

A GOVERNMENT WE CAN TRUST

DEMOCRATIC PROGRESSIVE PARTY



# 2019-2024 MANIFESTO

SUSTAINING A  
PEOPLE - CENTRED  
GOVERNMENT



CHITUKUKO | CHILUNGAMO | CHITETEZO



**PATRIOTISM | INTEGRITY | HARDWORK**

**DEMOCRATIC PROGRESSIVE PARTY**



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*The DPP government will focus on programs that will spur growth and address the bottlenecks to growth and development. These include Energy; Promotion of light industry; Trade and Private Sector Development; Food and Nutrition Security; Education and Human Development; Wider Health Coverage; Water and Irrigation Development; Transport and ICT Infrastructure; and Human Security. In this period, the DPP government will embark on extensive but cautious mining and utilisation of our oil resources, now that the legal and institutional frameworks have been developed.*

# Foreword

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The Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) is here, once again with its development and governance blueprint for the period 2019 to 2024. This Manifesto reflects DPP beliefs and values which are grounded on people-centered development approaches, long term infrastructure developments, people-driven economic paradigms, and a culture of respect for human rights and human dignity for all.

This is part of the legacy of our founder, Professor Bingu wa Mutharika. We are the DPP. We are unbreakable. We are unstoppable. Our landslide victory is about to happen.

Our country has structural challenges that make it vulnerable to exogenous shocks resulting in hunger, disease and unemployment. But this is the reason Malawi has the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) and its leadership to end this cycle. While the DPP government has ensured that nobody dies of hunger throughout its reign of office from 2014 to-date, focus in the coming years will be on sustainable development. We have gone beyond stabilization of our economy, which was a prerequisite in the almost collapsing cashgate contaminated economy that we inherited in 2014.

While we will continue to build resilience to natural disasters, we are now ready to lead Malawi into a productive nation that will compete and progress on the global scale. We are the DPP, and we deliver what we promise.

Just like the DPP pledged in 2014 and delivered accordingly, we are here to continue a Government that the people of Malawi want; a Government they can trust, a Government that will continue to deliver on its promises.

The DPP has been tried and tested and has proved its worth. At the time we formed government in 2014, we found a broken economy, with inflation at 27 percent and we have reduced inflation to single digits; we inherited a country with debt levels equal to the size of the national budget, a country with foreign exchange cover of less than one month.

Donors who had been supporting 40 percent of the budget had just deserted our country because of the infamous cashgate which occurred under the previous government.

Further, in less than a year in office, floods and later drought hit the country and left more than a third of the population at the risk of starvation. Yet, however we have prevailed over these challenges, we worked hard, and God has always been on our side.

We made promises which we kept: promises to stabilise the economy; promises to drastically reduce the number of households which were perpetually without food; promises to ensure security to individuals, households and businesses; promises on ICT and road infrastructure; promises to revamp the health sector and promises to consolidate the gains made in the education sector for the full realization of human capital development; promises to fight corruption; promise to establish a Development Bank; and many more.

Promises on public sector reforms; decent and affordable housing; and cash transfers to the poor and elderly; Promises to continue with farm input subsidy programme; promises on community colleges; and many more. We promised to turn the economy around and set the country on the path to sustainable growth and development. We have delivered all these, despite some bottlenecks and structural constraints we faced.

Mindful of the long-term development needs of the country, and in line with the wishes of our people, the DPP has developed this Manifesto in order to translate the people's aspirations in alignment with the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III and Vision 2020.

In the period 2019 to 2024, the DPP will embark on a comprehensive economic empowerment programme

targeting all the people with deliberate focus on youth economic empowerment and a concrete program for rural poverty reduction and rural industrialisation.

The DPP government will focus on programs that will spur growth and address the bottlenecks to growth and development.

These include Energy; Promotion of light industry; Trade and Private Sector Development; Food and Nutrition Security; Education and Human Development; Wider Health Coverage; Water and Irrigation Development; Transport and ICT Infrastructure; and Human Security.

In this period, the DPP government will embark on extensive but cautious mining and exploitation of our oil resources, now that the legal and institutional frameworks have been developed.

Specific supportive programs have been constructed in the areas of Macroeconomic Development; Gender; Persons with Special Needs, Financial services development, Public Sector Reforms and Governance. These are some of the country's priorities as espoused in the MGDS III. Thus, this Manifesto represents the shared vision of a Party that is both democratic and progressive. It is a party whose leaders work for the Good of the People and not to promote their self-interests.

At the international level, the DPP Manifesto reflects our belief



in multilateralism and the need to turn Malawi into an active player in economic globalization. Consequently, this Manifesto establishes a platform for the domestication of the United Nations (UN) 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the 2063 African Union Agenda, the Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA), the Vienna Programme of Action (VPoA), the Southern African Development Community Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (SADC RISDP) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) Treaty, just to mention a few. The DPP government believes that Malawi is not an island, but is an integral member of the international community.

On behalf of the mighty Democratic Progressive Party, I am happy to invite all Malawi citizens within and outside the country, to join the winning party, the DPP, and to participate in the political, economic and social development of our country.

I also cordially welcome Malawi citizens of European, American, Asian, other African and Arabic descent who have made their home in Malawi or who are residing here, to join hands with the DPP so that together we can build our country for the benefit of our children, our grandchildren and for all generations to come.

Now that the DPP government has realized our dream for Dual-Citizenship which is now legalized, and with Patriotism, Integrity and Hard Work as our development pillars, we will transform Malawi within the shortest time possible.

The DPP is set and ready to transform Malawi into a middle-income country by 2030.

**WE ARE THE DPP.  
WE ARE UNBREAKABLE, WE ARE UNSTOPPABLE.  
DPP WOYEEEE! MALAWI WOYEEEE!**

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**H.E. PROF. ARTHUR PETER MUTHARIKA  
PRESIDENT, DEMOCRATIC PROGRESSIVE PARTY,  
LILONGWE, MALAWI**



# Our Collective Vision

Malawi: A Middle-Income Country By 2030. We envision a development-driven society that is productive, competitive, and resilient, and where people come first in resource planning and implementation.





# Our Mission

Our mission is to facilitate the instilling of self-confidence, people-driven governance structures, transparency and accountability systems, and a deeper sense of socio-economic independence in Malawians, by creating a conducive environment for wealth creation, more sustainable pro-growth jobs especially for youths, redistribution of incomes and increasing the supply of quality goods and services for the domestic and international markets while making Malawi open for business.

# Our Pledge

We will deliver people-centered development; and practice developmentally-driven politics. We shall provide sound political and economic leadership and work with all Malawians, including those in the opposition, in a spirit of political tolerance, understanding and reconciliation, thereby consolidating peace, harmony, security and stability as the basis for prosperity of our country. Most fundamental of all, we pledge to walk the talk and turn our development promises into real benefits for the people. Our pillars shall continue to be Patriotism, Integrity and Hardwork.





## CHAPTER 1:

# LESS TALK, MORE ACTION: WE DELIVER WHAT WE PROMISE



**Our country remains one of the least developed in the world. But with the DPP, this status will change: We must be a middle-income country by 2030.**

As a direct consequence of the fractured political economic history inherited from the Kamuzu Banda regime, Malawi relies on agriculture for employment of most of our people and as a source of foreign exchange. We do very little value addition and light manufacturing. Since our agriculture is largely rain-fed, the economy is vulnerable to weather-related shocks and depleting natural resources. Malawi's population currently stands at just over 17.5 million and is projected to be 20.9 million by the year 2024. Of these, 51 percent are women; 51 percent of the population is below the age of 18; and 84 percent of the population lives in the rural areas.

The Malawi Labour Force Participation Survey (2017) states that 22.8 percent of the labour force is unemployed. Out of these, the majority are females and youths that resort to the informal sector for survival. We have a large youthful population which lacks skills and opportunities. HIV and AIDS continues to affect the productivity of our people.

The DPP understands that Malawi's economic performance has historically been constrained by poor infrastructure, policy inconsistency, corruption, high population growth, macroeconomic instability,

and poor health and education outcomes that limit labour productivity.

The DPP further knows that our country has potential of growth in other productive sectors of manufacturing, tourism and mining; but that the efforts employed so far have not been as effective because of challenges in factors such as unreliable energy, inconsistent planning and underdeveloped financial sector, besides structural challenges.

In 2014 we promised to improve the welfare of our people through our 2014 Elections Campaign Manifesto.

**The DPP is pleased to confirm that most of the promises have been fulfilled:**

- No person has died of hunger the past five years, despite the country having been exposed to droughts and floods, and at some point, having over 54 percent of the population without food;
- Five years in office, we have decreased our reliance on agriculture by 13 percent. 116,000 hectares of land is now under irrigation;
- We brought down Inflation rate from 27 percent in 2014 to single digit in three years;
- We have foreign Exchange that can support more than six months of imports into our country, compared to less than one month that we found in 2014.



This is the highest forex cover in the history of our country;

- We have constructed 20 Community Colleges across the country, and we are in the process of constructing 8 more;

- Over 6,000 youths have been trained in various technical, vocational and entrepreneurial skills; More than 25,000 students are now enrolled in our public universities compared to about 10,000 students that were enrolled in 2014;

- Mzuzu University, Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Malawi campuses of Chancellor College, College of Medicine and the Polytechnic, and the Malawi University of Science and Technology (MUST) have received additional and new structures.

- In line with the DPP's belief to protect the right to housing, 22,000 households comprising old people, child-headed families, widows, persons with albinism, and the extremely poor are now living in decent houses built under the Decent and Affordable Housing Subsidy Program (DAHSP) popularly known as Malata and Cement Subsidy programme.

- Under the DPP government, the Malawi economy was the fastest growing in the SADC region from 2014 to now.

Malawi's economic growth currently stands at 5 percent and will move to above 6 percent from

this year. An average of 251,222 people have gained employment every year since 2014.

- We have rehabilitated and constructed major roads across the country such as the Chikhwawa – Ngabu – Bangula road; the Lilongwe West Bypass road; Zomba – Blantyre road; Upgrading of the Jenda – Edingeni road; Milepa – Chiradzulu road; and Chapananga Bridge; the Zomba – Jali – Phalombe – Chitakale road; Thyolo – Thekerani – Muona – Makhanga road; Liwonde – Mangochi road; Lilongwe Old Airport – Kasiya – Kasungu road; Mzuzu – Nkhatabay road; Karonga – Songwe road; Njakwa – Livingstonia road; Thabwa – Chitseko – Seveni road. We have also constructed over 100 bridges across the country.

- We have rehabilitated and constructed roads in all the four cities of Mzuzu, Lilongwe, Zomba and Blantyre. These include connecting roads and bypasses. For example, we have constructed dual carriage way in Mzuzu; the Parliament Roundabout – Bingu National Stadium Roundabout dual carriage way in Lilongwe; and Chileka Roundabout – Magalasi dual carriage road in Blantyre. We have also constructed many ring, radial and arterial roads in locations.

- Through the Malawi Rural Electrification Program (MAREP) 8, we have provided electricity to 473 trading centres and villages, the single largest reach in the history of this country.

Of course, a few competing challenges exist. Among them is the growing population, which is affecting the rate at which the positive growth registered benefits the majority of Malawians. On the other hand, however, our youths of under 30 years of age constitute about 70 percent of the population, occasioning the DPP government to capitalise on the demographic dividend where the youth will help accelerate economic growth through increased productivity in the job market.

From 2019 to 2024, the DPP Government will mobilise enough resources needed to attain the dreams of the people of Malawi.

We will sustain the management of a sound macroeconomic framework, with a single-digit inflation, and we will grow the economy by an average rate of 7 percent.

The DPP government has already set the foundation for this.

The government will invest close to 2.7 Trillion Kwacha in infrastructure alone in the period 2019 to 2024, in order to support sustainable growth in all the other sectors.





## CHAPTER 2:

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# HOW WE WILL CONTINUE TO GOVERN - GUARANTEES AND SAFEGUARDS

The Democratic Progressive Party lives by its word. It only promises what it can deliver and delivers what it promises. We are Progressive. We are Patriotic. We are Hardworking. We are of high Integrity.

We will form the next Government again because the People of Malawi have tried and tested our Party, and we have performed and delivered before. We can be trusted.

The Democratic Progressive Party Government will continue to develop Malawi in all parts of the country without discrimination. We will adopt a more balanced approach to growth and development to ensure equitable allocation of financing and infrastructure in all the regions of Malawi so that our country can develop as one entity.

We will unite all people in Malawi from the Northern, Central, Eastern and Southern regions regardless of religious affiliation, tribe, colour or creed so as to develop one national agenda and work together for the common good of all our people.

The DPP government will support long term development planning led by the National Planning Commission. The DPP will continue to focus on investment rather than aid as our development policy. The DPP will continue to promote women in business, in leadership, in development and in the cultural heritage of our country. We shall increase women representation in the Parliament, the Cabinet, the Civil Service and all aspects of Malawi's development.

The DPP will continue to invest in the youths, provide them with skills and linkages for progressive living in our economy. We will protect the interests of persons with special needs, with increased focus on persons with albinism..

The DPP will continue to ensure that Malawi is a place where all



bonafide investors, diplomats and international organizations will feel safe, secure and at home. They will be invited to contribute actively and positively to our economic development.

The DPP will continue to encourage non-governmental organizations and religious bodies registered in Malawi to engage in a constructive dialogue with Government to enable them to play a more positive role in the development of our country.

We will manage and safeguard the finances and natural resources

of the country with integrity and patriotism.

We will continue to run government with a lean Cabinet.

The Democratic Progressive Party will continue with an external policy that strengthens our national sovereignty and promotes growth and development of our country. As Malawians living outside the country will be enjoying their dual-citizenship status, they will be encouraged to contribute to the development of Malawi.



## CHAPTER 3:

# MACROECONOMIC FRAMEWORK

The economy is everything, and the Democratic Progressive Party is known for its delivery of a sound macroeconomic framework which anchors development. The success of any government relies on the delivery of a well-designed and implemented macroeconomic framework.

In 2014 we found a broken economy. But as we go to the 2019 polls, we finish our first term with a sound economy which continues to grow. Inflation is now in single digit, almost 230 percent down from what it used to be in 2014.



Growth has rebounded to above 4 percent, and we commit to increase the growth rate to at least an average of 7 percent in the period 2019 to 2024.

From 2019 to 2024, the DPP government will take the country towards a middle-income status. We will raise revenue and grants to average 30 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), with total government expenditure projected at an average of 25 percent of GDP. The country is on the path to sustainable growth. And the vision for Malawi as a middle-income country is real.

## Key Pillars

The following are the key pillars of our manifesto on the economy:

a) We will expand domestic resource mobilization. As everyone knows, this DPP Government has survived without donor support in the national budget since it came to power just after the Cashgate that the People's Party government presided over. So, our expanding domestic resource mobilization is not theory, this is our practice. We will improve tax administration and management, including improving tax refund system and rationalization of tax incentives. To complement domestic resource mobilization, the DPP government will largely mobilise concessional borrowing, in order to maintain sustainable debt levels, but more importantly not to crowd

out the private sector.

b. We will scale up investments by U\$3.5 billion in the period 2019 to 2024, of which 16% will be in 2019, 21% in 2020, 33% in 2021, 17% in 2022 and 13% in 2023. Priority will be on flagship projects in Energy, Transport and ICT Infrastructure, Irrigation, human settlement, education, health and tourism, having multiplier effect on other sectors of our economy. These will be supported by \$9 billion direct investment by the private sector.

c. This increase in investments will make Malawi more than double its GDP per capita to US\$1,105 and increase employment by 22.5% (more than 1.6 million decent jobs in 5 years).

We will increase fiscal space for investments, by containing public expenditures and minimizing domestic borrowing and arrears.

We will develop effective capital markets. Priority will be on debt and equity markets, redirection of long-term funds from short term projects, facilitation of establishment of new financial securities, mobilization of long-term savings and ensuring stable macroeconomic environment. We will improve project implementation, eliminate inefficiencies, reduce bureaucracy and corruption and institute better oversight on the projects. Project identification will be guided by the Public Sector



Investment Program and the National Planning Commission. The DPP Government will also prioritise enhanced forecast and early warning systems capability to support effective adaptation, climate proofing and disaster risk reduction.

## **Monetary Policy**

At the time we took over office in 2014, we promised to resuscitate the economy and stabilize its fundamentals. We implemented tight monetary policy and managed to stabilise prices in the country. We have reduced inflation, just in the past five years from 27 percent in 2014 to 8 percent in 2018. Similarly, the policy rate has dropped from a high 25 percent in 2014 to 14.5 percent in 2019. We stabilized the Malawi Kwacha and we have more than 6 months cover of foreign reserves cover. We are the DPP.

From 2019 to 2024, Malawians should expect continuation of excellent monetary policy. In this period, private sector credit will increase due to the low cost of borrowing that will follow. With tight monetary policy, the country will contain inflation to about 5 percent.

## **Fiscal Policy**

The DPP Government will continue to implement sound fiscal policy in the period 2019 to 2024. We will increase expenditure on capital flagship investments while controlling recurrent expenditure. We will prioritise domestic

financing and/or concessional debt financing of projects. With increased investment in key projects, we will spur economic growth and development.

As regards fiscal management, we will ensure fiscal prudence and strict adherence to the Public Finance Management Act, Public Audit Act and Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act in order to eliminate inefficiencies, reduce public resources wastage and abuse.

## **Financial Services**

To support fast-tracking of development activities, the DPP government will continue to create a vibrant, efficient, stable and inclusive financial sector that will meet the financing needs of all persons in the country.

The DPP government has more than halved the interest rates from 2014. However, we still believe that finance in this country is too high, and so prohibitive to doing business.

We agree that Malawi's industrialization will stem from agriculture.

This is why in 2018, the DPP Government set up the Malawi Agricultural and Industrial Corporation (MAIC), a private sector led development finance institution to spearhead agricultural industrialization in Malawi. In the period 2019-2024, the DPP will support the MAIC to deliver on its set objectives and provide credit to all bonafide agricultural investors and

industries in the country. Being a private sector-led initiative, we will integrate the MAIC into the workings of commercial banks in the country. In this regard, the DPP interest will be accessibility of the MAIC to all in the country.

On financial services, we will facilitate improved payment ecosystem and interoperability of banks. We will also facilitate provision of banking services in rural areas, in addition to facilitation of increased use of mobile money.

- DPP government will empower alternative financial distribution channels such as filling stations,

postal offices and retail shops.

- We will leverage savings groups by facilitating partnerships with banks and other formal financial service providers.

- Our government will also go digital, both on government receipts and payments.

- Pension funds are an area that our country has not maximised on. In this regard, the DPP government will facilitate review of the Pension Act of 2011, to allow for innovation in pension administration. This will include introducing voluntary personal pension in both the formal and informal sectors.





## CHAPTER 4:

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# ENERGY SECTOR

As the country went to the May 2014 elections, Malawi had capacity of 351.75 MW only to service 17 million people. Indeed 91% of the people did not have access to electricity.

The challenges ranged from inadequate power generation and supply resulting in frequent and extended load shedding programs; over-dependency on biomass energy for cooking and heating (which was exacerbated by the low access rate to electricity); to over-dependency on imported petroleum products which is prone to geo-political conditions and drains forex.

The Democratic Progressive Party promised to review the legal and institutional frameworks, unbundle ESCOM, attract private investments into the energy sector, invest into the sector, and venture into alternative sources of energy.

### **Major achievements in the energy sector between 2014 and 2018**

As promised, the DPP-led Government unbundled ESCOM. We created the EGENCO and set up four separate business units for Transmission, Distribution, System Market Operator and Single Buyer in ESCOM. This created space for private sector participation in the energy sector.

We engaged a number of potential investors and signed about 50 Memoranda of Understanding for exploitation and development of hydro, solar, wind, coal and geothermal resources for power generation as enshrined in the 2014-2019 manifesto. Five companies are in the process of developing a total of 421 MW from solar technology, hydro, wind and gas at Bua (Kasungu), Chintheche (Nkhatabay), Golomoti (Dedza), Monkeybay (Mangochi), Mzimba, and Mulanje. These will be additions to the 351 MW capacity of EGENCO. We are also connected to Zambia and Mozambique at distribution level where we are importing some electricity.

The DPP government has finalised preparations for the 300 MW Kamwamba coal powered plant. Preparations are also almost

completed for a 309 MW hydro power plant at Mpatamanga.

We have successfully rehabilitated and modernized Nkula A Hydropower plant (thereby extending its lifespan and increasing its generation capacity from 24 MW to 36 MW); we have constructed the biggest transmission line in the country stretching from Phombeya substation in Balaka to Nkhoma Substation in Lilongwe with a capacity of 400KV, with support from the Millenium Challenge Account (MCA) - Malawi. We have also constructed a 132KV transmission line from Chintheche in Nkhatabay through Luwingu in Mzuzu to Bwengu Substation in Rumphi. Phombeya substation, Nkhoma Substation, and Bwengu Substation have also been newly constructed. These projects have set a firm basis for expansion of the electricity sector in the country and beyond.

As a short-term measure, the DPP-led Government through ESCOM Limited, hired diesel-powered generators for production of a total of 78MW to ease power problems in the country mostly during peak periods from 2018 to 2019.

Further, the DPP-led Government successfully conducted feasibility studies and Environmental Impact Assessments for the 200MW Kholombidzo and for the 261 MW Fufu Hydropower Plants.

The DPP-led Government also continued working on processes leading to interconnecting the



country's national grid with those of Mozambique and Zambia. Plans are underway to also interconnect with Tanzania. These projects will enable Malawi to participate in power trade under the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) and East African Power Pool (EAPP).

As promised on rural electrification, the DPP-led Government electrified 473 trading centres and villages between 2014 and 2018 under the Malawi Rural Electrification Programme (MAREP) Phases 7 and 8 exceeding the total number of centres electrified under Phases 1 to 6.

On petroleum products, in order to ensure security and seamless supply of petroleum products in the country, Government constructed three (3) strategic fuel reserves with a total holding capacity of 60 million litres. The reserves are in Blantyre (25million litres), Lilongwe (25million litres) and Mzuzu (10million litres). Combined with other storage facilities, the country now has over 75million-litre fuel holding capacity.

### **What we will deliver between 2019 and 2024**

The DPP recognises that industrial and socio-economic development of the country depends on access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, efficient and modern energy. We know that sustainable development and management of the energy sector through well-defined policies, including legal

and institutional frameworks and partnerships with the private sector, positively impact on other sectors.

We are also cognizant of the fact that the country is over dependent on hydropower which is currently affected by the impact of climate change, and that about 98% of the hydro power is generated on Shire River.

To ensure adequate power generation and supply in the country, the DPP-led Government will diversify sources of power generation and location of the power plants while continuing exploiting hydropower resources that are still available on Shire River.

In the spirit of diversifying sources of power generation, ensuring security of power supply, and bringing efficiency and effectiveness in the power industry, the DPP-led Government will collaborate with, and create an enabling environment for Independent Power Producers (IPPs) to invest in the power industry using various sources of power generation such as hydro, solar, wind, geothermal, natural gas, coal and co-generation among others.

The Democratic Progressive Party government will, specifically, implement the following projects between 2019 and 2024: the 300MW Kammwamba Coal-fired Power Plant; the 309MW Mpatamanga Hydropower Plant; the 200MW Kholombidzo



Hydropower Plant; the 261MW Fufu Hydropower Plant; the 90MW hydro power plant from Songwe; Interconnectors with Mozambique and Zambia where we will begin with importation of 120MW; and Maintenance of EGENCO's 365MW plants. Our government will also facilitate Independent Power Producers to generate 100MW from Mzimba Wind Power; 41MW from Bongozi Hydropower plant; 100MW from Gas power plant; and over 200MW from solar in Nkhatabay, Rumphi, Karonga, Salima, Dedza, and Mangochi.

The DPP Government will intensify implementation of the Malawi Rural Electrification Program (MAREP) in order to increase access to electricity to people living in rural growth or trading centres as well as rural settlements and villages.

Lifeline tariffs will be introduced to enable low income households access the electricity. The plan is to increase the access from the current 10% to 20% by 2024.

To cut on importation of petroleum products, save forex and contribute to global objective of reducing green house gas emissions, the DPP-led Government will promote production and use of bio-ethanol and biodiesel for blending and stand-alone use in vehicles but, of course, without threatening food security.

The DPP-led Government will transform the country's energy















economy from one that is overly dependent on biomass to one with a high modern energy component in the energy mix. To this end, Government will promote use of electricity, liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), efficient biomass stoves and biomass briquetting and other alternative sources of energy for cooking and heating purposes.

The DPP-led Government will use Community Colleges, among other platforms, to build capacity to technicians, artisans, entrepreneurs and other groups in all areas of renewable energy technologies and alternative energy taking gender and social issues into consideration.

We will also facilitate the migration away from use of burnt bricks to cement blocks to conserve the environment. The DPP Administration has already started this by banning the use of burnt bricks in all Government projects.





## CHAPTER 5:

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# FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY



# DPP

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When we took over leadership of government in 2014, we found serious hunger in the country. A few months into office, the country experienced worst floods and dry spells in two consecutive years. Over 8 million people faced hunger. But the DPP government challenged to provide food for all, and indeed nobody has died of hunger in the whole term of DPP leadership.



The DPP has confirmed that Malawians have the capacity to grow enough food to feed themselves and to produce enough agricultural materials for a successful “Green Revolution.” Further, the DPP government has encouraged food processing and will continue to offer incentives to start-up companies in this sector.

We are aware that many Malawians need support from government for them to grow their food, and the DPP government will continue to support our subsistence farmers with inputs, skills and market access. We have implemented a Farm Input Subsidy Program, and we have learned a lot that we are now ready to make informed reforms to the support to be provided to our subsistence farmers. Among the changes to be made are relocation of budget resources to real productive sectors in agriculture such as irrigation, agriculture extension, livestock production, and research. We will also enhance linkages between food security, health, and education by introducing the extension of the school feeding into the family feeding program.

The DPP government has been promoting farmer organisations, including cooperatives as one way of helping small-scale farmers improve their income. Farmers have been encouraged to take agriculture as a business. However, commercial farmers have been discouraged due to high financing costs. This is why the DPP government has

in 2018 established the Malawi Agricultural and Industrial Corporation Plc (MAIC), a private sector led development finance institution established to spearhead agricultural industrialization in Malawi.

His Excellency President Prof. Arthur Peter Mutharika summed up the objective of the institution as follows: *“Malawians have suffered in poverty for too long. We have endured poverty for too long. We have talked about reducing poverty for too many years. Now talk time is over! Time has come for us to start creating new wealth and end poverty. This Investment Corporation is an instrument for creating new wealth,”*

**Moving forward, the DPP government will prioritise the following areas in the period 2019 to 2024:-**

- i. Reform the current FISP program into three units:
  - a. Universally, the DPP government will reduce the price of fertilisers for maize production. Any maize producer can buy fertilisers at the reduced price.
  - b. For the poor that have land and ability to farm, the DPP government will give them inputs for free these will be on graduation terms.
  - c. For the poor who have no land or ability to farm government will give them social cash transfer. This will give the recipients choice to spend the cash on food



or any other activity that will give them livelihood.  
The reforms will cut administrative costs by 60 percent.

ii. Promote irrigation, water harvesting, and construction of dykes in rural areas to increase irrigation farming and reduce dependence on rain-fed agriculture.

iii. Develop new research on climate change in order to protect our agriculture from the adverse effects of extreme weather changes.

iv. Promote and develop skills and linkages to outgrowers schemes and cooperatives that will enhance the network of smallholder farmers in the commerce of agricultural products.

v. Increase agricultural productivity, lower the costs of agricultural inputs on a sustained basis; support rapid agricultural production by linking it with industry so as to ensure adequate and reliable supplies of raw materials to support our agro-processing industries.

vi. Develop a national food security programme through increasing efficiency in food production, storage and distribution and manufacture affordable small-scale metallic food-grain silos to ensure food security at the village level.

vii. Establish effective means of ensuring that our strategic food reserves do not fall below a level endangering our people.

viii. Encourage dietary diversification to decrease over-reliance on maize meal, by growing other food crops such as cassava, potatoes, rice, pumpkins, millet and sorghum.

ix. Remove taxes on staple foods, such as maize, beans, meat, rice, cassava, potatoes, and other food crops.

x. Facilitate the establishment of credit co-operatives or village banks and providing financial support for capitalization of village based credit schemes.

xi. The DPP will promote horticulture farming, processing and marketing. A lot of horticulture produce e.g. tomatoes, cabbage and potatoes are spoiled due to lack of proper coordination and storage of produce. The DPP will promote horticulture bulking groups in rural areas who will be provided with cold room storage facilities and processing equipment.

xii. The DPP will promote fish farming among small holder farmers by constructing ponds and dams in rural areas. High value fish varieties such as Chambo will be promoted to supplement the Chambo from Lake Malawi.

xiii. The DPP will promote community participation in livestock breeding and multiplication. In this programme, artificial insemination of livestock which include cattle, goats, sheep and pigs will be enhanced.







## CHAPTER 6:

# EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

*“Education is the very soul of our development. In 2014, we made several promises aimed at improving the education sector, ranging from quality to quantity; infrastructure to empowerment; from teacher training to teacher employment; from children with learning disabilities to women who dropped out; and from early childhood education to community colleges.”*

- H.E. Prof. ARTHUR PETER MUTHARIKA  
PRESIDENT. DPP

Over the past five years, the DPP Government has consistently allocated the lions' share of the government budget to the education sector signifying its commitment. In preparation for primary education,

we have supported Early Childhood Development (ECD) programme across the country. We have also taken initiatives to reduce out drop out rate and invested more in girl child education.

## Basic Education

The DPP has always prioritised basic education as a way to equip its recipients with basic knowledge and skills to allow them function as competent and productive citizens in our free society. Since 2014, a number of achievements have been made. Among them;

- We have established and will substantially expand the early child development education program that will also include child nutrition schemes throughout Malawi.

- We have increased Primary school enrolment from 4.6 million in 2014/2015 academic year to 4.9 million learners in 2017/18 academic year, representing 5% increase.

- We have achieved the Gender Parity index of 1 at primary level of education, signifying equality in enrolment between boys and girls with the past 5 years.

- We have rolled out a National Reading Programme from standards 1 to 4 and provided 8.3 million books to all learners in the program.

- We have introduced 10,000 youth and adult education centres.

- 47,600 primary school teachers were recruited and deployed in various schools since 2014/15.

- The DPP government has procured and distributed 86,575 double seater desks for primary schools across the country.

- Over 500 classrooms and 754 learning facilities have been constructed across the country.

- We have implemented complimentary basic education program to at least 10 districts over the past 4 years to take care of out of school children.

- We completed and opened Phalombe and Chiradzulu Teacher Training Colleges (TTCs) and we are constructing additional TTCs in Rumphi, Mchinji and Chikwawa districts.

- We are constructing 14 new full primary schools in Lilongwe, Blantyre, Zomba and Mzuzu. Each new school will have 16 classrooms, Administration block, teachers houses and sanitation facilities.

**From 2019 to 2024, the DPP government will ensure that quality of basic education is enhanced:**

- We will expand the Early Childhood education to reach at least 60% in 2024.

- We will continue implementing the National Reading Programme in order to improve reading abilities at lower primary level.

- We will review the school curriculum to ensure that it is relevant and responsive to the needs of the country.

- We will procure a school desk for every child.



- We will make Free Primary education compulsory to both boys and girls;

- We will ensure that Teaching and learning materials are available to all learners including those with special needs.

- We will abolish all decelopment and other payments in Primary schools.

- We will enforce supervision and inspectorate systems of primary and secondary education.

- We will enhance equitable access to quality special needs and inclusive primary education; Capacity development, governance and management of primary education will be enhanced

- The DPP Government will continue infrastructure development in primary schools including construction of classrooms, teachers' houses and sanitation facilities. New primary schools will be constructed including in towns to decongest existing schools.

- We will ensure improved access to basic health services that will meet the needs of both boys and girls in all our schools.

- We will expand complimentary basic education programs to cover all 34 education districts.

- We will develop a youth and adult education policy in 2019 - 2020 and ensure increased funding

beyond the current 1% of the education budget.

- We will revise the curriculum and make it science-oriented and reduce the number of subjects to allow specialisation at an early stage.

## **Secondary Education**

The purpose of Secondary Education is to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and adaptability to enable them to earn a living, contribute to national development, and survive in an employment constrained environment. Secondary education is also a stepping stone to tertiary education. The strategic interest of the DPP Government is therefore to increase the transition rate from primary school to secondary school.

In 2014, we promised Malawians, through our Elections Manifesto that the DPP government would work towards removing bottlenecks to secondary education.

## **To date,**

- We have provided bursaries to over 60,000 learners in secondary school and also gave cash transfers to 16,000 learners;

- We have procured 62,700 single seater desks and 62,700 chairs for secondary schools across the country;

- The DPP government has recruited 5,266 secondary school teachers since 2014/15 financial year and over 1,020 secondary

school teachers were promoted.

- We have rehabilitated Conventional Secondary Schools in Blantyre, Balaka, Chilumba, Mulanje, and Chikwawa. The works included rehabilitation of hostels, administration offices, classroom blocks, and teachers' houses.

- We are constructing laboratories and libraries in 29 Community Day Secondary Schools (CDSSs), and have upgraded 21 CDSSs. We have also rehabilitated 12 Secondary Schools with Technical Wings by replacing equipment for Wood work, Metal work and Technical drawing; in addition to expanding 23 Community Day Secondary schools to have administration block, library, twin laboratory, hall, staff houses, girls hostels, kitchen and matron's house.

- 11 new Community Day Secondary Schools have been constructed.

- We have introduced Free Secondary Education.

**Moving forward**, the DPP government will ensure that every child that passes standard 8 must progress to form 1 without the need for selection. Selection is only necessary because of inadequate space in secondary schools.

**Specifically,**

- The DPP government will continue with the Free Secondary School education. We will abolish

all developments and other payments

- We will ensure that Secondary School curriculum is relevant and responsive to the needs of the country. Special attention will be paid to the delivery of science subjects in all secondary schools, as we will build science laboratories and libraries in all schools.

- We will increase space at secondary school level and ensure that there is a secondary school within easy reach of every child, by constructing 250 new secondary schools. Adequate qualified teachers will be made available.

- We will upgrade all Community Day Secondary Schools to the level of conventional secondary school in order to improve education quality.

- We will provide quality and relevant education to learners with special needs.

- We will ensure that Governance and management of secondary education is improved

- The DPP Government will ensure that increased numbers of girls equitably access, participate in, excel and complete secondary education. The construction of Girls Hostels in Secondary Schools across the country will continue.

## Higher Education

The Democratic Progressive Party has the highest number of members and supporters who have attained higher education,

compared to any other political party in the country. DPP believes in quality higher education, hence its actions on curriculum, infrastructure, staff and many more in institutions of higher learning.

The DPP government has done a lot in promoting quality higher education in Malawi.

- We established the National Council for Higher Education (NCHE), with the sole mandate to register and accredit higher learning institutions.
- The DPP government also introduced the Higher Education Students' Loans and Grants Board to administer and manage loans and grants to deserving students. Over 40,000 students have accessed the loans since 2014.
- In order to increase access to higher education, Open and Distance Learning (ODL) and E-learning based programmes have been introduced at Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR) and in all constituent colleges of the now delinked University of Malawi (UNIMA);
- We have constructed Nalikule College of Education in Lilongwe to be training Science and Mathematics Secondary school teachers;
- We are constructing Lecture Theatres, Laboratories, Administration Blocks, Open Distance Learning (ODL) Centres and ICT Laboratories and Business

Centres at Mzuzu University, Chancellor College, The Malawi Polytechnic, Lilongwe University of Science and Technology; Soche Technical College, Nasawa Technical College, Lilongwe Technical College and Salima Technical College.

- Using our own resources, we are constructing Mombera University in Mzimba district which will focus on animal science. The required infrastructure network for the University campus is complete and the water supply for the University has been developed.
- We doubled the amount of scholarships and student loans for higher education.
- We have increased the share of eligible students that enrol in our public universities from 21 percent in 2014 to 32 percent in 2018. This has allowed us to progress to ending quota system.

### **Going forward from 2019 to 2024,**

the DPP Government will ensure that: equitable access to higher education is expanded without compromising merit; higher education institutions meet minimum standards; and that higher education is of quality, relevant and responsive to the needs of the country.

- We will continue with the provision of targeted scholarships and expand the amounts of loans available to needy students in both accredited public and private



universities. The DPP Government will further explore possibilities of commercial banks offering loans to students so that no learner drops out of the tertiary education institutions because of fees.

- We will promote alternative modes of higher education provision including e-learning and Open and Distance learning. The DPP Government will establish Malawi Open University.

- We will ensure that increased number of female students, and students with special needs equitably access, participate in, excel and complete higher education.

- The DPP Government will continue with the construction of Mombera University in Mzimba district for the teaching of Animal Sciences. We will also commence preparations for the construction of the other planned universities.

- The DPP Government will continue with the De-linking of the University of Malawi and the creation of three new Universities. We will reform the university system and implement performance-based management. All management posts will be executive and teaching positions will be on contract.

- We will continue with the infrastructure expansion programs in all the public universities in order to expand annual University intake to 20,000 by 2024.

- We will continue to support

the National Council for Higher Education (NCHE) to monitor quality of infrastructure, teaching and learning in both public and private universities.

- We will continue implementing Skills Development Programme (SDP) which is aimed at increasing access, market relevance and results orientation of supported skills development institutions.

- The DPP Government shall make use of Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR) and College of Medicine as Centres of Excellence under the Eastern and Southern Africa Centres of Excellence 11 (ACE 11) in order to improve aquaculture and fisheries management at LUANAR and conducting relevant research in identifying commonly used medicinal plants and quality assurance of herbal medicines used for treatment of malaria, maternal health, HIV/AIDS and non-communicable diseases.

- There will be instituted free WiFi in all colleges and universities to allow for e-library and other services.

## Teaching Profession

The DPP Government understands the critical role of teachers in ensuring quality education for the country.

In 2014, we promised to train more teachers, recruit more teachers, and review their working conditions.

We have finalized decentralization of the Primary education including payment of teachers' salaries and Management of teachers.

This has resulted in improved handling of teachers' issues and timely payments of teachers' salaries.

We have also developed Teacher Management Strategy to address teachers working conditions and motivation issues;

This has been complemented by the development and launch of misconduct and disciplinary procedures for the teaching profession in Malawi; The DPP government has also recruited an additional 20,000 primary school teachers and 1,700 secondary school teachers. 15,000 teachers have been promoted.

**The DPP government believes that this is not enough and will do more in the period 2019 to 2024.**

- We will put in place a National Teachers Council to ensure professionalism.

- We will expand infrastructure and intake in teacher training colleges to meet the demand of qualified teachers at primary and secondary levels.

- We will ensure that the welfare of all teachers is improved and that teachers are motivated.

- Teachers will receive competitive salaries in a timely manner.





- Further, in order to enhance the economic lives of teachers, the DPP government will facilitate the acquisition of subsidized loan facilities to primary school teachers.

- We will continue to promote more teachers and open spaces in the promotion pathways.

- The DPP Government will construct, expand and rehabilitate physical infrastructure for training of more teachers.

- We will continue to train, recruit and deploy more primary and secondary school teachers in order to reduce the high Pupil to Qualified Teacher Ratio.

- In order to improve quality of primary education the DPP Government will support primary school teachers to upgrade and also ensure that Diploma becomes entry qualification for Primary school teachers.

- We will continue the construction of Teachers Training Colleges in Rumphi, Mchinji and Chikwawa Districts; and expand the infrastructure at Domasi College of Education for training of more science teachers. We will increase the intake of female learners as well.

- We will construct a Special Needs Education Institute to train more qualified teachers for Special Needs and Inclusive education to cater for increased number of special needs learners.





## CHAPTER 7:

# COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION

In the 2014 election campaign, the Democratic Progressive Party promised to prioritise vocational training to equip the youths with productive skills for the better functioning of the economy. This was after noting that Malawi had a skills-missing middle in the labour market despite a huge demand for such skills.


The DPP government prioritised support towards the TEVET and introduced Community Technical Colleges in every district in Malawi. This increased access to vocational training and the demand for entry into the TEVET system more than tripled. The youth are being equipped with practical knowledge and skills relevant to our economy and are able to change their lives and those of their families for the better.

To complement the TEVET system, we rolled out a plan to introduce Community Skills Development

Centres in all districts, and later in all the 193 constituencies. As we go to the polls, we have established 29 Community Skills Development Centres offering vocational training to our youths to level one certificate.

Community Technical Colleges have created jobs for Instructors and have increased the number of vocational training graduates most of whom have opened their own businesses and employing others in their chosen trades.





Further, the continuous training programmes have allowed the vocational graduates to proceed towards attainment of industry oriented degrees in other colleges and universities.

Our youths are now competitive in the labour supply, not only in Malawi but also in the SADC Region and beyond. We have also embarked on specialized job-placement which is ensuring skills-job-matching, and therefore industries increasing their productivity and becoming competitive on the market.

**From 2019 onwards, the DPP government will focus on the following areas:**

- We will continue with the establishment of Community Technical Colleges in every constituency in Malawi.
- We will train the Instructors with technical and pedagogical skills to improve the quality of teaching and curriculum delivery in the technical colleges.
- We will construct Technical Teacher Training Colleges to increase the supply of competent Instructors in the TEVET system.
- We will support TEVET institutions to pay better salaries, upgrade learning environments and invest in professional development for the Instructors.
- We will establish technical and innovation business Incubation Centres as transition breeding grounds for productive firms for graduating students.
- We will facilitate access to business capital to the graduating trainees.
- We will be providing modern equipment and related teaching and learning facilities and materials in all colleges.
- We will support all Technical Colleges to establish commercial production centres from which they can generate own funds for self sustenance and sustainability.
- We will encourage cooperation between Community Colleges and the industries to eliminate mismatches between supply and demand for skills in industries.










## CHAPTER 8:

# TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

Infrastructure development is at the Heart of the Democratic Progressive Party. In our 2014 elections manifesto, we stated our commitment towards Malawi roads, railways, water, airline, postal and telecommunications services; and our deliveries in the past five years have initiated the good infrastructure that Malawians deserve. Improved operations and efficiency of transport and communications infrastructures are beginning to support increased production and trade.





It was in the spirit of progressive ambition that the DPP government developed the Malawi National Transport Plan to guide our investments in the transport sector to the year 2037. Remember, the DPP is here to stay for long!

## Promises made and fulfilled

In 2014 we promised to work on the infrastructure, especially road network which is the dominant mode of transport in Malawi for passengers and freight. Roads currently carry 99% of all passengers, 70% of domestic freight and 90% of international freight.

In fulfilment of our campaign promises, the DPP government has completed the rehabilitation and resealing of the Chikhwawa – Ngabu – Bangula road (2015); the Lilongwe West Bypass road (2015); Zomba – Blantyre road (2015); Upgrading of the Jenda – Edingeni road; Milepa – Chiradzulu road; and the 180 meter long Chapananga Bridge (2018).

The following road projects are underway: Zomba – Jali – Phalombe – Chitakale road; Thyolo – Thekerani – Muona – Makhanga road; Liwonde – Mangochi road; Lilongwe Old Airport – Kasiya – Kasungu road; Mzuzu – Nkhatabay road; Karonga – Songwe road; Njakwa – Livingstonia road; Parliament Roundabout – Bingu National Stadium Roundabout Dualisation; Thabwa – Chitseko – Seveni road; and Maselema – Chiradzulu Turnoff second Carriageway just to mention a few.

## 2019 and beyond

The DPP Government will aggressively tackle the challenges in road, rail, water and air transport system for our beautiful country.

The DPP has studied the challenges that our **road transport** system has. We understand very well the challenges that our country has with traffic speed in urban areas, lack of pedestrian facilities, lack of car parking facilities, lack of cycling facilities, poor quality of and insufficient public buses and vehicles; unregulated minibus sector, poor roundabouts and signal functions, lack of facilities for mobility of people with visual impairments, road safety issues, high cost of good buses and other public transport, and poor coordination between local councils and other departments and agencies.

We have strategized to end the challenges in **rail transport**. At the moment, Malawi's rail network is serving only the central and the southern regions of the country.

We understand the challenges on lack of network coverage throughout the country, insufficient skills and expertise in key areas of rail operation and management, inefficient procedures at border crossings; and lack of integration with other transport systems. Further, the country does not have fast passenger trains.

The DPP understands the challenges with our **Inland water transport** system. Lake Malawi has four ports that are in poor condition, and the potential of Shire River has not been exploited for navigation. Just like rail, there is lack of integration with other modes of transport, which has

resulted in Lake Malawi not being used to its full potential. We are aware of poor navigation systems, gaps in regulatory framework, and unsuccessful participation of private sector investors in the water transport system.

We also know well that the **air transport** in Malawi is not fully developed. Out of the 33 airfields that we have in Malawi, only two are major international airports, while five are secondary airports with international access.

But we also have 26 other airfields with basic airstrips on grass or low-grade materials. Further, international cargo operation by air is limited. Key issues in the air transportation include poor infrastructure maintenance, lack of navigation aids, small international and local markets, limited cargo operations, and weak regulatory framework.

**Going forward, from 2019 to 2024, the DPP government will implement the following:**

- We will implement the National Transport Master Plan which the DPP government developed and launched.
- We will continue to develop inter-modal infrastructures to support our agriculture, industry and energy to ensure that these sectors sustain new levels of growth of our economy.
- We will construct railway line from Tazara to Chirumba to connect to the waterway and



to railway lines to Nsanje, to Chipata in Zambia and Nacala and Moatize in Mozambique. The railway system will be integrated to road and water transport networks. We will also ensure that existing railways are always well maintained.

- We will construct a dual carriage highway from Blantyre to Mzuzu through Lilongwe.

- We will revise the transport regulations and procedures and ensure they are harmonized for regional integration, administration, practices.

- We will complete the upgrading of Kamuzu and Chileka International airports, and build new international airports in Mzuzu and Mangochi.

- We will complete construction of the Ntcheu – Tsangano – Neno road; Lirangwe – Namatunu – Machinga road; the Lumbadzi – Dowa – Chezi road; Kawere – Nkanda road; the Jenda – Edingeni road; the Rumphu – Nyika TurnOff – Hewe; and Mzimba-Ezondweni – Njakwa road.

- We will construct the Kaunda and Chendawaka road joining M1 at Kanengo. We will rehabilitate the Mzimba TurnOff – Mzuzu – Kacheche road; We will construct the Thazima Gate (Rumphu) – Nyika – Chitipa road; Nsanje – Marka road; Ntcheu – Kasinje road; Likuni – Malingunde road; Dzaleka – Ntchisi – Mpalo – Malomo road; Thyolo – Khonjeni road; Mangochi – Makanjira road;

Chitipa – Mbilima road; Lilongwe Eastern ByPass road; Katoto Cycle – Mzuzu university and Clock Tower Dual Carriageway; Chidzanja – Crossroads Roundabout Dual Carriageway; and Crossroads – Kamuzu International Airport Turnoff Dual carriageway.

- We will construct One-Stop-Border Posts at Mchinji/Mwami; Mwanza/Zobue; Dedza/Calomue and Muloza/Milanje, just as at Songwe/Kasumulu border.

- The DPP government will continue to construct comprehensive network of rural access roads and trunk roads to serve the remote agricultural areas so that produce can reach the urban markets safely and efficiently.

- We will continue to upgrade, maintain and repair roads, bridges, airports and lake harbours to enable them to support our vision of development.

- We will construct an Inland Port at Liwonde to develop inter-state links with Mozambique, Zambia and Tanzania as well as SADC, COMESA and the rest of the world.

- We will introduce high capacity and electric buses and trains in Blantyre and Lilongwe cities to reduce traffic.

- We will enhance the coordination between city and local councils and other departments and agencies for effective transport management.











- We will develop cycling lanes and pedestrian facilities in all the four cities.

- We will develop modern international bus terminals in all the cities, and also parking facilities.

- We will establish a Transport Authority to regulate transport, including minibuses.

- We will be constructing flyovers and interconnectors to avoid

congestion in Lilongwe, Mzuzu, Blantyre and Zomba cities. We will also modernise central bus terminals in the main cities.

- We will continue to construct highways and bypasses: Western bypass in Mzuzu, Eastern and Western bypasses in Lilongwe, and complete the bypasses in Blantyre.

- We will support the operationalization of National Planning Commission, which the DPP government formed in fulfilment of its 2014 Manifesto





Campaign promise. The National Planning Commission has statutory powers to guide long-term development planning in Malawi.

- We will establish e-Government and e-Commerce and satellite links within the country and the rest of the world to increase reliability, speed and efficiency in transmission of data, imaging and voice signals facilitated by satellite communications.
- We will improve postal services by ensuring high security to

prevent loss or pilferage of mail and parcels and also timely delivery.

- We will continue to demarcate the country for postal addressing system.
- We will continue to facilitate construction of shopping malls, hotels, office and industrial parks that meet international standards in major cities and towns of Malawi.









## CHAPTER 9:

# UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE

The DPP led Government believes that health is not a privilege, but health is a right.

As such, there are no shortcuts to provision of quality health services to the population we serve. Prior to 2014 elections, we promised improved access to health services with focus on rural areas.

Today, our proudest moment is the achievement of universal health care to over three million people in catchment areas of 154 CHAM facilities in the country. This is an improvement from only 42 CHAM facilities in 2014, which were only serving about 200,000 people.

This means that the DPP government has scaled up the Service Level Agreement with CHAM by 85% as part of the Health Sector Reforms. The DPP led government has improved on the availability of functional ambulances from an average of one ambulance serving a population of about 180,000 in 2014 to one ambulance serving about 86,000 people.

We have constructed Nkhata Bay District Hospital, Phalombe District Hospital, The National Cancer Centre, 23 new health centres including Osiyana Health Centre in East Bank, Nsanje District, Chimwawa Health Centre in Chiradzulu, and the Majete Epi Centres in Chikwawa. We have upgraded 5 health centres out of 8 facilities to community or rural hospitals that we promised over the past five years. These include Jenda Rural Hospital in Mzimba, Malomo Community Hospital in Ntchisi and Chiteketsa Community Hospital in Phalombe.

DPP led Government has constructed over 150 health posts across the country and seen a rise in Out Patients Attendance. DPP led Government has expanded drug storage capacity to 600 health facilities with the installation of modern prefab

drug stores. Furthermore, DPP led Government has introduced Chipatala Cha Pa Foni, mobile vans, eHealth, mHealth platforms to improve on coverage and access to health services. Over 85 health facilities have been installed with solar to ensure continuous supply of electricity. The proportion of the population living within 8km radius of another health facility has risen from 81% to 90% within the past five years.

DPP Government has already established Emergency Medical Services along M1 from Lilongwe to Blantyre with great outcomes in responding to Road Traffic Accidents.

We have expanded cancer services in our hospitals and constructed a state of the art National Cancer Centre in Lilongwe.

The DPP led Government has procured and supplied modern equipment to over 1000 health facilities and moved to replace all analogue x-rays with digital x-rays across all public facilities in Malawi. In the quest to improve access to health services,

DPP led Government has procured and installed Digital X-rays to hard to reach health facilities such as Thekerani Health Centre in Thyolo, Misuku Health Centre in Chitipa and Euthini Health Centre in Mzimba.

DPP led Government has recruited over 5,000 new health workers and promoted 6,500 health workers into various positions

over the past five years. Number of specialists trained and retained has increased from 22 in 2014 to 57 by 2018. Number of patients treated outside the country has been steadily reducing from 310 in 2014 to 80 in 2018 because of growing local capacity to manage and treat most conditions in Malawi.

DPP government has expanded intake of nursing and medical training institutions over the past five years including introducing new health programs such as Biomedical Engineering at MUST. All districts in Malawi have an average of three medical doctors by 2018 compared to just one medical doctor in 2014. Doctor to patient ratio has improved from 1: 55,000 in 2014 to 1: 33,000 by 2018.

About 1 million people have been commenced on ARVs with the prevalence going down from 11% in 2014 to 8.8% in 2016. Number of new HIV infections have gone down from 85,000 in 2014 to 39,000 by 2017. Number of sites providing HIV services and treatment have risen from 800 in 2014 to over 2000 in 2018.

To date, just over 1 million people are alive and on ARVs, 40 % of whom have been enrolled over the past five years. We have reduced HIV related deaths by over 35% over the past five years. Malawi has already put 90% of the patients with HIV on treatment and is on course to ensure that 90% of those with HIV are tested and those on treatment, 90% reach viral suppression.





Over the past 2 years, Malawi has been a leader in the Global Network to improve quality of care for maternal, new born, child and adolescent health. Maternal mortality has dropped from 674 per 100,000 live births in 2014 to 439 per 100,000 live births as of today. Child mortality has gone down from 43.4 deaths per 1000 live births in 2014 to 38.9 deaths per 1000 live births in 2016.

In order to protect Malawians for financial risks when seeking health care, the DPP Government has led down the framework for National Health Insurance. National Identity Card has been introduced with over 10 million Malawians having birth identity for the first time. National Health Record is being developed to link up with

the National ID for the National Health Insurance.

DPP lead government has established a Quality Management Directorate to coordinate quality health services in Malawi.

Furthermore, DPP led government has fully decentralized district health services to the Local Councils to improve on the quality and efficiency in the delivery of the social services. Another reform achieved in the health sector is the devolution of Central Hospitals from the Ministry of Health. Central Hospitals will be run under Hospital Boards as one way of making them autonomous.

Essential Drug availability at Central Medical Stores Trust has









improved from about 30% in 2014 to 70% in 2018. CMST debts of about MK15 billion in 2014 have been cleared and reduced to MK2.5 billion by 2018.

The DPP led government has established mechanisms for citizens to voice their concerns on quality of health services. All health facilities have Hospital Ombudsman as well as Service Charters. An International Centre for Quality Management Training and Research has also been established at MUST to enhance improvements in quality of health services in Malawi.

### **2019 and beyond:**

The DPP led government believes that health is a journey and not just a destination. Challenges such as drug stock outs, delays in recruiting new health workers, inadequate allocation of funding to the health sector and old infrastructure and equipment have seen the DPP Government soul searching for solutions.

2019 and beyond will be time to harvest from fruits of hard work, with focus on improving quality of care, equitable distribution of health service provision and reducing risk protection for users of the health system in Malawi. Specifically, the DPP Government will:

**i. Continue to ensure that appropriate and accessible high-quality health services are provided for all Malawian Citizens:**

- We will continue to provide equitable and efficient health care delivery system to improve the quality of care for maternal health care including family planning, Child Health Care, Human Development and Population Health, School Health and Nutritional Services

- We will continue to improve the health status of Youths and Adolescents through special programmes on risk behaviours, improve the health status of the Elderly, displaced, disabled and marginalised communities

- We will continue to develop and implement programs to eliminate diseases such as malaria, Tuberculosis, reduce prevalence of Non-Communicable Diseases, all forms of Cancers and Mental Health Disorders.

- We will ensure availability of adequate quality medical equipment responding to the needs of all Malawians

- We will continue to renovate, upgrade and construct new health services infrastructure, with an ultimate plan of constructing 250 health centres across the country; at least one health centre in each constituency.

- We will continue to increase the proportion of people living within 8km radius of the nearest health facility to 98%, and further reduce the radial distances to 5kms.

- We will continue to improve on availability of essential and



quality drugs and medicines in the country, with special attention to programs aimed at mitigating the impact of Antimicrobial Resistance

- We will improve on availability of water and sanitation services in all health facilities

- We will introduce and implement new technologies as well as eHealth initiatives to improve access to care

- We will increase the confidence of the public and patients/client's satisfaction in the health services across the country

- We will continue to strengthen the capacity of tertiary hospitals to reduce number of patients seeking health care outside the country and make Malawi a destination for medical tourism.

## **ii.DPP Government will continue to substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce:**

- We will continue training, recruiting, retaining, promoting and incentivising professional health workers through decentralization and Central Hospital Autonomy Reforms.

- We will reduce the doctor to patient ratio from current 1: 33,000 to 1: 5,000 within five years

- We will continue to improve the health and safety of all working people through occupational

health services.

- We will raise the professional allowances for health workers from time to time in line with emerging needs.

## **iii.DPP Government will continue to strengthen service delivery to achieve preventive health goals outlined in the National Health Policy, Health Sector Strategic Plan II and Sustainable Development Goals**

- We will continue to implement all health strategies developed in Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III, National Health Policy and the Health Sector Strategic Plan II with focus on improving quality of care, productivity, integration, effectiveness and responsiveness to the needs of all Malawians.

- We will continue to deal with existing communicable diseases while developing programmes for prevention and management of trauma, injuries, Non-Communicable Diseases, HIV and AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis

- We will scale up Emergency Medical Services across the country

- We will continue to invest in improvements of Extended Programs of Immunization as well as investing in new vaccines

- We strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol

- We will continue to strengthen disease surveillance programs to prevent and control outbreaks such as cholera, Ebola

**iv. DPP Government will continue ensuring a Comprehensive health System through a better and continued Re-structuring for efficiency gains, including developing Human Resources for Health capacity to respond to the growing and emerging needs of Malawians.**

- We will continue to strengthen stewardship and management functions of the health system through regulation of service providers, ensuring accountability at Ministry of Health and Decentralized districts, establishing a managerial performance system, strengthening health information management systems and capacity for health research as well as technology assessment

- We will continue to develop strategic partnerships with all providers of health care in Malawi, including expanding coverage for Service Level Agreements with CHAM, Private Hospitals and Non-Governmental Organizations.

- We will continue to promote equitable access to quality health services including curative, rehabilitation, nutrition with focus on people with disabilities, prisoners, refugees, people with albinism, women and children

- We will continue in investing towards improving quality of care for reproductive, maternal, new born, child, adolescent and youth health services as well as general mental health services

- We will continue to strengthen evidence-based service delivery to support the journey along the continuum of care

- We will continue strengthening the autonomy of Central, Tertiary and District Hospitals with emphasis on improving quality of care and efficiency.





**v.DPP Government will continue to develop new strategies to reduce out of pocket spending and reduce financial risk when seeking care among Malawians.**

- We will continue to increase funding to the health sector to strengthen financial sustainability of the health services. This includes reaching the Abuja Declaration of at least 15% allocation of national budget to health, the rolling out the National Health Insurance whose framework has already been developed as part of the health sector reforms.



- We will continue to improve in the allocative efficiency of public funds to the health sector, strengthen financial management systems, improve financial equity and access, implement alternative health financing strategies including engagement of the private sector to contribute towards healthcare improvements.

**vi.DPP Government will continue to empower communities towards more active participation in maintaining their health:**

- We will strengthen communities, patients, civil society organizations and Patients' rights groups to be raising public awareness of their rights, responsibilities and options for health care.

- We will ensure improved participation of Civil Society and Non-Governmental Organizations in promoting behavioural and life style changes.

- We will continue to ensure that the safety of patients is the focus of service provision.

- we will continue to monitor the responsiveness of the health system towards legitimate expectations of the health needs of the community and redesign accordingly.



## CHAPTER 10:

# TRADE, PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT AND RURAL INDUSTRIALISATION

The DPP believes in a lean but efficient Government with a larger private sector capable of stimulating economic growth and development, raising adequate revenue for public service delivery and infrastructure development, generating sufficient foreign exchange for balance of payments, and creating jobs, especially for the youth.



The DPP believes in people-centric and broad-based development in which opportunities are for all and no one and no place is left behind. In this regard, the DPP believes in bringing development to the people and not people following development.

Under the flagship program of Rural Growth Centres, basic social and economic amenities such as piped water, electricity, banking services, postal services, tarmac roads, market infrastructure, education and health facilities, sports and recreational amenities and police units are all brought to communities across the country.

Five centres have already been completed and four are under construction. The approach is transforming rural communities through increased agricultural production and marketing, value addition, light industrialization and mushrooming of various other economic activities which are contributing to job and wealth creation.

The DPP also believes in Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and Rural Cooperatives as catalysts for jobs and wealth creation, economic inclusion and poverty reduction.

In this regard, under the Rural Industrialisation Strategy, the DPP government is supporting SMEs and Cooperatives through provision of good supportive infrastructure and facilitating acquisition of modern technologies for processing and value addition

of products for both domestic and export markets.

Since 2014, we have stabilized the economy and created an environment conducive for business.

We established One-Stop-Centre at the Malawi Investment and Trade Centre (MITC); we reduced interest rates by over 50%; we reduced inflation to a single digit; we reviewed the laws to provide protection of investments; we organized 3 Malawi Investment Fora; and we organized 2 Takulandirani Tourism Expos which resulted in Malawi being designated as one of the top 3 must-visit countries in Africa, among many others. Travel Lemming called the 2019 Malawi *"a conservation - and tourism - comeback in the making"*.

The DPP government also launched the promised *"Buy Malawian Strategy"* to provide outlets and policy guidance on domestic consumption of goods and services offered by local businesses. As proof of commitment, the DPP Government, through presidential decree and the revised Public Procurement and Disposal of Assets Act, set a minimum of 30% of all government procurements to be Malawian.



As such the DPP will give high priority to developing and strengthening the capacity of the private sector to participate effectively in investment, production and trade. The basic problems of our private sector that need to be urgently addressed include: structural weakness in our production and trade structures; supply side constraints and the incompleteness of various value chains.

### **Our Plans for 2019 and beyond**

Building on sound macroeconomic environment and strong infrastructure development, the DPP government will link graduates of community colleges and other training institutions to Urban, District and Rural Growth Centres Industrial Clusters for metal fabrication, wood products, electronics, garments and textiles, leather products, oil-seed products and others. These clusters will be in Ndirande, Bangwe, Chirimba, Chilomoni, Zingwangwa, Machinjiri, Nchesi, Chinsapo, Area 23, Area 25, Kauma, Area 36, Matawale, Chikanda, 3 Miles, Mchengautuwa and Luwingu in Mzuzu. The DPP Government will establish an Industrial Development Commission (IDC) to champion this initiative.

The DPP will also set up special agricultural commodities markets that will be fully equipped with refrigeration equipment at areas where commodities such as horticultural produce are produced in abundance. These

places include, but are not limited to Jenda, Lizulu, Tsangano, Bvumbwe, Khwisa, Salima and others, and match the production with the Buy Malawian Strategy. These areas will be provided with reliable power supply under the Rural Electrification Program (MAREP) and other power sources on-grid and off-grid.

DPP will continue reforming the business environment and improving the macro-economic fundamentals of the economy to make Malawi a destination of choice for all investors. Malawi will be in the top 100 countries in the world.

We will pay particular attention to the production and value addition of cotton through ginning, spinning, weaving and cloth making. We will also establish a vibrant leather industry with a new and modern leather tannery for processing of hides and skins.

The DPP government will embark on mining for rare earth metals (tantalum, zircon and niobium) in Kanyika Hills in Mzimba, Songwe Hills in Phalombe, Makanjira in Mangochi, and Kanga Nkude in Balaka. We will develop mines for graphite in Malingunde in Lilongwe and Ilomba in Chitipa. We will mine ruby in Chimwazulu in Ntcheu and bauxite in Mulanje.

The DPP government will also begin extensive exploitation of our oil resources now that the legal and institutional frameworks have been developed. We will develop Cape Maclear as a



special economic zone for Tourism, Finance and transport logistics hub for Southern Africa region. Cape Maclear will be connected by air, water, road and rail systems and this will create a minimum of 40,000 jobs.

The DPP will also transform Salima, Nkhatabay, Mangochi and Mulanje into mega tourism havens with modern tourism products and facilities which will include Hotels, restaurants, Cable cars and Amusement parks and facilities. On access to finance, the DPP government will establish a Cooperative Bank. We will also strengthen the work of the Malawi Agricultural and Investment Corporation Bank (MAIC) so that it fully supports start-up and large scale business ventures. We will promote matching grants in enterprise development to enable SMEs and Cooperatives access infrastructure and modern technologies.

We will capitalize the Malawi Enterprise Development Fund (MEDF) with K20 billion to cater for the SMEs and Cooperatives to increase access to finance at affordable rates. Further, we

will strengthen the work of the Export Development Fund (EDF) so that it adequately provides financial services to export-ready enterprises and companies in the country. We will mobilise Malawians into savings and credit cooperatives (SACCOs) and facilitate the formation of Community Banks to increase access to finance.

The DPP will also ensure that businesses in the rural areas are a preserve of indigenous Malawians, except in circumstances of a greenfield investment or enterprise supplying agricultural inputs to farmers.

Foreigners will be allowed to operate their businesses only in cities, municipalities and towns and with licensed business capital of at least US\$250,000 brought from outside the country.

Further, businesses valued at less than K50 million will be exclusively provided by indigenous Malawians. Further, we will introduce reservation of certain businesses to be carried out by Malawians only.

The DPP will also ensure that businesses in the rural areas is a preserve of indigenous Malawians, except in circumstances of a greenfield investment or enterprise supplying agricultural inputs to farmers.

Businesses valued at less than K50 million will be exclusively provided by indigenous Malawians. Further, we will introduce reservation of certain businesses to be carried out by Malawians only.



## CHAPTER 11:

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# WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

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The DPP believes that socio-economic empowerment of women and the achievement of gender equality are foundational to the sustainable development of Malawi. 52% of the population are women and provide 70% of all labour in agriculture.



The Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III (MGDS III), which is the country's overarching development framework, has prioritized gender equality and women empowerment as one of the key cross cutting issues that should be mainstreamed in all programmes for poverty reduction and economic growth.

### **Achievements between 2014 and 2019**

Through the political will demonstrated by Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika, President of the Republic of Malawi since 2014 and one of the Global HeforShe Champions since 2015, Malawi has made several achievements in efforts to achieve gender equality as follows:

#### **Ending Child Marriages**

The DPP Government enacted the Marriage Act of 2015 and amended the Constitution to provide for 18 years as the minimum age for marriage. Over 20,000 Child Marriages have since been annulled by the courts and traditional leaders, and the latest MDHS shows that there has been a 7% decline in the percentage of girls that get married before the age of 18 from 50% to 43%. Our government has also developed a National Strategy for Ending Child Marriage in 2017.

#### **Ending Violence Against Women**

In efforts to end violence against women in Malawi, the DPP led government has developed the National Plan of Action to Combat

Gender Based Violence in Malawi from 2016-2021.

#### **Strengthening of Legal and Policy Frameworks on Women's Empowerment**

Since 2014, Malawi has enacted and implemented legislation to create an enabling environment to ensure peace for both men and women such as the Trafficking in Persons Act of 2015; and the Marriage, Divorce and Family Relations Act of 2015. In order to maximise equitable control and benefit from the agricultural related incomes, the DPP led Government reviewed the Land Act in 2017 as well as other 8 related land laws. The review has increased access, control and ownership of land among women.

#### **Social Protection Systems**

The DPP led government is implementing social protection programmes such as Social Cash Transfers, Village Savings and Lending (VSL), Public Works Programme and School Feeding Programmes among others. These programmes have benefited 1.5 million individuals, 73% of whom are female headed households, 26% are child headed households and 56% are female farmers who use the transfers to procure farm inputs and other household necessities. Our Government has also created an enabling environment for rural women to engage in economic activities. This is demonstrated by the high numbers of women engaging in trans-border trade, agri-business and small and medium Enterprises (SMEs)

through creation Village Savings and Loan facilities for rural women in all the districts. Over 3000 clusters of loans and Village Savings Groups are operational across the country benefiting 4.5 million individuals and over MK5 billion is in circulation.

### **Women's Inclusion and Participation in Decision Making**

The DPP led government has put in place strong measures for women to participate in politics and decision-making at all levels. We have scaled up implementation of Gender Equality Act (2013), which provides for 40:60 quota in the recruitment of public officers and is gradually increasing the numbers of women at all the levels of the civil service.

**Many women have been appointed into critical positions of influence.** Among them: Chairperson of the Malawi Electoral Commission (MEC), Ombudsman, Law Commissioner, Clerk of Parliament, Director for Public Prosecutions, Solicitor General and Secretary for Justice, and Chief Commissioner of Prisons, just to mention a few. Women constitute over 24% of decision-making positions.

Specific to women in politics, it is the DPP government that has included the Gender Equality Component in the financing (Elections Basket Funding) and management of Elections. The Malawi Electoral Commission (MEC) has developed a Gender

Equality Strategy to guide its operations in the management of elections with the view to include women. DPP led government has also mobilised resources and founded the 50:50 Campaign Management Agency.

### **Plans for 2019 to 2024**

**The DPP led government will do the following:**

#### **1. Women's Economic Empowerment**

In 2019, the Head of State, His Excellency Professor Peter Mutharika will launch the Women Economic Empowerment Fund which is one of the strategies the DPP led government has put in place to ensure women's access to productive resources as a means of wealth creation for women. In consolidation of the above, from 2019 to 2024, the DPP led government will do the following:

●**Training and Job Creation for Women and Girls:** The DPP led government will make pro-poor skills training programmes and job creation, with an emphasis on women, particularly from the poor urban and the rural areas, a central plank of all future poverty eradication policies and strategies as well as economic growth. This will stand shoulder to shoulder with the Community Colleges programme, which will ensure that equitable numbers of girls are adopted into the Community Colleges.





- Credit and Assets Creation:**

The DPP led government will ensure that women (individually and in groups) are eligible for accessible and reasonable credit, through various best practices and successful models from around the world, which have proved to work for very poor people.

- Land Reforms:**

The DPP led government will ensure that the various land reforms that have started under its stewardship between 2014 and 2018 will be implemented and consolidated and that women will have land ownership and title to the same which can be used for access to credit.

## **2. Strengthened Leadership and Decision Making Positions for Women**

The DPP led government will continue to consolidate its efforts in ensuring women's effective and equitable representation and participation at all tiers of government, statutory corporations and other public bodies, adhoc committees, instituted at local, district, national and international levels for designing, implementing and monitoring of development programmes on behalf of the people of Malawi.

- The starting point will be the DPP led government developing a Compendium of all Professional Women in Malawi for easy tracking and allocation of opportunities.





- In addition, the DPP led government will ensure equitable representation of women in Cabinet and in Parliament.

- The DPP led government will recruit more female graduates in public service and will ensure that more women are promoted in Public Service and become Deputy Directors, Directors, Chief Directors and Principal Secretaries.

### 3. Education For Women And Girls

- Primary School: We will implement compulsory and universal education policy for boys and girls and will recruit more female teachers who will be posted

to rural areas so that they act as role models for girls. The female teachers posted to rural areas will receive attractive remuneration packages and will be safe.

- Secondary Schools, Colleges and Universities: The DPP Government will implement an affirmative action policy aimed at ensuring more girls are selected to Secondary schools, colleges and universities across the country. In this regards government will consolidate its drive to build more girls hostels at Secondary, College and University.

### 4. Maternal Mortality

- The DPP government will ensure 43 percent reduction of maternal mortality rates in line with the newly formulated National Health policy.

In addition, the DPP led government will construct more maternity wards and guardian shelters to increase access to qualified birth attendants.

### 5. Elimination of Violence Against Women and Girls

- The DPP led government will ensure the full implementation of the National Plan of Action to Combat Gender Based Violence in Malawi from 2016-2021.

“Specific to women in politics, it is the DPP government that has included the Gender Equality Component in the financing (Elections Basket Funding) and management of Elections.”



## CHAPTER 12:

## SECURITY





Statistics show that Malawi's crime rate is low. Nevertheless, from the time the DPP got into the leadership of the country in 2014, crime rate has gone down further by 24 percent. This is what we promised when we took office.

We have built and improved the capacity and professional competence of the Malawi Defense Force and the Police Service to respond adequately and urgently to the needs of our nation. They are now better trained, they have better equipment and support facilities, and we have started working on their service conditions.

We had promised to develop the Malawi Defense Force in such a way that in addition to defending our nation from external aggression, they would contribute towards the growth and prosperity of the nation. Our army is now able to participate in regular development programmes and civil engineering works among others. For example, the MDF competitively competes and wins tenders to construct a number of roads in the country. The MDF has also served the Malawian public during floods and other emergencies.

We had promised to introduce National Identification system. We have delivered accordingly.

We had promised to provide houses for our security institutions. The houses are under construction.

## **Going forward, the DPP government will:**

a) support the Police and Army to execute their mandate without political or other interference.

b) continue to involve the security forces in development activities. From 2019, we will facilitate the qualified Police and Defense personnel to train civilians and the youth in basic skills for self-reliance to prepare our youth to stand on their own feet.

c) This will be in the National Service Programme (NSP) that we will introduce after May 2019. All college graduates will be absorbed into this programme immediately after school to prepare them for public and private sector service.

d) Support community integration and participation in promoting a secure, peaceful and crime-free environment.

e) Support the security institutions to maintain a healthy well trained, equipped, disciplined and gender sensitive, combat ready force. We will improve the number of police/ population by 25 percent.

f) Maintain a sustainable size of security force in the Malawi Defense Force, Malawi Police Service, Prisons and Immigration.

g) Continue with national registration of our citizens.

h) Integrate the national registration system to all important systems such as

immigration, police, prisons, hospitals, schools

i) Instituting gender responsive and disability friendly prison facilities.

j) Improving prison infrastructure by constructing additional cell blocks, prisons and rehabilitating existing infrastructures.

k) Fast-tracking execution of cases for observance of human rights

Overall, we will reduce security as an obstacle to doing business by 80 percent.





## CHAPTER 13:

# INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND THE DIASPORA

Malawians living outside the country are free to come back and invest in their Mother Malawi at will.

The DPP government has legalised dual citizenship



## Foreign Policy

The Democratic Progressive Party and its leadership are international in ideas, but local in application. In the period 2019-2024, the DPP government will continue to foster international relations that strengthen Malawi's drive towards a developmental state by continuing to embrace development diplomacy.

The DPP government has proven that Malawi can manage to run its recurrent budget needs using locally generated resources. This has been implemented in the country for the past five years, following the withdrawal of donors after the infamous cashgate of the previous administration.

Therefore, going forward, aid from development partners will be used for long-term development projects that are related to the international trade interests of Malawi, instead of aid that merely promotes short term consumptive priorities. The DPP will actively engage donors in dialogue towards mutual goals that include embracing of home-grown policies, doing away with one-size-fits-all approaches, and adoption of people-centred development practices.

4. The Democratic Progressive Party recognizes that Malawi is not an island and its market alone is too small to attract large-scale investments in industrial and agriculture production, manufacturing and trade. This is why the DPP led government

joined the 26-country member market under the SADC/EAC/AU. We will therefore continue to support initiatives towards market integration in order to create a viable environment for growth and development.

The DPP government will maximise Malawi's comparative advantages in line with the separate-but-equal principle under the Law of Nations. Specifically, we will engage into meaningful people-centered international relations that translate into Malawi's ability to export and meaningfully participate on the international market.

We will continue to adhere to the Treaty establishing the African Union (AU) and/or the continental economic cooperation and initiatives; We will strengthen Malawi's progressive participation in regional and international economic integration and uphold the treaties to which Malawi appended its signature.

We will also continue to review bilateral agreements between Malawi and other countries with the aim of improving our relations with our cooperating partners.

## Malawians in Diaspora

The DPP cherishes the contribution that Malawians living abroad make to our country. In our 2014 campaign messages, we promised to introduce **Dual Citizenship**. And we have done





just that. The DPP government has repealed the relevant laws and enacted supportive laws for Dual Citizenship.

We promised to ease the establishment and transfer of foreign currency for Malawians earning income outside Malawi. The DPP government has changed the system and any Malawian can now operate Foreign Dominated

Accounts (FDAs) in any of our banks in Malawi.

In order to support our citizens living abroad, a Diaspora Unit was set up in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Affairs. Each Embassy now has a Diaspora desk and is the point of first call for all Malawians in diaspora.

## CHAPTER 14:

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### DECENT AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

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The Democratic Progressive Party believes that every Malawi citizen has the right to decent housing, as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the United Nations. It is out of order for our people to be living in houses that are substandard.







Decent housing is a big challenge in the rural areas where 82 percent of our people live. Unfortunately, cities have not been spared - our country is experiencing rapid urbanization, and these are putting pressure on land and housing in cities and leading to the growth of slums and squatter areas, encroachment, illegal developments on public land and various land conflicts.

We understand that 76 percent of Lilongwe residents, for example live in substandard housing and/or informal settlements, and have inadequate access to public services, tenure insecurity, and inadequate housing.

In 2014 we promised to implement policies aimed at removing impediments and creating more opportunities for people to acquire their own houses even at the low-income levels by subsidizing malata and cement. The program however met a lot of challenges from the Opposition who kept denying the DPP the opportunity to substantively fund the programme.

Despite the opposition, the DPP government managed to construct 22,000 houses for widows, child-headed households, extreme poor

and elderly persons.

### **Moving forward,**

- the DPP government will continue with the Decent and Affordable Housing (the Malata and Cement ) Subsidy Program(DAHSP).
- Through the Malawi Housing Corporation, the DPP government will provide low-cost, durable and habitable housing for rent and sale to the citizens of Malawi. This will enable the low-income groups to acquire their own homes.
- We will construct houses for civil servants and our uniformed forces where occupants will pay 15 percent of their salary until they buy off the house.
- We will support the poor to access land and tenure security for sustainable economic development.
- We will digitalise land and computerize land records, systems and processes.
- We will develop and enforce standards and guidelines of buildings.

## CHAPTER 15:

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# HUMAN RIGHTS AND RULE OF LAW

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The DPP adheres to and respects the Constitution, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of the United Nations as well as the African Charter on Human and People's Rights as the basis for a democratic Malawi.

Evidence is all over that since 2014 when the DPP took over government leadership, there has never been anyone arrested for political reasons. Not even the media who have been spreading fake news. The DPP is a tolerant and inclusive party.



**Going forward, the DPP led Government will continue to guarantee the following: -**

- The Rule of Law including the right to a fair trial; appeal to a competent national organ for ones' fundamental rights; the right to be presumed innocent until proved guilty by a competent judiciary system; the right to be defended; and right to be brought to trial within a reasonable period of time.
- The right to reside in any country including one's own and the right to return to one's country.
- The right to economic pursuit or engage in business without discrimination of any kind such as race, tribe, colour, religion, political views, social origin, social status, birth, gender or other considerations.
- The right to security and protection of life, persons, business and personal property.
- The right not to be subjected to torture, or other cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment or treatment.
- The right to be protected against arbitrary search, interference with privacy of the home, or mail and correspondence or attacks upon personal reputation and honour without justification.
- The right to own property legally and not be deprived of that property.
- The right to freedom of opinion and expression without interference including the right to seek, receive and impart information through the media regardless of frontiers.
- The right to belong to any political party and to change membership to any political party of choice.
- The right to religious belief, teaching, practice or worship.
- The right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of oneself and of ones' family, including food, clothing, housing, medical care and social services and the right to social security in the event of disability, unemployment, sickness, widowhood, old age or the lack of means of livelihood due to circumstances beyond his/her control.
- The right to elect representatives of their choice to the National Assembly and other elective bodies.
- The right, through the recognized political process, to vote to change the political system, including the government or representatives, and the right to demand that all elected representatives be fully accountable to the people and undertake their responsibilities and mandates with transparency, dedication and integrity.



## CHAPTER 16:

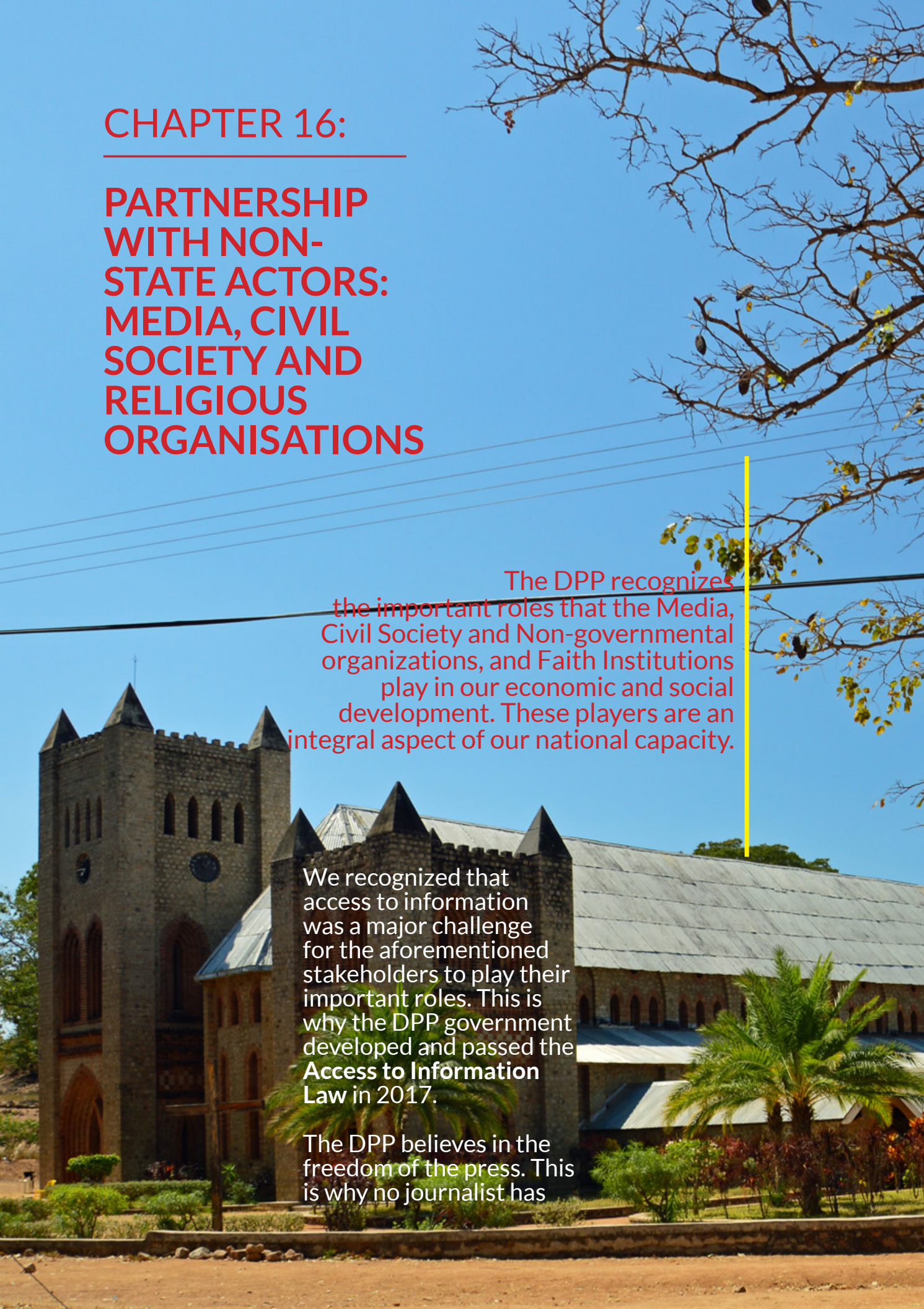
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# PARTNERSHIP WITH NON- STATE ACTORS: MEDIA, CIVIL SOCIETY AND RELIGIOUS ORGANISATIONS

The DPP recognizes the important roles that the Media, Civil Society and Non-governmental organizations, and Faith Institutions play in our economic and social development. These players are an integral aspect of our national capacity.

We recognized that access to information was a major challenge for the aforementioned stakeholders to play their important roles. This is why the DPP government developed and passed the **Access to Information Law** in 2017.

The DPP believes in the freedom of the press. This is why no journalist has







been arrested arbitrarily for doing their professional media work since DPP took leadership in 2014.

We believe that public broadcasting houses must be open to use by all Malawians without regard to political, regional, tribal or any other affiliation. The Board of Directors of the public broadcaster are interviewed, and so are accountable to the Public Appointments Committee of Parliament. Going forward, we will support the oversight function of the Government Assurances and Public Reforms Committee of Parliament.

The Democratic Progressive Party Government recognizes that religious institutions have, since times immemorial, played a key role in development and in molding the lives of the people and in guiding political leadership in good governance. In the Old Testament, it was the prophets - men of God - who had the moral courage to challenge the kings of the time about corruption, immorality and the evils of those rulers. The DPP recognizes the role of Christianity, Islam and other religions in the transformation of our country.

The DPP Government will uphold the right of all religions to fully participate in the political, economic, social and cultural process. We will work with Faith Based institutions and Civil Society to promote the spirit of Hard Work, Integrity and Patriotism among our people.

We will motivate the civil society and NGOs to complement the work of the government and fully appreciate the government policy directions. To facilitate this, we will continue to dialogue and review the NGO law so that it facilitates, and not stifle the contribution of the NGOs and civil society to Malawi's development.

DPP encourages religious institutions to be in the forefront to develop our country. The clergy of all denominations are earnestly invited to play a new role to re-establish faith in God as the basis for advancement of our country.

The DPP appeals to religious leaders to work side-by-side with the Government to develop the kind of Malawi we want. To that end, we shall ensure that the clergy is adequately represented in all key policy making institutions in the civil society.





## CHAPTER 17:

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# FIGHTING CORRUPTION, FRAUD AND OTHER ECONOMIC CRIMES

The DPP government will maintain its Zero Tolerance policy on corruption, fraud, theft and other economic crimes.

Our government will dismiss and prosecute all public servants that will deliberately delay providing public service to solicit bribes.





The Democratic Progressive Party took over the leadership of the country in 2014 just after the infamous Cashgate.

We came with a message of Zero Tolerance on corruption, fraud, theft and any other economic crimes. We promised that *“Never again will Malawi face the shameful and destructive Cashgate”*.

The DPP led government managed to put in place measures that have assisted in the fight against corruption, safeguarding public resources from the plunder by unpatriotic individuals and organizations.

### Among them

- we operationalised the Office of the Director of Public Officers' Declarations;
  - we established Financial Compliance Unit to validate payments that are processed in the government ministries;
  - we established the Public Procurement and Disposal of Assets Authority to provide checks and balances in the public procurement system;
  - we introduced instant alert system for transactions that involve payments of government money above MK 50 million; and more importantly,
  - we provided independence to the operations of the Anti-Corruption Bureau.
- From 2019 to 2024, the DPP government will maintain its Zero Tolerance policy on corruption, fraud, theft and other economic crimes. **Specifically, we will:**
    - Implement reforms aimed at reducing red tapes that encourage corruption;
    - Dismiss and prosecute all public servants that will deliberately delay providing public service to solicit bribes;
    - Roll out public electronic system for purchasing and hiring staff to limit human interaction between public officers and providers of goods and services;
    - Enact stiffer and custodial sentences of a minimum of 15 years for convicts of corruption and economic crimes;
    - Forfeit any unexplained wealth amassed by both public servants and citizens;
    - Introduce special courts that will handle corruption cases;
    - Introduce a compulsory Anti-Corruption subject in primary schools and secondary schools to nurture a corrupt-free generation;
    - Require public servants to pass anti-corruption examinations before securing a job in the public service; and
    - Require to publicise all awardees of government contracts against their competitors and clearly indicate how they fared in the bidding process.

## CHAPTER 18:

# INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY (ICT)

In the 2014 Manifesto one of the key areas was to increase access to affordable, high quality internet services for government, businesses and citizens and to improve the government's capacity to deliver digital public services.

In its 2014-2019 Manifesto, the Democratic Progressive Party promised to create an ICT Environment that would contribute to a digital transformation of Malawi's economy, society and government by leveraging digital technology to drive economic growth, innovation and job creation through access to services, information and markets, and to increase government efficiency and transparency. We also promised to introduce National Identification Cards.

**Since then, we have delivered the following:**

### ●National Fibre Backbone:

We have installed Fibre Cable Technology which has connected twenty eight (28) District Commissioner's offices to provide fast and real-time access to Government Systems centralized at Capital Hill in Lilongwe. Through this backbone, these offices will also have access to affordable and fast Internet through an Internet Virtual Landing Point (VLP) at Capital Hill in Lilongwe.

### ●National Last Mile Rural Connectivity:

We are constructing 136 towers in rural areas to provide affordable connectivity to the Rural Areas. These sites will reduce the current mobile network divide currently affecting the country. Malawians have enthusiastically embraced mobile phones, using SMS and other online applications such as WhatsApp and Facebook, not only for communication, but also for



entertainment, banking and mobile payment, marketing, news and information. Even small farmers and fisherman are using mobile devices for market arbitrage to raise their incomes. And those at the bottom of the income pyramid consider mobile phones to be a necessity as well, not a luxury, and they find ways to cope with the costs by phone-sharing, using missed calls, and texting rather than calling.

### ●**Electronic Transactions and Cyber Security Act:**

We have enacted this Act to make provision for electronic transactions; for the establishment and functions of the Malawi Computer Emergency Response Team (MCERT); to make provision for criminalizing offences related to computer systems and information communication technologies; and provide for investigation, collection and use of electronic evidence.

### ●**Communications Act:**

As promised, we have enacted the Communications Act.

### ●**Access to Information:**

We have enacted the Access to Information, which provides for the right of access to information; establishes an independent Public Information Commission; and promotes transparency and accountability of public officers; among others.

### ●**ICT Reforms:**

We have carried out a number of ICT reforms in various Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies to improve efficiency and make doing business in the country easier by leveraging ICT.

### **Some of them are:**

- a) The Malawi Traffic Information System (MALTIS): This is a state-of-the-art Management Information System for processing various transactions at the Directorate of Road Traffic and Safety
- b) Biometric Passport Issuance System: This is a fully integrated Biometric System for issuance of passports and immigration control at the Immigration Department.
- c) National ID System: This is a fully integrated Biometric National Registration System to provide National IDs to the qualifying citizenry. The introduction of this has improved efficiency in the Electoral Registration exercise for 2019 polls.
- d) The Mlambe One Stop Public Service Delivery Centres: This is the convergence of Government Services at Malawi Postal Corporation Centres. This reform area has leveraged on ICT and brought Government services such as issuance of driving licenses, passports, National ID to districts like Mangochi.

**Moving forward**, the DPP government is concerned that Malawi is at position 175 out of 193 Countries in the e-Government Readiness Index of 2018 and 165 out of 193 Countries on the United Nations e-Participation index. Inefficiency in the Telecommunications Sector and high cost of rural coverage have grossly prevented firms and individuals from accessing a vast array of innovative applications to increase their productivity and widen their economic opportunities. It is a known fact that for every 10% growth in ICT there is a corresponding 3% growth in the country's economic activity.

The DPP is also aware of the absence of a smart and responsive ICT Regulatory System to match the pace at which Technology is changing, while providing enough predictability to encourage long-term investments is also another challenge. These will be handled in the period 2019-2024.

In period 2019-2024, the DPP government will continue with the aforementioned initiatives and deliver more strategic ICT Projects to accelerate digital economy development and innovation. During this period, we commit to do the following:

- Improve access to education through e-Learning.
- Build a more equitable society by ensuring connectivity for all.
- Leverage ICT to enhance

competitiveness in a mobile-first, cloud-first world.

- Move towards e-Government to ensure a government that is trusted, efficient and responsive to the needs of the citizenry.
- Provide a safe and secure online environment for citizens, especially children, who represent the country's future.
- Address the digital divide and bring universal access to affordable broadband, using both policy and technical solutions.
- Increase the adoption of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) by national and local government councils in order to improve the delivery of government services.
- Review ICT laws to ensure the law is in sync with technological advancements.
- Transform the department of e-Government into an effective, independent, transparent, accountable and unified government body to oversee the development of ICT and related services.
- We will construct the National Data Centre in Lilongwe and a recovery site in Blantyre, to act as a central point for storage of all government systems and data.
- We will complete the remaining 134 transmission sites for the Rural Connectivity to enhance Universal Service Access for



people in the underserved areas.

- We will implement an Electronic Government Procurement System which will be used by all public institutions for their procurement requirements.

- We will move towards paperless governance through the Electronic Documents and Records Management System. The system will enhance retrieval of information for decision-making and transparency and accountability in the use of resources and implementation of policies, programmes and initiatives.

- We will draft and enact a Digital Government Bill.

- We will draft and enact Data Protection Act to protect personal and state data used by government, individuals, organisations and businesses.

- We will facilitate Capacity Building for Public Sector ICT Personnel.





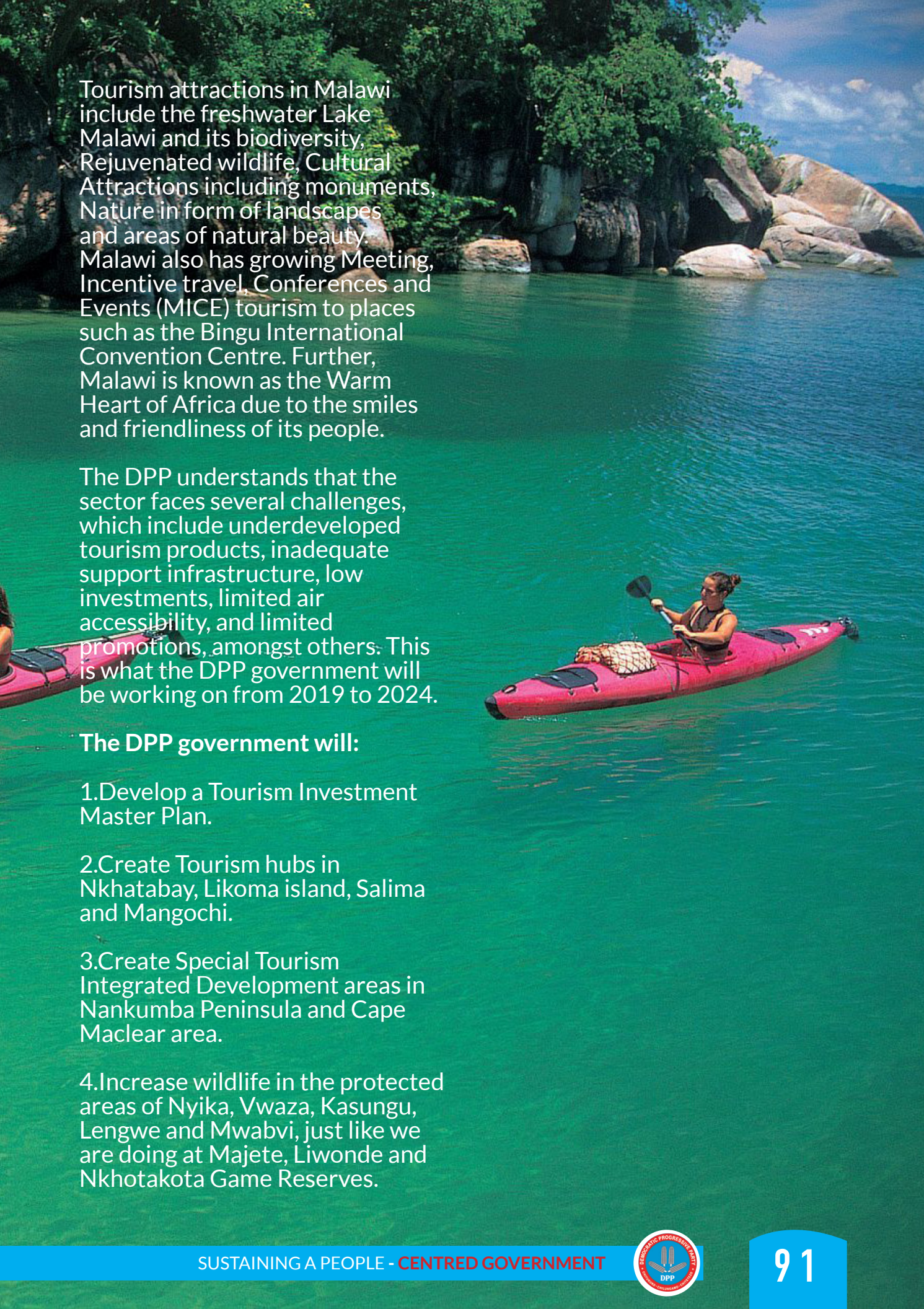
# CHAPTER 19:

## TOURISM

Malawi has both natural and cultural attractions, which when properly harnessed has potential to attract international, regional and local tourists. The DPP government will prioritise tourism to bring in the much needed foreign exchange earnings; create employment; and redirect development to rural areas. Tourism currently contributes 7% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), but the DPP government will raise to 15%.







Tourism attractions in Malawi include the freshwater Lake Malawi and its biodiversity, Rejuvenated wildlife, Cultural Attractions including monuments, Nature in form of landscapes and areas of natural beauty. Malawi also has growing Meeting, Incentive travel, Conferences and Events (MICE) tourism to places such as the Bingu International Convention Centre. Further, Malawi is known as the Warm Heart of Africa due to the smiles and friendliness of its people.

The DPP understands that the sector faces several challenges, which include underdeveloped tourism products, inadequate support infrastructure, low investments, limited air accessibility, and limited promotions, amongst others. This is what the DPP government will be working on from 2019 to 2024.

### **The DPP government will:**

1. Develop a Tourism Investment Master Plan.
2. Create Tourism hubs in Nkhatabay, Likoma island, Salima and Mangochi.
3. Create Special Tourism Integrated Development areas in Nankumba Peninsula and Cape Maclear area.
4. Increase wildlife in the protected areas of Nyika, Vwaza, Kasungu, Lengwe and Mwabvi, just like we are doing at Majete, Liwonde and Nkhotakota Game Reserves.



5.Restore monuments, develop access roads, signage and visitor facilities in high value heritage sites such as Mapale pillars in Liwonde, Mua in Dedza, Likoma Island, Karonga, Mulanje.

6.Develop Cable transportation on the Mulanje, Zomba and Dedza mountains.

7.Upgrade and/or develop road infrastructure in tourist attraction centres. This will include the Rumphi-Nyika-Chitipa road.

8.Construct and upgrade airports at Chileka, Lilongwe, Mangochi, Mzuzu, Salima, Likoma island and Karonga.

9.Introduce Hovercraft like vessels on Lake Malawi to facilitate tourists' travel.

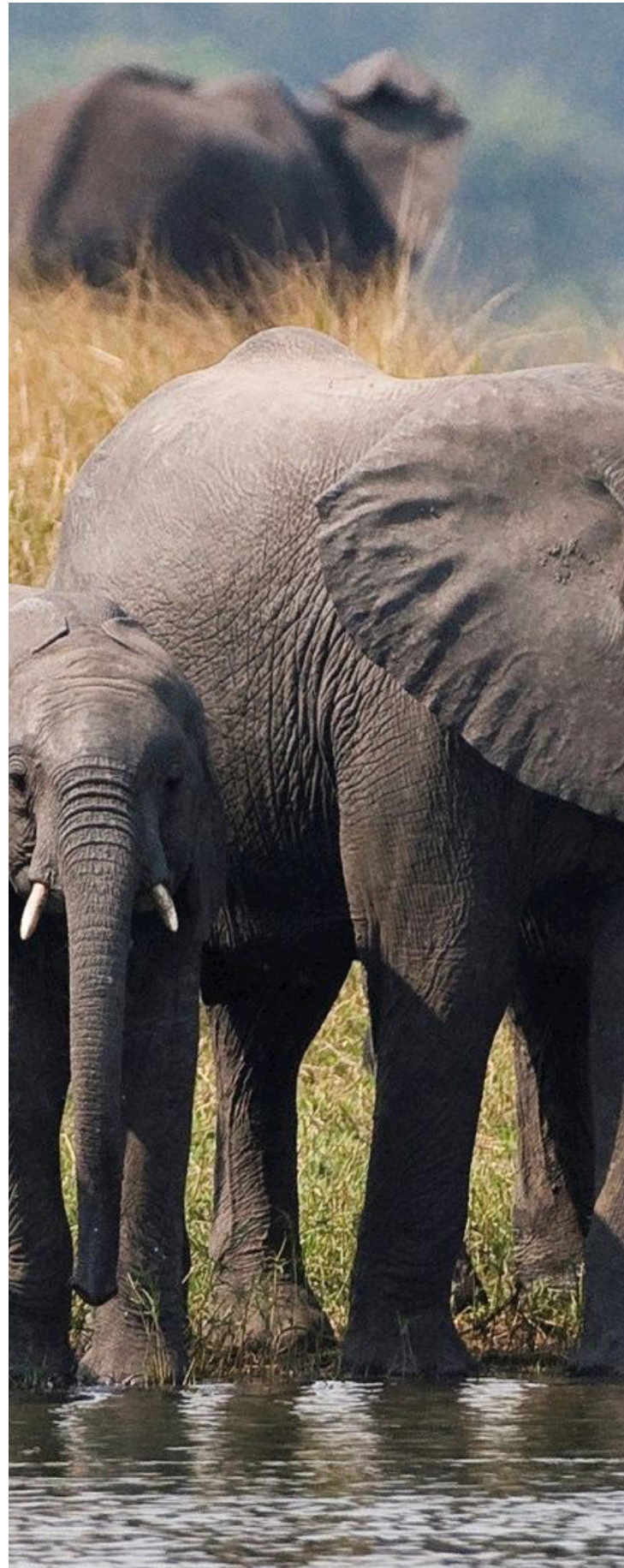
10.Ensure that uninturrupted electricity is available to tourist destinations.

11.Improve Incentives for investment in the tourism sector, and extend to small and medium enterprises.

12.Review Visa fees and arrangements to make Malawi compete favourably as a tourist destination with the region.

13.Facilitate competitive finance for Malawian enterprises to invest in tourism.

14.Create the Malawi Tourism Authority to regulate tourism services in the country.









## CHAPTER 20:

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## THE YOUTH







The DPP understands the challenges and opportunities the country faces: Malawi has a youthful population with 46 percent being below the age of 15, and 73 percent below the age of 30 years. We know this population structure requires different approach in the economy.

The DPP sees the Demographic Dividends .

While this youthful bulge can pause challenges, the DPP sees this as demographic dividend that will need to be harnessed in order to maximise on the benefits from the youthful population. We understand that at individual and family level, high rates of population growth are associated with high dependency ratios and low investment in the human capital of children and young adults.

We also understand that at the macro level, high rates of population growth hinder investment in both human and physical capital formation and exert pressure on the environment and often result in unsustainable use of natural resources. But that is why we are the DPP, the Democratic Progressive Party. We have programmes that will turn the youthful population into an asset that will be used to develop our country.

When we took office in 2014, we got concerned that Malawi produces employees from schools compared to entrepreneurs.

The DPP therefore decided to focus on skills training for self-employment, preventive health services, and provision of recreational facilities.

We established Community Colleges to offer creative knowledge and skills relevant to our unemployed youth. The community colleges facilitate the graduates to become self-employed, get employed, and/or

allow them to proceed towards attainment of higher diplomas and degrees in other colleges and universities.

### **Moving forward,**

- We will continue with community colleges to train our youths in different skills and link them to the market.

- We will support entrepreneurial behavior by providing soft loans to enable the trained youths start or capitalize their businesses.

- The DPP government will promote professional football and netball. In this regard,

- i. We will establish a National Football and Netball Academy where our youths will be enrolled fulltime from a tender age to become professional sportspersons.

- ii. We will establish and support professional football, netball and athletics national competitions and prepare our youths for international competitions.

- iii. We will continue to build youth centres in all districts so that our youths have space for sports, recreation and entertainment.

- iv. We will construct a Sports Centre and Stadium in Mzuzu.

- v. We will construct a modern Stadium in Blantyre.

- vi. We will construct stadiums for Nyasa Big Bullets and the Mighty Berekwara Wanderers.



- We will facilitate the youths to join the National Service Programme (NSP), a programme in which the youths will be prepared for public and private sector service.

- We will continue to provide internships to graduate students and employ them after completion.

- In addition to the abolishing of school fees in primary and secondary school, we will abolish all other development or other payments in primary and secondary schools.

- We will support our youths to participate in global, continental and regional initiatives.



## CHAPTER 21:

### THE ELDERLY AND PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The Democratic Progressive Party considers old people, people with special needs and persons with albinism as important members of our society that require special attention. We further recognise that by virtue of their physical status, they are unable to contribute fully to the development process. Persons with albinism have, of recent times suffered terrible violation of their rights by being targeted by murder and various forms of violence. Main challenges for the elderly are health, shelter, food and clothing. Some old people are also burdened with looking after orphans.

This is the reason the DPP government has constructed over 3,000 houses for the elderly, child-headed households and several for people with albinism. We also started providing them with money in form of cash transfers every month. But we believe we need to do more.

#### Moving forward from 2019 to 2024:

- We will step up efforts to provide the elderly with medical facilities, clothing, food and housing.
- We will support the elderly to participate in cultural groupings and facilitate them to impart their accumulated wealth of knowledge and experiences to the younger generation to preserve our traditions and heritage.



•We will promote compliance to standards in the delivery of Social Welfare services and support establishment of a professional body for social workers in Malawi.

•We will support and operationalize the National Action Plan on Albinism.

•We will facilitate enabling and inclusive mechanisms within small and medium enterprises as well as credit facilities to benefit the elderly and people with albinism.

•We will review the small and medium enterprise policy, TEVET policy and other related policies to better focus on persons with disabilities as a specific area for intervention. We will therefore operationalize the Disability Trust Fund.

•We will promote employment and decent work for persons with disabilities and albinism.

•We will provide assistive devices to older persons and persons with visual and audial impairment.

•We will provide HIV and AIDS support services to infected and affected older persons, people with special needs and albinism.

•We will support the functioning of the National Coordinating Committee on Disability Issues.

•We will provide user-friendly traffic lanes and facilities in all our cities to persons with special needs to use comfortably.



•We will ensure that all persons with special needs including children are safe, secure and enjoy full rights under the Laws of Malawi.







## CHAPTER 22:

# PUBLIC SECTOR REFORMS

True to his  
word, His Excellency  
Professor Arthur Peter  
Mutharika;  
President of Malawi  
launched  
the Public Sector  
Reforms  
Programme  
on 11th February 2015.

The Malawi Public Sector Reforms programme started when His Excellency the State President, Prof. Arthur Peter Mutharika promised the People of Malawi during his 2014 campaign that he will, through the DPP led government, initiate Public Sector Reforms aimed at creating a more effective, efficient and professional Public Service for the benefit of the People of Malawi.

The DPP government promised to begin by restructuring of the Office of the President and Cabinet (OPC), ensuring that Public Servants concentrate on their core duties; Creation of a One-Stop-Centre for investment at Malawi Investment and Trade Centre (MITC); Amendment of official working hours; Streamlining the Management of Statutory Corporations; Decentralisation of Passports printing services to Mzuzu, Mangochi, and Lilongwe; Introduction of One-Stop Citizen Service Delivery Centres and Improving signage and outlook in Government offices, starting with Capital Hill.

Since 2015, the reforms are being implemented in 17 Ministries, 35 Local Councils and 56 Parastatals. Among them:

### **a)Development of Policies and Review of Legal Instruments**

To support reforms in the Public Service, the DPP Government developed the Malawi National Public Sector Reforms Policy to provide strategic directions for the effective design, implementation





and management of public sector reforms. It also developed the Malawi Public Service Management Policy to provide for the creation of a legislative framework aimed at providing competitive and merit-based civil service recruitment while strengthening the performance management system. Further, the DPP Government developed the Public Service Bill 2018 which when passed into Law will greatly improve accountability, transparency, effectiveness, performance and efficiency in the public service in general.

## **b) Institutional Restructuring Reforms**

### **(i) Unbundling of ESCOM**

To improve efficiency in the generation and distribution of electricity, the DPP Government unbundled ESCOM, creating a new company Electricity Generation Company (EGENCO), and setting up stand-alone business units of Transmission, Distribution, System Market Operator and Single Buyer. The unbundling has resulted in more efficiency and also many Independent Power producers (IPPs) investing in the energy sector. This kind of reform is the first of its kind in the SADC.

### **(ii) Unbundling of the University of Malawi**

The University of Malawi is being restructured into 3 Public Universities as follows: The Chancellor College will retain

the name, University of Malawi (UNIMA), the Polytechnic will become The Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences (MUBAS), and the College of Medicine and the Kamuzu College of Nursing will be joined and become the Malawi University of Health Sciences (MUHES). The purpose is to give autonomy as well as improve efficiency in the running of the higher education in the country and provide more space for tertiary education to Malawi's youth.

### **c) Transformative Programming**

#### **(i) Introduction of National Identity Cards**

The DPP led government has for the first time in the country's history introduced the National Identity Cards. This means the country now has a national identification system which will transform the way services are delivered to the people in health, banking and finance, tax payment, electoral registration among others. Currently over 10 million Malawian citizens aged 16 years and above, have been registered.



#### **(ii) Introduction of Performance Contracts:**

Organizational Performance Assessment (OPA) was successfully launched and Performance Contracts were signed between the President and Ministers for all the Ministries.

#### **(iii) Creation of Parliamentary Committee on Governance Assurances and Reforms:**

To provide a framework for Parliamentary oversight in respect of reforms, a Parliamentary Committee on Governance Assurances and Reforms was instituted and is now operational and works hand in hand with the Public Sector Reforms Management Unit in the Office of the President and Cabinet.

#### **(iv) Standardization Quality Assurance and Metrology (SQAM) Project.**

We have built a state of the art SQAM infrastructure comprising National Metrology Institute (NMI), National Standardization Service, an Inspection Service, and Certification Service. This will mean that Malawian farmers and manufacturers who produce for export, will have their products tested in the country for compliance with international standards and they can be accepted to be fit for purpose in any part of the world.

#### **(v) Creation of Mlambe Service Delivery Centres**

We have set up Integrated Public



Service Delivery Centres called the Mlambe Service Centres in Mangochi and Lilongwe. Now, the public has access to services offered by the Malawi Postal Corporation, Malawi Revenue Authority, Department of Immigration, Directorate of Road Traffic and Safety Services, the Registrar General, (and in the near future the National Registration Bureau), all under one roof.

### **d)Reforms in Local Government Councils**

The DPP Government has carried out many infrastructural projects in all the 35 (thirty-five) district, municipal, town and city Councils.

- Chiradzulu and Machinga District Councils have New office complexes.
- We have constructed new stadia in Karonga, Kasungu, Mangochi and Mulanje.
- New bus depots have been constructed in Nkhata Bay, Ntcheu and Luchenza.
- A by-pass road from Chigumula to Mpemba; and a Highway road from Clock Tower via Magalasi to Kameza Roundabout are under construction in Blantyre City.
- New markets are operational at Njuli (Chiradzulu), Jenda (Mzimba) and Nkhata Bay Boma
- Solar street lights are operational in Zomba City, Lilongwe City and Luchenza Municipal Council.
- We have constructed modern

Maternity Hospital at Mangochi Boma; We are constructing a District Hospital in Phalombe; and we have rehabilitated maternity wards at Mzimba and Nkhotakota District Hospitals.

### **e)Reform Related Laws that have been passed since 2014 By the DPP led Government**

The DPP believes in the rule of law, order and discipline. In order to enhance the democratic space in the country, the DPP led government has passed the relevant rules such as: Access to Information Act 2016; Amendment of the Consumer Protection Act 2018; Amendment to the Constitution to increase age of Marital Consent to 18 years 2014; Amendment to the Marriage Divorce and Family Relations Bill 2015 to increase age of marital consent to 18 for both boys and girls; Civil Aviation Act 2017; Communications Act 2016; Credit Reference Bureau Act 2016; Customary Land Act 2016; Electricity (Amendment) Act 2016; Electronic Transactions Act 2016; Environmental Management Act 2016; Forestry (Amendment) Act 2016; Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act 2016; Land Act 2016; Land Surveys Act 2016; Legal Education and Legal Practitioners Act 2018; Local Government (Amendment) Act 2016; Malawi Housing Corporation (Amendment) Act 2016; Malawi Institute of Procurement Act 2016; Payment Systems Act 2016; Physical Planning Act 2016; Public Procurement Act 2016; Public

Roads (Amendment) Act 2016; Registered Land Act 2016; The Mining Act 2018; The Pharmacy and Medicines Regulatory Authority Act 2018; The Plant Breeders Rights Act 2018; The Plant Protection Act 2018; The Tobacco Industry Act 2018; and The Citizenship Act 2018.

#### **f. Reform Related Policies passed under the DPP led Government**

The DPP government has from 2014 to 2018 developed the following policies to guide its development agenda: Community Development Policy 2018; Establishment of Central Hospital Boards. 2017; Guide to Executive Decisions Making Processes February, 2016; Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS III) 2018; Malawi National Public Sector Reforms Policy February, 2018; Malawi Public Service Management Policy February, 2018; National Agriculture Policy September, 2016; National Alcohol Policy 2015; National Artisanal and Small Scale Mining Policy 2nd August, 2018; National Climate Change Policy June, 2016; National Construction Industry Policy March, 2015; National Diaspora Engagement Policy September, 2017; National Education Policy April, 2016; National Employment and Labour Policy August, 2016; National Forestry Policy June, 2016; National Health Policy 2018; National Industry Policy April, 2016; National Irrigation Policy September, 2016; National Multi-Sector Nutrition Policy 2018; National Peace Policy

August, 2017; National Policy for older persons; National Security Policy September, 2017; National Trade Policy April, 2016; National Wildlife Policy 2nd August, 2018; Revised Early Childhood Development Policy 2017; Revised National Energy Policy 2nd August, 2018; Revised National Fisheries Policy June, 2016; Revised National Foreign Policy September, 2017; Revised National Transport Policy June, 2016; Social Welfare Policy October, 2015; and The National Seed Policy 2018.

#### **Moving forward with reforms from 2019, the DPP government will do the following on reforms:**

We will pass the Cabinet approved Public Service Bill into an Act of Parliament and will gazette the new Malawi Public Service Regulations.

The DPP government will establish a Public Service Commission to implement the new architecture of running the Public Service as proposed in the Act. This will entail harmonisation of the Civil Service Commission, the Government Teaching Service Commission, the Local Government Service Commission and the Health Service Commission.

We will also support the other commissions namely the Judicial Service Commission, Police Service Commission, Prisons Service Commission, and the Parliamentary Service Commission to do their job. We will strengthen accountability



by empowering senior Public Officers to directly oversee performance and discipline in pursuit of efficiency, effectiveness and professionalism in the public service.

We will recruit and promote officers in the public service on merit, guided by the to-be approved Public Service Law.

We will establish the Malawi School of Government and Diplomacy (MSGD), by merging the Malawi Institute of Management (MIM) and Staff Development Institute (SDI). The MSGD will offer trainings in leadership and management of the public service; International Diplomacy and will also promote a culture of ethics and discipline in the public service.

In order to embrace Information and Technology as provided for under the Communications Act (2016), the DPP led government will run e-Cabinet, and transit to and implement a Paperless Cabinet. This will save costs, will enhance security of cabinet business, and the Cabinet will lead by example as the whole public service will become digital in the near future.

We will establish Integrated Public Service Delivery Centres in all 35 Local Councils across the country.

The DPP Government will build better and stronger Human Resource Capacity in Local Government Councils and fully decentralise by 2024.

**The DPP government will review**

**and enact the following Laws:**

Amendment of the Competition and Fair-Trading Act; Copyright (Amendment) Act 2016; Enactment of National Arts and Heritage Council Bill; Enactment of the Micro Small Medium Enterprises Bill; Enactment of the National Construction Industry Council Act; Enactment of the Seed Bill; Enactment of the Water Supply Regulation Bill; Malawi Qualifications Authority (MAQUA) Bill 2016; Mzuzu University Act (1997); Review of the National Youth Council of Malawi Act, 1996; Review of Censorship and Control of Public Entertainment Act, 1968; Review of Museums Act, 1989; Review of National Archives Act, 1975; Review of Printed Publications Act, 1947; Review of the Arts and Crafts Act, 1990; Review of the Malawi Investment and Trade Centre Act, 2013; Review of the Medical Practitioners and Dentist Act, 1987; Review of the Monuments and Relics Acts, 1990; Review of the National Herbarium and Botanic Gardens Act, 1987; Review of the Nurses and Midwives Act, 1995; The Education Act 2013; The Gaming and Lotteries Bill 2016; The Investment and Export promotion Bill; The National Council for Higher Education Act; The National Library Service Act 1967; The Public Roads Act, 1989.

**We will review and amend the following policies:**

Child Labour Policy; Children's Policy; Citizenship and Migration

Policy; Civic Education Policy; Dividend and Surplus Policy; Integrated Rural Development Strategy; Intellectual Property Rights Policy; Liquid Fuel and Gas (Production, Procurement and Supply) regulations; Mental Health Policy; Metrological Policy; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) Policy; National Agriculture Policy; National Extension Policy; National Fertilizer Policy; National Housing Policy; National Irrigation Policy; National Land use Policy; National Long-Term Finance Policy; National Micro Finance Policy; National Policy on Adult Education and Life Long Learning; National Prosecution Policy; National Resettlement Policy; National Tourism Policy; National Urban Policy; NGO Policy; Review of the TEVET Qualifications Framework; State Corporations Policy; and Strategic Fuel Reserves Storage regulations.









## CHAPTER 23:

# WATER AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT

The DPP is determined to reduce dependence on rain-fed agriculture through extensive irrigation. We have abundant water which is the basis for our agriculture. In order to resuscitate the agricultural sector, DPP's greatest priority is to develop viable small, medium and large-scale irrigation schemes throughout the country in order to tap the huge water resources of Lake Malawi, the Shire River and the many rivers we have in this country. The aim is to enable the country to produce at least two crops of maize, cereals and other food crops each year as a way of eliminating hunger.







The DPP formulated the Green Belt Initiative (GBI) to use the available abundant water and land resources for irrigation to increase production, productivity, incomes and food security inline with the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS III), the Agriculture Sector Wide Approach (ASWAp), National Irrigation Master Plan and the National Export Strategy.

Since the DPP took over leadership of the country, a lot has been achieved. Among them, increasing land under irrigation to 116,000 hectares.

- We established the Green Belt Initiative Holdings Limited as a government SPV to invest in all GBI projects and its subsidiaries for a proper and sustainable governance framework of the Green Belt projects and also the Green Belt Authority (GBA)

- We have developed the Malawi Irrigation Master Plan, Investment Framework and the National Irrigation Policy.

- We established the Salima Sugar Company JV and commissioned a 1250 TCD sugar factory; established a 400 hectare Drip Irrigation for Sugarcane in Salima.





- We have constructed and commissioned the 530hactare Small Holder Farmer's Pivot Irrigation System at Chikwawa scheme in Salima

- We established the Nchalo GBI Limited in Chikwawa; and modernised the Nchalo Farmer's Association Scheme.

- We have rehabilitated 5 existing irrigation schemes covering 1,295 hactares (Wovwe and Hara in Karonga, Bua in Nkhotakota, Zumulu in Machinga and Manthimba in Thyolo)

- We have finalised the feasibility

studies and intensive community sensitization for the Nthora-Ilora-Ngosi 1000ha project in Karonga.

- We have constructed large irrigation schemes such as Likhubula in Chikwawa covering 400 hactares; Lifidzi in salima covering 600 hactares; and Mphinga in Karonga covering 300 hactares;

- We are constructing the Bwanje Dam.

- We have also commenced the Shire Valley Transformation Programme (SVTP).

- We have constructed a modern water barrage at Liwonde to control the flow of water out of Lake Malawi into Shire River.

### **Moving forward,**

- the DPP government will continue to invest, plan, design, construct and supervise irrigation projects; while rehabilitating and maintaining existing schemes.

- We will partner and support farmers' organizations including Water Users Association and cooperative societies for the proper management of irrigation schemes.

- We will construct irrigation schemes at Nthola Illola Ngosi in Karonga, Nchalo in Chikwawa, Mtakataka and Golomoti in Dedza and Gada in Mchinji.

- We will support the Malawi Police Service and Malawi Defence



## CHAPTER 24:

# SEPARATION OF POWERS

The Democratic Progressive Party upholds the principle that the three branches of Government, namely, the Executive, the Legislature and the Judiciary are separate institutions of the Government and must be seen to be so. They function independently while collectively they complement one another and play important roles in our system of governance.

Force in their plans for irrigated farming.

- We will develop GBI projects in Malombe Mangochi and Nkhatabay.
- We will implement the Shire Valley Transformation project on the 42,000 hectare land.

Under the principle of “Separation of Powers” their roles must be separate but together recognize the national aspirations and hopes of the people. Consequently, the DPP will uphold the following principles: -

### The Executive

The President, as stipulated in the Constitution of Malawi, shall hold office for one more term of five years, following his re-election in May 2019. Under no circumstances shall the President serve a third term of office.

The Executive shall at all times perform its functions in accordance with the Constitution and shall not interfere with the functioning of the Legislature or the Judicature.

There will be established an effective Cabinet of capable men and women that will be accountable for their activities. A proper gender balance shall be observed to ensure women are fully represented in the National Assembly, the Cabinet, and the civil service and in all public institutions and organizations.



## The Legislature

The Legislature is the law-making organ of the Government. Under the Constitution, the Legislature is empowered by the electorate to enact laws governing the country based on a clear understanding of our customs, traditions and cultural values as handed down to us from our forefathers.

The DPP will ensure that there will be a Parliament duly elected by the people to represent them in the law-making body.

The Legislature shall never be allowed to usurp the powers of, or to interfere with the functions of the Executive and/or Judiciary.

All efforts will be made to have as many women representatives in the legislature as possible, in line with the 50-50 representation that the DPP committed to.

In order to ensure objectivity, laws relating to salaries and benefits passed by sitting Members of Parliament will not be

implemented in the sitting life span of that Parliament, save for only adjustment of salaries and benefits as part of the Cost of Living Adjustment.

## The Judiciary

The Judiciary shall be the only organ of the Government competent to interpret the Constitution and the Laws of Malawi and to deal with the issues of justice in our land. Its independence from the Executive and the Legislature in administering justice shall be ensured.

The Judiciary shall uphold the basic principles of the Rule of Law and respect for human rights.

Every national of Malawi shall be subject to same laws of the country enacted by duly elected legislature which represents the wishes of the people.

Members of the Judiciary shall be appointed on the basis of qualification, dedication, integrity and honesty.

The Legal System will be reviewed and re-organized to restore dignity, respect and impartiality of the Judiciary.

The Law Commission and the Law Society are recognized as important watchdogs of our laws and the Constitution.













## CHAPTER 25:

# CONCLUSION

**THE DEMOCRATIC  
PROGRESSIVE PARTY  
PROMISES ONLY WHAT IT CAN  
DELIVER AND DELIVERS WHAT  
IT PROMISES.**

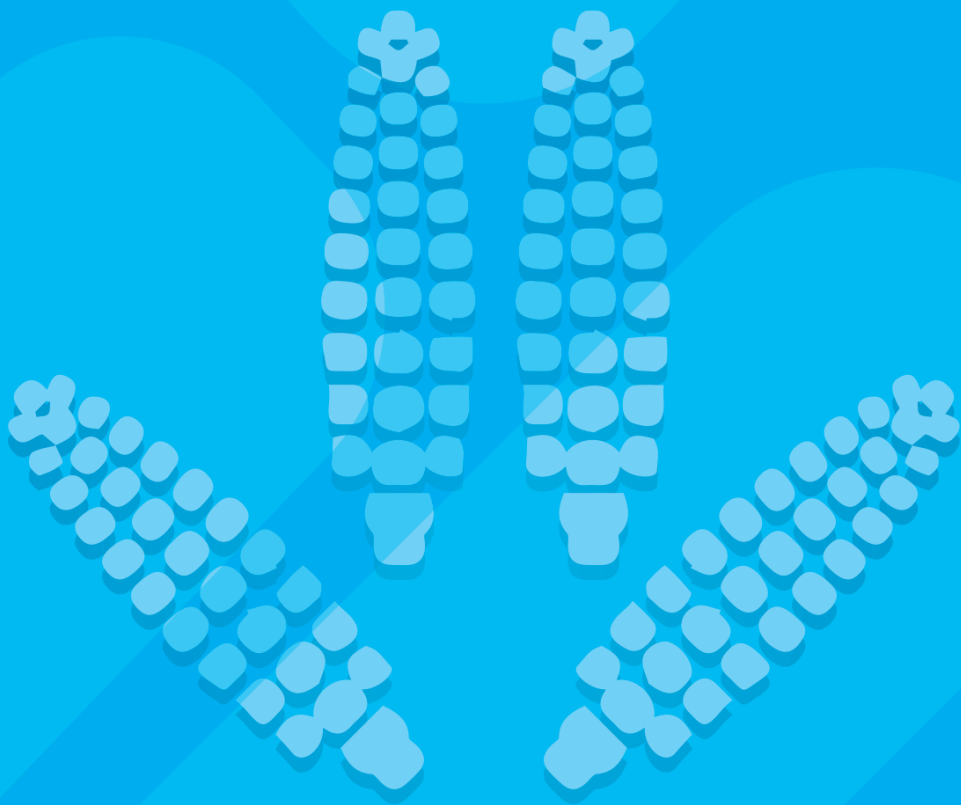
**VOTE THE DPP**

**DPP WOYEEEE!  
MALAWI WOYEEEE!**





# DEMOCRATIC PROGRESSIVE PARTY



# DPP

PATRIOTISM | INTEGRITY | HARDWORK

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