

# EDUCATION FOR IMPACT KEYNOTE ADDRESS

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Bingu International Convention Centre (BICC).

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# Introduction



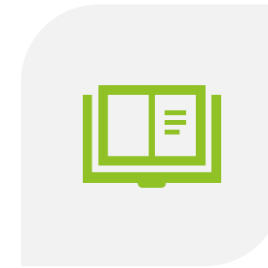
WELCOME AND  
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



SHARED PURPOSE: EVALUATE  
PROGRESS AND CONFRONT  
CHALLENGES



REFLECT CRITICALLY INTO HOW  
POLICIES AND PROGRAMS  
TRANSLATE INTO TANGIBLE  
IMPACTFUL EDUCATION FOR  
MALAWI CITIZENS



FORGE A PATH TOWARD IMPACT  
EDUCATION IN MALAWI

# OVERVIEW OF EDUCATION IN MALAWI

# Key Successes in the Education Sector in Malawi (2023-24)

Continued rise in primary and secondary school enrolment, especially for girls and marginalized groups.

Significant investments in classrooms, sanitation, and access to clean water.

Comprehensive training programs to enhance teaching quality.

Updates to the curriculum to focus on 21st-century skills.

Enhanced budget allocations reflecting commitment to educational improvement.

Strengthening of Policy Frameworks - new policies promoting inclusive education and access for all.

Partnerships with NGOs and International Organizations to implement educational programs.

Use of Technology in Education including integration of e-learning platforms and digital resources in classrooms.

Enhanced data collection for informed policy decisions.

Programs to increase community involvement in schools.

# Challenges

- Concerning retention and transition rates ,
- Non-conducive teacher-student ratios,
- Overcrowded classrooms
- Poor quality infrastructure
- Poor sanitation
- Quality and number of teachers

# Retention and Transition Rates

Primary to Secondary  
Completion rate: 60-70%  
Transition rate: ~40%

Gender disparities:  
Girls 30-35%, Boys ~50%

Secondary to Tertiary Transition

Transition rate: 10-15%

Barriers: Limited spaces, high costs, financial constraints

Gender disparities persist

# Infrastructure Challenges



Overcrowded classrooms



Lack of teaching and learning materials



Poor sanitation facilities



Poor buildings



Inadequate facilities impacting literacy and numeracy

# Teacher Quality



## Qualifications

60% of primary teachers trained as teachers  
Only 10-15% hold a degree or higher



## Teacher-Student Ratios

Average: 1:60, higher in rural areas (may be up to 1-80+)



## Teacher Retention and Development

High attrition rates (~20% annually)  
Limited professional development opportunities



# Literacy and Numeracy Rates

- ▶ Adult literacy: ~62%
- ▶ Youth literacy: 75-80%
- ▶ Significant struggles in numeracy (60-70% below proficiency)



# Policy Initiatives

- ▶ Education Sector Strategic Plan (ESSP) - Focus on quality education, equity, and access with clear improvement targets.
- ▶ Legislation on free and compulsory Primary Education
- ▶ Malawi Education Sector Improvement Project (MESIP) - focus on quality enhancement, increasing access and equity through targeted infrastructure development, teacher training and curriculum reform
- ▶ Malawi Education Reform Program (MERP) - focuses on improving quality and relevance through comprehensive policy reforms, enhanced teacher training and integration of modern teaching methodologies



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# ACHIEVING IMPACTFUL EDUCATION FOR THE CITIZENS OF MALAWI

# Foundational Learning



# Teacher Quality and Welfare



Increase qualified  
teachers in rural  
areas



Continuous  
professional  
development



Better  
compensation and  
recognition



Better working  
conditions and  
availability of  
teaching materials

# Governance and Accountability



Data-Driven  
Decision Making



Importance of  
transparency in  
resource allocation



Using data for  
evidence-based  
policies



Collaborate for  
impactful  
education



Robust monitoring  
and evaluation

# Curriculum Alignment with MW2063

- ▶ Digital Literacy: Proficiency in using digital tools and technologies, including computers, smartphones, and the internet, to access information, communicate, and solve problems
- ▶ STEM Skills (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) - to prepare students for careers in fast-growing fields and technologies.
- ▶ Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- ▶ Creativity and Innovation - to drive economic growth and adaptability.
- ▶ Collaboration and Teamwork: Skills to work effectively in diverse teams.
- ▶ Entrepreneurial Skills - including business planning, financial literacy, and market analysis.
- ▶ Adaptability and Resilience- to adapt to changing circumstances and recover from setbacks.
- ▶ Social and Emotional Skills - to navigate social complexities and foster positive relationships.

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# Education in Emergencies



CLIMATE SHOCKS  
(CYCLONES, DROUGHT)  
AND HEALTH CRISES  
(COVID, CHOLERA)



ADDRESSING  
VULNERABILITY THROUGH  
DISASTER PREPAREDNESS  
AND MAPPING



INVEST IN ROBUST AND  
RESILIENT  
INFRASTRUCTURE



IMPLEMENTING FLEXIBLE  
LEARNING MODELS SUCH  
AS ONLINE LEARNING AND  
RADIO LEARNING  
SOLUTIONS



IMPLEMENT DISASTER  
PREPAREDNESS  
CURRICULUM



# Promoting Equity and Inclusion

Promote access to quality education for all, regardless of gender, geographical location and physical ability

Address barriers for girls and marginalized groups through special programs

Special needs education

Innovative methodologies to reach the underserved communities

Deliberate effort to attract disillusioned populations

# Infrastructure and resourcing

## Infrastructure Development

Creating Conducive Learning  
Environments  
Modernizing schools and facilities

Ensuring adequate teaching  
materials

## Resources and Funding

- Sustainable Financing
- Aligning financial resources with priorities
- Exploring public-private partnerships

# Conclusion



THERE HAVE BEEN SOME  
SUCCESSSES WHILE  
CHALLENGES REMAIN



NEED FOR  
COLLABORATION FOR  
IMPACTFUL EDUCATION



ADDRESS ACCESS AND  
QUALITY BOTTLENECKS



ADOPT CLIMATE SMART  
AND EDUCATION FOR  
RESILIENCE



INTEGRATE INNOVATIVE  
FINANCING MODELS

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION**

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