

The Landirani Training Village

Creating lasting change in Malawi



We can do this together

THE VILLAGE PROSPECTUS

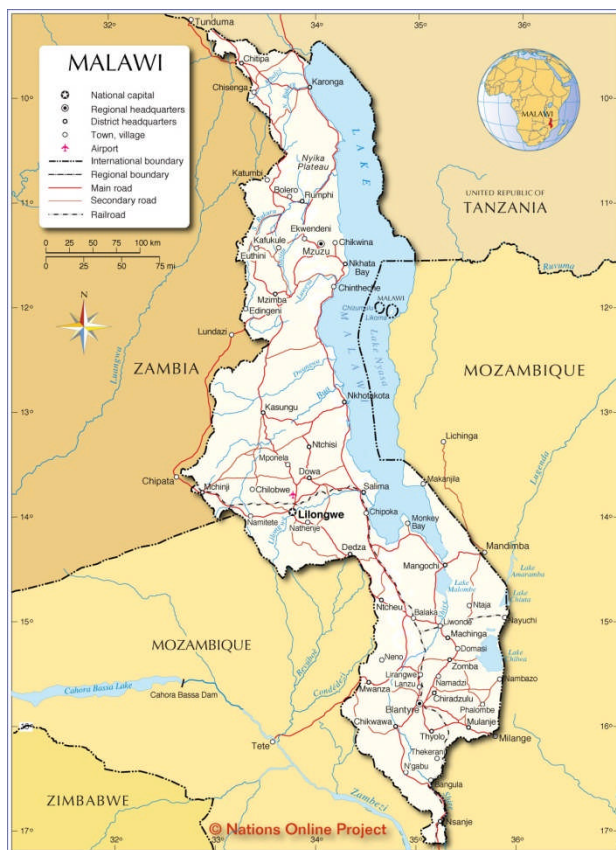


Malawi

Malawi is ranked the 8th poorest country in the world with 75% of the population living on less than £1 per day (source UN). There are 15,000,000 people in Malawi and this is expected to triple in 25 years, in a country a little smaller than England.

There are currently 930,000 people in Malawi living with HIV or AIDS, this equates to 11.9% of the population aged 15-49 (World Health Statistics - 2009)

83% of Malawians rely on subsistence farming, but often fail to have food security as the country is prone to natural disasters of both extremes - from drought to heavy rainfalls. More than a third of rural households earn their livelihood only from farming or fishing.



Despite the availability of better technologies, the productivity of most crops has not improved since the 1970s, largely as a result of declining soil fertility from over farming with single crops and use of fertilisers. Currently maize, tobacco and groundnuts are the three main crops grown in our area. The use of improved varieties, together with organic compost, better crop agro-forestry and irrigation, has the potential to greatly improve yields. Post-harvest losses are estimated to be around 40 per cent of production. The introduction of 'permaculture' methods will enhance food security to the rural area.

African Vision Malawi – an introduction to our charity

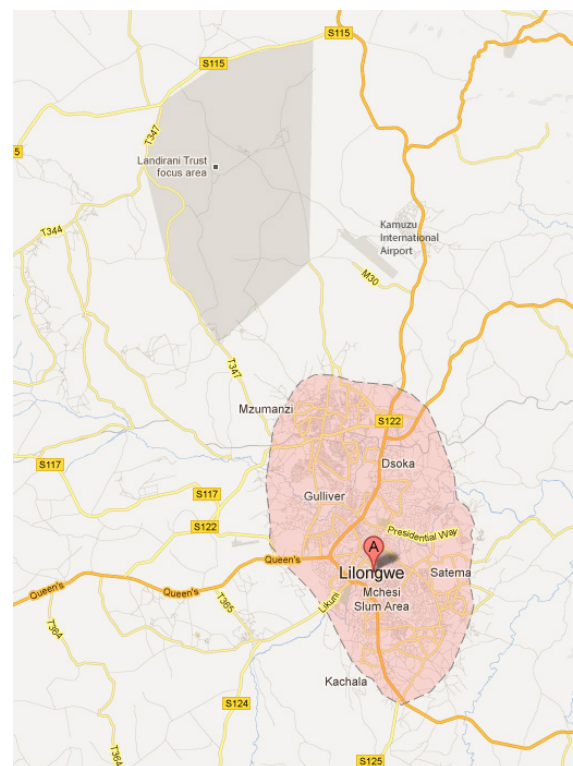
Since 2005 African Vision Malawi has been helping children and vulnerable people in Malawi, one of the poorest countries in the world.

Our vision is to see a 'healthy, educated and self-sufficient community in Malawi'.

We work about 30km from the capital, Lilongwe, very close to the Kamuzu International airport. We cover an area of about 400km² with a population of approximately 45,000, supporting some 3,000 orphans and many other elderly and vulnerable people. We classify 'vulnerable people' as ultra-poor, disabled and HIV/AIDS positive. Our primary aim is to help these people to help themselves, mainly through training.

There is so much potential available, if they could for example:

- Grow two harvests a year instead of one
- Learn how to conserve water outside of the rainy season
- Learn new skills such as thatching, tailoring, irrigation etc.
- Use well-constructed traditional techniques such as building in rammed earth
- Grow more diverse crops and trees
- Have more understanding about organic farming that can replenish the soil using naturally available resources
- Prevent HIV/AIDS and understand basic health support including good nutrition
- Allow their children to have an education rather than keep them home



Our work in context

The people of Malawi want to help themselves. We can support them to become independent and self-sufficient and our mission is to help them achieve that. African Vision Malawi works in conjunction with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) set out by the United Nations in 2000. The work of African Vision Malawi specifically relates to all 8 goals to 'end poverty by 2015'.

The Landirani Training Village

Our current vision is to create the Landirani Training Village (Landirani means 'please receive' in the local language Chichewa), a self-sustaining community on a 10 acre site. This is now well underway and it will be a living classroom where we can offer training to vulnerable groups in our area, which include people with disabilities, HIV+ people, women and orphans. We will offer vocational courses which will enable them to start a business. The added benefit of living and learning within the environment of the village means they will take additional skills back to their homes that they can adopt to make their lives more sustainable. Our focus is to provide 'education through experience' – something which will empower members of the community to become self-sufficient, commercially aware and in time, prosperous with essential food security.

Our approach is unique and we believe that the Village will become a best-practice example for Malawi (and in time other parts of Africa) of how to encourage and develop sustainable, forward looking and skilled communities.

Using traditional techniques and resources, the Village will be an education centre for agricultural, vocational and life-skills training. Once built, it will also become home to African Vision Malawi headquarters so that we can begin to have a much deeper understanding and closer connection to those we are supporting.

Looking towards a bright future

For many people in the area, the Village has become a beacon of hope for the future. It enables us to continue training the local community in agricultural skills, vocational skills, and sustainable methods of both building and living.

Our approach is to ensure that we are right at the heart of the communities within which we work. It helps us to get local people involved on a more direct level and for them to take ownership of the projects and drive them forward for those who will benefit from them.

The Landirani Training Village – Putting the building blocks in place

Ultimately, our work will only be successful if we work closely and build relationships with the local community. We have worked hard to achieve this and in 2009, a group of Chiefs within our area donated 10 acres for the development of the community project 'Landirani Training Village'.

It was a great honour to receive this land and in recognition, it is our intention that the local community is involved in every aspect of the development of the Village; from planning and construction to the administration and on-going maintenance of the Village. Participation and ownership of the project will encourage success.

Our focus is to provide 'education through experience' – something which will empower members of the community to become self-sufficient, commercially aware and in time, prosperous with essential food security.

The Village will comprise of:

1. Community based childcare centre (CBCC) – pre-school, feeding centre and orphan psychosocial support (which will also be used as an adult education classroom)
2. Training Area with 4 workshops
3. Agricultural workshop
4. Accommodation blocks for trainees/visitors/ permanent staff
5. Library/resource centre – with adult literacy and numeracy classes
6. A communal kitchen/meeting room
7. Water harvesters
8. Compost toilets and wash areas
9. Permaculture areas
10. 4 houses for Landirani staff
11. Amphitheatre & meeting area
12. Community Shop
13. Office
14. Agro-forestry, fruit orchards, plant nursery, vegetables and native land
15. Small husbandry (chickens, rabbits and goats)
16. Bee keeping and herbal gardens
17. Cattle and making bio-diesel



Our detailed plans

‘Education through experience’ and more specifically effective training are critical to the success of the Landirani Training Village project and is at the heart of everything we are striving to achieve.

Besides the vocational training leading to financial security, we are promoting a ‘way of life’ which will give food security and encompass the values of permaculture, compost toilets, bee keeping, using natural resources as an energy source (such as solar power, bio-diesel) and herbal medicines.

Our primary objective is to support orphans within their own communities. Whilst we supply some support aimed directly at orphan care, vocational training is important for those members of the community who typically provide care for them. We want them to have the confidence, knowledge and resources to be able to establish a regular income source from which the orphans can directly benefit, along with adapting to use ‘free natural resources’.

Working in, and with the community

Throughout every aspect of the Landirani Training Village, we work hard to combine local, traditional methods with our own skills and approach to deliver a sustainable, ecologically-sound Village for the future.

Understanding local needs – we want to move part of our Headquarters into the Village as soon as we can. Inevitably we need to have a base in Lilongwe, the Capital City as we are constantly linking with Government and other organisations based there. The advantages to moving into our area is that we can save on fuel, rent and office space but more importantly so that we can have a greater understanding of the problems faced by the community and evaluate projects more effectively. It is important that we remain at the heart of the project.

Sustainability – agricultural training techniques will focus on 'permaculture' (permanent agriculture/culture) which is using nature, people and living areas working harmoniously to produce all year round food. We are confident that the Village will become a Training Centre that will attract interest, a desire to learn and revenue to sustain itself.

Vocational training – free training will be offered to vulnerable groups, primarily to orphans, people with disabilities, HIV/AIDS positive people, poverty stricken people and orphan carers with the objective that in time, individuals can use skills learnt to start their own businesses. There will be hands-on vocational training such as carpentry, tailoring, building, bee-keeping, hand crafted goods, small business training etc. leading to job security. Other vocational courses will include permaculture, organic farming, compost toilets and water harvesting to encourage food security.

Life skills training – we shall be providing life skills such as orphan care, prevention of HIV, health awareness including good nutrition, early years development, use of natural medicines amongst many others that will provide essential education. Many of these areas will be documented in simple leaflet format and obtainable from our Library and Resource Centre.

The story so far....

We are extremely proud of the progress made so far, the support, both from the local community and further afield, that has been generated for the project, and the momentum that has been achieved.



With the support of Aid Camps International, the first significant rammed earth building was opened in September 2012 – the Community Based Childcare Centre (CBCC). 220 local children aged between three and five years' old have been registered to be taught by four volunteer caregivers and it also supplies a nutritional meal once a day. We are setting up a Children's Corner on a Saturday, which is a club focused on giving psychosocial support for orphans. We intend to

start using this building, to provide adult education in literacy and numeracy from September 2013.

Members of the community have learnt vital techniques in rammed earth construction and thatching, and are transferring this knowledge to their own villages, transforming the livelihoods and living conditions of others. Twelve people from the community were initially trained in these techniques in September 2011 and we then employed them for the building of the CBCC, showing that once the skills are learnt they can get employment. They now can afford to buy things to make their lives more comfortable.

We have trained up some people in our community in grafting fruit trees and they are now starting their own small fruit nurseries.

We have been planting both fruit and nitrogen fixing trees on the land and have surrounded the perimeter with sisal, which will be used as a resource in the future for making mats and bags.

As part of our ambition to create sustainable, healthy communities, we have built composting toilets



which reduce the risk of water contamination, are significantly more hygienic and importantly, produce a natural fertilizer which is effective, and free!

We are already partnering with UNICEF, Feed the Children among others, and UNICEF have indicated that they would like our CBCC to become a 'model'. We also wish to work with other organisations that see the potential this has to help drive out poverty in Africa and wish to be associated with this programme. There will be opportunities to invite visitors and volunteers to visit the Village and experience how our unique approach can change lives in a more profound and sustained way than any charitable 'hand-out' could.

How you can help

The Village we create will support a large local community of approximately 20,000 people. The first of these will require a significant investment totalling some £280,000. Once built the Village will more than pay for itself. Major NGO's are investing in our programmes; they see us as a significant implementation partner. One has already committed to invest \$100,000 over the next 2 years. Others wish to pay to use the facility in order to reach these communities.

The organic orchards, permaculture and rammed earth training programmes will generate income in their own right from organisations wishing to learn themselves. Significant interest is already growing and visitors are already coming to the site before building has barely begun.

Help us finance this Village, hopefully the first of more to come, by contributing towards one or more phases. Come out and be part of the work we are doing and see the life-changing effect it has on people.



The creation of our Village will support the lives of some 20,000 people. Once built the Village will be entirely self-sufficient but in order to get to that point the following phases need to be completed over the next 3 years:

Phase	Itemised	Total	Secured	Remaining
Year One	Borehole, Pre-school, Site Manager & Agricultural supervisor housing, Library & Resource Centre, Workshop, Trainee Accommodation, Permaculture, organisational costs	£105,674	£27,340	£78,334
Year Two	Further Trainee accommodation, Permaculture, Kitchen, Reception, Office, Restaurant, Meeting area, organisational costs	£103,783	£5,000	£98,783
Year Three	3 small workshops, Staff housing, Healing garden, Bee keeping, Agricultural training shelter, Permaculture, Small husbandry (chickens, rabbits, goats), biofuel, cows and shed, organisational costs	£69,833	£0	£69,833

Introducing:

Heather Palmer, CEO and Founder of African Vision Malawi

Heather was brought up in Livingstonia, Northern Malawi as a child until the age of 10. After graduating in 3D Design and a brief spell as a designer, Heather went into teaching, specialising in Special Needs. On an exploratory trip back to her roots she saw thousands of orphaned children in desperate need in an area with no support from NGOs. The Landirani Trust, later to become African Vision Malawi, was born in 2005.

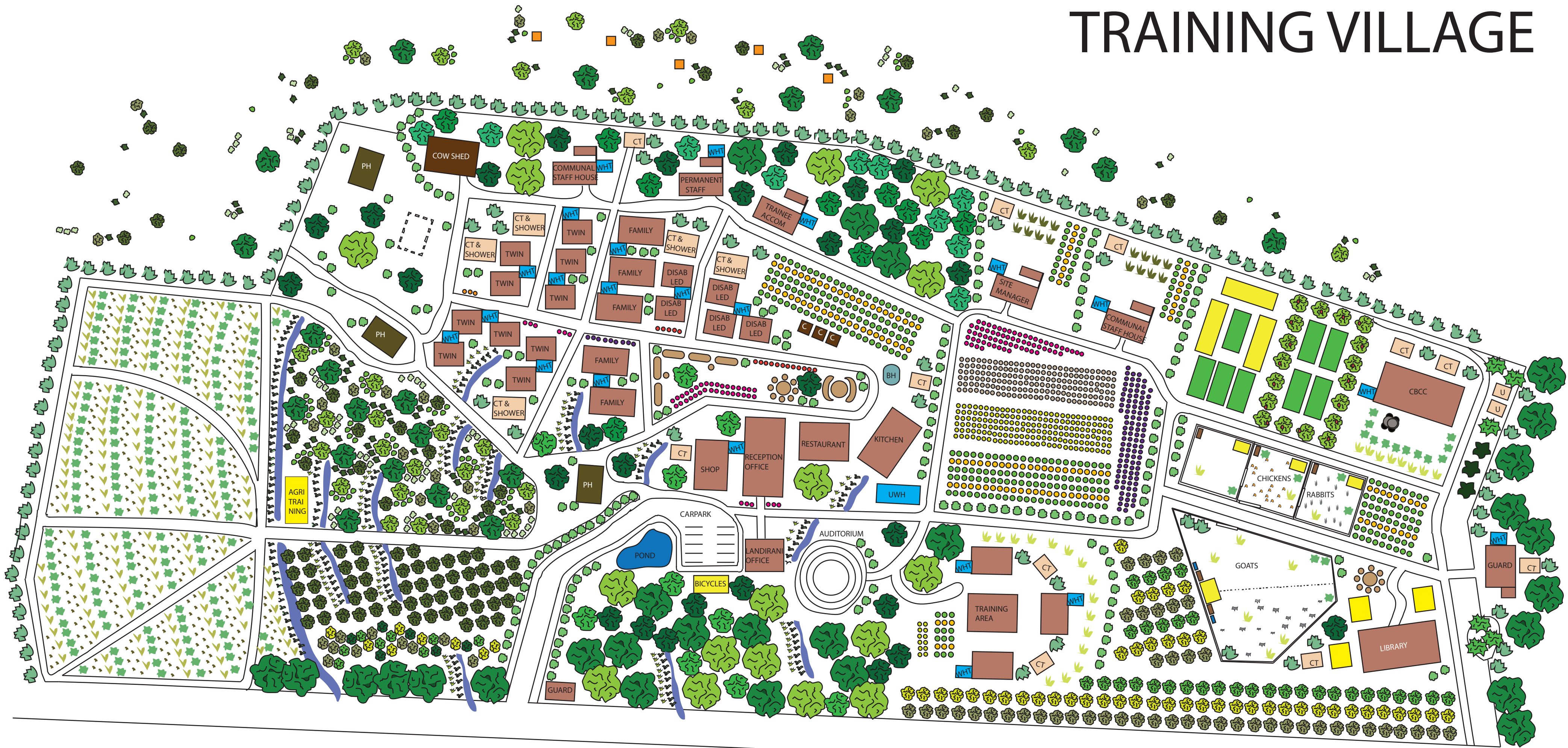
African Vision Malawi in Malawi

African Vision Malawi has two Malawian trustees, Country Manager, Deputy Country Manager, Educational Manager, Landirani Village Site Manager, Outreach Manager, Project Support Officer and Finance Officer. In addition we have a Malawian team of three outreach workers in the field, a part-time accountant, and two driver/outreach support workers. In turn these work through 98 local volunteers organised into 14 Local Based Committees (LBC). Each LBC has a Chair and officers responsible for key areas including Orphan Care, Health, Agriculture, Education and Water & Sanitation.

African Vision Malawi in the UK

African Vision Malawi has a Chief Executive, Board of 7 trustees, a bookkeeper, school partnership co-ordinator, a Global Partnership co-ordinator, two website designers/support and a number of dedicated volunteers who assist with fundraising, as well as volunteering their time for administration support. All UK staff are unpaid.

LANDIRANI TRAINING VILLAGE



KEY

- CT - COMPOST TOILET
- U - URINAL
- CBCC - COMMUNITY BASED CHILDCARE CENTRE
- WHT - WATER HARVESTING TANK
- UWH - UNDERGROUND WATER HARVESTER
- BH - BOREHOLE
- DISABLED - DISABLED ACCOMMODATION
- TWIN - TWO BED ACCOMMODATION
- FAMILY - FAMILY ACCOMODATION
- PH - PRAYER HOUSE
- AGRI TRAINING - AGRICULTURAL TRAINING AREA

- VEGETABLES
- HERBS
- FLOWERS
- MARINGA
- LEMONGRASS

- NATIVE WOODLAND
- WOODLOT - ACACIA/MARINGA ETC
- FRUIT TREES
- DWARF FRUIT TREES
- TEPHROSIA
- SEEDLING BED
- RED BUILDING - RAMMED EARTH
- YELLOW BUILDING - THATCHED CANOPY
- BEANS, MAIZE AND TEPHROSIA CROPS
- INTENSIVE AGROFORESTRY
- BANANA PLANT
- AVOCADO
- SWALE - WATER CONSERVATION METHOD
- SEATING/EATING AREAS
- BEEHIVES
- PROPOSED RELOCATION OF CENTRAL PRAYER HOUSE



Come and join us on the journey

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