

Malawi

This factsheet provides an overview of economic inclusion programs in Malawi. Economic inclusion programs are a bundle of coordinated, multidimensional interventions that support individuals, households, and communities in raising their incomes and building their assets. The data used for this factsheet comes from the Partnership for Economic Inclusion's Landscape Survey 2023.

COUNTRY FACTS

Region	Population	Income Group	FCV country (WB FY24 list)
Sub-Saharan Africa	19.89 million	Low income	No

Poverty Headcount (share of population below the poverty line)

National Poverty Line	Multidimensional Poverty Index	\$2.15/day (2017 PPP)
50.70%	49.88%	70.10%

PROGRAMS

Number of economic inclusion programs

12

Institutional delivery (lead agency)

12

■ Nongovernment-led ■ Government-led

Geographic area

10

■ Rural only ■ Urban/peri ■ Mix (urban & rural)

2

PARTICIPANTS

Number of participants

427,522

Number of people benefiting

1.88 million

Participants served by government-led programs (%)

MAIN PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Wage employment

Self-employment

Income diversification

Productivity

Food security

Market access

Women's empowerment

Social inclusion

Social cohesion

Financial inclusion

Social services

Climate resilience

■ More than 2/3 of programs

■ Between 1/3 and less than 2/3 of programs

■ Fewer than 1/3 of programs

PARTICIPANT PROFILE

Targeted Poverty Segments

Poor

Extreme poor

Ultra-poor

Those above the poverty line

Doesn't target by poverty level

Targeted Population Groups

Women

Children

Youth

Older people

Persons with disabilities

Displacement-affected

Climate-affected

Marginalized

Conflict-affected

■ More than 2/3 of programs

■ Between 1/3 and less than 2/3 of programs

■ Fewer than 1/3 of programs

CORE PROGRAM COMPONENTS



TRANSFER



BUSINESS CAPITAL



WAGE EMPLOYMENT FACILITATION



SKILLS TRAINING



COACHING



FINANCIAL SERVICES FACILITATION



MARKET LINKS



CLIMATE RESILIENCE SUPPORT

ECONOMIC INCLUSION PROGRAMS SURVEYED

Program Name	Year program began	Lead Agencies	Program Description	No. of Current Participants	% Female Participants	Poverty Targeting	Digital
Strengthening Capacity of Religious Women in Early Childhood Development (SCORE ECD)	2014	Association of Sisterhoods of Kenya, Zambian Association of Sisterhoods, Association of Women Religious in Malawi, and Association of Consecrated Women in Eastern and Central Africa	The program supports women with children aged 0-3 by providing nurturing care and family strengthening services, and strengthening caregiver capacity, service delivery and partner organizational capacity.	9,879	76-99% of participants	Targets poor broadly	Yes
Graduation of Families from Dependence to Dignity	2019	World Relief	The program aims to graduate rural households from the Government Social Cash Transfer Program to sustainable livelihoods through strategies including improved household decision making, household coaching, seed capital distribution, linkages to financial institutions, financial literacy, business management, and nutrition-sensitive agriculture.	2,500	26-50% of participants	Targets XP/UP only	Yes
Improving Self-reliance and Livelihoods for People of Concern and Host Communities	2019	Churches Action in Relief and Development (CARD)	The project aims to enhance self-reliance for both refugees and host communities, providing them with consumption support, skills training, financial access, start-up inputs, and coaching.	863	51-75% of participants	Targets XP/UP only	Yes
Integrated Support for Orphans, Vulnerable Children and Youth Project	2020	Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	The program supports participants through consumption support, livelihoods support, inclusion in microfinance institutions and savings groups, and bundled positive messaging.	4,000	51-75% of participants	Targets XP/UP only	Yes
Social Support for Resilient Livelihoods Project	2020	Community Savings and Investment Promotion (COMSIP) Cooperative Union Limited	The project aims to build the capacity of beneficiaries of social cash transfers and public works programs to sustainably improve their livelihoods, build resilience, and graduate out of poverty.	345,742	51-75% of participants	Targets XP/UP only	Yes
Raising Assets and Income for a Sustainable Environment (RAISE) Project	2021	Concern Worldwide	The program aims to increase food and nutrition security for vulnerable households and enhance resilience to food shocks to chronic and acute food insecure populations in the districts of Chikwawa, Mwanza, Neno and Nsanje.	62,974	51-75% of participants	Targets poor broadly	Yes
Resilient Economic Development (RED) Gains Project	2019	Save the Children	The project aims to improve child well-being by targeting households with out-of-school youth, children under five, and women of child-bearing age, aiming to ensure resilient livelihoods that enable year-round expenditure on children, improved food and nutrition security, and preparedness for shocks.	2,250	51-75% of participants	Targets poor broadly	Yes
Titukulane Resilience Food Security Activity	2019	CARE	The project aims to support the implementation and effectiveness of Malawi's National Resilience Strategy, focusing on sustainable, equitable, and resilient food and nutrition security for ultra-poor and chronically vulnerable households in Mangochi and Zomba Districts.		51-75% of participants	Targets poor broadly	Yes
Usiwa Watha Ultra-Poor Graduation Program	2021	Opportunity International Malawi	The program follows BRAC's ultra-poor graduation approach, which aims to create resilient and sustainable pathways out of extreme poverty for ultra-poor households.	320	76-99% of participants	Targets XP/UP only	No

Program Name	Year program began	Lead Agencies	Program Description	No. of Current Participants	% Female Participants	Poverty Targeting	Digital
Yamba Malawi FARMSE project in Chikwawa, Nsanje, and Phalombe Districts	2023	Yamba Malawi	The program provides training and coaching in entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and parenting, along with business capital transfers, to current beneficiaries of a social cash transfer program who care for young children.	2,500	51-75% of participants	Targets poor broadly	Yes
Yamba Malawi's Childhoods & Livelihoods Program	2017	Yamba Malawi	The program is a child-focused poverty graduation initiative that operates at the household and community-wide levels to improve early childhood development outcomes by empowering caregivers.	815	76-99% of participants	Targets XP/UP only	Yes
Zoe Empowers	2013	Zoe Ministry Malawi	The program empowers orphaned children and vulnerable youth to overcome poverty through a family-based and peer-led program that promotes safety, health, and skills for long-term success.	5,558	51-75% of participants	Targets XP/UP only	Yes

Only programs that have given their consent to share their program data are included in this table



The Partnership for Economic Inclusion (PEI) is a global platform that unites non-governmental organizations, UN agencies, research institutions, funding partners, and the World Bank to support government adoption and scale up of economic inclusion programs that empower vulnerable people to lift themselves out of extreme poverty.

DNA: Does Not Apply; FY: Fiscal Year; FCV: Fragility, Conflict, and Violence; MPI: Multidimensional Poverty Index; NPL: National Poverty Line; N/A: Not available; WB: World Bank