



FUTURE FOR ALL IN DEVELOPMENT (FAID)

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR FUTURE FOR ALL IN DEVELOPMENT FOR THE NEXT 5 YEARS (2021 – 2026)

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

Future for All in Development was founded in **April, 2021** against a background of inadequacies in the response the government was offering to challenges faced by local communities in the area of ***Group Village Headman Kajawo, Traditional Authority Mlilima in Chikwawa District, Malawi Central Africa.***

The strategic plan is therefore intended to address the problems and concerns of people in the said area and incorporate their ideas and proposals on how the issues in the area can be addressed.

Programmes for the organisation will build upon what actions other stakeholders are already taking and fill the gaps that exist. Emphasis in the implementation of the plan will be on creating capacities to respond and on utilizing more effectively the local available resources. The plan is founded on the principle of collective action involving individuals, families and communities, formal and informal institutions. Success in the implementation of the framework shall require cooperation and collaboration among stakeholders and implementers and efficient coordination of these efforts.

BACKGROUND TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN

I.I. INTRODUCTION

- I.I.1** The approach of this strategic plan is build upon responses that communities and organisations are already offering in the area. It identifies gaps in the current response and directs interventions to the issues in the community which the already existing responses do not address adequately. The plan lays emphasis on capacity building for individuals, families, communities, community. Based formal and informal organisations, NGOs, religious organisations, the private and public sectors. Special attention is accorded to children and women, particularly with regard to the numerous gender issues which influence the course and impact of the challenges.
- I.I.2** The guiding principle of implementation in this plan is collective action through partnerships in the formulation of programmes, their delivery, monitoring and evaluation. The plan also underlines the importance of innovative mechanisms for financing and mobilization of essential resources inorder to respond to the challenges in the next five years.
- I.I.3** The formulation of the plan takes into account more traditional approaches and concerns. In addition, it highlights and provides guidelines for action bearing in mind the underlying determinants of the challenges and their impact on the members of the local community.

1.2 OBJECTIVES OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN

The overall goal of the strategic plan is to mitigate the challenges faced by the said community and improve their quality of life of those affected. The components and goals for each component of the plan are outlined below.

1.2.1 YOUTH, SOCIAL CHANGE AND HIV /AIDS.

To strengthen the authority and coordination among youth, socialization institutions in order to bring about change in the behaviours that predispose to HIV infection.

1.2.2 SOCIO – ECONOMIC STATUS

To bring about change in the socio – cultural and economic empowerment for women and men in order to address gender imbalance and improve the economic status of women.

1.2.3 ORPHANS, WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS.

To strengthen and support sustainable capacities for the care of orphans, widows and widowers particularly at family and community levels.

1.2.4 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

To aggressively support afforestation programmes considering the fact that Malawian forests are disappearing rapidly.

2.1 YOUTH, SOCIAL CHANGE AND HIV/AIDS

2.2.1 INTRODUCTION

Currently, the area is witnessing a marked decline in discipline and moral responsibility among the youth attributed to a weakening of the social control and guidance functions of the family, the school and religious institutions. In addition, youth do not seem to have appropriate role models to emulate. This situation calls for a well thought out intervention to mitigate behaviour that predisposes many young people to HIV infection. The challenge however, is to revive the authority of the family, school and religious institutions in the guidance of young people.

2.2.2 EXISTING STRENGTHS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Various religious institutions offer training to young people in the area, including HIV/AIDS and human rights. In addition to this, formal primary and secondary school curricula include not only HIV/AIDS education, but also social studies which emphasize human rights and obligations. There are also many NGOs involved in youth training programmes and economic skills development.

All these opportunities enable our plan to build upon to come up with healthy and responsible youth.

2.2.3 THE GOAL

To strengthen the authority of and coordination among youth socialization institutions in order to bring about change in the behaviour that predisposes the youth to HIV infection.

2.2.4 OBJECTIVES

- To put in place effective coordination mechanisms among the various youth socialization institutions to facilitate effective communication.
- To develop and promote a culture of communication within the family, in schools and religious organisations about issues of sex and sexuality and HIV/AIDS/STIs.
- To assist the youth acquire a realistic of human rights, moral and social responsibilities and obligations.

2.5 STRATEGIES

2.5.1 PROMOTING POSITIVE CULTURAL VALUES.

In this plan, efforts will be made to identify and promote positive cultural values and practices that will assist boys and girls to respond responsibly to the social challenges they face in the community.

MAJOR ACTIONS

- Encouraging and supporting a culture of frank and open communication within the family in the socialization of boys and girls.
- Strengthening extended family ties and the traditional roles of uncles and aunts in the moral training of boys and girls, and on issues of sex and sexuality, marriage and family.

- Encouraging the recognition of positive role models among parents, teachers, leaders and other influential community leaders for children and youth to emulate.
- Strengthening linkages between schools and communities and promoting communication on issues of education and culture in the social training of youth.
- Strengthening the family, the community and religious institutions in their role of guiding and training the youth and in dealing with issues of sex and sexuality and HIV/AIDS/STIs.

3.1 SOCIO – ECONOMIC STATUS OF WOMEN

3.2. INTRODUCTION

Poverty and illiteracy reduce the capacity and access of women to utilize available information and services. This makes women to occupy supporting positions in society where they end up being exploited by men who use their status and resources to obtain sexual favours from them. The plan is intended to address social and economic imbalances between men and women, boys and girls in rural communities. The challenges therefore is to provide adequate social and economic life skills to women, men, boys and girls.

3.3. EXISTING STRENGTHS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- Gender sensitization activities are currently on going in the community, so as to empower women, men, girls and boys to reduce gender imbalances. The free primary education programme and other similar educational initiatives, are addressing the educational requirements of men and women.

3.4 THE GOAL

To bring about change in the socio – cultural and economic environment for women and men in order to address gender imbalances and promote the economic status of women.

3.5 OBJECTIVES

- To promote the development of economic skills among less privileged boys, girls, women and men to improve the quality of their life.
- To support families to adapt child rearing practices and value systems which entrench gender disparities.

MAJOR ACTIONS

- Promoting entrepreneurial skills for women, the youth and other marginalized people.
- Equipping women and men, girls and boys with economic skills to enable them to build a strong economic base so that they become independent and contribute positively to social and economic development.
- Promoting equal and increased access to and effective use of available sources of credit and business training for women, men, boys and girls in the district.
- Developing the capacity of women and men to identify, analyze and take positive action against economic values and practices which put them at a disadvantage.

4.1 ORPHANS, WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS

4.2 INTRODUCTION

While in most cases the psychological and material needs of orphans, children living in HIV.AIDS affected families, widows and widowers are not fully recognized the social demand for orphan support, as well as for widows and widowers, is increasing. This necessitates the need for mitigation programmes within the community. The challenge is therefore to come up with effective strategies and mechanisms for care and support of orphans, widows, widowers in families and the entire community.

4.3 EXISTING STRENGTHS AND OPPORTUNITIES

There are many orphan care groups in the community which help to alleviate the problems that orphans face. In addition to this, many NGOs and religious groups are already offering support to orphans, widows and widowers.

4.4. THE GOAL

To strengthen and support sustainable capacities for the care of orphans, widows and widowers particularly at family and community levels.

4.5 OBJECTIVES

- To provide adequate and relevant skills training to orphans, families hosting orphans, widows and widowers, community leaders and orphan care providers.
- To develop and implement appropriate mechanisms for the effective care of orphans.

4.6 STRATEGIES

4.6.1. IMPROVING CARE AND SUPPORT

- Promoting the quality of care and support provided to orphans, widows and widowers.

MAJOR ACTIONS

- Building the capacity of the community to identify and register orphans, widows and widowers and the nature of support required.
- Developing systems of monitoring programmes and the quality of coordination among programmes providing similar services for increased impact.
- Developing the capacities of families and the community at large to mobilize resources locally and to allocate them to

affected individuals, families and community support groups without prejudice.

- Building the capacity of the extended family and promoting absorption of orphans, widows and widowers within such families in line with cultural norms and values relating to support for needy people.

4.6.2 INCREASING LIFE SKILLS TRAINING

Orphans, widows and widowers do not always have the necessary skills to enable them survive socially and economically. This situation requires particular skills, knowledge and attitudes that empower them to cope with the pressures of orphanhood and loss of spouse.

MAJOR ACTIONS

- Building capacities of orphans, widows and widowers to engage in income generating activities for self support.
- Building capacity for communities and families to provide educational support to school going orphans and safeguarding them from delinquent behaviours that put them at risk.
- Strengthening the provision of psycho – social counselling, care and support to orphans, children in HIV/AIDS affected families, widows and widowers particularly at community and family levels.
- Advocating for increased support to training and education among religious and non governmental organisations for widows and widowers.

5.1 ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION

5.2 INTRODUCTION

With limited alternative energy sources in the country, fuel wood is the main source of energy for the majority of Malawians, especially those in the rural areas. Household consumption alone accounts for 90% of fuel wood demand, a thing that is accelerating deforestation.

Deforestation has resulted in a number of negative effects and these include soil degradation, siltation of rivers, loss of soil fertility and low agricultural production.

The main causes of deforestation are poverty, overpopulation and ignorance. The felling of trees in this area is mainly as a result of charcoal production that is sold to generate income for the local people.

5.3. EXISTING STRENGTHS AND OPPORTUNITIES

The Malawi government through the Forestry Department, private institutions and NGOs have already embarked on a number of tree planting programmes on some affected areas. Some communities have been offered support to engage in Income Generating Activities (IGAS) that are environmental friendly such as bee keeping, guinea fowl rearing, tree planting, gardening e.t.c. These products are sold for income, thereby acting as substitute for charcoal selling.

5.4 THE GOAL

To raise the levels of environmental awareness and interest in the environment, while at same time directing current thinking and attitudes.

5.5 OBJECTIVES

Identifying environmental issues reporting on these issues and take actions to improve on these issues and take action to improve on our local environment.

- Implementing and managing of environmental micro - projects.

- Developing Active learning programmes on environmental issues.
- Developing a community population that is aware of and concerned with the total environment and its associated problems, and which has the knowledge, skills, attitudes, motivation and commitment to work individually and collectively towards solutions of current environmental issues in the community.
- Providing solutions to the most urgent environmental problems, taking into account the root causes.
- Developing an awareness, appreciation and concern for the immediate environment.

MAJOR ACTIONS

- Taking actions to prevent deforestation.
- Coming up with innovative participatory approaches to ensure that the root causes of the existing environmental issues are dealt with.
- Analysing issues and implementing activities that will mitigate causes of environmental issues.
- Helping community members to have a better understanding of environmental management through civic education.
- Teaching community members about the value of the environment and the need to manage it.

- Developing and implementing projects that address root causes of environmental degradation and encourage sustainable management of natural resources.
- Cooperating with communities by establishing good relationships.
- Participation in planning, implementing and evaluation of activities aimed at resolving an environmental issue.
- Coming up with an environmental Action Plan.
- Engaging in practical projects to try to help solve environmental problems or hot spots in our area.
- Sending reports to donors and interested authorities.
- Collaborating with Environmental District Officer.
- Designing and carrying out corrective measures to check deforestation.
- Conducting awareness campaigns on deforestation.