



NGO REGULATORY AUTHORITY



2024 NGO Sector Report

5th Edition



Lilongwe, Malawi, Behind
Lingadzi Inn, Next to MASM
Clinic



www.ngora.mw
www.myngo.mw



registrar@ngora.mw



+265 177 0011
+265 881 775 880
+265 987 749 880

About the Regulator

The Non-Governmental Organization Regulatory Authority (NGORA), is a statutory corporation mandated to register and regulate operations of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Malawi. The statutory areas of focus are; (i) promoting the development of a strong independent civil society in Malawi that inspires public and donor confidence; (ii) enhancing collaboration between the Government and NGOs in furtherance of public benefit; and (iii) ensuring transparency and accountability of the NGO sector.

NGORA is governed by an independent Board of Directors drawn from various professional bodies. It reports to Parliament through the line Ministry of Gender Community Development and Social Welfare (MoGCDSW).



Vision

An NGO sector that maximizes public benefit.



Mission

Delivering Sustainable Development through NGO Sector Regulation.



Foreword

It is with immense pride and a deep sense of responsibility that we present the 2024 NGO Sector Report. This comprehensive report provides a detailed analysis of key indicators derived from the annual reports submitted by NGOs, illustrating these organization's vital role in complementing the government's development efforts.



Throughout the year, the NGO Regulatory Authority (NGORA) has meticulously gathered and analyzed data from 498 NGOs, focusing on critical areas such as finance, funding sources, employment trends, sectoral preferences, and the alignment of NGO interventions with Malawi 2063 (MW2063) in the 2022/23 financial year. This report stands as a testament to the dedication and commitment of the NGO sector to Malawi's development journey.

Within these pages, you will find valuable insights into the financial health of NGOs, the sources of funding that sustain their vital work, and how their initiatives align with the long-term national goals outlined in MW2063. The report also probes into employment trends within the sector, preferred areas of implementation, and the challenges NGOs face in executing their programs. Additionally, it offers critical insights that can inform policy directions to support the growth and effectiveness of the sector.

The NGO sector is crucial to Malawi's efforts in building a just and equitable society. It is my hope that this report serves as an essential resource for stakeholders, policymakers, donors, and the public, fostering a deeper understanding of the sector's indispensable contributions.

I extend my deepest gratitude to the 498 NGOs that submitted their reports, making this report possible. My sincere appreciation also goes to the dedicated team behind the compilation of this report. I am optimistic about the future and confident that the continued efforts of NGOs will have a lasting and positive impact on our communities.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Semphere', with a green highlight behind the first part of the signature.

Dr. Nertha Semphere
Principal Secretary
Ministry of Gender, Community Development, and Social Welfare

Preface

The NGO Act mandates the NGO Regulatory Authority (NGORA) to ensure public access to information in respect of NGOs operating in Malawi. To fulfill this responsibility, NGORA consolidates critical data extracted from the annual reports submitted by NGOs and profiles these findings in the annual NGO Sector Report. This Report serves as a comprehensive analysis of the role NGOs play in complementing government-led development efforts.



The 2024 NGO Sector Report addresses the public demand for reliable information on NGO activities and provides the Government with the necessary insights to support informed decision-making. By offering a transparent view of NGO contributions, this Report also enables the public and donor community to better understand the impact of NGOs in driving development across the country, thereby fostering public trust and confidence in the sector.

Despite the significance of this information, compliance within the NGO sector remains a challenge. These challenges stem from inadequate NGO registrations, failure to submit reports, and delays in annual licensing renewal which hinder the ability of NGORA to fully capture the data pertaining to the NGO sector. However, NGORA has observed a consistent increase in the number of NGO registrations, report submissions, and license renewals over the past five years. Ongoing efforts are being implemented to further enhance compliance while creating a supportive environment for NGO growth and effective project implementation.

Hopefully, the insights provided in this Report will stimulate efforts toward evidence-based and informed policy-making by the Government and other stakeholders. This Report aims to be a catalyst for strategic planning and decision-making that supports sustainable development.

I would like to extend my profound gratitude to the Ministry of Gender, Community Development and Social Welfare and the Board of Directors for their support in developing this Report. I also appreciate the dedicated efforts of NGORA's Management and staff, who have worked diligently to produce this Report. Lastly, my deepest thanks go to the NGOs that submitted their reports on time and to all those who contributed to the successful development of this Report.

Mrs. Innocentia Ottober
Board Chairperson
NGO Regulatory Authority

Definitions

1. Capacity Building

Capacity building refers to actions that improve an NGO's effectiveness or enhance its ability to work towards its mission. Capacity-building efforts can include a broad range of approaches, e.g., financial support, training and supporting collaboration with other NGOs.

2. Exempted NGO

An NGO is exempted from the provisions of the NGO Act under Section 5.

3. International NGO

An institution or organization for public benefit purposes, established under the laws of a country other than Malawi or established under a treaty or convention and conducting some or all its activities in Malawi.

4. NGO

Non-Governmental Organizations are constituted for public benefit purposes to which the provision of the NGO Act is applicable.

5. NGO Regulatory Authority

The Regulator for all NGOs operating in Malawi, established under Section 6 of the NGO Act (Cap. 5:05 of the Laws of Malawi).

6. Public Benefit Purpose

Organizational purposes involving developmental and charitable purposes including but not limited to, education, health, welfare, advocacy, cultural, civic, social, recreational, scientific, environmental, or other similar objects for the benefit of the public. Excluded are activities involving a church or religion, trade union, employer's organization, or political party

7. Sectors

Related NGO activities are usually grouped based on thematic relationships referred to as sectors.

8. Service Provision

In service provision, NGOs work towards improving quality of life by ensuring access to basic services like education, shelter, water, health, food etc.

Abbreviations and Acronyms

CONGOMA	Council for Non-Governmental Organizations in Malawi
DDP	District Development Plans
DPs	Development Partners
FY	Financial Year
GoM	Government of Malawi (GoM)
INGO	International Non Governmental Organization
LGA	Local Government Authority
LNGO	Local Non Governmental Organization
MDA	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MIP1	Mw 2063 Ten Year Implementation Plan
MoGCDSW	Ministry of Gender, Community Development and Social Welfare
MoLGUC	Ministry of Local Government and Unity and Culture
Mw 2063	Malawi 2063
Mwk	Malawi Kwacha
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
NGORA	Non Governmental Organization Regulatory Authority
RBM	Reserve Bank of Malawi
US \$	United States dollars

Executive Summary

The 2024 NGO Sector Report provides a comprehensive overview of NGORA's key strategic areas, focusing on its efforts to promote a strong, independent civil society, enhance collaboration with government, and ensure transparency and accountability in the NGO Sector. It also presents key indicators drawn from the annual reports of 498 NGOs that submitted their data in 2024, offering a comprehensive overview of the sector's performance for the 2022/23 financial year. The report aims to provide the public with reliable and transparent NGO data, ultimately enhancing trust among donors and the wider public.

In the year under review, the NGO Regulatory Authority registered 148 new NGOs, marking a significant 92% increase compared to 77 registrations in 2023. By 30th September 2024, NGORA's registry had a cumulative total of 1,087 NGOs. Of these, 26 were reported closed, and 102 were newly registered, leaving 959 NGOs expected to submit their annual reports. Out of these, 498 organizations complied, contributing to the findings outlined in this report.

Financial data from audited reports revealed that the NGO sector received a total income of MWK 734 billion, with total expenditure amounting to MWK 726 billion. This represents a 25% increase in income compared to 2023. World Vision International received the highest funding, totaling MWK 63 billion, while the top 20 NGOs collectively accounted for MWK 424 billion. Notably, MWK 498 billion of the total income was received in foreign currency.

In terms of programmatic focus, a majority of 17% of the reported programs reported to have been Health-related, followed by Education, Research, and Development. Geographically, most NGOs are concentrated in the southern and central regions, implementing programs across in sectors of Health, Agriculture, Education, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Gender, Youth and Development, and Disaster, Risk Management. The sector also recorded a 7% increase in the number of jobs created for Malawian citizens from 21,273 in 2023 to 22,83 in 2024, with an average reported 25% increase in job creation for the past three years.

While the sector recorded several successes, challenges persist. Approximately 48% of NGOs failed to submit their reports, making it difficult to accurately assess the sector's contributions to national development. Additionally, many NGOs continue to struggle with aligning their interventions to the MW2063 agenda, and issues related to coordination, the effective functioning of sector players, and program monitoring remain areas for improvement.

Contents

Chapter One	10
Introduction	10
Scope	10
Objectives	11
Methodology	11
Limitations	11
Chapter Two	12
2023 Key Highlights	12
Key Interventions	12
Chapter Three	15
NGO Compliance	15
NGO Registration	15
NGO Registration Type	16
Closed NGOs	16
Exempted NGOs	16
Unregistered NGOs	16
Report Submission	17
NGO Licensing	17
Efforts to Improve Compliance	18
Chapter Four	18
NGO Sector’s Revenue	18
Income and Expenditure	18
Highest and Least Funded NGOs	19
Source of Funding	23
Forex	24
Chapter Five	25
Sectors of Operation and Utilization of Funds Towards National Development	25
Sectors of Operation	25
Spatial Distribution of NGOs by Sectors	26
Income Distribution per Sector	27
Key Sector Players	28
Targeted Groups	30
Sector’s Contribution Towards Employment	31
Chapter Six	33
Alignment of NGO Interventions to Malawi 2063	33

Financial Resources Allocation towards the Pillar Enablers	34
Chapter Seven.....	36
Key Findings and Recommendations.....	36
Summary of Key Findings.....	36
Summary of Key Recommendations.....	37
Conclusion.....	38

List of Figures

Figure 1: NGO Registration trend since 2019.....	15
Figure 2: NGO Sector's annual report submission trend and report submission increase change since 2019	17
Figure 3: Annual Income and Expenditure Trend Since 2020	19
Figure 4: Summary of Key sectors of implementation by active NGOs.....	26
Figure 5: Maps depicting the spatial distribution of NGOs amongst the six key sector across the country	27
Figure 6: Summary of the Key targeted populations.....	31
Figure 7: Project alignment to MIP-1 Pillar Enablers.....	34

List of Tables

Table 1: Annual Income and Expenditure for top 20 NGOs	21
Table 2: Annual Income and Expenditure for Least Funded NGOs	22
Table 3: Summary of key sources of funding.....	23
Table 4: Summary of financial distribution per sector	28
Table 5: Distribution of income and expenditure among key players per sector	29

Chapter One

Introduction

The NGO Sector plays a critical role in the development of a country by complementing the government's efforts towards the realization of MW2063 through services provision, advocating for social change, and promoting sustainable development. The sector fills the void left by government and private sectors, particularly in Health, Education, Agriculture, Water, and Sanitation, disaster relief just to mention a few. Apart from service delivery, the sector has been the voice of the underrepresented, advocating for policy changes and reforms that promote human rights while at the same time building the capacity of communities through trainings, provision of resources, and support that enhances economic development.

Over the past few years, the NGO sector in Malawi has experienced significant growth, with an increase in the number of NGOs operating in various sectors. Between 2021 and 2023, the number of registered NGOs rose by an average of 26%, partly due to the heightened focus on sustainable development goals and Malawi's strategic vision outlined in MW2063. In terms of funding trends, an average 27% increase has been recorded in the past three years with international donor support remaining the key source of financing.

Before the enactment of the NGO Act 2001, NGOs were given free space to operate with limited regulation and monitoring from the Government which resulted in, among others, duplication of efforts, misalignment to government prioritized agenda, concentration of NGO activities in one area and even lack of transparency, and accountability for their programming and financing.

In the spirit of bringing order, the Government, through the NGO Act, 2001 (Cap. 5:05 of the laws of Malawi), established The Non-Governmental Regulatory Authority (NGORA) whose mandate was aimed at registering and regulating the operations of NGOs in Malawi. The NGO Act provides for all NGOs registered with NGORA to submit annual reports to ensure accountability and compliance with the law. The regulatory framework ensures that NGOs operate in a manner consistent with national development priorities.

Based on the submitted reports, NGORA publishes an Annual Sector Report which profiles the key interventions, financial resources, key challenges, and recommendations by the NGOs extracted from the submitted report to help the government make informed decisions on issues related to NGO work and help promote trust among the public and the donor community in the Sector.

Scope

The 2024 NGO Sector Report provides a summary of the sector's growth (in numbers and funding), compliance with the NGO Law (Registration,

Reporting, and Licensing), expenditures and its contribution towards employment and service delivery. The information contained in this report is based on the [2022/23 financial year (FY)] reports received from 498 NGOs who submitted their reports to NGORA in the year under review. The submitted reports were as follows;

1. Annual audited financial statement;
2. Annual technical report; and
3. Annual return form.

Objectives

The primary objective for developing this sector report was to provide stakeholders with quality, credible and reliable data pertaining to the operations of NGOs in Malawi. Specifically, the analysis was undertaken to achieve the following;

1. Assess the growth of the NGO sector in Malawi;
2. Respond to stakeholder demand for NGO data; and
3. Assess the sector's contribution to the national development agenda.

Methodology

The report consolidated information extracted from the annual returns received from 498 NGOs. The income and expenditure figures were extracted from the audited financial statements. Other information such as sectors of engagement and employees were obtained from the technical reports and annual return forms respectively. Information on intervention alignment to MW2063 was obtained from the NGOs separately.

Limitations

The major limitation in the development of this report was the failure to profile the sector's contribution in line with the MW2063 which was highly due to low response to the NGORA's request for extra information by the NGOs. The fact that only 498 NGOs out of the expected 960 indicates a gap in the profiling of the actual contribution of the NGOs. Other limitations include;

1. Inadequate sector-based segregated data;
2. Inadequate district-based expenditure data to assess the sector's investments at the district level; and
3. Capacity in the sector poses a challenge to compliance with the NGO law.

Chapter Two

2023 Key Highlights

In 2023, the NGO Regulatory Authority (NGORA) made significant strides in enhancing the regulatory environment for non-governmental organizations in Malawi. Through a series of strategic initiatives, NGORA strengthened its oversight functions, promoted compliance, and stakeholder engagement initiatives, and supported capacity-building efforts within the sector. This chapter will focus on the key interventions implemented by the Authority in the year, key achievements, and challenges faced.

Key Interventions

In the year under review, NGORA ensured that its actions were directly linked to its strategic objectives of fostering a robust, transparent, and impactful NGO sector. These interventions reinforced organizational operations and supported the long-term development goals of Malawi. The following were the key notable interventions in the year under review;

Stakeholder Engagement:

In order to provide updates on issues related to the Sector's regulation, get input on the development of a capacity building program, NGORA has actively engaged with key stakeholders, including NGOs, MDAs, and development partners, through breakfast meetings held in the cities of Lilongwe, Blantyre, and Mzuzu. These meetings covered several critical topics including updates on draft regulations submitted to the Ministry of Justice, resource mobilization for the 2024 NGO Day, NGORA's planned activities for 2024/25, compliance with the NGO Act (licensing and registration), and discussions on the MK1 billion NGO fund and the NGO capacity gap assessment.

These engagements have strengthened NGORA's relationships with stakeholders, resulting in getting technical support through consultancy services for the capacity gap assessment from the British High Commissioner, increased license renewals, and NGO Registration.

Verification of NGO Reports:

To ensure the validity of NGO reports, NGORA conducted physical verifications in 2023, visiting project sites based on reports submitted in 2022. Due to financial constraints, six NGOs implementing interventions in different sectors and different districts across all the regions. Projects by the following NGOs were visited; Self-help Africa (Dowa, Dedza, and Mulanje), Good Neighbors International (Lilongwe and Kasungu), World Vision (Chitipa), Mulanje Mountain Conservation Trust (Mulanje), Beyond Our Hearts

Foundation (Neno), and Community Action for Sustainable Development (Neno).

During the visits, NGORA noted some positive takeaways which included; successful project implementation in hard-to-reach areas, community involvement in planning and execution, alignment with district priorities, and strong coordination with district officials. Additionally, Good Neighbors International and Mulanje Mountain Conservation Trust demonstrated sustainability by encompassing social enterprise projects in its operations that generate income apart from the funding from donors.

However, challenges were noted, such as community overreliance on NGO support, which risks project sustainability, poor alignment to district development plans (DDPs) and the absence of partnerships with local NGOs, potentially limiting long-term success.

District Council Technical Review Meetings:

NGORA, in collaboration with Ministry of Gender officials, held technical review meetings with district council representatives to identify key challenges affecting NGO program implementation, coordination and sustainability. Key district officials engaged in these discussions included the Director of Planning and Development, the District Community Development Officer, the District Gender Officer, the District Social Welfare Officer, and the NGORA District Service Centre Officer.

The meetings identified several barriers to progress in enhancing NGO operations, including inadequate coordination between NGORA, ministry departments, and council officials; absence of district development plans, hindering project alignment to development goals; lack of commitment to enforce MoU implementation; insufficient resources for monitoring NGO activities; and limited coordination meetings between District Councils and NGOs.

The 2023 NGO Day

On December 14, 2023, NGORA, in partnership with the Ministry of Gender and CONGOMA, hosted the inaugural NGO Day to showcase the contributions of NGOs to the public. The event, themed "A Strong and Vibrant NGO Sector: Towards Accelerated Implementation of SDGs and MW2063," was presided over by His Excellency President of the Republic of Malawi, Dr. Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera.

The President visited pavilions highlighting various NGO interventions and later launched the 2023 NGO Sector Report, summarizing the 2022 reports. That evening, he hosted a dinner at Kamuzu Palace, where the best-performing NGOs were recognized and awarded.

The 2023 NGO Accountability Conference

For the first time since 2019, NGORA hosted an NGO Accountability Conference from 28th to 29th September 2023 at Sunbird Nkopola Lodge in Mangochi. The conference, themed “21st Century Boardroom Dynamics: Repositioning the Accountability of NGOs,” focused on empowering NGO board members and executives in governance and management roles.

Officially opened by the Minister of Gender, Hon. Jean Sendeza, MP, the event featured two distinguished international facilitators, Ambassador M. Kapumba from Zambia and Dr. D. Magadlela from South Africa. The conference attracted 220 participants, including 167 NGO board members, 82 executive management personnel, and 53 other stakeholders, such as MDA officials and corporate partners.

NGO Compliance Enhancement

In the year under review, NGORA registered a total of 98 NGOs, a majority (19%) of which indicated to have planned to implement projects in Gender followed by Health and Education (both at 16%), surpassing its target of 60. Of these, 88 were local and 10 were international NGOs, marking a 46% increase compared to the 2021/22 fiscal year. By the end of the 2022/23 Fiscal Year NGORA's cumulative total registered NGOs stood at 1,025.

Regarding report submission, 432 of the targeted 706 active NGOs submitted reports, resulting in a 61% report submission rate, surpassing the 50% target and representing an 18% increase from 2022. On annual licensing, in the period under review, a total of 481 NGOs had a valid license out of the 832 expected NGOs.

Chapter Three

NGO Compliance

The NGO Act of 2001 provides the legal framework that sets out specific requirements for NGO compliance to ensure accountability, transparency, and proper governance of these organizations. The key aspects of compliance as outlined in the Act include; NGO Registration, Submission of annual reports, and Renewal of annual licenses by NGOs. This chapter discusses the key issues under NGO compliance and highlights key issues noted in the year under review in comparison with the previous years.

NGO Registration

Section 23 (1) of the 2022 NGO (Amendment) Act provides that an Organization shall not operate as an NGO unless it's registered under the Act. This implies that it is illegal for NGOs to operate in Malawi without being registered with NGORA. At the same time, the Act centralizes the registration process under one body, ensuring that NGOs are subject to uniform regulations and oversight.

From 1st July 2023 to the time the report was being developed (September, 2024) the Authority registered a total 148 NGOs of which 136 were local and 12 are International. Cumulatively, the Authority's registry has a total of 1,087 registered NGOs. Compared to 2023, the number of newly registered NGOs has increased by 92%. This is believed to be due to the constant engagement and the Authority has had with the Sector concerning registration and regulations that are currently being developed. Chart 1 provides a detailed comparison of NGO registration since 2019.

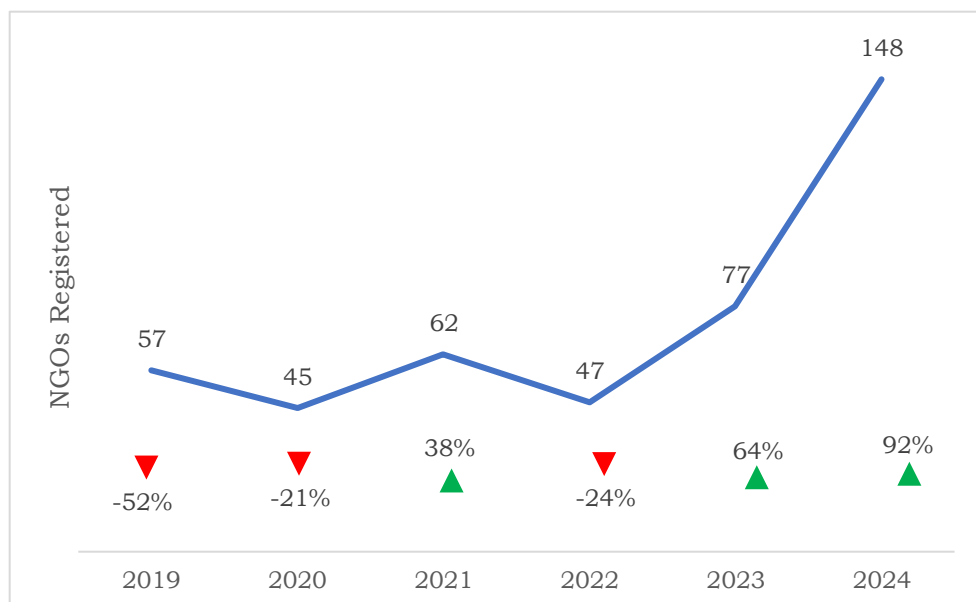


Figure 1: NGO Registration trend since 2019

NGO Registration Type

The NGO Act categorizes NGOs into two categories: International (Organizations for public benefit purposes established under the laws of a country other than Malawi) and Local. Of the 148 NGOs that were registered in the period under review, 136 were local and 12 were international. Cumulatively the total number of local and International NGOs in the Authority's registry are 872 and 215 respectively.

Closed NGOs

For the past 3 years, the Authority has received reports of NGOs ceasing to operate due to several reasons but mostly due to financial reasons. In the year under review, a follow up on NGOs that haven't had activities for more than two years was done to understand their current status. During the follow-up exercise, it was noted that a total of 14 NGOs had closed in 2024.

The activity also reviewed that there was a total of 12 other NGOs that were noted to have closed in 2022 and 2023 but never provided documentation to the Authority on their closure. These NGOs will be removed from the Authority's Registry.

Exempted NGOs

Section 5 of the principal Act mandates NGORA to exempt NGOs with the following characteristics from the provisions of the Act;

1. Informal, and does not have a written constitution;
2. Excluded, so that it belongs to a category of organizations deemed not to fall within the ambit of this Act;
3. Established, administered or controlled by or on behalf of the Government of Malawi or other Government; or
4. Specially exempted, so that the Authority has determined in its discretion that such organization is to be exempted from all or some of the requirements of the Act.

In the year under review, no NGO was granted an exemption certificate of any kind.

Unregistered NGOs

Though it is a requirement by the law for all NGOs to register with NGORA before they start operating in Malawi, there is still a significant number of NGOs that are operating illegally.

NGORA monitors the operations of all NGOs including those that are unregistered through District Service Centers and media outlets. To date, a total of 172 unregistered NGOs with active projects have been tracked across the country. Once tracked, the NGOs are sensitized to registration

requirements and guided on how they can register to make sure they operate in accordance with the law.

Report Submission

After registration, NGOs are required to submit their annual reports to NGORA as a way of being accountable to the Government and the public for the resources they acquire in the name of Malawians. The Act requires all registered NGOs six months after the end of their financial year to submit the following documents;

1. The Audited Financial Report;
2. The Annual Technical Report; and
3. The Annual Return Form.

In the year under review, NGORA expected to receive annual reports from 959 NGOs who had been implementing projects in the year under review while the other 26 had closed and 102 had just registered from January, 2024. A total of 498 of the expected 959 NGOs (52%) submitted their annual reports to the Authority as per the requirements of the NGO Act. The summary of report submission trends and the percentage increase change since 2019 is provided in Figure 2.

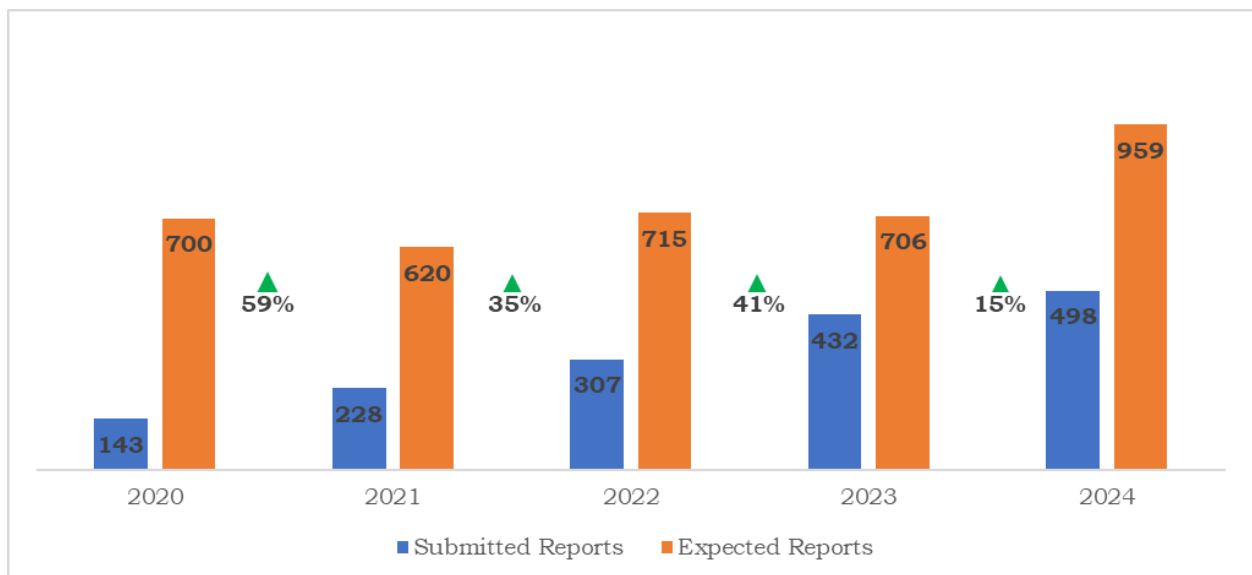


Figure 2: NGO Sector's annual report submission trend and report submission increase change since 2019

NGO Licensing

After registration, NGOs are required by the Act to renew their license on an annual basis. The renewal of licenses implies that the NGO was accountable as the license renewal fee is dependent on the NGO's previous Financial Year's annual income as outlined in the fees regulations 4 (2). In the current calendar year, a total of 604 NGOs of the expected 982 (62%) have renewed

their licenses. This represents a 26% increase from the 481 NGOs that had valid licenses in 2023.

Efforts to Improve Compliance

As per the NGO Act Requirements, an organization is required to register with NGORA to legally operate as an NGO in Malawi. Once registered, it is required to submit reports at the end of its financial year as part of being accountable for the resources received in the name of Malawians. Lastly, it is required to have a valid operational license.

As per the above sections, not all NGOs are complying with the provisions of the Act. To ensure compliance by the sector, NGORA engaged key service providers to NGOs including; the Malawi Revenue Authority (MRA), The Department of Immigration, and all District Councils through the Ministry of Local Government, Unity, and Culture and Commercial Banks to always ask for a valid license from NGOs before any service is rendered. The Authority will also impose penalties as prescribed in the regulations to all non-compliant NGOs as one way of enhancing sanity and improving compliance in the sector.

Chapter Four

NGO Sector's Revenue

The revenue landscape of the NGO sector in Malawi plays a crucial role in determining the sustainability and effectiveness of its operations. NGOs rely on a diverse array of funding sources, including donor contributions, government grants, private sector partnerships, and self-generated income, to carry out their mandates. Profiling the revenue streams within the sector offers valuable insights into the financial health, funding challenges, and growth opportunities. This section aims to analyze the key revenue trends, funding sources, and financial dynamics that shape the operations of NGOs in Malawi, providing a comprehensive understanding of how these organizations sustain their vital work in support of national development goals.

Income and Expenditure

Literature indicates that NGO funding is often directed towards program-specific initiatives, leaving limited flexibility for administrative or operational costs. On the expenditure side, NGOs in Malawi typically allocate their resources towards project implementation, staff salaries, community outreach, capacity-building activities, and compliance with regulatory requirements. The Authority faces a challenge in the proper profiling of the NGO expenditures as the data used for the development of this report is mainly extracted from Audited Financial reports which mainly indicate the total income and total expenditures.

In the year under review, the submitted financial statements indicated an annual income a total annual income of MK797 billion and an expenditure of MK789 billion. It should be noted that MK63 billion of the reported income was from partnerships amongst the NGOs, as such the amount was excluded from the total annual income to avoid concerns about double counting leaving the total income to MK734 billion (representing a 25% increase compared to the income reported in 2023). Figure 3 provides a summary of the sector’s annual income and expenditure trend since 2020.

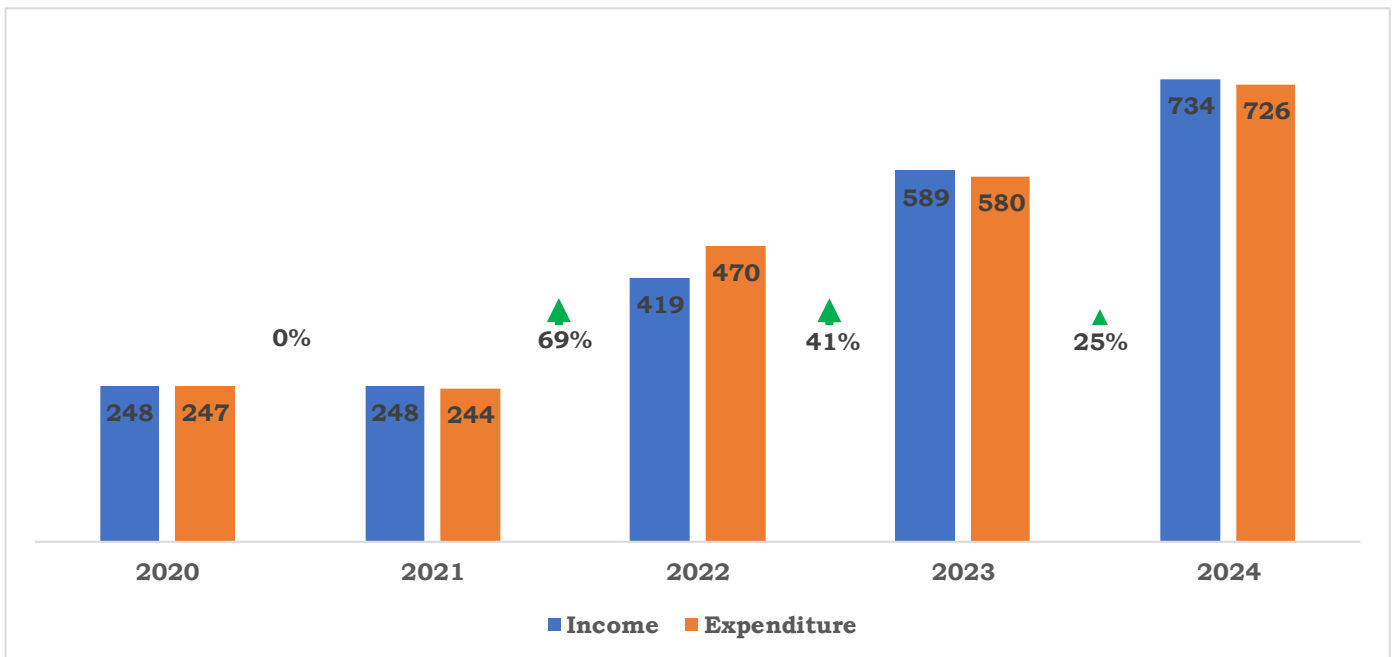


Figure 3: Annual Income and Expenditure Trend Since 2020

Figure 3 indicates a constant increase in the sector’s income since 2022 and which may be a result of the increased number of NGOs that are submitting reports to NGORA. As indicated earlier, though the number of NGOs that submitted reports increased, the proportion has decreased hence this may not be a true reflection of the total income received which provides higher expectations from the Government and the public for the NGOs to contribute more towards the development of the country.

Highest and Least Funded NGOs

Based on the financial reports that were received, the highest funded NGOs (top 20) received a total of MK424 billion with an expenditure of MK418 billion. The reported income indicates a 29% increase from the MK328 billion that was reported in 2023 by the income of the highest funded NGOs.

On the other hand, the least funded NGOs (least funded 20) were reported to have received a total of MK16 million and an expenditure of MK14 million. It should be noted that all the least funded NGOs did not indicate how much they received in the 2021/22 FY hence no comparison on percentage change

was made. Tables 1 and 2 detail the income and expenditures for the highest and the least funded NGOs in the year under review.

Table 1: Annual Income and Expenditure for top 20 NGOs

Name of NGO	Income % Change	2022/23 FY Income (Mwk)	2022/23 FY Expenditure (Mwk)	2021/22 FY Income (Mwk)	2021/22 FY Expenditure (Mwk)
World Vision International Malawi (WVM)	19% ▲	63,400,824,381.28	65,052,773,492.00	53,390,552,049.51	53,761,675,480.96
Christian Health Association in Malawi (CHAM)	2% ▲	38,937,218,000.00	38,283,072,000.00	38,042,601,066.63	37,013,260,763.46
Give Directly Limited	47% ▲	36,547,754,120.00	36,547,754,120.00	24,896,738,342.00	24,896,738,342.00
CARE Malawi	78% ▲	31,706,436,925.80	31,856,740,515.60	17,829,081,073.44	17,971,952,263.83
Partners in Hope (PIH)	-2% ▼	23,769,557,000.00	23,185,865,000.00	24,212,254,000.00	23,788,458,000.00
Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric Aids Foundation (EGPAF)	-28% ▼	22,088,347,349.41	21,543,621,069.27	30,823,238,796.00	30,823,238,796.00
Baylor College of Medicine Children's foundation-Malawi	32% ▲	20,761,185,861	20,761,185,861	15,777,836,027	15,777,836,027
Save the Children International (SCI)	-14% ▼	17,769,889,410.00	17,984,544,345.00	20,768,193,282.10	21,255,292,800.40
JSI Research and Training institute, INC (JSI)	*	17,740,598,200.00	17,740,598,200.00		
Lighthouse Trust (LHT)	35% ▲	17,622,178,292.00	17,622,178,292.00	13,054,640,978.00	12,788,568,662.00
Development Aid People to People (DAPP)	120% ▲	17,332,322,018.00	13,449,883,384.00	7,864,413,203.00	5,822,151,412.00
Scottish international Relief Malawi/Mary's Meals Malawi (MMM)	45% ▲	16,564,383,000.00	17,349,361,000.00	11,402,123,000.00	11,361,948,000.00
JHPIEGO (JHPIEGO)	-13% ▼	14,466,782,000.00	14,466,782,000.00	16,665,222,000.00	16,665,222,000.00
CAMFED Malawi	54% ▲	13,649,775,794.00	11,995,927,668.00	8,890,050,000.00	8,486,408,000.00
Amref Health Africa - Malawi (AMREF)	394% ▲	13,098,218,000.00	13,093,579,000.00	2,651,292,000.00	2,656,637,000.00
Plan International INC. Malawi	7% ▲	12,901,268,000.00	13,096,389,000.00	12,048,555,000.00	12,883,563,000.00
Family Health Services (FHS)	17% ▲	12,487,221,043.00	12,063,399,399.00	10,657,100,331.00	19,207,634,570.00
Partners in Health/Abwenzi Pa Za Umoyo	70% ▲	11,891,295,540.38	11,783,865,740.00	6,998,054,545.45	6,812,590,909.09
Oxfam GB in Malawi	42% ▲	11,032,475,717.90	10,403,829,584.33	7,779,612,077.51	9,291,518,715.57
Emmanuel International	146% ▲	10,447,278,570.00	10,032,117,741.00	4,255,472,892.00	4,248,717,319.00
Grand Total	29% ▲	424,215,009,222.77	418,313,467,411.20	328,007,030,663.64	335,513,412,061

NB: * indicates NGOs that did not provide the previous year's income, either due to non-compliance or had just been registered

Table 2: Annual Income and Expenditure for Least Funded NGOs

Name of NGO	Income % Change	2022/23 FY Income (Mwk)	2022/23 FY Expenditure (Mwk)	2021/22 FY Income (Mwk)	2021/22 FY Expenditure (Mwk)
Centre for Humanity and Sustainable Development (CHUSDE)	*	1,760,353.74	1,326,253.74		
Vision For Development (VDO)	*	1,759,500.00	1,120,300.00		
Tiwasunge Community Support Organisation (TICOSO)	*	1,750,000.00	1,720,000.00		
Ekwendeni Women DAWA Organization (EWDO)	*	1,480,000.00	1,415,000.00		
Patient and Community Welfare Foundation of Mw	*	1,200,000.00	1,200,000.00		
Save Us (SU)	*	1,200,000.00	1,150,000.00		
Foundation of Girls Education and Health Network (FOGEAHN)	*	1,174,000.00	1,174,000.00		
Lower Shire Ambassadors (LSA)	*	900,000.00	900,000.00		
Baptist Development Services (BADESE)	*	600,000.00	600,000.00		
Mtendere Electoral Support Network (MESN)	*	600,000.00	516,680.00		
Savings and Marketing for Transformation (SMART)	*	550,000.00	430,000.00		
Imagine Afrika (IA)	*	508,152.00	504,582.00		
Global Health Informatics Institute (GHII)	*	491,035.50	486,640.00		
Kavuzi Camp Trust (KCT)	*	400,000.00	40,000.00		
Native Youth Animators for Development (NYADE)	*	334,000.00	334,000.00		
ASNEP GLOBAL (ASG)	*	300,000.00	300,000.00		
CHESTER THETE FOUNDATION (CTF)	*	300,000.00	300,000.00		
Gender Support Programme (GSP)	*	150,000.00	150,000.00		
Action for HealthCare Foundation	*	120,000.00	120,000.00		
Drug Fight Malawi (DFM)	*	100,000.00	100,000.00		
Grand Total	*	15,677,041.24	13,887,455.74		

Source of Funding

Section 22(a)(iv) of the NGO law mandates NGOs to submit the details of sources of their funding during the submission of annual reports. Such details help the regulator to verify the authenticity of the submitted information hence eliminating the doubts on issues of money laundering, fraud, and terrorism financing. This transparency helps build trust with both the public and the government, ensuring that NGOs operate within legal frameworks and adhere to ethical standards.

Over the years, the Authority has faced a number of challenges in profiling the key sources of income for the Sector. Primarily, this is mostly due to inconsistent reporting standards, where NGOs follow varied practices, making it difficult to standardize evaluations. Foreign funding adds complexity, as tracking cross-border financial flows can be challenging. Some NGOs may deliberately withhold or obscure funding sources to avoid scrutiny.

Though this has been the case, improvements in reporting sources of funding have been noted over the years and the Authority has been able to categorize the key sources of funding as well as reduce concerns over issues of double counting due to resources received from NGO partnership. Table three indicates the categories of key sources of funding in the year under review.

Table 3: Summary of key sources of funding

Name of Donor	Amount (in billions)	Total percentage (%)
International Government Agencies	MK120,818,965,505.94	15%
Affiliated NGOs	MK151,119,675,805.06	19%
Malawi Government	MK39,210,370,614.84	5%
Partnership	MK63,351,884,757.95	8%
Foundations	MK8,497,927,137.83	1%
UN Agencies	MK8,796,432,765.91	1%
Own Generated Income	MK4,356,741,557.49	0.5%
Trusts	MK2,342,366,083.91	0.2%
Universities and Research Institutions	MK568,982,998.10	0.007%
Individuals	MK5,944,054,753.14	0.7%

Private Institutions	MK2,785,983,290.33	0.3%
Other incomes	MK209,671,504,491.59	26%
Anonymous	MK35,878,582.51	0.0005%
Religious Bodies	MK3,086,055,445.95	0.4%
Not Indicated / Not Clear	MK175,858,515,818.26	22%

Table 3 above indicates an improvement in the provision of sources of income information by the NGOs. In the year under review, 22% failed to indicate their sources of income moving from 30% in 2023. A decrease has also been noted in the anonymous donors from 0.5% in 2023 to 0.0005% in the year under review. There has been an increase in the funding received from the affiliate NGOs (from 18% in 2023) which has now surpassed International Government Agencies.

Forex

The NGO sector plays a crucial role in contributing to a country's forex inflows, particularly in developing nations, by attracting significant foreign currency through international donations, grants, and project funding. If properly tracked and utilized, the forex inflows help stabilize national reserves, support local economies and finance critical development projects in sectors such as healthcare, education, and infrastructure. Additionally, the funds NGOs receive can ease foreign exchange pressure, enhance international relations, and stimulate job creation, ultimately contributing to broader economic growth and social development.

Here in Malawi, it has not been easy to track and properly utilize the forex that gets into the country through the sector. In the year under review, based on the information submitted by the NGOs at least MK498 billion of the MK734 billion (68%) was received in foreign currency. Based on the average exchange rate of MWK934.11 in the year under review, the forex received is estimated at USD 786 million.

Chapter Five

Sectors of Operation and Utilization of Funds Towards National Development

The NGO sector plays a crucial role in driving national development, particularly in areas such as education, healthcare, agriculture, and social services. With a diverse range of local and international NGOs operating across the country, the sector complements government efforts by addressing critical socio-economic challenges and filling resource gaps. NGOs utilize funds from both domestic and international sources to implement programs that promote poverty alleviation, community empowerment, and sustainable development.

Their operations significantly contribute to national development by not only providing essential services but also fostering capacity building, job creation, and innovation. However, the effective utilization of these funds requires transparency, accountability, and strategic alignment with national development goals, including Malawi 2063. This section focuses on some of the key areas of interventions, utilization of funds, key target groups and contribution towards employment in the country.

Sectors of Operation

It is important to recognize that many NGOs operate across multiple sectors or focus on specific niches within broader sectors. Their work often extends beyond service delivery to include advocacy, research, capacity building, and forming strategic partnerships with governments, other NGOs, and international organizations to tackle complex global and local challenges. This multifaceted approach enables NGOs to address diverse issues such as poverty, health, education, and climate change with greater impact. The following sections provide an overview of the key sectors of operations as reported by the NGOs in the year under review, highlighting their areas of focus and contribution to development efforts.

Based on the submitted reports, the majority (17%) of the NGOs are implementing Health related activities followed by the Education Sector (16%) then Gender, Youth and Development (12%). Figure three provides a summary of the key sectors of operations.

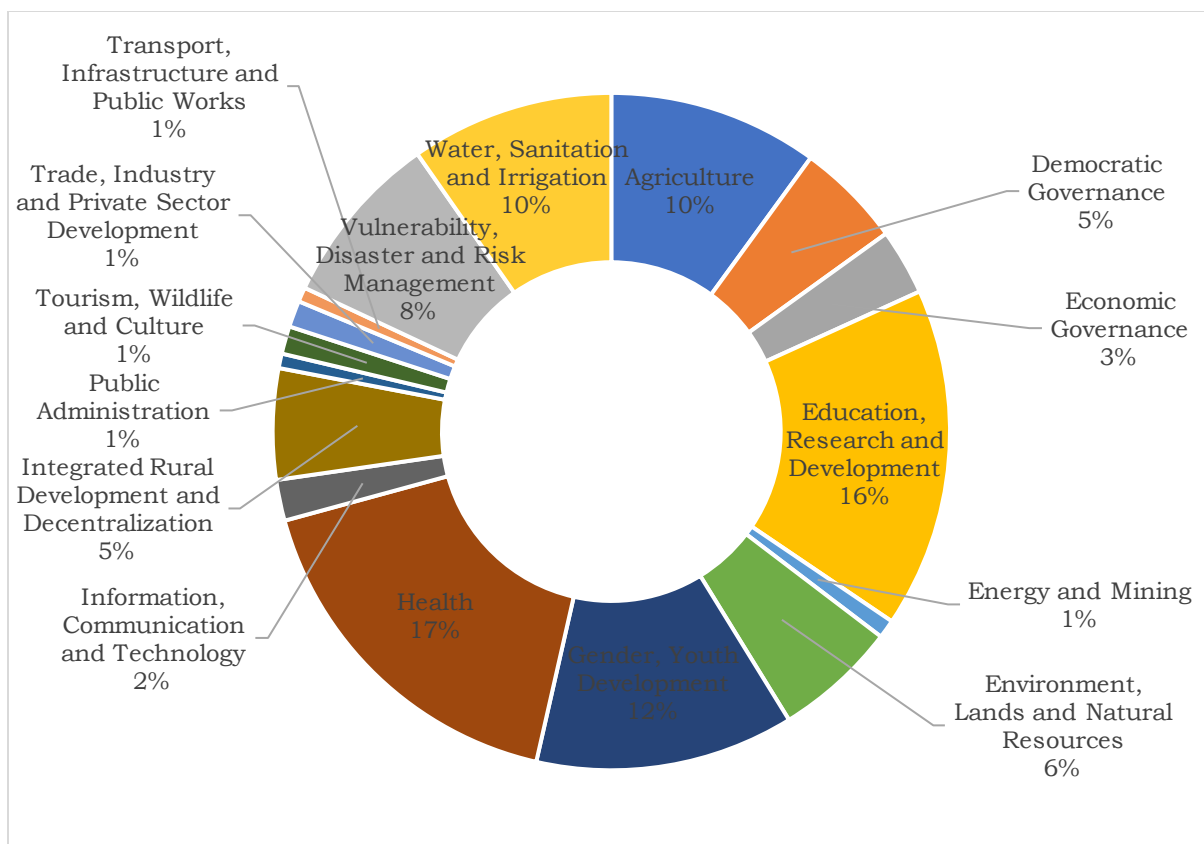


Figure 4: Summary of Key sectors of implementation by active NGOs

Spatial Distribution of NGOs by Sectors

The spatial distribution of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) across different sectors of operation in Malawi reveals significant variations in how resources and services are allocated throughout the country. The geographic concentration of NGOs often reflects disparities in development, with more NGOs operating in urban and central regions compared to rural and remote areas. This uneven distribution impacts the reach of critical services, with some regions benefiting from extensive NGO presence while others remain underserved.

Understanding this distribution is vital for ensuring equitable access to resources and improving the overall effectiveness of NGO interventions in achieving national development goals. Based on the submitted reports in the year under review, it has also been noted that NGOs are highly concentrated in the southern and central parts of the country as depicted in Figure 5.

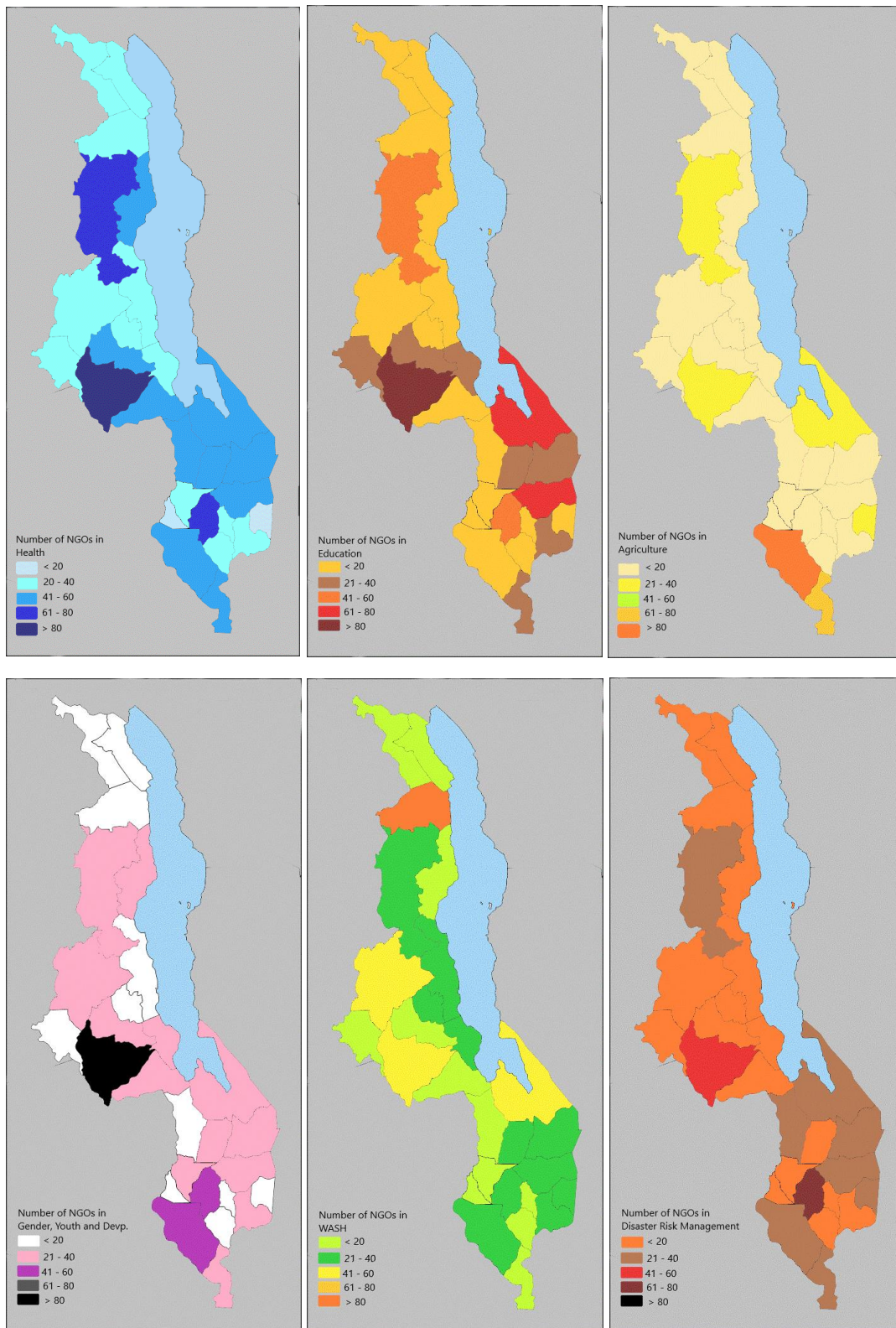


Figure 5: Maps depicting the spatial distribution of NGOs amongst the six key sector across the country

Income Distribution per Sector

NGOs in Malawi are permitted to operate across multiple sectors, allowing them to implement interventions that address a range of development needs

simultaneously. However, this flexibility poses challenges for the Authority, particularly in conducting sector-specific financial resource allocation analyses. The overlapping nature of multi-sectoral interventions complicates efforts to track and assess the flow of funds within individual sectors.

As a result, the analysis often excludes multi-sectoral NGOs—many of which are large, well-established organizations—from the sector-specific financial analysis. This exclusion creates gaps in understanding the full picture of resource distribution across various sectors, making it difficult to gauge the impact and resource utilization accurately within specific areas of focus. Addressing this challenge is critical for improving transparency and ensuring that resource allocation aligns with national development goals. In the year under review, only 183 of the NGOs that submitted reports indicated to have implemented projects in a single sector while the others implemented in multiple sectors. Table 4 summarizes the incomes per sector.

Table 4: Summary of financial distribution per sector

Sector	Income (M wk)	Percentage Allocation
Multi-sectrol	373,721,460,726.63	50.98%
Health	218,880,301,631.24	29.86%
Education, Research and Development	50,844,764,769.13	6.94%
Vulnerability, Disaster and Risk Management	49,741,518,018.68	6.79%
Water, Sanitation and Irrigation	16,355,668,894.42	2.23%
Agriculture	7,316,370,873.22	1.00%
Tourism, Wildlife and Culture	4,570,765,380.00	0.62%
Democratic Governance	3,720,872,081.64	0.51%
Gender, Youth Development	3,783,427,294.49	0.52%
Environment, Lands and Natural Resources	1,770,667,584.00	0.24%
Integrated Rural Development and Decentralization	1,724,806,630.00	0.24%
Information, Communication and Technology	383,476,153.41	0.05%
Economic Governance	279,354,814.00	0.04%

Key Sector Players

An analysis was conducted to identify the top-earning NGOs that reported the implementation of activities aligned exclusively to a single sector. This sector-specific breakdown aimed to profile leading NGOs in each sector based on their reported financial expenditures. By profiling these top sector-specific NGOs, the analysis highlights key organizations driving development in individual sectors such as health, education, agriculture, and social welfare.

However, this approach primarily focuses on NGOs whose operations are limited to one sector, excluding many multi-sectoral organizations that also

play a significant role. Understanding these top players is crucial for evaluating sectoral contributions and identifying gaps or opportunities for further collaboration and resource allocation.

Additionally, profiling top sector-specific NGOs allows regulators and stakeholders to better understand how financial resources are distributed within each sector, providing a clearer picture of the impact these organizations have in achieving Malawi's development goals, including those outlined in the MW 2063. This breakdown also facilitates targeted capacity-building initiatives and enhances partnership opportunities within specific sectors. Table 5, summarizes the top NGOs from the selected sectors.

Table 5: Distribution of income and expenditure among key players per sector

Sector	NGO Name	Income (Mwk)	Expenditure (Mwk)
Health	Christian Health Association in Malawi	45,247,896,311.12	
	Partners in Hope	23,769,557,000.00	
	Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric Aids Foundation	22,088,347,349.41	
	JSI Research and Training institute, INC	17,740,598,200.00	
	Lighthouse Trust	17,622,178,292.00	
	JHPIEGO	14,466,782,000.00	
	Family Health Services	12,063,399,399.00	
	Clinton Health Access Initiative	10,201,951,941.81	
	Partners in Health/Abwenzi Pa Za Umoyo	9,503,200,808.00	
	Banja La Mtsogolo	8,564,931,000.00	
	INTERNATIONAL TRAINING AND EDUCATION CENTRE FOR HEALTH	6,392,358,312.00	
	Family Planning Association of Malawi	3,770,075,015.20	
Education, Research and Development	Scottish international Relief Malawi/Mary's Meals Malawi	16,564,383,000.00	
	Synod of Livingstonia Church of Central africa Presbyterian	8,178,012,253.00	

	IMAGINE WORLDWIDE LIMITED	6,000,000,000.00	
	Association of Sunni Madrassahs	2,800,000,000.00	
	Timotheos Foundation	2,438,870,922.00	
	Rays of Hope Ministries	2,386,600,655.00	
	Jesuit Refugee Service	2,067,794,779.00	
	Advancing Girls' Education in Africa	1,829,484,221.22	
	Ahlus Sunnah Foundation	1,431,703,958.00	
	Link Community Development	817,122,315.00	
	Forum for Africa Women Educationalist in malawi	792,569,450.00	
Vulnerability, Disaster and Risk Management	Give Directly Limited	36,547,754,120.00	
	SOS Children's Village	8,819,313,562.00	
	Irish Rule of Law International	1,330,000,000.00	
	Children of the Nations	1,029,743,323	
Agriculture	Total Land Care	2,910,162,508.17	
	Farm Radio Trust	1,036,937,000.00	
	Foundation for A Smoke-Free World	700,886,745.00	
	Civil Society Agriculture Network	524,262,688.00	
	Fairtrade Africa	500,000,000	
Water, Sanitation and Irrigation	Water For People	6,677,838,253.00	
	Evidence Action	5,666,282,635.00	
	Waste Advisors	913,615,675.00	
	Villages in Partnership	900,000,000.00	
	Water Mission International	767,601,682.00	

Targeted Groups

The target groups for NGO interventions are typically shaped by the organization's mission, objectives, and the specific issues they aim to address. Many NGOs adopt a cross-cutting approach, working with diverse populations that span multiple sectors such as health, education, agriculture, and social welfare. This approach enables them to address the varied needs of different demographic groups, including vulnerable communities, women, children, and marginalized populations.

While some NGOs focus on a singular target group, others implement multi-sectoral interventions that reach a broader audience. Aligning these target groups with national priorities, such as those outlined in the Malawi 2063, enhances the impact of their interventions by ensuring that their efforts contribute to inclusive, sustainable development outcomes that benefit the entire population. Figure 6, provides the summary of the key targeted populations by reported projects.

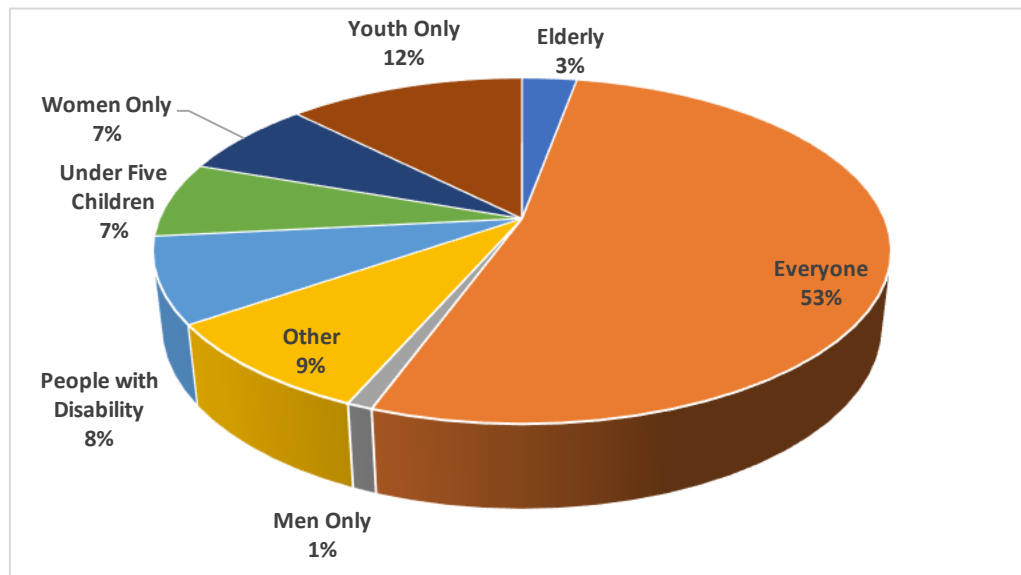
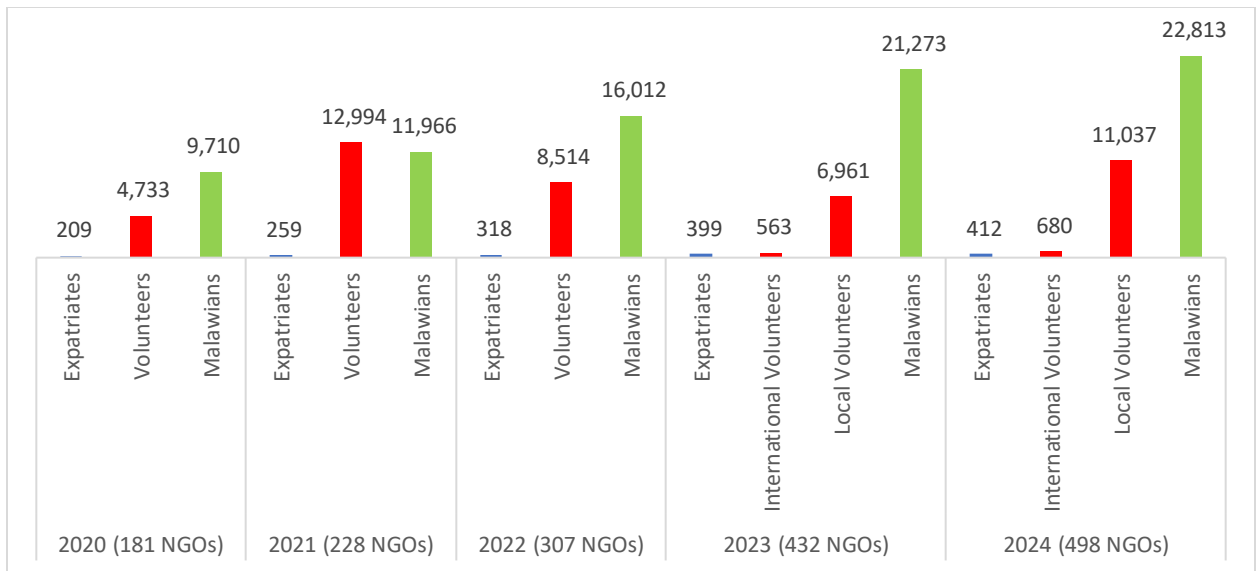


Figure 6: Summary of the Key targeted populations

Sector’s Contribution Towards Employment

The NGO sector plays a crucial role in fostering Malawi’s economic empowerment by generating employment opportunities, especially in underserved and rural areas. The NGOs provide both direct and indirect jobs, contributing significantly to the country’s labor market. By partnering with local communities, international organizations, and government agencies, NGOs help address unemployment and underemployment while equipping individuals with skills to improve their livelihoods, thus driving socio-economic growth and reducing poverty.

The data that was received indicated a slight increase in the number of paid Malawians employed by the sector from 21,273 to 22,813. An increase in the engagement of volunteers and expatriates has also been noted as summarized in the graph below.



Chapter Six

Malawi Implementation Plan I (MIP-1) and Malawi 2063 (MW2063)

Malawi's Implementation Plan I (MIP-1) and the Malawi Vision 2063 (MW2063) are two cornerstone frameworks aimed at transforming Malawi into an inclusively wealthy and self-reliant nation. MIP-1 is the first ten-year implementation plan of MW2063, designed to set the foundation for achieving the long-term goals outlined in the vision. MW2063 envisions a prosperous Malawi driven by industrialization, urbanization, and agricultural commercialization, targeting sustainable development and improved quality of life for all citizens. Together, these frameworks guide national development efforts, focusing on key pillars such as human capital development, infrastructure, and governance.

Alignment of NGO Interventions to Malawi 2063

Aligning NGO interventions with Malawi's national development agenda, particularly the Malawi 2063 (MW2063), is crucial for ensuring sustainable progress and impactful development outcomes. The MW2063 outlines Malawi's long-term aspirations to become an inclusively wealthy and self-reliant nation by the year 2063, with specific goals in areas such as industrialization, urbanization, and human capital development.

NGOs, as key development actors, play a pivotal role in supporting the government's efforts to achieve these objectives. By aligning their interventions with the MW2063 vision, NGOs can ensure their projects contribute to national priorities, avoid duplication of efforts, and enhance the effectiveness of their programs. This alignment fosters greater collaboration between the government, donors, and NGOs, thereby promoting more coordinated and efficient resource utilization to address the country's most pressing challenges. Ultimately, it strengthens the collective impact of development efforts, helping to accelerate progress towards Malawi's long-term development goals.

In the year under review, the Authority requested the NGOs who submitted reports to provide extra information on how their operations are aligned to MW2063. Only 108 NGOs submitted the requested information with at least 380 projects reported to have been implemented. The data indicated a majority (35%) of the projects were being aligned to Human Capital Development, followed by Agricultural productivity and commercialization (10%) while 22% failed to align their project to any of the MIP-1 pillar and enablers. Figure 7 provides the detailed reported alignment for the NGO projects to MIP-1.

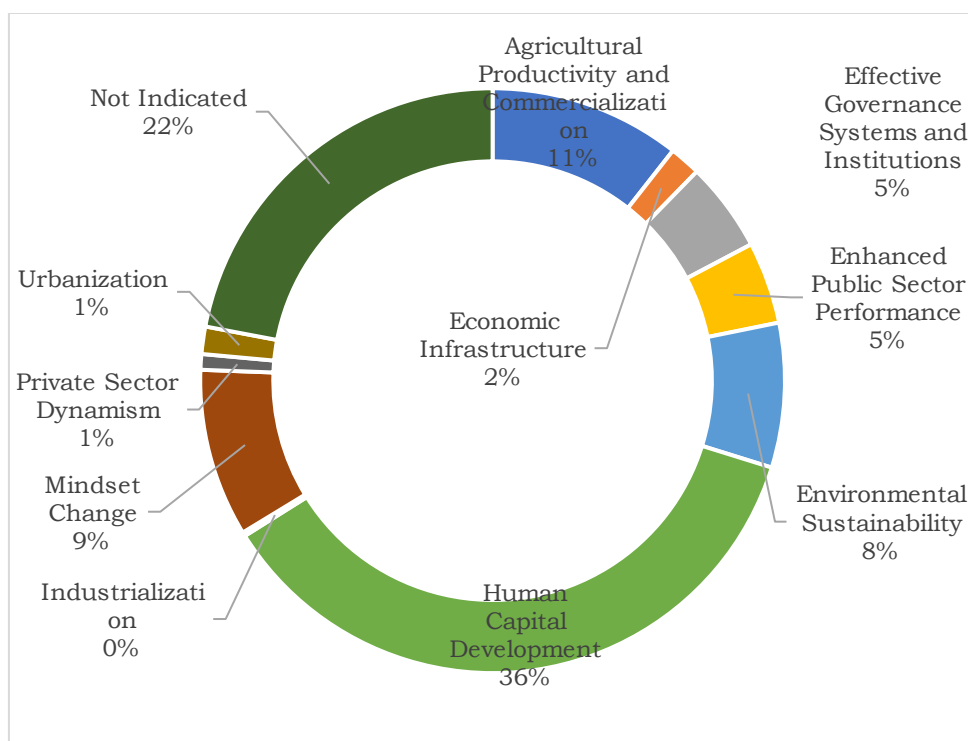


Figure 7: Project alignment to MIP-1 Pillar Enablers

Financial Resources Allocation towards the Pillar Enablers

The NGOs' financial resource allocation towards the MPI-1 pillar enablers plays a vital role in driving the country's progress toward its strategic goals. By directing resources towards these pillars, NGOs help create the necessary conditions for sustainable growth, improved public services, and enhanced resilience, ultimately ensuring that Malawi's development initiatives are robust and capable of achieving long-term success. Table 6 provides a summary of the total income received by the 108 NGOs and how it was utilized.

Pillar Enabler	Total Income (MK)	Total in Kind	Total Spent on wages	Total PAYE	Project Expenditure
Agricultural Productivity and Commercialization	12,088,977,576.68	600,000,000.00	2,239,220,638.29	462,277,508.18	11,340,320,931.43
Economic Infrastructure	5,624,828,952.00	0	557,197,641.00	153,925,707.00	4,941,225,761.50
Effective Governance Systems and Institutions	4,347,626,681.38	3,500,000	850,616,878.69	244,564,553.91	2,808,731,652.86
Enhanced Public Sector Performance	31,318,349,191.17		288,056,083.09	2,785,502,742.37	13,056,356,841.37
Environmental Sustainability	11,237,209,132.98		316,087,606.24	68,885,891.15	12,189,848,163.74

Human Capital Development	91,394,819,091.94	192,776,309.80	34,356,112,719.81	8,138,900,789.98	63,684,434,165.29
Industrialization	-	-	-	-	-
Mindset Change	3,710,104,983.18		952,580,753.94	225,732,818.44	2,123,467,853.45
Private Sector Dynamism	825,029,385.32		225,905,402.07	47,274,321.15	498,438,317.00
Urbanization	-	-	-	-	-
Not Indicated	31,346,573,072.23		2,264,258,323.60	476,690,024.91	27,916,993,242.73
Total	191,893,518,066.88	796,276,309.80	42,050,036,046.73	12,603,754,357.09	138,559,816,929.37

Chapter Seven

Key Findings and Recommendations

The 2024 NGO Sector Report provides a comprehensive overview of the performance, challenges, and contributions of NGOs in Malawi towards national development. Based on submitted reports and extra information received from NGOs operating across various fields, the report highlights key achievements, identifies persistent challenges, and outlines actionable recommendations. The findings underscore the pivotal role of NGOs in addressing social, economic, and environmental issues, while the recommendations focus on enhancing capacity, improving regulatory compliance, and fostering stronger partnerships to achieve the Malawi 2063 goals.

Summary of Key Findings

The following were some of the key highlights for the analysis based on the reports received in 2024:

1. The number of registered NGOs has increased by 92% compared to 2023. However, there are still 172 NGOs operating without registration.
2. Although the number of NGOs submitting reports has risen, the overall proportion of report submissions has declined compared to 2023.
3. The sector's annual income grew by 25%, reaching MK734 billion, up from MK589 billion in 2023. The highest-earning NGO reported a total income of MK63 billion.
4. NGOs brought in a total of MK498 billion in foreign exchange during the reporting period.
5. A significant number of NGOs are still unable to align their interventions with the enablers of the Malawi Implementation Plan 1 (MIP-1).
6. The Health Sector remains the dominant area of NGO activity, with the majority of interventions aligned to the Human Capital enabler.
7. Men continue to be the least targeted demographic in NGO interventions.
8. The sector contributed to economic empowerment, with a 7.2% from 21,273 to 22,831 Malawians employed by NGOs.
9. There is a need to strengthen the institutional capacity of NGOs, improve coordination of their work, and enhance monitoring systems to ensure the sustainability of the sector and its programs.

Summary of Key Recommendations

The following recommendations were made in line with the key observations and the general status of the sector:

1. It is crucial to engage all service providers and raise awareness about the importance of collaborating with registered and compliant NGOs to ensure accountability and proper regulation.
2. There is a need to engage the National Planning Commission (NPC) to develop strategic approaches that enhance the alignment of NGO projects with the MW2063 vision.
3. Line ministries should be engaged to promote equitable distribution of NGO interventions across all sectors and districts, ensuring balanced national development.
4. Efforts should be made to secure additional resources aimed at strengthening institutional capacity, improving coordination of NGO activities, and enhancing monitoring systems to ensure the long-term sustainability of the sector.
5. More platforms should be created to foster collaboration between NGOs and Government Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) to enhance partnership and ensure the sustainability of NGO programs.
6. The review of the current NGO policy and development of the successor policy should be expedited to facilitate better alignment of NGO interventions with the MW2063 agenda and ensure the sustainability of their initiatives.
7. There is a critical need to prioritize localization and invest in capacity building to enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of the NGO sector and programs in Malawi.

Conclusion

The 2024 NGO Sector Report highlights the significant progress made by the NGO sector in Malawi while also shedding light on the challenges that persist. Notably, the sector has experienced remarkable growth, with a 92% increase in the number of registered NGOs and a 25% rise in annual income. NGOs have also played a vital role in economic empowerment, employing more Malawians and contributing substantial foreign exchange to the country. However, the report underscores the need for improved alignment of NGO interventions with the Malawi Implementation Plan 1 (MIP-1) and enhanced institutional capacity to ensure sustainable impact.

The recommendations provided emphasize the importance of fostering collaboration, securing resources, and strengthening the regulatory framework to address these challenges. Engaging key stakeholders, including the National Planning Commission and line ministries, will be crucial in ensuring that NGO projects are better aligned with national development goals, particularly the MW2063 agenda.

The annual sector report serves as an essential tool for accountability, transparency, and strategic planning. It provides a comprehensive overview of the NGO sector's performance, highlights areas for improvement, and offers evidence-based recommendations to guide future interventions. By documenting these findings, the report helps ensure that NGOs remain effective contributors to Malawi's development, while also facilitating greater coordination between the sector and government in pursuit of shared national goals.

Annex 1. Annual Return Form

NGO ANNUAL RETURN FORM YEAR 2023

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS ACT, CAP 5.05 OF LAWS OF MALAWI

THIS FORM SHOULD BE FILLED COVERING YOUR AUDITED FINANCIAL YEAR TOGETHER WITH THE FOLLOWING 2023 REPORTS:

- Audited financial statements
- Annual Technical reports

Organization Details:

NAME.....

ABBREVIATION.....

BOARD REGISTRATION NUMBER.....

CHARITIES NUMBER (For International)

.....

POSTAL ADDRESS

.....

.....

...

PHYSICAL ADDRESS

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

OFFICIAL EMAIL ADDRESS.....

Directors/Trustee Details (for International include Directors on Affidavits):

Full Names	Phone	Email	Occupation	Nationality	Position	Timeframe

Objectives of the Organization (Attach to this form if the list will not fit):

1)

Tick Sectors engaged in (These are Government approved Sectors):

Agriculture		Education, Research and Development	
Integrated Rural Development and Decentralization		Gender, Youth Development	
Environment, Lands and Natural Resources		Transport, Infrastructure and Public Works	
Tourism, Wildlife and Culture		Information, Communication and Technology	
Water, Sanitation and Irrigation		Energy and Mining	
Trade, Industry and Private Sector Development		Economic Governance	
Vulnerability, Disaster and Risk Management		Democratic Governance	
Health		Public Administration	

Location of Activities:

Village Development Committee (VDC)	Area Development Committee (ADC)	District
.....		
.....		
.....		
.....

Source of Funding:

No	Funder's/Donor's Name	Details of Contact Person	Amount During the year (Any Currency)
1			
2			

Auditors Details:

No	Name	Contacts Details: Address, Phone and Email
1		
	

Banks Details:

No	Name	Contacts Details: Address, Phone and Email
1

Executive Director/Country Director/ Country Representative Details:

Name	Nationality	Highest Qualification	Email Contact	Phone Contact
.....

NGO Financial Year

Start Date	End Date
.....
.....

Tick Type of NGO Registration

Trustees Incorporation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Company Limited by Guarantee	<input type="checkbox"/>
------------------------	--------------------------	------------------------------	--------------------------

Tick Target Groups

Everyone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Under Five Children	<input type="checkbox"/>
Men Only	<input type="checkbox"/>	Elderly	<input type="checkbox"/>
Women Only	<input type="checkbox"/>	People with Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth Only	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Staff Capacities:

Staff	Numbers
Malawian
Expatriate

Intern
Volunteers

While signing this return form, the Board Chairperson or Director on affidavit confirm and certify that the information given is true to the best of their knowledge. That untrue information would be subject to cancellation of the registration certificate.

NGOs operating in Malawi are subject to all the Laws of Malawi.

Signed By:

Name-----

Signature-----

(Board Chairperson/Director on affidavit)

Position -----

Date-----

Phone Nos. -----;

Email -----

Submission:

Submission be done together with the annual technical report and its audited financial statements to: registrar@ngora.mw Cc; ikachikopa@ngora.mw, bmphika@ngora.mw or submit to the address above by a registered mail. Submission will be filed with the NGO Regulatory Authority within six months after the end of 2023 financial year.

For Board Office Use:

	Officers Initials and Date	Comments
Received
Response sent
Approved
Filed
Notes:		



Non-Governmental Organization Regulatory Authority (NGORA)
Registering and Regulating the Operations of NGOs in Malawi

Behind Lingadzi Inn, Next to MASM Clinic, P.O. Box 31785,
Lilongwe, Malawi.