



**Global Lift
Collective**

**Rising Together: Empowering
Malawian Churches for Lasting
Change**



 *Ending poverty for good*

Poverty destroys lives. Poverty blights communities. Poverty crushes God-given human potential. Extreme poverty is having no choice but to drink water you know could make you sick. It is carrying the guilt of taking away your child's potential because you can't afford the school fees. It is brokenness and isolation. It is losing hope that things can ever change.

But an end to extreme poverty is possible. The most powerful agent of change in the world already exists; it's the local church. It's God's plan A for transformation. We're inviting you to help unlock the church's potential, to help change the story, and to bring holistic transformation in Malawi.



A Sunday church service at Mapiko Village, Salima District, Malawi. Credit: Alex Baker/Tearfund



"We used to rely on receiving biscuits from friends of our church who came from Canada for mission work. Additionally, we depended on our headquarters to support construction works of our local church," recalls Pastor Chadika of Nkhulawe Pentecostal Assemblies of Malawi. His situation was not unique.

Malawians living in extreme poverty face complex and widespread challenges. Today, 71% of the population lives on less than \$2.15 a day¹ and 3.8 million people, or 20% of the population, experience food insecurity.² Environmental degradation, climate change, loss of soil fertility, and poor farming methods all contribute to the growing food insecurity, and malnutrition remains a major public health concern.³ These existing challenges intensified when Cyclone Freddy hit Malawi in early 2023 destroying over 500,000 acres of crops, killing 194,000 livestock, displacing 500,000 people, and killing over 400 people.⁴

But there is hope, because of the local church.



Impossibilities become possible!

- Pastor Chadika, Nkhulawe Pentecostal Assemblies of Malawi Church

"Now, the story is changing," says Pastor Chadika.

Churches across Malawi are igniting holistic community transformation, equipped by the Malawi Global Lift Collective partners which include HOPE International (HOPE), Tearfund UK (Tearfund), and World Relief (WR). Global Lift Collective (GLC) is a group of Kingdom-minded partners from around the world, learning from each other and working to do something together that we know we can't do alone: champion churches in strategically chosen regions of our world to abolish extreme poverty and unleash the God-given potential of all people. With your help, local churches in Malawi are being equipped to live out their Integral Mission,⁵ bringing hope and change to their communities.

1 The World Bank. 2023. The World Bank in Malawi. Retrieved from www.worldbank.org/en/country/malawi/overview

2 Integrated Food Security Phase Classification. 2022. Acute Food Insecurity Analysis: Malawi. Published on August 8, 2022. Retrieved from: <https://reliefweb.int/report/malawi/malawi-ipc-acute-food-insecurity-analysis-june-2022-march-2023-published-august-8-2022>

3 UNICEF. 2023. Child food poverty brief: Key drivers of malnutrition among children 6 - 23 months. Published January 2023. Retrieved from: <https://www.unicef.org/malawi/reports/child-food-poverty-brief>

4 UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. 2023. Malawi: Tropical Cyclone Freddy Flash Update No. 9. Published on March 25, 2023.

Retrieved from: reliefweb.int/report/malawi/malawi-tropical-cyclone-freddy-flash-update-no-9-25-march-2023

5 Integral Mission is both the proclamation (The Great Commission) and demonstration (The Great Commandment) of the Gospel. It is an understanding that social action and evangelism are both essential and indivisible components of Christian mission.



Pastor Chadika's church joined with Global Lift Collective partner Tearfund UK to implement the Church and Community Mobilization process (CCMP) to become a center for holistic transformation in their community. Esme, a church member, was elected to serve as their facilitator. After being trained, Esme led the congregation through six envisioning questions aimed at challenging them to examine the gap between their desires for the church and their current situation. Through the foundational Bible studies on God's purpose for man, God's vision for man, the ministry of Jesus, being salt and light in the world, and the picture of the church, church members' mindsets changed and they felt compelled and capable of creating change in their community.

Together, they decided to plant 20 tree seedlings (costing around \$6.50 USD) around the church to prevent strong winds from damaging the roof. Next, they purchased and distributed soap, salt, and school materials to 20 community members, including the elderly, the sick, and local school children from impoverished families. Since then, the church has learned how to produce fertilizer, reducing the costs of growing maize, and has launched savings groups. "What used to be impossible is now becoming possible. We are planning to build a floor for our church with cement using our own resources," shares Pastor Chadika.



The members of the Nkhulawo Pentecostal Assemblies of Malawi Church are transforming their community with a spirit of compassion and a heart for the most vulnerable. Credit: Tearfund

The transformation in Pastor Chadika's church showcases the power of community-led development. No longer dependent on external aid, the church has embraced a proactive approach, taking charge of their own challenges and creating positive change in their community. Through their newfound confidence and resourcefulness, they are achieving meaningful impact and making the once seemingly impossible, possible.



 *Global Lift Collective in Malawi*

The solution to poverty is too heavy for any one of us. But God does not call us to work alone. He invites us into "complete unity" (John 17:23). With a shared desire to see God's Kingdom come, HOPE, Tearfund, and WR (Malawi GLC partners) joined hands in 2021 to empower the church in Malawi to serve the most vulnerable. Christ-centered and holistic transformation by the church, and through the church, leads to tangible expressions of God's Kingdom on earth: restoration of dignity and agency, thriving families and communities, and flourishing churches.

GLC partners believe in local leadership, and the solutions they propose are developed by a team of Malawian nonprofit and church leaders. They hold in common the belief that the local church, the largest and broadest global social network, is God's primary answer to a broken and hurting world, and is His preferred plan to bring redemption – physical, spiritual, economic, and social – to His people.



Together, HOPE, Tearfund, and WR are working to bring holistic and lasting change to Malawi through the power of local churches. Credit: World Relief



About 80% of Malawians identify as Christians, with most visiting a church at least weekly. In remote areas of Malawi, far beyond the reach of most services, the church is the epicenter of the community. In these locations, pastors often have unparalleled influence over social, economic, and family concerns that their congregations and communities face. The church is strategically positioned, especially in hard-to-reach areas where many of the world's most vulnerable are concentrated.

GLC partners come alongside local churches in Malawi to provide holistic programs and ministries that champion churches as the main agent of transformative restoration in their communities. Their unique expertise and contributions include the following:




In obedience to Christ's command to love God and love our neighbor, **HOPE International** works in underserved communities around the world providing discipleship opportunities, training, a safe place to save,

and loans. Since 2013, HOPE Malawi has equipped 180,000 people through 2,500 churches with savings groups. Savings group members meet to save money together and then provide loans to one another from their collective savings. As they build a secure fund together, members can invest in income-generating activities, like farming or selling goods, and pay for family needs, such as school fees and secure housing.

The logo for tearfund consists of the word "tearfund" in white, lowercase letters inside a blue, rounded rectangular box.

Tearfund is an experienced international development organization that responds quickly to disasters and conflicts, supporting those in need and working with local churches to empower communities to lift themselves out of poverty. In Malawi, Tearfund has been building climate resilience, responding to emergencies, and establishing community self-help groups since 2003, reaching over 1.7 million people. Tearfund facilitates mindset change in local churches through the Church and Community Mobilization Process (CCMP). Put simply, CCMP is a Bible-based training approach that a local church can use with its community. Through CCMP, churches and communities identify problems in their community and work to find solutions to those problems using their own resources. CCMP is participative, holistic, community-driven, and community-led. Addressing root causes enables long-





We believe in the power of the local church to bring restoration and redemption – physical, spiritual, economic, and social – to all of Malawi.

term change and security, so the impact is lasting and maintained. CCMP changes lives, and enables whole communities to lift themselves out of poverty.



World Relief is a global Christian humanitarian organization whose mission is to empower the local church to serve the most vulnerable.

For nearly 80 years, World Relief has partnered with local churches and communities to develop sustainable, locally-driven solutions to some of our world's greatest problems. They have worked in Malawi since 1999. Today, WR impacts more than 1.7 million people annually through interventions in early childhood development, child protection, nutrition, water and sanitation, maternal and child health, HIV and AIDS, agriculture and economic empowerment. With a focus on sustainability, accountability, and local leadership, World Relief collaborates with government ministries, local leaders, and organizations to make a resilient and sustainable impact in families, churches, and entire communities.



2024-2025 Proposed Project

The proposed project, in partnership with Global Lift Collective, aims to make a significant impact on the lives of people in Malawi from 2024 to 2025. The primary goal is to **equip and empower 4,214 churches across six Malawian districts to reach a total of 22,400 individuals** by December 2025.



An additional **200,000 people in these communities will be indirectly impacted.** The project's activities are grouped under four key outcomes:

1. Scaling up existing

sustainable initiatives: The project aims to mobilize churches and empower youth to create positive change in their communities. This includes launching Church

Empowerment Zones, providing capacity-building for church leaders, and reducing youth unemployment through vocational training.

2. Strengthening integration among GLC Partners: The project will work on advocacy initiatives to address challenges related to climate issues, crop market access, and water accessibility. It will also promote conservation agriculture, theological training for pastors, beekeeping for economic and environmental sustainability, and disaster risk reduction.

3. Innovating to better serve: The project will pilot various initiatives to improve access to safe water, boost banana production for economic empowerment, and support sustainable community business development through greenhouse farming.

4. Deepening relationships among GLC partners: GLC Malawi partners recognize the value of partnership and plans to build stronger relationships among the organizations involved. Regular coordination meetings, field visits, and community consultations will ensure local ownership and involvement in decision-making.



Joice is a member of a savings group started by a HOPE Malawi church partner. With her savings, Joice was able to start a small business selling food staples at her local market to support her and her family. Credit: HOPE





This project will equip and empower 4,215 churches to reach 22,400 individuals across six districts in Malawi.

The Supporting Information document includes a Project Matrix and Project Plan Narrative that outline the long-term impact and medium-term outcomes that this project envisions. To measure the impact and outcomes, the project team will conduct a baseline study at the beginning of the implementation and an endline evaluation at the program's conclusion. The project's success will be measured through indicators of spiritual growth, empowerment, social cohesion, improved food security, increased income, and better access to safe water in the targeted communities.

Overall, the project aims to make a significant positive change in the lives of people in Malawi by empowering communities, improving livelihoods, and fostering sustainable development. Through partnerships and community involvement, the project aims to uplift the lives of thousands of individuals, with long-term benefits for the participating churches and districts in Malawi.

Project Budget

- **Total budget:** \$2,251,424
- Cost per church equipped: \$534 (total of 4,241 churches)
- Cost per person directly impacted: \$100.51 (total of 22,400 individuals)
- Cost per person indirectly impacted: \$11.25 (total of 200,000 individuals)



 *Story of Transformation: Agricultural Training Improving Livelihoods*

Tending to three acres of land in Malawi's Salima district, James, a subsistence farmer, used to struggle with low yields and poor soil fertility. He typically only produced five bags of corn at harvest, which was inadequate to meet the needs of his family.

However, just one season after completing World Relief's Foundations for Farming training, James is already reaping the benefits of conservation agriculture. He now employs mulching and fertilization methods, and practices pest control to protect his crops. Today, James achieved an astounding harvest of 11 bags of corn from the demonstration plot, each weighing 110 pounds. He is confident that by continuing to implement the conservation agriculture methods, he can increase his yield to up to 15 bags. With this surplus, James plans to extend his field in the next growing season and possibly sell his excess produce.

James enthusiastically shares, "I am very impressed with the performance of my maize crop. I have not been able to feed my family in the past due to low yields caused by soil degradation and the high prices of fertilizers. With conservation agriculture, the soil has regained its moisture, and my maize crop stays green, something I have never witnessed before. Properly applying fertilizer has reduced wastage and costs. This is the first time I've had such a successful harvest on this plot, and I am amazed by the number of bags I have harvested from this small area. This intervention will address the food security issues here, and I am pleading with HOPE International and Malawi Assemblies of God to reach out to many more people in need."

James' transformation from struggling with low yields to achieving an abundant harvest is a testament to the positive impact of Global Lift Collective in Malawi. James' success not only brings hope to his family but also showcases the potential of conservation agriculture to improve food security and livelihoods for farmers across the region.



 *Will you be part of this transformational story?*

The potential of the local church in God's plan of restoration is powerful, and you have a role to play.

By supporting this work, you can be at the heart of supporting local churches to transform their communities and build a better future. You can help make impossibilities become possible for people like James and Pastor Chadika. Will you be part of this transformational work?



Thanks to the partnership of Global Lift Collective, James is seeing improved yields and is now able to provide for his family! Credit: HOPE

