

**Development Aid from People to People (DAPP) Malawi** is a local non-governmental organization (NGO) working in Malawi since 1995, with a vision to create communities that are self-sustainable and have an improved quality of life.

Our mission is to support the Malawi Government and Malawian people by working with vulnerable communities to promote health, and social and economic development through the implementation of projects in sectors including agriculture, climate change, public health, education, and community development. Since 1995, DAPP Malawi has excelled in implementing large-scale, high-impact development programs with measurable outcomes through predominantly local structures, in close collaboration with national and local government authorities and alongside a wide range of trusted civil society and private sector partners.



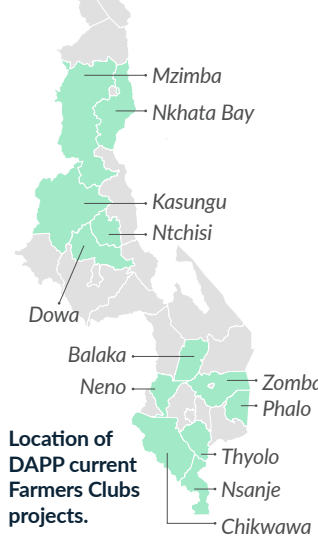
DAPP Malawi is a member of the **Humana People to People (HPP) Federation**, a global network of 29 independent member associations working in 45 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Europe and North America. Through this affiliation, DAPP Malawi leverages experience and expertise from HPP member organizations regionally and globally.

## Our approach to Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Building

As signaled in Malawi's 2021 Nationally Determined Contribution, the country has seen an increase in the frequency, intensity and magnitude of extreme weather events over the last two decades. Its particular vulnerability to floods, droughts and strong winds associated with tropical cyclones has greatly impacted the agriculture sector, which is experiencing the greatest losses as a result of **climate change impacts**. Smallholder farmers represent more than 70% of the economy, meaning DAPP's role is crucial in supporting these farmers with limited adaptive capacity.

Through our Farmers Clubs (FC) model we train smallholder farmers in conservation agriculture, food production, water resource management, animal production and management, and income generation. This increases their **resilience to climate change** by becoming food secure through sustainable means of food and cash crop production, diversifying their income sources, and improving their household assets through **village savings and loans groups**. The Farmers' Clubs together with communities protect and conserve the environment, including water, soil, ecosystem services and biodiversity. Women, youth and people living with disabilities are an integral part of these local structures.

DAPP has longstanding experience in the agricultural sector, focused on work with rural farmers and communities to **build sustainable agricultural practices and adapt to the impacts of climate change**. Since 2006, we have implemented sustainable agriculture and environment programs via our **Farmers' Club approach**, reaching an estimated **70,000 smallholder farmers** and their families. This unique effort has helped to reduce hunger and malnutrition, expand farm productivity, substantially increase farm income, and ultimately increase **resilience and adaptation to climate change risks**.



## Climate Change Adaptation Initiatives

### 1. Macadamia Nuts Value Chain Project

DAPP Malawi in partnership with the Dutch Government via Sympany, Intersnack Procurement B.V., Sable Farming Company Ltd, and smallholder farmers, are cooperating towards a profitable exploration and marketing of Malawian Macadamia nuts through value chain enhancement.

DAPP trained **16 field officers** and mobilized **3,000 smallholder farmers** in **Thyolo and Mzimba** in a well-established Macadamia value chain. In the first three years, farmers were trained in conservation farming and climate-smart agriculture (CSA) and organized in cooperatives. Since we started in 2016, **300,000 macadamia trees** have been distributed and planted. As of 2022, **8,571kg of macadamia nuts** in total from the 2 districts have been harvested and sold.

**We never though Macadamia nuts production was a possible business.**

*Elliot Zimba, Vice Secretary of Chipulikano Cooperative, TA Muzibola, Mzimba - Macadamia Nuts Value Chain Project.*

*"Most members of the cooperative, including myself, never thought Macadamia nuts production was a possible business venture to pursue. Today, thanks to the various trainings we were provided with, our mindsets have been changed as we are able to manage the business and reap from it."*



### 2. Youth with disabilities integration in Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA)



DAPP has been at the center of empowering underprivileged youth in the community including youth with disabilities, with a longstanding experience training youth in agriculture since 1997 at its **Mikolongwe Vocational School**. In 2018, DAPP signed an MoU with **TEVETA<sup>1</sup> with funds from Norwegian Aid for People with Disabilities (NAD)** to implement a CSA project with young farmers with 10% representation of PWD.

Through this project young farmers have been engaged in various climate-smart agriculture and livelihood activities such as conservation farming, growing of drought tolerant crops, intercropping with legumes, livestock rearing (including apiculture) and practice of **Village Saving Loans (VSLs)**.

With funding from **AfDB**, DAPP **trained 500 youth** from 2019 to 2021, building their capacities in entrepreneurship, business management, business planning, coaching, access to business advisory services, marketing, networking, and more, to help them establish, grow, accelerate, and succeed in their businesses. The project acted as a **business incubator**, screening and nurturing potential business ideas from idea generation to start-ups.

### 3. Soya and groundnut value chains development in Ntchisi

In partnership with TRADE program, DAPP fostered the development of **soya and groundnut value chains**, engaging **3,000 farmers in Ntchisi**. The project capacitated Farmer Based Organizations in business management and linked them to FDH bank, Micro-loans, and community financing.

As part of its natural resource management component, the project promoted good agriculture practices, forest regeneration and coppicing, upscaled soil and water management technologies, and mainstreamed goals in gender-equity, nutrition and diversity, ensuring that PWDs took active role within their FBOs. The project also promoted swale irrigation, vetiver planting along contour/marker ridges, tree planting and forest regeneration with overall **16,858 trees planted, 14 forest areas regenerated** and ongoing constitutions of **community forest management structures**.

## Post Disaster Response & Disaster Risk Reduction Initiatives

### 1. Post Disaster response and early recovery for Cyclone Freddy affected population

With funding from Humana Spain, DAPP is currently implementing a project on Cyclone Freddy response and recovery, providing life-saving assistance to **1,300 affected households (5,517 people)** and emergency support to mitigate the spread of cholera in the district.

The project is also providing support in early recovery from flooding impacts and in preparedness for future climate-change-related disasters. In Phase 1 the project provided life-saving assistance such as shelter, food security and WASH. Phase 2 focused on disaster preparedness with emphasis on livelihoods and disaster risk readiness through the strengthening of emergency preparedness. The project will end in December 2023.



### 2. Post-Disaster Recovery and Disaster Risk Reduction Project in response to Cyclone Idai

In partnership with Humana Spain, this community-led project in **Nsanje district** is building the capacity of local governance structures in disaster preparedness and management and Disaster Risk Reduction, supporting socio-economic post-disaster recovery activities for **800 affected households and 4,000 indirect beneficiaries**.

The project will end in December 2023.



### 3. Cyclone Idai Resilience Building Project

In late 2021, DAPP started implementing a project in partnership with Christian Aid in **Nsanje district**. This was in response to heavy, persistent rains and floods due to Cyclone Idai that affected 18,000 households in 2019. Christian Aid's idea was to reduce vulnerability to the impact of disasters among **2,000 flood-affected households** by strengthening disaster risk management systems and enhancing livelihoods.

We built the capacity of farmers in small-scale livestock farming, accessing finance through Village Savings and Loans (VSL) groups, and construction of greenhouses, providing farmers with opportunity to produce high-value crops through modern farming technologies. In 2022, **650 farmers from 52 farmers' clubs** were trained in small-scale livestock production and management. Through VSLs, **1,337 members** participated and accessed financial services through **74 VSL groups** that we revamped and established that year.

We also established a **Trust Fund**, a revolving scheme to provide 'bigger' individual and group loans to VSL members and groups. An **Executive Committee** was formed and provided orientation in trust fund management, constitution development and general trust fund activities.

In **disaster management**, the project built the capacity of local governance institutions in disaster preparedness and management, and disaster risk reduction, including the production and use of Community Disaster Risk Management (DRM) plans.

## Other Relevant Projects

### Sustainable Land Planning (SLP) (2014-2015)

With funding from the Dutch Government via Sympany and in partnership with UNDP, DAPP reached out to 1,200 households in Chikwawa, Blantyre and Dowa. The project promoted improved soil and land management practices through forest regeneration, ground cover, gully reclamation and tree planting.

### Going Nuts (2015-2018)

In partnership with NASFAM and Exagris, DAPP worked in Dowa and Chiradzulu districts to strengthen the groundnut value chain by training 8,400 farmers on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) to increase the production of quality peanuts.

## Our Partners



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<sup>1</sup>Technical, Entrepreneurial and Vocational Education and Training (TEVET) Authority.