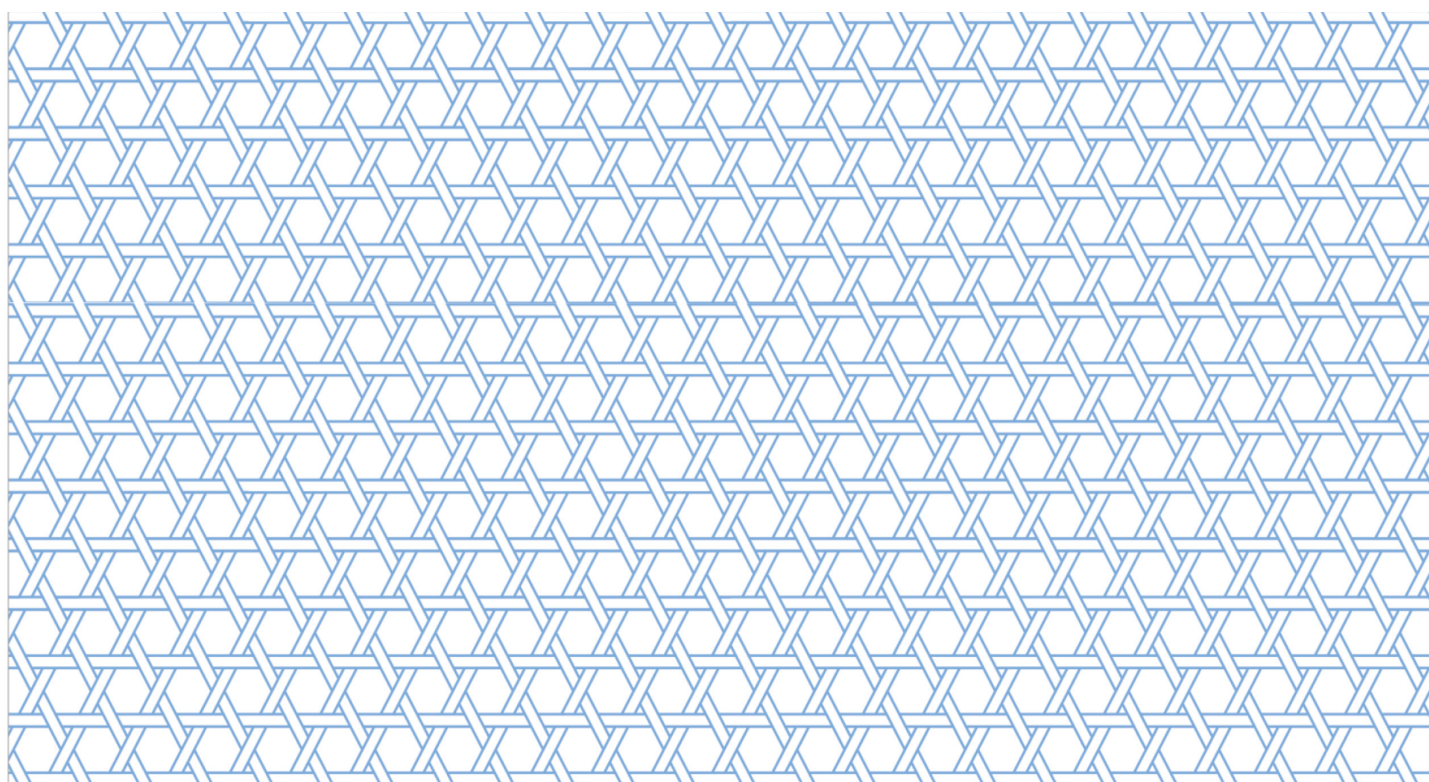




JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY
“Leading the World with Trust”

JICA MALAWI PROFILE

AUGUST 2026



PREFACE

JICA is an implementing agency of the Japanese Government's Official Development Assistance (ODA) which assists and supports developing countries. It oversees execution of all ODA such as Technical Cooperation, Loans and Grant Aid except contributions to international organisations. JICA aims to contribute to the promotion of international cooperation as well as the sound development of Japanese and global economy by supporting the socioeconomic development, recovery or economic stability of developing regions.

Since 1954, Japan has been providing financial and technical assistance to developing countries through ODA, aiming to contribute to peace and development of the international community and thereby help ensure Japan's own security and prosperity. In 1965, Japan Overseas Cooperation Agency (JOCV) program was launched and later on, in 1974, JICA, the world's largest bilateral agency was founded which currently works in over 150 countries and regions and has 100 overseas offices including Malawi.

In Malawi JOCV program was introduced in 1971, and this year it marks 55th anniversary of the program, while JICA office was first opened in Malawi in 1974.



Message from Chief Representative

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has worked closely with the Government and people of Malawi to promote inclusive and sustainable development that improves the lives of all Malawians.

Malawi faces significant development challenges, including vulnerability to climate change, food insecurity, limited infrastructure, and constraints on human and institutional capacity. At the same time, the country is endowed with rich natural resources, a youthful population, and strong community bonds, offering great potential for future growth. JICA supports Malawi's efforts to transform these challenges into opportunities in close partnership with relevant ministries, local authorities, civil society, and development partners in order to achieve Malawi visions 2063 together.

JICA's cooperation in Malawi focuses on four priority areas—agriculture and industrial development, economic infrastructure development, health and sanitation, and education—under the two pillars. Across all our interventions, we emphasize capacity development, local ownership, and sustainability, ensuring that knowledge and skills remain within communities and institutions long after the projects conclude.

In addition, we emphasize the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) program. The dispatch of JOCV to Malawi began in August 1971, seven years after the country gained independence in 1964. The year 2026 marks the 55th anniversary of the JOCV's dispatch to Malawi. Since seven JICA volunteers first

arrived at Chileka International Airport, the cumulative number of volunteers dispatched has exceeded 1,960 as of March 2026, making it the largest such program among the 92 countries where JICA has sent volunteers.

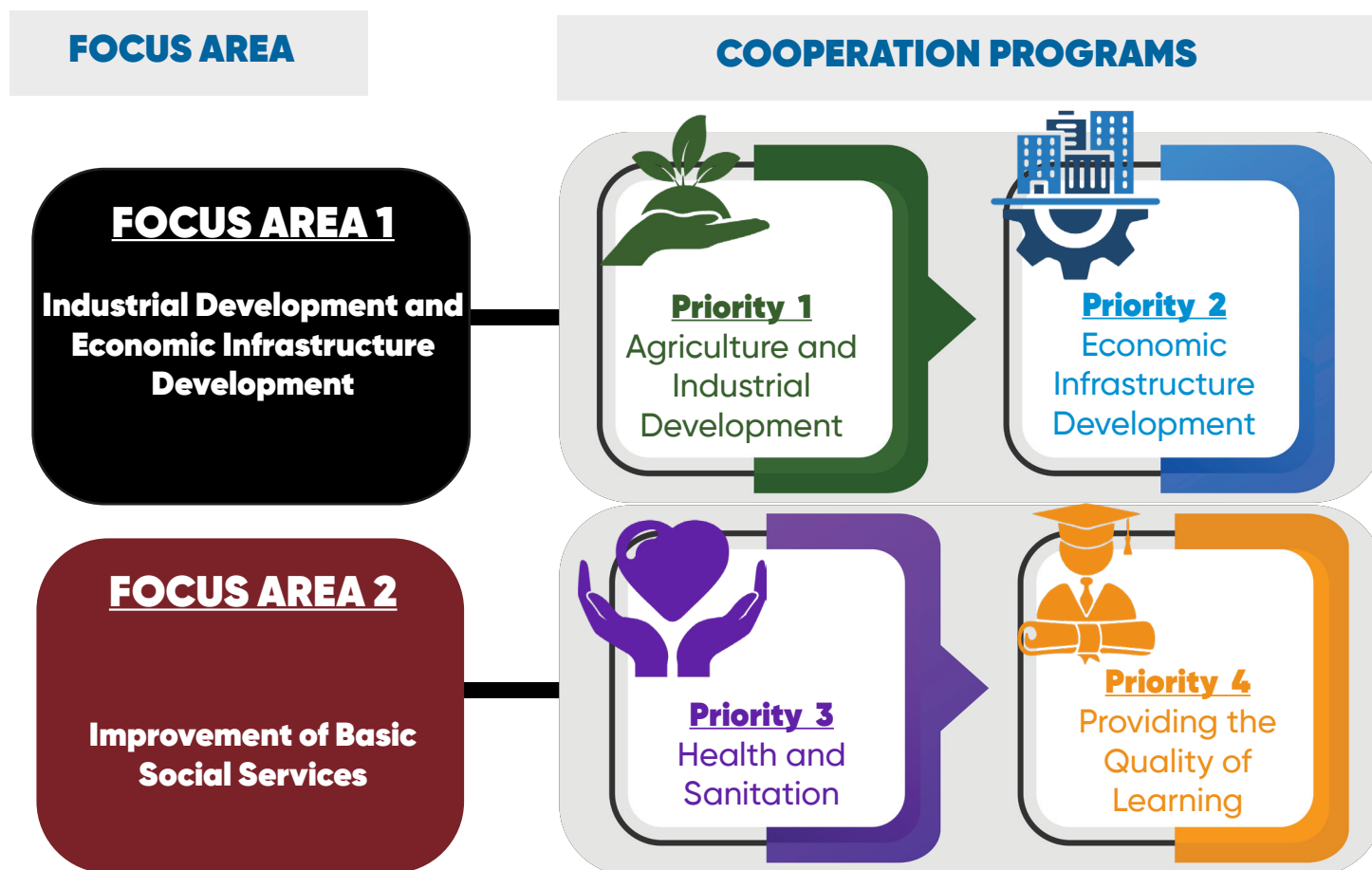
We also place strong importance on cross-cutting themes, including gender equality, climate resilience, and good governance. By integrating these perspectives into our programs, we strive to contribute not only to economic growth, but also to social inclusion and resilience against future shocks. Furthermore, JICA actively promotes partnerships with the private sector, academia, and international organizations to maximize impact and foster innovation.

I sincerely appreciate the continued cooperation and support of all our partners and stakeholders



Yukinari TANAKA
Chief Representative, JICA Malawi

Basic Policy: Creating a foundation that encourages people to break themselves free from poverty and achieve economic independence



JICA'S COOPERATION DELIVERY CHANNELS IN MALAWI

1. Technical Cooperation

Technical Cooperation supports the development of human resources that will promote socio-economic development in developing countries. The support includes the improvement of technical standards, and the establishment of administrative systems by utilizing the knowledge, experience, and technologies of Japan. By accepting training participants in Japan and dispatching Japanese experts, JICA assists developing countries' capacity development in solving their national problems.

2. Grant Aid

Japan provides financial assistance to low-income developing countries without the obligation of repayment to support the construction of facilities necessary for social and economic development. The grant is used for the construction of facilities such as schools, hospitals, boreholes, roads and bridges as well as procurement of equipment and other supplies.

3. JICA Partnership Program

By providing support for the introduction of technologies and products by Japanese private companies and their participation in projects overseas, JICA contributes to the solution of the development challenges faced by developing countries. Such support is extended through schemes including private sector investment.

ONGOING PROJECTS



2023 - 2028 | Nationwide
School for All project for improvement of learning outcomes through Community-Wide Collaboration



2024 - 2029 | Nationwide
Promotion of Rice Production and Marketing



2024 - 2029 | Dedza, Salima and Nkhosakota
Project for Promotion of Rice Production and Marketing (RPM) - [Technical Corporation]



2025 - 2028 | Mzimba South
Model project for sustainable health group nutrition activities by local communities [Grassroots Project Under JICA Partnership Program]



2025 - 2028 | 19 Districts
The Project for formulation of resilient water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Implementation Plan against WASH related diseases and floods



2023 - 2026 | Phalombe
Activity Formation Project to Secure Children's Education, Health, and Safety Based on Life Skills Education in Republic of Malawi



2023 - 2026 | Nkhosakota Bay
Project for Improving Access and Quality of Pre-primary Education in Rural Malawi



2025 - 2028 | Nalikule College of Education, Lilongwe
Project of Development of a Professional Learning Community Network for Teachers in Malawi [Phase 2]



2026 - 2029 | Lilongwe and Blantyre
The Project for industrialization promotion utilizing Kaizen Approach

COMPLETED PROJECTS



1990 - 2003 | Dedza
Construction of Bwanje Valley Irrigation Scheme
1999 - New Development
2003 - Rehabilitation



2007 - 2015 | Blantyre
Improvement of Blantyre City Roads (Chipembere Highway)



2001 - 2006 | Nationwide
2001 Equipment for Immunization Project
2003 Rural Health Care Facilities Projects
2003-2006 Maternal and Child Health Equipment to Reproductive Health Unit Project



2004 - 2017 | Nationwide
Strengthening of Mathematics and Sciences in Secondary Education



2007 - 2018 | Balaka, Neno, Mwanza and Blantyre
The Project for Promoting Catchment Management Activities in the Middle Shire COVAMS. 2007 to 2012 (Phase II) & 2013 to 2018 (Phase III)



2017 - 2023 | Nationwide
Market-Oriented Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment and Promotion



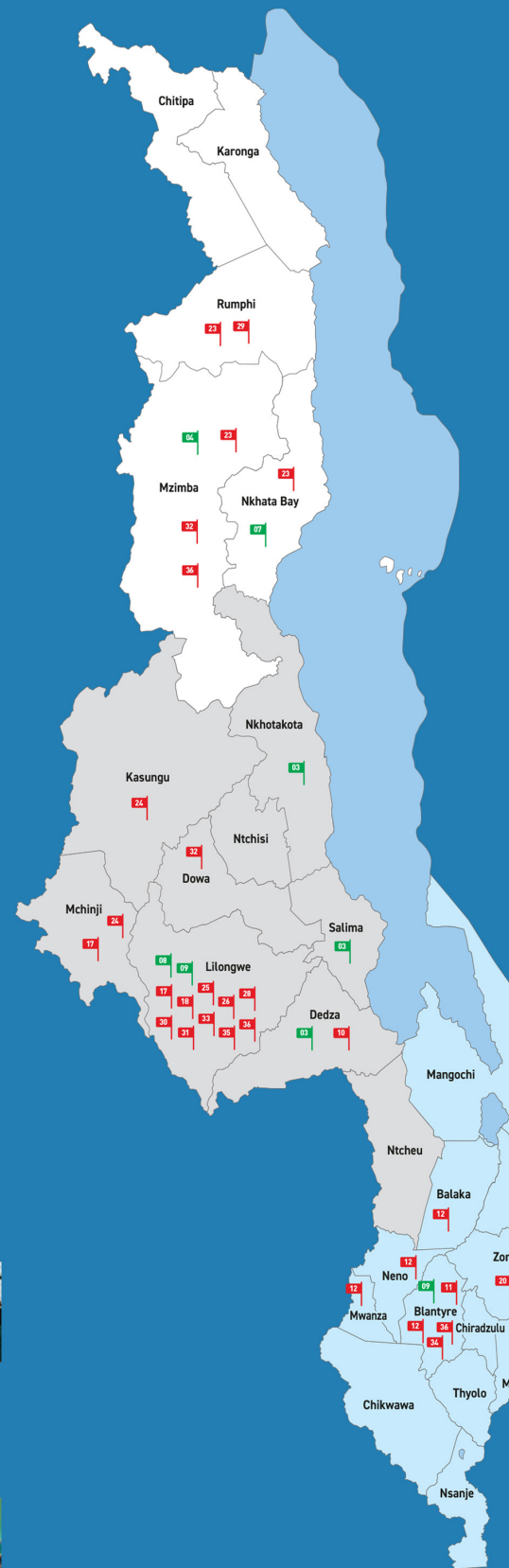
2007 - 2022 | Nationwide
5s Kaizen Total Quality Management for Hospital Management



2020 - 2022 | Lilongwe & Mchinji
Private Sector Development Policy Advisor



JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
MALAWI COOPERATION



JICA MALAWI OFFICE

AL COOPERATION AGENCY PERATION MAP

AS OF
AUGUST
2026



2022 - 2026 | Lilongwe
Improvement of Substations in Lilongwe City



2009 - 2018 | Nationwide
The Project of Capacity Enhancement in Public Sector Investment Programming



2010 - 12 & 2019 - 23 | Zomba
Expansion and Upgrading of Domasi College of Education



2021 - 2026 | Mangochi and Zomba
Establishment of a Sustainable Community Development Model Based on Integrated Natural Resources Management Systems in Lake Malawi National Park



2011 - 2017 | Nationwide
Strengthening the Capacity of OVOP Programme for Delivering Services to OVOP Group in Malawi



2011-2015 | Rumphii, Mzimba and Nkhata-Bay
Sustainable Land Management Promotion Project



2016 - 2017 | Mchinji and Kasungu
The Project for Water Supply Systems in Market Centers



2022 - 2025 | Lilongwe
JICA Advisor for Capacity Enhancement of Public Sector Investment Programming



2016 - 2022 | Lilongwe
Project for Conservation and Sustainable Management of Dzalanyama Forest Reserve



2021 - 2023 | Nationwide
Programme of COVID-19 crisis response emergency support 28 trucks, 5 Cold-rooms with 3 generators and 1 Next Generation Sequencer



2013 - 2016 | Lilongwe
Construction of Nalikule College of Education for Secondary School Teachers



2012 | Rumphii
Reconstruction of South Rukuru Bridge



2017 - 2022 | Lilongwe
Expansion of Terminal Buildings at Kamuzu International Airport [KIA]



2019 - 2024 | Lilongwe
Project for Strengthening the capacity of Non-Revenue Water Reduction for Lilongwe Water Board



2015 - 2022 | Dowa and Mzimba
Enhancing Capacity for Medium Scale Irrigation Scheme Development, Operation and Maintenance



2024 - 2026 | Lilongwe
Promotion of Dissemination of quality improvement of health services through 5S-KAIZEN-TQM in African Region



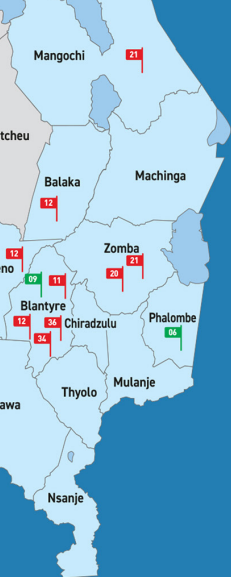
2016 - 2022 | Blantyre
Construction of Tedzani IV Hydro Power Station in middle Shire



2022 - 2026 | Lilongwe
Upgrading of Lilongwe Bridge on M1 Road



2023 - 2026 | Mzuzu, Lilongwe and Blantyre
Project for Capacity Development in Airport Maintenance Services



KEY

- Northern Region
- Southern Region
- Central Region
- Lake Malawi / Waterbodies
- Ongoing Project
- Completed Project
- District Boundary

PRIORITY 1: Agricultural/Industrial Development

Project for Promotion of Rice Production and Marketing (RPM)**Target/Coverage:** Dedza, Nkhosakota and Salima**Period:** 2024-2029

Background: In line with the goal of the Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD), which is to double rice production from the current 28 million tonnes to 56 million tonnes by 2030, JICA Malawi is implementing the Project for Promotion of Rice Production and Marketing (RPM) from 2024 to 2029. The project is one way of operationalizing the National Rice Development Strategy 2 (NRDS-2) which the Ministry of Agriculture revised and launched in September 2024.

Project Goal: To maintain rice-self-sufficiency while increasing rice exports to neighboring countries

Main Outputs:

- Appropriate rice production and harvest/post-harvest technologies are adopted by target farmers and other value chain actors.
- Certified rice seeds are used by target farmers.
- Sustainable rice trade channels (from production to sales) are established and/or strengthened between target farmers and buyers.
- Target Water User Associations are furnished with adequate human capacities to conduct proper operation and maintenance of irrigation infrastructure and water management.

**The Project for Industrialization Promotion utilizing Kaizen Approach****Target/Coverage:** Lilongwe and Blantyre**Period:** 2026-2029

Background: Malawi's development blueprint, Malawi 2063, recognizes industrialization as an important pillar in the transformation agenda of inclusive wealth creation and self-reliance. It clearly states that industrialization of our economy shall be achieved by increasing investment to establish both traditional and non-traditional manufacturing firms, technological innovations, mining and other services. Recognizing the importance of this pillar, JICA Malawi will implement a Technical Cooperation Project titled "The Project for Industrialization Promotion utilizing Kaizen Approach" from August 2026 to July 2029.

Project Goal: The quality and productivity of MSMEs, particularly in the agro-processing industry, are improved, and their businesses are expanded.

Main Outputs:

- Organize Kaizen demonstration events inviting relevant organizations to raise awareness and promote understanding of Kaizen approach.
- Implement Basic Kaizen trainer training courses combining lectures and OJT.
- Form an implementation team for pilot activities of agro-processing industry support, composed of relevant organizations and experts.
- Regularly disseminate the Kaizen approach and its effects to the relevant organizations through visit diagnoses and other means, in response to ad-hoc requests.

Promoting Diversified and Market-oriented Agriculture, SHEP Approach

Background: JICA Malawi implemented the Project for Market Oriented Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment and Promotion (MA-SHEP) from 2017 to 2023 in all the 28 districts. This was a mindset change project aimed at transforming the minds of the farmers from “Grow and sell” to “Grow to sell”. The project encouraged farmers to search for markets before they venture into production.

Project Goal: The overall goal of the project was to improve the livelihood of members of the targeted farmer groups by increasing their income.

Main Activities:

- The Ministry of Agriculture has mainstreamed SHEP approach into their programs. To this end of the MA-SHEP project, now referred to simply as the SHEP Approach, is now considered an extension approach. The approach has been adopted in other crops other than horticulture. At the moment, the ministry continues to implement SHEP activities in other donor-funded programs. MA-SHEP guidebook was developed towards the end of the project. This is being used as reference material by officers who would like to implement SHEP activities in their respective workstations.
- The livelihoods of targeted farmers have significantly improved. The most notable indicator has been the construction of decent houses roofed with iron sheets and connected to solar electricity.



A house built from the proceeds of SHEP approach.

Initiative for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa (IFNA)

Background: At the 6th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 6) in 2016, delegates launched the Initiative for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa (IFNA). IFNA focuses on integrating agriculture into nutrition interventions which are in line with the nutrition policy of each target country.

Project Goal: IFNA aims at establishing a framework for collaboration with African governments in order to accelerate the implementation of their food and nutrition security policies on the ground.

Main Output: IFNA generates multi-sectoral synergy of well-coordinated interventions to enhance the impacts of nutritional improvements on the ground.



An extension officer is introducing nutritious vegetables to women in Nkhata Bay.

FOCUS AREA 1 INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

PRIORITY 2 : Economic Infrastructure Development

The Project for the Improvement of Main Roads in the City of Lilongwe

Target/Coverage: Lilongwe River Bridge

Period: 2020–2026

Background: There has been a rapid increase in the number of motor vehicles within Lilongwe city and its surrounding areas over the past few years, and the increase in traffic jams has been a big challenge. Since 2020, JICA has been working with the Ministry of Transport and Public Works and the Roads Authority to Rehabilitate major roads within Lilongwe with an initial expansion of the Lilongwe River Bridge.

The bridge project has been successfully completed, with all works finalized as scheduled in March 2026. The bridge has been expanded to five lanes and elevated to improve capacity and resilience. Additionally, the construction of the four-way intersection, which replaced the former roundabout, has been completed, enhancing traffic flow and overall road efficiency

Main Outputs:

The project has Seven components:

- The widening of the Existing Road between the Town Hall Roundabout and the Old Town Market junction (0.73km).
- Reconstruction of the Lilongwe River Bridge (including demolition of the existing bridge).
- Replacement of the Townhall Roundabout with a four-way intersection .
- Street Light Installation along the area rehabilitated.
- Traffic Signal Installation.
- Crosswalk Installation.
- Installation of Pedestrian Fencing.



New Lilongwe River bridge handover ceremony 12th February 2026.

The Project for Capacity Development in Airport Maintenance Services

Target/Coverage: Kamuzu International Airport, Chileka International Airport, Mzuzu Airport and Karonga Airport

Period: August 2023 to March 2026

Background: In a landlocked country like Malawi, the role of airports cannot be over-emphasized. Apart from the two international airports of Kamuzu and Chileka, the country has other airports and aerodromes which, if well utilized, can significantly contribute to economic and social development. To achieve this goal, the airports and aerodromes need to be in good shape and well maintained.

Over the years, the country has been facing challenges in the maintenance of its airports and aerodromes mainly due to lack of expertise among engineers and technicians in these facilities. The project aims at equipping engineers and technicians in Malawi's airports and aerodromes with maintenance skills.

Training on Maintenance Procedures of Communication, Navigation and Surveillance (CNS) both theory and practical, Inspection of CNS at Kamuzu and Chileka International Airports, Plan and Implement pilot maintenance works of CNS (direct management), Examination and implementation of pilot works of CNS (outsourcing).

Main Outputs

- Capacity for maintenance of airfield pavement has been improved.
- Capacity for maintenance of Aeronautical Ground Lighting System is improved.
- Capacity for maintenance of Electrical Power Supply System (including High-Voltage Power Distribution System) has been improved.
- Capacity for maintenance of Air Navigation System has been improved.



Airfield Ground Lighting (AGL) practical training session underway at Chileka International Airport, June 2025.



Project Expert emphasizing a point during one of the theoretical sessions.

PRIORITY 3 : Health and Sanitation

The Project for Formulation of Resilient Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Implementation Plan against WASH Related Diseases and Floods (Resilient WASH Project)

Period: April 2025 to February 2028

Background: The rates of access to safe water and safely managed sanitation in Malawi are approximately 70% and 50%, respectively (WHO/ UNICEF 2022), while only 10% of households have handwashing facilities with soap. Hygiene behaviors are still not common in schools and other public facilities.

Insufficient water supply and poor hygiene behavior can cause infectious disease outbreaks which also account for 52% of the total disease burden in Malawi (Malawi Demographic Health Survey, 2017). In 2022, more than 1,700 deaths were recorded out of the 56,000 cholera cases (Ministry of Health, 2023). Additionally, in 2023, the devastating Cyclone Freddy hit the southern region of Malawi triggering floods which also made the area more vulnerable to infectious diseases.

However, persons/organizations responsible for Operation & Management of water and sanitation facilities are not clearly defined. As such, those facilities are not properly maintained. Additionally, lack of a response plan for WASH facilities against floods can cause delay in restoration and create confusion among people.

Responding to the situation on the ground and contributing to SDG 6 of ensuring availability and sustainable management of safe water and sanitation to all by 2030, JICA is implementing the Resilient WASH Project.

Guidelines for the development of WASH facilities and WASH services resilient to WASH related diseases and floods are put into practice in Malawi.

Increased rate of Malawians who have access to safe WASH facilities, and improved resilience of WASH services to WASH related diseases and floods.

Main outputs:

- A survey of the current situation of WASH facilities, WASH related diseases and floods is conducted, and data is analyzed.
- Pilot activities on design, construction, and O&M manuals of the pilot facilities are identified and

implemented.

- Guidelines for resilient WASH facilities and services against WASH related diseases and flood disasters are developed and put in practice in Malawi.

Target:

5 Districts: Karonga, Salima, Lilongwe, Balaka, and Mangochi have been selected for pilot activities.



Resilient WASH Project Team Conducting Rapid Water Quality test at Mpata Health Centre in Karonga.



Project for promotion of dissemination of quality improvement of health services through 5S-KAIZEN-TQM in African Region

Period: 2024 to 2026

Target/Coverage: Kamuzu Central Hospital and St. Luke Deayang Mission Hospital in Lilongwe

Background: JICA has been supporting improvement of quality management in health services through 5S-KAIZEN-TQM for over 15 years to seven countries in Africa, which include Benin, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Malawi, Tanzania and Senegal. Project for promotion of dissemination of quality improvement of health services through 5S-KAIZEN-TQM in African Region was introduced to enable these seven countries to share and exchange know-how on the practice of 5S-KAIZEN-TQM activities to enhance efficient and effective collaborations and foster mutual learning.

Project Goal: To raise level of health status of all Malawians by reducing the incidence of illness and occurrence of premature deaths in population. The ultimate goal as the delivery of quality healthcare services is enhanced through 5S-KAIZEN-TQM in healthcare facilities.

Main Activities:

- Capacity building for healthcare workers in 5S-KAIZEN practices.

- Strengthening internal supervision and monitoring of 5S-KAIZEN program implementation.
- Develop a platform for sharing quality improvement and 5S-KAIZEN activities.



Presentation of the 5S demonstration after the group work.



Participants from Malawi for dissemination workshop in Benin pose with the Project Expert.

Model project for sustainable health group nutrition activities by local communities (Technical Cooperation)

Target/coverage : Katete, Chikangawa and Endinden Health Centre in Mzimba South

Period : April 2025 to April 2028

Background

In Malawi nutritional balance is poor, and it causes many children to be stunted. Stunting occurring before the age of two cannot be reversed later in life. JICA under partnership programme with Our Lady of the Snow St Mary's Hospital and its Non-government Organization International Support and Partnership for Health (ISAPH) is implementing this project.

The project aims to create a social infrastructure that enables residents to have opportunities for improved nutrition through practical training and learning together, without increasing the burden on health frontline workers, by encouraging independent development of care groups organization.

Project Goal

To establish models of frontline workers belonging to Village Nutrition Coordination Committee, Health Surveillance Assistants (HSA) in particular and resident-led participatory nutrition improvement activities targeting pregnant women, mothers and their children in the area.



PRIORITY 4 : Improvement of the quality of learning*Period: 2023–2028**Implementing Partner/Agency:***Project for 'School for All'**

In support of the decentralization policy and strengthening of school level governance and management structures, JICA accepted a Technical Cooperation proposal for a School for All project by the Ministry of Education.

Improved learning outcomes through collaboration between communities and schools.

It is a national program. 383 initial schools were in a pilot phase in Kasungu and the number of schools increases year after year as the project extends to other districts and reach all schools of the 34 educational districts by 2028.

Project Goal

- Strengthened school management
- Improved learning outcomes
- Reduced dropout and repetition rates
- Scalable model of School for All

Main activities:

- Improvement of participatory school management system.
- Establishment of a monitoring and information sharing system at district and school levels in target divisions.
- Development of a model that is scalable in subsequent education divisions.



A session for showcasing some of the school developments by the project through use of financial support from community members without relying on government grants.



Progress check of School for All Project between JICA and- and the counterparts.

Project for Improving Access and Quality of Pre-primary Education in Rural Malawi*Target/Coverage: Nkhata Bay**Period: 2023–2026**Implementing Partner/Agency: Hiroshima University*

JICA is implementing the technical cooperation project focusing on improving the delivery of early childhood education under the JICA Partnership Program in collaboration with Hiroshima University in Japan.

Project Goal: To improve access to and quality of preprimary education in the target areas.

Development of a practical book for caregivers; Providing practical skills to caregivers and teachers through training and hands-on experience; Enhancement of a monitoring system in the target district office; and, raising awareness of preprimary education among local people.

Activity Formation Project to Secure Children's Education, Health, and Safety Based on Life Skills Education in Republic of Malawi

Target/Coverage: Phalombe

Period: 2023 – 2026

Implementing Partner/Agency: Community Action for Development Organization [CanDo]

JICA is implementing the technical cooperation project under the JICA Partnership Program in collaboration with Japanese NGO, Community Action for Development (CanDo).

Project Goal: Community adults become capable of autonomously working together to secure the education, health, and safety of children

Main Activities:

- Training of parent leaders in key areas that affect the education of children.
- Supporting parent leaders in facilitating capacity development of parents in promoting the education, health and safety of children and entire community.
- Supporting the communities with designing and implementation of small-scale development initiatives.



A facilitator demonstrating condom use to parent leaders to promote good practices in reproductive health.

Project for the Development of a Professional Learning Community Network for Teachers in Malawi [Phase 2]

Project implementation period: December 2025 ~ December 2028 (36 months in total)

Implementing Partner/Agency: University of Fukui

The project was conceived based on an emphasized that there is need to promote professional life-long learning among teachers and create communities of

learning that would engage in professional research, documentation of practices and collaboration to enhance quality delivery and learning in learners.

Project Goal: Promote networking for problem solving and sharing of best practices among teachers to improve learning in schools.

Main Activities:

- School research coordinators training on the construction of an on-campus learning community, combining Japanese training and online training.
- Support school research coordinators to regularly set up a forum for teachers in each subject group to discuss learners' learning process.
- Support school Research Coordinator to regularly establish a forum for cross-subject teachers to discuss learners' learning processes.
- Support regular discussions between the school research coordinators on the direction of the content discussed by each subject group and across the subject groups.
- Support Teachers to establish a place for teachers to record and reflect on their children's learning processes and develop prospects once a year.
- Conduct a one-year training for NCE teachers on building an on-campus learning community, combining Japanese training and online training.
- Support NCE to set up a place for NCE faculty and the on-campus research coordinators at the Nalikule Cluster Schools to share their progress once per semester.
- Support NCE faculty to provide an opportunity for NCE faculty to record and reflect on their practices in building a school learning community once a year for the Nalikule Cluster Schools to record and reflect on their practices in the process of building a school learning community.



Japan has consistently been keen on supporting human capital development to Malawi's development agenda through support in curriculum, infrastructure and promotion of community participation as well as skills building for managers and technical staff in different fields.

SHORT TERM TRAINING

Goal

JICA offers short term trainings to provide technical knowledge and practical solutions for development issues in developing countries by exposing participants to Japan's development experience and know-how since 1976.

Main activities

The training is offered at JICA Domestic Centers or a third country in three modes: Group and Region focused, Country focused, and Young Leaders. Malawians from both public and private sectors participate in these trainings to deepen their understanding of Japanese technologies, development experience and principles through engagement in discussion with Japanese high officials and concerned agencies. JICA hosts about 10,000 trainees every year.



LONG TERM TRAINING

Master's degree and Internship Program of Africa Business Education (ABE) Initiative for Youth

Background: Through the Tokyo International Conference for African Development (TICAD), Japan has consistently renewed its commitment to provide opportunities to African youths to study at Japanese Universities as well as experience internships at Japanese enterprises through an African Business Education (ABE) for Youth Initiative.

Program: The ABE Program exposes youth to modern technologies and enterprises of Japan, and at the same time establish relationships with the people and institutions of Japan.

Master's and Doctorate Degree in Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) Leadership Program

Program: The SDG Program aims to build capacity in young leaders who would lead in policy and development initiatives to achieve the SDG targets.

Master's & PhD program in Mining (KIZUNA Program)

Program: JICA is offering a program to study policy and management skills in Mining at Japanese university. Eligible candidates pursue either a master's or doctorate degree at designated Japanese universities.

Master's program in Water Engineering and Utility Management Future Leaders Program

Program: This training program offered at Japanese university aims at providing future leaders with the knowledge, skills and capacity to design, operate and manage water utilities. Through deepened understanding of water utility management and enhanced comprehensive theoretical and practical capacity, the participants are anticipated to lead the water sector of their countries to achieve better water supply services and waterworks management.

Master's & PhD programs in Agriculture Studies Networks for Food Security Program

Background: The training program at Japanese university is aimed at contributing to the second goal of the SDGs: "End hunger, achieve food

Goal: Human resource development for agriculture related strategic areas by taking advantage of wide knowledge/technologies accumulated in Japan's universities.

Master's and PhD programs on Integrated Natural Resource Management Systems in Lake Malawi National Park (IntNRMS)

Background: JICA is implementing the IntNRMS project under the scheme of Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS). One of the components of the IntNRMS is capacity building of the counterpart organizations.

Program: The capacity development has a component of master's and doctorate studies to train future human resources particularly in the research field for Malawi.

Master's program in Disaster Risk Reduction

Program: JICA is cooperating with the Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DODMA) of Malawi in building capacity of technical officials, engineers, and researchers to develop the participant's capacity in implementing management measures such as preparedness, response, recovery and rehabilitation of water related disaster to achieve sustainable development and contribute to socio-economic and environmental improvements at national and regional levels.

Master's Degree in Industrial Policies and Public Management

Participants complete a master's degree at Japanese graduate school where they learn about Japan's experiences in industrial development, innovation, corporate finance, employment practices and human resource management, SME development, and manufacturing development.

The program aims at developing future leaders who will contribute to industrial development, private sector development including SMEs and entrepreneurs, and promote business linkages with Japanese industries.

Program for Improvement in Children's Learning

The program supports the improvement of children's learning in mathematics and/or science. It focuses on strengthening the competences of the participants to develop curricular and textbooks for mathematics and/or science. In addition, the program offers participants with special experience on Japanese development and internships where necessary, in addition to obtaining a Master's degree.

JICA Ex-Participants Association of Malawi



JEPAM is a grouping of Malawians who attended JICA's short trainings.

Objectives

- To bring together and to promote friendship between all JICA Ex-Participants, their families and friends and Japanese citizens in Malawi through social functions.
- To promote cultural exchanges between the people of Japan and people of Malawi through (Ex-Participants') various activities.
- To promote, guide, assist, and encourage JICA follow-up missions.
- To develop a deeper understanding of Japanese culture and customs and give guidance to JICA pre-participants.
- The Association will be non-political in all its activities, and no person or persons will
- be allowed to use it to promote his/their political motives within or outside Malawi.

THE ADVISOR FOR CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF DZALANYAMA FOREST RESERVE

Target/coverage: Dzalanyama Forest Reserve, Lilongwe and other watershed forests

Period: 2024 to 2026

Background

In Malawi, on average, 250,000 hectares of forest is lost annually due to deforestation caused by high demand for firewood due to power shortages, urbanization, expansion of farmland, forest fires, etc. Dzalanyama Forest Reserve which is the source of Lilongwe River that supplies water to the Capital City is no exception. To preserve the forest, from 2016 to 2022, JICA supported the Ministry of Natural Resources and Climate Change through the Department of Forestry with Technical Assistance through the Project for Conservation and Sustainable Management of Dzalanyama Forest Reserve. The main outcome of the project was the establishment of the Dzalanyama Catchment Conservation Trust (DCCT). Currently, JICA is co-working with the Department of Forestry, in strengthening the capacity of the Dzalanyama Trust.

Project Goal

In line with the Malawi 2063 on achieving sustainable use of forests, JICA in collaboration with the Department of Forestry, Ministry of Natural Resources and Climate Change, aims at strengthening the capacity of DCCT in promoting the sustainable conservation of the reserve.

PROJECT FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MODEL BASED ON INTEGRATED NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS IN LAKE MALAWI NATIONAL PARK (INTNRMS)

Period: June 2021 to June 2026

Background

Most Malawians depend on natural resources for income generation which results into degradation of the natural resources. There is, therefore, need to develop models, combining the local innovations and science/technology for improvement of resources and well-being of people through comprehensive research to develop integrated resource management systems of diverse natural resources.

The integrated resource management systems cover areas of fisheries, agriculture, forestry and tourism, in relation to the environment. Since 2019, JICA has been co-working with the University of Malawi (Chancellor College campus), Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR), Department of Fisheries and Department of National Parks and Wildlife in developing community development models which will promote environmental conservation and improve Quality of Life (QOL) and well-being of people.

Project Goal: Resource management and conservation practices are implemented by

spreading a sustainable community development model based on integrated sustainable resource management systems.

Target/Coverage

The project's target area is Chembe village and surrounding areas in Lake Malawi National Park, which is World Natural Heritage which is one among the many areas in Malawi where harmonization of environmental conservation and human well-being are an imminent issue.



Project Expert briefing fishermen before creating an artificial chilundu (fish breeding spot) at the bottom of the lake on Lake Malawi.

Target/coverage: Countrywide

Period: 1971 to date

Background

With an aim of sharing expertise from Japan and developing the human capital at a grassroots level in developing countries, the Japanese Government inaugurated the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) program in 1965. In Malawi, the JOCV Program was introduced in 1971. Since, it has been operating in the country for close to 55 years. In this program, qualified Japanese nationals who are aged between 20 to 69 are deployed to Malawi for a period of two years. These volunteers operate in diverse fields in different Malawi Government institutions such as hospitals, schools, city and district council offices and state-owned companies, just to mention a few. Non-governmental organizations, except non-profit organizations, are also eligible to host these volunteers.

As of May 2026, there were 27 JOCVs who are serving in diverse fields of expertise namely primary and secondary school education (mathematics, expressive arts, PC instructor and special needs), environmental education, youth activities, community development, pharmacy, occupational therapy, nursing, public health, nutrition and laboratory technology

Program Goal

The JOCV Program has the following three major goals:

- To cooperate in economic and social development and reconstruction of developing countries.
- To promote international goodwill and deepen mutual understanding between the Japanese and people of other nations.
- To develop international perspective among the Japanese people and give back their experience after serving abroad to Japanese communities.

Main Outputs

Over the 55 years that the JOCV Program has been operating in Malawi, several Malawians who worked with the Japanese Volunteers have acquired knowledge, skills and expertise for the development of the country. Some of the expertise include modern ways of teaching students to quickly grasp learning objectives e.g., introduction of a multiplication table song. Another good innovation from the health field that was introduced by the Japanese Volunteers in Public Health was the improvement of the under-five children's health book that was redesigned for easy usage by health practitioners in health facilities.



JOCV assigned in the community development field



A JOCV teaching mathematics in a Primary School.



A JOCV assisting in medical treatment



A JOCV working in the environment management field

IMPROVEMENT OF MAIN ROADS IN THE CITY OF LILONGWE



Voice

Mr Patrick Kamanga

Project engineer

Roads Authority

The Government of the Republic of Malawi, with a Grant Aid funding from the Government of Japan, has reconstructed part of the M001 road from the junction with Murray Road to the junction with Malangalanga road, to dual carriageway. The works involved the construction of 78m long 5 lane bridge across Lilongwe River, and capacity improvement of 900-metre-long road.

The project is in line with the MW2063, the Development Blue Print for Malawi, which is aligned to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the National Transport Master Plan, which are some of the recent policy documents that articulate issues related to both economic growth and development in the Transport Sector.

The improvement of this section of the road is helping to ease transportation of goods and passengers as well as reduce traffic congestion in the city. There is improved traffic flow thereby reducing congestion which has been experienced due to increased number of vehicles in the city.

The improvement of the road section has resulted in reduced travel times. There is no doubt that there is better service delivery within the city boundaries and beyond due to the road improvements that have been made under this project.

The new innovations on the road include street Traffic control lights and provision of dedicated pedestrian and cyclist lanes.

The construction of the Bridge and capacity improvement of the road is helping to reduce Traffic Congestion in the city

The project contributed to economic improvement of local employees and small-scale business people.



JICA Volunteers were dispatched to support improvements in the education sector.

JICA has been dispatching Japan International Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) to Malawi from 1971 to date. Lilongwe LEA Primary School has been one of the beneficiaries from this program. We caught up with the Head Teacher for the school Mr Emmanuel Magalasi and he had this to say;



Mr. Emmanuel Magalasi,
Head Teacher
Lilongwe LEA Primary School



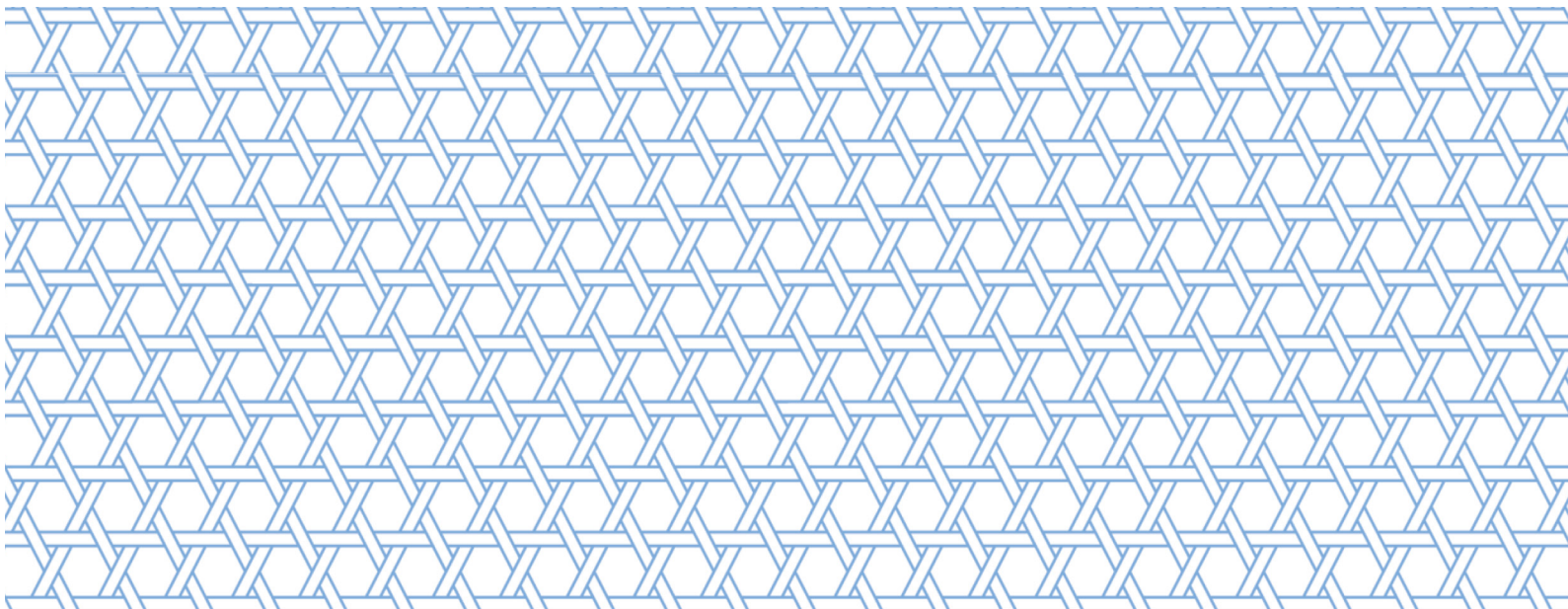
A JOCV
who is serving as a special
needs' education teacher.

In September 2024, Lilongwe LEA Primary School was privileged to receive a JICA Volunteer to support learners with diverse needs through inclusive education and skills development. She has been working closely with teachers and learners to improve learning and promote cultural exchange.

During her stay, she has promoted vocational skills among learners with diverse needs, including baking and mat making, helping them gain practical skills for independent living. She also has been supporting learners in the resource room academics according to their learning needs.

She introduced a partnership between learners in Japan and Malawi through zoom, allowing learners to share cultures, languages, and experiences. In addition, she supports teachers in identifying learners with diverse needs to improve inclusive learning support. She also supported our school to renovate a toilet in the resource room which reduces absenteeism among learners with diverse needs. She always brings new games for the learners to work on, improving their learning capabilities.

In short, our school is greatly benefiting from her services as a volunteer in Malawi.



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