

DEMOCRATIC PROGRESSIVE PARTY

SUSTAINING A PEOPLE-CENTRED GOVERNMENT

A GOVERNMENT WE CAN TRUST

2025-2030

Manifesto







CONTENTS

FOREWORD	5	CHAPTER 5:ENABLERS	46
OUR COLLECTIVE VISION	8	5.1 MINDSET CHANGE	47
OUR MISSION	8	5.2 RULE OF LAW, GOVERNANCE AND CORRUPTION	48
OUR PLEDGE	8	5.2.1 GOOD GOVERNANCE	48
OUR CALL FOR UNITY	8	5.2.2 SECURITY	50
CHAPTER 1: CONTEXT	10	5.2.3 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND THE DIASPORA	55
CHAPTER 2: GUARANTEES AND SAFEGUARDS	14	5.3 PUBLIC SERVICE PERFORMANCE	57
CHAPTER 3: THE MACROECONOMIC FRAMEWORK	16	5.4 PRIVATE SECTOR, INDUSTRY AND TRADE	58
CHAPTER 4: PILLARS OF DEVELOPMENT	24	5.5 HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT	63
4.1 AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY AND COMMERCIALIZATION	25	5.5.1 EDUCATION	63
4.2 INDUSTRIALISATION	28	5.5.2 HEALTH, NUTRITION, SANITATION AND HYGIENE	68
4.2.1 MINING	30	5.5.3 YOUTH AND SPORTS	74
4.2.2 TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE	32	5.5.4 WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AND GENDER	76
4.2.3 ENERGY	35	5.5.5 DISADVANTAGED PERSON, ELDERLY AND PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS	79
4.2.4 ICT AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE	38	5.6 ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT	81
4.3 URBANISATION	38	5.6.1 CLIMATE CHANGE	81
4.3.1 TOURISM	39	5.6.2 DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT	82
4.3.2 CREATION OF SECONDARY CITIES	42	5.7 NON-STATE ACTORS: MEDIA, CIVIL SOCIETY & RELIGIOUS ORGANISATIONS	83
4.3.3 LAND, HOUSING AND WATER SERVICES	42	5.8 CREATIVE ARTS	84
4.4 DECENTRALISATION	44	CHAPTER 6: A CALL TO MALAWIANS AND PARTNERS	88

FOREWORD

The Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) is here, once again with its development and governance blueprint for the period 2025 to 2030. This Manifesto reflects DPPs beliefs and values which are grounded on people-centered development approaches, long term infrastructure developments, people-driven economic paradigms, and a culture of respect for human rights and human dignity for all. This is in line with the Malawi 2063, and its First 10-year Implementation Plan (MIP-1), as guided by the Political Parties (Amendment) Act, No.1 of 2022.

Our country has structural challenges that make it vulnerable to exogenous shocks resulting in hunger, disease and unemployment. But this is the reason Malawi has the DPP and its leadership to end the vicious cycle. While the DPP government ensured that nobody died of hunger throughout its reign of office from 2014 to 2020, focus in the coming years will be on sustainable development.

We stabilized the economy and embarked on sustainable development, which unfortunately the current government has almost collapsed. The DPP will build resilience to natural disasters and get the country ready for a productive nation that will compete and progress on the global scale. We are the DPP, and we deliver what we promise.

Under the DPP, Malawi will graduate into an inclusively wealthy and self-reliant industrialised upper-income country by. Just like the DPP pledged in 2019 to turn Malawi into a middle-income country by 2030, we are here to continue a Government that the people of Malawi want; a Government they can trust, a Government that will continue to deliver on its promises.

The DPP has been tried and tested and has proved its worth. At the time we formed government in 2014, we found a broken economy, with inflation at 27 percent and we reduced it to single digits; we inherited a country with debt levels equal to the size of the national budget, and a country with foreign exchange cover of less than one month. Donors who had been supporting 40 percent of the budget had just deserted our country because of the infamous **cashgate** which occurred under the previous government at that time. Further, in less than a year in office, floods and later drought hit the country and left more than half of the population at the risk of starvation. Yet, we prevailed over these challenges, we worked hard, and God had always been on our side to the extent that we left a stable and growing economy in 2020.

Our country has once again been plunged into a deep economic, social and political crisis by the Malawi Congress Party government. The current government is led by a Party which has proven beyond reasonable doubt that it is the

most incompetent, wasteful and inhuman political party ever to have led our country. We will be going to the Presidential, Parliamentary and Local Government elections in September 2025 with inflation above 30%, youth unemployment at over 90%, public debt at more than MK16 trillion (80 percent of GDP and growing), and endemic foreign exchange shortages. The Malawi economy is in a state of a crisis; the economy is broken.

The Democratic Progressive Party promises only what it can deliver. In 2014 we made and fulfilled promises to drastically reduce the number of households which were perpetually without food; promises to ensure security to individuals, households and businesses; promises on ICT and road infrastructure; promises to revamp the health sector and promises to consolidate the gains made in the education sector for the full realization of human capital development; promises to fight corruption, promises on public sector reforms; decent and affordable housing; and cash transfers to the poor and elderly; promises on farm input subsidy programme; promises on community colleges; and many more.

We promised to turn the economy around and set the country on the path to sustainable growth and development. We have delivered on all these, despite some bottlenecks and structural constraints we faced.

This manifesto is about a comprehensive economic empowerment programme targeting all the people with deliberate focus on the youth. The DPP government will focus on programmes that will spur growth and address the bottlenecks to growth and development. These include the MW2063's three Pillars, namely: Agricultural Productivity and Commercialisation; Industrialisation; and Urbanisation.

Specific supportive programs have been constructed in the ten MW2063 Enablers, namely: Mindset Change; Rule of Law; Security, International cooperation and diaspora, Public Sector Performance; Private Sector Dynamism; Human Capital Development; Education, Health, Youth, Women Empowerment, Disadvantaged Persons, Environmental Sustainability; Non-State Actors and the Creative Arts.

With this Manifesto we mean business. Our development will be rooted in the people we will be serving. We will create sustainable jobs. We will decentralize our budgets in real sense.

We will allocate K5 billion every year to each and every constituency, that is, K2.25 billion to be spent in every ward every year. In addition, each constituency will be allocated K100 million every year for our youths to access soft loans for businesses. Every constituency will also be allocated K100 million for businesses operated by women.

The DPP understands that we have a lot of untapped skills in this country. This is why every year, each constituency will be allocated K50 million for sports and creative arts. We will also promote artificial intelligence and digital transformation.

Through this decentralization model, at least 229 professionals will be recruited as Executive Directors together with thousands of engineers, doctors, nurses, auditors, researchers, artisans, and many more. These will be based at constituency offices across the country.

The DPP is people-centred.

At the international level, the DPP Manifesto reflects our belief in multilateralism and the need to turn Malawi into an active player in economic globalization. Consequently, this Manifesto establishes a platform for the domestication of the

United Nations (UN) 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the 2063 African Union Agenda, the Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA), the Vienna Programme of Action (VPoA), the Southern African Development Community Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (SADC RISDP), the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) Treaty, the African Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) just to mention a few. The DPP believes that Malawi is not an island, but is an integral member of the international community.

On behalf of the mighty Democratic Progressive Party, I am happy to invite all Malawi citizens within and outside the country, to join the winning party, the DPP, and to participate in the political, economic and social development of our country. I also cordially welcome Malawi citizens of European, American, Asian, other African and Arabic descent who have made their home in Malawi or who are residing here, to join hands with the DPP so that together we can build our country for the benefit of our children, our grandchildren and for all generations to come. Now that the DPP government realized our dream for Dual-Citizenship which is now legalized; and with Patriotism, Integrity and Hard Work as our development pillars, with Agricultural productivity and commercialisation; Industrialisation and Urbanisation we will transform Malawi within the shortest time possible. The DPP is set and ready to transform Malawi into an inclusively wealthy and self-reliant industrialised upper-middle income country enroute to 2063.

H.E. PROF. ARTHUR PETER MUTHARIKA
PRESIDENT, DEMOCRATIC PROGRESSIVE PARTY,
PAGE HOUSE, MANGOCHI, MALAWI



OUR COLLECTIVE VISION

An inclusively wealthy and self-reliant Nation

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to facilitate self-sufficiency and instil self-confidence through people-driven governance structures, transparency and accountability systems, and a deeper sense of socio-economic independence in Malawians. This will be achieved by creating a conducive environment for wealth creation, hard work, and sustainable pro-growth jobs. We will also redistribute wealth and increase the supply of quality goods and services for both domestic and international markets while making Malawi open for trade and investment.

OUR PLEDGE

We will make Malawi hunger-free again, and stabilise and grow the economy.

We will desire and resolve to be an inclusively wealthy and self-reliant industrialized upper-middle-income country by the year 2063, so we can fund our development needs primarily by ourselves. Our manufacturing industry shall have strong forward and backward linkages with the sectors that will drive it. We shall achieve this Vision through collective effort and shall not allow any state or non-state actor to derail us.

We will deliver people-centered development; and practice developmentally-driven politics. We shall provide sound political and economic leadership and work with all Malawians, thereby consolidating peace, harmony, security and stability as the basis for prosperity of our country. Most fundamental of all, we pledge to walk the talk and turn our development promises into real benefits for the people. Our pedestal shall continue to be Patriotism, Integrity and Hardwork.

OUR CALL FOR UNITY

In the spirit of progress and the well-being of every Malawian, we in the DPP, realize that our shared commitment to the future of this beautiful country transcends tribal and political differences. Whether we sit on the benches of government or opposition, we should all share one common goal: to serve the people of Malawi with integrity, dedication, and vision. Our differences should not be barriers to progress, but opportunities to enrich our nation's collective wisdom.

In unity, we find strength. In strength, we build a prosperous Malawi for today, and for future generations.





CHAPTER 1 CONTEXT

Malawi remains one of the least developed countries in the world. This is unacceptable and must change. The DPP will transform this country into an inclusively wealthy and self-reliant industrialized upper-middle-income country in line with the Malawi 2063.

As a direct consequence of the fractured political economic history inherited from the Kamuzu Banda regime, Malawi relies on agriculture for employment of most of our people and as a source of foreign exchange. We do very little value addition and light manufacturing. Since our agriculture is largely rain-fed, the economy is vulnerable to weather-related shocks and depleting natural resources.

The DPP understands that Malawi's economic performance has historically been constrained by poor infrastructure, policy inconsistency, corruption, high population growth, macroeconomic instability, natural disasters, and poor health and education outcomes that limit labour productivity. The DPP further knows that our country has potential for growth in other productive sectors of manufacturing, tourism and mining; but the efforts employed so far have not been as effective due to lack of political will and outright leadership incompetence, unreliable and inadequate energy supply, inadequate skills, inconsistent planning and underdeveloped financial sector, among others.

Malawi's population currently stands at just over 22 million and is projected to be 24 million by the year 2030 and 45 million by 2063. In 2025, women comprise 51 percent of the population. Further, 51 percent of the population is below the age of 18, putting Malawi at a high youth dividend advantage. Most Malawians live in rural areas, but this fact is fast changing with an annual urban growth rate higher than 5 percent and by the end of 2025, absolute urban growth will have exceeded rural growth.

In 2014 - 2019 we promised to transform the country

through our 2014 Elections Campaign Manifesto. Most of the promises were fulfilled:

- No person died of hunger, despite the country having been exposed to droughts and floods;
- We decreased our reliance on rainfed agriculture by 13 percent, with 116,000 hectares of land put under irrigation;
- We brought down Inflation rate from 27 percent in 2014 to single digit in 2020;
- We had foreign Exchange that could support more than six months of imports into our country, compared to less than one month that we found in 2014.
- We constructed 20 Community Colleges across the country, and we were in the process of constructing 8 more in 2020;
- Over 6,000 youths were trained in various technical, vocational and entrepreneurial skills. More than 25,000 students got enrolled in our public universities compared to about 10,000 students that were enrolled in 2014;

In line with the DPP's belief to protect the right to housing, 22,000 households comprising old people, child-headed families, widows, persons with albinism, and the extremely poor are now living in decent houses built under the Decent and Affordable Housing Program (DAHP) popularly known as Malata and Cement Subsidy programme.

Under the DPP government, the Malawi economy was once the fastest growing in the SADC region.

- We rehabilitated and constructed major roads across the country such as the Chikhwawa - Ngabu - Bangula road; the Lilongwe West Bypass road; Zomba - Blantyre road; Upgrading of the Jenda - Edingeni road; Milepa - Chiradzulu road; the Zomba - Jali - Phalombe - Chitakale road; Thyolo - Thekerani - Muona - Makhanga road; Liwonde - Mangochi road; Lilongwe Old Airport - Kasiya - Kasungu road; Mzuzu - Nkhatabay road; Karonga - Songwe road; Njakwa - Livingstonia road; Thabwa - Chitseko - Seveni road. We also

constructed over 100 bridges across the country; including the Chapananga bridge.

- The DPP secured funding for the rehabilitation of the following roads: (1) Mchinji round about to Kanengo (China Aid); (2) M1 from Kanengo to Karonga (European Investment Bank) and; (3) rehabilitation of the Kamuzu Procession Road (Japanese Aid)
- DPP in 2018 secured a grant from USAID on the construction of 250 secondary schools distributed across the 193 constituencies and MCP Government failed to construct 151 secondary schools under the programme and were therefore withdrawn. Further to this, through the EQUALS project under the World Bank, we secured construction of 100 Community Day Secondary Schools.
- The DPP Government expanded infrastructure and programmes in all constituent colleges of public universities in order to increase intake and provide modern equipment. These are Chancellor College, the Polytechnic, College of Medicine, Bunda College, Kamuzu College of Nursing, Natural Resources College, Mzuzu University and Malawi University of Science and Technology (MUST).
- In 2019, the DPP Government unbundled the University of Malawi into three distinctive universities; University of Malawi (formerly Chancellor College), Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences(formerly Polytechnic) and Kamuzu University of Health Sciences (formerly College of Medicine and Kamuzu College of Nursing). The process has made these universities stand alone and increased staffing levels as well as increased access to university education.
- We abolished the Quota System of selecting students for secondary as well as tertiary education, as introduced by MCP Government in 1987.
- We rehabilitated and constructed roads in all the four





cities of Mzuzu, Lilongwe, Zomba and Blantyre. These include connecting roads and bypass roads. For example, we constructed dual carriageway in Mzuzu; the Parliament Round-About – Bingu National Stadium Roundabout dual carriageway in Lilongwe; and Chileka Roundabout – Magalasi dual carriage road in Blantyre. We also constructed many ring, radial and arterial roads in locations.

- Through the Malawi Rural Electrification Program (MAREP) 8, we provided electricity to 473 trading centres and villages, the single largest reach in the history of the country.
- We constructed a state of the art and purpose-built SQAM Laboratory and Office Complex in Blantyre fully funded by the DPP Government to facilitate both domestic and international trade by ensuring that products and services consistently meet the quality, safety, and regulatory requirements.
- A few competing challenges existed; among them the growing population, which is affecting the rate at which the positive growth registered benefits the majority of Malawians. On the other hand, however, our youths of under 30 years of age constitute about 70 percent of the population, occasioning the DPP government to capitalise on the demographic dividend where the youth will help accelerate economic growth through increased productivity in the job market.

From 2025 to 2030, the DPP Government will continue with its development agenda, including the positive developments that may have started or happened in the period 2020 to 2025, a lost half-decade.

- We will mobilise enough resources needed to attain the dreams of the people of Malawi. We will sustain the management of a sound macroeconomic framework, with a single-digit inflation, and by 2030, we aim to grow the economy by an average of 6 percent. The DPP government already set the foundation for this.



CHAPTER 2

GUARANTEES AND SAFEGUARDS

The Democratic Progressive Party lives by its word. It only promises what it can deliver and delivers what it promises. We are Progressive. We are Patriotic. We are Hardworking. We are of high Integrity. We can be trusted.

- We will form the next Government again aware that aid taps from Western donors have dried up. We have the experience of running a Government without budget support between 2014 and 2020, a period in which government ministries, departments and agencies never experienced zero funding. We are ready to build on that experience to move Malawi forward with locally generated resources.
- Malawi will grow sufficient food for consumption and export.
- The Democratic Progressive Party believes that we cannot move Malawi forward by leaving the majority behind. We shall, therefore, introduce an inclusive economy in which no one is left behind. We subscribe to the idea of “One Malawi, One Destiny” in which we either transform or fail together. The DPP will, therefore, make inclusive national development a uniting agenda of all Malawians who desire to move from poverty to prosperity.
- We subscribe to the practice of inclusion. We believe that we cannot move Malawi forward by leaving the majority or minority behind. We will introduce inclusive education in which learners with different abilities will have a suitable curriculum and examination that suits them. As such, we will ensure that children with autism and all manner of different learning abilities are not left behind in the education system and the job market.
- It was the DPP Government that formed the National Planning Commission and we will support long term development planning by the Commission. The DPP will continue to focus on investment rather than aid as our development policy. For example, investment in education shall be promoted by extending every primary school to a secondary school in order to achieve 100% transition from primary to secondary school by 2063.
- The DPP will continue to promote women in business, in leadership, in development and in the cultural heritage of our country. We shall increase women representation in the Parliament, the Cabinet, the Civil Service and all aspects of Malawi’s development.
- The DPP will continue to invest in the youths, providing them with skills especially in community technical colleges.
- We will protect the interests of the elderly and persons with different abilities.
- The DPP will continue to ensure that Malawi is a place where all bonafide investors, diplomats and international organizations will feel safe, secure and at home. They will be invited to contribute actively and positively to our economic development.
- The DPP will continue to encourage a knowledge-based economy informed by research in institutions of higher learning, related institutions and think-tanks.
- We will manage and safeguard the finances and natural resources of the country with integrity and patriotism.
- We will run a lean and inclusive Cabinet.
- We will rationalize the number and quality of Principal Secretaries.
- DPP will review and rationalize the functions of parastatals and other State-Owned Enterprises
- The Democratic Progressive Party will continue with an external policy that strengthens our national sovereignty and promotes growth and development of our country. As Malawians living outside the country will be enjoying their dual-citizenship status, they will be encouraged to contribute to the development of Malawi.
- We will have a Manifesto Monitoring and Evaluation Unit that will work with the National Planning Commission on tracking implementation of the commitments we are making in this 2025 - 2030 Manifesto.

A person in a suit is writing on a document with a pen. The background is blurred, showing a laptop and a pair of glasses. The text 'CHAPTER 3' is overlaid on the left side of the image.

CHAPTER 3

THE MACROECONOMIC FRAMEWORK

The success of MIP-1's wealth creation drive relies on the existence of a stable macroeconomic environment to strengthen private sector participation in the economy. Over the past four years, Malawi's macroeconomy has been unstable. Between 2021 and 2024, inflation rate averaged 25 percent and increased to 34.2 percent in the first three months of 2025 and is feared to remain elevated till August 2025. The policy rate has followed the same trend and is currently standing at 26 percent from 12 percent in 2020.

The country's official forex reserves are currently at their lowest in 10 years. To make matters worse, with the domestic primary balance in the negative territory, the public debt stock at MK 16.4 trillion from MK4.1 trillion in 2020 has reached an unsustainable levels. The unsustainable rise in Public debt is on account of Government excessive borrowing from the banking system which has resulted in the crowding out of the private sector. In line with these depressing economic metrics GDP growth was marginal during the period between 2021 and 2024 and is estimated to have averaged 1.0 percent. In fact, real GDP growth declined by 1.8 percent in 2024.

In order to address these challenges on the economy, the DPP will implement measures to stabilize the economy and reduce inflation to single digit by end-2027. These measures will set the stage for a rebound in the growth of the economy to an average of 6.5 percent from 2028 to 2030.

3.1 STABILISATION OF THE ECONOMY

The DPP government will deploy a combination of fiscal, foreign exchange, monetary and debt management measures to stabilize the economy. The measures will be as follows:

3.1.1 FISCAL CONSOLIDATION MEASURES

The DPP government will implement serious fiscal consolidation measures that will make the country save around K500 billion in 2026, K700 billion in 2027, and K1.5 trillion per year from 2028 to 2030. Specifically, the DPP government will:

- Have a lean and inclusive Cabinet.
- Drastically reduce the budget for State Residences.
- Freeze the purchase of new vehicles for public officials.
- Implement strict Commitment Controls under the Integrated Financial Management Information System (IFMIS) to contain creation of arrears and eliminate guarantees by Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs).
- Develop and implement a Domestic Revenue Mobilization Strategy (DRMS) to increase revenue by 5 percentage points of GDP by 2030 through widening of the tax base, improving tax compliance, improving the perception of the tax system, strengthening institutional capacity for revenue mobilization (modernization of MRA operations and revamping the VAT system), and improving non-tax revenue collection.
- Rationalise fiscal expenditure and stop implementation of non-budget activities.
- Reform the Agriculture Input Program (AIP) with a view to improve targeting, cut wastage and increase efficiency and effectiveness for sustainable food security in Malawi and higher impact agriculture.
- Review VAT exemptions on motor vehicles for public officers with a view to eliminating the unnecessary ones.
- Enhance transparency and accountability in state-owned enterprises
- Reverse the decisions to relocate MACRA, MHC, MBC, Prison Services, NSO, etc to Lilongwe
- Rationalise the public service, including foreign missions.
- Rationalise the operational costs of Parliament.



The above fiscal consolidation measures will save our country about K5.15 trillion. These funds will be used to start reducing the public debt to move the domestic primary balance from negative to positive, and to directly or through PPP invest in growth propelling projects identified under MIP-1.

3.1.2 EXCHANGE RATE STABILIZATION MEASURES

Under the DPP government, the exchange rate will be stable and predictable. Within 6 months, we will:

- Work with the IMF to craft an ECF programme that takes into account Malawi's peculiar and unique realities.
- Enter into Ten-year USD 1.5 – USD 2.0 Billion financial arrangements with regional and international financial institutions to support the official foreign reserve position of the country.
- Reintroduce US\$500 million Government guaranteed revolving Letters of Credit (L/C) facilities between the Reserve Bank of Malawi (RBM) and some regional banks for financing of Malawi's strategic imports (fuel, fertilizer, medicines).
- Reverse the decision by the current administration to transfer Foreign Currency Dominated Accounts (FCDAs) from Commercial Banks to the RBM.
- Reverse all the negative exchange control regulations on FCDAs belonging to Non-Governmental Organisations, Foreign missions and Malawians in Diaspora.
- Reverse exchange control regulations on mandatory conversion of export receipts.

With the above measures, Malawi will have a stable exchange rate and a very narrow parallel market premium.

3.1.3 MONETARY POLICY MEASURES

The DPP understands that our economy is in such a bad state that as we move towards the September General Elections, consumers have greatly reduced spending compared to what they used to have five years ago. We know that the economic environment has negatively affected businesses and has led to many leading firms laying off workers and even stopping investing in new capacity. Exports have almost stopped and the country is in dire need of forex exchange. Meanwhile inflation is at above 30 percent, the highest level in the past decade. In short the economy is in crisis.

Moving forward, the DPP government will implement a hybrid of monetary policies aimed at stimulating economic activities and consequently create employment; and also curb inflation. We will therefore:

- set the monetary policy rate at a level consistent with positive real interest rates to tame inflation.
- slow down reserve money growth from 26 percent at the beginning of 2025 to 10 percent at the end of 2028
- contain Reserve Bank's net lending to Government; and decelerate Broad money growth from 17.9 percent in 2025 to 10 percent in 2028.

3.1.4 DEBT MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Malawi is heavily indebted and the economy is chocking. As of end 2024, the country's total public debt stood at K16.19 trillion, representing approximately 86.4% of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Malawi's debt portfolio is heavily skewed towards short-term obligations, with approximately 38.5 percent of total public domestic debt maturing in year 2025. This maturity

profile clearly reflects an over-reliance on short-term domestic debt instruments, such as Treasury bills and Ways and Means advances from the Reserve Bank to finance government's fiscal deficits and manage cash flow needs.

The DPP government will manage the debt differently. Specifically, we will:

- Adhere to the annual borrowing plan issued in conformity with the Medium-Term Debt Strategy
- Negotiate and restructure debts for sustainable settlement
- Prioritize contracting of concessional loans, against commercial loans.
- Not enter into any contractual obligations for new external public and publicly guaranteed (PPG) non-concessional debt for at least two years until a review has been conducted.
- Borrow only for productive purposes and not for consumption.
- Develop a new Medium-Term Debt Strategy 2025-2030.
- Attain a positive primary balance of the central government of at least MK 270 Billion (1 percent of GDP) by end of the first year, 2026.

3.2 RESOURCE ENVELOPE

The DPP Government will strive to live within its means and avoid excessive borrowing that can burden innocent future generations. This is why our manifesto will be based on revenues that will be within our control as Malawians.

The DPP estimates a cumulative revenue combined budget of MK 28.5 Trillion in 5 years, as assumed in the existing Revenue Mobilization Strategy. Domestic revenue is estimated to grow by 1.5 percent of GDP annually beginning with the 2025 revenue, while grants are estimated to slow down in the wake of donor fatigue and the international political economy dynamics. By 2030, domestic primary balance will have moved from the current negative to positive 2 percent of GDP.





3.3 GROWING THE ECONOMY

After stabilizing the economy, the DPP government will anchor investments in key growth enabling projects as highlighted in MIP-1, where we will invest MK6.35 trillion of own funds saved through fiscal consolidation and stabilization measures. These funds will be allocated into optimal capital structure from development partners and concessional loans. Our level of borrowing will be such that it does not create debt distress and that the Government is able to service the debt without recourse to further borrowing. Hence the DPP Government will ensure that the Domestic Primary Balance remains above 1 percent from 2028-2030.

Priority investments will be made into the following growth generating sectors:

- Power generation.
- Mining
- Economic infrastructure – railway, roads, industrial parks, export processing zones, airports, inland water transport, access to the sea.
- Agriculture productivity and commercialization of cotton, soy beans and wheat for value addition and maize for national food security
- Structured import substitution
- Production of exportable goods and services in which Malawi has a comparative advantage within the region
- Tourism

3.4 LEVERAGING FINANCIAL MARKETS

The DPP Government will leverage on the huge financial resources available within the financial markets in the form of Pension and Insurance funds to negotiate win-win joint financing structures for the growth enabling projects.



CHAPTER 4

PILLARS OF DEVELOPMENT



Guided by the Malawi 2063, the DPP's development agenda will be anchored by the following four pillars; Agricultural Productivity and Commercialisation, Industrialisation, Urbanisation and Decentralisation.

4.1 AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY AND COMMERCIALIZATION

Malawi's economy is anchored by agriculture, contributing an average of 30 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) over the past 10 years. However the sector, which relies on small scale farmers and employs 80 percent of the population, faces huge challenges in productivity and diversity; over-reliance on smallholder farmers; and a focus on maize for staple food.

Maize has been a focus of Malawi's policy agenda, despite the fact that other crops such as cassava, rice, sweet potatoes, sorghum, bananas, and Irish potatoes grow equally well. Tobacco is the main export crop contributing more than 40 percent of the country's annual export earnings, followed by tea, sugar, dried legumes, cotton and nuts.

The DPP Government is committed to facilitate agricultural transformation through improved productivity, sustainability, and agricultural trade and commercialisation. We will therefore create a conducive environment for economic activities that sustainably increase food and nutrition security as well as sustainable growth in the agricultural sector. This is expected to translate into improved agricultural incomes and contribute to wealth creation among actors along the agriculture value chain.

The DPP government will further promote emerging medium-scale farming operations to engage in intensive farming, including greenhouse agriculture and specialised, commercially-oriented agriculture enterprises such as raising livestock, fish farming, horticulture, and the cultivation of legumes. We will have a "Green Revolution."

In order to achieve this green revolution, the DPP government will specifically implement the following:

- Promote crop diversification of prioritised high value crops for food and nutrition security as well as increased incomes. In this regard, different high-value crops will be recommended for different regions paired with different cropping systems. For example,
 - in the Lower Shire Valley bio-fortified sorghum and pearl millet paired with conservation agriculture, stress-tolerant crop varieties, and cereal-legume intercropping/rotation would be promoted.
 - for the Lake shore, Middle, and Upper Shire, drought-tolerant, Pro-Vitamin A Maize, improved rice varieties, and Bio-Fortified Sweet Potatoes, among others will be promoted alongside maize/cassava and pigeon pea/bean inter-crop rotated with groundnuts/cowpea, pigeon pea inter-cropping or cotton.
- Revitalise the extension system for enhanced service delivery. Specifically, we will
 - Recruit and retain more front-line workers and specialised agricultural staff at district and EPA level;
 - Resuscitate the former Land Husbandry Training Centre, and rehabilitate Residential Training Centres; Day Training Centres; offices especially at Extension Planning Areas (EPAs) and research stations and staff houses;
 - Regularly and continuously train both frontline extension staff and farmers;
 - Strengthen research extension-farmer linkages for increased adoption of agricultural technologies for various agricultural and aquatic value chains; and
 - Review the Extension Policy;
 - Increase budgetary allocation for agriculture and irrigation development, and increase the land under commercial agriculture from the current 20 percent to 40 percent by 2030.

- Ensure timely access to improved, quality and affordable crop production inputs targeting all farmer categories including smallholder, medium and large estates by:
 - addressing supply chain logistical problems to reduce the cost of farm inputs;
 - developing a fertilizer production plant
 - resuscitate a reformed Farm Inputs Subsidy Programme (FISP) to target poor smallholder maize farmers who have land and ability to farm and are in well organized and trained clubs;
 - establish a farm credit financing facility for cooperatives, medium/emerging farmers and large estate farmers to be managed by commercial banks; and
 - promoting increased availability of affordable seeds and planting materials.
- Provide fiscal incentives for the production of high value non-traditional crops such as industrial hemp, flowers, horticulture, cereals (especially rice and wheat), legumes, cotton, macadamia, pulses and livestock products defined under NES II.
- Promote irrigation farming in order to reduce dependence on rain-fed agriculture. This will be done by providing a combination of financial instruments especially matching grants and preferential financing from the government for groups of smallholder farmers and credit facility for medium to large estate farmers. In this regard, the DPP will aim at increasing land under irrigation from 116,000 hectares in 2025 to 147,000 hectares in 2030.
- Establish 2 government owned model Industrial Farms of 12,500 hectares each, comprising 16,000 hectares for food security and 9,000 hectares of high value plantations.
- Attract private investments into 60,000 hectares for Industrial farms by 2030.





- Reform ADMARC into a fully functional commercial entity with both local and international market linkages.
- Revitalise the Commodity Exchange to facilitate the transaction of commodities with quality, delivery and payment.
- Ensure that the Malawi Strategic Grain Reserves has stock of not less than 150,000 metric tonnes at any given point in time.
- Promote research on and implementation of climate-smart agriculture technologies and resilient practices.
- DPP is aware that today, agricultural mechanisation is not mostly held back by lack of demand but by the supply side problems and it will therefore create a conducive environment for improved access to agricultural machinery and equipment.
- Provide fiscal incentives for the importation of high value irrigation equipment, especially targeting land preparation, irrigation, weed control, transportation, pests and disease control, harvesting and post-harvest processing. At the same time DPP will facilitate the production of low cost and small scale farm machinery for farmers largely through PPP.
- Facilitate and support the establishment of anchor farms, cooperative and village grain banks.
- Increase access to lucrative and structured markets for all prioritised agricultural commodities by implementing the following interventions:
 - creating new structured markets for all prioritised agricultural commodities;
 - Reforming the existing commodity exchanges for increased trade volumes, coverage, storage space and coordination among others;
 - Promoting contract farming, out-grower schemes, and other appropriate market-driven farming models.
 - Promote fish farming among smallholder farmers, medium scale farmers and large estate farmers by constructing ponds and dams in rural areas as well as facilitating the availability of fish feed.
- Facilitate increased livestock production and productivity, by among other interventions:
 - Promoting community participation in livestock breeding and multiplication;
 - Facilitating pass-on programmes for cattle, goats and chickens amongst the poor smallholder farmers;
 - Promoting pest and disease control programmes for all classes of livestock;
 - Strengthening breeding programmes for cattle, goats, sheep and chickens in government farms, and
 - Increasing the use of technology in livestock production and processing of livestock products.
 - Facilitating establishment of milk and other value adding processing plants in rural areas.

4.2 INDUSTRIALISATION

The DPP believes in life after production of agricultural products. We believe in a strong manufacturing sector with strong forward and backward linkages to develop a vibrant knowledge-based economy. In this regard, the DPP will prioritise promotion and growth of the private sector to be the engine and a source of fiscal revenue, foreign exchange and employment for our country. The DPP government will prioritize six key industries where Malawi holds competitive advantages: agro-processing, textiles and apparel, mineral processing, pharmaceuticals, renewable energy and technology. Each sector will be developed through Special Economic Zones (SEZs) that offer world-class infrastructure, reliable energy, and streamlined business processes.

In agro-processing, we will establish regional hubs for transforming soy, wheat, rice, tea, ethanol, fish, meat, fruits and vegetables and macadamia into export-ready products.

The textile industry will be revived through cotton-to-garment production parks, creating thousands of jobs for young Malawians. Our mineral beneficiation policy will ban raw exports of graphite and rare earth elements, ensuring Malawi captures maximum value from its natural resources.

Five strategic SEZs will drive regional industrialization. Lilongwe will become our agro-processing and tech innovation hub, while Blantyre will specialize in textiles and advanced manufacturing. Mzuzu will focus on timber, mining, and renewable energy technology, with Mangochi developing fisheries and eco-tourism industries. Karonga will serve as our northern mineral trade and logistics center. These SEZs will offer investors tax holidays, duty-free import of machinery, and priority land access. Thirty percent of SEZ space will be reserved for youth-led small and medium enterprises, with rent-free periods for qualifying startups. Each zone will include Industrial Skills Academies to train young Malawians annually in relevant technical skills.

The DPP will implement innovative partnership models to develop SEZ infrastructure and industries. Joint ventures will see government providing land and infrastructure while private partners contribute capital and expertise. Through Build-Operate-Transfer arrangements, private firms will construct and manage power plants, roads, and water systems before transferring them to public ownership after an agreed time period. Major anchor tenants in our SEZs will receive additional incentives conditional on local sourcing and youth employment commitments. All partnerships will be governed by strict transparency measures, including real-time public reporting through an SEZ Transparency Portal.



Recognizing the tremendous potential of Malawians abroad, the DPP will implement a comprehensive diaspora engagement program. A new Malawi Industrial Growth program will allow diaspora members to invest in SEZ infrastructure at competitive rates. The “Expert Return” initiative will bring diaspora professionals home for short-term skills transfer programs, with tax-free stipends for those training local workers. A dedicated Diaspora Investment Desk at the Malawi Investment and Trade Centre will provide fast-tracked business registration and matchmaking services. Annual reverse trade missions will connect diaspora entrepreneurs with local partners and investment opportunities.

By 2030, the DPP’s industrialization program will deliver measurable outcomes: creation of new industrial jobs, with 70% going to Malawian youth; an increase in manufactured exports; and a reduction in raw mineral exports as we develop domestic processing capacity.

4.2.1 MINING

The Malawi 2063 identifies mining as one of the strategic sectors that have potential to support industrialization of our country’s economy. Currently, the mining sector contributes only about one percent to the Gross Domestic Product, but has a potential of contributing up to 20 percent. Key impediments to the growth of the mining industry include inadequate mineral exploration, laboratory and monitoring equipment, inadequate dissemination of information to the general public, gaps in skilled personnel at all levels as well as lack of staff establishment in districts and border posts, and inadequate capacity in contract negotiations.

A strength of the industry is that it has available policy and legal mandates such as Mines and Minerals Act, Mines



and Mineral Policy, Petroleum Exploration Act, Explosives Act, Artisanal and small-scale mining policy.

Through this Manifesto, the Democratic Progressive Party government commits to:

- Ring-fence all critical minerals (refer to table 1) under the State Owned Mining Company (MAMICO), including:
 - Rare earth metals (tantalum, zircon, niobium) in Kanyika Hills (Mzimba), Songwe Hills (Phalombe), Makanjira (Mangochi), and Kanga Nkude (Balaka).
 - Graphite mining in Malingunde (Lilongwe) and Ilomba (Chitipa).
 - Ruby extraction in Chimwazulu (Ntcheu).
 - Bauxite mining in Mulanje
 - Coal mining in Karonga and other areas demonstrates the country's rich coal resources.
 - Rutile in Kasiya (Lilongwe)
- Ensure that geophysical surveys shall be undertaken regularly to target mineral exploration for rare earth minerals, precious and base metals and industrial minerals.
- Put in place the relevant governance and mining legal frameworks and develop the skills that can support high-value minerals. The minerals shall be linked to high-end local production that will be key for high-value export and import substitution like steel manufacturing.
- Ensure use of mineral resources mapping to develop high value mines through Public Private Partnerships (PPP) arrangements. Value addition will increase the returns from the commodity while creating more jobs for our people, including the skilled and unemployed youth.
- Provide adequate energy to be used in mining. We will encourage and facilitate mining companies to generate their own electricity.
- Support domestic production of equipment and materials which are used in such important areas as laboratories, factories and farms.



MINERAL DEPOSITS IN MALAWI: TABLE 1

MINERAL TYPE	LOCATION	DELINEATION RESERVES (Million tons/grade)
Bauxite	Mulanje	28.8/43.9% Al ₂ O ₃
Uranium	Kayelekera	12.5/0.2% Ur ₃ O ₈
Gold; Copper; Gypsum; Diamond; Nickel; Niobium	Balaka	
Monazite/	Kangankunde	11/ 8%
Rutile	Kasiya	1.32% rutile
Corundum	Chimwadzulu-Ntcheu	
Graphite	Katengeza	8.0/75.6gm per m ³
Limestone	Malowa	15/48%
	Chenkumbi	10/46.1%
Titanium and Heavy Mineral Sands	Nkhotakota-Salima	700/5.6% HMS
	Chipoka	
	Mangochi	680/6.0% HMS
	Halala	15/6.0 % HMS
Vermiculite	Feremu	2.5/4.9% (
Coal	Mwabvi - Nsanje	4.7/30% ash
	Ngana - Karonga	15/21.2% ash
	Mchenga	5/17% Ash, 0.5% Sulphur and calorific value of 6,800kcal/kg
Phosphate	Tundulu-Phalombe	2.017% P ₂ O ₅
Pyrite	Chisepo	34/8% S
	Malingunde	10/12% S
Glass Sands	Mchinji	1.6/97% SiO ₂
Dimension Stone	Chitipa	Blue, Black, Green, and Pink Granite
Gemstones	Mzimba	Numerous pegmatites and volcanic
Rare Earth	Phalombe	

- Formalize and regulate artisanal and small-scale mining while linking them to appropriate technologies and anchor mining firms.
- In guiding the sustainability of their operations, enforce the requisite health, environment and safety standards.
- Facilitate establishment of market for minerals
- Facilitate value addition in some of the minerals to enable them fetch higher prices on the market.
- Capitalize the Malawi Mining Investment Company (MAMICO) to the tune of not less than K500 billion to enable it promote the optimal development of the mining sector, properly manage the Government equity stakes in various mining ventures and effectively maximize national revenue and benefits from mining for Malawi.



4.2.2 TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

The DPP realizes that the only way to open up rural markets and achieve urbanization is to have reliable transport infrastructure that includes road, rail, air and water. These infrastructures will open the communities as well as our land-locked nation, and a key to facilitation of exports and imports.

The current heavy reliance on road transport has resulted in high logistical costs and inefficiencies. In essence, the DPP Government will implement the National Transport Master Plan which the DPP Government developed and launched. This DPP government will work at enhancing connectivity, reducing costs, and improving trade competitiveness, as follows:

Linkages with the Ports of Nacala and Beira

The Ports of Beira and Nacala in Mozambique remain Malawi's primary gateway for imports and exports. To strengthen this linkage, the DPP government will:

- Invest in dedicated rail road infrastructure from Liwonde to Nacala , with priority maintenance and expansion projects.
- Deliver on establishment of a dry port at Liwonde and another in Blantyre to consolidate cargo and streamline customs clearance for Nacala or Beira-bound cargo.
- Continue to work on the Nsanje World Inland port through robust engagement in addressing the identified challenges. The dream lives on.

Feeder Vessel Linkage Between Quelimane and Beira.

Quelimane offers potential as a feeder port to Beira. In this regard, the DPP government will:

- Encourage bilateral agreements with Mozambique to develop feeder vessel services between Quelimane and Beira/Nacala.
- Develop road infrastructure from Quelimane to Blantyre, offering an alternative and potentially faster import/export route.





Rail Network and Infrastructure Restoration

- We will prioritize the rehabilitation of the Nacala and Sena railway corridors linking Malawi with the Mozambican coast.
- Strengthen railway links from Blantyre and Lilongwe to the existing railheads.
- Seek public-private partnerships (PPP) for sustainable financing and operation.
- Build a railway line off TAZARA to Chirumba port on Lake Malawi.

Rail Transport

- Consider introducing passenger trains that pass along the M1 road from Blantyre to Lilongwe.
- Introduce passenger coach on existing railway from Nsanje to Mchinji via Liwonde, Salima and Lilongwe.

Lake Transport

- Develop a robust domestic maritime transport network connecting Makanjira, Monkey Bay, Chipoka, Nkhata Bay, Likoma, Chizumulu and Chilumba.
- Invest in modern cargo vessels and port infrastructure upgrades at these lake ports and on Likoma Island.
- Encourage private sector investment in lake freight services to complement rail and road transport.
- Establish a transport system from Dar es Salaam and Mbamba Bay with Chilumba and Nkhata-bay (the Mtwara Transport Corridor).

Air Transport

- Set Malawi as a Hub: Attract more airlines into Malawi's airports
- Expand the Chileka and Kamuzu International air ports to established International standards together with the Airport City.

- Upgrade Chileka and Kamuzu International Airports,
- Build a New International Airport in Mzuzu, and upgrade Karonga, Mangochi, and Salima Airports.

Road Transport

- Expand road rehabilitation projects
- Decentralise the management of Toll-gates to the district and regional level.
- Ensure road maintenance at district level be the responsibility of the district using the expanded Constituency Development Fund (CDF)
- Encourage the use of multimodal logistics solutions combining road, rail, and water transport.
- Improve border post infrastructure and procedures for faster transit times.

The DPP Government will construct a network of roads across the country, including some of which include:

- Mangochi-Makanjira Road
- Rumphi-Nyika-Nthalire-Chitipa Road
- Likuni-Malingunde-Chileka Road
- Dzaleka-Ntchisi-Mpalo-Malomo Road
- Tsangano-Neno-Mwanza Road
- Chitipa-Mbilima Road
- Nsanama-Nayuchi Road
- Lirangwe-Namatunu-Chingale-Machinga Road
- Rumphi-Nyika Turnoff-Hewe Road
- Thyolo-Khonjeni Road
- Salima-Nkhotakota Lakeshore Road
- Mzimba-Ezondweni-Njakwa Road
- Thabwa-Mkhate-Fatima East Bank Road
- Zomba-Liwonde Road
- Salima-Mangochi Road
- Balaka - Chilipa -Mangochi Road
- Golomoti - Monkeybay Turnoff Road
- Chikwawa - Thyolo - Mulanje Road

The DPP Government will construct the following bypasses:

- Mzuzu West Bypass Road
- Lilongwe Eastern Bypass Road
- Blantyre Ring Bypass Road

One-Stop-Border Posts

- Having developed the Mchinji-Mwami, Mwanza-Zobue and Dedza-Calomue One-Stop-Border Post, DPP will built the Songwe-Kasumulu, Muloza-Milanje and Chiponde-Mandimba One-Stop-Border Posts.

City Roads Modernization

- The DPP will carry out a City Roads Modernization Programme for Mzuzu, Lilongwe, Zomba and Blantyre cities. In addition, DPP will continue construction of flyovers and interchanges to address congestion in the cities and business places. In addition, the DPP Government will modernize central bus terminals in the four major cities and two municipalities.

Rural Access Roads

- The DPP Government will continue to construct a comprehensive network of rural access roads and trunk roads to serve the remote areas so that agricultural produce and other commodities can reach the urban markets safely and efficiently.

Postal Services

- The DPP Government will improve postal and courier services by ensuring high security to prevent loss or pilferage of mail and parcels and their timely delivery. We will also finalize the demarcation of the country for the postal addressing system.





4.2.3 ENERGY

The DPP recognises that industrial and socio-economic development of the country depends on access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, efficient and modern energy.

We note that 86% of the country's total energy comes from wood and charcoal. Oil products account for 10% of the energy consumed; electricity at 3% and coal just under 1%. Households consume most energy in Malawi at 81%, followed by Transport at 9%, Industry at 8%, while other sectors of commerce and agriculture use only 2% of total energy in Malawi.

Malawi's Transport sector is powered by imported Petroleum products, with Petrol contributing 45% of the import oil bill and Diesel 54%. On the other hand, Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) consumption is only at 0.08 thousand barrels per day, against the world average of 57.49 thousand barrels per day. Since 2021, Malawi has failed on importation of petroleum products due to lack of forex exacerbated by mismanagement of the economy, theft and corruption by the MCP administration. Electricity is the best form of energy as it can be easily transformed into other forms of energy, such as light, heat or motion. However in our country, electricity access is very low, only at 25.9 % in 2024, of which 11.3% of consumers are on ESCOM grid and 14.6% off-grid, including solar and hand-held lighting devices. The total installed capacity in Malawi is 581.5 Megawatts (MW) sourced as follows: Hydro 398.5MW, Thermal 53.7MW, Solar 102.3MW and Imports 27MW. However, total actual electricity delivered averages 380MW, against peak demand of 508MW. It is forecasted that peak demand will be 774MW in 2030 and 1,914MW in 2042.

It is worthy noting that 97% of all electricity in Malawi is generated on Shire River, in the Southern Region of the country, and is at the mercy of climate dynamics. Most power is then transmitted on mostly 66 KVA lines across the country, in the process losing about 5.4% of the power.

New electricity connectivity is only at 20% per year. Only 45,000 new connections are made per year, against an average demand of 205,000 connections per year.

In this regard, the DPP will:

- Transform the country's energy economy from one that is overly dependent on biomass to one with a high modern energy component in the energy mix. To this end, our Government will promote use of electricity, liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), efficient biomass stoves, biomass briquetting and other alternative sources of energy for cooking and heating purposes.
- Promote production and use of bio-ethanol and biodiesel for blending, cooking and stand-alone use in vehicles but, of course, without threatening food security.
- Promote e-cooking in rural and urban areas by incentivizing cost reduction of appliances and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG).
- In the spirit of diversifying sources of power generation, ensuring security of power supply, and bringing efficiency and effectiveness in the power industry, the DPP-led Government will collaborate with, and create an enabling environment for Independent Power Producers (IPPs) to invest in the power industry using various sources of power generation such as hydro, solar, wind, geothermal, natural gas, coal and co-generation among others.
- Decentralise electricity distribution function in the country by creating four entities – one in each region of North, Centre, East and South. These entities will be responsible for connections and maintenance of electricity in the regions. We will connect 1,000,000 new customers to the Grid in 5 years.
- Increase electricity generation to 1,500MW by implementing the following projects:
 - the 300MW Kammwamba Coal-fired Power Plant (to diversify our electricity source from water);

- the 309MW Mpatamanga Hydropower Plant (with dam to stabilise generation and regulate flow of Shire River);
- the 261MW Fufu Hydropower Plant (to diversify from reliance on Shire River and Southern Region); and
- the 190MW hydro power plant from Songwe;
- Facilitate Independent Power Producers to generate 100MW from Mzimba and Chitipa Wind plants; 41MW from Bongozi Hydropower plant; 100MW from Gas power plant; and over 200MW from solar in Nkhatabay, Rumphu, Karonga, Salima, Dedza, and Mangochi.
- Import 120MW through Interconnectors with Mozambique and Zambia, and use the same to sell our extra power to the Southern Africa Pool.
- Maintain EGENCO's 441MW plants, and embark on new Hydro Power plants at Wovwe, Nyika, Mbongozi, Thyolo, Dwambazi, Chasombo and Chizuma.
- Embark on the Malawi – Tanzania Interconnector to trade power into the Eastern Africa Power Pool.
- Embark on the Phombeya – Nacala Interconnector to facilitate sale of Malawi's extra power to the northern part of Mozambique.
- Cut ESCOM's bureaucracy by re-establishing the Power Market Limited as Single Buyer to facilitate buying and selling of electricity in the country and beyond.
- Upgrade Transmission system to at least 132 KVA as follows: Eastern Backbone, Western Backbone, Golomoti – Monkey Bay, Nkhotakota – Serengeti – Chinyama – Kanyika line, Lilongwe Loop, Mzimba – Dwangwa line, Phombeya – Liwonde, Kanyika – Chatoloma line, Nkula – Blantyre West – Phalombe – Zomba to 132 KVA line.
- Intensify implementation of the Malawi Rural Electrification Program (MAREP) in order to increase access to electricity to people living in rural growth or trading centres as well as rural settlements and villages. Lifeline tariffs will be introduced to enable low income households access the electricity.

- Leverage on Community Colleges, among other platforms, to build capacity to technicians, artisan, entrepreneurs etc in all areas of renewable energy technologies and alternative energy, taking gender and social issues into consideration.

4.2.4 ICT AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Under the DPP, Malawi has to step into a new digital era, transforming the country into a smart, competitive, innovation-driven, and inclusive digital economy. Grounded in principles of universal access, ethical technology, and citizen empowerment, the DPP government will propel Malawi to be ranked among the top 10 African nations in cybersecurity and innovation readiness.

By 2030, the DPP government will:

- Provide access to affordable broadband to over 80% of the population. Malawi will be a digitally empowered nation, with over 2,500 Public Wi-Fi access zones including markets, schools, hospitals, and bus depots.
- Invest in a National Cloud Data Center to host government data, support AI processing, and serve as the foundation for a future AI-powered digital state.
- To future-proof our cities, smart infrastructure solutions—such as AI-assisted traffic control, surveillance, and waste management—will be piloted in Lilongwe, Blantyre, and Mzuzu as part of our “Mzinda Wamzeru” (Smart City) initiative.
- Create more than 150,000 digital jobs, and realise 5,000 tech-enabled small businesses.
- Establish a Cybersecurity Academy and build partnerships with the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS), IBM, and Google for advanced technical training.
- Ensure that every Malawian will have access to a digital ID, which will be fully interoperable with social services, health records, education, mobile money, and agriculture systems.
- Ensure that at least 70% of government services will

be available online and AI-optimized for efficiency and transparency.

- Roll out a National Artificial Intelligence and Digital Innovation Policy that aligns with the African Union Digital Transformation Strategy and UNESCO AI Ethics guidelines.
- Revise the startup ecosystem policy to allow regulatory sandboxes, enable blockchain and cryptocurrency experimentation, and promote local content monetization in the digital economy.
- Launch AI tools in agriculture, and provide half a million farmers with real-time insights on weather, market prices, and soil conditions.
- In health, equip rural clinics with telemedicine systems and AI-assisted diagnostics, linking patients to specialists, speeding up early detection of diseases, and addressing health worker shortages in underserved areas.
- Roll out real-time government dashboards to facilitate open governance, budget transparency, and citizen feedback.
- Introduce coding, robotics, and digital citizenship in primary school curricula, and AI-focused programmes in secondary and tertiary institutions.

4.3 URBANISATION

Malawi is one of the fastest urbanizing countries in the world with 20% of the population now residing in the urban areas of Blantyre, Lilongwe, Mzuzu and Zomba. With an annual urbanisation growth rate above 5%, it is estimated that absolute urban growth in Malawi will exceed rural growth by the end of this year 2025.

The DPP believes that people follow development. Therefore, to reduce urban migration, we need to bring urban facilities to the people. The vision for “world-class urban centers and tourism hubs with requisite socio-economic amenities for a high-quality life” is possible.

In this regard, the DPP shall:

- Continue with its flagship programme of Rural Growth Centres, by first finishing the ones we started such as like Nambuma, Chitekesa, Ntharire before introducing new centers in the remaining districts.
- Ensure that there are satellite urban centres in each region with fully functional services like primary and secondary schools, markets, hospitals, administrative centres, value adding centres, police, water, electricity and upgraded all weather roads,
- Deliberately invest in farmgate factories which will grow into value addition centers as we advance the import substitution and export drive
- Continue with skills development for young people through Community Colleges.
- Encourage the ploughing back of local revenues for local investment through settlement of all land rates and fees to councils.
- Spread the presence of Government Administration Offices and Statutory Corporations amongst its major Cities of Mzuzu, Lilongwe, Blantyre and Zomba.
- Transform Mangochi into a City; and Cape Maclear into a Tourist hub
- Review the Local Government Act of 1998 to recognise and accommodate the fast urbanisation.
- Facilitate proper town management and planning



4.3.1 TOURISM

Malawi is known as the Warm Heart of Africa due to the smiles and friendliness of its people. Coupled with the many Tourism attractions potential, Malawi can be the premier Tourism Hub for Africa and the World. These attractions include: (i) Lake Tourism, which comprises of activities carried around the freshwater lake Malawi and its biodiversity, (ii) Natural and Wildlife Tourism which includes rejuvenated wildlife and nature in form of landscapes and areas of natural beauty (iii) Cultural Tourism comprising of cultural attractions including monuments, and lastly (iv) the growing MICE (Meeting, Incentive travel, Conferences and Events) tourism.

The country's potential for tourism is significant, but its development is hampered by many challenges. Currently, the sector contributes 7% to the GDP but has potential to grow to 15% of GDP if its development is prioritized and focused. The National Planning Commission observes impediments to tourism developments which include: underdeveloped transportation infrastructure systems, tourism products, inadequate and affordable superior accommodation, fast internet connectivity, low investment, and limited promotions, amongst others.

The DPP government will work to improve transportation, accommodation, and marketing in order to attract more visitors and enhance their experiences, ultimately benefiting the local economy. We envision a thriving tourism sector that positions Malawi as Africa's premier tourist destination. Our goal is to make tourism accessible, inclusive, and economically empowering for Malawians while attracting global visitors and investors. We aim to ensure sustainable development and maximize revenue generation for national growth.

In this regard, the DPP administration will:

- Make Malawi a Tourism Hub for Africa and the World, through 'Discover Malawi' campaigns
- Make tourism accessible to Malawi residents by among others, establishing a subsidised tourism fund for students and low-income citizens.
- Promote professionalism and incentivise job creation in the tourism sector
- Promote investment in Tourism to both local and foreign investors through Smart Taxation, Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) and developing international markets for Malawi's handcrafts and cultural exposés. Visa system will be reviewed to support the sector.
- Ensure that locals benefit from Tourism through Community-First Investment Model and local business prioritisation.
- Create Tourism hubs in Nkhatabay, Likoma island, Salima and Mangochi inline with the Malawi National Tourism Investment Masterplan.
- Create a Special Tourism Integrated Development area in the Nankumba Peninsula and the Cape Maclear area.
- Intensify Wildlife Conservation in protected areas of Nyika, Vwaza, Kasungu, Lengwe and Mwabvi and sustain Majete, Liwonde and Nkhotakota game reserves.
- Develop and promote Mountain Tourism.
- Develop Tourism Support Infrastructure. Specifically, we will:
 - Upgrade to bitumen standards roads that lead to tourist facilities such as Rumphu, Nyika, Chitipa roads.
 - Upgrade Chileka and Kamuzu International Airports, build a New Mzuzu Airport, and upgrade Karonga, Mangochi, and Salima Airports.
 - Introduce fast ferries on Lake Malawi
 - Ensure adequate electricity to tourist facilities.
 - Operationalise the Malawi Tourism Authority.
 - Promote cheap or ferry building in Malawi

4.3.2 CREATION OF SECONDARY CITIES

The DPP believes in the development of secondary cities and urban clusters, as a strategic approach to decentralizing economic activities and improving living standards of our people. We already started this approach in the period 2014 to 2019 through our flagship program of Rural Growth Centres at Nambuma in Dowa, Nthalire in Chitipa, Chitekesa in Phalombe, Chapananga in Chikwawa, Mkanda in Mchinji and Neno. These were supported by construction of modern markets at Nsanje, Chinakanaka and Mulanje Mission; and stadiums constructed in Karonga, Rumphu, Kasungu, Mangochi, Mulanje, Ntcheu and Zomba.

Our focus in the period 2025 to 2030 will be on scaling up and transforming growth centres into secondary cities. These centres will be equipped with quality amenities of life, including health facilities, good and affordable housing, early childhood development centres, primary and secondary school, technical college, clean water, bitumised roads, markets, sports facilities, electricity and internet. By nurturing these secondary cities, the DPP government will promote balanced growth and development across the country, and also decongest major cities.

4.3.3 LAND, HOUSING AND WATER SERVICES

The DPP recognises that land, housing and water services are critical for social and economic development of any country including Malawi. However, in Malawi there are several issues affecting progress in provision of these services.

4.3.3.1 LAND

Land issues are at crisis levels. Malawi is one of the most densely populated countries in sub-Saharan Africa, with population

density at 139 people per square kilometer. Yet, land is a key asset for economic growth and development, accounting for over 40 percent of GDP, national food security, employment, and export revenue.

Malawi faces significant challenges in land administration, with issues around unclear land tenure, limited documentation, and land disputes affecting both urban and rural population. Further, 60 percent of land is held under customary tenure, with limited formal documentation, creating uncertainty and disputes over ownership and boundaries. The following are key issues in the land sector - land disputes, weak land administration, urban encroachment on agricultural land, rapid urbanisation and gender inequality in land access.

In the coming five years, the DPP has a robust plan of tackling these issues as follows.

- Secure inclusive land tenure by strengthening land rights for all citizens with specific attention to women and other marginalized groups.
- Digitalize and streamline land registration processes to eliminate corruption and reduce disputes.
- Implement a fair land taxation system to prevent land speculation and encourage productive use
- Enforce responsible land zoning to balance residential, commercial, agricultural and industrial needs
- Promote environmental conservation by preventing deforestation and land degradation
- Support rural and urban land planning to accommodate population growth and economic expansion.
- Establish special land courts to handle land disputes efficiently
- Review and update outdated land policies to align with modern economic and social realities

4.3.3.2 HOUSING

Decent housing is a big challenge in the rural areas where 82 percent of our people live. However, cities have not been spared - our country is experiencing rapid urbanization, and these are putting pressure for land and housing in cities and leading to the growth of slums and squatter areas, encroachment, illegal developments on public land and various land conflicts. We understand that 76 percent of Lilongwe residents, for example, live in substandard housing and/or informal settlements, and have inadequate access to public services, tenure insecurity, and inadequate housing.

In 2014 we promised to implement policies aimed at removing impediments and creating more opportunities for people to acquire their own houses even at the low-income levels by subsidizing malata and cement. The program however met a lot of challenges from the Opposition who kept denying the DPP the opportunity to substantively fund the programme. Despite the opposition, the DPP government managed to construct 22,000 houses for widows, child-headed households, extreme poor and elderly persons.

From year 2025 to 2030, the DPP Government will:

- Continue with the Malata and Cement Subsidy Programme.
- Provide low-cost, durable and habitable housing for rent and sale to the citizens of Malawi through the Malawi Housing Corporation. This will enable the low-income groups to acquire their own homes.
- Construct houses for civil servants and our men and women in uniform where occupants will pay not more than 20 percent of their salary until they buy off the house.
- Support the poor to access land and tenure security for sustainable economic development.
- Digitalise land and computerize land records, systems and

processes.

- Develop and enforce standards and guidelines of buildings.
- Establish a National Spatial Data Centre.
- Partner with, and incentivise private developers to construct affordable housing units in urban and rural areas.
- Integrate rent to own pathways that will enable residents to transition from rental occupancy to full home ownership.
- Establish a National Housing Fund to offer low interest rates mortgages and home loans.
- Implement large scale slum upgrading programmes with proper infrastructure, sanitation and services.
- Enforce eco-friendly building standards, promoting solar energy and rainwater harvesting in new housing projects.

4.3.3.3 WATER SERVICES

Malawi faces significant challenges in providing adequate and reliable water services, despite being a water rich country. While 80% of the population has access to improved water sources, rapid population growth and limited infrastructure particularly in rural areas, strain the water resources. Poor sanitation and water quality contribute to health issues, including waterborne diseases and child mortality. The key issues in the water sector include inadequate access, mismatch of water demand and supply, infrastructure challenges, sanitation and hygiene, water quality, governance and management, financing, environmental degradation, impacts on health, among others.

From year 2025 to 2030, the DPP Government will:

- Invest in large scale water projects including dams, boreholes and access to clean tap water for our people.
- Rehabilitate and maintain existing water infrastructure to prevent leakages and shortages
- Ensure fair pricing of water services with subsidies for low-income households

- Protect water sources and promote community-led conservation efforts to protect watersheds.
- Strengthen climate adaptation measures to secure long-term water availability
- Develop and implement strict water regulations to ensure water quality supply

4.4 DECENTRALISATION

The DPP Government will prioritise and enforce Decentralisation as a major driver for attaining development, reducing poverty and supporting job creation through citizen engagement and participation at the local level. We will transfer powers, responsibilities, and resources from the central government to district authorities.

In order to deliver on Decentralisation commitment, our government will address the following challenges that have pulled back efforts to fully decentralize power and resources: Limited Financial Resources; Capacity Gaps and Weak Institutional Capacity at district level; Weak local political structures; Lack of Accountability and Transparency; Inadequate Legal and Regulatory Frameworks; Poor coordination between levels of government; fragmented Service Delivery; and Underdeveloped Infrastructure.

Thus, the DPP administration shall introduce critical reforms to facilitate sustained financing, financial autonomy, address capacity gaps, and provide a supportive legal framework among other attendant challenges and issues derailing effective decentralization.

In this regard, the DPP government shall:

- Increase funding to local councils with each constituency getting at least K5 billion per financial year.

- Reform the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) as a vehicle of community transformation by depoliticising it and taking resources closer to the people;
- Enact legal framework to safeguard implementation of CDF and provide guidance and institutional framework for operationalisation of expanded CDF.
- Expand the scope of the CDF to cover areas such as construction of Early Childhood Centres, primary and Secondary Schools, Health centres, road grading, irrigation schemes, construction of police units, construction of markets, water and sanitation facilities, construction of secondary schools, skills development centres, and provision of bursaries and vocational training.
- Invest in capacity-building, and institutional strengthening at the local level to enhance governance and service delivery;
- Ensure local governments have access to adequate and predictable revenue streams, including local taxes, grants, and allocations from the national government;
- Develop and review clear, transparent, and enforceable laws and regulations that define the roles and responsibilities of all levels of government;
- Establish robust accountability mechanisms, such as audits, citizen feedback systems, and independent oversight bodies, to ensure that local governments are responsive to their constituencies;
- Ensure inclusivity through involvement of marginalized groups in decision-making processes and ensuring that services reach all sectors of the population;
- Strengthen communication and coordination between central and local governments, as well as between different local agencies, to avoid fragmentation and duplication of efforts;
- Reform existing service delivery processes through the use of technology and digitization to make them faster and more transparent and efficient;
- Introduce Infrastructure Services Unit and Performance Improvement Support Unit in the Ministry responsible for Local Government, for effective project design, supervision, monitoring and evaluation;
- Reform the city councils with the aim of enhancing autonomy, revenue collection and improved delivery of services;
- Construct high rise mega markets in Blantyre, Lilongwe and Mzuzu aimed at improving market conditions and sanitation;
- Designate and capacitate city policing departments to ensure solid security for residents, investors and their investments;
- Promote a culture of transparency and accountability, especially amongst Controlling Officers;
- Establish a city transport system through the creation of a public liability company that will operate buses with each route having its own colour coding and where taxi and minibus owners will have shares. The company will use digital solutions such as Automated Fare Collection (AFC) and Advanced Public Transport and Management System (APTMS).
- Ensure there is professionalism amongst staff working in Local Authorities by ensuring meritorious appointments and promotions
- Continue to build modern offices for all urban and rural councils
- Invest in the training and capacity building of Councilors to monitor and manage local development projects
- Reintroduce heavy equipment at the council level like farm tractors and caterpillars in all local councils
- Revise the allocation formula for resources to councils favouring more investments and less consumption



CHAPTER 5 **ENABLERS**



The DPP recognises that Malawi's development and attainment of 2063 goals are contingent on the success of Enablers stipulated in MW63.

5.1 MINDSET CHANGE

Mindset change is the first Enabler under the Malawi 2063, which observes that the attainment of our ambitious development aspirations will require the cultivation of a new way of thinking and doing things. Mindset encompasses beliefs, attitudes and values about yourself, others and the world around you. Mindset change needs to be inculcated at all levels - individual, community and national - to instill a culture of self-reliance towards wealth creation goals.

The DPP's analysis has determined that Malawi is trapped in its traditional economy in which money and monetary value have limited place. Traditionally, Malawians define wealth as food, character and children. This definition is revealed in three proverbs, namely, "*kulemera ndi kudya*" (being rich is eating), "*khalidwe ndi chuma*" (character is wealth) and "*ana ndi chuma*" (children are wealth). The DPP supports food security and good character as well as reproductive health. However, what stands out in Malawi is that we have not managed to reconcile the three traditional definitions of wealth with the modern economy in which prosperity is measured in monetary terms. In the money economy, skills and education are key to prosperity which is necessary for the growth of children into citizens with good character.

This mindset has cultivated a sense of entitlement to the property of others - manifesting in a culture of dependency (*Ma biggie*) and, at times, the unjust deprivation of widows from their rightful inheritance. We have grown resistant to dietary innovation, despite the well-documented health risks

associated with some of our traditional staple foods (*nsima ndiye chakudya*). Furthermore, tribalism continues to erode the foundations of meritocracy, as individuals are often appointed to positions based not on competence, but on regional or ethnic affiliation - to the detriment of national development. It is commonplace for us to do whatever we can for personal glory at the expense of national interest and collective responsibility. (*aliyense kuchita zomusangalatsa*). As a nation we focus on short term gratification and not long term.

The mindset around population growth needs to change. With Malawi's fertility rate at 3.8 percent and an estimated 1,400 children born every day, the country is on the course of under-development. It will no longer be "*ana ndi chuma*." It means a demand of at least 22 new school blocks to be built every day in the immediate future, just for one example of necessities of life. The DPP government will thus promote population management, through among others intensive civic education and family planning.

There is a mindset that "*mwamuna salira*." This misjudgment of the capacity of males to handle pressure manifests itself clearly when it comes to Suicide cases in Malawi. Statistics show that males represent not less than 80 percent of all suicide cases in Malawi. For example, out of the 153 persons who committed suicide from January to March 2025, 125 were males. Because *amuna salira*, males are generally not open to sharing or reporting the difficult circumstances they face.

The DPP recognises the importance of the mind in dealing with long-held customs and beliefs in transforming the nation's development agenda.

The DPP therefore places strong emphasis on wealth creation as the cornerstone of Malawi's transformation, moving beyond mere poverty alleviation to a deliberate focus on

building a productive and prosperous nation. We must shift from a dependency mindset to one that champions trade, not aid, and redefine prosperity in modern economic terms without discarding the value of our cultural heritage.

The DPP offers practical and actionable solutions on how mindset change can be achieved across all levels of society through civic education, reforms in our education system, targeted community engagement, and leadership by example. This transformative agenda is championed by a proven leader with a track record of turning vision into results, and who understands the deep connection between mindset, productivity, and national development, Prof APM is the leader.

The DPP will therefore from September 2025 to 2030:

- Promote visionary and transformational leadership that does not accommodate mediocrity and the commercialisation of politics.
- Promote Trade, not Aid.
- Promote population management
- Inculcate the spirit of Patriotism and Integrity at all levels of governance.
- Advance religious values by working with religious leaders in serving our people.
- Instill the value of money in the traditional economy of wealth and social development.
- Stimulate the spirit of Hardwork and self reliance by awarding well deserving citizens.
- Promote positivity by encouraging idea development and research.
- Advocate the diversification of food groups and nutrition to ensure a healthy population.

5.2 RULE OF LAW, GOVERNANCE AND FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

The rule of law is the bedrock of an enduring constitutional democratic society where both the governors and the governed are equal before the law. MW2063 stipulates that Malawi shall have effective and efficient governance systems and institutions with strict adherence to the rule of law.

Institutional weaknesses, including political interference, selective application of justice, and financial strangulation of corruption fighting agencies have hindered good governance and anti-corruption efforts in Malawi in the past four years. There have been deliberate efforts to undermine governance institutions, such as Parliament, Anti-Corruption Bureau, Ombudsman, and Malawi Human Rights Commission just to mention a few, and deliberately orchestrated poor coordination among these corruption fighting bodies.

Further, there has been blatant disregard of the rule of law, whereby institutions mandated to advance good governance such as the office of the Ombudsman are totally disregarded, their determinations completely thrown away, a scenario that does not give hope to Malawians where the Government fights its own institutions. There has also been no desire to implement innovative ways in fighting corruption. In recent times innovations such as instituting lifestyle audits in the country have been rejected at cabinet level, a clear sign of not wanting to commit to innovations that can improve the fight against corruption.

5.2. Governance Institutions and their roles

The DPP believes that governance institutions especially those involved in enforcing the law, promotion and protection of human rights, fight against corruption and organised crime need to work in a coherent manner in order to uphold the rule of law.

5.2.1 The Office of the Attorney General

The Attorney General is the principal legal advisor to the government. Under the Constitution, he is advisor to all the three arms of Government, although he is more aligned to the Executive arm of government.

Unfortunately, under the current MCP government, the Attorney Generals' office has been reduced to pushing a political agenda other than serving the State on legal matters.

The DPP government will initiate a discussion involving the three arms of government on how to reform the functions and duties of the Office of Attorney General. The DPP government will seek to make the Office of Attorney General to be truly that of advisor to government and not one that reduces itself to pushing the agenda of the ruling party.

The DPP believes that it is only when that Office exudes its independence that it can command respect from all the three arms of government. Where necessary, the DPP government shall pass legislation clearly articulating the parameters of that office and create deputy Attorneys General who would, each of them specifically handle matters specifically relating to each arm of government.

5.2.2 The Malawi Police

The Malawi Police has a constitutional duty of providing protection and public safety to all persons in Malawi. The DPP shall work towards restoring the independence of the Police in discharging its functions so that it wins the confidence of all persons in Malawi. The DPP shall ensure that the Malawi Police serves the interests of Malawians and not those of any grouping, be it political, tribal or other. Reduction of crime, maintenance of public order, safety and protection of all persons in Malawi shall be insisted upon.

5.2.3 The Directorate of Public Prosecutions

The DPP government shall ensure that the Director of Public Prosecutions discharges his functions evenly without fear or favour. The DPP intends to completely eliminate all elements of selective justice in the operations of the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions. In this respect, consideration will be made to pass relevant legislation that frees the Director of Public Prosecutions from political interference and to make that office accountable to the people of Malawi. The DPP intends to take measures that shall promote collaboration and proper interface between the Directorate of Public Prosecutions and other law enforcement agencies that are charged with the responsibility of prevention and prosecution of crimes.

5.2.4 The Intelligence Authority (FIA)

The DPP considers the FIA as an important agency in the fight against white-collar crime as well as an important institution for instilling fiscal and financial discipline in Malawi. The DPP government will work towards strengthening the work of the FIA in the fight against financial crimes and corruption. The FIA, as well as the Financial Crimes Division of the High Court shall be sufficiently funded to ensure that they discharge their statutory mandates to the satisfaction of the public.

5.2.5 The Malawi Human Rights Commission and the Office of the Ombudsman

These two institutions play a very pivotal role in the promotion and protection of human rights. The DPP government shall support the work and activities of the Malawi Human Rights Commission and the Office of the Ombudsman so that Malawians fully enjoy the rights conferred on them by the Constitution. Hence, the DPP shall make sufficient provision within the national budget to ensure that their activities are not suffocated by underfunding.

5.2.6 The Anti-Corruption Bureau

The DPP shall pursue zero tolerance approach towards corruption. In 2019, the DPP initiated and passed legislation aimed at strengthening the office of the Director General of the Anti-Corruption Bureau in the manner of his/her appointment. The DPP government will continue pursuing that path in order to fight the scourge of corruption in Malawi. We shall take measures aimed at early detection of corrupt tendencies; timely investigation and speedy prosecution of cases of corruption. Such measures shall include passage of legislation.

Once in government, the DPP shall promote good governance and the rule of law in the following ways:

- Rollout deliberate systems that will eliminate the opportunity of corruption, such as digital management systems in all places of public service delivery to reduce discretion and human interaction.
- Conduct rigorous lifestyle audits, real time audits of critical projects and procurement deals as well as ensuring improved vetting procedures in relation to public contracts;
- Enhance corruption education and preventive measures as they are cheaper than investigation and prosecution of

corruption.

- Inculcate a culture of integrity from the grassroots: Increase efforts in educating the young generation in ethics, integrity, and evils of corruption. Schools and Universities need to have vibrant programmes to teach the youth on the evils of corruption.
- Strengthen the capacity of and collaboration among anti-corruption bodies such as ACB, Financial Intelligence Authority (FIA), Office of Director of Public Officers Declarations.
- Increase technical capacity, funding and staffing levels of ACB and ensuring that appointments of the ACB Director General and officers are based on merit and are free from political interference. In this vein DPP will review the manner of shortlisting of ACB Director General as the current mode of shortlisting is not free from political interference.
- Increasing financial and technical capacity of governance institutions;
- Ensure investigations and prosecution of all corruption cases that have stalled during the past five years, especially those involving state captors.
- Prioritise on recovery of funds from perpetrators of corruption and financial crimes against the State.
- Increase funding to the Office of the Auditor General to ensure timely auditing of government institutions and prompt release of audit reports.
- Operationalise the Judicial Service and Administration Act and judicial reforms, by among others the establish and properly fund the Judicial Service Commission and Independent Complaints Commission
- Restore the integrity of governance systems and institutions by ensuring merit based appointment of governance leaders free from political interference;
- Strengthen legal compliance and accountability across government operations
- Capacitate the Office of the Auditor General to facilitate



timely audits and release of audit reports.

- Increase access to legal services to poor Malawians by recruiting more government lawyers and increase funding at the Legal Aid Bureau.. We will also support establishment of Legal Aid Offices in every district council to enhance access to justice.

5.2.2 SECURITY

Malawi is facing a complex and volatile security environment. The National security environment is characterised by a mix of traditional and non-traditional threats to security, inter-alia, violent extremism, human trafficking, environmental disasters, pandemics, and local and transnational organised crime. Furthermore, this increasingly complex security environment is defined by rapid technological change, exacerbating challenges to our National Security.

At micro level, there has been an increase in crime rate by 10 percent since the year 2020 largely due to increasing poor economic environment. Breakings and Robberies top the list, followed by Rape, Defilement and Murder cases which have increased by an average 15 percent. Mob justice increased as well. This is exacerbated by the country's low police to population rate of 1 to 1,262 against the United Nation's recommendation of 1 to 500. Crimes have inflicted physical, psychological and emotional hardships to many people in Malawi. On the other hand, traffic offences have decreased by at least 20 percent due to overpresence of police officers on the roads.

The Democratic Progressive Party realises that these new challenges require more innovative and coordinated responses from the Government as well as civil stakeholders for the nation to excel further. Thus, the DPP's enduring goal is to provide credible security apparatuses needed to protect our people, economy, infrastructure, territory and ways of life from all major risks that can affect us.

To realise security, social economic development and the Malawi 2063, it is vital to realign the security institutions to address contemporary security challenges. The DPP fathoms that there will be no development without security and no security without development. Hence, the Malawi security institutions of the Malawi Defence Force, Malawi Police Service, Prison Service, Immigration and the National Intelligence Service must posture to complement the government's effort to achieve its strategic objectives for the good of the nation and international strategic partners. The DPP Government is committed to depoliticize security institutions, provide adequate uniforms and relevant equipment, as well as recruitment of adequate security personnel.

The Malawi Defence Force (MDF)

The DPP trusts the MDF, a premier institution that was established by Section 159 of our republican Constitution to promote and protect the territorial integrity and vital interests of Malawi against both external and internal threats. Of late the MDF has increasingly been handy in civil defense, where they support the Malawi Police Service to save life, protect property and give confidence to the economic players. However, this later role is prone to misuse by political interests as MDF's heavy handedness can be used to suppress the interests of the same civilians they are meant to protect. Remarkably, the MDF has been very instrumental during times of emergencies.

From 2025 to 2030, the DPP government will:

- Improve the capacity and professional competence MDF's Centres of excellence - National Defense College, the MDF Command and Staff College (MDFCSC) and the Malawi Armed Forces College (MAFCO) - to enable it respond adequately and urgently to the needs of our nation including war fighting readiness.



- Create a Special Forces Unit and capacitate the MDF in human, technical and technological capabilities to effectively respond to emergencies and disasters.
- Improve the morale in the army by providing adequate training, uniforms, better equipment and support facilities, improved service conditions and improved welfare of the men and women in uniform.
- Support MDF in local deployments such as in border patrol and management in Nsanje, Mulanje, Blantyre, Lilongwe, Mchinji, Likoma, Chitipa and Karonga, among others.
- Support MDF to effectively assist the Malawi Police Service where necessary in ensuring peace and fight crimes as guided by the Constitution.
- Commercialise specific services and departments of the MDF to enable its substantive contribution to the economic development of the country.
- Rehabilitate existing houses and Construct 2000 houses for staff of the Malawi Defence Force
- Construct a top notch Military Hospital that will be equipped with modern facilities.
- Support the MDF's participation in external deployments such as under the United Nations Organisation Stabilisation Mission in DRC (MONUSCO) Force Intervention Brigade (FIB), Southern Africa Mission in the DRC (SAMIDRC) and military observer missions, and staff officers in various countries.

The Malawi Police Service (MPS)

The DPP wishes to support the MPS' vision of a professional service for a safe and secure Malawi, through prevention, detection and investigation of crime; the apprehension and prosecution of offenders; the preservation of law and order; the protection of life, property, fundamental freedoms and rights of individuals; and the enforcement of all laws with which the police are directly charged.

Specifically, the DPP government will

- Ensure that the police reforms are implemented substantively for the MPS to possess modern equipment and policing techniques.
- Make MPS a public friendly organisation to cultivate people's trust in their Police Service. The DPP shall enhance an approach to policing in which police officers, citizens and community groups work together in an accepted partnership to solve mutually agreed policing problems.
- Substantively finance the capacity and operations of the Independent Complaints Commission (ICC) of Police to process and solve public complaints against police officers, with the aim of promoting accountability, professionalism, discipline and respect for the rule of law and human rights in policing functions.
- Establish and capacitate specialized units within the Police Service for city policing
- Support the cities of Mzuzu, Lilongwe, Mangochi, Blantyre and Zomba to have their own police services to meet specific security and safety needs.
- Enhance road traffic safety services with modern surveillance systems including CCTV cameras. This will include replacement of on-the-spot traffic fines with electronic payment systems, in order to save time, money and curb corruption.
- Find and implement alternatives to the use of breatherlyzers on the roads.
- Support the specialisation and professionalism of police in public order management
- Improve the capacity of police to detect, investigate and competently prosecute cases
- Rehabilitate existing houses and Construct 4,500 houses for staff of the Malawi Police Service
- Enhance regional and international police and law enforcement cooperation.

The Malawi Prison Service

Malawi's prisons are overcrowded. Prisons that were designed to accommodate 10,000 inmates are now holding over 15,000 persons. The 23 district prisons are not enough, and most of them are old structures with the oldest prison Zomba having been built in 1935. The DPP government will work to solve the problems of overcrowding, starvation of inmates, and deaths that are occurring in prisons.

Specifically, the DPP government will

- Reform the Prison Service to become Correctional Services that contributes to national development and public safety, with focus on rehabilitation of offenders and their reintegration into the society.
- Construct new prisons in Phalombe, Salima, Mchinji, Rumphu and Monkey bay.
- Enhance criminal justice reforms, including rehabilitation of inmates, parole system and non-custodial sentencing.
- Support prisons grow their own food and sell the surplus
- Rehabilitate existing houses and Construct 1,500 houses for staff of the Malawi Prison Service
- Move Maula, Chichiri and Zomba maximum prisons from central business district areas

The National Intelligence Service

- The DPP realises that the National Intelligence Service plays a crucial role in national development by providing vital information and analysis to support informed decision-making, safeguarding national security, and promoting economic growth and stability.
- The DPP Government will make NIS a national asset that is non-partisan while maintaining the essential component of secrecy,

- The NIS shall be well equipped to provide vital and relevant information to the security institutions to fulfil their respective mandates.

Immigration and Citizenship Services

The DPP government will support the department of Immigration and Citizenship Services to effectively provide migration management services, issue relevant travel documents to eligible persons for national security and socio-economic development. At the moment, Malawi has been rocked with poor passport services. The Department stopped provision of services in Mzuzu, Mangochi and Blantyre, the passport being issued are of very poor quality and an embarrassment at the international level with some deserving citizens being denied entry into other countries. Further, many foreigners and other criminals have been issued with Malawi passports, visas and permits.

The DPP Government will, therefore:

- Restore the integrity and quality of its passports
- Ensure that only Malawian citizens, and not foreigners, access passport services.
- Reopen Mzuzu, Mangochi and Blantyre passport officers offer passports and other migration management services
- Add 4 more one-stop-centres where passports and other services will be provided to enhance efficiency and reduce the cost of accessing passport and visa services.
- Rehabilitate existing houses and Construct 4,500 houses for staff of the Malawi Immigration Services

5.2.3 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND THE DIASPORA

The hallmark of the DPP Administration's Foreign Policy will be its belief in leadership that is international in ideas, but local in application. In the next five years, the DPP government will continue to foster international relations that strengthen Malawi's drive towards a developmental state by continuing to embrace development diplomacy.

In the next five years; the DPP government will Foster gainful trading partnerships which expands the markets for Malawi's goods and services;

- Increase inflows of investment into the Malawi economy;
- Secure access to finance and credit from bilateral, multilateral and development partners;
- Increase inbound tourism for the country's attractive tourist destinations and products;
- Secure access to essential resources, such as energy, water, raw materials and essential commodities such as petroleum products;
- Deepen educational and cultural exchanges of the Malawi people and peoples of other nations;
- Enhance international collaboration in scientific and technological research and development to advance knowledge and accelerate understanding, discovery, innovation and inventions to foster solutions to humanity's problems.

Over and above the development diplomacy pillars outlined above, the DPP Government will additionally aim to:

- Uphold national security through protecting the country's sovereignty, territorial integrity and security of citizens from external threats.
- Uphold regional stability by maintaining stability and security

in the surrounding region and to prevent conflicts and crises through diplomacy.

- Build and maintain alliances and partnerships with like-minded countries to advance shared interests and objectives.
- Shape international governance and institutions that reflect Malawi's values and interests.
- Promote and protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law.
- Provide humanitarian assistance and disaster relief to affected populations.
- Protect the environment and promote conservation of natural resources. This includes addressing climate change matters and promoting sustainable development that ensures a balance between economic, social and environmental objectives and takes into account needs and interests of future generations.
- Promote structured Government to Government labour exports in sectors of interest between Malawi and foreign Governments.

The DPP will continue advocating for more trade with its partners and that much of the aid from development partners should be allocated primarily for long-term development projects that are related to the international trade, investment and social interests of Malawi. The DPP Government will actively engage cooperating and development partners in dialogue towards mutual goals that include embracing of home-grown policies, doing away with one-size-fits all economic and social policy approaches, and adoption of people-centred development practices.

We recognizes that Malawi is not an island and its market alone is too small to attract large scale investments in industrial and agriculture production, manufacturing and trade. This is why the DPP led government joined the negotiations for the formation of the 54 member African Continental Free Trade

Area (AfCFTA) which is now under implementation since 1st January 2021. The DPP will, therefore, continue to support regional initiatives towards market integration including under COMESA, SADC and the 26-member COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite FTA in order to create a viable environment for growth and development.

The DPP government will maximize Malawi's comparative advantages in line with the separate-but-equal principle under the Law of Nations. Specifically, the DPP Government will engage into meaningful people-centered international relations that translate into Malawi's ability to export and meaningfully participate on the international market. Malawi, under DPP will continue to adhere to the Treaty establishing the African Union (AU) and/or the continental economic cooperation and initiatives; We will strengthen Malawi's progressive participation in regional and international economic integration initiatives and uphold the treaties to which Malawi appended its signature. The DPP Government will also continue to review bilateral agreements between Malawi and other countries with the aim of improving our relations with our cooperating and development partners.

The DPP Government will also review and rationalize Malawi's foreign missions abroad, the numbers and quality of diplomatic staff in each mission, closing those that are unprofitable to Malawi and opening new ones that can benefit the country.

To achieve these overarching foreign policy objectives, the DPP Government will deploy a vibrant and professional diplomatic service with the aim of helping Malawi achieve the development diplomacy pillars and take care of the additional objectives of Malawi's foreign policy and enable Malawi benefit as a member of the community of nations.

Furthermore, the DPP Government will offer tailored training for its diplomatic service to enhance the skills and aptitude of the personnel in Malawi's diplomatic service. Government will also develop a proper and professional career path for diplomatic staff.

Malawians in Diaspora

The DPP cherishes the contribution that Malawians living abroad make to our country. In our 2014 campaign messages, we promised to introduce Dual Citizenship. And the DPP delivered just that during its 2014 – 2020 rule. The DPP government repealed the relevant laws and enacted supportive laws for Dual Citizenship. We promised to ease the establishment and transfer of foreign currency for Malawians earning income outside Malawi.

The DPP government changed the system and any Malawian can now operate Foreign Currency Denominated Accounts (FCDAs) in any of our banks in Malawi. In order to support our citizens living abroad, a Diaspora Unit was set up in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Each Embassy now has a Diaspora desk and is the point of first call for all Malawians in diaspora.

Going forward, the DPP Government will continue delivering for Malawians in diaspora, removing hurdles and hindrances that impede and limit them from participating in their motherland's economic and social matters.

5.4.3 PUBLIC SERVICE PERFORMANCE

The Malawi 2063 aspires for a peaceful, patriotic and proud people that believe in their own abilities and are active participants in building the nation. The public service requires highly performing and professional people to take government service to the people. The DPP realises overall responsibility of the public service: it is at the core of service delivery.

The Legislature

The DPP believes that the broad mandate of the Legislature is to hold the Executive and other actors to account. The DPP shall ensure that the Legislature performs its constitutional role effectively and shall take measures to discourage the usurpation of legislative powers by other organs of the state. After 30 years of multi-party democracy, the DPP realises that Parliament plays a critical role in promoting unity in diversity that has been brought by political pluralism. The DPP shall, therefore, ensure that the laws passed by the legislature advance the public good and serve the interests of all Malawians without regard to tribe, race or status of any person in society.

The Executive

The government shall strive to initiate policies and legislation that embody and reflect the wishes of Malawians. Realising the existence of the pressure on limited resources and drawing from its past which experiences, the DPP government shall maintain a lean and inclusive Cabinet supported by an efficient Civil Service which shall be encouraged to be nonpartisan in the discharge of its official duties and functions. We shall take measures to ensure that there is no arbitrariness in government actions in its dealings with the citizens.

The DPP government shall create a culture and atmosphere where accountability and legality shall be the norm and not an exception. Under the DPP leadership, there shall strict oversight and supervision of the actions and activities of all institutions, departments and agencies falling under the Executive in order to enforce adherence to the rule of law.

The Judiciary

The DPP acknowledges the pivotal role played by the Judiciary in nurturing Malawi's democratic dispensation since the 1994. The DPP shall jealously guard the role of the Judiciary in interpreting and protecting the laws of Malawi and ensuring that individual liberties are protected against the coercive powers of the State while at the same time encouraging judicial officers to be accountable to the people of Malawi in the discharge of their duties. The DPP reaffirms its belief that the Judiciary remains the ultimate arbiter of disputes and an important bastion in upholding the rule of law.

Public Service Performance

The DPP further considers a public service that is built on principles of: accessibility, accountability, participatory, transparent, transformative, committed to equality, in proximity, just, secure and safe. A well functioning and efficient public service that follows set procedure and frameworks would most likely reduce corruption in the provision of service across the public sector and possibly influence the same in private sector. The Democratic progressive Party reaffirms its commitment in both the conceptual and substantive constitutional provisions that seek to create a society where legality prevails and each arm of government or state institution discharges its proper legal mandate without interference, intimidation or undue influence.

The DPP shall ensure that each of the three arms of government, namely, the Executive, the Legislature and the Judiciary perform and discharge their constitutional duties for the sole purpose of serving the people of Malawi and that in doing so, each of them acts independently but at the same time maintaining a consistent and coherent collaboration among all state organs, institutions and agencies.

The public service remains demotivated despite various reforms undertaken in the past years. The reforms which the DPP undertook over six years ago remain the only ones that were implemented. The recent reforms undertaken by the current government remain unknown despite a report having been submitted to the Presidency. The DPP shall undertake genuine reforms and such reforms shall include a comprehensive review of remuneration in the public service.

The DPP Government further considers a public service that is built on principles of: accessibility, accountability, participation, transparency, transformation and equality.

From 2025 to 2030 and beyond, the DPP Government will:

- Provide good service delivery to its citizens so that the civil service becomes attractive as a service provider and a place of work.
- Review civil service structure and composition so as to reduce unnecessary expenditure while improving efficiency.
- Improve remuneration of all civil servants by aligning salaries to cost of living, following recent waves of devaluation and increased inflation.
- Promote all deserving career civil servants whose opportunities for career advancement have been thwarted by external forces.
- Recruit all trained teachers and medical personnel who have completed their professional accreditation process but are subjected to unnecessary bureaucratic bottlenecks.

- Promote efficiency and cost saving measures by appointing a lean cabinet.
- Provide medical cover to all active as well as retired civil servants.
- Reduce waiting period for receipt of gratuities.
- Put the right and qualified people in the right positions in order to promote efficiency and effectiveness in public service delivery.
- Carry out relevant reforms in the public service to improve performance in all government ministries, departments and agencies
- Promote efficiency and effectiveness within the public service through defined performance appraisals and transparent promotions.
- Renovate and construct new government offices to provide a conducive working environment and cut on government recurrent expenditures.
- Provide government scholarships to deserving Civil Servants to upgrade and enhance public service delivery.
- Provide regular funding to ministries, departments and agencies for good service delivery.
- Cater for specialized training for civil servants at Malawi School of Government and Mpemba Staff training colleges.

5.6 PRIVATE SECTOR, INDUSTRY AND TRADE

The DPP believes that a vibrant industry and private sector are sustainable engines for economic growth, job creation, revenue collection expansion and growing foreign exchange generation. Currently, industrial and private sector production is hampered by poor transport system, a compromised standards and quality regime, a skills gap that is unfit for industrial revolution, inadequate access and high cost of finance, impulsive and inconsistent public policy environment, unfavorable taxation regime, intermittent energy supply and a generally high cost of doing business.

As a result, manufacturing's contribution to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is too low (currently at 9.37%) to make a dent on poverty in Malawi. The DPP aims to increase this percentage to 15% in five years, through the creation of a supportive business environment that will induce inclusive industrial and private sector growth, export promotion and productive competitiveness.

Private Sector Development

In the period 2025 to 2030, the DPP will:

- Work out the supply-side constraints of the Malawi economy to harness the demographic dividend arising from a highly skilled human capital, particularly the youthful population. The DPP will also create a supportive trade-related infrastructure.
- Revamp the industrial sector driven by a vibrant agro-processing and mining sectors, supported by competitive services sectors.
- Enact enabling laws, promote the use of ICT and innovation, skilled human resource in technical positions of ministries, departments and agencies who will implement progressive public policies that attract potential local and foreign investors.

Industrialization

The DPP will address the bottlenecks for both Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and large enterprises to achieve inclusivity, as such, the DPP government will:

- Crown the establishment of Special Economic Zones (SEZs), complete with fully serviced industrial parks at Luwingu in Mzuzu, Magwero in Lilongwe, Chigumula and Matindi in Blantyre to promote production of export goods and substitute imports.
- Increase investment in the energy sector and rationalize the energy mix.

- Link graduates of community colleges and other skilled manpower into Small and Medium Enterprises, cooperatives and large enterprises.
- Establish industrial clusters on metal fabrication, wood products, electronics, garments and textiles, leather products, oil-seed products and others in townships such as Ndirande, Bangwe, Chirimba, Chilomoni, Machinjiri, Nchesi, Chinsapo, Area 23, Area 25, Kauma, Area 36, Matawale, Chikanda, 3 Miles, Mchengautuwa, Luwingu and Karonga.
- Revitalize the one-stop-service centre at the Malawi Investment and Trade Centre (MITC) which was established by the previous DPP Government and is now on its knees.
- Revitalize the Malawi Investment Fora to attract bigger investors into Malawi and organize *Takulandirani Tourism Expos* initiated by the previous DPP Government. Note that previous Takulandirani Expos resulted in Malawi being designated as one of the top 3 must-visit countries in Africa, a feat Malawi has now lost.
- Establish a Government-owned Holding Company to champion the setting up of companies in vital sectors such as agro-processing, mining, energy, pharmaceuticals and others. This initiative will be funded with not less than K500 billion.
- Reform the business environment and improve the macroeconomic fundamentals of the economy. We will bring down inflation to single digits, the policy rate to not more than 12%, a stable exchange rate and an investor friendly tax regime.
- Provide adequate security of property rights, and an efficient and fair resolution of commercial and labour disputes.
- Facilitate industrial and value-added mining of rare earth metals (tantalum, zircon and niobium) in Kanyika Hills in Mzimba, Songwe Hills in Phalombe, Makanjira in Mangochi, Kangankunde in Balaka, ruby at Chimwazulu in Ntcheu, graphite in Malingunde and rutiles in Kasiya, sodalite and granite at Ilomba in Chitipa and the reopening of Kayelekera Uranium Mine in Karonga.

- Capitalize the Malawi Mining Investment Company (MAMICO) to the tune of not less than K500 billion.
- Strengthen and expand the work of Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) such as Malawi Agricultural and Industrial Investment Corporation (MAIIC) and Export Development Fund (EDF) so that they fully support start-up and large scale business ventures and support exports.
- Create the Community Credit Fund (CCF) to increase financial inclusion and access to affordable finance to cater for SMEs and cooperative societies.
- Introduce tailor-made financial products in Government-owned financial institutions such as MAIIC, CCF and EDF to support investments by the working class and “missing middle” sector of the economy.
- The DPP Government will also clear-out bottlenecks affecting pensioners’ access to gratuity and pension money as well as developing an economic empowerment strategy aimed at propping up indigenous industrialists.
- Mobilise Malawians into savings and credit cooperatives (SACCOs) and facilitate the formation of Community Banks and a Cooperative Bank to increase access to finance and provide adequate capital to industries and SMEs.
- Strengthen and reform the standards, quality assurance and metrology (SQAM) system to enable Malawi products break through the lucrative domestic and export markets whose standards and quality requirements are stringent. In this regard, the DPP Government will establish laboratories in Mzuzu and Lilongwe and procure a mobile laboratory for use in areas far from the laboratories.
- Facilitate participation of Malawian nationals in the economy through implementation of rural and cottage (khonde) industrialization initiatives; business financing schemes; deliberate policy of Government procurement of goods and services; backward and forward linkages to anchor firms in value chains and joint ventures. As a matter of policy, the DPP Government will review the importation of goods that

are ably produced in industrial cluster centres in Malawi like, furniture and metal products.

- Use the available value addition equipment such as the One Village One Product (OVOP) Dhal Processing Equipment to add value to pigeon peas for export.

Trade and Commerce

The DPP Government will:

- Set up special agricultural commodities markets, fully equipped with refrigeration equipment and storage facilities for perishable produce. These places include, but are not limited to Jenda, Lizulu, Tsangano Turn-off, Bvumbwe, Khwisa and Salima.
- Facilitate the expansion of the export markets for Malawian goods and services through regional economic integration initiatives such SADC FTA, COMESA FTA and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), bilateral trade agreements, unilateral market access offers by industrialized countries like the United States of America, India and China, the multilateral trading system (World Trade Organization) and commodity agreements.
- Require Malawi’s missions abroad to include securing export markets and attracting foreign investors to Malawi in their performance targets.
- Facilitate the revitalisation of Malawi’s international trade fairs, national agricultural fairs, regional trade fairs, and SME Fairs.
- Implement one-stop-border posts (OSBP) at the remaining three (3) border posts that have no infrastructure and have not yet migrated to OSBPs. These border posts are Songwe, Muloza and Chiponde.



5.6 HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

5.6.1 EDUCATION

The Malawi 2063 aspires for the knowledge based economy and that Malawi shall have a globally competitive and highly motivated human resource. It is acknowledged that a highly youthful population in Malawi makes its people the greatest source of wealth and that developing human capital through education, skills and health of the population plays a pivotal role in the transformation of the economy.

The DPP Government prioritized education and skills development from 2014 to 2019 by allocating the lions' share of the national budget. However this share has been reduced to less than 20% the past 5 years. While the DPP implemented free primary education, in the next five years, it will provide Free Secondary Education and promote mandatory primary and secondary education. The move towards free secondary started in 2018, when the DPP Government removed tuition fees, general purpose fund and text book revolving fund in secondary schools. Thus the DPP Government will implement the 12 years of free education (eight years of primary school plus four years of secondary school education) by 2030. In this regard, the DPP government will enact laws that will ensure that no child stays out of school.

Early Childhood Development

From 2025 to 2030, the DPP government will:

- Train and require all teachers in Early Childhood Development Centres (ECDC) to be holders of certificate, diploma or degree level.
- Attach all ECDCs to primary schools
- Teachers in ECDC will be receiving salaries from the Local Councils

Basic Education

- Implement Free and Compulsory Primary Education as obligated by the Education Act.
- Abolish user fees at Primary School including development fees and payment of ID and related fees for Malawi National Examination Board.
- Introduce Preparatory Class in all public primary schools
- Construct new schools, expand and rehabilitate existing schools; and Construct additional classroom infrastructure
- Provide WASH facilities and services in Primary schools including change rooms for girls
- Construct Special Needs Education Centres in all Education Zones
- Construct teachers Houses that are disability friendly especially in rural areas
- Scale up school feeding programme to more primary schools with a special focus on home grown solutions.
- Promote inclusive education by introducing Special Needs Modules in Teacher Training Institutions and by training more specialist teachers.
- Review Primary School curriculum to respond to the country's education needs and skills for the 21st Century, ensuring the incorporation of technical, innovation, creativity, entrepreneurship and civic education.
- Upgrade the entry qualifications for Primary School teachers by introducing Diplomas. In addition, the DPP Government will institutionalize the continuous professional development for teachers.
- Recruit and deploy more teachers including the backlog of IPTE 14 to IPTE 18 teachers that are still not absorbed in the education system. This will reduce the pupil qualified teacher ratios.
- Provide adequate Teaching and Learning Materials (TLMs) that include textbooks, teachers guide, computer gadgets to all primary schools including Special Needs TLMs.

- Scale up Tablet based learning in all primary schools. The DPP already piloted the same through Unlocking Talent Programmes.
- Ensure that all primary schools are connected to electricity and internet
- Establish Education TV station to compliment the Education Radio (EBS)
- Promote sporting activities including introduction of more sports programs in primary schools. The DPP Government will also upgrade and rehabilitate sports infrastructure in all primary schools.
- Ensure that all teachers are well motivated, timely paid, decently housed, and adequately incentivized to perform their duties effectively. In addition the DPP Government will introduce special loans for teachers in the form of a revolving fund.
- Ensure that learning outcomes improve in primary schools by enhancing the Inspectorate and advisory services and ensuring accountability at each level of basic education.
- Introduce and scale-up Technical and Vocational and Entrepreneurial Training in primary schools.

Secondary Education

To increase equitable access to secondary education and Quality, the DPP led government will:

- Provide Free Secondary school education
- Review the Education Act to include free and mandatory secondary education.
- Construct new secondary schools across the country targeting areas most in need
- Expand and upgrade infrastructure in existing Community Day Secondary Schools converting them into Conventional Secondary Schools. (The infrastructure shall include classrooms, Science Laboratories, Computer/ICT Laboratories, and Libraries)

- Introduce more Double shift secondary schools where appropriate
- Expand Open Distance and e- learning in Secondary Schools (Introduce more Open Secondary Schools) and improve their management and performance
- Rehabilitate all old secondary schools
- Improve WASH services and facilities in secondary schools including community day secondary schools
- Address barriers to girls' education and build Girls' Hostels, provide bursaries/cash transfers to girls, and address harmful cultural practices
- Construct decent teachers' houses for secondary school teachers especially in rural areas.
- Review Secondary Curriculum to respond to the country's education needs and skills for the 21st Century.
- Introduce Technical Education and Skills Training in more secondary schools including Community Day Secondary Schools.
- Train and recruit more secondary school teachers
- Provide relevant Teaching and Learning Materials for digitizing education including for those with special needs.
- Intensify Inspectorate and advisory services in all secondary schools
- Ensure that all secondary schools have adequate desks and that no learner in secondary school sits on the floor.
- Ensure that all secondary schools have electricity
- Connect all Secondary Schools to the internet
- Construct ICT and Science Laboratories in Community Day Secondary Schools
- Digitalize secondary education
- Promote the teaching of Science, Technology and Mathematics (STEM) by among other things expanding virtual science laboratories for STEM simulations and Analytical Sciences.
- Remove examination fees for JC and MSCE
- Ensure that sports in all secondary schools is promoted by increasing the number of sports disciplines and upgrading and rehabilitating sports infrastructure

Higher Education

- Expand infrastructure in all existing Public Universities including fit for purpose learning spaces, offices and accommodation facilities.
- Ensure that all higher education institutions have state of the art equipment, relevant to the industry needs, suitable to facilitate teaching, learning and Research and Development.
- Expand Open, Distance and e-Learning in public and private universities
- Establish the Open University of Malawi
- Ensure that all needy students benefit from student loans and grants. Extend loan provision to Diploma Students and those on Open Distance and e-Learning
- Complete the construction of Inkosi ya Makhosi Mmbelwa University which the DPP Government started constructing and was abandoned by the MCP Government.
- Provide more accommodation in Public Universities through Public Private Partnerships
- Ensure increased access to higher education for students with special needs. Each public higher education institution shall have facilities for special needs students including resource centres.
- Ensure that quality and standards are enforced in Higher Education Institutions
- Implement Malawi Qualifications Framework
- Review the curriculum to ensure that it is industry-based and responsive to aspirations in the Malawi 2063 and skills required in the next 30 years.
- Strengthen the Registration and Accreditation of public and private universities
- In order to develop requisite human capacity in Science Technology and Innovation, the DPP Government will expand business, innovations and technological incubation centres in higher education institutions. In addition, training of scientists, technologists, innovators and entrepreneurs

will be incentivized. This will contribute effectively to high performing and professional public service.

- Promote Research and Development by ensuring that the National Research Fund established under the DPP Government is adequately resourced.
- The DPP Government will ensure that Programmes offered in Higher Education Institutions are relevant and respond to the needs of the industry and the economy. The DPP will, therefore, ensure that there is close collaboration between higher education institutions and the industry. This move will bring a dynamic and vibrant public sector.

Teacher Education and Development

The DPP recognizes that the quality of education is as good as the quality of teachers. As such the DPP Government will prioritize the training, recruitment and deployment of teachers at all levels. Specifically, the DPP government will:

- Ensure that all teacher training institutions operate at full capacity
- Introduce Diploma and Degrees Programmes for primary school teachers.
- Construct a Special Needs Institute for the training of more specialist teachers, and introduce Inclusive Education Modules in all teachers training institutions.
- Institutionalize the Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Framework for all Teachers.
- Facilitate export for teachers

Community Colleges and Skills Development

The DPP prioritized from 2014 to 2019 the establishment of technical colleges in all districts and constituencies after noticing unemployment and skills gap among the youth in the country. The programme offered more youth opportunities among the youth to get employed or employ other youths. It is





sad to note that the current Government has neglected support towards technical colleges. It is against this background that the 2025 to 2030 DPP Government will

- Increase support towards TEVET and build more technical colleges covering all constituencies across the country .
- Construct Technical Teachers Training College in order to provide more competent instructors in the TEVET system
- Facilitate access to business capital in graduating trainees
- Provide modern equipment related to teaching and learning in the modern world
- Reduce mismatch between supply and demand for skills on the market by facilitating cooperation between TEVET as well as technical colleges and the industry
- Align technical issues to one ministry

Adult Education

An illiterate nation cannot achieve rapid economic growth. Over the past five years, the number of illiterate youth and adults increased while enrolment in literacy was much lower than policy projections.

From 2025 to 2030 and beyond, the DPP Government will ensure equitable quality literacy education by ensuring the following:

- Construct more literacy centres to enroll at least 500,000 learners annually
- Recruit more literacy instructors and ensure that all instructors are paid above minimum wages in line with government policy.
- Train adult literacy and education personnel in short term/ long term professional course
- Fill all vacancies within adult education to improve performance and coordination
- Undertake comprehensive curriculum review for adult literacy and education programmes to ensure the curriculum responds to industry demands.

5.6.2 HEALTH, NUTRITION, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

The DPP recognizes that the health of the population (physical, mental and social well-being) determines the socioeconomic development of the country. The health of the nation is a prerequisite to the country's long-term vision, the Malawi 2063. We realise that many risk factors which make the population sick or die prematurely, are preventable. The Party will, therefore, work towards reducing and controlling those risk factors to prevent morbidity and mortality.

Health For All

We realize that there is growing donor fatigue to sustain some of the gains that have been achieved thus far. Therefore, the DPP Government will work towards:

- Ensuring that there is focus and increased funding and investment on disease prevention
- Addressing social determinants of health by applying the principle of "Health in all policies" across the wider government
- Promoting efficiency in the use of resources in the provision of health care to the citizenry
- Ensuring that the various facilities reduce wastage especially in the supply chain
- Ensuring that it is able to identify its citizenry by ensuring that all Malawians have a National ID
- Empowering its human resource for health to be skilled and competent to provide quality service at all levels of health care delivery.
- Strengthening and integrating "One Health agenda," linking Animal health to Human Health and environment health in prevention and management of diseases. This will be done from community level and formal and informal educational institutions. The DPP recognizes the interplay of these

areas in prevention and management of diseases such as malnutrition, cholera and many other diseases in addition to the prevention of Antimicrobial Resistance

Legislation And Governance

The DPP government will:

- Review and finalise existing health legislation including the Public Health Act of 1948 and the Food and Nutrition Bill.
- Finalise the establishment of the Public Health Institute of Malawi (PHIM)
- Effect Central Hospital Autonomy
- Fully decentralize the health system
- Strengthen the Hospital Ombudsman program
- Strengthen the Health Centre Advisory Committees
- Strengthen primary and secondary healthcare provision under the decentralization agenda by allocating pertinent resources (both human and financial) as well as improve the primary and secondary healthcare infrastructure.
- Establish and strengthen sound relationships with development partners, regional and international health sectors.

Health and Climate Change

The DPP realizes the impact of climate change on health. From 2025, the DPP government will among other things:

- Ensure deployment of Environmental Officers in all councils to conduct Environmental Impact Assessments and assist in mitigating the impact of disasters in both urban and rural areas of the country
- Invest in clean energy as part of “Power to Healthcare” in health facilities. The DPP will provide power to at least 50% of all health facilities that do not have power
- Ensure implementation of regulations and standards on the quality of drinking-water

- Ensure proper disposal of municipal waste
- Ensure provision of safe and sustainable drinking water, sanitation and hygiene in all health facilities

Healthy, safe and resilient workplaces for all

On occupation health, the DPP will

- Implement national policies and action plans on occupational safety and health in line with good labour practices
- Scale up coverage with essential interventions and basic occupational health services of all workers for primary prevention of occupational and work-related diseases and injuries and promote healthier and safer workplaces
- Build workplace resilience to public health emergencies and outbreaks of infectious diseases in all economic sectors
- Implement or strengthen Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) in health care facilities through a range of occupational health and patient safety measures

Build healthy, liveable population

The DPP government will:

- integrate health into urban planning policies to deliver highly connected, mixed-use and compact neighbourhoods that are economically and socially viable and that promote active living, sustainable mobility, energy efficiency, healthy diets and access to essential services
- Prioritize active and sustainable mobility as a preferred mode of travel in relevant transport, spatial and urban planning policies
- Improve walking and cycling infrastructure for people of all ages and abilities
- Create citywide access to safer walking, biking, nature, public spaces and public transport to support mobility, physical activity, recreation, access to services and social interactions, and to reduce the use of energy and resources

- Improve access to good-quality public and green open spaces for people of all ages and abilities including accessible and safe play areas and recreational spaces for children and young people

Promoting healthy living and preventative care

We will:

- Increase public awareness of health determinants such as nutrition, diet and exercise, and encourage adoption of healthier lifestyles to promote well-being through strengthened and collaborative health promotion activities. This will done to prevent, reduce and modify the course of communicable and non-communicable diseases,
- Ensure community involvement in awareness and enforcing regulations on the Alcohol policy and use of recreational drugs
- Increase access to mental health services starting at the community level all the way to tertiary level facilities

Focusing on person-centered care

Further, we will ensure:

- Improve information accessibility and communication to individuals receiving care and their families

Understanding our population's health needs

The DPP government will:

- Use international benchmarking to understand gaps and solutions in health service delivery
- Develop processes and metrics to transparently measure and regularly report markers of care and need
- increase investment and allocation of resources to Health research. All District health budgets will be required to allocate at least 2% of their ORT budgets to research to inform decision making with evidence





LOCATION
SANJE
KWAWA
D
L TO
2023

Strengthening **Primary Health Care** in Cyclone Freddy affected districts

OBJECTIVE

To reduce morbidities and mortalities of Children in tropical Cyclone Freddy affected districts

INTERVENTIONS

- Integrated mobile clinics
- Procurement of buffer drugs
- Hygiene promotion

STRATEGY

Implemented through government stakeholders and community structures in target districts

OUTPUT

Access to primary health care through Integrated Mobile Clinics in target districts

Providing access to healthcare coverage

The DPP government will:

- Introduce health fund and universal health coverage to support health financing
- CDF to cover health system provisions such as ambulance procurement and maintenance of facilities etc
- Strengthen Service Level Agreement with Christian Health Association of Malawi, Islamic Health Association of Malawi and private sector
- Through the diaspora policy the DPP government will invite and encourage doctors, nurses and specialists to return and invest in Malawi
- Work towards developing Traditional Medicine from research to production
- Introduce structured health labor export programs with other countries
- Develop Public Private Partnerships in health service delivery initiatives in areas such as Digital Health, Medical Waste Disposal, Diagnostic Services (Laboratory and Radiology etc), and construction of staff houses in different areas of the country
- Facilitate initiatives that will make Malawi a destination for Medical Tourism especially in areas such as
 - Cancer diagnosis and treatment
 - Production of medicines
 - Cardiology
 - Ophthalmology services
 - Neurosurgery
 - Orthopedic Services
 - Renal and urology services
 - And many other specialties
- Introduce innovation and digital technology in delivery of health care
- Improve drug availability at all levels of health care
- Strengthen the functions of Pharmacy Medicine Regulatory

Authority and other stakeholders to stop drug theft in public facilities while ensuring quality medicines in all health care facilities in the country

Health facilities to be constructed

All new health facilities to be constructed (especially in rural areas) shall include staff houses supplied with water and electricity .

The DPP government will:

- Construct community hospitals in high density urban areas in Blantyre (Chilomoni, Bangwe, Mpemba, Limbe, Ndirande etc), Lilongwe (Nathenje, Kawale, Area 25, Area 18, Mtsiriza/ Mtandire, etc), Zomba, and Mzuzu.
- Construct new district hospital in Chikwawa and Dowa,
- Construct community hospitals in Ntaja, Thekerani, Chapananga, Jenda, Malomo, Chambe, Chitekesa, Nyungwe, Nthalire, Kameme, Makhuwira, Bwanje, Luchenza, Usisya and Bua, (basically community hospitals along the main roads of the country)
- Construct 229 health centres across the country atleast one in each constituency.
- Construct 458 houses across the country for health personel.
- Rehabilitate and/or provide ambulance per health centre.
- Invest in pertinent medical equipment and accessories including oxygen plants at Zomba Central Hospital, Mangochi District Hospital, Kasungu District Hospital and Chikwawa District Hospital.
- On Medical Tourism and under PPP, build a State of the Art Tertiary Hospital to cover specialized services such as Cancer, Heart Diseases, Kidney transplants, Orthopedic services, Eye Services (common diseases that force the government and our patients seek external medical care)
- Construct Mental Health Units at QECH and KCH to increase access to mental health services
- Establish Emergency Medical Services, Ambulance services between Lilongwe and Mzuzu route and Blantyre to Mangochi

route (possible also to create an SLA with a private service provider).

- Improve the functioning of the Malawi Blood Transfusion Service to ensure improved availability and access of blood and blood products
- Train and certify first responders linking with the Red Cross Society

Strengthening healthcare workforce

The DPP government will:

- The DPP will ensure that principles of governance and accountability across our healthcare system are enshrined in the operations of public health facilities to overcome siloed working and promote collaboration with clear responsibilities
- Introduce health labor export and import programs with other countries by using our Diaspora policy
- Invest in staff through adequate training and recruitment
- Provide housing to health care workers especially in rural areas – 2 houses at a health post/ 15 houses at a health centre/ 70 houses at a district hospital
- Invest in appropriate medical equipment (plus its maintenance) so that health care service delivery is improved.

Harnessing healthcare technology

We will:

- Establish a system-wide vision and integrated digital healthcare strategy in order to increase efficiencies in health care provision
- Assemble and provide drone services to assist in supply chain initiatives
- Develop a system-level dashboard with metrics to measure and manage system and population health, with periodic public reporting, (the Health Situation Room)
- Increased proportion of people with electronic health records
- Improved utilisation of healthcare data to better guide

healthcare policy decisions, including resource allocations and prioritization

Partnerships and collaborative working

The DPP government will:

- The DPP will initiate pilot projects with stakeholders to map integrated essential care pathways for prioritised services, to identify the care journey and handoffs between service providers
- Develop and document a scalable process to map current care pathway value and benefits, to see how we can improve our services further through more efficient care delivery and collaboration between care providers
- Strengthen South to South collaboration, research and development

Preventing wasteful care and promoting efficiency

- Strengthening and promoting the use of the National ID in public healthcare service.
- Ensure implementation of Health care reforms like
 - Human Resources for Health optimization (emphasizing on competence, scope of works, service delivery, patient safety and efficient patient referrals). Among other things, this will entail deployment of Specialists in Family Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Pediatrics, Surgery and Internal Medicine in district hospitals in a phased manner
 - Integrated health care delivery
 - Construction of Gate-keeping facilities (Urban Community Hospitals)
- Strengthen quality of care at all levels of service delivery
- Identify and quantify system wide opportunities to achieve better value
- Integrate and streamline the administration and management of the Government's health insurance plans

- Introduce National Health Insurance in Malawi in a stepwise manner
- Enforce drug and medical supplies safety, distribution and management.

Nutrition and Health

Food insecurity is becoming a chronic issue. The DPP government will focus therefore on

- Social behavior change
- Dietary diversification on foods eg – plantains, bananas, sweet potatoes, cassava, sorghum, irish potatoes, to form part of the staple foods for Malawi. Increase local production of cooking oil from Sunflower, soya beans and groundnuts. Malawi needs to stop over-reliance on maize
- High cost of farm inputs and consider inputs for the other crops other than maize alone
- Climate change and its impact on food production by focusing on small ruminants (akalulu, mbira, aquaculture, chickens and production of eggs). The DPP government realizes that big animals or livestock such as cattle etc are not consumed by families but are for prestige. The big animals, however, can provide milk to families
- Climate change and its impact on health including upsurge on some diseases such as cholera, and schistosomiasis (which may affect the tourism industry)

We will include nutrition in social protection initiatives eg cash transfer and public works so that such initiatives improve the nutrition of people. Further, we will integrate nutrition in the context of Climate Change, ensuring that women are empowered, fruit trees (not just trees) are planted and grown, water sources are protected etc

5.5.3 YOUTH AND SPORTS

Malawi's youth, constituting 70% of the population, are the key drivers of the Malawi 2063. However, the past five years have seen the government neglecting initiatives that would enable young people to contribute meaningfully to national development, particularly in areas such as employment, economic empowerment, skills development, sports, governance, ICT, and social inclusion.

Due to rising poverty and insufficient family support at home, as many as 15,000 children have become street kids especially in the cities of Lilongwe, Blantyre, Mzuzu and Zomba. The children live on the streets and most of them commit serious crimes for survival. As a result, many people in town move in fear for their lives and the safety of their property. Most of these kids are school drop-outs and have not completed primary school. The Democratic Progressive Party is committed to reversing this sad situation by creating a secure, inclusive, and prosperous future for the youth. Our government will empower young people to become active leaders in shaping their communities and the nation. To demonstrate the seriousness that the DPP has on youths, we will amalgamate the current Ministries of Youths, Sports and Labour into the Ministry of Labour, Youths, Sports and Art.

We pledge to undertake the following key initiatives between 2025 and 2030:

Youth Economic Empowerment and Skills Development

- Revitalize and expand Community Technical Colleges to train youth in market-relevant skills (e.g., agriculture, ICT, manufacturing, and entrepreneurship) and link them to job and market opportunities.
- Establish a Youth Enterprise Fund which will provide a revolving K100 million every year to each constituency in

low-interest loans and grants for young entrepreneurs and graduates of technical colleges.

- Upgrade and modernize technical colleges to align courses with MW2063 and market demands, while providing start-up kits and mentorship for graduates.
- Develop community tourism centres to drive local tourism, create employment, and establish youth tourism groups to develop attractions in their constituencies.
- Train street kids and other youths that did not complete primary school in practical vocational skills and entrepreneurship for their livelihood.

Sports Development and Recreation

- Establish K12 billion Sports Development Fund, from which every constituency will access K50 million for sports every year.
- Complete the 2 major sports projects (The Griffin Saenda Sports Complex and Malawi Aquatic Centre)
- Establish youth centres in all districts, equipped with sports and recreational facilities, libraries, and ICT centres.
- Continue the development of district stadiums and complete international stadiums in Blantyre and Mzuzu.
- Invest in sports academies managed by sports legends to enhance talent identification and administration.
- Introduce a dedicated national budget vote for football and netball.
- Complete the construction of Bullets and Wanderers stadiums.
- Revise the Sports Policy to incentivize companies supporting sports development.
- Resume primary and secondary school sports programs to nurture young talent.

Creative Arts and Innovation

- Protect creative works through patents and copyright laws.

- Organize competitions in drama, music, and dance to identify and develop talent.
- Provide entrepreneurial skills and start-up loans for artists and creatives.

Governance and Youth Participation

- Transform the National Youth Council (NYCOM) into a National Youth Commission with a clear mandate for youth development.
- Engage youth in innovative ways to fight corruption.
- Integrate citizenship, ethics, and integrity into the school curriculum to instill accountability from a young age.

ICT and Digital Transformation

- Invest in satellite technology to improve internet connectivity in rural areas, ensuring universal access to the internet by 2030.
- Revive tele-centres to boost ICT access, training, and AI-driven entrepreneurship.
- Reduce taxes on ICT equipment to make technology more affordable.
- Provide funding and mentorship for youth-led tech innovations in agriculture, health, and business.

Health, Well-being, and Social Protection

- Launch a nationwide campaign against drug and substance abuse and enforce strict regulations on illegal drugs.
- Increase funding for youth-friendly health services, including mental health programs.
- Implement comprehensive sexual and reproductive health education in schools.
- Expand access to clean water and decentralize water management to district councils.

Youth Inclusion in Governance and Decision-Making

- Amend the Local Government Act to mandate at least two youth representatives (one male, one female) in every District and Ward Development Committee.
- Introduce mechanisms for youth participation in local government budgets.
- Establish Youth Advisory Councils at district levels to provide input on local development plans.

Protection and Support for Vulnerable Youth

- Protect youth with albinism through community-based security mechanisms and awareness campaigns.
- Provide free sun protection creams and sunglasses for young people with albinism.

The DPP believes that Malawi's youth are leaders of today and must be actively involved in shaping the future. Through these commitments, our government will ensure that young people are empowered, valued, and equipped to contribute meaningfully to national development. Together, we will build a better, safer, and more prosperous Malawi for all.

5.5.4 WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AND GENDER

Malawi's Agenda 2063 prioritizes the empowerment of women and girls through ensuring equal access to opportunities, resources, and services. The agenda aims to promote inclusive and sustainable development, with a focus on empowering women and girls to participate fully in economic, social, and political aspects of development. The DPP government recognizes that a genuinely equitable society is built on the strength and potential of all its members regardless of gender. We know and

appreciate the important role that women in Malawi play in the development of the nation, while realizing the challenges that women face stemming from gender inequalities including limited access to education, healthcare, financial capital and political/social participation. The DPP reaffirms its commitment to women's empowerment as a fundamental human right and a requirement for Malawi's economic progress.

From 2025 to 2030 the DPP, shall therefore, in support of Malawi's 2063 agenda enhance implementation of its robust policies that promote the empowerment of women in Malawi as follows:

- Increase the participation of Women in Politics, cabinet positions and decision-making ranks in alignment with the 50-50 campaign and international agreements on gender equality.
- Harmonise and enforce Gender-Related Laws including the establishment of the Women Economic Empowerment Fund to accelerate the implementation of the 40:60 quota representation as provided in the Gender Equality Act of 2013.
- Establish and capitalise Women's Economic Empowerment initiative and entrepreneurship development at constituency level to a tune of MK 100 Million.
- Review, implement and monitor policies that will rigorously enforce the National Strategy for Ending Child Marriage and the National Plan of Action to Combat Gender-Based Violence.
- Continue building more hostels for girls to improve their access to education.
- In collaboration with development partners and NGOs, improve women and girls' access to clean water and sanitation.



- Foster partnerships and collaboration between the government, civil society, and the private sector to support efforts to end child marriages and promote gender equality.
- Review and strengthen Legal and Policy Framework on Women's Empowerment to ensure it is all-encompassing in its effort to integrate women in the development and implementation of all Government policies, plans and systems.
- Implement robust social protection systems, which made significant strides under the DPP-led government, benefitting over 1.5 million individuals through various programs. The social cash transfer program registered high levels of success, with 73% of beneficiaries being female-headed households.
- Continue creating an enabling environment for rural women to engage in economic activities, such as trans-border trade, agri-business, and small and medium enterprises (SMEs).
- Ensure effective implementation and monitoring of social protection programs, including the allocation of sufficient resources and the use of technology to improve efficiency.
- Invest in Capacity-building and training of women. We will increase the enrollment and women's access to vocational training and skills development programs in order to promote women's participation in the work force and earn a decent living.
- Promote agricultural productivity and commercialization efforts of women. We will ensure that women have equal access to resources, land, markets, and technologies to enhance their participation in agricultural development.
- Promote a Mindset that values women's participation in decision-making and leadership positions.
- Make deliberate and specific programs to eliminate the vulnerability of women and the girl child to the impact of climate change (natural disasters) such as floods and cyclones.

5.5.5 DISADVANTAGED PERSONS, THE ELDERLY AND PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The Malawi 2063 aspires for the knowledge based economy and that Malawi shall have a globally competitive and highly motivated human resource. It is acknowledged that in order to have an inclusive wealthy and self-reliant industrialized middle income by 2063, we cannot neglect the elderly and people with special needs.

Many elderly people have been treated unfairly, and at times been accused of witchcraft arbitrarily. Between 2020 and 2025, an estimated 160 elderly women have been killed on suspicion of witchcraft.

Many infrastructures in the country such as buildings, roads and modes of transport do not take into account the needs of persons with disabilities. People with special needs and the elderly need to be united with everybody and become active participants of society. They need social protection so that they do not become marginalised and vulnerable.

The UN Convention on Rights of Persons with Disability recognizes guiding principles on respect, non-discrimination, full and effective participation, respect for difference equality and opportunity. Suicide cases in Malawi are on the rise, in fact they have reached an outbreak stage. For example 153 persons committed suicide in the first quarter of 2025 alone, 80 percent of the cases being committed by males. Making it worse, was the law that criminalised suicides in Malawi, in the process discouraging people from reaching out for support.

The number of street kids in our cities is increasing, largely due to rising poverty and insufficient family support at home. Most of these children have not completed primary school education and are unemployable. As a result, they turn to criminality for their survival, and once caught they are beaten and even killed.





The DPP government believes that equal participation will help promote the economy. It will do away with countless challenges the elderly, people with disability and albinism, orphans and street kids face.

From 2025 to 2030, DPP will:

- Provide substantial funding to Disability Trust Fund and Malawi Council for Disability Affairs (MACODA) to ensure that they perform optimally in implementing and coordinating disability-related programmes
- Support single old persons who do not have home-support systems with accommodation in old people's homes. We will use funds from the district council allocation for this.
- Step up efforts to provide medical facilities, clothing, food and housing for the elderly and disadvantaged persons.
- Facilitate speedy processing of pensions and gratuity for retired civil servants
- Re-introduce Public works program
- Promote user-friendly buildings and other facilities for easy access by the elderly, disability and people with albinism
- Provide HIV and AIDS support services to infected and affected people
- Remove taxes on importation of assistive devices to facilitate expanded provision of assistive devices to the most vulnerable
- Ensure that vocational colleges and institutions for persons with disabilities are well funded and operational at all times
- Support the functioning of the National Coordination Committee on Disability Issues
- Review TVET policy and other related policies
- Work in partnership with relevant local, regional and international organisations and Civil Society
- Enforce regulation of gaming.
- Ensure that disadvantaged persons have same access to justice

- Implement recommendation in the protection of people living with albinism policy
- Adopt accessible selection process at local, regional and national level of political office and ensure reasonable adjustments for candidates with disabilities.
- Train street kids in vocational skills and entrepreneurship.
- Move street kids and accommodate them in care homes.

5.6 ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT

Climate change and environmental degradation are no longer distant threats; they are present realities that affect every aspect of our lives such as our health, our economies, our communities, and our natural ecosystems. The air we breathe, the water we drink, and the land that sustains us are under threat, not only from the forces of nature but also from the consequences of human activity.

5.6.1 CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change, driven by the burning of fossil fuels, deforestation, and unsustainable practices, is causing temperatures to rise at an unprecedented rate. This is triggering extreme weather events. These include frequent and severe floods, cyclones, droughts, wildfires, among others. These events threaten lives, devastate economies, and displace people, particularly the most vulnerable communities who contribute the least to the problem.

The DPP recognizes the major climate and environmental challenges; which are Climate change and global warming; biodiversity loss; resource depletion; pollution; environmental justice and equity, policy governance, technological and scientific barriers, financing and investment; natural disasters and extreme events, and global population growth.



Therefore, in our commitment to a sustainable future where the planet's health is preserved for generations to come, the Democratic Progressive Party stands firm in its belief that a clean, green, and prosperous economy is not only possible but essential.

Together, we will take bold, decisive action to protect the environment, reduce climate change impacts, and contribute to the creation of a more just and sustainable world.

Specifically, the DPP government shall:

- Promote, invest and intensify afforestation and reforestation programmes
- Invest in biodiversity and ecosystem protection
- Invest in clean and renewable energy sources
- Implement carbon/emissions trading system
- Promote sustainable resource management such as sustainable agriculture, sustainable water and land use practices;
- Promote circular economy to reduce waste
- Eliminate single use plastics
- Implement air, water and chemical pollution control strategies;
- Develop stringent pollution regulations
- Facilitate investments in green infrastructure, including parks, green roofs, and energy-efficient buildings.
- Ensure new urban development's follow sustainable design principles, that inculcates green infrastructure.
- Develop, implement and enforce stronger environmental regulations
- Promote climate smart agriculture to build resilience
- Enforce stringent waste management regulations
- Make available adequate financial and human resources for forest conservation and management
- Aggressively promote national tree planting programme across the country

- Ensure curriculum review to introduce environment and climate change subjects
- Support and strengthen association and/or grouping responsible for environmental and climate change awareness or journalism

5.7.2 DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT

Malawi faces a number of disasters, both natural and human-made. These include floods, drought, stormy rains, strong winds, hailstorms, landslides, earthquakes, pest infestations, disease outbreaks, fire and accidents. The intensity and frequency of disasters has been increasing, in light of climate change, population growth, urbanization and environmental degradation.

For instance, floods and drought continue to increase in frequency and intensity. Cyclone Idai in March/May 2019, affected 868,900 people, with 86,980 people displaced and in need of immediate help. Of the total number of the displaced people, 45,000 were women.

The country was also hit by tropical cyclone Freddy in March, 2023. This was the most severe cyclone recorded in southern Africa and Malawi. It triggered 1.4 million internal displacements across six countries and territories in south-eastern Africa, twice as many as Cyclone Idai in 2019. More than 659,000 were recorded in Malawi, the highest figure since disaster displacement data became available for the country since 2009.

Roads, bridges and power supplies in the predominantly rural areas were extensively damaged, hindering the delivery of food and other types of assistance to remote communities. The cyclone contributed to worsening food insecurity.

Worse still, Malawi was then recovering from the impacts of cyclone Ana and Gombe in 2022.

Just like floods, drought is a recurrent hazard in Malawi. It has contributed to severe food crises such as those experienced in 2005, 2012, and 2016/2017 which was in part due to El-nino. The 2016/2017 drought left approximately 6 million people in need of food assistance in the country.

In essence, disasters disrupt people's livelihoods, endanger human lives, negatively impact food security, damage infrastructure and hinder socio-economic growth and development. Disasters also increase the poverty of rural and urban households and erode the ability of the national economy to invest in key social sectors which are important for the creation of wealth.

The key issues that exacerbate disasters in Malawi include climate change and extreme weather conditions; limited Early Warning Systems; weak disaster preparedness and response capacity; inadequate infrastructure and resources; high poverty and vulnerability; ineffective coordination and capacity among stakeholders; limited financial resources and funding for disaster risk management; deforestation and environmental degradation; strained health systems during disasters; weak integration of disaster risk reduction (DRR) in development planning; and over-reliance on external aid.

It is, therefore, important to address disaster risks for meaningful socio-economic development of the country, through urgent reform in disaster governance and coordination system, among others.

In this regard, the DPP government will:

- Prioritize reforms of disaster risk management governance structures;
- Establish a dedicated National Disaster Risk Management Authority;

- Operationalize the Disaster Risk Management Fund;
- Embark on extensive integration of DRR in Agriculture, Education, Health, Transport and Infrastructure, Housing, Urban Planning and Development, and Tourism;
- Designate National Disaster Resilience Month;
- Reorganize the local government disaster risk reduction structures;
- Aggressively build community resilience to disasters
- Prioritize mitigation programmes on climate change impacts;
- Foster effective environmental management
- Enhance the military capacity (human, technical and technological capabilities) in disaster response and recovery;
- Create public awareness at all levels of society;
- Review curriculum to integrate disaster and disaster management;
- Build capacity in effective Early Warning Systems;
- Construct appropriate evacuation centers in disaster prone areas;

5.7 NON-STATE ACTORS: MEDIA, CIVIL SOCIETY & RELIGIOUS ORGANISATIONS

The Malawi 2063 aspires to create an inclusive, self-reliant, and industrialized middle-income nation by 2063. It further envisions a united, peaceful, and proud people, supported by strong governance, transformation, and reforms.

Recognizing the vital role of the media, civil society organizations (CSOs), and religious institutions in nation-building, the Democratic Progressive Party acknowledges their contributions in shaping public opinion, disseminating information, monitoring governance, and fostering values of hard work and unity among Malawians.

The DPP firmly upholds freedom of expression as fundamental to democracy, ensuring the free flow of information, accountability, and transparency. Between 2014 and 2020, the DPP government demonstrated this commitment by developing and passing the Access to Information Bill in 2017. The party believes in press freedom, with no arrests of media personnel, and allows media houses to operate professionally without interference.

Furthermore, the DPP government recognizes the role of religious institutions in shaping moral values and national transformation, while civil society remains a key player in ensuring government accountability.

From 2025 to 2030, the DPP will continue fostering a free, democratic, and progressive Malawi by.

- Operationalising the Access to Information Law Opening up media houses that were closed on political reasons
- Reforming the Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority (MACRA) and relocating its Head Quarters back to Blantyre.
- Ensuring media freedom by allowing independent operation without government control, censorship, or undue interference.
- Protecting media rights to communicate information, ideas, and opinions freely across print, radio, television, and digital platforms.
- Reorganising the Malawi Broadcasting Corporation (MBC) by exploring a new funding model from the Content Creators Fund
- With Content Creators Fund, removing advertising from the station to allow private stations to benefit from the market without competition from a publicly funded broadcaster.
- Creating metro stations (using the Content Creators Fund) in the following areas: Mzuzu to broadcast in Chitumbuka,

Chitonga and Chingoni; Mangochi to broadcast in Chiyao; Mulanje to broadcast in Chilomwe and Nsanje to broadcast in Chisena. The stations shall promote indigenous content and languages.

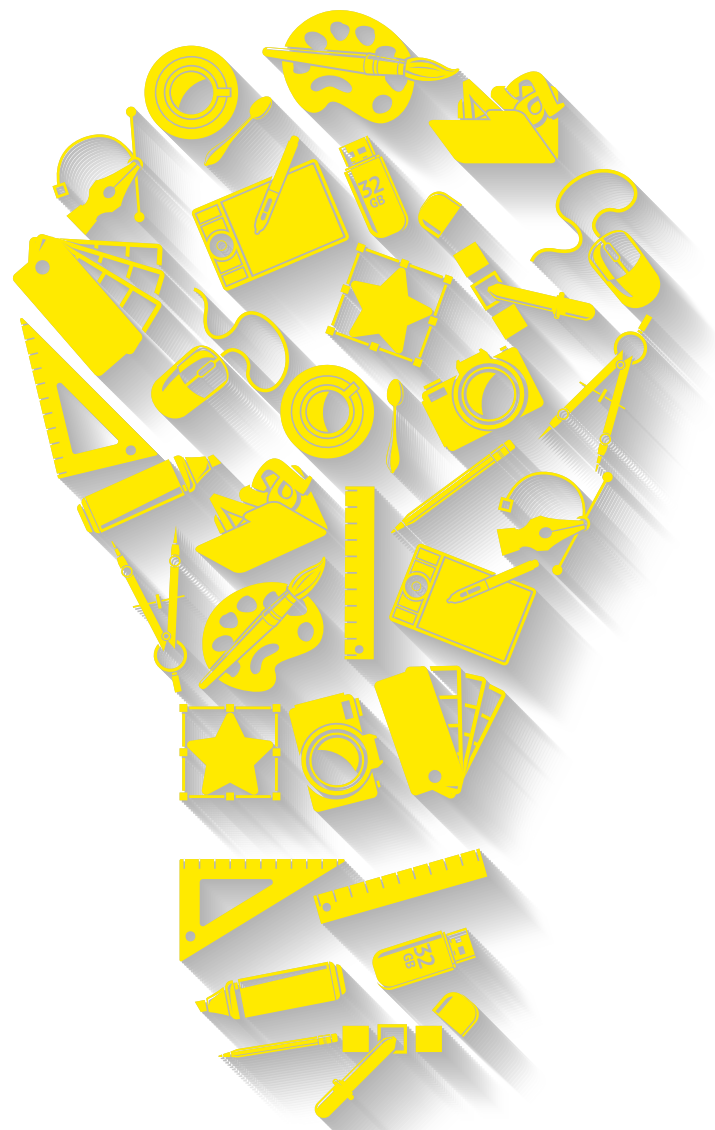
- Creating a children's radio station (using the Content Creators Fund). The DPP believes in socialising children into productive citizens who will carry the country into prosperity beyond 2063.
- Upholding political rights by ensuring all organizations participate fully in political, economic, social, and cultural processes.
- Collaborating with religious institutions to instill patriotism, hard work, and integrity in society.
- Ensuring clergy representation in key policy making decisions.
- Providing civic space for CSOs to advocate for human rights and good governance.
- Engaging CSOs and NGOs in national development initiatives.
- Partnering with non-state actors to review policies affecting CSOs, the media, and religious organizations.

5.8 CREATIVE ARTS

The DPP acknowledges that creative arts can be monetised into a significant ratio of the national economy. The DPP also understands creative arts as an act of writing fiction and non-fiction; writing songs, arranging music, recording music; performance of music, poetry, drama, opera, choral works and dance; painting, sculpturing, graphic arts, photography, fashion and design, crafts, architecture, films, television. The DPP shall do the following to promote and monetise creative arts in Malawi:

- Negotiate with TickTock, YouTube, Instagram platforms and affiliate marketing networks to reward Malawian content creators in monetary terms.
- Create a National Content Creator Fund for the promotion of indigenous content.
- Establish a modern film production studio. The studio shall run on Public-Private Partnership while serving as a learning centre for students of Film Production Studies. In addition, the studio will also offer per hour employment to students.
- Establish a modern music recording and mastering studio at Malawi University of Science and Technology on Public-Private Partnership while serving as a learning centre for students of music. In addition, the studio will offer per hour employment to students.
- Identify a private partner and renovate Blantyre Cultural Centre to be run as a Private-Public Partnership.
- Identify a private partner for the construction of a suitable venue for creative arts performances in Lilongwe and Mzuzu.
- Create public-private partnerships to construct venues suitable for creative arts performances at district and town councils.

- Introduce postgraduate programmes in creative writing to develop writers that can compete on the international market.
- Review Copyright Law to enable content creators to benefit from their work both within and without Malawi.







CHAPTER 6

A CALL TO MALAWIANS AND PARTNERS



We make this earnest call to **OUR FELLOW MALAWIANS**, that voting for the mighty DPP on 16 September 2025 will be the best decision for Mother Malawi. The DPP has an unparalleled track record in economic management and understands the economy of this country very well. The DPP will therefore be able to implement measures that will reverse the crisis that the country has become due to incompetence. By voting for the DPP, you will be saving Malawi from destruction.

To the INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS, BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL INSTITUTIONS among others, we assure you of a consistent and trustworthy administration that you can transact business with; a government that will negotiate in good faith and respect its commitments.

To our colleagues in the MEDIA, we call on you to partner with the DPP as we form a government that will reinstate press freedom; a government in which none of you will be intimidated, arrested or harassed for exercising your freedom of expression. We have a record of our performance in this area.

To the RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY, we would like to assure you that the DPP will foster a productive and respectable partnership between the religious community and government. We are bringing a government that will work with you as we both serve the same people, Malawians, as faithfuls and citizens.

To the PUBLIC SERVANTS, we recognize you as the life and blood of any government. We recognize your commitment in serving Mother Malawi. We have been together, and we know how committed you are, we know your sacrifices to this country. The incoming DPP administration will recognize you for your commitment and sacrifice.

To you the STUDENTS, we know your struggles and what should be done to ensure a safe and conducive learning environment. The DPP is set to work with you in addressing your challenges and concerns.

Finally, to the CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS, Activists among others, we are pledging a conducive civic space. We will create an environment, free from impediments, allowing Malawians to enjoy their freedoms and birthrights. We will not restrict demonstrations as we are experiencing now.

WE THEREFORE CALL UPON ALL THOSE with voting rights to cast that decisive vote for the mighty Democratic Progressive Party, with its leader, His Excellency Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika.

VOTING FOR THE DPP AND ITS LEADERSHIP, IS A SURE WAY OF PUTTING MALAWI ON A POSITIVE TRAJECTORY TO SUCCESS. THE DPP PROMISES WHAT IT DELIVERS. THE DPP DELIVERS WHAT IT PROMISES.

**VOTE FOR THE DPP! BOMA LA A PETER!
APM WOYEEEE! DPP WOYEEEE! MALAWI WOYEEEE!**





