Mining Company (MAMICO) and the MDC Holdings (MDC).

The MCP government's goal is to ensure that job creation is not seasonal or reactive, but systemic and future-proof, laying the foundation for Malawi to transition into a wealthy, self-reliant, and inclusive middle-income economy in alignment with Malawi 2063 Vision. The key policy focus areas shall include the following: investing in education and skills development; boosting agriculture and agroprocessing; expanding infrastructure development; promoting industrialization and manufacturing; supporting Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and youth entrepreneurship; expanding technical and vocational training; strengthening digital economy and remote work; attracting foreign direct investment; investing in green jobs and climate smart initiatives; and institutional development of the Ministry of Labour.

#### 5.1.1 INVESTMENT IN EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Education and skills are crucial for an economy's long-term growth and development as they build human capital, boost workforce productivity and foster innovation. The MCP government will prioritize investing in education and skills development in agriculture, tourism, mining and manufacturing (ATM+M) as sectors that have been particularly singled out as primary drivers of Malawi's fundamental structural transformation. The MCP government is committed to improving the capabilities particularly of the youth to engage in ATM+M through strategic investments in education reform, skills development, and entrepreneurship. The Chakwera administration believes that investing in education and skills development is a fundamental investment in the future of an economy as it not only benefits individuals, but also contributes to broader society well-being and longterm economic prosperity. Key policy priorities shall include the following:

- Undertake a comprehensive audit of the ATM+M sectors to identify and forecast the human resource requirements to power Malawi's fundamental structural transformation so as to plan for the requisite investment in the appropriate education and skills.
- b) Prioritize industry responsive education as a cornerstone for the job creation agenda through regular labour market trend analysis to align the needs of the strategic sectors specifically and to labour market generally.
- c) Invest in robust research and development, particularly in the ATM+M sector, and collaborate closely with the private sector to ensure that academic programmes align with market demands.
- d) Create and expand training programmes that equip individuals with skills demanded by the ATM+M sectors including vocational training and apprenticeships.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Statistics from the Ministry of Labour

- e) Establish strong partnerships between educational institutions and business to ensure curricula align with industry needs and provide practical learning opportunities.
- f) Introduce new courses and programs tailored to the emerging mining sector, positioning young people to seize opportunities in what is poised to become Malawi's next major growth industry.
- g) Integrate entrepreneurial skills and knowledge into educational programmes to encourage individuals to start their own business.
- Promote the idea that learning is a lifelong process, encouraging individuals to continuously update their skills and knowledge.
- i) Partner with private companies to develop training programmes, providing practical experience and industry insights.

# 5.1.2 BOOSTING AGRICULTURE AND AGRO-PROCESSING

The MCP government is committed to boosting agriculture and agro-processing to catalyze job creation, especially since agriculture employs over 70% of the population. Transforming agriculture into a commercial and value-adding sector shall create millions of jobs through direct employment opportunities for farmers, agricultural workers and those involved in related services like farming equipment maintenance and farm input supply while agro-processing creates additional jobs in manufacturing, packaging and distribution. Moreover, the agricultural sector has a multiplier effect, creating jobs in related industries such as logistics, transportation, and trade. The commitment of the Chakwera administration is to turn every harvest into a job, every farm into a business and every rural area into a hub of opportunity. It is about growing better, adding value and building wealth that stays in the communities. Specific policy initiatives shall include the following:

- a) Support smallholder farmers with financing, irrigation systems and modern farming techniques to increase productivity.
- Encourage local processing of crops like maize, tea and sugarcane to add value and create factory jobs.
- c) Promote the cultivation of labour intensive crops, such as fruits, vegetables,

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and horticultural products to create employment opportunities in rural areas.

- Provide financial and tax incentives to encourage the establishment of agroprocessing facilities, especially in rural areas.
- e) Foster partnership between the private sector, agricultural producers, and agroprocessing businesses to strengthen value chains and create opportunities.
- f) Support the growth of SMEs through access to finance, technical assistance and market linkages.
- g) Develop training programmes that equip individuals with the skills needed for agro-processing including quality control, packaging and storage.
- Support youth led agricultural and agroprocessing enterprises through access to finance, land and technical assistance.
- Promote gender equality in agriculture and agro-processing by ensuring equal access to land, resources and opportunities for women.

# 5.1.3 EXPANDING INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

The next Chakwera administration shall, building on the success of the first term of office, launch a national infrastructure push that will put Malawians to work, building the Malawi that we all desire and deserve. The MCP government believes that infrastructure is not just a developmental goal; it is a job creation engine since every road built, every bridge raised, every power line installed is a job created, a life changed, and a future secured. Infrastructure development directly generates jobs for workers, while indirectly, investments in infrastructure such as roads and utilities boost related sectors like agriculture, tourism, mining, manufacturing, transportation and energy leading to further job creation. In the long-term, infrastructure development enhances productivity, improves competitiveness, and facilitates trade, ultimately supporting sustainable economic growth and job creation. Key policy strategies that the next MCP government shall deploy include the following:

 a) Use large-scale infrastructure projects such as roads, bridges, public transport systems, and digital networks to create thousands of jobs using local labour and local materials wherever possible.

- Promote urban renewal and affordable b) housing projects as an integral part of the urbanization agenda as stipulated in the Malawi 2063 Vision creating employment for thousands in construction, brick making, and related industries.
- c) Prioritize youth employment in public works through training and guaranteed placements in infrastructure projects across the country.
- d) Develop rural infrastructure to open up markets, reduce transport costs, link farmers and small businesses to economic opportunities.
- e) Establish public-private partnerships that unlock investment in energy, water, housing, transport with job quotas for local workers.
- Provide preferential treatment to local f) contractors, encouraging the use of locally sourced materials, and supporting local suppliers.
- Promote joint venture models between g) local and foreign contractors in all major infrastructure projects to facilitate skills transfer, financial inclusion, among others.
- Invest in skills development programmes h) to ensure a skilled workforce to meet the demands of infrastructure projects and promote long-term career opportunities.
- Promote the use of pension funds and i) other soft-loans to promote investments in infrastructure development.

## 5.1.4 **PROMOTING MANUFACTURING** AND INDUSTRIALIZATION

The MCP government has taken several initiatives to revamp, harness and promote manufacturing and industrialization since coming to power in June 2020 including the establishment of industrial parks in the cities of Blantyre, Lilongwe and Mzuzu. This is imperative because Malawi heavily depends on imports in which case developing vibrant local industries will create jobs, save foreign exchange and boost exports. The MCP Government believes that it is time to build a nation where products stamped "Proudly Malawian" are made by thousands of Malawians in thriving industries across the country. Manufacturing and industrialization are crucial because they provide a pathway out of poverty and enables countries to transition to higher income levels by creating productive and

decent paying jobs. The commitment of the next MCP government is to build a Malawi that produces, competes and employs. Key strategies shall include the following:

- a) Prioritize infrastructure projects that directly support industrialization such as roads, railways, ports, and energy grids.
- Create a predictable and stable regulatory b) environment that encourages investment.
- c) Accelerate the operationalization of industrial parks with tax incentives for investors in manufacturing.
- d) Revive the cotton and textile industry to create factory jobs, especially for women and youth.
- Incentivize local production in key sectors e) like textiles, agro-processing, construction, pharmaceuticals, and packaging replacing imports with locally produced goods.
- f) Reduce import dependency by promoting local production of goods such as furniture, electronics, machinery etc.
- education g) Invest in and training programmes to equip the workforce with necessary skills for modern industrial sector.
- Encourage research and development to h) promote technology advancement and innovation in manufacturing processes.
- Develop comprehensive policy i) a framework that integrates various aspects of the economy including agriculture, mining, energy, and finance.
- regulations j) Streamline to reduce bureaucratic hurdles and create a more competitive business environment.
- Promote targeted support to local k) businesses, including access to finance, technology and market information.
- Empower youth and SMEs with access 1) to industrial training, affordable finance and market opportunities to become manufacturers, not just consumers.
- m) Promote regional cooperation to expand markets, attract foreign investment, and facilitate trade.

# 5.1.5 SUPPORTING SMES AND YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Chakwera administration realizes that SMEs and youth entrepreneurship are critical drivers of employment, but struggle due to inadequate entrepreneurial skills, lack offunding and support. This is why, through NEEF, the Chakwera administration has changed the operative context for SMEs and youth entrepreneurship through visionary and bold leadership. Unlike previous administrations that struggled to professionally manage initiatives of this nature, the Chakwera administration has established a transparent, accountable and nonpartisan financing model that is supporting SMEs across the country. The success of NEEF is evident in its impressive loan repayment rate of over 80% reflecting both the integrity of the programme and the impact it is making on people's livelihoods.

With respect to the youth, the Chakwera administration launched the National Youth Service (NYS) in 2022 designed to equip them with skills, discipline and mindset required for meaningful employment and self-reliance. In the 2025-2026 financial year, the Chakwera administration rolled out the Youth Innovation Fund (YIF) to the tune of MK 2 billion to accelerate efforts to equip a critical mass of young people with digital literacy, entrepreneurship, technical and soft skills. This demonstrates the MCP government's unwavering commitment to investing in young people as drivers of national development. Under the management of the National Youth Council (NYC), the YIF is poised to fuel youth-led start-ups, scale high potential innovations, and generate sustainable jobs, especially across the ATM+M strategic sectors. These initiatives underlie the MCP government's belief that the Malawi 2063 Vision demands SMEs and youth led transformation that should catapult Malawi from a job-seeking to a job-creating nation through enterprises that address social problems, improve communities, and promote sustainability. The key policy priorities in the next MCP government shall include the following:

- a) Legislate, through an Act of Parliament, the formation of the National Youth Service.
- b) Scale up the NYS across the country, integrating it into strategic state institutions such as the Malawi Defense Forces, Malawi Prison Services, TEVET colleges etc.
- c) Scale up internships, apprenticeships, and industry led training programmes to ensure that the youth are not only ready to take on jobs, but also create jobs and drive the nation's development through the YIF under the auspices of public-private partnerships.

- d) Scale up the YIF through increased domestic investment (MK10 billion in 2025-2026 financial year) and by leveraging public-private partnerships transforming it into a national platform for innovation led entrepreneurship positioning Malawi's youth not just as job seekers, but also as job creators and innovation leaders in sync with the Malawi 2063 Vision.
- e) Expand access to low-interest loans, grants, and catalytic funding for youth and startups in rural and underserved areas through NEEF, Malawi Agricultural and Industrial Investment Corporation (MAIIC), and strategic initiatives like the Mega Farms project.
- f) Develop incubators and accelerators to help small businesses and start-ups with mentorship, technical assistance, and networking.
- g) Create 200,000 new youth owned businesses by 2030 and reserve 40% of government procurement for youth and women led SMEs.
- h) Create Youth Enterprise Hubs across all the 28 districts, offering training, mentorship, and startup financing under the auspices of the YIF including creation of an SME Credit Guarantee Scheme to de-risk youth led SMEs lending through banks and MFIs.
- Integrate entrepreneurship education into formal education systems from secondary schools to universities.
- j) Establish mentorship programmes that connect experienced entrepreneurs with young aspiring business owners.
- k) Streamline regulations and processes to reduce bureaucratic hurdles for SMEs and youth led enterprises.
- Develop national strategies and policies that support SME development and youth entrepreneurship.
- m) Conductawarenesscampaignstohighlight the importance of entrepreneurship and its benefits for economic growth and job creation.

## 5.1.6 **EXPANDING TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING**

The MCP government commits to prioritize Technical, Entrepreneurial and Vocational Education and Training (TEVET) in its next administration as one of the critical tools for combating youth unemployment that currently hovers around 70%. This commitment is non-negotiable because the MCP government strongly believes that a nation is only as strong as its people, and TEVET offers a realworld hands-on path to income, independence, and innovation. While many youth lack formal education, they can succeed in technical trades like welding, plumbing and carpentry. TEVET equips individuals with skills needed for employment and entrepreneurship, contributing to economic growth and reducing poverty aligned with the ATM+M strategy. In addition, TEVET plays a key role in bridging the skills gap between industry needs and workforce capabilities leading to increased productivity, innovation and competitiveness. The hallmark of TEVET is that it creates a skilled workforce that drives industrial and economic growth as well as inspire the quality of jobs available. The next MCP government commits to undertake the following to unleash the full potential of TEVET in Malawi's fundamental structural transformation:

- a) Build or upgrade at least one TEVET centre in every district by 2035 and introduce mobile TEVET units to reach remote youth and informal workers.
- Launch TEVET Incubation Hubs where b) youth can grow ideas into income and link TEVET with NEEF loans, AGCOM grants, and procurement opportunities.
- c) Establish District Skills Hubs to align TEVET with local industry demands and provide start up toolkits and seed capital to all TEVET graduates who complete business modules.
- d) Recognize and certify artisans and informal sector workers to increase job opportunities and partner with businesses to provide on-job training.
- e) Ensure that TEVET programmes are tailored to the specific skills required by industries and the broader economy through close collaboration with employers to identify skills gaps.
- Implement robust quality control measures f) to ensure that TEVET programmes meet high standards through regular monitoring, accreditation, and continuous improvement of training methodologies.
- Allocate sufficient financial resources to g) TEVET institutions, including funding for infrastructure, equipment, and labour training.

- Support TEVET institutions in offering h) lifelong learning opportunities, including refresher courses, skills upgrades, and vocational training for adult learners.
- i) Integrate environmental sustainability principles into TEVET programmes to promote green skills and sustainable practices.

## 5.1.7 STRENGTHENING DIGITAL ECONOMY AND REMOTE WORK

Building on the Malawi Digital Economy Strategy (2021-2026), the MCP government commits to strengthening digital economy and remote work to create 200,000 jobs in this domain. The strategy aims to create a strong digital ecosystem, leveraging technology for inclusive growth and sustainable development particularly in sectors like agriculture and health. Some of the goals of the strategy are to increase internet usage from 14% to 80% of the population and broadband coverage to 55% of the population by 2026 and double ICT services exports while creating 50,000 new jobs in digitally traded services. The stage is set, and the next MCP government is committed to building a Malawi in which young people earn livelihoods from their phones, businesses run online, and no village is too remote to compete on the global stage. Armed with the 'Malawi in the Cloud: Jobs Without Borders' slogan, the next MCP government will work to unlock the global gig economy to combat unemployment through the following policy initiatives:

- Train and connect 50,000 youth to online a) work platforms, for example, Upwork, Fivirr, Amazon, MTurk etc.
- Certify 100,000 youth in job-ready digital b) courses in partnership with Google, Microsoft, and local universities by 2030.
- Pilot a National Remote Work Programme c) to connect Malawians with remote jobs in customer service, data entry, and coding.
- Create digital skills to build capacity in d) freelance tech, AI, marketing, writing and data services.
- e) Enable local businesses to sell online and access digital payment systems.
- f) Offer free public Wi-Fi zones in partnership with the private sector in all major trading centres and education campuses by 2030 building on the experiences with the Yathu Yathu data initiative
- Provide retraining programmes for workers g) in traditional industries to adapt to the demands of digital economy.

- h) Encourage the development and utilization of online platforms for job searching and online work opportunities.
- i) Ensure that remote work and gig economy jobs are recognized and supported.

#### 5.1.8 **ATTRACTING FOREIGN DIRECT** INVESTMENT

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is a critical source of job creation. In 2023, FDI inflows to Malawi stood at US\$ 208 million according to the United Nations Commission for Trade and Development (UNCTAD) World Development Report. Statistics show that agriculture has consistently attracted the most FDIs, followed by energy and mining, with growing interest in renewable energy projects. These trends coincide with the government priority investment sectors encapsulated in the ATM+M strategy. Malawi has a strong agricultural sector with potential for investment in value-added processing, agro-processing, and export-oriented production; a variety of natural attractions, including Lake Malawi and national parks, which offer opportunities for tourism investment; and significant mineral resources, including rutile, graphite, uranium, and rare earth elements which offer investment opportunities in Malawi. Building on the strong foundations set since June 2020 for the ATM+M strategy as the primary catalyst for Malawi's fundamental structural transformation, the next Chakwera administration commits to transform Malawi into a magnet for ethical, job creating investments that respect our people, builds our industries, and puts Malawians at the centre of prosperity through the following key policy strategies:

- Aggressively market the ATM+M sectors a) through investment forums, missions and promotional activities as well as visa facilitation, streamlined approval processes, and other support services.
- Simplify the process of starting and b) running a business including reducing the time and cost of obtaining permits and licences.
- Ensure clear and predictable regulations c) and laws, and promote transparency in government decision making.
- d) Prioritize investors who commit to local employment quotas, skills transfer, and long-term presence.
- e) Evaluate FDIs not only by capital but also jobs created and Malawians trained underlined by clarity, competitiveness, and

uncompromising on local benefits.

- f) Introduce a Malawi Jobs Incentive Scorecard to rate and reward companies creating quality local jobs.
- Attract anchor investors in textiles, agrig) value chains, pharmaceuticals, and digital tech, each with local supplier integration plans.
- Mandate Malawian understudy h) programmes in all foreign firms with over 50 employees so that FDIs must not just bring money; it must leave behind a more skilled and capable Malawi.
- i) Establish 'Train to Hire' schemes with tax incentives for companies investing in local upskilling.
- Position Malawi as the region's low cost, i) high potential base for export-driven industries.

#### **INVESTING IN GREEN JOBS AND** 5.1.9 **CLIMATE SMART INITIATIVES**

The MCP government considers investment in green jobs and climate-smart initiatives as a priority because Malawi is highly vulnerable to climate change, facing droughts, floods and unpredictable rainfall patterns that directly impact agriculture, which is the backbone of the country's economy. Moreover, over 80% of Malawians rely on agriculture for their livelihoods, which is highly climate sensitive. Climate-smart initiatives help build resilience by promoting sustainable farming, water conservation and renewable energy reducing the negative impacts from extreme weather. The MCP government believes that green jobs and climatesmart initiatives are not just about protecting the environment; they are key to boosting the economy, creating jobs, reducing poverty, enhancing climate resilience, and securing long-term sustainable development. The next MCP government commits to create decent green jobs and build resilience to climate change as avenues to a stronger, vibrant and sustainable economy through the following strategies:

- Launch a National Green Jobs Programme a) to train and employ young people in renewable energy, organic farming, waste recycling, and forest restoration.
- Create Green Innovation Hubs in every b) region to support youth-led climate solutions and green houses.
- Incentivise every household to plant at c)

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TAKING OUR DEVELOPMENT FORWARD

least 10 trees per year, translating to 100 million trees nationwide in the next 5 years and restore degraded forests and river banks by 2030.

- d) Provide financial incentives for survival and protection of trees thereby creating jobs for youth and attract further investments through carbon markets.
- e) Establish new large-scale tree plantations such as across Zomba mountain, Ntcheu mountain, Michiru forest, Mughese forest in Inkosi Mbelwa, among others, which will be linked to carbon markets.
- f) Implement policies that encourage green investments such as tax breaks or subsidies for businesses adopting sustainable practices and green technologies.
- Create favourable regulatory g) a environment that promotes environmental sustainability, including green building codes, regulations on waste management and policies for renewable energy.
- Ensure that Malawi's National Climate h) Investment Plan, which focuses on adaptation, mitigation, and capacity building is effectively implemented.
- Develop training programmes that equip i) individuals with the skills needed for green jobs, including renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and environmental conservation.

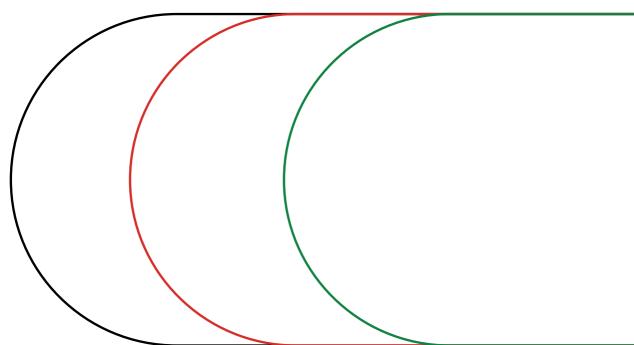
Support agriculture j) climate-smart practices, such as improved farming techniques, crop diversification, and agroforestry to enhance productivity.

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k) Invest in research and development of innovative solutions for climate change adaptation and mitigation.

# 5.1.10 INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR

The MCP government realizes that the Jobs4Life agenda cannot come to fruition without an agile, progressive and dynamic Ministry of Labour at the helm. The next MCP government therefore commits to transform the Ministry of Labour into a fit-for-purpose entity to drive and preside over the Jobs4Life agenda by ensuring that it is capable of using digital tools to streamline processes, fostering partnerships with the private sector, and implementing demand-driven skills development programmes. The reconfigured Ministry is expected to prioritise adaptability, responsiveness, and collaboration thereby ratcheting its ability to adjust its policies and programmes quickly in response to changes in the labour market and economic conditions. With a retooled Ministry of Labour championing the Jobs4All-Jobs4Life agenda, the next MCP government commits to create at least 3,000,000 jobs within the next five years as shown in Table 1 bnext page:



## Table 1: Jobs Creation between 2025 and 2030

No	Sector	Anchor Theme (Malawi 2063)	Estimated Jobs	Comments
1	Agriculture	Agricultural productivity, commercialization, mechanization, diversification, irrigation	1,000,000	Projects in fisheries, crop production, plantations, livestock
2	Tourism	Private sector dynamism, infrastructure development	250,000	Projects being implemented by listed hospitality establishments
3	Mining	Investments in mining and promotion of small scale and artisanal mining	140,000	Mining investments along with formalization of small scale and artisanal mining through creation of structured markets for gemstones and other minerals.
4	Manufacturing	Value addition to mineral and agriculture resources	500,000	Mining and increased agriculture value addition
5	Energy	Electricity generation & supply; oil & gas development	20,000	Solar & hydro power projects plus upstream activities on oil and gas
6	Construction	Infrastructure development	500,000	From both public and private sector infrastructure projects
7	Financial services & telecommunications	Private sector dynamism, human capital development	50,000	Investment in the telecoms sector and expansion of financial services
8	Climate Change	Environmental restoration, adaption of livelihoods, green financing	320,000	Rehabilitation of protected forests and wetlands, clean cooking technologies etc
9	Internships	Cross cutting	50,000	There is increasing recognition of providing internships in the private sector
10	Wholesale & retail	Private sector dynamism	150,000	Projects to expand processing and retailing facilities
11	Security Cluster	Public security agencies	20,000	Government making funds available for the recruitment
	Total		3,000,000	

This will be achieved because, a fit-for-purpose Ministry of Labour, should be adaptive, responsive and data driven, while aligning with national development goals and realities of the labour market. The Ministry will be appropriately equipped to rely on data driven analysis to identify emerging skills gap, job market trends, and the needs of business. Through the institutional reconfiguration and capacity building, the Ministry will improve its capacity to track job creation across the country; maintain a comprehensive employers' database to identify those who may suppress jobs created in order to evade paying the TEVET levy; enact a legal framework that incentivizes accurate reporting on job creation; and improve its ability to collect data on associated jobs created within the ecosystems of major projects so as to understand the full extent the multiplier effects on employment growth.

In addition to the key areas for driving job creation already outlined in this pillar, the MCP government believes that the following: job creation fund, national youth employment scheme; job readiness programmes; and labour export initiatives give the Jobs4Life agenda a further boost that will ensure that every Malawian has an opportunity to work and contribute to the fundamental structural transformation of the country culminating in prosperity for all. The Chakwera administration has laid a strong foundation for government sponsored internship programme to progressively expand it and improve conditions of engagement. The experience with the labour export initiatives to Israel and United Arab Emirates provides useful insights for systematizing its implementation to achieve strategic outcomes for both recruits and the country. Through the Ministry of Labour, the next MCP government shall undertake the following actions in these strategic areas:

## **Job Creation Fund**

- Establish a government-backed fund that a) offers low-interest loans to businesses and entrepreneurs that demonstrate job creation potential, especially in underserved regions across the country.
- b) Provide grants, loans, or equity financing to SMEs, which are major job creators in Malawi helping them expand operations, hire more staff, and increase productivity.
- Offer start-up capital, mentorship, c) and business incubation services to entrepreneurs, encouraging new business creation and job opportunities.
- Channel funding into labour intensive d) sectors like agriculture, agro-processing, manufacturing, and construction, which have high potential for creating jobs.

Regularly assess the impact of the job creation fund to ensure that interventions are effective and to identify areas for

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## **Job Readiness Programmes**

improvement.

e)

- job Introduce nationwide readiness a) programmes that train unemployed people on job search techniques, interview skills, and work ethics.
- Use labour market driven data to inform b) policy development and ensure that skills training programmes are aligned with employer needs.
- Develop online job boards and other c) platforms that match job seekers with suitable employment opportunities.
- Implement programmes that focus on d) developing in-demand skills such as digital literacy, entrepreneurship, and technical skills in agriculture and infrastructure.
- Establish a robust system for collecting e) and analysing labour market information, including data on job vacancies, skills gaps and wage levels.

### National Youth Employment Scheme

- Collaborate with private sector employers a) to offer internships, apprenticeships, and guaranteed job placements for those who complete the requisite training.
- Enforce mandatory retirement age to b) allow upward mobility of youth in formal employment.
- c) Implement supportive policies that encourage job creation such as tax incentives for businesses that hire young people.
- d) Support youth with new ideas, innovations, and early stage businesses through funding and support systems.
- Provide practical, job-relevant training to e) out-of-school youth and youth already in the workforce.

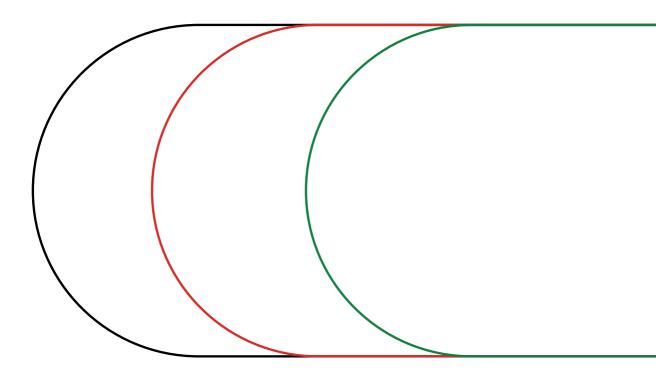
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## Job Placement/Internship Programmes

- a) Continue and expand government sponsored internship programmes that provide graduates with practical work experience in various sectors to bridge the gap between theory and practice and increase employability.
- Foster collaborations between educational institutions and businesses to ensure that curriculum aligns with industry needs and that graduates are equipped with relevant skills.
- c) Encourage universities to establish internship programmes that provide students with real-world experience and enhance their job prospects.
- d) Strengthen career services at universities to provide students with guidance, mentorship, and job placement.
- e) Create online platforms for job postings and networking to facilitate connections between employers and job seekers, including internships and other opportunities.
- f) Organize career fairs to connect job seekers to potential employers and provide networking opportunities.

## Labour Export Initiatives

- a) Ensure a robust legal framework that protects the workers from exploitation and illegal recruitment practices.
- Facilitate the negotiation and signing of bilateral labour agreements with countries where Malawi intends to export labour, ensuring clear terms and conditions.
- c) Invest in training and skills development programmes, including foreign language skills, that align with the needs of the export market, ensuring that workers are prepared for the demands of their jobs.
- d) Encourage transparency in recruitment processes, and strengthen collaboration between government agencies and recruitment agencies to ensure fair and safe working conditions.
- e) Provide clear and comprehensive information to potential recruits about the destination country, working conditions, and their rights, reducing the risk of misunderstandings and exploitation.
- f) Create a formal remittance framework, including incentives for diaspora contributions, to make remittances a key source of foreign exchange and national development finance.



# MADZI A UKHONDO **AFIKIRE KHOMO** LILILONSE

Kutukula miyoyo ya aMalawi kudzera mu madzi a ukhondo



6.0 WEALTH CREATION: **MULTIPLYING** ZIKHWAYA



# 61 **SETTING THE CONTEXT FOR** WEALTH **CREATION**

Through the Malawi 2063 Vision, the MCP led government has fundamentally changed the operative development philosophy from poverty reduction to wealth creation because it realizes that poverty reduction without wealth creation is like draining water from a sinking boat without plugging the hole. At the heart of the MCP government's wealth creation agenda is the ATM+M strategy touted to transform Malawi into an inclusively wealthy and self-reliant industrialized upper middle-income country by 2063. For the MCP government, wealth creation means seeing more and more Malawians becoming Zikhwaya, doing so through building lasting assets, industries, infrastructure, skills and savings that lift people permanently out of poverty with generational wealth to pass on to their progeny. And the multiplication of zikhwaya is a win for everyone, including Government, because in a country whose citizens are creating wealth for themselves, Government collects more domestic revenues for the delivery of services that are needed by all, including education, health, roads and social protection systems, thus shifting from a cycle of handouts to self-sufficiency, from survival to sovereignty.

The goal of the MCP government vis-à-vis the wealth creation agenda is to build Malawi's capacity to value-add what we produce, process what we grow, refine what we mine, and commercialize our culture and creativity. This would, however, requires flagging and addressing the key issues hindering wealth creation. These include widespread poverty, reliance on subsistence agriculture and climate vulnerability, severe macroeconomic imbalances, weak infrastructure and myriad governance challenges. It is the commitment of the MCP government to address these bottlenecks because we believe that wealth creation is not a luxury for Malawi; it is a necessity to spearhead fundamental structural transformation since when wealth creation becomes a norm, Malawi can move from fragility to strength, from dependency to dignity, from survival to success.

Most of the measures that we have outlined to achieve food security and facilitate job creation are inherently wealth creating initiatives with

considerable multiplier effects. However, specifically spotlight measures for wealth creation, the MCP government commits to prioritize the following policy areas: agriculture transformation and commercialization; tourism and creative mining and natural economy; resources development; manufacturing and industrialization; economic management and transformation; infrastructure development and management; and human capital development. We believe that the implementation of these policy initiatives will create wealth for Malawi as quickly as possible that will effectively shield Malawi from the vagaries of climate shocks, global price swings, and donor dependency especially in the context of the remake of the global political economy order.

## 6.1.1 AGRICULTURAL TRANSFORMATION AND COMMERCIALIZATION

Malawi's agricultural sector remains hugely underexploited due to the dominance of the subsistence agricultural sector that is rainfed and relies on outdated technologies. The commitment of the MCP government is to transform and commercialize the agricultural sector on a substantial scale so that it can preside over sustainable wealth creation that empowers its citizens, attracts investment, and reduces reliance on foreign aid. Under the leadership of Dr. Chakwera, we seek to transform our farms into profitable enterprises, our farmers into agripreneurs, and our rural communities into hubs of innovation and economic growth. Numerous initiatives such as AGCOM, Mega Farms, NEEF loans etc. are underway to facilitate the transformation and commercialization of the agricultural sector. In particular, the MCP government will continue to implement special purpose initiatives considered as game changers in wealth creation through transforming the agricultural sector and the overall economy. Key initiatives currently underway include AGCOM, Mega Farm Initiative, and the Shire Valley

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Transformation Programme (SVTP), which seeks to irrigate 43,370 hectares of land by abstracting water from the Shire River at Kapichira and conveying it by gravity to the irrigable area in Chikwawa and Nsanje district through canals. The vision of the MCP government is to link agricultural transformation and commercialization to industrialization and manufacturing, particularly agro-processing since the agricultural sector holds the key to Malawi's fundamental structural transformation as the heartbeat of the economy. The key policy priorities that will be implemented shall include the following:

a) Introduce the **Ten-Ten Makwacha Youth Challenge** linked to training and financial support either directly or through such institutions as MAIIC which provides loans, leases, bonds, guarantees, and other financial services to support entrepreneurial and industrial development by youth in the sectors of Agriculture, Tourism, and Mining.

- b) Establish tailored financing tools, crop insurance and including turning NEEF into an agricultural bank to empower farmers to scale and innovate ensuring that no farmer is held back by lack of capital.
- c) Support over 20,000 medium scale commercial farmers with landholding sizes ranging between 10-99 hectares through the Agricultural Bank, AGCOM and other special initiatives.
- d) Promote customized fertilizer use that is specific to an area, soil types and crops based on the National Fertilizer Soil Map leveraging the release and approval of new fertilizers, such as the nano-foliar fertilizers and the Morocco OCP Africa NPS fertilizers.
- e) Invest in the entire agricultural value chain from farming to processing and global export ensuring that wealth is generated not just in the soil but in every step from farm to market.

# Value Chains for Foreign Exchange Generation

We believe that the Mega Farm Initiative offers us a very rare opportunity to systematically ratchet production that could offer lasting solutions to the persistent foreign exchange challenges. We shall promote Mega Farms and Mega Farmers that invest in value-chains in which we have comparative advantage on the global stage measured by production costs and gross profit margins.

We commit to primarily promote the following value chains: beef production; high value legumes (groundnuts, soya and pigeon peas); rice production; macadamia production, and cotton production. We commit to identify and support at least 5000 Mega Farmers covering all identified value chains, each cultivating not less than 100 hectares and not keeping less than 2000 heads of beef cattle.

We believe that nurturing and supporting these farmers in these value chains will be transformative and epoch making for our agricultural sector. We have found markets for these crops and products ensuring that they are produced to highest possible quality specifications through close monitoring, supervision and technical advice. Potential markets abound: India with 1.43 billion people is a market for pigeon peas and soya; China with 1.41 billion people is a market for soya, tobacco and rice; Gulf states will be targeted for fruits, vegetables, tourism and goats (they require 18 million goats plus a year); and Botswana requires a huge tonnage of maize bran for their livestock.

We already have a solid platform to stand on to spearhead this initiative. Through the Cotton Council of Malawi, we have established 50 aggregation centres fitted with a new Cotton Management Information System (COTMIS); mobilized MK3.9 billion investment from the private sector for cotton production; created 8000 jobs in production and 40,000 more are expected once production increases and processing and value addition commences; farmers are expected to generate MK28 billion in income; and cotton lint and seed exports are projected to bring in US\$ 26.2 million in the 2024/25 growing season. Building on this glowing success, we shall pursue with vigor the Mega Farm Initiative designed primarily to produce for foreign exchange earnings as a clear and promising path to economic prosperity and self-reliance for Malawi.

- Integrate technology into farming to make f) it attractive to youth thereby creating millions of dignified, modern jobs in business, logistics, fintech, and green energy.
- g) Encourage the use of high yielding varieties, drought tolerant crops, improved livestock breeds, fertilizers and other technologies to boost yields, especially in the context of dwindling land per capita.
- Expand irrigation infrastructure to increase h) production and reduce reliance on rainfed agriculture.
- Use digital tools and applications to i) facilitate market access, improve access to information, and enhance financial inclusion.
- Support the formation and development j) of farmer cooperatives to improve their bargaining power and their access to better markets.

## The Ten-Ten Makwacha Youth Challenge

- Invest in feeder roads, storage facilities, k) and processing plants to facilitate access to the trading centres and even beyond.
- I) Advocate for land consolidation wherever feasible in order to promote mechanization as a means of enhancing productivity through efficiency and effectiveness.
- m) Promote agro-processing to add value to agricultural products and create more jobs and income opportunities through reviving such initiatives as One Village One Product (OVOP) and revival of agroprocessing industries through the MDC Holdings with private sector participation where necessary or appropriate.
- n) Promote a model of Small Farm Cities, which will create prosperous economic communities by integrating horticulture, aquaculture, infrastructure, and residential housing across the major cities in the country.

The Chakwera administration is determined to create a new generation of multimillionaires from the entrepreneurial and industrial efforts of young people in the ATM+M sectors. This will drive the transformation of the three sectors in our quest to create lasting wealth for our country. Through the ATM+M Makwacha Youth Challenge, the MCP government shall identify at least 10,000 young men and women distributed across all 229 constituencies in the next five years to undergo a 12-month intensive practical training to obtain skills in farm management, crop production, horticulture, animal production, poultry production, apiculture, hospitality, event management, artisanal mining, licensing, business development, value addition, etc. to equip them for the transformational role in these sectors. These young men and women shall be carefully selected to get only those with interest, passion and zeal to work as progressive entrepreneurs committed to turning themselves into multimillionaires within the shortest time possible.

This initiative will be hosted in idle lands and bases that the Government shall acquire in strategic places specifically for this purpose. At the end of this intensive training, each of these graduates will be given a K10,000,000 loan as seed capital through either a specially established fund or linking them to the agricultural bank or MAIIC to engage in scalable and productive economic activities in one of the key value chains that the Chakwera administration is promoting for accelerated and sustainable wealth creation. They will be provided with the requisite technical support, especially in the early stages of their investment, as we believe that wealth creation is too critical to be left to chance. These youths will anchor the country's wealth creation agenda, guaranteeing fundamental structural transformation and sustainable development as we march towards 2063.

# 6.1.2 MINING AND NATURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

The ambition of the MCP led government is to increase the mining sector's contribution to GDP from the current less than 1% to between 10% and 15% by 2030. This is possible because Malawi is richly endowed with a wide range of mineral resources, including gemstones, gold, coal, limestone, rare earth elements, platinum group minerals, and diamonds. We see the Kasiya rutile and graphite project, touted as the largest known deposit in the world, with its potential for significant annual revenues, as a major opportunity for Malawi. Malawi's Kasiya Rutile-Graphite Project is on track to become a global leader in critical minerals, with projections of \$645 million (K1.2 trillion) in annual revenues over 25 years as compared to about \$350 million annual forex earning from tobacco. Malawi has rich uranium deposits, some of which is already being mined at Kayelekera Uranium mine. With off taker agreements of up to 1.5 million pounds of uranium already secured from 2026 to 2029 the mine will contribute significantly to the national economy.

The MCP led government has taken several significant steps to create a conducive environment for the progressive development of the mining sector in Malawi. Since ascending to power in June 2020, the MCP government has modernized the policy legal framework for the mining sector; established the Mining Authority; and constituted the Malawi Mining Company (MAMICO) to safeguard national interest in the mining sector. These actions taken by the Chakwera administration underlie our belief that Malawi can leverage its natural resources to drive economic growth, create jobs, and improve the livelihoods of its citizens while ensuring sustainable and responsible development. To harness the sector's potential to power inclusive growth, industrial transformation and generational prosperity, the MCP led government commits to undertake the following:

> a) Strengthen the Minerals and Mining ReguratiAuthority to make the regulatory framework of the sector more efficient, transparent and accountable.

- b) Increase the capacity of MAMICO to spearhead the mining of industrial minerals and manage government shareholding including monitoring the progression of existing mining agreement and secure new ones with potential investors as well as negotiating community benefits from mining agreements.
- c) Promote beneficiation as a condition for investment in the sector to guarantee that a substantial proportion of wealth from minerals remain in the country.
- d) Intensify efforts to monetize some of the minerals in order to generate resources necessary for front-loading the development of supporting infrastructure for wealth creation, and to provide stability to exchange rate movements.
- e) Implement systems for accurately recording and managing mineral sector revenues to ensure they are used effectively for public goods.
- f) Strengthen the roles of Parliament and oversight institutions in natural resource governance, including increased information sharing and capacity building.
- g) Engage communities in the planning and implementation of mining projects to ensure their well-being and address potential development issues.
- h) Invest in training and education to build the capacity of the mining sector including support to the artisanal and small-scale miners.
- Establish a structured market for gemstones and other minerals, particularly from artisanal and smallscale miners while in the interim banks will start buying the minerals directly from the miners.

- j) Transform the Department of Mining Engineering into a School of Mining at MUBAS accelerate skills development in the sector.
- k) Actively promote Malawi's mineral sector to attract investment and stimulate growth, but targeting only serious investors with a global reputation for credible dealings in order to maximize benefits from the mining sector.
- I) Champion sustainable, environmentally conscious mining that protects our ecosystems while delivering jobs and infrastructure.

# Value Addition in the Mining Sector

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- m) Establish a Sovereign Wealth Fund to secure the proceeds from mining for all Malawians while strategically investing in schools, clinics, roads and skills to further power the country's transformation.
- n) Undertake a comprehensive valuation of Malawi's mineral wealth and other natural resources to hedge against loans, such as Debt for Nature Swaps, to finance strategic national projects.
- o) Arrange and establish value addition and markets for all artisanal mining activities through commercial bank branches.

We are richly endowed with mineral resources that, if properly harnessed, can spearhead a swift turnaround in our economic fortunes. Our minerals are categorized as follows: basement complex (gold, nickel, platinum, copper, lead, zinc, gemstones, niobium, tantalum, zircon); karoo system (coal, uranium, agates); Chilwa Alkaline Province (rare earth, niobium, manganese, barite, fluorite); and tertiary Pleistocene (oil and gas). While the mining ventures are at different stages of development, we commit to prioritizing value addition in the mining sector in order to maximize benefits for the country's fundamental structural transformation and sustainable development. Our negotiations with potential investors include exploring prospects for value addition locally.

We believe that value addition in the mining sector is critical because it triggers higher market prices for exports; creates job opportunities, attracts new downstream industries; and builds a country's resilience in global supply chains. Our commitment is to go beyond value addition in the manufacture of cement using local limestone. In this particular case, high calcium limestone is mined, crushed, mixed with high coal and clay/iron ore, milled, calcined and mixed with gypsum to form cement. We also shall exploit the mining sector's potential to support and propel our food security agenda. With proper scientific competences, we shall utilize limestone as fertilizer and out of some rare earth deposits in Phalombe and Dowa with high Sulphur content to produce phosphate fertilizer that can power the country's quest for food security for all in the shortest time possible.

### 6.1.3 **ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT AND** TRANSFORMATION

The MCP government inherited an economy that was hurdled by serious debt and other economic malaise such as misrepresentation of economic data. These, coupled with a myriad of other deficiencies, have resulted in Malawi grappling with huge deficits and unsustainable debt hindering economic growth worsened by the increasingly erratic climatic patterns. Weak exports and high import bills lead to enduring foreign exchange shortages while inflationary pressures and price controls undermine the purchasing power of citizens and discourage investment. In addition, poor roads, inadequate electricity, and inadequate communication networks hamper economic activity and corruption erodes public trust, reduces investment, and diverts resources from essential services.

The usual policy prescriptions and remedies have not helped, which is a clear testament that we need a bold and radical approach to how we manage our economy. The MCP government is committed to doing exactly this because we believe that the true measure of a strong economy is not numbers on a spreadsheet, but it is how many lives are uplifted, how many businesses thrive, and how many futures are secured. Our commitment is to manage the economy not just for growth, but transformation, not just for stability, but for shared prosperity. We desire to build a vibrant, inclusive, and competitive economy where every citizen has a stake, and every effort leads to wealth, dignity, and progress. To achieve the dream economy for the country, the MCP commits to do the following:

- a) Undertake a comprehensive revenue audit to establish the full extent of the country's resource base to guide prudent management of the resources for the country's national development.
- Implement a growth strategy rooted in b) productivity, innovation, and inclusion where small businesses grow, local industries rise, and opportunity reaches every corner of the country.
- Restore credibility to public finances c) through bold fiscal and monetary measures, eliminate waste through strict

fiscal discipline, and reorient spending toward catalytic investments in the ATM+M priority sectors including infrastructure, education, energy and technology.

- d) Promote economic diplomacy as the basis for the country's foreign policy in order to facilitate expansion in trade and investments and collaboration on bilateral and multilateral trade agreements.
- e) Unlock creativity and hustle of millions of Malawians turning informal survivalists into formal wealth creators through tax reform, reduced red tape and access to finance.
- f) Create an economy where markets work, but people come first with fair wages, worker protections, and a safety net that supports upward mobility.
- g) Invest in roads, energy and telecommunications infrastructure for connecting markets, facilitating trade, and improving overall efficiency.
- industrial h) Support growth through policies that encourage investment, skills development, and regional integration to create more jobs and high-value production.
- Invest in education, vocational training, i) and skills development to build a skilled labour force and enable people to participate in the modern economy.
- Promote transparency, accountability, i) and good governance practices to create a more stable and predictable business environment, attracting investment and fostering economic growth.
- k) Harness the power of technology, data, and digital infrastructure to leapfrog into the future, creating new sectors, new jobs, and new wealth.
- I) Coordinate donor aid to align with national development priorities and ensure that it is used to achieve sustainable development qoals.

- m) Carefully manage external debt to ensure that Malawi's development efforts are not hampered by unsustainable debt burdens.
- Reduce inflation rates from around 29% at n) the moment to an average 15% in the next three years and further reducing inflation to single digits thereafter.
- o) Reduce interest rates from around 36% at the moment to an average 15% in the next three years by reducing the policy rate from 26% to an average 10% in the next three years.
- p) Stabilize exchange rates by increasing the foreign exchange reserves and make foreign exchange available in the formal financial services sector.
- Increase the foreign exchange reserves to q) a minimum of 6 months import cover by the end of 2026.

# Intensification of Economic Diplomacy as a Lever for Economic Transformation

The Chakwera administration has prioritized economic diplomacy as a powerful tool for economic development by focusing on leveraging on international relations to create opportunities for trade, investment and technological transfer. We have played an active role in fostering peace by contributing our troops and police in peace keeping missions; we have also advanced the crusade on climate change issues by chairing the Least Developing Countries (LDC) group; we have made our position very clear in ending conflicts by promoting dialogue and commitment to the UN Charter; we have opened embassies in various countries in order to foster multilateral and bilateral relations, to promote trade, investments and tourism, among others.

We will continue to strengthen our bilateral relations with all our neighbouring countries and beyond for the mutual benefit our people. Under the Chakwera administration Malawi has restored the cordial relations with our neighbouring countries that had grown frosty in previous administrations. This is evidenced by the provision of land for Malawi to establish its Cargo Centre at the Port of Nacala in Mozambique mirroring a similar investment in Tanzania, both of which will continue to contribute significantly to facilitating Malawi's trade and access to international markets. We will continue to play an active role in multilateral and regional bodies in order to promote trade and investments, and to address various key global and regional issues such as climate change, human rights, poverty, hunger and conflicts. Our goal is diplomatic tools to support domestic businesses, investment, and negotiate favourable trade agreements, ultimately fostering economic growth and job creation.

# 6.1.4 TOURISM AND CREATIVE ECONOMY

Malawi has tremendous potential to turn into a tourist haven because of its natural endowments capped by the Great Lake Malawi, which the Chakwera administration believes is not simply a natural wonder but also a national economic engine that has not been fully utilized. Efforts spearheaded by the MCP led government have seen Malawi restock the Big 5 (the Lion, the Elephant, the Buffalo, the Leopard, and the Rhino) working in partnership with the private sector at Liwonde National Park, Nkhotakota Wildlife Reserve, and Majete Wildlife Reserve. Lake Malawi is home to the largest number of cichlid species in the world, estimated at over a thousand, including some that are only found here. It also hosts a UNESCO World Heritage Site, a beautiful freshwater park where one can enjoy snorkeling in waters that are clear and visible up to ten meters deep. The warmth of Malawians makes Malawi a favourable destination for tourists. The Chakwera administration has taken two momentous decisions to fully open up Malawi for tourism. We have waived visa requirements for close to 100 nationalities across the globe and officially signed the Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM) in February 2025 designed to strengthen connectivity, ease air travel, create new economic opportunities, and foster cultural exchanges across the continent.

The vision of the MCP government is to leverage on tourism to power the creative economy as it enhances community development and helps preserve cultural traditions. Creative initiatives revitalize communities, improve social fabric and foster a sense of belonging. The Chakwera administration believes that Malawians, especially the youth, are creators not just consumers hence our commitment is to promote music, art, culture and film hand in hand with tourism to transform talent into careers, and passion into profit. In sync with the Malawi 2063 Vision, the MCP government will elevate tourism and creative economy into strategic pillars of national development so as to transform what the world admires about Malawi into what every Malawian can prosper from. Our goal is to turn Malawi's natural beauty and creative spirit into a powerful source of jobs, pride, and national wealth so that every song sung, every artwork sold, and every visitor welcomed becomes a step towards prosperity within the framework of Malawi's tourism masterplan. The key policy priorities shall include the following:

a) Invest in lakeside infrastructure, resorts, conference centres and transport to make

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it a global destination and a source of income for lakeshore communities.

- b) Intensify the promotion of community tourism where local guides, dancers, chefs and artisans are direct beneficiaries of tourism income.
- c) Intensify the diversification of the tourism sector going beyond mass tourism to include niche tourism products such as cultural tourism, and ecotourism.
- Increase investment in digitalization of marketing efforts including partnerships with international tour operators to attract more tourists and increase spending.
- e) Prioritize responsible tourism practices that minimize environmental impact and benefit local communities such as rural tourism, investing in local communities through responsible hotel management, adopting sustainable construction and operation practices.
- f) Showcase Malawi's unique cultural heritage through festivals, events and historical sites, and encourage the development of tourism products that highlight local traditions and crafts.
- g) Shift focus from international validation to building a strong local creative economy by developing creative business frameworks that ensure revenue circulates within Malawi.
- h) Invest in diverse creative sector beyond music, including film, animation, gaming, fashion and performing arts.
- i) Integrate creative disciplines into education from early childhood to university to nurture creative talent.
- j) Connect Malawian creatives to African and global markets, enabling them to showcase their work and access opportunities.
- k) Improve port facilities across the country, including air and water port services, with the procurement of new water vessels, which will facilitate movement along Lake Malawi thereby increase domestic and international tourism.
- Effectively market Malawi as a destination for both tourism and creative industries, showcasing its unique attractions and cultural richness, using the "Xperience Malawi" brand initiative to place tourism

TAKING OUR DEVELOPMENT FORWARD

at the intersection of everything Malawi, including trade, investment, digital marketing, and diplomacy.

- m) Regularly review the National Tourism policy to guide the development and promotion of the tourism aiming for a globally competitive industry.
- n) Construct investor funded lakeside state-of-the-art sports and recreational facilities in Mangochi, Salima, Nkhotakota, Nkhatabay, Rumphi and Karonga to host international games and events that will attract domestic and international tourists in the country.
- Develop "Return to the Warm Heart" programmes targeting diaspora, replete with tourist packages, investment opportunities, and working holiday arrangements.
- p) Introduce special public transport for tourists from urban areas to tourist attractions in other districts to enhance the Xperience Malawi phenomenon.
- q) Roll out digital transactions to communities where tourist attractions are domiciled to enable foreign tourist to pay for services and goods electronically, and gazette the categories of goods that foreign tourists can only pay by card or by forex cash.
- r) Abolish the practice of allowing foreign

tourists to pay for services and goods bought and enjoyed in Malawi by deposits in foreign accounts belonging to local establishments, for Malawi's economy deserves to be the first beneficiary for every experience foreign tourists experience here.

- s) Establish tourism capacity building programmes for all Malawians working at our nation's points of entry and for youth and women in communities where our nation's tourist assets are located, in order to develop a hospitable culture, welcoming mindset, and deliberate message towards visitors.
- Develop a globally accessible tourism portal on which every district in Malawi is branded as a tourism destination with its own vibe, attractions, and flavour for the world to see.
- Ring-fence land around tourist attractions in every district to arrest unplanned development and make it available to investors who have the resources to add value to the attraction in ways that create jobs and enhance the Xperience Malawi brand.
- Introduce a rate tier system for the tourism sector to distinguish rates for locals from rates for foreigners to reduce leakages of forex in the sector.

# Xperience Malawi: Branding Malawi as a Tourist Experience, not a Tourist Destination

We realize that Malawi has huge potential for tourism, but we need to shift our entire national language about Malawi from being a destination to being an experience, because experiences are what enrich life and leave us with lasting memories. Rather than focusing on what we have in the tourist sector, such as Nyika National Park, Mulanje Mountain, Lake Malawi and numerous historical sites and artifacts, we must focus on what people can experience there. We must focus on image-building and story-telling. We are therefore committed to changing Malawi's global narrative through a cultural heritage rebranding initiative. We believe that this initiative, if properly packaged and marketed, will be a great starting point in the turnaround of our ambition to treble the number of tourists visiting Malawi from 800,000 to 2.4million annually. Through this initiative, we intend to curate key cultural experiences of all major cultural groupings: dances, culture, food, dress etc. for a week-long cultural event that shall be marketed as part of the attractions in the tourism package marketing Malawi.

And above all, we want to leverage the Xperience Malawi brand because Malawi is a safe place to have amazing experiences, and so we are committed to the full operationalization of the Tourism Authority as provided for in the new Tourism Act; improve safety and security of tourists including at our airports; improve interactions between foreigners and Malawians encouraging friendliness, not financial exploitation or cultural condescension.

INVESTING IN Tourism

Diversifying the economic base through tourism: President Chakwera and First Lady Madame Monica taking a tour of Majete Wildlife Reserve



# 6.1.5 INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

No administration since May 1994 has delivered more on the infrastructure front than the Chakwera administration ushered into power in June 2020. Through a combination of various initiatives, the Chakwera administration has turned Malawi into a construction site and these efforts are yielding tangible results. The Chakwera administration is building roads, bridges, school blocks, police stations and units, teachers' houses, houses for security agencies, houses for people living with albinism, laboratories, expanding universities, and rehabilitating railways after years of neglect. The Chakwera administration has expanded road networks in all major cities across the country. The Capital City is a major highlight of the infrastructural transformation that the Chakwera administration is delivering across the country. In Lilongwe, we have built Malawi's first six-lane road and dual carriageways totalling 18km over five years, which is double the distance built by the two DPP administrations over 14 years. We also have built township roads across all the major cities of Blantyre, Lilongwe, Mzuzu and Zomba and town centre roads in Mangochi, Balaka, Kasungu, and a number of rural trading centres such as Tsangano, Kampepuza, Lunzu, etc.

The unprecedented infrastructure push by the Chakwera administration will improve connectivity and accessibility across Malawi, and increase our access to the high seas and international trade routes and markets. The Chakwera infrastructure revolution will ensure a more robust and sustainable foundation for socio-economic development in Malawi. Our conviction is that infrastructure is not just about roads, bridges and buildings; it is about connecting people to opportunity, unlocking the value of every region across the country, and laying the foundation for wealth that lasts for generations. The Chakwera administration will continue with the unprecedented infrastructural revolution by pursuing general policy principles and undertaking specific projects as follows:

## **General Policy Principles**

a) Invest in modern, climate resilient roads, railways, and ports to connect farmers to

markets, entrepreneurs to customers, and Malawi to regional trade, turning remote areas into economic zones and transport corridors into cash flows.

- Invest in electricity generation and distribution networks to ensure that businesses and households have reliable power, which is crucial for industrial growth and economic activity.
- c) Build dams, irrigation systems and water pipelines to turn seasonal farming into year-round agribusiness increasing food production, incomes, and climate resilience.
- d) Expand broadband and mobile networks, especially in rural areas, to connect youth to digital jobs, small businesses to global markets, and classrooms.
- e) Invest in urban infrastructure, particularly affordable housing, roads, drainage, and clean energy transforming our cities into engines of productivity and magnets for investment.
- f) Prioritize local context, skills development and contractors in public infrastructure projects so that Malawians not only benefit from what is built but also from building it themselves.

## **Specific Infrastructure Projects**

## **Roads Construction**

The Chakwera administration will continue with road construction and upgrades in the major cities and across the country as follows:

## Blantyre City

- a) We will expand Makata Road (from HHI to Kamuzu Stadium) into a dual carriageway.
- We will transform Kenyatta Drive (from Kanjedza to Kudya via Kamba and Mount Pleasant) into a dual carriageway.
- c) We will upgrade the Bypass Road from

Area 5 in Machinjiri to Njuli (Old Zomba), effectively alleviating congestion in the city centre and enhancing overall traffic flow.

- d) We will rehabilitate the road from Energem off Magalasi Road to Beletiya via Area 5 and funding for the section from Energem to Area 5 is already available by the World Bank.
- We will build a modern interchange e) at Clock Tower, revolutionising traffic movement and reducing congestionrelated delays.

# Mzuzu City and Mzimba

- We will upgrade to a dual-carriageway, a) the MI, from Lusangazi to Dunduzu via town centre and Mzuzu University, with an interchange at the roundabout.
- We will construct Mzuzu City Bypass (Mzuzu b) Government Secondary to Dunduzu) to ease traffic congestion in the Central **Business District.**
- c) We will construct Mzuzu City to Usisya road which is vital for access to essential service, trade opportunities and overall economic development for Usisya area.
- We will construct the Chikwawa-Euthini d) (67km) whose importance lies to in its potential lower transportation costs for farmer, facilitate access to markets, and enhance overall regional development.

# **Lilongwe City**

- We will build the Eastern Bypass Road from a) Nathenje to Kamuzu International Airport junction.
- We will turn the Chidzanja and Youth Drive b) roads into dual carriageways connecting to the six-lane roads to reduce traffic congestion.
- c) We will extend the Chidzanja Road to Salima Road via Peak Gardens in Area 12

and Area 43 to ease the flow of traffic in the Capital City.

- d) Extend the Area 25 Nsungwi road to Kamuzu International Airport to create more options for people getting to the airport.
- Extend the Area 36 off the M1 road to the e) Western Bypass Road to facilitate smooth flow of traffic.
- We will construct a new state-of-the-art f) facility for the Reserve Bank of Malawi that the Chakwera Administration has already designed.
- We will construct a new state-of-the-art g) facility for the Office of the President and Cabinet that the Chakwera Administration has already designed.

# **Other Critical Projects**

- Complete the road projects that have been a) on the agenda based on the 2019 to 2024 previous manifesto that are still pending Rumphi-Nyika-Chitipa, such as the Makanjira; Nsipe-Liwonde; Liwonde-Matawale; Mdeka-Chingale; Dedza Loop Road; M1 (Kanengo to Chiweta); llomba: Chiweta-Karonga; Chitipa-Mzimba-Eswazini-Mzalangwe-Mtwalo; Nkhoma-Chulu-Nkhamenya; Ntchisi-Malomo; Chapananga-Chikwawa (Sidik Mia Highway); East Bank road (Gwanda Chakuamba Highway); Mkando Bridge; Livingstonia-Njakwa; Rumphi-Bolero-Nyika; Mpata-Kapili-Nkhonde road.
- Extend the M5 Lakeshore road from Nkhata b) Bay to Chiweta, passing through Usisya to open up the area and cut considerably on travel time (reviving Kamuzu's dream).
- Construct the four roads (Chikwawac) Euthini (67km) road; Linga-Mkanda (88km); Chileka-Chigwirizano (53km); Chantulo-Kulumula (79km) that were to be funded by the US Government under the Second US Millennium Challenge Compact through alternative sources of funding.

# **Railway Transport**

The next Chakwerg administration undertakes to do the following in the railway transport sector as a key strategy for fostering socioeconomic development through the affordable and bulk haulage of goods and movement of people:

- Modernise our rail system by transitioning a) our trains from diesel to electric with the first electric-powered trains expected to be operational by early 2026 operated by the Nacala Logistics.
- Continue to rehabilitate and revitalize the b) railway sector focusing on key routes from Balaka to Lilongwe, Mchinji, and Marka to Nsanje.
- Rehabilitate or rebuild train stations along c) the upgraded railway lines, including those in Salima, Kanengo, and Mchinji through Public Private Partnership arrangements.
- Extend the railway line from Salima to the d) Northern Region through a Public-Private significantly Partnership, enhancing market access for farmers and businesses as provided for in the Malawi National Transport Master Plan.
- Construct a new international railway e) line via the Northern Region linking to the Tanzania Zambia Railway (TAZARA) from Tunduma to Chilumba Port via Chitipa.

# Water Transport

The priorities of the Chakwera administration for water transport in the next term shall include the following:

- Complete the construction of the jetty in a) Likoma, which will dramatically improve passenger comfort and safety.
- Construct a new jetty in Nkhotakota and b) Senga Bay by 2027 and rehabilitate all existing jetties in Chilumba, Nkhata Bay, Chipoka and Monkey Bay.
- c) Introduce two new passenger and cargo vessels by 2028 to fully exploit Lake Malawi in the country's development endeavours.

# Air Transport

the air transport sector, the Chakwera In administration commits to undertake the following:

- Support full operations of the rehabilitated a) Mzuzu and Karonga Airports that have now restored scheduled flights to the Northern Region after a decade-long hiatus.
- Construct a new Orton Chirwa International b) Airport at Lusangazi in Mzuzu opening the Northern Region to the global community for business.
- c) Rehabilitate and expand the airstrips in Salima, Mangochi, Majete in Chikwawa, and Nyika to accommodate light and medium aircraft as already provided for in the Master Tourism Investment Plan.

## **Sports Facilities for the Youth**

Building on the achievements of the first term that included the construction of the state-of-the-art Griffin Sayenda Sports Complex, which features an international netball court, and the Lilongwe Aquatic Centre at Kamuzu Institute, the next MCP administration shall:

- Construct a state-of-the-art international a) stadium with a seating capacity of 41,000 retaining the name Kamuzu Stadium by 2027 in Blantyre.
- Construct a state-of-the-art international b) stadium with a seating capacity of 30,000 by 2028 in Mzuzu.
- Construct a state-of-the-art c) sports complex as an integral part of transforming Chipoka into a Secondary City.
- Construct a state-of-the-art stadium as d) an integral part of transforming Mvera into a Smart City.

## **Other Infrastructure Projects**

As part of the infrastructural revolution by the MCP government to fully open up Malawi for business, the next Chakwera administrations shall construct modern bus stations across the country, houses for public servants and general public, houses

for security agencies, teachers houses, modern markets, and a fertilizer manufacturing plant in Salima as follows:

- a) Construct new international bus terminals in cities of Blantyre, Mzuzu, Zomba, and Lilongwe; border towns of Dedza, Karonga, Mchinji and Mwanza through Public Private Partnership arrangements by 2028.
- Rehabilitate all bus terminals repossessed from the National Bus Company Limited to improve travel experiences by 2026.
- c) Construct 250,000 low and medium-cost 1-2 to 3-bedroom houses, with a minimum of 10,000 units built in the main cities to ease pressure on housing demand that will be available either for rent or sale by 2030.
- d) Complete the construction of 10,000 houses for the country's security agencies, which includes the Malawi Police Service, Malawi Defence Forces, Malawi Prisons and Immigration Services out of which over 4,000 houses are already under construction, and at various stages of completion.

 e) Construct 10,000 houses for rural-based teachers in primary and secondary schools, following the successful World Bank-funded construction of 10,000 classrooms.

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- f) Build 200 additional new houses for people living with albinism following the completion of 67 out of 100 houses that were planned for the 2020-2025 period.
- g) Construct modern markets in several strategic locations to improve vendors' and customers' environment and help local governments generate much-needed income targeting primarily city, town and municipal councils of Lilongwe, Blantyre, Mzuzu, Zomba, Karonga, Mangochi, Kasungu, and Luchenza respectively.
- h) Establish a fertilizer manufacturing plant in Salima District by 2027 exploiting Salima's favourable weather, centrality, and robust transport connections to ensure efficient shipments by road, rail, and water to all parts of the country thereby making fertilizer affordable and accessible to the majority of the farmers in the country.

# National Infrastructure Fund for Local Transformation

The next MCP government is committed to establishing the National Infrastructure Fund (NIF) in order to mobilise about \$2 billion domestically over the next five (5) years because it recognises that infrastructure development remains key to the attainment of the Malawi 2063. The funding for the bulk of key national infrastructure (roads, rail, airport, water supply, irrigation, electricity generation etc.) largely comes from development partners, often with a lot of conditionalities. However, the emergence of new digital technology sectors presents an opportunity that the MCP government intends to harness to mobilize extra revenue collection using innovative ways.

The main source of funds for the NIF will be a levy on all electronic transactions in Malawi targeting all digital transactions in the financial and telecommunications sectors. The respective regulatory institutions in the financial and telecommunications sectors will be fully mandated to collect the levies into a separate escrow account domiciled at the Central Bank. It is the intention of the MCP administration that NIF should be administered separately from the fiscal policy to avoid it being used to finance recurrent government expenditure.

In order to accelerate infrastructure development, the Chakwera administration undertakes to constitute a dedicated projects team to ensure timely production of designs and technical documents for various infrastructure projects. The administration will implement a streamlined and efficient procurement process of service providers to fast track roll out of NIF's activities and government will also institute an innovative oversight mechanism for usage of the Fund to guarantee transparency, accountability and value for money.

#### 6.1.3 HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

As espoused in the Malawi 2063 Vision, the MCP government believes that human capital development is a fundamental catalyst for national development and wealth creation. The commitment of the MCP government is to promote human capital development in a broader and not in a narrower sense focusing almost exclusively on health and education. This is important because the broader notion of human capital development facilitates investment in a wide range of areas such as skills revolution, entrepreneurship and business development, gender development, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH). Our conviction is that wealth is not built by infrastructure alone; it is built by people who are healthy, educated, skilled and empowered. We will change Malawi by transforming Malawians because when we invest in people, we do not just fight poverty, we create prosperity.

While we will champion broad-based strategies directed at human capital development, the next MCP government will spotlight WASH as a critical foundation for wealth creation. The MCP government believes that water is not just a basic human right; it is a driver of economic productivity, public health and human dignity. Investing in WASH therefore is not just a social responsibility; it is a smart economic strategy. We will turn every clean water point, every safe latrine, and every handwashing station into a building block of wealth because no country can prosper on sick, tired, or thirsty population. Our commitment is to invest in every Malawian from cradle to career, and unlock the full economic potential of our population. We want Malawians to compete and lead not just locally, but regionally and globally in the efforts to create sustainable wealth for the country. To achieve this vision, the next MCP government commits to undertake the following in relation to human capital development generally and WASH specifically:

## Human Capital Development

Progressively overhaul the education a) system to align learning with economic opportunity from early childhood to university and vocation prioritizing skills that build industries, agriculture, ICT,

engineering, business, and the creative economy.

- Invest in strong community driven health b) systems, reducing disease, improving maternal and child health, and increasing life expectancy so Malawians can work, build and thrive.
- Launch a nationwide skills revolution with c) training centres for youth, digital literacy programmes, and apprenticeships in high demand sectors like construction, green energy, tourism and manufacturing.
- Create youth enterprise funds, mentorship d) programmes, innovation hubs, and targeted business incubation, turning Malawi's youth into job creators, not job seekers.
- Support women with targeted investments e) in girls' education, maternal health, financial inclusion and business training because when women prosper, families and communities prosper too.
- f) Improve the quality of teaching by providing teachers with the necessary training and resources.
- Implement campaigns to raise awareness g) about healthy eating, physical activity, and hygiene practices.
- h) Implement programmes to address malnutrition and ensure that all Malawians have access to adequate food.
- Implement policies that create i) a favourable environment for business to thrive, such as reducing bureaucratic hurdles, improving access to finance and ensuring a stable legal and regulatory framework.
- Provide training and i) resources to entrepreneurs, particularly SMEs, and create an environment that encourages innovation and investment.
- Implement integrated rural development k) strategies that address the needs of rural

communities and promote economic growth in rural areas.

## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

- Ensure that every Malawian, especially a) women and girls, has access to nearby portable water, freeing time for education, enterprise, and income generation.
- Scale up access to modern, safe toilets b) and sanitation services in homes, schools, workplaces, and health centres reducing diseases, improving attendance, and enhancing productivity.
- Invest in local production of WASH c) community-based materials, water system maintenance, and rural sanitation entrepreneurship creating thousands of dignified local jobs across the country.

- d) Expand rural water supply for irrigation, livestock, and small businesses, transforming clean water into a tool for food security, job creation, and local enterprise.
- Future-proof e) water sources and infrastructure against droughts, floods, and contamination, protecting the economy and people from the rising costs of climate change.
- Mainstream handwashing facilities and f) hygiene education in schools, markets and public spaces, reducing illness, boosting school performance, and lowering health costs for families and business.
- g) Provide free menstrual kits to all girls in schools across the country to ensure that they retained in school to increase their completion rates.

# **Domestic Resource Mobilization for the Health Sector**

The Chakwera administration will create a National Health Services Fund (NHSF) to preserve the integrity of our health sector following the diminished levels of external support resulting from the reduction in donor funding. The ongoing remake of the global international political economy makes it imperative for us to be self-reliant using domestic resources. Any form of external support should merely be supplementary to our collective efforts as a nation. We envisage an NHSF that will be largely financed by locally generated resources to guarantee long-term sustainability.

The main purpose of the NHSF will be to complement the provisions of the national budget to finance the immediate and pressing health sector needs such as the procurement of drugs, equipment and other consumables. The NHSF shall be capitalized through levies on alcohol, cigarettes, phone calls, financial services and fuel. The levies will be remitted directly into the NHSF to ensure transparency and accountability in the generation as well as utilization of the funds in supporting the health sector. The NHSF shall provide monthly reports to the general public and quarterly reports to the Parliamentary Committee on Health on the use of the NHSF to ensure transparency and accountability.



# 71 SETTING THE CONTEXT FOR GOVERNANCE REFORM

We consider public sector governance reform a critical pre-requisite to the enhancement of service delivery. We believe that robust public sector governance systems and processes ensure that public resources are used efficiently and effectively, preventing waste and ensuring that they are directed towards productive investments catalysing fundamental structural transformation. Effective governance helps to remove barriers to economic activity, streamline regulatory processes, and ensure that resources are used efficiently, all of which contribute to sustained economic growth. The MCP government redoubles its commitment to anchoring the country's governance and development processes on the capable Democratic Developmental State as initially espoused in its 2019 election manifesto and affirmed in the Malawi 2063 Vision. We believe that a public sector governance framework inspired by the virtues of a capable Democratic Developmental State is the surest means to spearhead Malawi's fundamental transformation structural and sustainable development within the shortest time possible.

We see a capable Democratic Developmental State as the one which prioritizes economic and social development alongside democratic values characterized by strong state intervention and planning, a professional and accountable public service, and a commitment to national over narrow group interests. A fully operational capable Democratic Developmental State shall allow us to spearhead widespread improvements in living standards while also upholding democratic principles of participation and accountability. Our promise as MCP government is to build a just, transparent and prosperous Malawi where government works for the people in every village, town and city; it is a commitment to inclusive,

people-centred development that leaves noone behind. The key policy areas shall include the following: constitutional and electoral reforms; judicial and legal sector reforms; enhancement of anti-corruption and governance mechanisms; public sector reforms and improvements; decentralization and community development; and gender equality and inclusive leadership.

### 7.2 CONSTITUTIONAL AND ELECTORAL REFORMS

The Chakwera administration commits to undertake constitutional and electoral reforms to ensure that the country's legal framework remains responsive to the demands of the times and ensure that laws reflect the current societal realities. The MCP government believes that constitutional and electoral reforms are vital for deepening democracy, strengthening institutions, and ensuring that the will of the people is truly reflected in governance. Electoral reforms are particularly important because they promote transparency, fairness, and credibility in the country's electoral processes ensuring that every vote counts. The Chakwera administration commits to undertake the following in the realm of constitutional and electoral reforms in its next tenure of office.

#### **Comprehensive Constitutional Review**

The Chakwera Administration commits to convening a National Constitutional Review Conference within the next three years. The aim of this review will be to update Malawi's legal frameworks to reflect its

citizens' aspirations and evolving needs, paving the way for stronger, more responsive governance structures. Key areas of interest shall include:

- Establishing clear transition guidelines, a a) time-bound process for electoral petitions, and cooperation between outgoing and incoming administrations.
- Reviewing the governance structures at b) all levels, focusing on the powers and accountability of public officials.
- c) Amending Chapter XIV of the Constitution (Local Government) to mandate direct elections for mayors in cities and municipal councils and establish a Paramount Chiefs Council.
- Reviewing Chapter IX of the Constitution d) (Human Rights) to ensure gender equality, including legislation for a 50:50 gender ratio in public appointments.
- Seeking public input on establishing e) a National Prosecution Authority to centralize all prosecutorial functions in an independent body.

#### **Electoral Reforms**

- a) Amend the Local Government Act in 2025/26 fiscal year to allow city and municipal residents to elect their Mayors directly.
- b) Hold the inaugural direct mayoral elections in 2027 for a 2.5-year term, followed by the next elections in 2030 alongside Presidential, Parliamentary, and Local Government Elections with a five-year tenure going forward.

#### Procurement Reforms

Streamline procurement processes to a) reduce the length of time for completing government related procurement processes to not more than 90 days for completion of any procurement process.

#### 7.3 JUDICIAL AND LEGAL SECTOR REFORMS

Our commitment will always be to build an independent, efficient, and transparent judiciary that delivers timely and fair judgments without fear or favour. The MCP government is committed to a Malawi where justice is not a privilege for the few, but the right for all, which is a strong foundation for a more just, democratic, and stable Malawi. We therefore believe that judicial and legal reforms are essential to strengthening the rule of law, protecting human rights, and ensuring equal access to justice for all Malawians. The next MCP government undertakes to do the following in the judicial and legal sector:

- Establish an independent National a) Prosecution Authority, consolidating prosecutorial functions under a safeguarded, competitively appointed Director General to ensure fairness, efficiency, and integrity in prosecutions, enhancing the justice system's credibility.
- b) Recruit 10,000 new police officers, 2,500 new Prison Warders, 2,500 new Immigration Officers and 150 new judicial officers to improve nationwide access to justice and safety over the next five years.
- c) Complete the construction of 10,000 security agencies houses by 2028 and the Malawi Judiciary Headquarters by 2027 to facilitate the effective dispensation of justice.
- d) Reform outdated laws, improve court infrastructure, invest on legal aid services, and promote dispute resolution mechanisms to reduce backlogs and widen access to justice.
- e) Improve case flow management, implementing technology to automate court processes, and utilizing fast track courts where appropriate.
- f) Develop a public-access case

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management system (CMS) to provide to enable citizens to track case statuses, access non-sensitive court documents, and monitor hearing schedules via a userfriendly web and mobile interface.

- Invest in judiciary training and capacity g) building for judges, lawyers, and other legal professionals for them to effectively navigate complex legal issues.
- h) Provide ongoing training and professional development for judges to stay abreast of legal developments and best practices.

### 7.4 STRENGTHENING ACCOUNTABILITY **MECHANISMS**

We believe that accountability is the cornerstone of good governance and effective public service. Our commitment as MCP government is to prioritize a transparent and responsible government where officials are answerable to the public, and public resources are managed with integrity. In addition, an accountable public sector is essential to restoring trust, improving service delivery, and building a just and prosperous Malawi. We commit to strengthen oversight institutions, enforce anti-corruption measures, and promote citizen participation to ensure services are delivered efficiently, fairly, and in the public interest. In the next MCP government, we will specifically spotlight two key issues: annual constituency reporting; and district-by-district state of nation address.

#### **Annual Constituency Reporting**

- a) Pass legislation that will require all Councils (jointly with District Commissioners and Councillors) to deliver an annual development report at yearly meetings with their constituents.
- Require Councils to provide comprehensive b) reports on the use of Constituency Development Fund (CDF) allocations and other development allocations, promoting better resource utilisation and ensuring that citizens appreciate their share of the

national cake at the constituency level.

- Present these reports to the National c) Assembly for scrutiny, feedback and sanctions in cases of blatant abuse of resources by the Councils.
- Publicly recognize and reward the better d) performing Councils demonstrating prudence and value for money in the utilization of the public resources entrusted to them.

#### **District-by-District State of the Nation Address**

The President will maintain an annual address that reports on development and public service delivery in every district, ensuring detailed measurement and open communication of each region's progress while also addressing critical national issues.

### **7.5 ENHANCEMENT OF ANTI-CORRUPTION** AND GOVERNANCE MECHANISMS

We reiterate our resolve to fight corruption and strengthen governance systems in the country so as to build a Malawi where integrity and accountability are the foundation of national progress. The MCP government is determined to build a Malawi founded on integrity and accountability because corruption robs us of resources meant for development, undermines public trust, and deepens poverty. To succeed in the crusade against corruption, we pledge to promote a culture of transparency, ethical leadership, and results driven governance at all levels. We commit to undertake the following in the battle against corruption in order to unlock resources for essential services and restore public confidence:

- Amend the Corrupt Practices Act to allow a) time-bound trials and improve whistle blower protection.
- b) Amend the ODPOP Act (2017) to allow for lifestyle audits of all public officers and enforcing sanctions to prevent corruption.
- c) Livestream audit hearings for public

entities and the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) will provide annual progress reports to Parliament.

- d) Support the Public Accounts Committee with specialized technical and legal support to enhance scrutiny and oversight.
- e) Enhance the independence and capacity of oversight institutions, enforce strict accountability measures and protect whistle-blowers to ensure that no-one is above the law.
- Provide opportunities for citizens to participate in decision-making processes such as public consultations and community forums.
- g) Analyse data to identify patterns of corruption, track the effectiveness of anticorruption measures, and monitor public perceptions.
- Publicly recognize and reward individuals and organizations that demonstrate integrity and fight corruption.

#### 7.6 PUBLIC SECTOR REFORMS AND IMPROVEMENTS

In tune with our commitment to establishing a capable Democratic Developmental State as our overarching operative development philosophy, we believe that public sector reforms are critical to building an efficient, responsive, and citizen-centred government that delivers quality services. Through strategic public sector reforms inspired by the ethos of a capable Democratic Developmental State, we commit to run a government that truly works for Malawians, driving development, enhancing trust, and supporting our national vision for prosperity. We shall, through these reforms, transform the public sector into a professional, performance driven institution guided by merit, transparency and accountability. By promoting a culture of professionalism, innovation, and efficiency, we will ensure that public institutions become engines of development, responsive to citizen needs and capable of driving our national transformation agenda. More specifically, the next MCP government commits to undertake the following:

- a) Enforce performance-based management systems across all Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) underpinned by mandatory annual performance appraisals, set clear service delivery standards, and hold leaders accountable for results.
- b) Cultivate a new generation of ethical, visionary and results oriented leaders across the public service who are dedicated to serving people with excellence through compulsory training with regular refresher courses at the Malawi School of Government.
- c) Set aside at least 2% of each MDA's budget for continuous professional development at the Malawi School of Government to improve their ability to manage resources, deliver services, and adapt to change.
- Implement succession planning to ensure a smooth transition of leadership roles and prepare future leaders.
- e) Implement codes of conduct and anticorruption strategies that will help prevent misuse of power and resources including holding accountable public officials for their actions and performance of their agencies.
- f) Downsize and/or merge overstaffed parastatals with overlapping mandates and close down failing State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs) and subjecting the remaining ones to rigorous annual reviews including ending non-performancerelated bonuses for SOE staff.
- g) Upgrade the National Registration Bureau (NRB) into an Integrated Population Registration System as a cornerstone for initiatives such as electronic Know Your Customer (eKYC) verification, enabling seamless interactions between citizens, government agencies, financial institutions, and other stakeholders.

#### **1.6 REFORMS IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH**

- One of the most critical reforms the MCP a) Government will facilitate in President Chakwera's second term is the restructuring of the operations of the Executive Branch to strengthen coordination across state agencies as a matter of practice, not as a matter of emergency. This restructuring will begin with Office of the President and Cabinet itself as the central office from which all Executive Branch functions are coordinated, beginning with a comprehensive functional review of all the parts of the state apparatus the OPC touches and the development of an operational mechanism that ensures that the office is staffed properly, is secure, is focused on strategic issues, and is a catalyst for speedy delivery and action that is free of red tape and unresponsiveness.
- The Secretary to the President will be b) required to provide the President a biannual performance appraisal of every Principal Secretary serving as a Controlling Officer of a Ministry, as well as of every Parastatal Board, scoring them on a set of metrics that will provide insight into each individual's effectiveness in their role and their ability to collaborate with other Senior Officials within their Ministry and in other Ministries. Similarly, the Principal Secretaries of all Ministries and their Ministers will conduct performance reviews of the SPC to enable the President

to provide real-time direction on the priorities he wants to be effected.

- c) The OPC shall develop and establish a digital dashboard that is accessible to the President to enable him to track daily progress of the implementation of his directives by various MDAs and that automatically flags issues that are stuck in Government systems and processes in need of troubleshooting.
- d) The OPC shall henceforth lead the process of budget formulation the same way it leads the process of constructing the State of the Nation Address, thus ensuring that there is alignment between the two and that MDAs are interrogating each other to justify every line item in their respective budgets, which will in turn be the first instance of cutting wasteful spending on activities, programmes, and procurements that do not enhance public service delivery nor give Malawians value for money.
- e) The President will provide each Minister a set of 10 priorities to deliver results on, aligned with the Manifesto and the aspirations of Malawians, on the basis of which he will appraise each Minister every six months, combined with a peer review that each Minister will be required to do on other fellow-Ministers to cultivate a spirit of collective ownership of what happens across the Government.

#### Leveraging Technology for Public Service Delivery

We commit to fully digitalize or automate all public sector systems for service delivery under the superintendence of the Office of the President and Cabinet (OPC) by December 2025. Citizens shall, among other things, be able to access essential services such as licences, permits, national IDs, passports, social services, and public information including payment for road traffic offenses quickly and conveniently through digital platforms. We will accelerate functionality of the digital land management systems, and e-visa systems.

We are fully embracing e-Government as a game changer in transforming public service delivery across the country. This will enhance transparency, efficiency, and accessibility; reduce corruption and eliminate bureaucratic delays. This will not only improve accountability and trust in public institutions, but also create new opportunities for innovation, youth employment, and digital inclusion. The vision of the Chakwera administration is a modern, connected Malawi where technology brings government closer to the people and delivers better services for all.

#### 7.7 DECENTRALIZATION AND COMMUNITY **EMPOWERMENT**

The Chakwera administration has made historically significant strides in entrenching and deepening decentralization policy reforms since June 2020. Through GESD, the MCP government has demonstrated unprecedented political will empowering local governments by ensuring that development is driven by the needs and priorities of the people. Consequently, under the Chakwera administration, a robust local governance and development architecture is emerging that has ratcheted the capacity of local governments to drive the local development agenda with dynamic and progressive support of the centre. This underlies our commitment to deepening decentralization and community empowerment as key pillars of inclusive development and democratic governance in Malawi. We pledge to continue deepening and institutionalizing decentralization in the next Chakwera administration to enhance accountability, improve service delivery, and unlock the full potential of grassroots development thereby building a more equitable and self-reliant Malawi. The key policy priorities shall include the following:

- Launch a national CDF transparency portal a) by January 2026 to ensure transparency and oversight.
- Double the CDF allocations (to MK500 b) million per constituency per annum) over the next five years as a means of accelerating equitable rural development across the country.
- Ensure regular audits at the council and c) constituency levels by the National Audit Office with expenditure details made public to guarantee transparency and local empowerment.
- Strengthen local councils, improve d) transparency in resource allocation, and promote active citizen participation in planning and monitoring public services.
- Strengthen local institutions and e) structures such as the Area Development Committees (ADCs) and Village Development Committees (VDCs) that enable communities to effectively manage their affairs and deliver services.

- decentralization f) Fnsure that efforts to contribute to continue poverty reduction, improved access to services, and economic growth at the local level.
- Amend the Local Government Act by 2026 g) to establish the Malawi National Council of Chiefs consisting of all gazetted traditional leaders in Malawi as a way of recognizing traditional leaders' institutions, status, and role under customary law including systematically coordinating their activities.

#### **7.8 GENDER EQUALITY AND INCLUSIVE** LEADERSHIP

The hallmark of the Chakwera administration during its first term of office is strikingly surpassing all the post May 1994 regimes in fostering gender equality and inclusive leadership. It has broken down and continues to break down barriers that limit the participation of women, youth, and marginalized groups in leadership and decisionmaking at all levels of society. The MCP government has consistently maintained a 40:60 gender ratio, in line with the Gender Equality Act (2013), at Cabinet level, which is unequivocal demonstration of its commitment to breaking existing glass ceilings in various sectors. Building on this glowing track record of success, the Chakwera administration commits to continue to implement policies that promote equal opportunities in education, employment and enforce laws that protect all citizens against gender-based violence and discrimination. Our desire is to unlock the full potential of our nation since gender equality and inclusive leadership are not just about fairness; they are a powerful driver of innovation, resilience, and sustainable development for Malawi. In the next Chakwera administration, we shall continue to aspire, inspire and work towards a more inclusive and equitable society that values the contributions of all members of society including women, youth, people with disabilities, and people living with albinism through the following policy measures:

Amend the Gender Equality Act to establish a) a 50:50 gender ratio in senior roles within state-owned enterprises, principal secretary positions, ambassadorial appointments and other influential areas to foster more representative leadership at the highest levels.

- b) Promote the inclusion of youth, individuals living with disabilities, and people living with albinism in these appointments to foster a diverse and representative leadership that reflects the broader configuration of the Malawian community.
- c) Strengthen and enforce gender related laws, such as the Gender Equality Act and the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act.
- d) Mainstream gender and youth development across all national development plans and budgets to ensure inclusive policy implementation.
- e) Introduce quotas for political and public positions to ensure that women, youth and other marginalized groups are adequately represented at all levels of government.

- f) Support women, youth and other marginalized groups' participation in politics through leadership training and mentorship programmes.
- g) Promote inclusive leadership by encouraging political parties and other institutions to adopt gender-sensitive practices and policies.
- h) Ensure that leaders are held accountable for promoting gender equality and inclusion in their teams.
- Invest in women and youth leadership development providing them with skills for lobbying and advocacy to empower them to effectively advocate for gender equality and inclusion.

# GENDER EQUALITY & INCLUSIVE LEADERSHIP

Every voice is heard, every talent is valued, and no one is left behind. Together, we rise!



8.0 PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY: **THE CHAKWERA MASTERPLAN** 



# 8.0 PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY: **THE CHAKWERA** MASTERPLAN

Ultimately, the reforms in Governance will not be pursued for their own sake, but rather for the improvement of public service delivery to the Malawians who have entrusted us with the power to serve them. As such, the measure of success for any governance reforms is not in the pursuit of the reforms themselves, but in the satisfaction of Malawians with the results thereof as experienced in the quality of public service delivery those reforms produce. Therefore, the Malawi Congress Party under President Chakwera's second term will drive all governance reforms to deliver The Chakwera Masterplan, a set of 72 specific public services for making Malawi a Strong Society, a Strong Economy, and a Strong Democracy, with 8 categories of services under each, and 3 measurable and actionable promises in each category as follows:

STRONG SOCIETY	STRONG ECONOMY	STRONG DEMOCRACY
Education Services	Financial Services	Political Services
Health Services	Labour Services	Security Services
Cultural Services	Tax Services	Citizenship Services
WASH Services	Transport Services	ICT Services
Family Services	Land Services	Emergency Services
Housing Services	Trade Services	Diplomatic Services
Recreation Services	Energy Services	Justice Services
Social Protection Services	Environmental Services	Human Rights Services

## 8.1 MALAWI: A STRONG SOCIETY

a)	Education Services	1	Provide student loans to 40,000 university students from low-income households, of which 50% will be reserved for students who study ATM+M disciplines, and introduce a student loan scheme for technical colleges, nursing schools and Open Distance Learning.
		2	Eliminate all grass-thatched schools and replace them with modern classrooms by 2030.
		3	Provide hot, nutritious meals in public primary schools at an incremental rate of 20% every fiscal year, until all primary schools are catered for by 2030, with the aim of boosting the attendance, performance, and health of pupils.

b) Health Services	1	Establish the off-budget and independently funded National Health Services Fund (NHSF) to finance and facilitate the speedy procurement of drugs, equipment, repairs, and other consumables to end drug shortfalls and prevent disruptions in public health service delivery.
	2	Introduce to Malawi the FDA-approved Lenacapavir vaccine for HIV prevention and treatment to further reduce HIV prevalence from the current 7.1% to less than 2% and to reduce new infections by 75%, and roll out the malaria vaccine and enforce the nationwide application of indoor residual spray against mosquitoes to eliminate deaths by malaria.
	3	Establish a Presidential Initiative on Mother and Child Health to guarantee access and quality of care for the drastic reduction of morbidity and mortality rates.
c) Cultural Services	1	Develop and popularize a Pledge of Malawian Identity that defines, codifies and promotes the cultural values of <i>umunthu, ubale, ubwenzi, ulemu,</i> and <i>umodzi</i> as hallmarks of being a true Malawian.
	2	End the disproportionate representation of Senior Chiefs by promoting Chiefs in districts that are underrepresented, and establish a Presidential Council of Paramount Chiefs to foster national cohesion, promote Malawi's cultural values, and provide counsel on issues of national importance.
	3	Establish a Museum of National History in each of the 4 political regions of Malawi and erect monuments of National Heroes in the nation's Capital to promote the cultural values and patriotism they embodied, including the likes of Fredrick Sauka (national anthem composer) and Gabriel Simengwa (national flag designer).
d) WASH Services	1	Provide every Village Headman with access to potable clean water within a 1.5 kilometre radius as recommended by the World Health Organisation (WHO).
	2	Provide access to potable water for 1,500,000 people in Salima, Dowa and Lilongwe by ensuring that the on-going Salima-Lilongwe Water Project that the Chakwera Administration initiated is completed within 8 months of the September Elections.
	3	Install flushing toilets in all urban centres, all markets, all bus depots, all community secondary schools and all health facilities across the country, and fit every rural household with either a Water Closet or a WHO- compliant ventilated improved pit latrine (VIP).
e) Family Services	1	Create Malawi's first poverty-free generation by giving each new-born a TSOGOLO ACCOUNT with a once-off K500,000 deposit to be invested for growth until they are 18 years old.

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	2	Create 3 Early Childhood Development (ECD) centres in the wards that do not yet have one and add ECD centres in the wards that have less than 3.
	3	Invest MK5 billion in establishing programs in medical schools, religious institutions, and cultural entities to offer parents free crash courses in Mental Health Management to improve the detection of mental health issues at household level.
f) Housing Services	1	Eliminate grass-thatched roofing for 1,000,000 households by 2030.
	2	Construct 250,000 housing units across the country that include high rise apartments for low income urban areas to replace urban slums; decent housing for low-income families, the elderly, and persons with disabilities; and modern housing for civil servants, especially teachers and healthcare workers.
	3	Establish a National Real Estate Registry and conduct an audit and registration of all properties in urban and trading centres by the end of 2026, and the rest by the end of 2028.
g) Recreation Services	1	Replace Kamuzu Stadium in Blantyre and Mzuzu Stadium in Mzuzu with new state-of-the-art international stadia with a seating capacities of 41,000 and 30,000, respectively.
	2	Create major investor-led recreation centres in the cities of Blantyre, Zomba, Lilongwe, and Mzuzu, with amenities for indoor games, fitness, cuisine, theatres, exhibitions, movies, and shopping.
	3	Establish tournaments in schools, and at district, regional, and national levels for Malawi's ten most promising sports disciplines, in partnership with the Private Sector, to make Malawi globally competitive.
h) Social Protection Services	1	Introduce a Nkhokwe Tax Discount that is offered to Malawians who grow excess maize and other food crops, allowing them to receive either a proportional discount on their taxes or other types of incentives in exchange for a donation of their excess food to District Food Silos for distribution, in partnership with local and community-based NGOs, to vulnerable families that lose their crops and livelihoods to climate disasters.
	2	Triple the monthly <i>Mtukula Pakhomo</i> allocation for vulnerable households in a hybrid model of the Affordable Inputs Programme (AIP) that targets vulnerable households that do not qualify as productive and commercially oriented farmers in every district to receive a monthly cash transfer of K50,000, up from the current monthly average of K15,000.
	3	Give Mother Groups access to child nutrition screening and provide fortified foods and other nutritional supplements for any of their under- five children found to be malnourished.

### **8.2 MALAWI: A STRONG ECONOMY**

1.	Financial Services	1	Introduce comprehensive legislation that facilitates Malawians' participation in crypto currency and crowd funding, and that establishes a National Fintech Hub that expands and champions Malawi's access to alternative financing at lower interest rates.
		2	Abolish the use of cash for accessing any Government services or for conducting any Government transactions in order to end the exploitation of citizens by corrupt public servants demanding bribes and the inducement of public servants by corrupt members of the public offering bribes, and restrict the amount of personal cash any member of the public can carry into a Government facility.
		3	Require every Malawian adult to have a Savings Account by the end of 2026 and mandate banks to remove service fees on all Savings Accounts.
2.	Labour Services	1	Champion the <b>Jobs4All-Jobs4Life</b> Agenda in partnership with the Private Sector to create 750,000 jobs every year and reach the target of 3,000,000 new jobs created by the end of 2029, and facilitate the establishment of the Domestic and Manual Workers Union with a registry of Malawians employed in homes, factories, and estates to ensure that their labour rights are being respected and upheld.
		2	Establish the National Service Commission through an Act of Parliament, to coordinate the recruitment of youths who do not progress beyond primary and secondary school, and to oversee their deployment for training and skills development either to the National Youth Service that President Chakwera already established under the National Youth Council of Malawi (NYCOM) or to similar service programs established under the MDF, MPS, Malawi Prison Service, NIS, TEVET, and other agencies.
		3	Disburse MK5 billion every year to youth-led enterprises with job-creating prospects under the Youth Innovation Fund (YIF) that President Chakwera already established under NYCOM.
3.	Revenue Services	1	Abolish the direct donating of funds by foreign Governments to non-State entities in Malawi and publish an annual report of all pledges of financial support made to the Malawi Government by foreign Governments, as well as what percentage of each pledge was fulfilled and what it was used for, thus ensuring that foreign Governments financially transact only with the democratically elected and publicly accountable Government of Malawi out of respect for Malawi's sovereignty, democracy, and constitutionality.
		2	Gazette a Payments Order that outlines what categories of goods, services, and works in Malawi cannot be paid for in cash and what categories of goods, services, and works non-resident foreign visitors cannot deposit or make payments for in foreign accounts nor purchase using any other mode of payment except cash in accepted foreign currencies or credit card.

		3	Reduce ALL taxes by a minimum of 10% and enforce the fiscally responsible use of taxpayers' money by requiring all national budgets to not exceed a deficit of 7% of the previous year's revenues.
4.	Transport Services	1	Establish an independent National Infrastructure Development Fund (NIDF) to finance the construction of transport infrastructure, including the completion of the railway system that President Chakwera already begun and the development of at least ONE key and priority road in each constituency.
		2	Construct new and modern International Airports in Blantyre, Lilongwe, and Mzuzu, equipped with tracking systems for monitoring Malawi's airspace to enhance security, emergency response, and revenue generation.
		3	Construct a new and modern bus station in each District and create a <i>Njinga Lane</i> on all high-traffic main roads in the cities of Blantyre, Zomba, Lilongwe, and Mzuzu to be used exclusively by cyclists.
5.	Land Services	1	Designate underutilized public land for young people and establish a Land4Business Portal through which they can apply for and access a production-based lease and contract they can leverage to access a business loan from NEEF and that they can invest in developing an agri- business or other entrepreneurial activities on the designated land.
		2	Digitize all land titling processes to reduce the length of time it takes to secure a land lease after application to 60 days, and provide title deeds to all land and property owners in all cities and urban centres by 2027, and to all land-owners in rural areas by 2030.
		3	Designate and ring-fence strategic sections of land along Lake Malawi and all economically strategic locations in each district as "protected land" that cannot be sold, bought, or occupied, and reserve it for major investors who will be brought in by Government invitation-only to develop world-class infrastructure, mines, and other services.
6.	Trade Services	1	Create Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in the four locations President Chakwera designated in Matindi, Chigumula, Magwero and Dunduzu, where Industrialization can be fast-tracked by developing ready-to- use factory shells, complete with various incentives, basic infrastructure, ICT services, among others, which will be available to investors who are eager to engage in food processing, textile and garments, leather value- addition, processing of minerals, creating handicrafts and souvenirs.

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	2	Create a Service Trading Platform that globally markets and remotely deploys the skills of Malawian professionals to international companies that can outsource and pay for services in accounting, auditing, marketing, customer care, data management, financial services, research, design, art, training, and counselling.
	3	Develop a National Creative Economy Strategy through the National Arts and Heritage Council (NAHEC) that President Chakwera established, and set up, within the Intellectual Property Centre that President Chakwera signed into law, a Creative Sector Unit staffed with technical experts representing the Trade, Tourism, Arts, Culture, Education, Finance, and Justice sectors, to ensure that young people in the Creative Industry are being fully and fairly remunerated for the creative works and services they produce in multiple sectors of the economy.
7. Energy Services	1	Increase electricity generation capacity to 2,000MW through an energy- mix strategy to ensure that the electricity access that President Chakwera increased from less than 10% to 25% between 2020 and 2025 is further increased to 70% by 2030.
	2	Overhaul both the National Oil Company of Malawi and the Malawi Energy Regulatory Authority to streamline the procurement and management of petroleum products in line and compliance with the Government-to- Government arrangement that President Chakwera introduced to end the price-gouging and secret fuel dealings previously made possible by the Open Tender System.
	3	Create a variegated electricity tariff system that offers lower electricity tariffs to low-income households to expand energy access and offer all domestic customers a Power-on-Credit facility to keep the lights on for a day and ensure there is no power supply disruption after the units run out.
8. Environmental Services	1	Replace charcoal and wood-burning cook-stoves with modern energy- efficient cook-stoves made affordable through carbon trading, and establish a National Carbon Registry that valuates all of Malawi's natural resources to unlock Malawi's potential in accessing low-interest financing through carbon markets and Debt-for-Nature Swaps.
	2	Launch a national lime campaign to treat the high-acidity levels of Malawi's soils to safeguard the country's food security and agricultural productivity for future generations.
	3	Having successfully banned the single-use thin plastic bags, extend this ban to plastic carrier bags and replace them with biodegradable ones to be manufactured locally using local raw materials at manufacturing plants that will also create new jobs in all regions of the country.

# **8.3 MALAWI: A STRONG DEMOCRACY**

1.	Political Services	1	Phase out city CEOs and introduce direct elections for Mayors with executive powers for 5-year terms.
		2	Reserve the parliamentary seat of the central constituency in each council for 35 MPs to be nominated by the main parties in Parliament to cater for gaps in female, youth and disability representation, and add two seats in Parliament for Members of Parliament representing Diaspora Malawians as a unique Constituency.
		3	Appoint at least 2 female and 2 male youths aged 21-34 to Cabinet positions to give youth a voice in all Government decisions.
2.	Security Services	1	Over the next five years, recruit 10,000 new police officers, 2,500 new Prison Warders, 2,500 new Immigration Officers, and the required number of new troops for the Malawi Defence Force, and introduce honoraria for registered members of neighbourhood watch and community police.
		2	Complete the construction of 10,000 security agency houses by 2028 to continue making security agents an integral part of Malawian communities.
		3	Remove visa requirements for ALL visitors to Malawi and replace them with a mandatory Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA) to be issued online within an hour of application and enforced through the airlines that fly into Malawi.
3.	Citizenship Services	1	Empower MACRA to manage a centralised citizen database that other agencies can securely request and access data from without troubling citizens with the time-wasting requirement to have their data captured each time they need a service.
		2	Enforce a standardized system for processing citizens' applications for key Government documents to guarantee issuance of card-based documents such Drivers Licences and National IDs within 60 days, paper-based documents such as Birth Certificates, Death Certificates and Passports within 30 days, and digital permits within 7 days, failing which the responsible Department will refund affected citizens and issue them the documents for free within 7 days.
		3	On all websites and at all service delivery points for all public institutions, provide a RATE-OUR-SERVICE Portal and app that allows citizens to rate the performance of service providers, starting with Police, Road Traffic, Immigration, Public Hospitals, District Commissioners, Administrators General, Registrars, Courts, Accountant General, Customs, Roads Authority, Ombudsman, Malawi Revenue Authority, ESCOM, Water Boards and ADMARC, the results of which the President will use to determine budget allocations and personnel changes.

4. ICT Services	1	Introduce comprehensive legislation for the optimisation and regulation of metadata and AI.
	2	Relocate E-Government to the Office of the President and Cabinet to empower its capacity to roll out and enforce the digitalisation of all Government Services by end of 2026.
	3	Launch Malawi's first space satellite to improve weather monitoring, improve communication, and increase internet access, from 27.7% to 55% of the population by 2030.
5. Emergency Services	1	Establish a National Emergency Fund and an inter-agency National Emergency Force with staff deployed in all Councils for improving the readiness, preparedness, collaboration, and capacity of relevant agencies to conduct rescue and evacuation operations, and to manage national disasters and accidents in a speedy, organized, systematic, transparent, and methodical fashion.
	2	Procure one Emergency Response Helicopter for each region for rapid response, relief delivery, and search and rescue operation to be used by the National Emergency Force during emergencies and disasters.
	3	Procure 100 Firefighting Trucks to be equitably distributed to all District and City Councils for addressing common emergencies involving fires.
6. Diplomatic Services	1	Provide services for the renewal of Passports, National IDs, Driver's Licences, and Electoral Services in all Malawi Embassies and invest in building the capacity of embassy staff through the School of Government that the Chakwera Administration established, thus ensuring that the needs of Malawians living and working abroad are being adequately met and the national interests of Malawi are being achieved.
	2	Establish new embassies in Nigeria, Namibia, Bahrain, Canada, and Ukraine.
	3	Appoint Malawians who are in strategic positions abroad or who have strategic influence in and access to entities in foreign Capitals as Ambassadors-at-Large with the mandate to transact with other Governments as Honorary Diplomats of Malawi.

7.	Justice Services	1	Allocate resources to the Judiciary specifically for the reduction of 20% of case backlogs each year, and make any further allocation of such funds in subsequent years contingent on the Judiciary's achievement of set targets for clearing case backlogs.
		2	Fully automate and digitalize all court processes by 2027 to improve case management and timely delivery of justice, including the development of a Case Management System (CMS) that is accessible to the public to enable citizens to track the status of cases, see the allocation of judges to cases, access non-sensitive court documents, and monitor the progress and scheduling of hearings.
		3	Introduce Mobile Courts that enable the Judiciary to take judicial services and education to remote parts of Malawi and inside prisons by caravans staffed with trained paralegals and rotating magistrates to improve Malawians' understanding of their rights and access to justice services.
8.	Human Rights Services	1	Abolish the death penalty, and enforce the amendments that President Chakwera has made to the penal code by decongesting prisons through the transitioning of perpetrators of minor crimes and prisoners in poor health from a custodial to a non-custodial sentence that includes house arrest, community service, and rehabilitation.
		2	Streamline and synchronize the National Registration Bureau's system for registering citizens for National IDs with the Malawi Electoral Commission's system for registering citizens to vote to enable all Malawians of voting age to be registered to vote in the next election at the same time that they are issued a National ID, thus ensuring that the Constitutional right to vote is enjoyed in practice and not restricted by limitations imposed by phased and rotating voter registration exercises that come once every five years, and introduce legislation and a mechanism that enables Malawians abroad to cast absentee ballots.
		3	Abolish the police practice of setting up temporary road blocks and check points in random places and reduce the number of permanent police check points on strategic main roads and in cities by 75%, to be replaced by police patrols that enhance security in communities and that monitor the movement of traffic and people without interfering with them unless there is a cause or incident that requires investigation or enforcement of the law.

# 9.0 OUR APPEAL AND PROMISE



# 9.0 OUR APPEAL **AND PROMISE**



Under the Chakwera Administration that Malawians ushered in in June 2020, MCP has managed to steer Malawi through a cocktail of exogenous threats ranging from the Covid-19 pandemics, successive bouts of cyclones, and the devastating effects of the Russian-Ukraine War. During this period, President Chakwera has presided over a remarkable infrastructure revolution, essentially turning the entire country into a construction site; he has honoured the constitutional obligation to account for his actions to the Malawian people by consistently appearing before Parliament and the Public; he has championed gender equality to transform women's participation in the political and administrative landscape of the country; he has fostered national unity and cohesion by respecting Former Presidents, as well as exemplifying decency and decorum in the Presidency by never engaging in politics of castigation or retribution, as well as by appointing members of other parties to his Cabinet; he has displayed noble statesmanship by continuing and completing several development projects started by previous regimes in line with the underlying spirit of the Malawi 2063 Vision; and he has expanded access to electricity from 11% to 25%, essentially doubling access within five years, and making it available with predictable regularity, thereby ending the incessant blackouts that were the hallmark of the DPP Administration.

With these and many other achievements, the stage is set for the country to experience fundamental structural transformation and sustainable development under a second term Chakwera Presidency. Under his steady leadership, we have the best chance of Making Malawi Feed Malawi, of creating jobs for our youth, of growing their own wealth, and of governing themselves with integrity and a renewed sense of national pride. Through the pillars of Food Security, Job

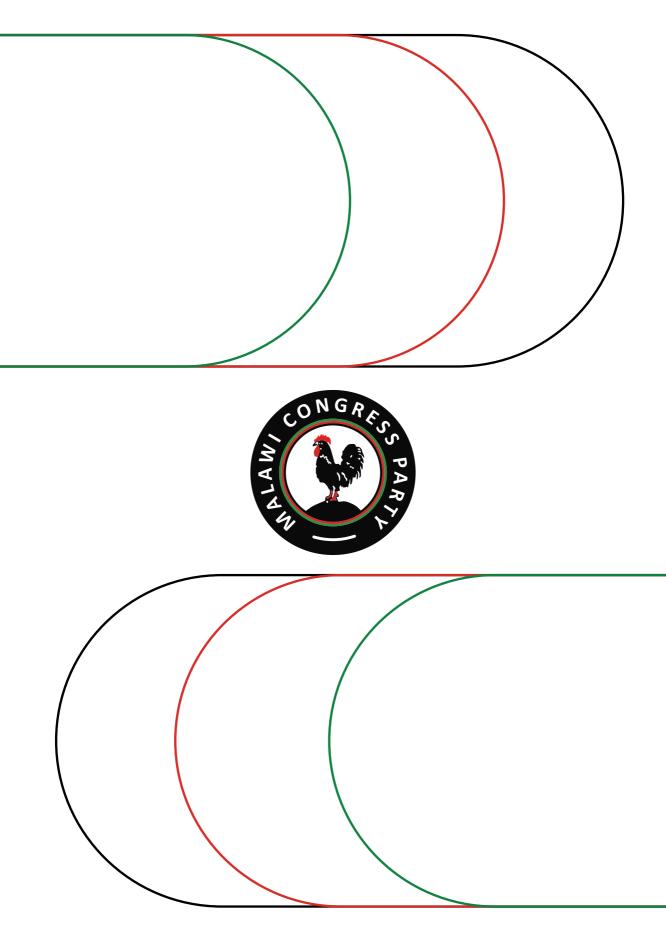


Creation, Wealth Creation, Service Delivery, and Governance Reform built on the foundation of the Malawi 2063 Vision, the ATM+M Strategy, the SUPER Hi-5 Achievements of the 2020 Manifesto. and a commitment to a capable Democratic Developmental State philosophy, Malawians can look forward to a second-term President Chakwera that is ready to do even more for Malawians, ready to deliver even more for Malawians, and ready to lead Malawians into a prosperous future, providing steady and focused leadership in implementing this Manifesto that expresses his resolve to serve Malawians with honour and diligence by delivering all the commitments herein.

Our manifesto is not just a set of promises, but a clear roadmap to a better Malawi informed by the experience we have had as a Government of the People in the past five years and the achievements we have registered thus far. It is a people-centred Manifesto, one that demands service and sacrifice from public officials in order to deliver services to the citizens. It is a pragmatic Manifesto, one that contains measurable and feasible commitments, each of which will be accompanied by a modus operandi to be contained in a comprehensive Operational Plan that will accompany the Manifesto. It is a prosperity-creating Manifesto, one that will produce the first poverty-free generation of Malawians. Once President Chakwera is sworn into office for his second term, the Operational Plan for this manifesto will form the basis for engagements with the National Planning Commission and other stakeholders to explore various funding streams and opportunities for the delivery of all promises outlined in this manifesto, especially those that will complement national treasury funds through various models including public-private partnerships (PPP) that unlock revenue from stocks, real estate, equity funds, debt and grants.

Even so, we know that the success of this Manifesto lies in the continuation of the partnership between Malawians and their President, for President Chakwera's success will be every Malawian's success. And there is no doubt that President Chakwera's second term will be an even areater success than his first, for he has already demonstrated that he is the most capable person Malawi has to do the job; he is the person with the best character, temperament, and composure to lead Malawi through the uncertain and turbulent economic, climatic, and moral terrain of our time; he is the person with the best stamina to run with Malawi's youthful citizens into a bold new future; he is the person with the best work ethic for all Malawians to emulate and the best track record of delivering development for all Malawians to see, earning him the deserved title of Mashini a Chitukuko; he is the best voice to articulate the dreams and hopes of Malawians to a fragmented global community with an understanding, empathy, and eloquence that produces results, inspires the world, forges alliances, and makes Malawians proud; and he is the visionary with the best Manifesto that focusses on taking our development forward at a time when others are threatening to take Malawians backwards, which will take Malawi nowhere.

Dr. Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera is Malawi's President, and we invite you to use your vote in this election to stand with him as he carries on to take Malawi's development forward to the brighter shores of 2030.



# TAKING OUR DEVELOPMENT FORWARD





# Chakwera2025

#KupititsaChitukukoChathuPatsogolo #TakingOurDevelopmentForward

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### MANIFESTO HIGHLIGHTS



**SCAN TO VIEW** 

### **The Secretary General**

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