

# Scottish Government

## Malawi Development Programme 2010

### End of Financial Year Report (Full Financial Report)

#### Year 1 of Project (April 2010 to March 2011)

**PLEASE READ ATTACHED GUIDELINES BEFORE COMPLETING THE FORM**

#### Administrative Information

<b>1. Your organisation name and the name of your project:</b>		<b>2. Project reference number:</b>	
Oxfam		MA31 – Promoting sustainable livelihoods for vulnerable groups, especially women, in Chiradzulu, Malawi 2010-2013	
<b>3. Project start date</b>	<b>4. Duration of funding</b>	<b>5. Report for financial year (yyyy-yyyy)</b>	
1 April 2010	Three years	2010-2011	

<b>6. Please tick which strand(s) of the Scotland-Malawi Co-operation Agreement your project aims to address.</b>			
Civil society and Governance <input type="checkbox"/>	Sustainable economic development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Health <input type="checkbox"/>	Education <input type="checkbox"/>

#### Your Project Information

<b>7. Has the focus of the delivery of your project significantly altered since the start of your project? If so, please explain how and why and attach copies of all relevant correspondence with the Scottish Government.</b>
There has been no change on the focus of the delivery of the project since April 2010.

<b>8. Please list activities that the project has delivered since the start of your project and list the activities planned for the next 12 months. You may wish to refer to Q28 of the application form. Please limit your response to 500 words.</b>
Activities carried out have included training, mobilisations, providing start-up capital, village savings and loans, revolving soft loans, engaging with the private sector, value-chain development, identifying issues, and raising awareness, of women's rights, and formation of association. Planned activities for next year will concentrate on value-chain development, adding value, and association building.

## Project Level Indicators

*This information will help us measure the impact of your individual project*

9. For each project Outcome, list the indicators as outlined in Q35 of your application form, and the indicator values/ baseline at the start of the project provide the current indicator value.			
Outcome	Indicator	Indicator Value / Baseline at the start of the project	Current Value
<b><u>Sustainable Economic Development</u></b>  <b>Beneficiaries are increasing production and profitability of identified products, and effectively engaging in markets chains for the identified products.</b>	<b>Number of beneficiaries enrolled into market chains for specific products</b>	Piggery-600	750 beneficiaries
		Horticulture-150	200 beneficiaries
	<b>Average production per beneficiary / farmer</b>	Piggery-five piglets per group	13 piglets per group
		Horticulture-four baskets (20kg) each per household	18 baskets per household
	<b>Number of beneficiaries trained in production, marketing and business management</b>	700 beneficiaries	1,202 beneficiaries
	<b>Average annual/monthly income per farmer</b>	MK5,000.00/Month	To be determined by annual outcome and impact assessment
	<b>% Asset Ownership</b>	Hoes - 95% Radio - 56% Cell-phone - 44% TV screen - 4%	To be determined by annual outcome and impact assessment
<b>Improved organisational capacity among small-scale producers, resulting in increased negotiation power and productive partnerships with private sector.</b>	<b>Number of beneficiary groups engaging in market chains for the identified products.</b>	60 groups	80 groups
	<b>Number and type of partnerships developed between producers and private sector</b>	Three partnerships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Production- 1</li> <li>• Marketing- 0</li> <li>• Financial Services- 0</li> </ul>	One in form of producer group but not yet a cooperative
<b>Beneficiaries are creating enterprise groups, managing their own profitable small-scale businesses.</b>	<b>Number of enterprise groups involved in private sector partnerships</b>	60 enterprise groups	80 enterprise groups
	<b>Number of small-scale producers involved private</b>	750 producers	950 producers

	<b>sector partnerships</b>		
	<b>Number of enterprise groups functional</b>	Nil However 160 households accessed soft loans that were not specific for the two enterprises.	Two horticulture and piggery groups  160 households
<b>Beneficiaries are using financial services sustainably to receive and repay credit.</b>	<b>Number of beneficiaries accessing formal financial services for credit</b>	Nil. None of the agro-enterprise beneficiaries have accessed formal financial service.	Nil. Discussions are underway with two specific banks.
	<b>Repayment rates for loans</b>	N/A	To be reported once beneficiaries start accessing loans
<b>Beneficiaries are increasing financial base for basic needs, investments and longer term livelihood development through Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSL)</b>	<b>Number of village savings groups established.</b>	81 groups	188 groups
	<b>Number of vulnerable people benefiting from village savings and loans.</b>	180 beneficiaries	1,670 beneficiaries
	<b>Value of the money that is being generated from VSL</b>	MK605,000.00	MK3,835,455.00
<b>Women are effectively participating in market chains and value chains for different products defying the unequal power relations.</b>	<b>Number of women involved in high value market chains for different products</b>	455 women	665 women
	<b>Average amount of income earned by women from their enterprises</b>	MK20,000	MK60,000
<b>The policy and institutional environment is made conducive to encourage the participation of poor and vulnerable groups (especially women) in the market chains for various agro-products in Chiradzulu District.</b>	<b># of policy issues addressed, or advocated, to promote economic development of women.</b>  <b>Issues include</b> -Market regulations -Extension services	Nil	Nil

<b><u>Women's Empowerment</u></b>  Beneficiaries, especially women, are participating in decision-making processes.	<b>Number of women represented in key institutions related to economic development</b>	Some women are in decision-making positions such as treasurers and secretaries	To be determined by annual outcome and impact assessment
	<b>% of people who feel that women are adequately participating in decision making processes</b>	20%	To be determined by annual outcome and impact assessment
<b>Women and girls feel more able to exercise their rights within the household, communities, and wider networks.</b>	<b>% of people who feel women have economic rights</b>	41% Economic rights	To be determined by annual outcome and impact assessment
	<b>% that feel women have right to own property.</b>	14% to own property	To be determined by annual outcome and impact assessment
	<b># of women trained in leadership and assertiveness</b>	621 women	871 women
<b>Local institutions are responsive to women's participation in decision-making processes.</b>	<b>% of people who feel that local institutions are responsive to women'</b>	44% feel local institutions are responsive to women's rights	To be determined by annual out come and impact assessment

## Programme Level Indicators

*This information will help us measure the impact of our Malawi Development Programme in its entirety.*

<b>10. Please list each indicator and its baseline value, as outlined in Q35 of your Application Form, and then provide the current indicator level.</b>		
<b>Indicators references listed in your Application Form</b>	<b>Baseline value as given in your application form</b>	<b>Current Indicator Level</b>
<b>D9 Increase in output of existing economic activities through expansion and diversification</b>	<p><b>Number of beneficiaries enrolled into market-chains for specific products – 750 beneficiaries</b></p> <p><b>Average production per beneficiary/farmer – Four baskets of 20kg each per household, and five piglets per group.</b></p> <p><b>Average annual/monthly income per farmer – MK5,000/Month</b></p> <p><b>% Asset Ownership: 95% hoes, 56% radios, 44% cell phones, 4% TVs</b></p> <p><b>Number of beneficiary groups engaging in market chains for the identified products –60 groups</b></p>	<p>Piggery – 750 beneficiaries Horticulture – 200 beneficiaries</p> <p>18 baskets per household 13 piglets per group</p> <p>To be determined by annual outcome and impact assessment</p> <p>To be determined by annual outcome and impact assessment</p> <p>80 groups</p>
<b>D10 Increased number of new business start-ups</b>	<p><b>Number of beneficiary groups engaging in market chains for the identified products – 60 groups</b></p> <p><b>Number of enterprise groups functional – two enterprises</b></p> <p><b>Number of women involved in high-value market-chains for different products – 455 women</b></p>	<p>80 groups</p> <p>One piggery enterprise, and one horticulture enterprise</p> <p>665 women</p>
<b>D12 Increased number of training opportunities in relevant skills and business related areas</b>	<p><b>67% of the beneficiaries are trained in different skills</b></p> <p><b>700 beneficiaries trained in production, marketing and business management</b></p>	<p>To be determined by annual outcome and impact assessment.</p> <p>To be determined by annual outcome and impact assessment.</p>

<b>D14 Increased development of partnerships and collaboration between Agricultural Ministry and National Agricultural bodies</b>	<b>Number and type of partnerships developed between producers and private sector – Three types: production, marketing, and services. Currently, one partnership in production.</b>	One production partnership – currently at the level of producer group, rather than as a cooperative
	<b>60 enterprise groups involved in private sector partnerships</b>	80 groups
	<b>750 small-scale producers involved private sector partnerships</b>	950 producers

**11. Discuss the progress of your project since its start in relation to contributions your project is making to the aims and objectives of the Scottish Government’s International Development Policy (maximum 300 words).**

The project has progressed well. Piglets are coming of age for breeding purposes, having the capacity to produce young in greater numbers, and have a higher sale value than goats, and thus generating more income for beneficiaries. The horticultural enterprises have benefited from reasonable harvests. More importantly, women who have been attending the workshops on leadership skills and business services have already benefited from the training and are espousing the values among themselves and to others outwith the programme. In some instances, they are taking the initiative to diversify and invest even beyond the support facilitated by the Oxfam project team.

Although still very much affected by HIV, the beneficiaries in some villages have put the Home-Based Care kits and bicycle ambulances into storage as they are no longer needed on a daily basis. General health has improved among many of the beneficiaries, thus the excitement and motivation of the women to work their own way out of poverty is marked, and almost tangible.

**12. Have any of the risks identified in Q29 of your original application been realized since the start of your project? If so, which ones and what actions have been taken in response? None of the risks identified in Q29 have been realised.**

<b>Risk realized</b>	<b>Action taken or intended</b>
N/A	

**13. Have you experienced any other issues/problems during the reporting period? If so, what actions have been taken in response? YES**

<b>Issues/problems</b>	<b>Action taken</b>
There has been an outbreak of African Swine Fever, and more than 40 pigs from the project’s impact area have died. This outbreak has affected the whole of Chiradzulu District.	The project team, together with the Ministry of Agriculture, have been working with the communities on prevention, treatment and care of cases. They have also been conducting inspections to make sure that pigs are not being moved to, or from, the affected areas.

**Response to Previous Progress Reports**

<b>14. Have you received any comments on previous reports? NO</b>	
<b>If so, what action have you taken in response to comments made on previous progress reports?</b>	
<b>Comments</b>	<b>Action taken</b>

## Financial Reporting

Scotland as a responsible nation must ensure that the dispersal of International Development Funds is carried out in an effective and transparent way. Good financial and Programme administration is also part of what is considered to be a successful outcome for the IDF, and financial information will be monitored for accountability and clarity of output and outcome.

<b>15. Please provide a breakdown of actual expenditure for the financial year to which this annual report relates, compared to the projected expenditure detailed in Q37 of your original application form.</b>
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Budget Headings	Projected Expenditure	Actual Expenditure
Project Activities (through partner)	£120,000	£122,349
Salary costs for Malawi staff	£20,000	£19,989
Rent, rates, heating, cleaning, overheads	£2,000	£848
Office costs e.g. postage, telephone	£1,000	£2,121
Travel and subsistence	£4,000	£3,993
Printing and/or conference/Workshop	£10,400	£16,557
Equipment or capital	£10,000	£2,192

Administration Costs	£12,600	£11,776
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£180,000</b>	<b>£179,825</b>

**16. Please comment on the breakdown of expenditure in Q12, particularly explaining any significant disparities between projected expenditure and actual expenditure within the relevant financial year.**

Overall, expenditure has an underspend of £175.

**17. Please attach a breakdown of the programme expenditure for the next funding year, using the budget headings agreed with the Scottish Government. You may wish to refer to Q37 of your application form.**

Budget Headings	Projected Expenditure
Project activities through partners	£74,600
Salary costs for Malawi staff	£20,000
Rents, Rates, heating, cleaning overheads	£2,000
Office costs e.g. postage, telephone, stationary	£1,000
Travel and subsistence	£4,000
Printing and or conference/workshop	£6,000
Equipment or capital cost	£4,000
Administrative cost	£8,400
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£120,000</b>

**18. Have you secured any other funding for your project since it started? You may wish to refer to Q38 of your application form. Please explain if this funding has significantly differed from anticipated, and if so, why?**

No additional funds have been secured for this project at present.

## Sustainability



**19. What have you done since the start of your project to ensure that the outcomes of your project are sustainable and will be built-on or continued? You may wish to refer to Q30 of your application form**

The project is working together with the Government Departments of Agriculture and Community Services, as well as involving the beneficiaries in project-planning and monitoring in order to ensure sustainability.

## **Project Partnerships**

**20. How has feedback, monitoring and evaluation been sought from your partner organisations in Malawi? Please also detail any significant feedback you have received from your partner organisations.**

Feedback is sought through periodic monitoring reviews. Oxfam has developed good working relationships with our partners so feedback, both formal and informal, is always provided in a timely manner.

## **Further Information**

**21. Please include a short narrative or case study (not exceeding 500 words) demonstrating the positive impact your project is having. Please make any further comments you feel might illustrate your progress.**

Please see the attached case study.

**22. Please let us know if any of your contact details have changed**

The project manager has changed from being [REDACTED] to [REDACTED].

Signed by\_\_\_[REDACTED]\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_06.05.11

Designation on the project\_\_[REDACTED]

## Guidance Notes: Full Financial Report

- This report is to be completed by all Project managers/leaders at the end of each financial year.
- Please complete this form electronically.
- Once complete please send this reporting form, by email to: [internationaldevelopment@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:internationaldevelopment@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)
- The report should be submitted by the end of April of the year directly following the financial year to which this report relates.

Question	Guidance
<b>Administrative Information</b>	
1	Insert the name of your organisation and the name of your project in the space provided. Make sure that this is the same name given in your grant offer letter.
2	The project reference number was given to you by the Scottish Government in your grant offer letter – please refer to it in all correspondence. This is a number unique to your project and helps the Scottish Government track information related to your project within the system.
3	The start date is the date you received your first tranche of funding.
4	State the duration of funding for your project.
5	Insert the financial year for which you are reporting e.g. 2008-2009. Use the format yyyy-yyyy.
6	Please tick which strand(s) of the Scotland-Malawi Co-operation agreement your project aims to address. You may tick more than one box.
<b>Monitoring Objectives and Outcomes</b>	
7	If your project has changed significantly in the focus of its delivery since your last report, please explain how and why, attaching copies of all relevant correspondence you have had with the Scottish Government about this.
8	Please describe, as briefly as possible, the activities the project has delivered since its start date, you may wish to refer back to Q28 of your application form. Please also list the activities that you intend to undertake during the next 12 months. Please keep your activity statements as concise as possible.
9	With reference to your Project Level Indicators, as detailed in Q35 of your application form, please complete the table. In the first column list the outcomes, in the second column list the indicators used to monitor your progress in achieving these and in the third column list the baseline indicator value at the start of the project.
10	With reference to your Programme Level Indicators, as detailed in your application form, please complete the table. In the first column list all the indicator reference numbers given in question 36 of your Application Form, in the second column list the baseline value as given in your application form and in the third column list the current indicator level.
11	In 300 words or less please discuss the progress your project has made since its start, towards the aims and objectives of the Scottish Government's International Development Policy. It might help you to refer to Q36 of your application form.
12	Comment on any risks that you identified in Q29 of your original application that have been realised. Please explain what actions you have taken to address these or what actions you intend to take.
13	Please comment on any issues or problems you have faced over the reporting period, how you addressed them or how you intend to address them.
<b>Response to Previous Progress Reviews</b>	
14	You may have received a query or comment in response to previous reports from

	the Scottish Government, to which you are required to respond. If this is the case, then please tick the appropriate box and record the comment in the first column. In the second column explain what action you have taken to respond to that comment.
<b>Financial Reporting</b>	
15	Please provide a detailed breakdown of expenditure incurred against expenditure planned, using the budget headings agreed with the Scottish Government either at the beginning of the grant, as per Q37 of your original application, or during the grant if you have had approval to change budget headings.
16	Please comment on the breakdown given in Q12, in particular explaining any significant disparities between projected and actual expenditure.
17	Please provide a breakdown of your projected expenditure for the next financial year, using the agreed budget headings in Q28 of the application form.
18	Have you been successful in securing any other funding over the last 12 months? If so, please give details. You may wish to refer to Q38 of the application form.
<b>Sustainability</b>	
19	Please describe what has been done over the last 12 months to ensure that the outcomes of your project are sustainable and will be built-on or continued. Assess how likely project outcomes are to continue once the project ends and tell us what you are doing to encourage continuity.
<b>Project Partnerships</b>	
20	Please describe how feedback, monitoring and evaluation have been sought from your partner organisations in Malawi. You might comment on the mechanisms in place to ensure effective feedback, monitoring and evaluation. Please also detail any significant feedback you have received.
<b>Further Information</b>	
21	We would be interested to hear any stories that illustrate the positive impact the project is having. Please include any further information or comments you feel are important but not covered in this form, that might facilitate the effective monitoring and evaluation of the progress made on your project from its start date. Please limit your answer to 500 words.
22	It is essential that you let us know if any of your contact details have changed, either in Scotland or Malawi.

## Case Study

*“If projects talk of changing people’s lives then I am a testimony, through the capital, knowledge and skills I got from training on horticulture production, trade and negotiation, business-management, value-chain analysis and market mapping, women’s economic leadership and value addition. I have managed to earn MK300,000 (GBP1,250) from selling of tomatoes only. This is the highest amount of money I have ever got in my life.”*

[REDACTED], 32,  
Chimpesa village in STA Onga, Chiradzulu

[REDACTED], the mother of five children, is one of fifty women targeted in the horticultural element of the project. She received capital inputs worth MK50,000 (GBP200). These included 50kg of basal, 50kg of top-dressing chemical fertilisers, pesticides and five packets of tomato seeds. Using these inputs, [REDACTED] successfully harvested 160 baskets of tomatoes between January and March 2011 which she sold at a nearby local market for K300,000.

[REDACTED]

These pictures depict [REDACTED] in her tomato garden.

[REDACTED] says:

*“It was the first time for me to produce rain-fed tomatoes. Before this project, I was producing tomatoes on a small scale, using residual moisture and small-scale irrigation. When we relocated to this village in 2006 from Thyolo, where my husband was working in tea estates as a casual labourer, I was producing five to ten baskets per year using 2kg of basal and another 2kg of top-dressing fertilisers and earning less than MK2,000 because of producing in season of plenty.”*

The business management and other skills that [REDACTED] has gained from this project have changed her into a business-minded woman. She is diversifying her activities and has joined the pig-rearing and Village Savings and Loan groups.

*“Because now I have seen the results in just one year, I am no longer the same. I am thinking business. I want my life and family to move completely out of poverty. Hence I reinvested the money in other businesses. I bought MK50,000-worth of shares in our Village Savings and Loans (VSL) group. I opened a stall where I am selling different merchandise including groceries and dry fish; I also bought an improved breed of pig which will give piglets next month (May 2011). This pig is giving me manure that will help me produce more tomatoes. Pigs, as you know, have high fecundity rates and fetch more money on the market, hence I am anticipating making more money and changing my life for the better.”*

As well as buying basic needs like clothes, food and toiletries, [REDACTED] also bought household items, such as a television (with battery as there is no electricity in her village).

[REDACTED] was able to add value to her tomato enterprise by grading, sorting and arranging them attractively at the market. She was also able to negotiate better prices thus earning MK300, 000. According to [REDACTED], before this project she did not know how to add value, or attract customers. She was shy and not confident. Now, however, she and her colleagues set minimum prices for their produce, and are able to negotiate much better prices. [REDACTED] and her colleagues have teamed up and are now supplying Chitawira shopping centre, one of the major shops in Blantyre.

[REDACTED] selling groceries from her stall

Apart from these economic gains, [REDACTED] is happy that she has made social gains as well as earning a better income.

*“At first, when I hear that the project aims to empower us socially by having control over resources, I thought it was a joke but today it is real. I decided on my own to invest MK50,000 in VSL and we make decisions together with my husband and he is very supportive”.*

[REDACTED] is now self-reliant. When she and her colleagues were asked how men have received this project, they unilaterally agreed that men have welcomed the project very well. They are happy that their wives, sisters and nieces are contributing resources, and reducing the burden of care. The women no longer bear the inferiority complex. They now consider themselves capable and enjoy more equal opportunities to men.

[REDACTED] feeding her pig

Pictures by [REDACTED] / Oxfam.



## International Case Study

**Project title:** Social and Economic Empowerment of Smallholder Producers Project

**Programme:** Sub Saharan Africa/Malawi

**Organisation:** Circle for Integrated Community Development (CICOD)

**Interview Date:** 31 July 2015

**Interview type:** Oral

**Source:** Project participant

**Name:** [REDACTED]

**Age:** 45

**Anonymous?** N

### Project Summary

Circle for Integrated Community Development {CICOD}, in partnership with Oxfam Malawi, is implementing a three year (April 2013-March 2016) Kasungu Integrated Livelihood Security Project in Kasungu district in the area of Traditional Authority Kawamba. This project is a component of the Social and Economic Empowerment of Smallholder Producers Project with funds from Scottish Government. The Social Economic Empowerment of Smallholder Producers Project is a multi-stakeholder project being implemented by CICOD and Malawi Interfaith AIDS Association (MIAA) in Kasungu and Centre for Alternatives for Victimised Women and Vulnerable Children (CAWWOC) in Chiradzulu as well as Oxfam at national level. The project aims at addressing four challenges that smallholder producers do face which include; low production levels particularly in horticulture enterprise; limited skills and technology to optimise livestock and crop production; poor access to financial and market services by smallholder producers and weak capacity in advocacy by smallholder producers in engaging decision and policy makers as well as service providers. In Kasungu, the project is reaching out to 7,716 people.

In Group Village [REDACTED], [REDACTED] is one of the people being supported by the project. He was born on [REDACTED], is married and has one child, a son. He started farming in 1995 and the crops he grows include tobacco, groundnuts, maize, sweet potato, beans, horticultural crops and soya bean. He is one of the farmers practicing conservation agriculture that is promoted through the project.

## Case Study Background

The people of [REDACTED] in Traditional Authority Kawamba area in Kasungu have been following traditional methods and practices in agriculture especially crop production for a long time. The Socio-Economic Empowerment of Smallholder Producers Project in their area has introduced modern farming technologies, practices and methods. In the wake of persistent dry spells and soil erosion, many people including [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] have adopted conservation agriculture which incorporates maximum soil cover (mulching) and zero tillage in order to retain soil moisture for effective growth of crops and to minimise soil disturbance and erosion.

By engaging in zero tillage and maximum soil cover (mulching), [REDACTED] has registered multiple benefits in that he is no longer putting too much labour in the garden since weeds have been drastically reduced due to moist soils and reduced direct sunshine on the weeds; the soil remains moist for crops to grow well amidst dry weather conditions which are a result of climate change; and the soil remains undisturbed which has reduced erosion and improved soil fertility.

## Quotes

“Before adopting *mtayakhasu* (conservation agriculture), I used to weed the garden three times a year which is now history. I now only monitor and uproot shooting weeds. The hoe is no longer necessary. The labour I devote to the garden is reduced, and my harvests have improved” [REDACTED] joyfully expressed his happiness with the new Climate Smart Agriculture method as introduced by the project.

## Photos



[REDACTED] in his mulch covered garden ready for zero tillage



**[REDACTED]** (far left) and his friends displaying how they are working on zero tillage

**Contact Details**

Contact Name: **[REDACTED]**  
Contact Number: +265 0 505 980  
Address: P.O. Box 201355  
Email: **[REDACTED]**@yahoo.co.uk

**Media List**

Agreed to media work: Y
Case Study signed off: Y
Pictures attached: Y
Group photos: Y

Used for media: N





## International Case Study

**Project title:** Socio-Economic Empowerment of Smallholder Producers  
**Programme:** Sub Saharan Africa/Malawi  
**Organisation:** Circle for Integrated Community Development  
**Interview Date:** 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2015  
**Interview type:** Group  
**Source:** Project Participants

**Name:** Chiderezi Fish club  
**Age:** N/A  
**Anonymous? N**

### Project Summary

Circle for Integrated Community Development {CICOD}, in partnership with Oxfam Malawi, is implementing a three year (April 2013-March 2016) Kasungu Integrated Livelihood Security Project in Kasungu district in the area of Traditional Authority Kawamba. This project is a component of the Social and Economic Empowerment of Smallholder Producers Project with funds from Scottish Government. The Social Economic Empowerment of Smallholder Producers Project is a multi-stakeholder project being implemented by CICOD and Malawi Interfaith AIDS Association (MIAA) in Kasungu and Centre for Alternatives for Victimised Women and Vulnerable Children (CAVWOC) in Chiradzulu as well as Oxfam at national level.

The project aims at addressing four challenges that smallholder producers face which include; low production levels particularly in horticulture enterprises; limited skills and technology to optimise livestock and crop production; poor access to financial and market services by smallholder producers and weak capacity in advocacy by smallholder producers in engaging decision and policy makers as well as service providers. In Kasungu, the project is reaching out to 7,716 people.

## Case Study Background

### Case Study: Fish Farming: an Untapped Business Niche

It was like a dream and a miracle on 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2015 for the whole Chiderezi community to harvest 44 kilogrammes of *Makumba* (Tilapia) fish from an upland fish pond and able to realise profit of MK66,050.00 (approximately £77) after sales. After the harvest, small fish (fingerings) were restocked into the pond ready for the second round of harvest which is due in March, 2016. The fish pond is just some 300 metres away from Lusa River which is the natural source of fish (especially cat fish) in the area. In recent years due to climate change and variations, Lusa river has run out of fish and the surrounding communities were hopeless as to when they will again enjoy the fish that they were used to. The community was not aware that it is possible to harvest water and construct a fish pond for fish cultivation, until CICOD intervened and taught them about fish farming.

On this day, the whole village turned into a fresh fish marketing centre for the area where visitors from Kasungu town including the District Commissioner's representative, the Assistant District Agriculture Development Officer and the CICOD Programme Manager and staff bought the fish at,500.00 per Kg whilst villagers bought at 200.00 per Kg.

In the project there are 2 communal fish ponds in Chiderezi and Kawamba Mwale. Kamba Mwale harvested 35 Kgs that amounted to MK42,080.00 (approx £40). The Chiderezi fish pond group has 45 women members and 15 men while Kawamba Mwale group has 58 women members and 12 men who continue the stocking of the small fish that were reserved at the time of harvesting. The initial parental stock of the fingerlings was 3,000 for each fish pond was sourced from the National Aquiculture Centre in Domasi, Zomba district on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

### Quotes

Traditional Authority [REDACTED] who was the guest of honour for the fish harvesting ceremony at Chiderezi village, encouraged her people to go out full throttle and dig individual fish ponds and make a lot of money out of this fish farming which has really proved to be a business niche not yet tapped by the community. She said that people need such unique business enterprises rather than just follow what others are doing.

## Photos



## Contact Details

**Contact Name:** [REDACTED]  
**Contact Number:** +265 993 [REDACTED]  
**Address:** CICOD, P.O. Box 20355  
**Email:** [REDACTED]@yahoo.com

## Media List

<b>Agreed to media work:</b> N
<b>Case Study signed off:</b> Y
<b>Pictures attached:</b> Y
<b>Group photos:</b> Y

**Used for media:** N/A

# Scottish Government

## Malawi Development Programme 2013-2016

### End of Year Report

**PLEASE READ ATTACHED GUIDELINES BEFORE COMPLETING THE FORM**

#### Administrative Information

<b>1. Name of project</b>	<b>2. Project reference number</b>
Social and Economic Empowerment of 19,200 Smallholder Producers in Rural Malawi	MW28

<b>3. Project start date</b>	<b>4. Report for financial year (yyyy-yyyy)</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> April 2013	2013-2014

<b>5. Please tick the box next to the development priority/priorities that your block grant aims to address.</b>	
Health <input type="checkbox"/>	Education <input type="checkbox"/>
Sustainable Economic Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Civic Governance <input type="checkbox"/>

#### Monitoring Objectives and Outcomes

<b>6. Has the focus of the delivery of your project significantly altered since your initial assessment? If so, please explain how and why, and attach copies of all relevant correspondence with the Scottish Government.</b>
The focus of the project has not significantly altered.

<b>7. Please outline the <i>activities</i> that have taken place on the project during the reporting year as set out in your logframe, and comment on your progress towards achieving the relevant milestones during the year.</b>		
<b>Activity (please specify number eg 1.1)</b>	<b>Milestone (April 2014)</b>	<b>Progress (please specify % or number)</b>
1.1 Support smallholder producer groups to access	5 producer groups supported	Three producer groups have been supported with cell phones

<i>market information and access markets through improved communication infrastructures, contract farming policies and services;</i>		to enable them to share market information. This is a new and innovative approach which experienced some initial delays, including setting up the system and linking this to the Ministry of Agriculture for the market information. There has been a great deal of interest from the farmers in accessing market information in this way and we expect to reach more producer groups in the next reporting period.
<i>1.2 Train smallholder producer groups in group dynamics</i>	2 associations trained in managing associations	Two cooperatives were trained in management and group dynamics.
<i>1.3 Facilitate 3 exchange visits for cross-learning and sharing of best practices in production</i>	1 exchange visit	One exchange visit was conducted. Farmers in Kasungu district visited farmers in Chiradzulu district to learn about cooperative formation and village savings and loans (VSL) techniques.
<i>1.5 Facilitate the identification of markets by groups of women/youth producers</i>	5 groups of 20 each	Six groups were supported and have identified markets for horticulture products including: Shoprite and Chitawira superette (local retail shops); Catholic University; Victoria Hotel; Hong Kong restaurant and Hobbes restaurant. In Kasungu, one producer group held two meetings with buyers such as Kulima Gold, Famers World and Auction Holdings Commodity Exchange. The purpose of the meetings was to identify potential markets.
<i>1.6 Link producer groups to transporters for collective transportation of farm inputs and produce</i>	15	Ten meetings have been conducted with two local transporters so far. This is an ongoing process and more meetings will be organized with transporters once stable markets

		for larger quantities of produce are secured.
1.7 <i>Facilitate women's participation in trade and agricultural fairs</i>	1 fair	One community-level fair was organized in Chiradzulu and included displays of agriculture produce and knowledge-sharing on production, processing and marketing techniques.
1.8 <i>Conduct value addition training for the produced horticultural commodities</i>	500 horticulture farmers trained	A total of 118 farmers were trained in value addition on horticultural commodities. 40 farmers were trained in jam and tomato sauce making, 78 people were trained on methods to add value to groundnuts and soybeans. All of the farmer groups who attended the training are now ready to use equipment for value addition. This accounts for 24 per cent of the 500 farmers as the markets for the processed commodities were not yet secured. This activity will continue in the next reporting period
<i>Facilitate interface meetings between smallholder producers and private sector to assist in securing better markets for the produced commodities.</i>	24	45 meetings were conducted between the smallholder producers and potential buyers, far exceeding the 24 as originally planned. The programme team decided to organize as many meetings as possible to generate increased interest in the project and working with smallholder farmers. It is understood that not all of the private sector representatives will sign contracts with all of the farmers attending the meetings.
1.9 <i>Facilitate formation of clubs, association and cooperatives to assist in marketing of the produced commodities</i>	2 Associations and 15 clubs	A total of 38 clubs have been formed. This increase was due to the excitement and interest from farmers Kasungu district.  Two associations were established for piggery and horticulture.
2.1 <i>Support smallholder producers with inputs to</i>	500 farmers supported with	311 farmers were supported with fertilizers, pesticides and

<i>increase horticultural production.</i>	inputs	vegetable seeds. These inputs were only provided to farmers who had prepared their fields and were ready to plant. With the interest generated, more farmers will be supported in the next reporting period.
<i>2.2 Support smallholder producers with startup piglets and supporting materials to increase pig production</i>	500 farmers supported	115 farmers were supported in piggery. This represents only 23 per cent of the target farmers due to an outbreak of swine fever in 2012 which led to the loss of over 80 per cent of pigs in the Oxfam project, from which this project was developed. Because of this, farmers have become apprehensive of piggery farming. Full details in section 12.
<i>2.3 Support 300 famers in integrated agriculture-aquaculture farming through pond construction, supply of fingerlings, start up feeds.</i>	200 fish farmers	No fish farmers have been supported within the reporting period. Full details in section 12.  This follows an assessment conducted by the ministry of agriculture on the land for aquaculture farming. A recommendation was made that this activity should take place in the dry season when the soil conditions are more stable. We intend to complete this activity in the next reporting period.
<i>2.4 Establish 15 veterinary committees to assist the smallholder producer to take care of the promoted livestock</i>	5 committees	Two veterinary committees were established and 36 farmers trained in management skills. We did not meet the milestone as planned due to the delays in the piggery and aquaculture activities noted above. It is expected that additional committees will be set up once these activities are back on track in the next reporting period.
<i>2.5 Support smallholder women producers with goats for pass on scheme in Kasungu</i>	50 households	93 households received goats.

2.6 <i>Construct abattoirs for slaughtering pigs which will also act as market centres in Chiradzulu</i>	2 abattoirs constricted	Because of the delay in the piggery activity, the construction of abattoirs was not deemed necessary within the first year. Two abattoirs will be constructed in the next reporting period.
2.7 <i>Support 750 households of smallholder producers in soy bean production through provision of inputs and extension services</i>	250 households	100 households were supported with soybean seed as well as training in production. Only 40 per cent of households were able to prepare their land in accordance to the training and receive the seeds. Rather than risk high levels of wastage, the remaining farmers will take part in refresher training in October and receive their seeds for planting in the next season.
2.8 <i>Identification and training of 30 lead farmers to assist in extension services</i>	25 farmers	39 lead farmers were identified and received training. They will each go on to support 50 other farmers.
2.9 <i>Train 5000 producers including women in conservation agriculture</i>	2,000 farmers trained	5,000 farmers have been trained in conservation agriculture. This over achievement was due to the mainstreaming of conservation agriculture within all production training for farmers.
2.11 <i>Support 25 mushroom groups in mushroom production</i>	10 mushroom groups supported	Seven groups were formed and are now ready to start growing. This activity was strengthened due to Oxfam's other project which is producing mushroom seed (spawn) at Chancellor College.
3.1 <i>Facilitate formation of Village Savings and Loans groups in Kasungu</i>	15 groups	So far, 38 VSL groups have been formed in Kasungu, far exceeding our original target. VSLs have become very popular in the communities as they require little outside intervention and provide visible economic results. Many of the VSLs are now setting up small businesses.
3.2 <i>Link women groups to micro finance institutions for</i>	15	81 VSL groups have been successfully linked with



<p><i>accessibility to micro credits and loans</i></p>		<p>Microfinance Institutions (MFIs), including the Malawi Union of Savings and Credit Cooperation (MUSCCO) and the New Building Society. However, women have expressed concerns that the interest rates for loans and credit are too high. This issue of high interest rates will become an advocacy issue at a national level by Oxfam and our partners, including the Farmers Union of Malawi and working through the technical working groups in the ministries of agriculture and trade.</p>
<p><i>3.2 Conduct business management trainings for VSL members</i></p>	<p>2000 women trained</p>	<p>1,353 women were trained in business management.</p> <p>CICOD, Oxfam’s implementing partner, decided to train 80 women as trainers, who would then train 25 other women in business skills. The trainers are now in the process of reaching the 2,000 women as planned, but there is a slight delay as they go back into their communities to lead on this activity. We are confident the target will be met.</p>
<p><i>3.3 Link producer groups especially women with national level networks and unions conducting advocacy initiatives at national level on financial issues</i></p>	<p>1 producer group on horticulture and 1 producer group on pig farming</p>	<p>Two cooperatives have been linked to the Farmer’s Union of Malawi, a network of farmers to promote one farmers’ voice in policy spaces.</p>
<p><i>3.4 Conduct advocacy meetings at District and National level with policy makers to ensure that extension services are provided to the targetted producers</i></p>	<p>2 district meetings and 1 national level meeting</p>	<p>Six district meetings were conducted with policy makers with the purpose of introducing the project and advocating for extension services. A national level meeting is planned for the next reporting period.</p>
<p><i>4.1 conduct advocacy campaigns at all levels( community district and</i></p>	<p>5 at community and 2 at district</p>	<p>Five advocacy campaigns were launched at community level, reaching 437 people (269 of</p>

<p><i>national)on women’s access to health and agribased services</i></p>		<p>whom were women). The campaigns focussed on educating men and women and changing beliefs, myths and attitudes around the stigma still attached to those living with HIV/AIDS. This led to the formation of five support groups, each with 30 members.</p> <p>One campaign was conducted at district level involving 16 religious leaders, 13 government representatives and 27 people living with HIV. Awareness was raised on access to health services, drug shortages and the importance of participation from people living with HIV in development activities.</p> <p>The second campaign on agribased services was not conducted within the reporting period because it made sense to include this in the access to markets campaign which started in April 2013 and will feature in the next report.</p>
<p><i>4.2 Training of community governance structures (ADC,VDCs, ZIACs and HBCs) on the rights of women especially women living with HIV and AIDS</i></p>	<p>6 trainings</p>	<p>Three training sessions were delivered to the following community governance structures: Zonal Interfaith AIDS Committees (ZIAC); Village Development Committees and; Home Based Care (HBC). The training focused on the rights of women living with HIV/AIDS and also supported the female participants with income generating activities and ideas to improve their livelihoods.</p> <p>In total, 42 people took part (20 of whom were women). This activity faced a delay due to the restructure and of our</p>

		implementing partner, the Malawi Interfaith AIDS Association (MIAA). This is explained in section 12.
<i>4.3 Awareness meetings and campaigns on HIV and AIDS and gender on women's rights especially for those that are engaged in social and economic activities</i>	5 at community and 1 at district	In total, 20 people were trained as trainers on women's rights, gender and HIV/AIDS. These trainers then led ten meetings, raising awareness of women's women's rights within their communities, reaching 287 people. One awareness meeting was also organized at district level.
<i>4.4 Advocacy trainings for small holder farmers, especially those affected by HIV and AIDS to lobby for their rights to appropriate health care</i>	2000	To date, 122 people living with HIV/AIDS have attended advocacy training and are now able to identify issues that affect them, recognize who the relevant duty bearers are and lobby for their rights. Initially, 53 people were trained, however they went on to train an additional 69 individuals.  This low achievement is due to the restructuring process of MIAA who are leading on this activity. The partner has now been strengthened and will be able to reach the target 2,000 smallholder farmers in the next period.

**8. Please outline progress on achieving the *output indicators* during the reporting year as set out in your logframe, and comment on your progress towards achieving the relevant milestones during the year.**

<b>Output indicator (please specify number eg 1.1)</b>	<b>Milestone (April 2014)</b>	<b>Progress (please specify % or number)</b>
1.1 Number of organised groups that are formed and are able to participate in profitable value chains by 2016	80	56 groups have been formed so far. The number is lower than the planned target as there was a delay in the start date of the project, meaning the mobilization process was also

		affected. We are now back on track and will meet this milestone in the coming months.
1.2 Number of producer groups formed that are able to link up with private sector in order to access better markets for their produce by 2016	20	40 producer groups have been linked to markets.
1.3 Number of smallholder farmers that are able to participate in local, national and regional trade fairs	20	Ten farmers participated in local district trade fairs. The national trade fair is planned for the next reporting period and we expect to meet or exceed this milestone once this activity is completed.
2.1 Percentage of project targeted households that accessed and used high quality improved seed varieties and planting materials	30%	22 per cent of targeted households accessed agricultural inputs including high quality seeds, pesticides and planting materials.
2.2 Percentage increase in crop production by targeted smallholder producers	30%	There has been a 22 per cent increase in crop production by the smallholder producers so far.
2.3 Percentage increase of targeted smallholder producers adopting environmentally sustainable agricultural practices.	30%	There has been a 26 per cent increase in smallholder producers who have been trained in and are now utilising conservation methods and sustainable agriculture practices.
2.4 Land under irrigation in the impact area being cultivated by the targeted smallholder producers in Chiradzulu and Kasungu by 2016.	20 hectares	21.31 hectares of land is now under irrigation by the targeted small holder farmers in Chiradzulu and Kasungu.
2.5 Average number of livestock owned by the targeted small holder producer at household level in Chiradzulu and Kasungu by 2016	At least 2 livestock per household	At least one animal (goats or pig) is now owned by each household. This is less than planned due to the delays in the fish and piggery activities, as detailed above.
3.1 Number of farmers' groups formed that have access to finances	30	38 farmers' groups have been formed and are operating successful VSLs.

through VSLs in Kasungu		
3.1 Percentage of smallholder producers in VSL groups that are engaged in small scale profitable businesses in Chiradzulu and Kasungu districts.	30%	40 per cent of the smallholder producers in VSLs are now engaged in small scale businesses ranging the sale of food items to kerosene and gas.
3.2 Number of VSL groups that are linked to microfinance institutions and have opened bank accounts	5	Four VSL groups have opened savings accounts with the Malawi Union of Savings and Credit Cooperatives and the New Building Society.
3.3 Number of local, district and national meetings with duty bearers on increased access to financial services by smallholder producers in Chiradzulu and Kasungu districts.	4 at local level 2 at district level 1 at national level	<p>Five local meetings were conducted with village development committees.</p> <p>One district level meeting was conducted involving government officials from the ministries of: Agriculture, Health, Trade, Water, Livestock and Fisheries.</p> <p>The national level meeting is planned for the next reporting period. However, issues raised during the Farmers' Union General Meeting were captured and shared with the farmers.</p>
5.1 Number of smallholder producers with increased knowledge about their rights to health care and livelihood security	2,000	To date, 1,044 smallholder producers have increased their knowledge on the issues of access to health care information, the right to privacy, the right to participate in economic activities and participation in community development clubs. We have not reached 2,000 smallholder producers as planned due to the delay in one of the campaigns. This agribased campaign will take place in the next reporting period.
5.2 Percentage of women smallholder	20%	14 per cent of women smallholder producers are now

<p>producers demanding their rights to appropriate health services and livelihood security</p>		<p>educated and able to demand their rights. The ongoing stigma and discrimination toward women living with HIV/AIDS means that very few become actively involved in smallholder production and farming. The campaigns within the project have empowered women living with HIV/AIDS. They are now organizing themselves collectively and can lobby for their involvement in livelihood activities and access to health services.</p>
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**9. Please outline progress on achieving the *outcome indicators* during the reporting year as set out in your logframe, and comment on your progress towards achieving the relevant milestones during the year.**

<b>Outcome indicator</b>	<b>Milestone (including date)</b>	<b>Progress (please specify % or number)</b>
<p>1. Percentage increase in household income for targeted smallholder producers by 2016</p>	<p>30%</p>	<p>Smallholder producers have realised a 20 per cent increase in household income in the first year. The progress is less than the target due to delays in fish and piggery production. However, the successful formation of VSLs has also helped raise the income of the producers.</p>
<p>2. Number of targeted households that are empowered to demand for essential services from duty bearers in the targeted areas by 2016</p>	<p>8,000 households</p>	<p>To date, 1,795 households have become empowered to demand their rights to essential services from duty bearers.</p> <p>We have been unable to reach 8,000 households as planned due to the restructure process of MIAA. Now, working through Zonal and District Committees, the partner is able to work at full capacity to deliver the project activities and offer more direct support to the farmers. We are now confident that the target of</p>

		8,000 households will be achieved in the next reporting period.
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**10. Please comment on the *impact* of your project to date as set out in your logframe, and comment on your progress towards achieving the relevant milestone during the year.**

<b>Impact</b>	<b>Milestone (including date)</b>	<b>Progress (please specify % or number)</b>
Percentage of rural households, including those that are affected by HIV and AIDS that have improved livelihoods through increased productivity and agribusiness in Malawi by 2016.	The baseline study was finalised, however data analysis is still being collated which will inform the milestones. This will be completed in July 2014.	This will be determined by an evaluation study to be conducted in the second year of the project and is planned for September 2014.

**11. With reference to Q45 of your original application form, please report on progress to date against the Scottish Government programme level indicators.**

<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline indicator</b>	<b>Progress to Date</b>
<b>D4</b> One cooperative, four associations and 30 clubs targeting women will be formed that will promote gender equality and the active empowerment of women and other excluded groups in civil society organisations.	There are currently only 2 associations in Chiradzulu that promote gender equality and the active empowerment of women and other excluded groups in civil society organizations.	Two cooperatives, five associations and 15 clubs have been formed to promote gender equality.
<b>D9</b> Increase economic activities and expand diversification to support (mainly women) producers: 1,200 producers in horticulture, 560 in piggery, 300 in fish farming, 150 in goat farming, 25 groups in	Low output of economic activities with little diversification.	To date, the following producers have been supported to increase their economic activity: 429 in horticulture, 115 in piggery farming, 0 in fish farming, 93 in goat farming, seven groups in mushroom production and 100 farmers growing soybean.

mushroom production and 500 growing beans.		
<b>D10</b> 50 new small businesses establishes	There are few business start-ups outwith the existing Chiradzulu project.	20 new small businesses have been established.
<b>D12</b> VSLs and other structures are trained in business management and practise to support 7,500 producers especially women	Few training opportunities in relevant skills and business related areas.	1,353 women have been trained in business management.
<b>D15</b> 5,000 producers trained in conservation agriculture	Little use of environmentally sustainable agriculture practices	5,000 farmers have been trained in conservation agriculture.

**12. If progress towards delivering activities and outcomes is slower than planned or there have been delays in the delivery of the project, please explain:**

- a) What the issues have been and whether they were highlighted on your risk register?  
b) What actions have been taken in response to these issues?**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Action taken</b>
<p><b>1. Delays in implementing the aquaculture component.</b></p> <p>This was not in the risk register. However, following a meeting with experts from the Ministry of Aquaculture, it was recommended that the activity be implemented in the next reporting period, due to the wet conditions of the soil.</p>	<p>Using this expertise, we will begin the aquaculture activity in the next reporting period (August to October 2014). However, we have been able to complete preparatory activities including group formation and initial training sessions for the farmers. The training included ten sessions on group dynamics, leadership and agribusiness.</p>
<p><b>2. Underachievement on the piggery component.</b></p> <p>This was not in the risk register, but an outbreak of swine fever in 2012 seriously impacted a previous project in the same target area. Roughly 80 per cent of pigs were wiped out. Farmers became scared of</p>	<p>Learning from the outbreak and using knowledge from the previous project, the programme team changed the approach to piggery farming. One of the key lessons from the previous project was that farmers</p>



<p>piggery as a livelihood option and this has led to underachievement in the piggery activities.</p>	<p>did not provide adequate care for the pigs when they worked in groups, whereas individual farmers show much higher levels of care and commitment, leading to a significantly higher survival rate. Moving forward we will now focus on individual care of pigs which we expect to have a positive impact on the project.</p>
<p><b>3. Restructure of MIAA</b></p> <p>The main implementing partner for the HIV/AIDS component, Malawi Interfaith AIDS Association (MIAA) had to undergo a restructure process in October 2013. This was to address specific constraints and capacity issues that they were facing and had communicated to Oxfam.</p> <p>A key issue was the long distance (130km) from the MIAA office to the communities and a need to have dedicated, locally based project officers to lead on the activities. This required a complex restructure of the organization, which took longer than expected.</p> <p>The impact of this restructure on the project deliver is seen in activity 4.2, 4.4 and outcome 2.</p>	<p>The restructuring process was supported by Oxfam and has now been complete. MIAA has now created District and Zonal Interfaith Aids Committees (DIACs and ZIACs). These localized structures will ensure that the communities are closely supported and have dedicated project officers. These new structures have strengthened MIAA's capacity and the Oxfam programme team have worked closely with them to build relations with the other project partner CICOD. This process means that ZIAC and DIAC can use the existing learning and experience from CICOD and quickly re-start the activities.</p> <p>MIAA, working through DIAC and ZIAC have already mobilized and are starting to deliver the project activities as planned. We are extremely confident that this process has boosted and strengthened this partner and we will be able to deliver all of the targets set out in the log frame within the next year.</p>

#### Response to Previous Progress Reviews

<b>13. What action have you taken to respond to comments made by the Scottish Government on previous progress reports?</b>	
<b>Scottish Government's Comments</b>	<b>Action taken</b>
<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>

## Financial Reporting

**14. Please fill in the budget spreadsheet to confirm actual spend for the year and projected spend for next year. Use the box below to comment on any disparities between projected expenditure and actual expenditure within the previous financial year and provide an explanation if you do not expect spending in the next financial year to be on track.**

In the first year of the project we have spent £132,948 from a total budget of £158,027. The attached budget shows some over and under-spends which has resulted in a total under-spend of £25,079, approximately 19 per cent. This is explained below:

### **Running Costs in Country**

- We experienced high running costs in Malawi, specifically related to office costs. This was due to inflated prices as some of the materials were sourced out-with the country.

### **Travel and Subsistence**

- These costs were lower due to the restructure process within one of our implementing partners MIAA, which slowed the progress of the project.
- The subsistence costs are far lower than budgeted due to the cost of the international flight for the Oxfam Scotland [REDACTED] being covered by Oxfam and also exchange rate gains when national staff claimed subsistence, following the depreciation of the Kwacha.

### **Budget Allocations for Implementation Activities**

**Output 1** +£9,930

**Output 2** -£13,304

This is related to the activities on piggery and aquaculture, as explained in the narrative above.

**Output 3** -£4,469

As explained, a national level meeting will take place in the next reporting period.

**Output 4** -£8,234

As also explained, the restructure and strengthening process of our implementing partner MIAA has led to a delay in activities.

Some activities have been allocated to different output budget lines.

## Further Information

**15. What lessons have you learned during this reporting period?**

In the first year of the project, Oxfam in Malawi and the implementation partners have learned:

1. The VSL approach is changing the lives of the poor women, men and children in the impact area. VSL members use the money to pay schools fees for their children, buy

food, clothes, household utensils, iron sheets and livestock. This strategy will lead to sustained economic empowerment, particularly for women (Annex 1).

2. According to regular monitoring and focus group discussions with participants, when women are economically empowered, gender based violence reduces and their participation in decision making at household and community level increases.
3. Involving men in the project activities is extremely important and will ensure that women become more empowered and able to participate in decision making both at household and community levels, as men do not feel like they are being sidelined.
4. Some VSL groups have found that people living with HIV/AIDS who are also participating in the VSL schemes are better able to adhere to anti-retroviral therapy regimes resulting in improvement of health status, greater mobility and additional income generation potential. This was revealed in regular monitoring meetings.
5. Value addition initiatives like tomato jam making require technical expertise and proper infrastructure and equipments in order to be registered by the Malawi Bureau of Standards. Registration with Bureau of standards means more stable markets as the product is certified as fit for consumption. However, in order to do this effectively, farmers need agro processing equipment.



One farmers group in Onga TA, Chiradzulu, have started processing their tomatoes into jam. Using business skills developed through training sessions, and by forming VSLs, the farmers recognize the need to create products to make a higher profit. The farmers are in the process of obtaining registration for the jam with the Bureau of Standards and hope to start selling this to a wider range of markets in the coming months. (Content gathered by [REDACTED], February 2014).

**16. Please make any further comments you feel might help illustrate your progress (not exceeding 250 words).**

**Participation of smallholder farmers in profitable value:**

During the last 12 months the project enhanced access to market information through improved technologies. The project procured 20 cell phones which are being used by

farmers to send agriculture messages related to production and markets. This innovation has been well received by the farmers and agricultural officials. At the moment farmers are in the process of being linked to a similar initiative being spear headed by Ministry of Agriculture. This technology will assist the farmers to receive real time messages from the Ministry of Agriculture and cooperative through short message services. This will lead to improved farming practices, production, market information and profits.

The project has also facilitated the linkage of the farmer groups to better markets. For example in Chiradzulu which is near Blantyre the commercial city in Malawi, farmers have found market for tomatoes, cabbage and onions at Shoprite, Chitawira Supermarket, Catholic University, Victoria Hotel, Hong Kong and Hobbes Restaurants.

**Improving crop and livestock production through climate smart agriculture:**

The project supported the smallholder farmers with inputs such as bags of fertilizer, pesticides; seeds and watering cans. In addition, some farmers were supported with soya bean seeds for multiplication and onward sharing with other farmers. The project also supported smallholder farmers with start up piglets, goats and construction materials. This initiative is expected to increase pig population in the impact area and consequently access to money from sales and manure for the smallholder farmers. Farmers were also trained in conservation agriculture, focussing on compost manure making, water harvesting and agro forestry contributing to the preservation of soil fertility.

**Increasing access to finances for HIV/AIDS affected households:**

An initial assessment illustrated that most PLHIV do not have access to finances. PLHIV have been organised into groups which have been trained in lobby and advocacy, about five groups have started undertaking advocacy initiatives to ensure that PLHIV are part of livelihood activities and have access to finances for their households.

**Scottish Funding Manager Project Visit**

In February 2014 Oxfam Scotland [REDACTED], travelled to Malawi to assess the impact of the projects and gather case studies and content to raise awareness of the projects in Scotland. This trip has developed the capacity of [REDACTED] in terms of programme management and increased her understanding of the challenges faced by country teams in the delivery of projects. During the field visits [REDACTED] met and interviewed beneficiaries (Annex 1 and 2). The findings of this trip were presented to the Scottish Government in April (Annex 3) and the trip has been featured in the Daily Record<sup>1</sup> and via Oxfam Scotland's social media channels.

**17. Please let us know if any of your contact details have changed.**

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/widows-malawian-house-success-story-3438231>

Contact details have not changed.

Signed by \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Designation on the Project \_\_\_\_\_

## Guidance Notes: End of Year Report

- This report is to be completed by all project managers/leaders at the end of the financial year.
- Please complete this form electronically.
- Once complete please send this reporting form, by email to your Scottish Government project manager.
- The report should be submitted by the end of April following the financial year to which the report relates.

Question	Guidance
<b>Administrative Information</b>	
1	Insert the name of your project in the space provided. Make sure that this is the same name given in your grant offer letter.
2	The project reference number was given to you by the Scottish Government in your grant offer letter – please refer to it in all correspondence. This is a number unique to your project and helps the Scottish Government track information relating to your project within the system.
3	The start date is the date you received your first tranche of funding.
4	Insert the financial year for which you are reporting
5	Indicate the theme that your project addresses (tick as many boxes that apply.)
<b>Monitoring Objectives and Outcomes</b>	
6	If your Project has changed significantly in the focus of its delivery since your last report, please explain how and why, attaching copies of all relevant correspondence you have had with the Scottish Government about this.
7	<b>For this question you will need to refer back to the original logframe that you completed with your application form.</b> Looking again at the <i>activities</i> outlined in your original application, please comment on the progress made towards achieving these during the reporting period. N.B Milestones and progress to date should be outlined using a percentage or number. Eg 5 wells have been dug in the last year against a milestone target of 4.
8	<b>For this question you will need to refer back to the original logframe that you completed with your application form.</b> Looking again at the <i>output indicators</i> outlined in your original application, please comment on the progress made towards achieving these during the reporting period. N.B Milestones and progress to date should be outlined using a percentage or number. Eg 5 wells have been dug in the last year against a milestone target of 4.
9	<b>For this question you will need to refer back to the original logframe that you completed with your application form.</b> Looking again at the <i>outcome indicators</i> outlined in your original application, please comment on the progress made towards achieving these during the reporting period.

10	<b>For this question you will need to refer back to the original logframe that you completed with your application form.</b> Please comment on the overall impact of the project to date.
11	Please refer back to the programme indicators on Q45 of the original application form and report back on progress against these.
12	If progress towards delivering activity and outcomes has been slower than planned, please use this space to indicate the reasons why and whether any of the risks outlined in Q39 of your application have impacted on the project.
<b>Response to previous progress reviews</b>	
13	Please outline any action that you have taken in response to feedback comments from previous project reports.
<b>Financial Reporting</b>	
14	<b>For this question, you will also need to complete the summary page of the budget spreadsheet.</b> Please use the budget headings on the spreadsheet to provide a detailed breakdown of actual expenditure incurred during the financial year to which this report relates, against expenditure planned as well as expected expenditure for the next financial year. Please outline any reasons for any discrepancy in the budget spend. <i>N.B If the budget spend is more than 10% different from the original estimate please use the additional tabs on the budget spreadsheet to provide more detail.</i>
<b>Further Information</b>	
15	The Scottish Government is very interested to hear of lessons you may have learnt during any aspect of the project and may use your experience in future policy consideration.
16	Please use this space to make any further comments you think will illustrate your progress. Do not exceed 250 words.
17	It is essential that you let us know if any of your contact details have changed, either in Scotland or in Malawi.