

KUFUNGATILA

(Providing Wings of Comfort)



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*NOVOC exists to promote,
assist and empower
individuals and organisations
involved with the care and
support of orphans and
vulnerable children so as to
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and thereby improve their
quality of life.*

INTRODUCTION: NOVOC

NOVOC is the Network of Organizations of Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Malawi.

We envision a world where Malawi OVC population are provided with adequate holistic support and care to effectively integrate them into the economically productive segment of the population. We exist to promote, assist, and empower individuals and organizations involved with the care and support of orphans and vulnerable children so as to create and increase services and thereby improve their quality of life.

OUR FOCUS

- ➔ To increase coordination, collaboration and communication amongst stakeholders through regular and open communication.
- ➔ To facilitate the sharing of information, materials, programs and other resources among OVC stakeholders and service providers to help OVC's reach their utmost potential.
- ➔ To advocate for effective policies and practices in the care of OVC's and their access to essential services..
- ➔ To build the organizational and technical capacity of OVC service providers (CBO/FBO, NGO's).
- ➔ To mobilize resources for the Network members and OVCs.



Malawi has over 1,000,000 orphans (UNICEF, 2005) and faces a huge challenge in responding to the increasing number of Orphans and Vulnerable Children. NOVOC needs your assistance in providing care to these children country wide.

IMPORTANT HIGHLIGHTS

1. Education support for OVC in Nsanje

The year 2010 ended on a good note with NOVOC receiving a funding commitment from the Chello Foundation of £357, 283 for OVC Education Support for a period of four years. This funding will provide support for tuition, scholastic materials, uniform and a small family support fund to the very disadvantaged households. Nsanje has 126, 817 children and 36% of these are orphans. A total of 267 children will be targeted for Primary, Secondary and Technical training in Nsanje district. Nsanje is one of the poorest districts and has an HIV prevalence rate of 14%. Most children who drop out of school in Nsanje end up on streets, while others are victims of early marriages, child labor and suffer absolute poverty in their communities.



Laston a primary school child with education materials received from NOVOC

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF OVC HOUSEHOLDS IN SALIMA AND CHITIPA



Homestead in Kasungu receiving farm inputs



Homestead in Salima posing for a photo with their goats

For more information on how to get involved visit NOVOC website (www.novocmalawi.org).

To provide caregivers with an opportunity to access income for meeting basic needs, we need your help.

IMPORTANT HIGHLIGHTS

2. Economic empowerment of OVC Households in Salima and Chitipa.

NOVOC is building the capacity of 10 CBOs to implement the Village Savings and Loans Association in Salima and Chitipa. Currently a total of MK28,622,246 (USD 188, 304) has been raised and is circulating amongst 2,927 OVC caregivers. This translates into a total of 7, 272 OVC being cared for. This money provides caregivers with an opportunity to access income for meeting basic needs of food, medical care, shelter and scholastic materials for their children. Additionally some caregivers have been able to protect and acquire assets (e.g. livestock and houses) loan to produce more foods for the households.

43 members who benefited from this programme managed to harvest more than 20 bags 50 kgs each and have given back 2 bags to the CBO which will be used for community OVC bursary support.



➔ Mrs. Lucia Mphunga (40 years) from Salima-Chitala CBO, she is a widow and is taking care of 3 orphans. Through VSLA she is paying school fees for her daughter Happy Magombo who is in form three; she has bought four goats and she hires

other people to farm for her. And according to the wealth ranking of the district (refer to the Social mapping report), she is in the rich category of the community because due to the results of the findings she has 5 goats, 1 chicken, 1 duck; she has plates, mats, South African blankets; she lives in a brick walled grass thatched house, eats 3 meals per day; she harvested 27 bags of maize of 50 Kgs last year; she cultivates 3.5 acres of farm land and hires people for ganyu (piece work) in her farm.



➔ Lonesi Austin (50 years) is married and has three dependants. Through the VSLA, she managed to buy two bags of fertilizer and is paying school fees for her daughter Tazona Austin who is in form two. In addition she bought two goats and has been able to take care of her daily households basic needs. She is also in the rich category because she has 10 goats, 13 pigs and 2 chickens; she lives in an iron roofed brick walled house; she has a radio, table, sofa set, beds, kitchen utensils and blankets; she eats times per day and harvested 24 bags of maize of 50 Kgs last year. She cultivates 3.5 acres of farm land and hires other labourers to do the farming.

IMPORTANT HIGHLIGHTS



→ Mary Bailosi (46 years) is married and looks after 7 dependants and 2 OVCs. She has been a member of the VSLA for 11 months, and during this period, she has managed to buy two bags of fertilizer, paid school fees for two secondary school children i.e. Martha Bailosi form one and Fikitsani Bailosi also in form one. She has managed to build a brick walled grass thatched house and been able to meet her daily household basic needs. She has 8 goats, plates, radio, bicycle, mats and blankets; she eats 3 meals per day and harvested 24 bags of maize last year. She cultivates 3 acres of farm land and hires other people to do ganyu in her field.

→ The CBO in Twauka, out of the VSLA profits, have managed to pay fees for 7 students for 2010 and 2011 academic year.



→ Edika Chilongo has been able to engage herself in Crop production and bought fertilizer farm inputs out of VSLA saving.



→ Mr. and Mrs. Karagho, VSLA members from Twauka CBO in Chitipa built a house out of their savings.



→ Pigs' farming was one of the Projects, members of the VSLA groups have embarked on in order to increase assets and have access to income generating activities.

IMPORTANT HIGHLIGHTS



3. End of “Project PSS”

Project PSS which has run for 3 years comes to an end on 30 December 2010. This project, which was funded by STOP AIDS NOW! (SAN!) aimed at scaling up psychosocial support services for orphans and vulnerable children in Malawi through Linking and Learning. The project was being implemented by NOVOC as a lead organization and other SAN! Malawi partners Youth Net and Counseling, Eye of the Child and Ecumenical Counseling Center.

Some of the achievements registered include:

- ➔ Production of the PSS Source Book.
- ➔ Production of a documentary for lobbying and advocacy.
- ➔ A PSS mainstreaming strategy.

The SAN! partners expressed continued commitment to create a forum and opportunities for linking and learning.

4. Advocacy and Networking

NOVOC with support from VSO developed an advocacy toolkit, which will support the grass root organizations to advocate for a waiver of user fees on OVC in Malawi public primary schools. A total of 10 CBOs have been trained on how to use the toolkit.

To view the toolkit refer to www.novocmalawi.org under advocacy section.

5. Exchange visit

In an effort to strengthen the social cash transfer programme in Malawi, Mr. Joshua Ainabyona (Programme Manager) of NOVOC and Mr. Chunga (District Social Welfare Officer) of Chitipa District Assembly participated in the study tour to Bangladesh. The tour aimed at learning from the Bangladesh Organization’s (BRAC and Grameen Bank) poverty reduction strategies targeting the ultra poor households, having a shared understanding and learning on how the ultra-poor programmes activities by BRAC and Grameen were organized at community levels.

6. OVC Conference in South Africa

NOVOC participated in the 1st OVC in Africa conference held from 31 October to 3rd November 2010 at the Sandton Convention Centre in Johannesburg in South Africa. The theme of the conference was “There is no excuse for one to turn a blind eye on OVCs.”

Please refer to www.novocmalawi.org

OUR PARTNERS

→ Stop Aids Now! (SAN) and NOVOC are partnering in a Psychosocial Support project that seeks to scale up Psychosocial Support Services for OVC in Malawi through Linking and Learning. SAN through NOVOC is also strengthening the Social Cash Transfer Scheme (SCT) in Chitipa district. A whole new project that tries to strengthen the Social Cash Transfer Scheme in Malawi. The project is implemented hand-in-hand with district and national government, the implementers of the SCT scheme.

→ Cordaid and NOVOC from 2009 to 2011 has been implementing a project on women empowerment to support OVCs in Malawi.

→ Raising Malawi Trust: NOVOC with financial support from Raising Trust is implementing a Strengthening CBO/FBOs Capacity for OVC care and support. The overall goal of this project is to improve the quality of life of 4,000 OVC through strengthening community level initiatives by 2010.

→ Unicef and NOVOC developed a project on strengthening the capacity of service providers in rolling out the Journey of Life to improve psychosocial support projects.

→ Oxfam: Joint Oxfam Programme in Malawi and NOVOC want to achieve improved sustainable livelihoods for poor and vulnerable groups in the context of HIV/AIDS by 2011. They have been supporting the NOVOC advocacy project on increased access to quality education by OVCs.

→ World Vision entered in an agreement with NOVOC to carry out a three-year project from 2009 to March 2011 on increased capacity of stakeholders (CBO, FBOs, NGOs and government) to effectively provide holistic care (psychosocial support, care and protection) to orphans and vulnerable children.

→ Volunteer Service Organization Oversees: VSO and NOVOC from 2009 to 2010 have been implementing a project on women's empowerment to support OVCs in Malawi.



JOIN US

ABOUT THE MEMBERSHIP

NOVOC offers the opportunities to interested people and institutions to register as members of the organization and participate in the noble cause of ensuring that the rights and welfare of children are upheld.

Membership fee:

International	MWK 10,000
Local	MWK 5,000
CBO	MWK 2,000

Fill in the membership form and send it to NOVOC Malawi together with your subscription fee as per the type of membership applied for.

Let us come together in the advocacy for child rights and welfare for betterment of the future of our children.

Join us by registering as a member!
www.novocmalawi.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

A full pilot project called Fountain of Life has been developed and submitted for funding.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- ➔ Identifying and enrolling needy students from Nsanje with support from Chello foundation.
- ➔ Monitoring of Raising Trust and Cordaid Projects.
- ➔ Advocacy training in Nsanje.

NOVOC AT A GLANCE

New Staff

A new employee Kelvin Sanyila joined NOVOC family in December 2010 as a Finance Assistant. Was working with Paper and communication Limited before joining NOVOC. Currently pursuing an ACCA professional qualification at Malawi College of Accountancy.



CONTACT US

NOVOC

PO Box 1266
Lilongwe
Malawi, Central Africa

Phone

+ 265 1 920 013
or + 265 99 9252720
(National Coordinator)

Email

info@novocmalawi.org

Web

www.novocmalawi.org

Newsletter Design

Vuong Tong and Daniela Kriva

