



## Second Edition

November 2022



WaterAid Malawi  
Country Programme  
Newsletter



## Country Director's Foreword

“Welcome to our second edition of WaterAid Malawi Country Programme Quarterly Newsletter. In this edition we bring you the exciting as well as emotional stories that we encounter in the course of delivering our programmes.”

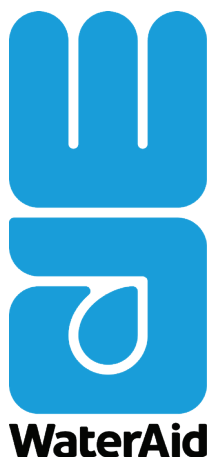
Our WASH interventions span across many aspects, such as Health, Nutrition, Early Childhood Development, Menstrual Health and Hygiene, Education, and Advocacy.

We work to contribute towards the achievement of universal access to safe water, improved sanitation, and hygiene for all by 2030. As we are in the process of developing our new country strategy, we look back and appreciate the support and coordination that has existed among country programme staff, regional and global office, local partners, development partners, the Government of Malawi, the media and all our stakeholders.”

MERCY MASOO

**Mercy Masoo**

WaterAid Malawi  
Country Director



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**WaterAid**

"I am passionate about WASH"

#MEDIA4WASH

1,2k Likes

#Media4WASH

everyone, everywhere by 2030  
WaterAid



# The WASH Media Forum Tours our WASH in Health Care Facilities work: Pictorial Focus



Journalists taking a lighter moment with WaterAid staff at Chikwewo Health Centre in Machinga

Engaging with the media is one way of bringing WASH issues to the limelight. It has been WaterAid Malawi's intention to engage the media to profile WASH in Health issues in support of the 150 WASH in Health Care Facility (HCF) challenge where WaterAid Malawi is supporting 75 HCFs and calling upon other stakeholders to support the other 75. The media is also a key stakeholder in the Hygiene for Health Campaign that WaterAid Malawi is part of.

In September, we hosted 15 journalists from various local media houses on a five-day tour to appreciate our work under the Deliver Life II project which is a WASH in Health flagship project.

The journalists were taken to Kawinga and Chikwewo Health Centres in Machinga district where they appreciated the WASH interventions and had an opportunity to engage with beneficiaries to hear stories of change. Through this tour, over 15 media articles, Radio and TV programs were published and aired in various media houses.

Here is our trip in pictures



Journalists interviewing Kawinga Health Centre Facility In-Charge - Francis Mthonga



Environmental Journalist Charles Nkoka interviewing one of the beneficiaries of the Deliver Life II project



Francis Nthonga, Facility In-Charge at Kawinga Health Centre talking to journalists





**Sam Phiri | Reporter**  
Malawi Broadcasting Corporation MBC

Hi, my name is Sam Phiri and I work for Malawi Broadcasting Corporation (MBC). I am glad to be part of this trip which has been very eye opening. I am delighted by WaterAid's standards of interventions and was inspired to witness the strong sense of ownership that communities have.

I have seen a number of initiatives amongst the communities aimed at raising funds for management and maintenance of WASH Infrastructure. This is very encouraging; I will produce several TV programmes from the content I will gather from here.



**Meclina Chirwa | Reporter**  
Timveni Television

Hello, my Name is Meclina Chirwa, and I work for Timveni TV. Being part of this trip has given me an opportunity to engage with the communities and hear from the horse's mouth about the huge impact that WaterAid is bringing to communities.

I am very passionate to report WASH issues in the country and I am grateful to WaterAid for organising this important learning trip.



**Ralph Mwenenguwe | Chairperson**  
WASH Media Forum

My name is Ralph Mwenenguwe and I am the chairperson of the WASH Media Forum. This is an association of journalists that are passionate to report issues of WASH. I am grateful to WaterAid for organising this important trip which has been full of inspiring stories.

I have been motivated to recruit more journalists to this association because there are a lot of gaps in the WASH sector, and communities depend on us to raise these issues to duty bearers. My team and I are very committed to join Effort with WaterAid and promote WASH for all by 2030.

**A**fter the tour, WaterAid arranged an interface between the journalists and senior members in Ministry of Health where the media had an opportunity to get clarification on the issues the team gathered in the field.

The Ministry has since committed to make deliberate arrangements for further engagements with the media. The Ministry has since committed to make deliberate arrangements for further engagements with the media.



## Deliver II Project Overview

**W**ith funding from the Scottish Government, Scottish Water and WaterAid UK through a Match Fund, WaterAid is implementing the four and a half year Deliver Life 2 Project which is aimed at improving service delivery and health outcomes for 141,000 women, adolescent girls and under-five children living in the low-income rural areas of Malawi.

The project is running from October 2018 to March 2023 and is being implemented in the districts of Machinga and Zomba.

The Deliver Life 2 project contributes to the 150 Health Care Facility challenge and has managed to reach out to 4 Health Facilities with a comprehensive WASH package which includes an incinerator, ash pit, reticulated water supply system, disability friendly latrines and bathrooms in Machinga District.



# Ministry of Water & Sanitation Convenes the first ever Donor Coordination Meeting for the Malawi Vision 2063 First 10-year Implementation Plan (MIP-1)

By Lloyd Mtalimanja,  
Coordinator for Sector  
Engagement

Following the launch of Malawi's National Vision named Malawi 2063 Agenda on 19th January 2021, Ministry of Water and Sanitation convened the first ever WASH Donor Coordination meeting in September 2022 to discuss the first Implementation Plan referred to as MIP-1.

The MIP-1 is the first 10-year Implementation Plan for the Malawi 2063 vision. It is the first roadmap for implementing the Malawi 2063 agenda & seeks to operationalize both the Malawi 2063 and the 2030 Global Agenda for Sustainable Development in the remaining Decade of Action. The MIP-1 has foundational transformative strategies and interventions for the WASH and other sectors, including flagship projects that will help meet the set milestones at the shortest time possible.

The meeting was convened following a series of conversations dating as far back as November 2021 between WaterAid and the Ministry of Water & Sanitation in Malawi and was the first ever interface between the Ministry and key WASH sector stakeholders since the launch of Malawi 2063 Agenda.

It is the first of a series of planned conversations aimed at improving stakeholder coordination towards effective implementation of the WASH priorities contained in the MIP-1.

The Minister of Water and Sanitation, Hon. Abida Mia, presided over the meeting and was accompanied by her Deputy Minister, Hon. John Bande, the Principal Secretary, Directors and Deputy Directors in the Ministry of Water & Sanitation.



Delegates pose for a group photo after the meeting



Minister of Water and Sanitation addressing the audience



Lloyd Mtalimanja, coordinator for Sector Engagement at WaterAid, stressing a point



Minister of Water and Sanitation Hon. Abida Mia talking to journalists

In her remarks, the Minister thanked WaterAid for facilitating and financing the meeting. "People can live without other things, but not

water. Access to clean water is therefore not just a must, but also a right. Therefore, we are all striving to ensure that by 2030, all Malawians must

have access to clean water and sanitation. This is a target that need a joint effort" said the minister in her speech.

The minister also commended the support which the ministry is receiving from various stakeholders which include the executive and legislative arms of government highlighting the swift passing of the Water and Sanitation Bill as a huge milestone.

Efforts to operationalize the ministry of water and sanitation are visible and evidenced by the appointment of a principal secretary, Mr. Elias Chimulambe who brings along a rich experience accumulated from working with the Non-Governmental organisations and development partners including the world bank and DFID which is now Foreign Commonwealth Development Office (FCDO).

The minister also shared plans to come up with a revised sanitation policy which is expected to provide guidance on emerging issues such as pandemics and disease outbreaks.

"We have recently launched a Climate Resilient WASH Financing Strategy which is a strategic tool for resource mobilization. In line with strategy, there are plans to come up with a national water and sanitation investment programme which will be a 10-year plan that will provide clear resource requirements for both water and sanitation programmes. This initiative is being supported by FCDO, through the Global Water leadership Programme".

In attendance at the meeting were representatives from WaterAid, Water for People, UNICEF, National Planning Commission, World Bank, African Development Bank, JICA, USAID, Chinese Embassy, UN Women, among others.



# GIZ provides 600,000 Euros to improve WASH in Fifteen Health Care Facilities

By Emmanuel Zumani  
WASH Programmes Officer

**A**s WaterAid Malawi is working to improve WASH in 150 Health Care Facilities in Malawi by 2024, GIZ has pumped in 600,000 Euros towards improvement of WASH in 15 Health Care Facilities across Mchinji, Dedza, Lilongwe and Ntcheu Districts under a Project called “Strengthening WASH in Health Care Facilities”.

Through this 18-month project, WaterAid seeks to address inadequate and poorly managed WASH infrastructure, and weak hygiene and infection prevention control practices in the targeted 15 HCFs which has a total catchment population of 492,786.

According to the 2021 WHO and UNICEF global progress report on WASH in Health Care Facilities, 24% of Health Care Facilities in Malawi are functioning without a water supply, 32% do not have hand hygiene facilities, 23% do not have a usable improved sanitation facility and 38% do not properly manage their waste



Mchinji District Hospital IPC coordinator demonstrating how Hand Hygiene is properly done

Chiosya Health Centre is one of the fifteen HCF's benefitting from this project.

The Health Centre is located right within a busy trading centre where, apart from the clients that come to seek health services at the facility, many people from surrounding communities pass through the hospital premises as they run their personal errands. One can easily notice the footpaths across the premises. This has

exposed the facility to a great risk of vandalism and misuse of WASH infrastructure.

The facility has poor waste management systems which is a big risk to the community. The placenta pit as well as the ash pit are all in a dilapidated state. The fence around the waste management area is broken making it accessible to children and dogs who tamper with the waste from time to time.

With support from GIZ, WaterAid is working to improve waste management at this Health Care Facility as well as 14 others across the four districts. But will these improvements stand the test of time? Sustainability of these WASH interventions depends on the users.

WaterAid understands that Health Care Workers are the primary enforcers of proper use of the WASH facilities and Interventions.

Therefore, apart from infrastructural developments, WaterAid will enhance Health Care Workers understanding on sustainability of the improved

WASH infrastructure so that they ensure users understand the importance of maintaining the status of the infrastructure.

“You can see that this waste management facility is not secured. The fence is broken making it prone to scavengers. But these waste materials are very hazardous. I am very grateful to WaterAid for making efforts to construct a proper waste management structure here” said Timothy Mwanza, Deputy Facility in-Charge at the facility as we toured the dilapidated waste management structure.

Through this project, WaterAid is also advocating for the prominence of WASH in the national Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) guidelines for community health care workers (both medical and non-medical) whose environment for microbial contamination risk is high.

WaterAid has so far trained 125 health workers and 216 Non-medical staff from the fifteen Health Care Facilities, on Infection, Prevention and Control (IPC).



One of the Health Care Facility worker demonstrating how downing is done.









Deputy Minister of Health, Hon. Enock Phale MP and other senior delegates from the Ministry of Health during a three day tour where the team was appreciating WaterAid's work in Health Care Facilities and communities.



# WaterAid Malawi Rehabilitates 53 boreholes in Zomba and Mangochi districts



Patuma Jackson is now happy to access clean water from a borehole near her house



Patuma Jackson demonstrating how her tip tap works

By Patricia Nagoli  
Titukulane Project Coordinator,  
Mangochi

**W**aterAid Malawi through its USAID funded Titukulane project has rehabilitated 53 boreholes in Zomba and Mangochi providing safe drinking water to communities benefiting 27,825 people.

Access to clean water is a key component in driving social development. The time women spend in search for water is quite significant and greatly impacts on their contribution towards development of the country.

Mitawa Village, Sub Traditional Authority (STA) Chiunda in Mangochi is one of the villages that has benefitted from this project and now has access to clean water from the two rehabilitated boreholes. Patuma Jackson, a 29-year-old single mother of three from Mitawa is in smiles after

parting away with struggles in search for clean water for her domestic use. Previously, Patuma used to fetch water from a nearby well whose water was not safe for drinking. This exposed her children to waterborne diseases such as diarrhea from time to time. These frequent illnesses meant frequent visits to the hospital – Patuma spent a lot of money.

The implementation of Titukulane project in her village has transformed Patuma's life and that of other community members. The only available waterpoint (borehole) had been non-functional for a long time as the pump had broken down. Instead of concentrating on her business, Patuma had to spend long hours in search for clean water.

To ensure sustainability of the rehabilitation works of the non-functional boreholes, the project has trained the Water Point Committee (WPC) members on how to effectively manage the

boreholes.

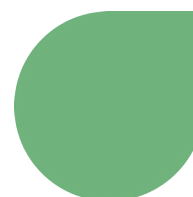
The members have also been trained on how to carry out minor maintenance works of the boreholes. As a result of these capacity strengthening initiatives, communities have started contributing (mobilizing) resources into a fund that is used for borehole maintenance.

"We have a vibrant operational and maintenance fund from water user's contributions which is helping us in the service and maintenances of our borehole," said Patuma who is also a WPC secretary. By the time of this interview, Mitawa 1 WPC had raised MK66,000.00 (Approximately \$50). The water-point serves a total of 66 households. With this money, Mitawa 1 WPC has the capacity to effectively maintain their water-point regularly, which is recommended at every three months.

CARE, in partnership with Emmanuel International, IFPRI, NASFAM, Save the Children, and Water Aid; is

leading the implementation of the five-year \$75 Million USAID Titukulane Development Food and Nutrition Security Activity Project funded by Food for Peace.

WaterAid is proud to offer technical support to the implementing partners for effective implementation of WASH interventions under this project. USAID Titukulane will impact 723,111 individuals in the hanging in, stepping in and stepping out households in 20 Traditional Authorities in Mangochi and Zomba districts.



Disclaimer: This story is made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of Titukulane project under CARE International and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.



## WaterAid engages with Deputy Minister and Directors in the Ministry of Health



WaterAid staff with the Deputy Minister of Health Hon. Enock Phale and other senior officials in the Ministry

By Moyna Mwenye,  
Communications Specialist

Improvement of WASH in Health Care Facilities is an important element in health service delivery as it strengthens the resilience of the health systems to prevent disease outbreaks and allow effective responses to emergencies.

WaterAid is working to mobilise development partners to join in its efforts to improve WASH in Health Care Facilities. Through the 150 WASH in HCF challenge, WaterAid has committed to directly improve WASH in 75 Health Care Facilities whilst modelling and motivating other stakeholders to join in the challenge.

WaterAid is inspired by the commitment displayed by Ministry of Health towards ensuring strong collaboration amongst stakeholders in the WASH sector. In September, The Deputy Minister of Health Hon. Enock Phale MP, and other senior members in the ministry invited WaterAid for an interface meeting. The aim of the meeting was for WaterAid to appraise the ministry of its work in Malawi.

The Deputy Minister commended WaterAid's initiative to improve WASH in 150 Health Care facilities and has since committed to support any initiatives targeting to improve the status of WASH in Health Care Facilities in Malawi, through strong collaboration within ministries, key players in the WASH sector and the donor community.

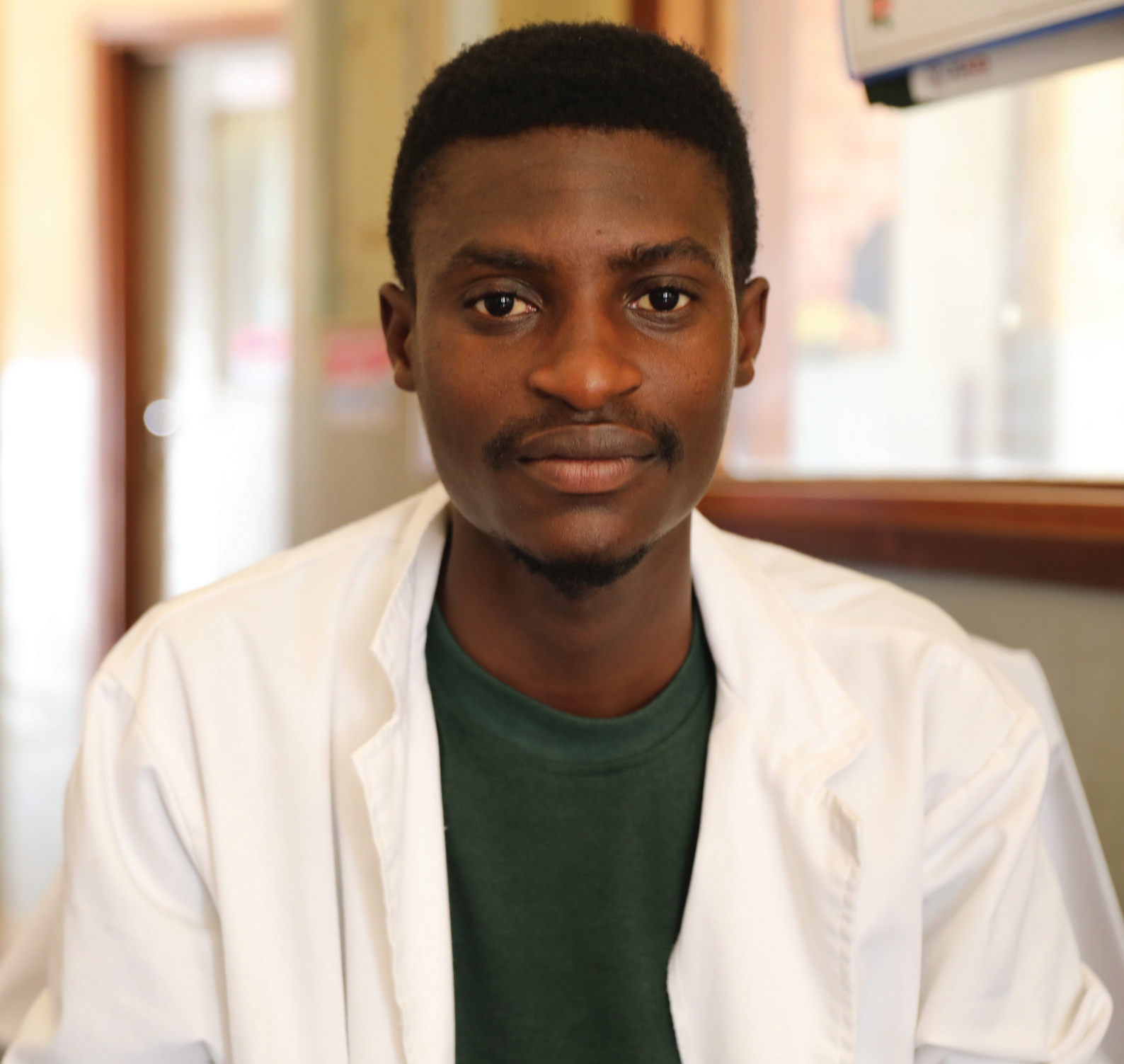


Mercy Masoo (in blue) WaterAid Country Director, led the delegation.



Deputy Minister of Health Hon Enock Phale addressing the audience





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