

SUMMARY

In Malawi, thousands of families are moving beyond economic subsistence, acquiring the mindsets and practical tools needed to thrive, while increasing the well-being of more than 50,000 children to date.

Malawi THRIVE (Transforming Household Resilience in Vulnerable Environments) helped participants weather the threat of COVID-19 in the first half of FY21, sending updates via text messages that reached more than 10,000 community members. The project also distributed 784 smartphones and trained 670 volunteers to use the eMlimi app to improve farmers' access to markets. As a result, sales values increased by 24%, with 1,602 farmers selling nearly 739 tons of commodities for a total of \$341,770.

Nearly all of the 15,964 current project participants (99.8%) have completed Empowered Worldview training and joined a Savings for Transformation

group. Equipped with greater self-confidence and basic financial skills, 638 savings group members (70% women) accessed \$71,434 in VisionFund loans during the second quarter, enabling them to invest in small businesses and their family's future.

Empowered Worldview training also equipped participants to better steward God-given resources. In FY21, 11 new sites were established for farmer-managed natural regeneration to combat the land erosion that threatens crop yields, with 787 participants trained on tree planting and sustainable forest management, and 1,691 people on rainwater harvesting. Meanwhile, 3,000 farmers took part in three field days focused on value chains such as corn and soy beans, while industry forums organized by seed suppliers led to 15 new commercial partnerships.

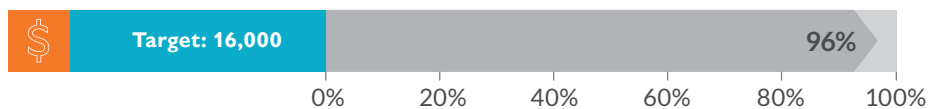
Thank you for partnering with families in Malawi to improve their livelihoods and transform their communities.



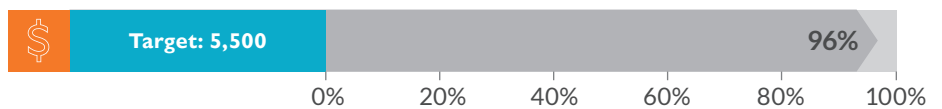
More than 7,000 farmers from different commercial villages have accessed the eMlimi app for training and product distribution. Above, a THRIVE staff member helps an agricultural services provider publish information about his products.

PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES (LIFE OF PROGRAM: FY17-FY23)

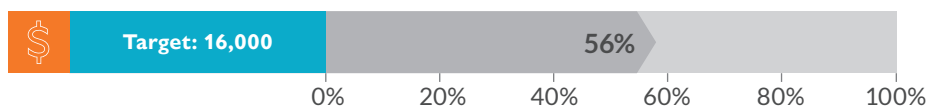
15,436 farmers using improved seeds



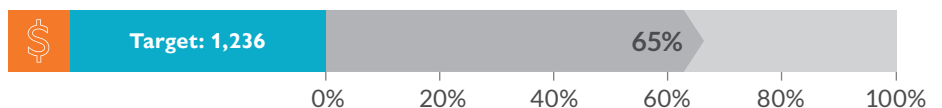
5,289 VisionFund clients with agriculture or microenterprise loans



8,950 producer group members selling value chain products



806 acres farmed with soil and water conservation techniques



KEY LEARNINGS

Integrating mobile technology into THRIVE programming remains key to farmers' resilience when facing economic setbacks. Despite COVID-19 restrictions on in-person meetings, 8,537 participants have been trained on agricultural best practices through the eMlimi app in FY21 alone.

To help farmers gain a competitive edge in the market, processing centers in Chapulapula, Chitekwere, and Madzumbi worked with 61 farmers on developing new, higher quality corn-soy blend recipes with a longer shelf-life. Forums were held to discuss the need for modern aggregation centers that allow products to be gathered and stored until market prices go up, with six commercial villages identifying land for the building of these centers. Farmers also were mobilized to assist in road repairs and advocate for better village infrastructure.



“I have lived in poverty for so long, but I never had the motivation to take a step,” says Allen Kanzelu (second from left), a farmer and mother of three who joined the THRIVE program in FY17. Empowered Worldview training convinced her that “the potential to change was within me That year I harvested 30 bags of maize and five bags of soya beans and 10 bags of groundnuts [peanuts].” A member of the commercial village at Madzumbi, Allen sold these products and made about \$130, income she used to build a house. “Now ... I don't complain about shelter,” she says. “I also bought one pig, but now I have four of them. With increased harvest, I am able to feed my children all year long and my children are able to go to school.”

**Program goal through fiscal year 2023. Note that the goal was adjusted down from last year due to challenges related to COVID-19.*

LIFE-OF-PROGRAM UPDATE



PLANS FOR THE NEXT SIX MONTHS

During the second half of FY21, participants will continue the journey toward empowerment and self-sufficiency. World Vision will focus on increasing villages' competitiveness through collective marketing and new business partnerships. Natural resource-based enterprises (beekeeping, fish farming) will increase household incomes, and VisionFund will assist entrepreneurs through savings and loan products, as well as financial literacy tools. Digital village hazard maps will help farmers prepare for and adapt to climate variability. Finally, staff will enhance project visibility by training Citizen Voice and Action committees on the Building Secure Livelihoods model and promoting the participation of youth, women, and people with disabilities, so that all community members have equal opportunities to leverage their God-given talents and abilities.

THANK YOU

Thank you for joining in the critical work God is doing in Malawi, where thousands of families are experiencing greater resilience, economic security, and hope.



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World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. Motivated by our faith in Jesus Christ, we serve alongside the poor and oppressed as a demonstration of God's unconditional love for all people. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.

FINANCIALS

Program spending October 2020 through March 2021

Summary	Program-to-Date Spending	Program-to-Date Funding Released to Project	Program-to-Date Spending Rate
Increased incomes and productive assets	\$ 2,588,282	\$ 3,289,906	79%
Households adopting an improved on-farm and off-farm natural resource base	975,648	1,043,586	93%
Increased resilience of community livelihoods systems to shocks and disasters	387,268	578,318	67%
Smallholder farmers and their families transformed from a dependence mindset to an empowered worldview	994,512	1,374,852	72%
Effective project monitoring systems in place	471,992	512,035	92%
Management and fundraising	1,805,901	2,266,232	80%
TOTAL	\$ 7,223,603	\$ 9,064,929	80%