



# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

# MESSAGE

- from the Chairperson of the Board:

I am very much delighted to share with you the annual report for the year 2021, looking at how CYECE had implemented its programs aimed at empowering young people and children in Malawi. As the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, I have enjoyed a high level of support and commitment from the entire CYECE Management Team and Staff members in terms of my leadership. For me, it is a great honour and privilege to be entrusted with the responsibility to lead the CYECE Board of Trustees and staff at this very difficult time when the funding space has drastically been affected due to various global economic downturns and continued impact of COVID-19. I must admit that it is not a simple task but with the support of my fellow Trustees of the Board we have come this far. I do not owe it to myself but the team work and strong collaboration that has ever existed among us. The year 2021 presented new challenges in terms of our programming. This made the organization to think outside the box and come up with innovations to address the challenges which CYECE went through. Like I previously alluded to, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to torment us just like any other institution but with the wonderful dedication of Management and Staff, we managed to achieve our set plans for the year. I wish to also mention that regardless of the unprecedented scale of Covid-19, CYECE forged new partnerships with multisectoral partners to respond to the pandemic, providing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and sanitizers to frontline staff and other health workers, disseminating Information Education and Communication materials and installing handwashing stations among others in response to national efforts to contain the spread of the coronavirus. It pleases me to see young people and children who are happy, health and safe as a result of the work of CYECE because this remains the more reason of our establishment as an organization is there to achieve. Furthermore, it has been great to see the organization implementing all the pillars as outlined in our Strategic Plan (2019 – 2023) namely; Youth Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights and HIV; Child Rights Promotion; and Youth Empowerment and Participation. Suffice to say that despite continued challenges such as cyclones and civil unrest due to the disputed Presidential Elections among others, CYECE continued to remain on track in the implementation of its strategy. All these challenges tested the resilience of our organisation, our financial strength and the communities we work with in Malawi. We are glad that we continue to enjoy the wonderful support and collaboration from development partners, stakeholders, government and the private sector to contain the global pandemic.



Mr. Deus Lupenga

I am delighted that we've been able to achieve such great results in the year. We can now proudly look back on a very successful fiscal year of 2020/21. For this reason and on behalf of entire CYECE Board members, I would like to express express my sincere gratitude to all of our partners and donors for our successful collaborations. We could not have achieved much without your support. The Board remains committed to support CYECE Secretariat and staff in implementing its programmes and also responding to the various challenges. The Board would like to congratulate the CYECE leadership and staff for achieving great results in 2020/21 year. This report therefore, highlights key milestones and showcases our experience addressing challenges that hinder youth participation in policy engagement process, communities accessing to quality SRHR services, children's access to education, youth economic empowerment among others. CYECE promises to remain steadfast in ensuring that young people and children continues to enjoy their rights in an environment that is supportive and responsive to their needs and aspirations to achieve their health and development outcomes.

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CYECE sees a great opportunity to strengthen relationships with our partners and foster tighter bonds within the communities we operate in as we continue to serve the youth and children in Malawi. It is our hope that the year ahead brings a lot of new challenges and opportunities to guide and shape the organization to remain on course. Our Motto remains **"The Mouthpiece for the Youth and Children!"**.



**Mr. Lucky Crown Mbewe**

# Foreword

- The Executive Director:

This report is presented before CYECE stakeholders, partners and development partners to share with them the successes and challenges experienced in the year 2021. On behalf of CYECE Management, staff and the Board of Trustees, I am greatly honoured for this great moment to appreciate their support which they have rendered to the organization. The 2021 Annual Report has provided for me and entire staff an opportune moment to reflect on past activities and determining how best CYECE can effectively deliver its mandate among the target beneficiaries.

As an organization, we believe that we now have a collective sense of what has worked and what has not in the year 2021. Our focus now moving forward is to learn from the lessons to leveraging the existing capacities into enhanced service delivery and responsiveness to the needs and aspirations of young people and children in Malawi. As an organization, we do not stop learning from our past but rather use the lessons and transform them into something positive in our future endeavors.

It is therefore worth noting and mention that in my preamble to this 2021 Annual Report, I should start with acknowledging the contributions made by different players to the work of the organization. I would like to recognize the contribution of the CYECE Board of Trustees in providing policy direction to ensure that the organization remains relevant and of course a key stakeholder and partner of government. CYECE has received and continue to receive countless support both financial and material from its development partners and stakeholders to implement various programmes for children and young people. This support is highly appreciated and cannot go unnoticed in this report because it continues profile the organization to the outside world. The youth have benefited a lot from various capacity building initiatives, the children have also been able to be supported with interventions aimed at uplifting their social economic livelihoods.

While we know that in the year 2021 there were a number of challenges which affected implementation of project activities, CYECE managed to implement many of its planned activities to achieve its goal and objectives. Some of the challenges which we experienced in the year include among others the global Covid-19 pandemic and the different Cyclones which affected project implementation in some districts in the southern region of Malawi. CYECE has also managed to establish new partnerships with development partners among them the Power to You(th) programme funded by MOFA through Sonke Gender Justice, secured a new project with Norec, Amplify Change among others. CYECE among other things has managed to sustain community and stakeholders trust especially in the new catchment areas like Dowa, Dedza, Machinga, Kasungu districts.

It is our hope that 2022 will also mark another successful and remarkable year for CYECE and its constituents. I would like to call upon all stakeholders and partners and of course the government agencies to continue supporting the work of CYECE as we continue complimenting government efforts. We look forward to yet another wonderful year of engaging young people and children with various initiatives for their sustainable livelihoods.

## About CYECE

### OUR VISION

By 2030, Malawi is an informed and inclusive society where children and young people's rights are realized and safeguarded.

### OUR MISSION

CYECE exists to promote Adolescent and Youth Sexual and Reproductive Health, children's rights and meaningful youth participation in social and economic development.

### VALUES

Transparency | Accountability |  
Inclusiveness | Equality | Commitment

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

CYECE's strategic objectives are as follows;



#### Strategic Objective 1

To Promote adolescents and young people's access to and uptake of comprehensive SRHR information and services.



#### Strategic Objective 2

To ensure that all children especially girls and the most marginalized children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse and exploitation and have access to inclusive quality basic and secondary education.



#### Strategic Objective 3

To empower young people and advocate for their meaningful participation in social and economic development

## Achievements 2021

### Pillar Number 1 Child Rights

#### Right to Education

Reach with sports

Number of children supported with scholastic materials



**Primary**  
(Male: 4560)



**Secondary**  
Male: 3584



Female: 5184



Female: 3981

Number of children reached with sports and recreation



**Indoor**  
Male: 5023



**Outdoor**  
Male: 4342



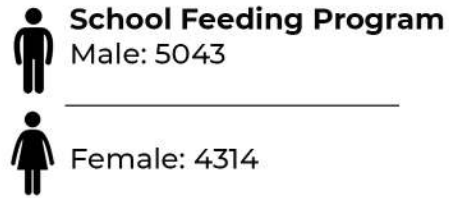
Female: 3432



Female: 4321

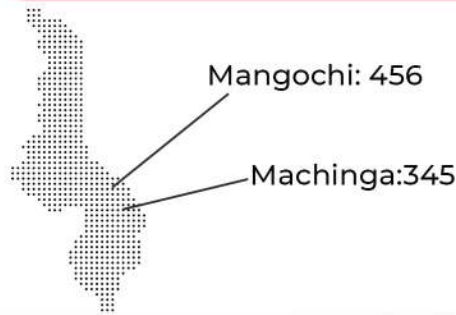
## Right to Health and Nutrition

Number of children provided with vita meal through the school feeding program

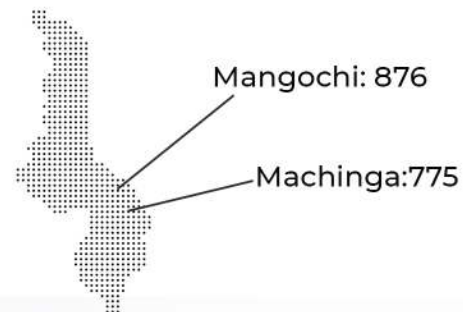


## Child Protection

Number of girls withdrawn from child marriages



Number of child marriage survivors supported



## Pillar Number 2 Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights

Number of young people reached with SRHR information



Number of young people reached with SRHR services



## Pillar Number 3 Youth empowerment and participation

Number of young people reached with youth creative skills and sports development



Number of young people reached with entrepreneurship and vocational trainings



Number of young people taking part in decision making processes



## Capacity building trainings, workshops and forums

CYECE conducted some capacity building activities in order to build the capacity of young people for them to be able to access SRHR information and services. The capacity building trainings targeted children, young people and community and school management structures i.e PTA, MGs, SMCs, ADC, VDC and youth clubs. Among other topics, the trainings focused on SRHR, Peer Education, Life Skills, Advocacy, Social Accountability Monitoring, child marriages awareness campaigns, Case

## Advocacy Campaign meetings and Dialogues

CYECE conducted some advocacy campaign meetings and dialogues activities in order to engage relevant stakeholders and policy makers on issues that are affecting young people and children rights. Some of the activities that were conducted included; advocacy campaigns on inclusive girl's education, mother-daughter camps, girl's discussion forums, peer education sessions and advocacy meetings among others. management, menstrual hygiene, sanitation and making of reusable pads.

## Community mobilization and awareness campaigns

During the reporting year, CYECE, managed to conduct community mobilization and awareness campaigns with the aim of raising awareness on the promotion of child rights and SRHR for young people. Some of the activities that were conducted under community mobilization and awareness campaigns were; community awareness campaigns on child rights, community dialogue sessions on child labour/marriages and teenage pregnancies and youth week of action among others



## Establishment of Children Play Centres

CYECE established play centre grounds at Mtoso, Mkomachilolo, Khwere, Senga, Kalonga and Chulu schools in Dowa and Kasungu districts. The activity was conducted with the aim of promoting education by eliminating child labour in tobacco growing areas. Some of the activities that were implemented included engaging schools to allocate space for the play centre, Preparation and setting of the site, Procurement and installation jungle gym materials and Procure and deliver sporting materials among others.



## School Feeding

CYECE conducted after school activities at Mtoso, Mkomachilolo, Khwere, Senga, Kalonga and Chulu schools in Dowa and Kasungu districts. The activities were conducted with the aim of promoting education by eliminating child labour in tobacco growing areas. Some of the activities that were implemented included; project and child labour sensitization meetings, establishment of play centre ground, orientation on the management of after school activities among others.

# SRHR

**Capacity building trainings, workshops and forums**



**Community mobilization and awareness meetings**



**Advocacy and lobbying campaign meetings**



# CHILD RIGHTS

**Capacity building trainings for young people and community structures**

CYECE conducted a number of activities with the aim of building the capacity of young people and community structures to meaningfully participate in decision making structures. Some of the activities that were conducted include MYP, entrepreneurship and business management



## Advocacy and networking

CYECE engaged community and district stakeholders and policy makers with advocacy and networking interventions to make sure that issues that are affecting young people are addressed. Some of the activities that were conducted included; advocacy campaigns on inclusion of young people in decision making structures and advocacy meetings among others.



## Formal education and entrepreneurship

CYECE facilitated formation of youth cooperative groups in Dedza, Mangochi and Lilongwe. activities conducted included trainings in non-formal education, business management, entrepreneurship, agribusiness and as well as provision of start-up kits for agro based entrepreneurship and business. The trainings were targeting young people from the age of 18-35 and aimed at improving the entrepreneurial competencies of low literate and semi-literate youth in Malawi.

## Response to Covid 19-

The following are the activities which have been carried out in response to Covid-19;

- Promotion of vaccine
- Awareness
- Development of internal guideline
- Internal practices-provision of PPE



**COVID-19 RAPID RESPONSE PLAN (CORONA VIRUS)**

**TOGETHER FOR A CORONA VIRUS FREE SOCIETY!!!**

1. CYECE SHALL ENSURE THAT ALL STAFF, PROJECT BENEFICIARIES, STAKEHOLDERS AND VOLUNTEERS ARE INFORMED OF CORONA VIRUS PREVENTION MEASURES.
2. CYECE HAS EFFECTED A **NO-HANDSHAKE** POLICY WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT AT ITS OFFICES, FIELD ACTIVITIES, MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS, ETC.
3. CORONA VIRUS PREVENTION IEC MATERIALS SHALL BE DISPLAYED IN ALL OFFICES INCLUDING TRANSITIONAL CENTRES, TARGET SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY PLACES OF GATHERINGS.
4. CYECE SHALL PLACE HAND WASHING FACILITIES IN ALL OFFICES FOR STAFF AND VISITORS. EVERYONE (INCLUDING STAFF AND VISITORS) MUST ENSURE THAT THEY WASH THEIR HANDS BEFORE ENTERING CYECE OFFICE PREMISES.
5. IN THE EVENT OF ANY SUSPECTED CASE, STAFF WILL BE SENT BACK HOME FOR A REASONABLE NUMBER OF DAYS UNTIL SUCH A TIME THE HOSPITAL HAS CONFIRMED THEM CORONA VIRUS FREE.
6. CYECE HAS WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT BANNED ALL STAFF FROM TRAVELLING TO HIGH RISK COUNTRIES AS PER MALAWI GOVERNMENT AND WHO LISTED COUNTRIES.
7. CYECE HAS ALSO WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT BANNED ALL INDOOR ACTIVITIES FOR STAFF AND BENEFICIARIES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.
8. CYECE STAFF MUST ENSURE THAT CORONA VIRUS PREVENTION INFORMATION AND MESSAGES HAVE BEEN MAINSTREAMED IN ALL PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.
9. CYECE SHALL ALSO WORK CLOSELY WITH THE MALAWI MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS IN MONITORING THE SITUATION AND GET UPDATES ON FURTHER ACTIONS TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF THE VIRUS WITHIN MALAWI.
10. IN THE EVENT THAT THE SITUATION GOES OUT OF HAND, CYECE MANAGEMENT SHALL ADVISE ALL STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS TO OPERATE FROM HOMES UNTIL SUCH A TIME WHEN FRESH COMMUNICATION SHALL BE SENT TO ALL STAFF TO RETURN TO THEIR OFFICES AND DUTY STATIONS.





## Success stories

She came to a RISA Project's 2021 Annual Girls and Mental Health when discussions caught the who, after a short that she was one of the IM-funded project's goat pursuing her secondary Maria Wetson, a third born and one boy, from Simoni Authority Nankumba in the Mangochi, narrates how sisters into early marriage and how provision of goats to her family has enabled her to continue with her education.

At 14 years while in Standard 8 in 2019 at Chilumba Primary School, she was identified as a student needing education support, her household was assessed and qualified for CYECE's IM-funded economic empowerment scheme aimed at sustaining girls' education.

Mrs Wetson, her mother, got trained by the departments of Community Development and Agricultural Animal Health and Livestock Development on Business Management, Village Savings and Loan concept, home gardening and how to raise goats.

related topics at her MonkeyBay Private Secondary

## FROM THE DEPTHS OF VULNERABILITY TO PROMISING FUTURE

Conference on Girls' SRHR her activeness in group interest of a Project Officer interaction with her, learnt beneficiaries to the pass-on scheme then education.

in a family of four, three girls Village of Traditional lakeshore district of poverty pushed one of her to continue with her education.



"The project also provided me with 3 goats. I have used the knowledge to raise the goats and when we had problems, a Veterinary Officer helped me." After 2 years, when a Project Officer visited her household, Maria's mother had an encouraging story to tell.

"Raising goats is a very good income for my family, they are fast growing and give birth twice a year. In 2020, I gave goats to one family which is what I was

instructed to do in the pass-on goat system." Mrs Wetson explained how, after giving out her goats to a fellow beneficiary on the pass-on arrangement, her goats had multiplied and she was able to sell 2 goats at a goal earning around 70,000.00 Malawi Kwacha (80 USD) to support Maria's education now in Form 2 of secondary school level. She also described how using goats' dung, she had been able to prepare manure that she says preserves moisture in the soil and supplies necessary nutrients to crops for her garden, reducing usage of chemical fertilizers- a climate smart agricultural practice. "I couldn't afford fertilizer for my garden,

and the compost manure worked wonders," she testifies

"I need money for my school necessities and fees when going to school," Maria explains while lamenting how her father doesn't earn enough from the piece works, he is involved in and how previously, her family used to struggle to support her and her siblings' education. Unlike many other girls in her village that fail to make it beyond primary level, Maria says she feels inspired by her model- a banker, who she visited while on one school holiday. She dreams of being a Bank Manager one day. The life skills she acquired as a member of a Girls Empowerment club at Chilumba Primary School, educational support from the goats and the encouragement of her parents keeps her focused on her vision, turning down sexual relationships and marriage proposals from boys and men along the way. As a contribution to the transformation of others, Maria explained how she facilitates SRHR-r

# NAOMI'S SECOND CHANCE



Naomi Mumba is a 21-year-old girl, from Gwere and she dropped out of school when she was in form two because she was pregnant. Naomi then got married to the father of the child but due to challenges she was facing in the marriage, she decided to divorce the man and then went back to her parent's home. While she was living with her parents, she started doing piece work to earn a living for her child and herself. In July 2018, CYECE under GEMPE project established youth clubs which are stakeholders in the project. Naomi was very interested with the news and she decided to join one of the youth clubs where she became an active member. From 2nd to 3rd October, 2018, CYECE organized a girls' conference where girls from youth clubs and girls' clubs in schools were selected to represent other girls from their communities. Naomi through the Nzotheka Youth club Executive committee was selected to represent the girls due to her activeness in the club. During the role modeling session, Naomi paid much attention to the role models motivation speeches and she was inspired by two stories from two role models. One was a story of a nurse who is disabled, Naomi took it as a motivation to see a girl with a disability who has achieved in life and she believed that she can also do the same. Another story which she was inspired with was a story of a teacher who shared the same experience as that of Naomi, getting pregnant while in school. On 4th October, when the girls were being dropped in their respective areas, Naomi stood up in the bus and shared her story to the rest of the girls, she also shared how the motivational talks have made her believe that she can achieve anything in life hence she made a decision to go back to school. Her parents were also pleased with the decision she made and pledged to support her education.



# UNEARTHING INBORN TALENT

Tsalani James was one of the Integrated Adult Education participants from Dowera centre in T/A Kasumbu, Dedza. He was into basket business whereby he would make the baskets using locally available resources and sell in the surrounding areas. Tsalani had been attending the IAE sessions from the day sessions were commenced and he shared that the sessions helped him to realize the strengths that he had so that he can invest into his business for example he shared an example of his inborn skill of making baskets and winnoers which he previously did not realise is his strengths but after learning about SWOT analysis he started using the skill and applying it to his business. He also added that from the sessions, he has learned how to keep records of all his business transactions and was able to set realistic business goals.





## **Our Financials**

total money received and spending areas (pillars and admin)

### **Donor Partners.**

1. Finnish MFA through Family Federation of Finland (FFF)
2. IM Swedish Development Partner
3. Dutch MFA through Sonke Gender Justice
4. NOREC
5. DVV International
6. Finnish MFA through ODW
7. Hivos Regional Office
8. Phillip Morris International (PMI)
9. Limbe Leaf Tobacco Company (LLTC)
10. Alliance One Tobacco Company (AOTC)

### **2021 Total Income**

**2021 Total Income: Mk 683,179,532.00**

**2021 Total Expenditure: Mk 608,086,119.25**



# CYECE Board of Trustees



**Mr. Deus Thengo Lupenga**  
**Board Chairperson**

**Chief Youth Officer**  
Ministry of Youth and Sports



**Mrs. Annie Nankhuni Kachigamba**  
**Vice Board Chairperson**

**Senior Community Health**  
**Coordinator Lilongwe District**  
**Health Office Ministry of Health**



**Mr. William Yakuwawa Msiska**  
**Board Member**

**Judge of the High Court**



**Mrs. Esnart Chapomba**  
**Board Member**

**Director of Basic Education**  
Ministry of Education Science  
and Technology



**Mr. Oscar Masauko Malili**  
**Board Member**

**Accountant**  
Department of Accountant  
General



**Ms. Shabeena Hussein Merico**  
**Board Member**

**Central Project Assistant**  
Collaborative African Network  
for Childhood Cancer Care and  
Research (CANCARE Africa)



**Ms. Mellia Sankhulani**  
**Board Member**

**Information Management Officer**  
Resident Coordinators Office

# PROGRAMME STAFF



**EDWARD CHIKHWANA**  
DIRECTOR OF STRATEGY, POLICY  
AND PROGRAMS



**PRISCA CHAKHOLOMA**  
PROGRAM OFFICER \_YOUTH SRHR



**GRACE MWALE**  
PROJECT COORDINATOR -GOOD  
GOVERNANCE AND YOUTH  
EMPOWERMENT



**ISAAC SALIMU**  
DISTRICT COORDINATOR  
FOR MANGOCHI



**CLEMENCIA BUNYA**  
DISTRICT COORDINATOR  
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**AGGIE BOB CHANG**  
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