Malawi's economy is **agriculture-based**, accounting for 80% of the country’s export earnings. **Rural poverty** is higher than urban poverty.

**Food insecurity** remains persistent. In 2020, 2.6m people were food insecure; in 2021-2022 cyclones disrupted food chains.

**Youths and women** face inadequate access to productive resources and social services. Only 42.1% of women (aged 15-49) owned land in 2016 and approx. 50.7% live below poverty line; 25% live in extreme poverty. Malawi has increased fiscal deficits.

Malawi has **young multiparty democracy** est. in 1994 with limited meaningful youths and women participation in political decision-making processes. **Corruption** compromises public social services delivery.

**WHAT WE DO:**

NCA/DCA in Malawi work to reduce heightened levels of **inequalities**, combat **gender-based violence** and promote the **climate smart economic empowerment**.

The primary beneficiaries are rural women and youths. However, our work also strengthens the countability and capacity of CSOs and NGOs, promotes dialogue and accountability between stakeholders, and provides input to international processes relevant for the programme.

More specifically, NCA/DCA in Malawi focus on the following changes:

- That duty bearers and others in power are more **responsive and accountable to marginalized women and youth**, granting them access to social services, food and income, security, and justice.
- That the **Malawian Government is accountable** and live up to its obligations.
- That **institutions secure just and more equitable access** to political participation, agricultural productive resources, and public services in accordance with national and international commitments.
- That the **Malawian civil society is accountable and well-coordinated**, and they represent and actively protect the interests of the people mostly youth and rural women.
- That **youths are meaningfully participating in decision-making** processes and have access to basic social services and justice, they are food secure and resilient to shocks, disasters, and climate change.

**CONTACT:**

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**FACTS:**

- NCA and DCA have been operating in Malawi since 2002 and 1980 respectively
- NCA & DCA merged as a joint country programme since 2021
- Offices in Country: NCA/DCA’s country office is in Lilongwe on the address: Mercantile Trust House, Along Presidential Way. Plot 13/40 First Floor, Area 13 City Centre, P.O. Box 30793, City Centre, Lilongwe 3
- **Beneficiaries:** In 2022, NCA/DCA reached 1,344,012 people
- **Turnover 2022:** More than EUR 10.6 million
- **Projects:** In 2022, NCA/DCA implemented 28 projects through self-implementation or in close cooperation with partners.
- **Employees:** 44 members of staff (42 locals and 2 expats)
- **Partners:** 20 partners
- In 2022, NCA and DCA merged to form a NCA/DCA joint country programme in Malawi
HOW AND WHERE WE WORK:
In Malawi, NCA/DCA’s work cut across a series of thematic areas at both national and district levels. We engage with national advocacy actors and partners that directly engage right holders and duty bearers in various districts across the country. We work with the aim of achieving a just and inclusive society.

We maximize our potential through strengthening of civil society, climate change, agriculture, access to markets, building resilient communities, gender-based violence, fight extreme inequalities; with a focus on youth, women, gender equity and human rights-based approach as cross cutting commitments.

We support youth and women participation in decision making positions, political spaces, as well as supporting disaster responses and early recovery interventions.

More specifically, part of our core work in Malawi is to help eradicate extreme poverty by reducing the deepening forms of inequalities across various sectors in line with globally agreed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Over time, we have responded to emergencies including COVID-19 pandemic and cyclones in the country by supporting the affected families or communities mainly through cash transfers and other early recovery support, e.g., WASH and COVID-19 interventions. Additionally, we also support Village Saving and Loan Associations (VSLAs) and cooperatives to increase income and enhance financial security.

At the national level, our work with Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) influences changes to policies and laws. Notably, NCA/DCA Malawi has been able to influence the enactment and implementation of the Right to Food Bill, and other policy initiatives regarding emergency response, resilience policy and land legislation.

As a Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) certified institution, we continuously Act and Learn via the implementation of a robust complaints and feedback mechanism. Based on the work NCA/DCA carries out in Malawi, we become capable of utilising central information to facilitate reporting and engagement with regional and international networks on advocacy.

DCA Malawi is grateful for the support from our donors: