

## ACTION

UNICEF works with national partners to increase access to early childhood learning, get more children into primary school and help them complete and achieve their education, provide life skill education for HIV prevention and develop and implement youth empowerment programmes.

## QUALITY EDUCATION

In 2006, UNICEF worked closely with the Ministry of Education and other partners to scale up the Child-Friendly School (CFS) initiative, known locally as Joyful Learning. CFS is a comprehensive package that strives to improve the quality of education through integrated interventions such as child health and nutrition; teachers trained in child-centered and gender sensitive approaches; safe, inclusive, protective learning environments with water and sanitation facilities; strong community partnerships and relevant and gender-sensitive curricula and life skills.

During the year, an additional 200 schools adopted the CFS approach, bringing the cumulative total of children-friendly schools to 1,305 or 25 percent of all primary schools in the country. UNICEF contributed to the scale-up by supporting the training of 5,170 teachers in CFS methodologies and supplying school-in-a-box kits and supplementary readers for more than 200,000 children in 236 schools. Teacher and students' desks and chairs were also distributed to 220 schools, benefiting more than 40,000 school children.

Twenty schools were rehabilitated following damage by floods, helping restore education to 20,000 children. The construction of 52 new classrooms in 26 schools to benefit over 220,000 children is ongoing. A child-friendly classroom designed as part of the rehabilitation process awaits adoption as the national standard.

Girls' education received a boost in 2006 when various community mobilisation activities were successfully used to address the social and cultural barrier to girls' education. Educators have reported

## THE NUMBERS

**3.2 million**

Children who are in primary school

**10%**

Children aged 6 to 13 who are not in school

**26%**

Children who complete primary school

**44%**

Orphaned children who attend school

**41%**

Children aged 15-19 who have knowledge to prevent HIV infection

## BUDGET IN 2006

**TOTAL: US\$ 5,734,809**

**US\$ 954,706**

Regular Resources

**US\$ 4,780,103**

Other Resources



## TAKING MATTERS INTO THEIR OWN HANDS

Four middle aged women sit quietly in the corner of a classroom at Mnjolo Primary School, a 20 minute drive from Malawi's capital city, Lilongwe. With their weather-beaten faces and floral *chitenje* (cotton wraps), they look more suited to a day of pounding maize than pounding the village path, campaigning for girls' education.

The women are members of a mothers group, community activists that are raising awareness in classrooms and communities across the country on the importance of sending girls to school.

In Malawi, net enrolment rates for the first two grades of primary school are high but many children, especially girls, drop out soon after their first day in school. Only 16 percent of girls finish their primary education.

As long as girls are left behind, Malawi's goal of educating all children and ensuring real human development will not be achieved. This is why the Government, with UNICEF's support, has introduced the child-friendly school programme, known locally as 'Joyful Learning', to a quarter of all primary schools in Malawi, reaching about 800,000 boys and girls.

In addition to improving teaching, learning and the school environment, 'Joyful Learning' schools also organise outreach activities for orphans and out-of-school girls through community channels such as the mothers groups with the aim of improving enrolment of orphans and getting girls who dropped out of school back to school.

In a predominantly rural country where more than half of the population lives on less than one dollar a day, cultural practices and grinding poverty are two of the main reasons why girls in Malawi opt to leave school.

The surrounding villages near Mnjolo Primary School are inhabited by the Chewa people, one of the 15 major ethnic groups in Malawi. The Chewa practice a puberty rite, called *chinamwali*, which grooms a girls for married life. It takes places when a girl, sometimes as young as ten, starts her period. The rite may also include practical experience where an older man, called *fisi*, has sex with a newly initiated girl.

As important as *chinamwali* is to the cultural identity of the Chewa, local educators are concerned about the impact it has on children.

"This ceremony interferes with a girl's schooling," says Charles Makumbiza, Mnjolo's headmaster. "Girls are taken out of school for two months and when they come out of the initiation, they are embarrassed to report back to school," he adds, alluding to the practice of *fisi*.

Teachers have also reported that they find initiated girls hard to teach. The *chinamwali* demands that girls behave like adult women when they complete their rite of passage. They are even told not to play with younger girls who have not reached puberty.

"Teachers have been complaining to us that the girls who have come out of the ceremony challenge their authority," explains UNICEF's education specialist Catherine Chirwa.

The mothers group has taken matters into its own hands. With training in human rights, gender issues and social mobilisation, they are running a 'give us back the child' campaign in the 34 villages that surround the school.

During community meetings with village elders, parents and children, the group presents an alternative option to the traditional initiation ceremony. Their message: school is an important rite of passage for a girl and will make her a real woman.

"A lot of girls have come back to school," says Charles Makumbiza, "And the ceremony is becoming less popular."

The mothers group also talks to girls in school, mimicking the counseling that happens during the *chinamwali*. But instead of being taught to be a good wife, school girls are briefed on how education can benefit their future as women and mothers.

"We come to school and discuss with children what education can do for them," says 47 year-old Joyce Karonde, one of the mother activists, "We also speak to the girls who have dropped out because of pregnancy and tell them to come back to school."<sup>1</sup>



increases in the net enrolment of female pupils and orphaned and vulnerable children following these interventions.

In partnership with WFP and GTZ, the school feeding programme was expanded to 677 schools in 2006, an increase of 8.2 percent from 2005. More than 410,000 children benefited from food rations, cooking and feeding utensils; improved school kitchens and food storerooms; latrines and safe water and volunteer cooks from the community. Setting standards and establishing a technical working group of government ministries, NGOs and UN agencies to coordinate activities and monitor quality strengthened the school feeding programme.

In the area of early childhood development (ECD), the Ministry of Education, with support from UNICEF, made progress to improve the sector. Twenty five thousand copies of the ECD Policy were distributed to familiarise all stakeholders with national priorities. Care Giver Guides were developed in Chichewa for use by caregivers working in community-based childcare centres. A start has been made to incorporate the ECD and infant school curricula as part of the primary curriculum and assessment reform.

## ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT & HIV AND AIDS

Despite a growth in programmes that provide young people with information on HIV prevention, 59 percent of boys and girls aged 15–19 do not have comprehensive knowledge about HIV prevention. Condom use at high risk sex is low, at 38.4 percent for girls and 58.1 percent for boys. A fifth of all primary schools do not have extra-curricular anti-AIDS clubs and there are limited opportunities for adolescent participation and development, especially for girls.

**The number of school-based anti-AIDS clubs has risen to 4,335, benefiting 150,000 young people.**

In 2006, the process of institutionalising life skills education for HIV and AIDS prevention in standards 1–4 was complete in all 5,231 primary schools. This means that 2.5 million will be consistently reached with critical messages and skills on healthy behaviour and self-development.

The number of school-based anti-AIDS clubs, popularly known as Edzi Toto ("AIDS is not for me"), has risen to 4,335, benefiting 150,000 young people with peer education, entertainment and an opportunity to spend after-school hours in constructive ways. The network of clubs also includes youth NGOs and youth centres, fifteen of which provide HIV testing and counselling services.

To help clubs conduct their work effectively, including debates, group discussions, quizzes, drama and poetry, UNICEF provided t-shirts, caps, HIV and AIDS handbooks, club activity manuals, posters, sports balls and board games. Clubs also run community outreach programme, including orphan support, and such material comes in handy. Training in club management and leadership was also provided to youth club leaders, Edzi Toto patrons and school teachers.

UNICEF supported the review of the National Youth Policy to provide a framework for youth development and participation. In partnership with UNFPA and other UN agencies, a joint programme for accelerating HIV prevention among young people was developed. A national plan of action is being prepared and will roll out the programme in 2007.

<sup>3</sup> A SWAp is a process in which funding for a sector, whether internal or from donors, supports a single policy and expenditure programme, under government leadership, and adopting common approaches across the sector.

## REFORMING THE EDUCATION SECTOR

Malawi is in the process of adopting its Education Policy and finalising the Education Sector Plan, which will pave the way for sector-wide approaches to planning (SWAp)<sup>3</sup>. UNICEF has been actively involved in a number of preparatory activities such as plans for training key government personnel on SWAp using a UNICEF resource pack and developing mechanisms for funding curriculum reform.

Challenges remain in implementing critical policies related to education. Government's delay in carrying out policies on age-of-entry to school, repetition and automatic promotion has compromised efforts to improve the quality of education. Progress on policy issues has been affected by the high turnover of key ministry personnel and vacant posts. The Ministry of Youth, UNICEF's key partner for youth development, has limited leadership capacity. These issues have been raised at different platforms and have yet to be resolved.

## FUTURE PRIORITIES

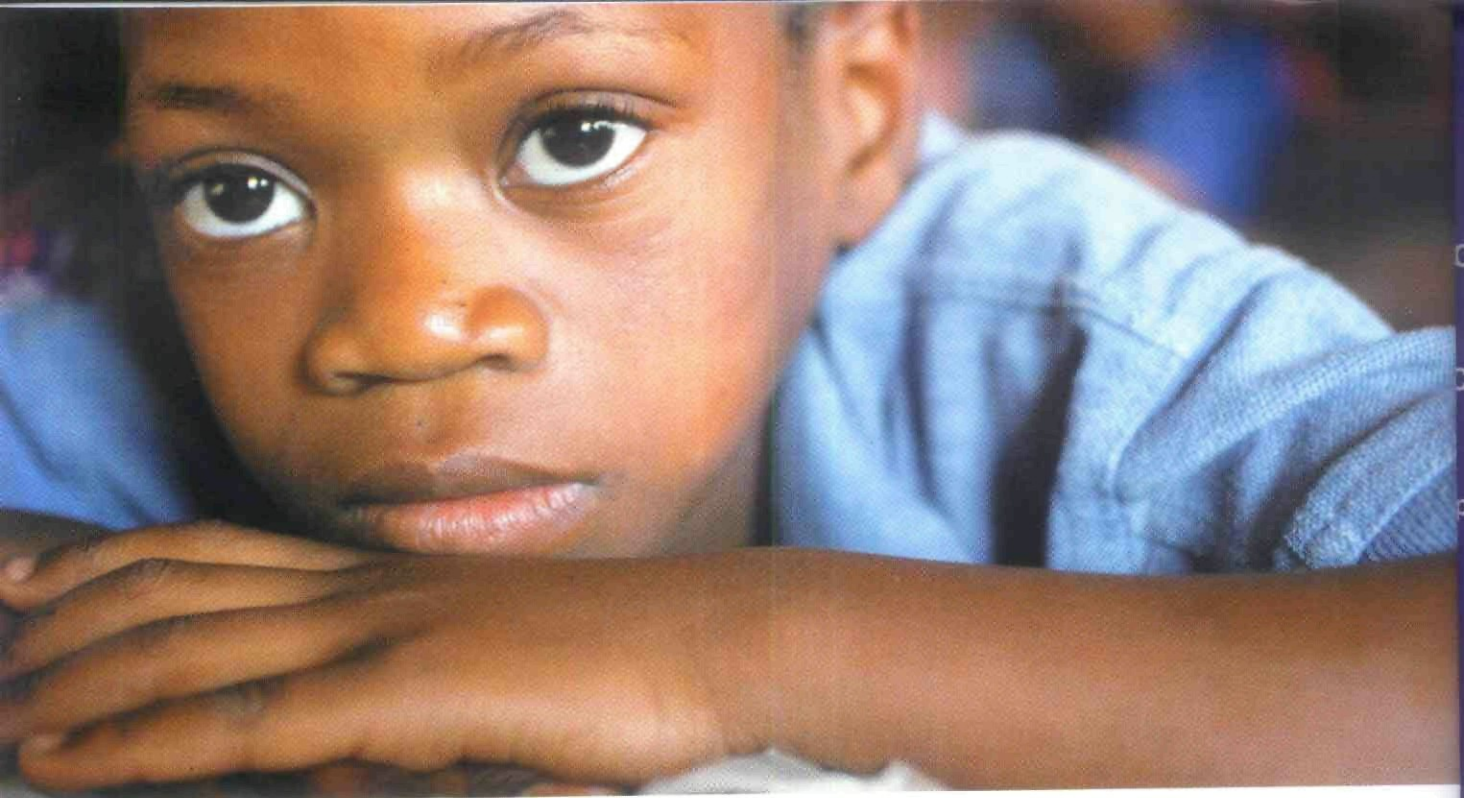
In 2007, UNICEF and the Government of Malawi will prioritise:

- **Completing the institutionalisation of the life skills for HIV and AIDS prevention programme in standards 5–8, while at the same time aligning it with the new curriculum that will be rolled out in 2007.**
- **Capacity development for the Ministry of Youth and the National Youth Council. Innovative approaches will be adopted to create demand for youth programmes using recreation and training in income-generation.**
- **Support to the Education SWAp by helping develop the capacity of the Planning and Policy Division at the Ministry of Education.**
- **Developing strategies to institutionalise the child-friendly school initiative.**
- **Support to new areas such as the Education Management Information System (EMIS) and Monitoring Learning Achievement project<sup>4</sup>.**

**PARTNERS Adolescent Girl Literacy Project, CARE Malawi, Centre for Educational Research and Training, Counselling of Adolescent and Youth Organisation, Centre for Youth and Children Affairs, Civil Society Coalition for Quality Basic Education, Development Aid from People to People in Malawi, Forum for African Women Educationalists in Malawi, Guidance Counselling, Malawi Girl Guide, Malawi Institute of Education, Matindi Youth Organisation, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Youth, Sports & Culture, National Youth Council, Playsoccer Malawi, Scouts Association, Northern Region Youth Network, UNESCO, Youth Alliance in Social and Economic Development, Nkhotakota Youth Centre, Youth Alliance in Social and Economic Development, YouthNet and Counselling (YONECO), Zingwanga Youth Centre**

<sup>4</sup> The Monitoring Learning Achievement Project, a UNESCO and UNICEF initiative, provides policymakers and implementers of basic education and literacy programs with the necessary conceptual and analytical tools to monitor the quality of their own programmes from a local perspective.





# CHILD PROTECTION

A deadly combination of poverty, HIV and AIDS and food insecurity is progressively unravelling families and communities in Malawi and leaving in its wake a generation of vulnerable and malnourished children, many of whom are becoming orphans. Nearly 13 percent of children have lost their parents or caregivers and 17 percent are living without their biological parents.

When orphans and vulnerable children are deprived of their parents, they lose their first line of protection. They also lose access to social services. Children without the guidance and protection of their primary caregivers run the risk of becoming victims of violence, exploitation, trafficking, discrimination and other abuses.

## **Malawi faces serious challenges with child abuse, exploitation and violence.**

Malawi faces serious challenges with child abuse, exploitation and violence. There is no birth registration system in the country and children without an official identity are 'invisible' and thus at risk of falling into the wrong hands. Already, the Government estimates that 1.4 million children are involved in hazardous child labour. Sexual exploitation, abuse and child trafficking are on the increase, although there is still no official data on the scale of the problem. Children also report child abuse and sexual harassment in schools, with serious implications for their education and welfare.

Children in conflict with the law find themselves imprisoned together with young adult offenders. The majority of juvenile wings are full of offenders in their early twenties as prisoners' ages are difficult to confirm without birth certificates. Children risk being abused and violated in prison, and their rights are often denied at every stage of the criminal process. Incarceration of children should always be treated as a last resort and alternative to imprisonment should be used whenever possible.

## **ACTION**

UNICEF supports the Government to provide a supportive and safe environment for orphaned and vulnerable children, with access to basic social services, including restorative justice. Policies are formulated and national laws revised to incorporate principles of child and human rights. UNICEF also works with partners to prevent and respond to violence, abuse and exploitation of children.



## THE NUMBERS

**13%**

Children in Malawi who are orphaned

**1.4 million**

Children involved in hazardous labour

**11%**

Proportion of women aged 15–49 who were married before their 15th birthday

**304**

Children detained in prison

## BUDGET IN 2006

**TOTAL: US\$ 4,044,677**

**US\$ 816,343**

Regular Resources

**US\$ 3,228,334**

Other Resources

## ORPHANED AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN

Malawi is making concerted efforts on all fronts to address the deepening crisis in orphanhood and child vulnerability. Since its launch in 2005, the five-year National Plan of Action (NPA) for Orphans and Vulnerable Children has been the guiding force for Government and all its partners in developing and implementing programmes of care and support.

UNICEF has played a particularly important role in strengthening institutional capacity so that the NPA can be put into practise. The Ministry of Women and Child Development, the government agency responsible for implementing the NPA, has received technical and financial support to plan, coordinate and monitor the many interventions that fall within the NPA. Technical assistance to district social welfare offices by UNICEF partner, British Volunteer Services Overseas (VSO), resulted in 28 draft district action plans that will operationalise the NPA at district level.

The Government, in collaboration with UNICEF, the World Bank and the UK Department for International Development (DFID), is developing an innovative social protection system in Malawi. Although still in its early stages, it has the potential of becoming a major component of a safety net system for orphans and vulnerable children.

UNICEF has been actively involved in creating the system by leveraging resources and providing technical support to the Ministry of Women and Child Development. In particular, support has been given to a pilot social cash transfer scheme in Mchinji in the central region of Malawi, which resulted in 2,503 children from 1,000 extremely poor households benefiting from a cash grant in 2006.

The scheme targets households that are defined as ultra-poor and labour-constrained with a monthly cash transfer as well as an education bonus to encourage school enrolment and attendance. Ultra-poor households are defined as having only one meal a day; not able to buy essential food items such as soap, clothing, school utensils; no valuable assets; and resorting to begging in order to survive.

Households are considered labour-constrained when they have no able-bodied member in the 16–64 age group who is fit to work or when a household member in the same age group, who is fit to work, has to care for more than three dependants. Dependents are children, the elderly (over 64 years) and adults who are chronically sick or disabled.



In 2006, the Department of Poverty was able to secure funding from the National AIDS Commission to fund the cash grant scheme from 2007 and an independent evaluation by Boston University will make recommendations on how to scale up the scheme nationally.

To improve service delivery to vulnerable children, especially those in their early years of life, 416 community-based childcare centres (CBCC) were provided with staff training in early childhood care and development and kits containing toys, chalk and story books. More than 1,000 caregivers working at the centres and close to 47,000 children under the age of five were reached.

The field of early childhood care and development in Malawi is evolving as local expertise improves and norms and standards are put into place. In 2006, UNICEF supported the development of resource guides to accompany caregiver training and a national CBCC profile that outlined minimum operational standards. Seven national experts in early childhood development and care were sponsored on a study tour to Peru while distance learning will be an on-going feature of creating a professional cadre of experts in the country.

## PROTECTION FROM VIOLENCE AND ABUSE

Protecting children and women from violence, abuse and exploitation is not only a moral imperative, it also pays enormous dividends. Children and women that benefit from a protective environment stand a greater chance of living, thriving and becoming productive members of society.

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A major weakness in Malawi's legal framework is the fact that the Constitution is not in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). The Ministry of Women and Child Development, with support from UNICEF, has submitted a position paper to the Special Law Commission on Constitutional Review with recommendations on how to standardise the Constitution with the CRC. The Child Care Protection and Justice Bill, which translates child rights principles into national law, was developed in 2006 with UNICEF support. It was reviewed by the Special Law Commission and will be presented to Parliament for approval in 2007.

In the area of justice for children, UNICEF helps to strengthen preventative and rehabilitative state services such as the police, courts and community protection services so that children in conflict with the law and child victims of crime are protected and provided with appropriate assistance.

In 2006, Police Victim Support Units received equipment and grants for income-generation to help them provide temporary shelter and food for children and women who were victims of crime. The Department of Social Welfare was provided with support to build a transit centre - a place of safety for victims - in Lilongwe. More centres are needed in other urban areas while partners require training and support to extend victim support services to rural communities.

UNICEF supported the National Juvenile Justice Forums to establish two Child Friendly Courts in Zomba and in Blantyre. Funds were given for the rehabilitation of a third court in Mzuzu. The Child Friendly Court are designed to provide child-friendly services, including a room where victims of sexual violence and other crimes can give evidence through a intermediary using a closed-circuit television. The chief justice officially separated the juvenile justice system from the adult justice system in June 2006 and the two courts handled 426 cases in 2006.



## CASH TRANSFER SENDS A BOY BACK TO SCHOOL

Wonesta greets me with a dance. Hugs me like I am a long lost friend and announces that I am staying for lunch. She is shouting and someone whispers that Wonesta is hard of hearing so I have to shout when talking to her. I have never met her before, but her joy is so contagious that I join in the dance. So do the children, all three of them.

They are not her kids, they are her grandchildren. The eldest, Acid is fifteen and the youngest, Chikondi, is three. They do not remember when their parents died but say it was a while ago. The only thing they can remember is that life then was different.

"Before our father died, we did not need to do piece work to help Granny take care of us. He would get us everything we wanted," says Acid. After the father's death, everything changed. Their mother had to struggle to make ends meet but she fell sick a few months later and died. Their grandmother took over looking after the children.

"My granny is very old and found it hard to cope. I could not let her do all the work, after all I am the man. I am supposed to take care of the women," says Acid, the man of the house at 15.

The sacrificial lamb for his work was his education. Most piece works are available in the morning, a serious clash with his school time table. He had to quit school. "My intention was to miss only one term and save enough money so that I would continue school and work only during the holidays," he says. Needless to say, this never happened and a term slowly turned into two years.

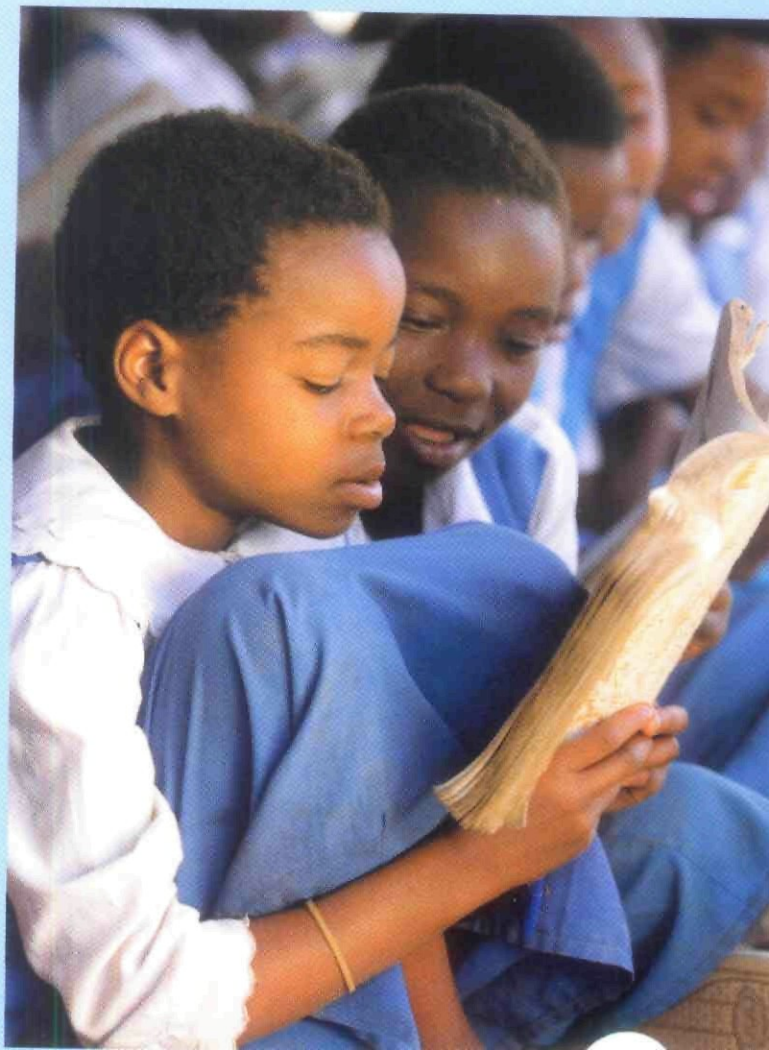
Four months ago the family's fate changed when the household qualified for the pilot Social Cash Transfer Scheme. Under this scheme, the ultra poor, as determined by the Social Welfare Office, get at least US\$10 per three person household per month. An additional US\$1.50 per child is given to families with up to children in primary

school while an additional US\$2.85 is given per secondary school-going child.

UNICEF is supporting the Government to implement this scheme as a strategy to reduce poverty, hunger and starvation in households that are not only extremely poor but do not have members that are fit enough to work. It is expected that once these households have a steady cash flow, they can plan their lives and eventually manage to send their children back to school.

Wonesta has done just that. She has been able to send Acid and his sister back to school.

"When I finish school, I will be a medical doctor so that I can help people who are sick. I will be staying in town and I will come back for my granny," says Acid. ▀





Civil society organisations monitored detained children on a weekly basis and created a database for children in detention. Their work was instrumental in helping to get children out of jail. By the end of November 2006, 84 children between the ages of 7 and 16 were released and transferred to reformatory schools. The remaining 304 children in prison will be transferred in 2007.

Reformatory schools are being rehabilitated to absorb the additional children and to eventually reintegrate them back into their communities. With UNICEF support, the country's two reformatory schools doubled their capacity for housing children.

Child protection measures in and around schools are being strengthened. The teachers curriculum was reviewed to include protection issues and 1.2 million storybooks on safety and security for children aged 6–10 were distributed to primary schools, benefiting 1.8 million children.

The capacity of community child protection workers and the police were strengthened during the year to prevent and respond to rape, child abuse and property grabbing. Training, supplies and financial assistance were provided to help the child protection workers and police carry out their work more effectively. Child protection issues have also been incorporated in the police training curriculum.

## **FUTURE PRIORITIES**

In 2007, UNICEF and the Government of Malawi will prioritise:

- Building the capacity of the Ministry of Women and Child Development and District Social Welfare Offices to lead and coordinate the NPA.
- Supporting research on cash transfers and the development of a national social protection policy.
- Improving the quality of services delivered to children and their families through CBCC and psychosocial support to children through Children's Corners.
- Strengthening the national community home-based care programme and incorporating issues of palliative care and ART into the national programme.
- Building a protective environment for children through legislation, policy, institutional capacity building and increasing the role of civil society in advocacy and rehabilitation.

**PARTNERS** Active Youth for Social Enhancement, Centre of Adolescent Youth Organisation, Centre for Alternatives for Victimised Women and Children, Centre for Youth and Children's Affairs, Chisomo Children's Club, Department of Poverty & Disaster Management, Eye of the Child, Malawi Human Rights Commission, Malawi Human Rights Youth Network, Malawi Police, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Labour & Social Development, Ministry of Persons with Disabilities & Elderly, Ministry of Women and Child Development, National Juvenile Justice Forum, Parent of Disabled Children Association of Malawi, Penal Reform International, Youth Net Counseling, Youth Watch Society, Kanego AIDS Support Organisation.





# SOCIAL POLICY, ADVOCACY & COMMUNICATION

Malawi ranks as the world's 11th poorest country<sup>5</sup>. More than half of the country's 13.2 million people live in poverty, earning less than one US dollar a day. The country is essentially agricultural and the fast-growing population is mounting pressure on the land. Malawi is prone to natural disasters, especially drought and floods. These catastrophes, combined with extreme poverty and the impact of HIV and AIDS, are core contributors to people's vulnerability. Hunger and high malnutrition rates as well as rising incidences of disease such as malaria and HIV-related illnesses mean that the children and women's right to survival is at risk.

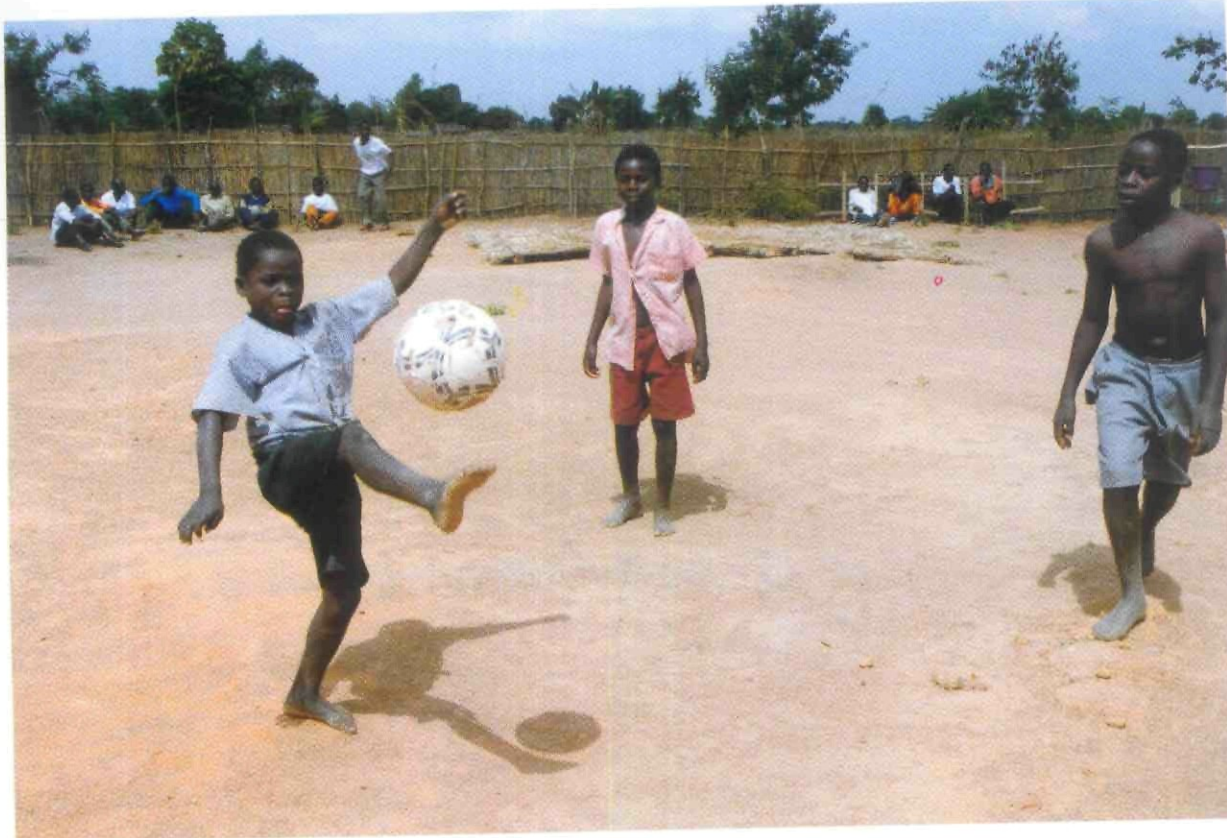
Gender inequality manifests as low female literacy, high HIV infection rates in girls and women and gender-based violence. Girls and women are also subject to discriminatory cultural practices such as early marriage and the loss of inheritance when orphaned or widowed.

Malawi does not have a national registration and identification system. The existing 1904 legal framework makes birth registration optional for Malawians. For many children and women without an official identity, their risk of being exploited for labour, sex work and at the worst, human trafficking, increases enormously. An estimated 1.4 million children are involved in hazardous child labour.

**Malawi does not  
have a national  
registration and  
identification  
system**

<sup>5</sup>According to the UNDP Human Development Index for 2006, Malawi is ranked 166 out of 177 countries.





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## ACTION

Influencing social policy is a critical part of UNICEF's work as it strives to place children and women at the heart of Malawi's development agenda. To help Malawi accelerate progress towards the achievement of the MDGs, UNICEF supports the Government to improve national data collection and monitoring systems. Various communication approaches are employed to help society realise the rights of children and women. External relations activities strengthen the UNICEF brand in Malawi, bring international attention to the issues that affect children and women and contribute to raising funds for the country programme.

## SOCIAL POLICY AND ADVOCACY

Malawi ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in 1987. Countries that have ratified or acceded to the Convention are legally bound to put its provisions into practice. They are also committed to submit national reports, at least every four years, on measures they have taken to comply with their treaty obligations.

In 2006, Malawi submitted its second national report to the CEDAW committee. Although the Government did not involve partners like UNICEF from the onset of the reporting process, UN agencies supported the Government in disseminating the recommendations. In 2007, UNICEF will be involved in developing a monitoring and evaluation mechanism to track progress on implementing the recommendations.

The Ministries of Home Affairs and Internal Security, Justice and Information, the Office of the Registrar General, UNICEF and other partners have come together to advance the government's national registration and identification programme. Securing passage of the National Registration Bill through Parliament is vital.

In 2006, a successful advocacy campaign resulted in the Cabinet gazetting the Bill and sending it to Parliament. A special lobby group composed of the Government, NGOs, the media and UNICEF, lobbied 46 parliamentarians but unfortunately the Bill could not be discussed during the course of the year.



## MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) was a key milestone in 2006. It was the largest household survey undertaken in Malawi, covering 31,200 households in 26 districts, and was supported by UNICEF. The survey, whose objective was to determine key social development indicators at district level, succeeded in canvassing nearly 20 out of 48 MDG indicators and will be used to help the Government track progress towards the achievement of the MDGs.

Other UNICEF-supported interventions to strengthen national monitoring and evaluation systems included upgrading the Malawi Socio-Economic Database (MADESA) with new features, completing a situation assessment and analysis in preparation for the United Nations Development Assistance Framework<sup>6</sup> (UNDAF) and producing strategic documents to assist in the design of the new UNICEF Country Programme for 2008–2011.

**The Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) was a key milestone in 2006.**



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<sup>6</sup>UNDAF is the common strategic framework for the operational activities of the United Nations system at the country level.



## EXTERNAL RELATIONS

The global Children and AIDS campaign continued in 2006. UNICEF brought attention to the impact of HIV and AIDS on Malawian children and their needs for prevention, treatment and care by distributing advocacy material within the country and abroad.

Fundraising efforts were bolstered by numerous visits from UNICEF National Committees. National Committees raise a significant portion of UNICEF's income through various advocacy and fundraising campaigns in industrialised countries.

**Fundraising efforts were bolstered by numerous visits from UNICEF National Committees.**

UNICEF continued to build a strong relationship with the local media. Information, photographs, videos and feature stories on issues facing children and women were provided to the local media to enhance their reporting. A popular BBC TV children's programme, Blue Peter, launched a three-month appeal for Malawi. It is expected that substantial funds will be raised to support UNICEF programmes for children orphaned and affected by HIV and AIDS.

In 2006 alone the UNICEF country office in Malawi hosted or co-hosted the visits of nine National Committees, seven film crews, six high-level delegations and a Canadian philanthropist. Timely engagement with the media played an important role in putting the spotlight on Malawi's children and women.

## PROGRAMME COMMUNICATION

Programme communication seeks to influence positive behaviours that lead to improved health, nutrition, literacy, social services, income and family and community wellbeing. UNICEF has a long tradition in development communication, and applies an array of communication approaches, ranging from community mobilisation to interpersonal communication.

In Malawi, UNICEF supported partners in 2006 to develop communication strategies for a range of development priorities. The Health Education Unit at the Ministry of Health and the Story Workshop Education Trust (SWET) were provided with technical assistance to come up with a communication strategy for PMTCT. This was followed by a national consultation workshop to prepare an implementation plan for the strategy.

UNICEF also supported the development of the National Communication Strategy on Avian and Pandemic Influenza (API) together with the Ministry of Information and Tourism, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, Ministry of Health, NGOs and UN agencies. A campaign on API is planned for 2007 using new and innovative activities such as media orientation, behaviour mapping and production of information material.

## FUTURE PRIORITIES

In 2007, UNICEF and the Government of Malawi will prioritise:

- **Advocacy for policy and legislation to ensure the rights of children are realised, including the passage of the Registration Bill and other bills pending in Parliament.**
- **Building the capacity of the media to support advocacy initiatives and programme communication strategies.**



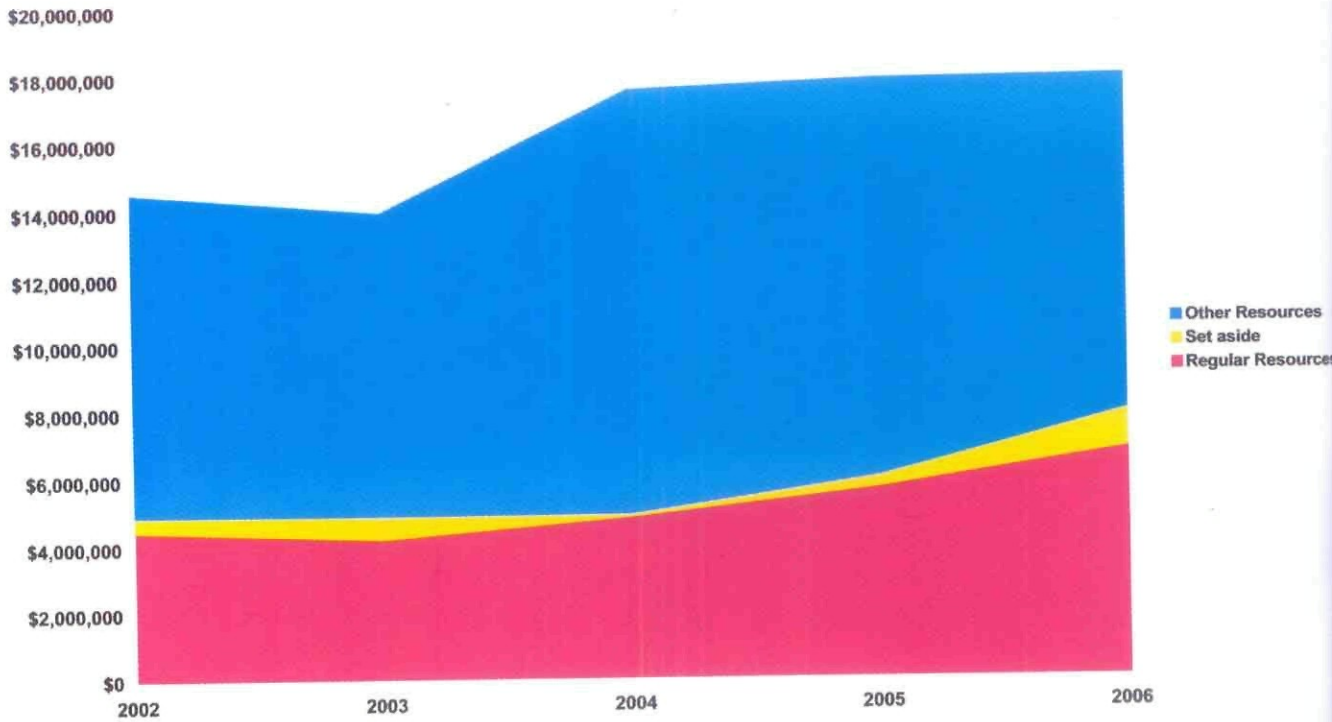


- Localising the global campaign on Children and AIDS to ensure key messages are readily available to the Malawi public.
- Dissemination of MICS results to a wide range of stakeholders, and uploading the data to MASEDA. The use of MASEDA will be promoted through training and awareness raising workshops.

PARTNERS Capital Radio, FM 101, Health Education Unit at the Ministry of Health, Joy Radio, Malawi Broadcasting Cooperation, Ministry of Economic Planning and Development, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Information and Tourism, National Media Institute of Southern Africa (Malawi chapter), National Statistical Office, Parliamentarians, Story Workshop Education Trust, The Courier, The Daily Times, The Democratas, The Dispatch, The Guardian, The Nation, Transworld Radio, TV Malawi, Zodiac Radio,

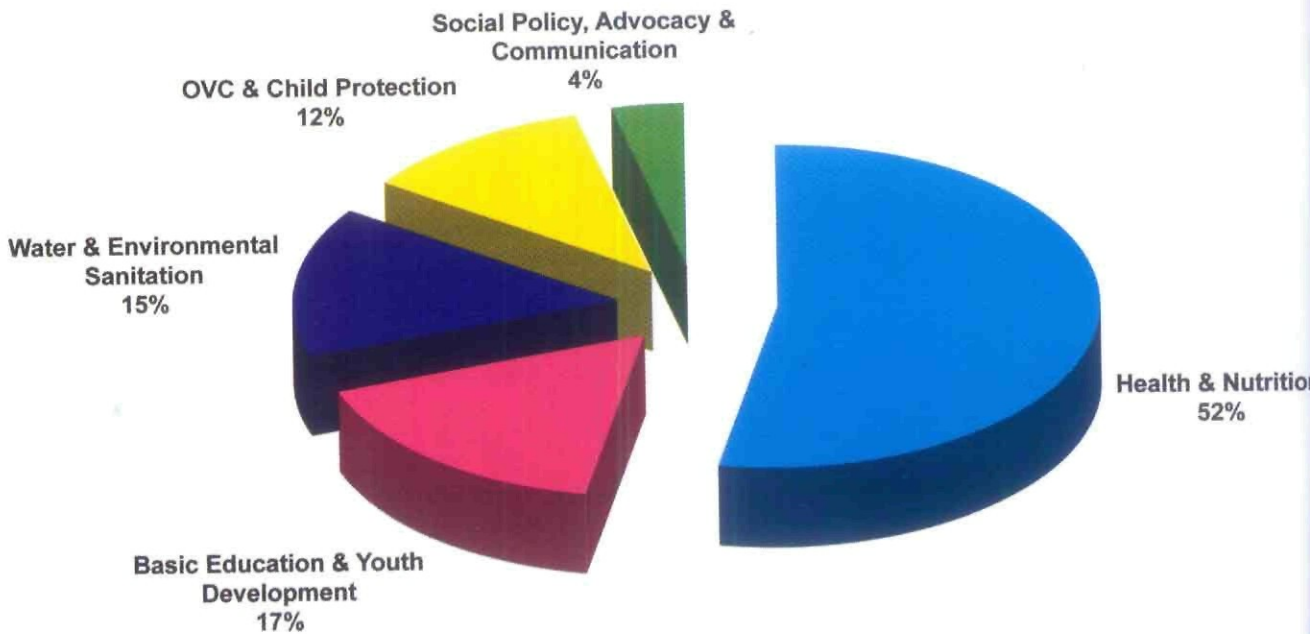


## INCOME TO UNICEF, 2002 – 2006



## PROGRAMME BUDGET, 2006

TOTAL: US\$ 34,642,421





## THEMATIC CONTRIBUTIONS, 2006

THEMATIC FUNDS	AMOUNT (US\$)
Global - Girls Education	984,802.43
Global - Immunisation Plus	1,633,155.16
Global - HIV and AIDS	19,874.65
Global - Early Childhood Development	200,000.00
Basic Education and Gender Equality	53,831.30
Young Child Survival and Development	250,000.00
HIV and AIDS and Children	112,065.44
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,253,728.98</b>

## TOTAL FUNDS RECEIVED BY GOVERNMENTS, 2006

GOVERNMENTS	AMOUNT US\$
Australia (AusAID)	359,272.30
Canada (CIDA)	560,137.62
Netherlands	252,141.40
Norway	1,583,012.96
OPEC Fund	246,366.11
UNAIDS Geneva	186,900.00
UNDP - USA Administrative Services Section	259,643.30
USA (USAID)	1,251,771.45
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,699,245.14</b>

## TOTAL FUNDS RECEIVED BY NATIONAL COMMITTEES, 2006

NATIONAL COMMITTEE	AMOUNT US\$
Austrian Committee for UNICEF	5,982.54
Canadian Committee for UNICEF	306,999.21
Consolidated Funds from NatComs	97,957.66
French Committee for UNICEF	492,305.24
German Committee for UNICEF	1,668,150.90
Italian Committee for UNICEF	278,383.53
Japan Committee for UNICEF	93,433.42
Swedish Committee for UNICEF	324,789.07
Swiss Committee for UNICEF	1,110,399.45
United Kingdom Committee for UNICEF	1,362,182.96
United States Fund for UNICEF	460,409.67
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,200,993.65</b>





### CONTRIBUTIONS AGAINST THE EMERGENCY APPEAL 2005/20006

PROGRAMME	AMOUNT (US\$)
Health & Nutrition	7,082,736.39
Orphans & Vulnerable Children & Child Protection	400,000.00
Basic Education & Youth Development	802,883.28
Water & Environmental Sanitation	1,604,488.18
Cross-Sectoral Costs	2,519,957.38
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,410,065.24</b>

### REGULAR RESOURCES & SET ASIDE FUNDS, 2006

PROGRAMME	AMOUNT (US\$)
Regular Resources	6,834,078.90
Set aside Funds	1,382,547.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,216,625.90</b>





## ACROYNMS

<b>ACSD</b>	Accelerated Child Survival and Development
<b>ARV</b>	Antiretroviral
<b>ART</b>	Antiretroviral Therapy
<b>CEDAW</b>	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
<b>CRC</b>	Convention on the Rights of the Child
<b>CTC</b>	Community Therapeutic Care
<b>ECD</b>	Early childhood development
<b>EMIS</b>	Education Information Management System
<b>DIFD</b>	UK Department for International Development
<b>GTZ</b>	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit
<b>ITN</b>	Insecticide-treated net
<b>MASEDA</b>	Malawi Social Economic Database
<b>MDG</b>	Millennium Development Goal
<b>MGDS</b>	Malawi Growth and Development Strategy
<b>MICS</b>	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
<b>NRU</b>	Nutritional Rehabilitation Unit
<b>PMTCT</b>	Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission
<b>RED</b>	Reach Every District
<b>TB</b>	Tuberculosis
<b>UNFPA</b>	United Nations Population Fund
<b>UNDAF</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organisation
<b>WFP</b>	World Food Programme
<b>YFHS</b>	Youth Friendly Health Services



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