



**AFRICAN
VISION
MALAWI**

**ANNUAL
REPORT
TO APRIL 2023**



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OUR PURPOSE

The purpose of African Vision Malawi is to work with local communities to develop long-term, sustainable solutions to the issues affecting orphans and vulnerable people in Malawi.

We do this across four key areas:

- Education
- Healthcare
- Self-sufficiency
- Environment



OUR VISION

**TO SEE A HEALTHY, EDUCATED
AND SELF-SUFFICIENT
COMMUNITY IN MALAWI**

WHERE WE WORK

We have been operating since 2005 in an area 30km from Malawi's capital city, Lilongwe. The area spans 400km² with a local population of 60,000. We support 28 Government primary schools and have just under 4,000 orphans and 300 disabled people registered with two clinics and two maternity units.

We work through 14 centres where we have a Local Based Committee (LBC) of six volunteers — in each centre — who help us identify and resolve any issues on the ground plus a total of 84 volunteers who are residents in the local area.



THE FOUR PILLARS OF OUR WORK

EDUCATION

HEALTH

SELF-SUFFICIENCY

ENVIRONMENT



PILLAR 1
EDUCATION

EDUCATION

Malawi has a population of approximately 19 million with 85% living in rural areas as subsistence farmers. Only 25% of children get a place in secondary school.

Our education programme accounts for approximately 65% of our overall work and follows a life cycle approach: starting from pre-school, school years, through tertiary/vocational training and onto employment.

We currently have six education projects:

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT (ECD)

We have 13 ECD centres within our catchment area with 994 children registered. We have been looking at alternative ways to restart our feeding programme and working with the community we shall be setting up 3 'ECD feeding gardens' in 2023.





SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

We are working with 22 schools in Malawi and 23 schools in the UK that have partnered to learn from each other. Themed packs on 'Celebrations' were shared in October showing their traditional culture. Schools in the UK fundraise for Malawi schools, and we bought educational resources, footballs, and chairs and paid for exams and school uniforms for orphans and vulnerable children (OVC).



SCHOLARSHIP

In January 2023 we had 81 scholarships. In December 2022 they attended our annual scholarship camp, themed 'Excellence is a Must' which encouraged achieving their academic, social and entrepreneurial goals.

14 of our 15 students completed secondary education, 7 of them applied to university. 6 university students successfully graduated over the year.





GIRLS EDUCATION MATTERS

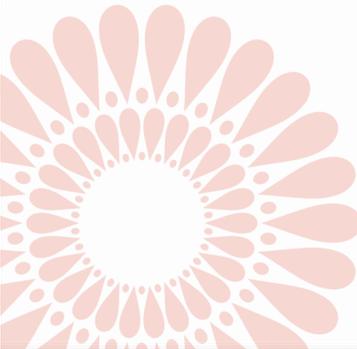
We are working with nine primary schools where we provide girls with sanitary materials and have built washrooms to encourage girls to attend school during menstruation. Girls in the region would usually miss 2 – 3 months of education per year by staying at home during their monthly periods.

ADULT LITERACY

In partnership with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, we deliver English and Chichewa classes to adults across five centres. 64 took their exams of which 43 passed and graduated in March 2023.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

We offered 25 places to marginalized adults in carpentry and tailoring training at our purpose-built eco-training centre at Sam's Village. All graduated in November 2022. They now have the skills to set up businesses and support their families, making them self-sufficient.



Tivara zovala zazitali
kuti ududzu usatilume



MAPHIRI
Kelly
Beccy
KEVIN JEMMA



madzi kuti ududzu usaswanilemo



PILLAR 2
HEALTH

HEALTH

In Malawi there are very basic health services. 50% of deaths of children under five years old are due to malaria. Within our catchment area of 60,000, we have just two government clinics and they are poorly resourced. In 2013, we rebuilt the maternity unit at one of the clinics. In 2019 we merged with Love Support Unite and since 2020 have taken on their programmes, which they continue to fund.

Health is our second biggest programme and accounts for 25% of all our work. It also follows a life cycle approach: from supporting babies in safe maternal care; working with children and adults with disabilities; helping vulnerable adults living with HIV/Aids and chronic diseases through to the frail and elderly.

Our health programme features:

MEDICAL OUTREACH CLINIC

In partnership with the Ministry of Health, we support 10 mobile outreach clinics providing much needed health services to those living in rural, hard to reach areas.





DISABILITY OUTREACH SERVICE

Our service identifies those living with disability in our communities and provides referrals and access to rehabilitation services. This includes 'vulnerable support' for people with long-term illness needing support or medication. In addition to this, we will be building a Special Needs Assessment and Therapy unit shortly.

BICYCLE AMBULANCE SERVICE

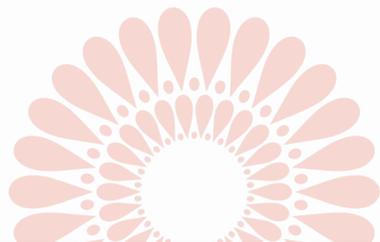
Bicycle ambulances provide much-needed access to health care services for the acutely ill and mothers in labour.

WATER AND SANITATION

In partnership with the Rotary Club and other sponsors, 50 boreholes have been installed and we work with the community to monitor their performance.

RELIEF SUPPORT

We support ultra-vulnerable children on a monthly basis with basic items and medicines. We also provide a relief distribution in February to the most vulnerable children and adults.





SAFE MOTHERHOOD INITIATIVES

In 2013 we constructed a maternity unit at M'bang'ombe Health Centre which serves the community of 25,000 people. We are working towards building a 'Safe Motherhood Unit' which will include nutritional training, permaculture gardens, additional space for expectant mothers and facilities for children under five.





PILLAR 3

SELF-SUFFICIENCY



SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Sam's Village is a self-sustaining eco-training village built on a 17-acre site in rural north-west Lilongwe (8km from Kamuzu International Airport).

The construction phase is now almost complete, and our objective is to support a move away from hand-outs to creating self-sufficient training programmes.

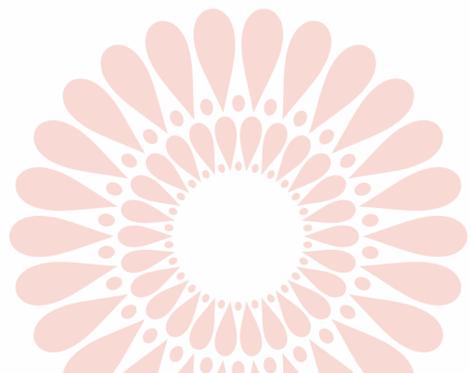
Features of Sam's Village include:

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

We offer accredited vocational training to adults in 'non-formal' skills such as carpentry and tailoring.

LIFE SKILLS TRAINING

Life skills training such as health/disability awareness, education around gender-based violence, and permaculture gardening is available.





EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

We offer a pre-school learning service for children between the ages of 3-5 in partnership with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology.

LIBRARY

The library serves people of all ages and is utilised by community members. Many of our scholarship students use it in the holidays.

PERMACULTURE GARDENS

The organic gardens sustain the staff, visitors and trainees at Sam's Village.

TRAINING IN EARTH BUILDING

Previously we have offered training in natural building methods and all our buildings are constructed using this method.





PILLAR 4

ENVIRONMENT



ENVIRONMENT

Our fourth pillar focuses on sustainable agriculture and improving environmental practices. This includes promoting food security and impacting climate change.

Our environmental programme features:

SUSTAINABLE FAMILY FARMING

With the support of our partner Love Support Unite, we provide this programme to vulnerable people who would otherwise struggle to produce farming outputs as a result of poverty, disability or illness. It is a roll-on programme where farm inputs are provided and then paid back over a 2-year period.

DIMBA GARDENS

Farming near riverbeds helps people grow crops all year round and is a sustainable farming method that enables people to maintain their livelihoods. Our selection process focuses on people supporting orphans, the disabled, the elderly and those living with HIV/Aids.





REFORESTATION

Since 2013 we have planted 38,270 trees in our area. We plant a mix of agroforestry and fruit trees.

MAIZE MILL

The construction of a maize mill at Bowa has provided access to milling services that were not available without significant travel.



HOUSEHOLD PERMACULTURE GARDENS

AVM has now trained 51 beneficiaries to grow their own 'back garden' near their home using permaculture techniques. The programme includes making manure, natural medicines, soap making, water management, soil management and natural pest control.



PERMACULTURE

In partnership with SCOPE Malawi, we offer training in permaculture approaches to schools and households in our communities. The SKI (Seeds & Knowledge Initiative) programme supports seed multiplication and organic methods of growing, leading to food security while encouraging the use of indigenous seeds and no fertilisers.



IMPACT

EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENTS

- Successfully delivered an ECD (Early Childhood Development) programme across 13 centres and out of 994 children, 186 transferred to primary school.
- Renovated Funsani ECD centre through funding from Gandy's International Foundation.
- Delivered feeding programmes to M'teza and Funsani during a cholera epidemic.
- Supported 44 scholarships in secondary school, 7 in primary and 33 in college. 6 were selected to different public universities and 4 graduated. 13 out of 14 passed their MSCE (Secondary) and 9 have applied for university and are waiting for results. 3 secured places at the SOS Vocational training centre.
- Held a successful 3-day scholarship for 88 students at Sam's Village.
- Successfully delivered the School Partnership programme to 22 Malawi Primary schools with the theme of 'Celebrations'.



- 9 Malawi partnership schools received funding from their UK schools for a total of £1,979 which was spent on learning resources, uniforms, footballs, chairs and some renovations.
- 43 out of 64 people graduated from our Adult Literacy programme in both levels 1 & 2, with a pass rate of 70%.





HEALTH ACHIEVEMENTS

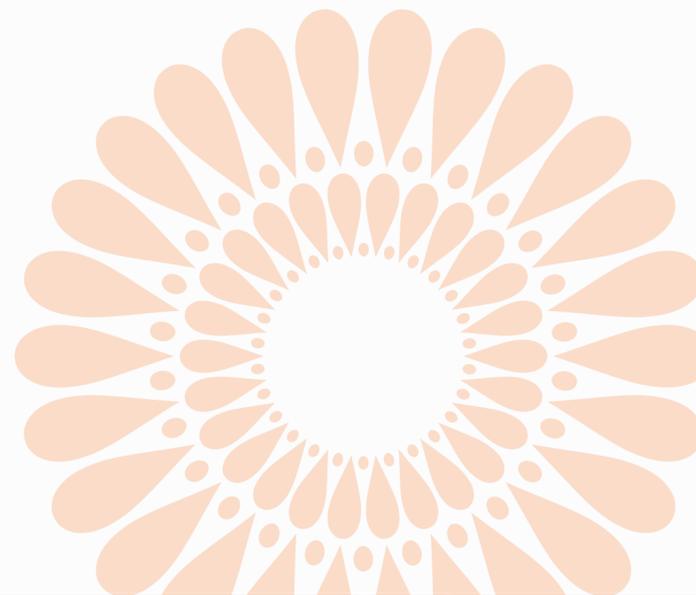
- Our Medical Outreach Clinics reached 28,147 patients. Providing access to HIV and malaria testing, under 5's clinics, antenatal and family planning services.
- 100 beneficiaries assisted in our Disability Outreach programmes. Referrals to Beit Cure, 500 Miles, MAP and Kamuzu Central Hospital.
- 11 ultra-poor vulnerable children were supported with food and basic packs each month and medication where needed.
- 280 orphans and vulnerable adults received relief food in February.
- A borehole was installed at Nyondo Village, Chitsime Centre. Kindly funded by STAR Properties, UK.
- Through our Dental programme we screened 994 children and 187 pupils had teeth extracted.
- 131 patients were transported on our bicycle ambulance service.





SELF-SUFFICIENCY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Sam's Village was officially opened in September 2022 with 114 people attending.
- 24 marginalized people were trained at Sam's Village in carpentry and tailoring and graduated successfully in November.
- 8 Sustainable Family Farms have harvested more food than the previous year giving them food security.
- We continued growing extensive permaculture gardens at Sam's Village which include 7 acres of land outside the main campus.
- 84 farmers at Chitsime Centre are now food secure and use their local seeds to plant each year. They are totally organic and don't need to buy fertilizers.
- 27 guardians of orphans and vulnerable people were supported with 'dimba' gardens by the riverbeds. These provide organic vegetables to feed their extended family and with the surplus they can buy basic needs.
- 11 out of 20 Household permaculture garden beneficiaries now have food all year.



ENVIRONMENTAL ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2,800 trees were planted in our community in January.
- 51 Household Permaculture Gardens have been formed within M'bang'ombe Centre. This helps provide food directly near the house of the beneficiary.
- Continued SCOPE Malawi partnership with SKI (Seeds Knowledge Initiative) programme in Chitsime community, promoting growing local indigenous seeds, composting and reducing reliance on fertilizer.
- We have 'greened up' M'bang'ombe and M'teza schools with permaculture programmes.
- Chitsime community showcased their seed multiplication evidence at 'Sustainfest' in Lilongwe in October 2022.
- Provided training to 140 people on how to make manure in our 14 centres.



LOOKING AHEAD

From the beginning, it's been our mission to develop long-term and sustainable solutions to the issues affecting orphans and vulnerable people in Malawi and there is still much work to be done.

Over the rest of 2023 and into 2024, we continue to invest in and develop the projects we work on currently and we've identified other initiatives that we believe will make a real difference to people's lives.

This includes building a Safe Motherhood Unit and our first Special Educational Needs & Disability Unit, constructing an outdoor learning facility at Sam's Village, along with recruiting and training new beneficiaries for our ongoing programmes.

As an organisation, we have developed our Strategy Plan from 2022 – 2027 outlining our direction and we've held two cluster meetings for our valued Local Based Committee members across our 14 centres to identify further issues and solutions.



Part of our strategy is to look for more partnerships and we look forward to working with other organisations and ministries with expertise in our programme areas along with recruiting additional staff to support the development and implementation of our programmes including a Senior Finance Officer, an Agriculture Manager, Community Development Officer and an M&E Officer.





EMPLOYEE STRUCTURE

African Vision Malawi has no employees in the UK and relies totally on volunteers, which includes the Founder and Trustees. Through its local entity in Malawi, the Charity employs 34 staff, all of whom are Malawian nationals except the new CEO who is Scottish.



THE LOCAL BASED COMMUNITIES (LBCs)

Besides the Malawi Team outlined above, we work through 14 Local Based Committees (LBC) which are each clustered around several villages and schools. One Committee is based in each of our centres within our support area. Our 84 LBC volunteers act as the voice of the communities we work in, and help to make decisions about priorities in different areas.

They also function as an accountability mechanism to ensure that projects are implemented successfully and that funds are used appropriately. Each LBC has been restructured to six members: Secretary (a teacher from a school who can speak both Chichewa and English); and one representative for each of the five areas we work in (education, healthcare, self-sufficiency, water and sanitation, orphans & vulnerable people).

One of these representatives is also appointed as a Chair and members report on their specific area on a monthly basis. The records from these meetings enable us to keep track of issues and developments in the area we work in and to act upon information coming directly from the area.

We have four coordinators who monitor a number of centres:

MATTHEWS NELSON –
supporting Kafutwe, Chamcholo, Masiye, Lombwa centres.

SAIKOLO JIMU –
supporting Kaninga, Chibwata, Chimbalu, Mundundu centres.

ANNES BANDA –
supporting M'khalapadzuwa, Chitsime, Namanyanga centres.

BONIFACE MALEMA –
supporting M'bang'ombe, Lumbadzi, M'lumbwira centres.

A bi-weekly meeting is held at Sam's Village with AVM staff where new activities are discussed and information passed on for them to liaise with the different LBC centres.



THANKS

Without our supporters and funding through grants and trusts, we would not be able to complete our work. We sincerely thank people for continuing to fund our projects, which make such a positive impact within the community. Our particular thanks to our partners over this past year, which include Love Support Unite, Scope Malawi, 500 Miles, MAP and Project4Africa.

Our grateful thanks to inq. Malawi (formerly Skyband) who provide our internet at Njewa office and Sam's Village. And finally, the many volunteers who tirelessly help both in the UK and Malawi with organising events to help us continue our work and to our Trustees in the UK and Malawi for providing their time, support and guidance.

TRUSTEES

Nigel Palmer	Chairman
David Stead	Treasurer
Andrew Walker	HR
Sara Butterfield	HR
Andrew Ridley-Barker	HR
Beth Sheehan	HR
William Nyasulu	(Malawi Resident)
Kumbukani Kuntiya	(Malawi Resident)
Heather Palmer	Founder & Programmes Trustee
Marie Brown	CEO (from July 2022)

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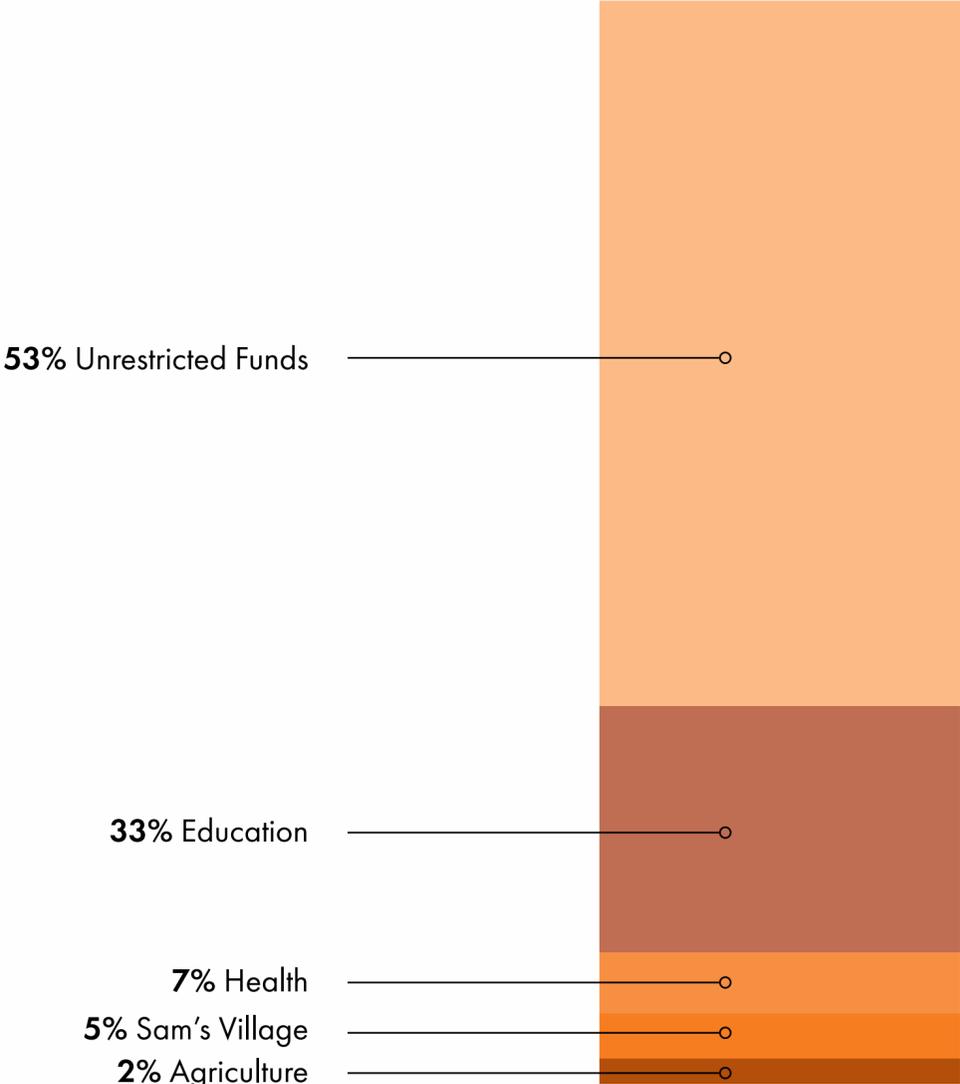
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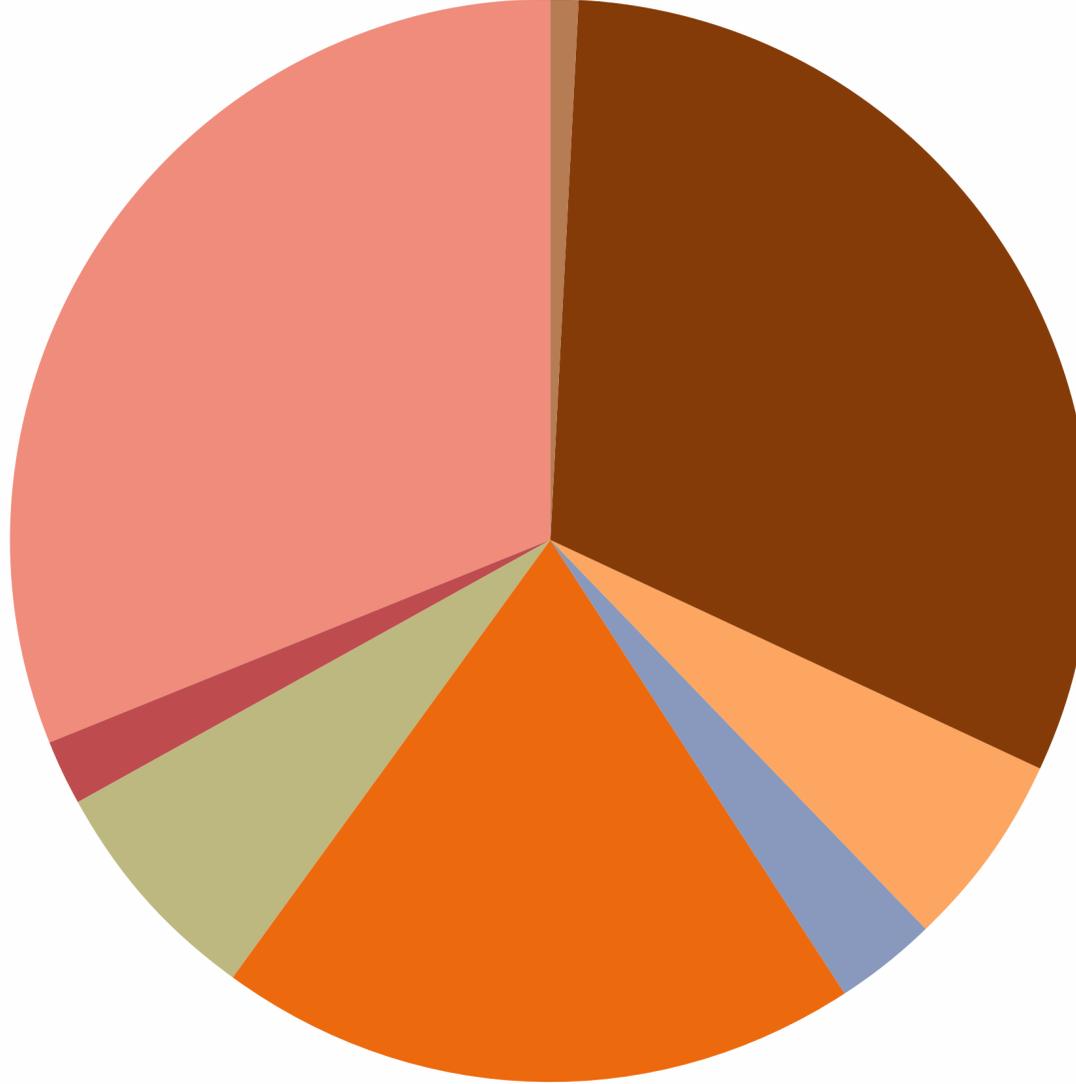
FINANCIALS

INCOME



EXPENSES

- 1% UK Admin
- 31% Education
- 6% Malawi Administration
- 3% Malawi Travel and Vehicle Expenses
- 19% Malawi Project Management
- 7% Malawi Health
- 2% Self-Sufficiency
- 31% Sam's Village





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**THANK
YOU**

