

WFP states that 5.4M Malawians (20% of the population) face chronic food insecurity. Most Malawians depend on agriculture for their livelihood. Climate-related shocks and COVID-19 after-effects are exacerbating poverty and food insecurity. Rural families in Malawi, particularly those headed by women, face high levels of poverty. The conflict in Ukraine has led to higher prices for essential commodities, making it difficult for vulnerable communities to obtain enough food and nutrition. Rapidly rising inflation and an overall difficult economic landscape will further threaten food and nutrition security for the foreseeable future in Malawi.¹

Titukulane...Let's develop together²

Titukulane RFSA³ has been working on three purpose areas to improve the food security in Malawi.

Purpose 1: Increased stable and equitable incomes from agricultural and non-agricultural livelihoods for ultra-poor and chronically vulnerable households, women and youth.

Purpose 2: Nutritional status among children under five, adolescent girls and women of reproductive age improved.

Purpose 3: Increased institutional and local capacities to reduce risk and increase resilience among ultra-poor and chronically vulnerable households in alignment with the NRS.



Overview

Cooperative Agreement: \$75 million

Timeline: 2019-2024

Program area: Mangochi and Zomba Districts of Malawi

Objective: Titukulane aims to achieve sustainable, equitable, and resilient food and nutrition security for ultra-poor and chronically vulnerable households in Malawi. Additionally, to support implementation and ensure effectiveness of the Malawi National Resilience Strategy (NRS).

Partners:



Save the Children



Four years of Titukulane

Altogether improved the lives of **97%** (out of 510,910) of its participants. Expected to exceed its target by **9% and reach 555,568** participants by 2024.



97%⁶ VSLA⁴
members recruited to encourage and practice saving



56,822
participants have access to safe clean water through 167 boreholes (**92% of target**)

97%⁷ reached with Cash For Work program to improve household income



183%⁹ PLW⁵ and children's nutrition status improved following Nutritional Cash Transfer



111%⁸ farmers increased production after receiving agriculture input loan

Glimpse of Titukulane's Impacts

28,331¹

farmers supported through **Farmer Field Business School**

Through agricultural innovations, Titukulane-supported farmers realized soya bean and ground nut yields of **more than double** the average yield reported by the government for the 2022/23 season.

197%²

soya bean sold (307,731 kg) against the target sales volume of 156,000 kg for the 2023 marketing season

Through collective marketing, Titukulane farmers negotiated about **25% higher** prices than reported by other farmers, with a total value of **USD \$139,421**.

2,921³

students have **received vocational training**

396 new group businesses established and supported with start-up capital.

53,760⁴

households have received health, nutrition, and WASH education and counselling through **Care Groups**.

40,321 PLW⁵ and children under two years received Nutritional Cash Transfers and **98.1%** of the 16,621 children screened for malnutrition in Quarter 3⁶ were well-nourished.

54,804⁷

members of 2,595 **VSLAs**¹¹

Cumulatively **saved USD \$3,028,002** and accessed **USD \$627,108 of loans** in Quarter 3⁸.

1,788⁹

participants were trained in **disaster planning** and household visioning

Following their experiences from Cyclone Freddy, communities mobilized **USD \$371,933 for disaster preparedness** in Quarter 3¹⁰, as compared to only USD \$15,757 last season.

Gender Progress Marker Monitoring

Titukulane conducted a Gender Outcome Mapping (focused group discussions (FGD) with adult female: 131, adult male: 58, youth female: 60, youth male: 39) in January 2023 to better understand if communities are practicing the gender and positive socio-norm behaviors promoted through the project's activities.

43% **women** make decisions of purchasing nutritious food and food allocation in the household.

80% **Female youth** have access to Gender-Based Violence information and services.

100% of all the **women** who participated in the FGDs participate in VSLAs.

67% **Men** provide start-up income for VSLAs and Income Generating Activities.

57% **women** accessed agriculture extension services and information.

67% **Men** support women to make decisions on selling of livestock or produce.

Stories from field

Mary Saidi is a model of how Titukulane builds sustainable, equitable and resilient households and communities by providing avenues for project participants to utilize their potential, irrespective of gender. She grew up in Group Village Headman (GVH) Mdoka in Traditional Authority Namavi in Mangochi. At 39, Mary now recognizes that some of the social norms she and other women grew up with can be challenged. The community members, especially men, used to disparage women who dared take up leadership roles or became prominent, as only men traditionally assumed such positions. To combat these, Titukulane intensified trainings on gender equality in its communities. Using Social Analysis and Action (SAA) tools and youth engagements in activities, Titukulane has engaged men, women, opinion leaders, religious leaders, initiations counsellors, community leadership structures, and others to challenge different gender norms and stereotypes that undermine the participation of women and youth in leadership and engagement at different levels. Since Titukulane has started working in the communities, understanding of gender equality and women empowerment has changed. Mary was also elected as chairperson for Mnemera Irrigation Scheme, and she is also a health promotor under the Waliwali campaign that promotes hygiene and sanitation in the communities.

"We have more women taking up leadership roles like becoming a chairperson, secretary, or treasurer. I am an example; I am the secretary for Nanyani Watershed elected in 2021."



Photo: Mary inside Nanyani Watershed © CARE/ Titukulane
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This document is made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).
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