

# **ORPHANS & VULNERABLE CHILDREN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**

**Consultation Workshop**

**11 – 12 April 2007, Malawi**

**Colophon:**

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STOP AIDS NOW!  
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## Acronyms

AAM	Action Aid Malawi
ART	Anti-retroviral Treatment
CBA	Community Based Agencies
CBCC	Community Based Child Care Centre
CBOs	Community Based Organisations
CEYCA	Centre for Youth & Children Affairs
CSCQBE	Civil Society Coalition for Quality Basic Education
DSWO	District Social Welfare Office(r)
ECC	Ecumenical Counselling Centre
EU	European Union
FBOs	Faith Based Organisations
HBC	Home Based Care
HIV/AIDS	Human Immune-deficiency Virus / Acquired Immunity Deficiency Syndrome
HRCOM	Human Rights Commission of Malawi
ICCO	Inter-church Organisation for Development Co-operation
IEC	Information Education and Communication
IGAs	Income Generating Activities
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IPEC	The International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour
MEJN	Malawi Economic and Justice Network
MHRC	Malawi Human Rights Commission
MHRC	Malawi Human Rights Commission
MHRCC	Malawi Human Rights Coordinating Committee
MoWCD	Ministry of Women and Child Development
NAC	National Aids Commission
NGO	Non Governmental Organisation
NORAD	Norwegian Agency for Development
NOVOC	Network of Organisations working with Vulnerable and Orphaned Children
NPA	National Plan of Action
OVC	Orphans and Vulnerable Children
PMTCT	Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission
PSS	Psychosocial Support
SAN!	STOP AIDS NOW!
SCF	Save the Children Fund (U.S.)
TA	Traditional Authority
UN	United Nations
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Emergency Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children Fund
WVI	World Vision International
YONECO	Youth Network and Counselling

## **I. Introduction**

SAN! is a partnership between five Dutch Co-funding non governmental organisations – Aidsfonds, Hivos, ICCO, Cordaid and Oxfam/Novib established in 2000. The mission of this partnership is “working together towards a world without AIDS”. The objective is to strengthen the quality of the HIV/AIDS activities of civil society by linking & learning, capacity building and innovation.

SAN! works with three themes in the form of development projects 1.Orphans & Vulnerable Children, 2. Access to Treatment and 3. Gender and HIV/AIDS. The overall objective is learning from and innovate existing strategies and methods, developing new strategies and methods and establishing new forms of cooperation and partnership.

This project is a joint venture with Dutch Child centred organisations to invite a mixed group of Malawi organisations to discuss a possible pilot project on OVC in Malawi. Although children and/or HIV/AIDS might not be the main focus of some of the participating organisations, the sharing of experiences with children and HIV/AIDS in the respective programmes was appreciated.

SAN! aims to support the development of innovative strategies through a documented process of linking counterpart organisations on national level, regional and international to exchange expertise and learn from each other to improve their individual interventions and where applicable increase their influence on national level.

In order to get input towards the possible implementation of the project, a consultation workshop was organised at the Korean Garden Lodge on 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> May 2007.

The Workshop's Expected Outcomes:

- Develop a plan on how to proceed with the project
- Clarify terminology used in working with OVCs
- Select a minimum of one key area in need of intensified learning (without duplication)
- Identification of ways to address these key areas
- Select a project group chair

Facilitators of Change interventions (foCi) facilitated the workshop. This document is a summary report of that workshop.

### **I.1 Workshop Process**

Included with the workshop invitation to the workshop sent to participants was an information package on the programme which included:

- The workshop invitation Letter
- A proposed workshop programme

#### **DAY I**

- Introductions
- Presentation of SAN!
- Presentation of NPA
- Presentations by Participating Organisations
- Generation of Malawi's OVC Current issues & Programmatic Areas for National Partners
- Key Areas for Further Development in OVCs

- Prioritising of Key Areas in OVC for Further Development

## **DAY 2**

- SAN's Clarification on Learning & Linking
- Further Processing of 8 Core OVC Areas
- Development of Action Plan

However, it was agreed that after the presentations on SAN! and NPA (Appendix I & II), the presentations by the participating organisations be included as workshop data (see Appendix III - ). Participants largely made their contributions through group and plenary discussions using guiding questions generated from the workshop objectives (Appendix IV).

## **2. Summary of Workshop Outputs**

Initially the workshop brainstormed the current OVC issues for Malawi using the NPA's eight core OVC areas. The issues were then organised accordingly. In the process, other areas such as Systems and Capacity Building emerged as separate topics. Following this categorisation of issues, organisations went on to select three potential issues for SAN! Learning & Linking Project to focus on. Below is a table summarising the three selected theme areas which the group agreed will need further development into a concept and project plan. Also tabulated are the NPA's eight core OVC areas including Systems and Capacity Building.

Summary of Three Selected Areas for Further Development				
Group No.	Lead Organisation	Specific Issues/ Improvements	Key Stakeholders	Linking & Learning Opportunities
<b>ONE</b>	<b>YONECO</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Budget Analysis &amp; allocation</li> <li>Need a trained team to undertake this exercise</li> <li>Access to basic social services</li> <li>train communities to speak on behalf on children</li> <li>Law reform &amp; enactment</li> <li>A team to interface with the law makers for reform &amp; enactment</li> <li>Utilisation of information</li> <li>community should be able to access it</li> <li>Development of advocacy tool kit</li> <li>To assist in standardisation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PLAN</li> <li>CEYCA</li> <li>NOVOC</li> <li>SCF</li> <li>AAM</li> <li>WVI</li> <li>MEJN</li> <li>CSCQBE</li> <li>UNICEF</li> <li>NORAD</li> <li>Law Commission/ HRCOM</li> </ul>	<b>Opportunities</b> (existing but can be improved) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocacy organisations already</li> <li>Child justice legislations already under review</li> <li>Political will</li> <li>Global advocacy movement</li> <li>High level development partners including SAN</li> </ul>
				<b>Objectives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of advocacy and lobbying</li> <li>Lack of advocacy and lobbying skills</li> </ul>

Summary of Three Selected Areas for Further Development				
Group No.	Lead Organisation	Specific Issues/ Improvements	Key Stakeholders	Linking & Learning Opportunities
<b>TWO</b>  <b>Objective</b> Psychosocial support	<b>SAVE The Children</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To scale up PSS interventions for OVCs</li> <li>Sharing of best practices a&amp; use them to scale up OVC interventions</li> <li>Community counselling as opposed to focussing on OVC</li> <li>To equip child care workers with appropriate psychosocial skills</li> <li>Standardised package for PSS</li> </ul> Link with MoWCD for the process to ensure adherence to MoG policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MoWCD</li> <li>Women's Voices</li> <li>Save the Children</li> <li>Eye of the Child</li> <li>NOVOC</li> <li>ECC</li> <li>CBA</li> <li>TA</li> <li>PLAN</li> </ul>	Sharing of best practices
<b>THREE</b>  <b>Objectives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited Access to justice</li> <li>Traditional justice system that are not functional</li> <li>Strategies to support access to justice</li> </ul>	<b>CEYCA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased access to justice for OVC</li> <li>Strengthen the legal system addressing OVC issues</li> <li>Development of additional structures for children</li> <li>Alternative dispute resolutions</li> <li>Enhancement of the capacity of the traditional justice system</li> <li>Improve knowledge and skills on the justice system</li> <li>Improve knowledge &amp; skills on the justice system for children</li> <li>Expand the net of people who should be responsible for OVC issues</li> <li>Accreditation of the paralegals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Women's Voice</li> <li>YONECO</li> <li>Law Commission</li> <li>Ministry of Women, Child Development</li> <li>Police</li> <li>Ministry of Education</li> <li>MHRC</li> <li>MHRCC</li> <li>Ministry of Local Government</li> <li>Ministry of Justice</li> <li>NGO</li> <li>Eye of the Child</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mobilising a force/actors in children rights the voice from a child's perspective</li> <li>Developing a working relationship with Law Commission</li> <li>Linking to national initiatives on lobbying &amp; advocacy</li> <li>Undertake skills audit internally</li> <li>Identifying institutions that are working on the issues (internally &amp; externally)</li> </ul>

Summary of Key OVC Core Issues in Malawi							
Protection (legal frameworks policy)	Coordination of Care	Education & Training (for OVC)	Health Care	Psychosocial	Economic Strengthening	Shelter & Care	Food & Nutrition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child abuse</li> <li>• Child labour</li> <li>• Ethical issues on OVC</li> <li>• Weak legal framework</li> <li>• Primary justice non-availabilities</li> <li>• Child abuse and exploitation</li> <li>• Protection &amp; enforcement – existing legal frameworks</li> <li>• Increasing cases of witchcraft among children therefore need for some legislation</li> <li>• Street children</li> <li>• Child trafficking</li> <li>• Domestication of local laws with international conventions</li> <li>• Domestic violence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stigma and discrimination</li> <li>• Regulation of core OVC services</li> <li>• OVCs are tabasa and everything must be done for them</li> <li>• Lack of platform for OVC to be heard. Action rather than prescriptive</li> <li>• Little evidence of behaviour change</li> <li>• OVC advocacy</li> <li>• Public attitude</li> <li>• Standardised care and support package of OVC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early childhood development</li> <li>• Access to essential services e.g. education &amp; health</li> <li>• Education &amp; training that is relevant and appropriate to the needs of the OVC</li> <li>• Inadequate gender sensitivity</li> <li>• Inadequate life skills education</li> <li>• Women's rights</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insufficient advocacy to address &amp; improve safe motherhood &amp; PMTCT</li> <li>• Inadequate strategies targeting issues of non-adherence/non-compliance to paediatric A.R.T</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Psychosocial</li> <li>• Guidance and counselling services</li> <li>• Lack of psychosocial support for critically depressed OVC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of financial support</li> <li>• Poverty</li> <li>• Economic empowerment for caregivers</li> <li>• poverty</li> </ul>		

Additional Key Issues in OVC in Malawi

Systems

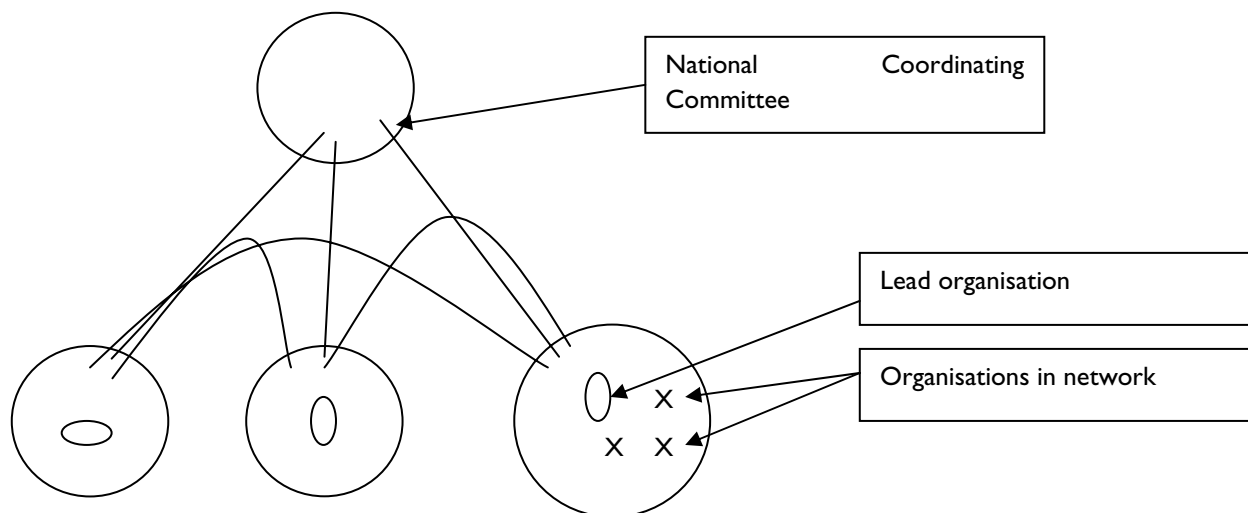
District level coordination  
 Lack of accountability of implementers  
 Lack of information exchange  
 Unsuitable programmes  
 unsustainable programmes  
 Sustainability of current programmes  
 Networking and coordination  
 Lack of harmonisation  
 Disjointed programmes that end up frustrating OVC and guardians  
 Lack of NPA publicity in the communities  
 Monitoring and evaluation  
 Lack of baseline difficult to measure size of problem  
 No mechanism for resource tracking  
 Benefits not flowing to intended beneficiaries

Capacity Building

Capacity building  
 Limited capacity of DSWO – skills  
 CBOs need capacity building for their work  
 Inadequate capacity providers  
 Learning materials

### 3. Next Steps

Based on the workshop summary outputs above, the following were agreed upon as next steps;



- a. Develop a possible project structure. The structure above is the proposed one;
- b. Select lead organisations to facilitate project proposal development based on area(s) or interest and capacity (these were selected during the workshop as reflected in **Table I** of this Report)
- c. SAN! will send requirement of project proposals to guide participating organisations when formulating more detailed project proposals.
- d. SAN! should be kept informed during project proposal drafts, decisions taken etc for comments as well as liaison purposes.
- e. Workshop participating organisations should continue to identify other key stakeholders who could practically collaborate in this project at all levels. This entails groups metamorphosis as more stakeholders get involved.
- f. Present SAN! with the composition of the core planning groups within the two weeks
- g. **SAN! Malawi Network** was the proposed name for the project. However, the participants are to explore further options especially with regard to the inclusion of **Malawi**, which is protected.
- h. The Workshop Report should be made available to all the participating organisations in two weeks. (by 26<sup>th</sup> April, 2007)

#### 4. Workshop Evaluation

SAN! Malawi OVC Development - Workshop Evaluation						
	Respondent #	Open & Honest?	Right Issues Surfaced & Dealt With?	Rating on Quality of Outputs?	Rating of Workshop Facilitation?	Overall Rating of Workshop?
Individual Participant Ratings → (A score of "1" being least desired and "5" most desired)	1	5	4	5	5	5
	2	5	4	3	4	3
	3	3	4	3	4	4
	4	5	3	4	5	4
	5	5	3	4	4	4
	6	5	5	5	5	5
	7	4	4	3	5	4
	8	5	4	4	5	5
	9	4	4	4		4
Average Score		4.6	3.9	3.9	4.6	4.2
Score below 3		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Score above 3		88.9%	77.8%	66.7%	100.0%	88.9%

#### Participants' Evaluation Comments

Suggestions for specific areas of improvement in the Malawi OVC Development, Linking & Learning are:

- Work around results based in any program<sup>1</sup>
- Linking and Learning is too abstract to be Meaningful<sup>2</sup>
- Need to explore more on ground as we progress with the project to indeed address issues of OVCs<sup>3</sup>
- More time needed<sup>4</sup>
- In addition to care how prevent increase of OVC<sup>5</sup>
- More involvement of greater range of stakeholders.<sup>6</sup>
- Fast tracking of Manual by ministry of Women and Child Development<sup>7</sup>
- None<sup>8</sup>
- None<sup>9</sup>

Additional comments about the meeting and the Linking & Learning Development process for SAN!

- This meeting has been worth undertaking as the objectives have been adequately dealt with but have been exposed to new approaches.<sup>1</sup>
- Clarity of the issues was a challenge<sup>2</sup>
- N/A<sup>3</sup>
- The time management and progress made were outstanding {which is not always the case in other workshops!}<sup>6</sup>
- Continued sharing of information to enhance delivery of services to OVCs.<sup>7</sup>
- None<sup>8</sup>
- None<sup>9</sup>

## 5. List of Workshop Participants

ORGANISATION	NAME	POSITION	PHONE	EMAIL
Plan Malawi	Sarah Mtonya	HIV/AIDS Coordinator	01700699	<a href="mailto:Sarah.mtonya@plan-international.org">Sarah.mtonya@plan-international.org</a>
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Network of Organisations for Vulnerable & Orphaned Children (NOVOC)	Dennis Matekenya	National Director	09852190 01752411	<a href="mailto:director@novocmalawi.org">director@novocmalawi.org</a>
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Women's Voice	Ben Nyirenda	Programme Manager	09955055	<a href="mailto:Womens-voice@sdp.org.mw">Womens-voice@sdp.org.mw</a>
Malawi Council of Churches	Bertha Sefu	Programme Manager HIV/AIDS & Gender	08559501	<a href="mailto:Nyamughunda@yahoo.co.uk">Nyamughunda@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Ministry of Women, Children & Development	Malla Mabona	OVC Expert	09328785	<a href="mailto:mallamabona@yahoo.com">mallamabona@yahoo.com</a>
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## APPENDIX I. SAN! Presentation

MALAWI OVC LINKING & LEARNING  
PROJECT  
INTRODUCTION WORKSHOP  
11 AND 12 APRIL 2007, LILONGWE, MALAWI

### STOP AIDS NOW!

- Is: a principal partnership between Aids Fonds, Cordaid, Hivos, ICCO and Oxfam/Novib (and when occasionally with Plan, UNICEF, Save the Children, World Vision, Edukans etc)
- Mission: Working together towards a world without AIDS
- Objective: to increase and improve the Dutch contribution to the global HIV/AIDS response: MORE and BETTER

### Activities:

- Fund raising to increase the program support of the Dutch co-funding organizations on HIV/AIDS programs
- Advocacy within the Netherlands and EU on needs of HIV/AIDS affected populations
- Development of innovative strategies through linking and learning projects in the south & developing policy with the Dutch co-funding organizations

### Innovative Strategy Development

Projects:

- ATT: Workplace policies in Uganda, India & Ethiopia
- Gender & HIV/AIDS in Kenya and Indonesia
- OVC (Orphans & Vulnerable Children) in South Africa, & possibly Malawi & Pakistan

### OVC Development Project

3 key areas:

- Effective HIV prevention through evidence-based planning of programs (South Africa and Pakistan)
- Strengthening community coping mechanisms to deal with the growing numbers of OVC (South Africa and Malawi)
- Lobby and advocacy through the Dutch CABA working group

### ‘Making a choice for children in South Africa’ – linking and learning project:

- Up-scaling - supporting the 10 South African partners
- Marketplace - exchange of services and material
- Innovation - Joint learning project:
  1. Networks of Care
  2. 4Life Skills
  3. 4Life Facilitators
  4. Meaningful Participation

### ‘Making a choice for children in South Africa’ – Joint learning project:

- Networks of Care – development of guidelines to work with network of schools, communities, informal and formal leaders to improve the well being of children through action oriented learning from direct implementation
- 4Life Skills – learn from each other Life Skills programs following the Intervention Mapping model and evidence based behavior change theories, through workshops and implementation
- 4Life Facilitators – formulating standard basic needs on training and support for staff and volunteers working

with children and young people, through audit, exchange of training and support methods and developing basic standards

- Meaningful Participation – learning from each other and existing models of best practices on meaningful participation of children and young people, through identifying effective models and action oriented learning with implementation

**Linking & Learning project in Malawi - Choice for Malawi:**

- All SAN! partners are present and the numbers of OVC are increasing
- Multi sector partners for multi-sector approach to care for OVC (link between child-centered organizations who have strong OVC programs and organizations with other focus)

**Possible key areas for intensified learning:**

- Best practices in dealing with stigma
- Social cash transfers as a possible answer to child poverty in times of HIV/AIDS?
- How to ensure that children have a voice in the decision-making around their care?
- How to support caregivers (especially grand-parents) to provide holistic care to OVC?
- And many other possibilities.....

## **APPENDIX 2. NATIONAL ACTION PLAN**

PRESENTATION OF THE NATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION  
FOR ORPHANS AND OTHER VULNERABLE CHILDREN,  
2005-2009  
APRIL 2007

### **DATA ON OVC IN MALAWI**

#### **Current numbers of orphans**

- Current estimate of OVCs: 1, 008, 000,
- No. of orphans due to HIV/AIDS: 468, 000;
- Number of double orphans: 194, 000
- By 2010, a total number of 1, 150, 000 of orphans is expected

#### **Outline of the NPA for OVC:**

- Goal
- 6 Strategies
- Objectives
- Indicators
- Risks and Assumptions
- Activities
- Target groups
- Outputs
- Timeframe
- Responsible partners
- Budget required/ budget available

#### **Overall Goal**

'To build and strengthen family, community and governmental capacities to scale up response for the survival, growth, protection and development of OVC, by the end of 2009.'

#### **Strategy 1:**

To enhance access for OVC to essential quality services such as education, health, good nutrition, water and sanitation and birth registration with increased support from social safety nets.

#### **Strategy 2:**

To strengthen the capacity of families and communities to care for OVC by providing support to enhance their economic security, social and emotional well-being and to protect OVC from abuse, exploitation, stigma, discrimination and property dispossession.

#### **Strategy 3:**

To protect the most vulnerable children through improved policy and legislation, provision of leadership, efficient coordination at all levels and through meaningful child participation.

#### **Strategy 4:**

To strengthen and build the technical, institutional and human resource capacity of key OVC service providers.

#### **Strategy 5:**

To raise awareness at all levels (community, district, national) through advocacy and social mobilisation to create a supportive environment for children and families affected by poverty and HIV/AIDS.

#### **Strategy 6:**

To continuously monitor and assess the situation of OVC and measure the gaps between what is being done and what must be done to adequately fulfil the rights and needs of OVC.

## **NPA for OVC priorities, 1st TWO YEARS**

To put the mechanisms and structures in place to scale up response to OVC, meaning:

- National and decentralized coordination structures
  - » National and decentralized identification and registration mechanisms leading to OVC district profiles and a national OVC database
  - » National and decentralized monitoring and evaluation mechanisms
  - » To increase advocacy and social mobilization to ensure highest level political commitment and assurance of donor resources
  - » Strengthened legal, regulatory and policy framework (i.e. Foster Care Act and NPA for OVC endorsed)
  
- To scale up the response to OVC by enhancing access to quality essential services, through
  - » Establishment of social protection systems benefiting vulnerable children
  - » Expansion of school bursaries, school feeding and vocation and livelihood skill building of OVC;
  - » Increased access of OVC to an essential health package, nutrition services, household food security and water and sanitation
  - » Access to life in a family environment through identification of foster parents and establishment of foster parent networks
  - » Technical and financial support to households caring for OVC to implement IGAs
  - » Provision of psychosocial support to OVC and their caregivers
  - » Capacity building of caregivers and other professionals working with OVC on psychosocial support, children's rights, memory box, guidance
  - » Increased number of Community Based Child Care Centres and Children's Corners
  - » Involvement of OVC in planning at district level, representation at annual OVC stakeholders meetings and via OVC peer counseling groups
  - » Increased support to HBC and procurement of HBC kits
  - » Increased protection from abuse through community referral mechanisms on child abuse and information on support systems for OVC
  - » Protection from property dispossession
  - » Nationwide youth festivals held and other IEC events to fight stigma and discrimination surrounding HIV/AIDS and orphan hood
  - » Inter-country and intra-country exchanges to best practices
  - » Operational research to assess the impact/ relevance of ongoing OVC interventions on the well-being of OVC
  - » To get a complete picture of the OVC situation through a National Situation Analysis

## **Partners and Budget**

The implementation of the NPA is being supported and facilitated by all OVC stakeholders like OVC and their caregivers, international and national NGOs, CBOs, FBOs, government line ministries, DSWOs, local authorities, media and the private sector.

Technical and financial support is provided by the UN, donors, NAC/GF/Pool Fund, EU, MASAF and private institutions.

## **BUDGET**

- For 2 Years: 70 M (Available 20M, deficit 50M)
  - For 2007-2009 Years: 136 M
- Estimated total budget for the Five years NPA: 206 M USD

**Opportunities**

- National Plan of Action for OVC
- Highest level commitment from his Excellency the State President for the NPA/OVC
- Partnerships, networks and commitment amongst all key OVC stakeholders
- Structures for implementation exist at all levels
- Extended family system & spirit of voluntarism still exist
- Financial resources are in country through the Global Fund / Pool funding hosted by NAC and other donors
- Willingness from donors to mobilize further financial and technical resources

**Expected role of NGOs in the OVC national response**

- Coordination of all CBO activities
- Linkages and Partnerships with the District Assemblies on OVC issues
- Capacity Building of CBOs
- Leveraging of resources
- Advocacy role for the CBO
- Dissemination of CBO, other legal and policy documents at community level.
- Monitoring and Evaluation

**Challenges**

- Lack of harmonization and coordination of services
- Limited capacity of the district team to lead and coordinate OVC services

GOOD LUCK  
ZIKOMO

## **APPENDIX 3. GROUP DISCUSSIONS**

### **DISCUSSION ON SAN! PRESENTATION**

- OVC interchangeably used with children in Dutch SAN! because that is where the focus is.
  - » Avoid the term OVC to stay away from stigmatisation
  - » The impact group remains OVC
- Who ratifies innovativeness?
  - » The national partners have priority ratifying innovativeness. The non-national partners work with that.
  - » Involvement of more partners is still open
- Invitation basis not really clear. Funding relationships are not clear, non-existent or existent
  - » All partners present at this workshop have an equal say
  - » It's based on how much participating national partners see how they can be involved in this. Dutch SAN! funds linking and learning
- How do we ensure no duplication? How do SAN! link up with the already existing programmes
  - » Area of focus for SAN! will be on gaps and more research
  - » The group needs to specify areas duplication etc.
  - » Consider this workshop exploratory on issues like do we know who is doing what? What is the need nationally?
- There is nothing said Learning from other countries in linking and learning in the country. What format will it take? What have other countries done? Loose or organised groupings?

### **DISCUSSION ON NPA PRESENTATION**

- Lack of baseline presents no particular ages for the OVC, percentage of population
  - » Registration will give a clearer picture. Copy of NPA as well as criteria being used in the registration exercise
- How do govt. partners design/view their programmes?
- Resource tracking mechanism and monitoring of the NPA is not clear. Govt. to implement this
- How to work with DSWO, OVC Desk Officer as well as sub-technical committees
  - » Desk officer is the liaison person designated for OVC
  - » District to see a viable already existing committees to work on OVC issues
- Highlights of the social cash transfer
  - » Criteria: should be headed by an adult who is taking care of orphans. K1,800/month
  - » No clear exit strategy for the scheme. Economic viability of the programme.
- Process of NPA; how did it come about? What room is there for national partners to influence the NPA  
Rapid assessment was done
  - » Consultative processes involving NGOs and civil society members were involved
  - » When putting a proposal, copy the government for endorsement note. Technical Advisory Committee gives input on policy guidelines to them. Govt also lobbies for you on your behalf. In most cases the potential donors revert to govt for reference to proposal generators.
  - » Tracking done at district level. It's possible. Neno district has been doing it.
- How does govt strengthen capacity of social welfare officers? Knowledge and perspective gaps exist between them and NGO's
  - » Re-orientation of DSWO is on-going
  - » Technical language is also another challenge

## **CLARIFICATION OF SAN'S CONCEPT OF LINKING AND LEARNIG PROJECT**

- Innovation need not be limited to new concepts or practices. It can also refer to the bettering of existing concepts and practices.
- SAN! will fund the development of better strategies and piloting the same.
- SAN! can support the development strategies financially.
- The duration of the project depends on how the participating organisations view it in terms of effectiveness, but initial project proposals should keep within the time limit (till the end of 2008).
- The choice of interests should be in areas where the participating organisations have interests in as well as capacity.
- Project Indicators SAN! will expect
  - » There should be guidelines/training manuals/implementation document/ a description of a process.
  - » Organisations should have a topic in the area of interest that they want developed.
  - » Participating organisations should have taken part in using the newly developed strategies
  - » Participating organisations should demonstrate how the beneficiaries (OVC's) are seeing improvement in the area of the newly developed strategy.

## **APPENDIX 4. CEYCA PRESENTATION**

SHARING EXPERIENCES ON CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN MALAWI:

THE CASE OF CEYCA  
A PRESENTATION MADE AT THE INTRODUCTORY MEETING ON LINKING AND LEARNING PROJECT  
IN MALAWI.  
11 – 12TH APRIL, 2007.  
KOREA GARDEN, LILONGWE

Presentation made by:

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### **INTRODUCTION**

- Centre for Youth and Children Affairs (CEYCA) was formed in 1995 and got registered under trustees Act, 1962 in 1997 as a Non profit – NGO.
- Its primary focus is to promote and protect the rights of the child based on the principles of the CRC.
- CEYCA is registered with the NGO Board in response to the NGO Law, a member of the Council for Non Governmental Organisation (CONGOMA) and the National Youth Council (NYCOM)
- It affiliates to a number of local networks dealing with rights programmes
- CEYCA is based in Lilongwe and covers in some programmes all the districts in Central Region.

### **MAIN AREAS OF WORK**

#### **Youth Development**

- Empowerment and Capacity Building
  - » Young people with information on HIV/AIDS through sports for health and provision of such services through Youth Resource Centre Approach
  - » Young people with leadership skills for them to take part in issues that affect them and their communities.
  - » Young people with Democratic values for them to participate in governance matters and to understand how various authorities are put in place and the functions.
  - » Young people with basic business skills in order for them to engage in self- employment

#### **Strategies**

- Youth Clubs

This is done through setting up of youth clubs in the impact areas and empowerment programmes delivered through these clubs.

- Resource Centre

Youth Resource Centre has been built in order to provide a convergence zone for the young people especially in T/A Tsabango in Lilongwe district.

- Community Based Educators

CEYCA has a cadre of Community Based Educators in Central Region -all the districts- (where community shall mean school) who help out to deliver some of the CEYCA's programmes

### **Child Rights**

- Advocacy

CEYCA has advocacy programmes in the areas of law reform, behaviour change amongst the communities especially in areas of culture which is one of the critical areas in Malawi in as far as full attainment of child rights in concern

- Education

CEYCA is fully involved in civic rights for children with the aim of enabling communities, policy makers, children themselves are aware of the existences of children rights and need for them to be respected. This is carried out in countrywide and Lilongwe in particular.

- Research

- » CEYCA has been able, previously to undertake research as an institution. One notable area is the Study on Juvenile that was comprehensive enough to establish a National Programme of Action. Other studies have included baseline surveys in various areas e.g. Basic Education, Youth and Democracy.
- » Currently, working on a comprehensive study on child trafficking in Malawi with the support of ILO/IPEC and the network on child trafficking.

### **Key players**

- Government

- » Policy on orphans and vulnerable groups
- » Policy on early childhood care
- » NPA for OVCs
- » Provide technical advice to community based child care centres establishments.
- » Provide trainings to CBCCC's and CBO's
- » Paying of school fees for orphans mainly from global funds

- Network on Orphans and Vulnerable Children

- » Empowering the Community Based Child Care Centres (CBCCC's) through training in advocacy, psycho-social support provided to Directors and caregivers.
- » Provision of basic material support e.g. foodstuffs
- » Monitoring compliance.

- National NGO's and FBO's

- » Community empowerment by supporting establishment of community care groups.
- » Providing capacity need training programmes e.g. in psychosocial support, counselling, management, fundraising, basic social needs e.g. education, food, health, clothes, shelter, agriculture inputs etc

- Community Based Organisations

Direct support by establishing community based child care centres where, feeding, education, counselling and recreation takes place

### **Keys Areas of Research**

- Child Protection

Currently underway by the Ministry of Women and Child Development includes specifically: children on the street, children in Prison, children with disabilities, child trafficking, child affected by HIV/AIDS

- Level of Psycho-social Support in the Country
  - » This area need to be explored in order to measure the level of psycho-social support as provided by the care givers CBO's and other competent institutions
  - » What is on the ground is that there is a lot of emphasis on Basic Social Service provision (material) e.g. food and clothes and partly education.
- Holistic Approach to Child Development
 

Could be an interesting area as they are challenges on the ground as how child development is viewed e.g. the budgeting aspect as District Assembly level, national budget etc
- Retention of Lost Rights
 

OVCs have lost a number of rights, leisure, sports, religion, participation, education, rest etc

### **Linkages**

Initiatives on OVC's are not well linked to other, both at national and international levels. However, the NOVOC have tried to ensure that the CBO's have operational guidelines and produced a directory of CBO's on OVCs in the country

### **Some Successes-(not CEYCA's)**

- Capacity building for the care givers and directors of CBO's responsible for OVC's.
- Campaign underway on increased access for OVC education (NOVOC, MEJN)
- Directory of CBO's and international NGO's working on OVC's (NOVOC) with CBO's totalling to over 2500 in Malawi now.
- Production of Psycho-social Manual underway (NOVOC)

### **Challenges**

- Focus on material support as opposed to long terms psycho-social support.
- Capacity of CBO's continue to be challenged as they are not able to implement activities on their own without external support .
- The number of OVC's is growing larger as compared to country's levels of support

## **APPENDIX 5. ECUMENICAL COUNSELLING CENTRE**

Offering Counselling Services And Training In Counselling For Various Ministries in the Communities, Hospitals, Health Centres, Educational Institutions & Churches in Malawi

### **Establishment**

The Ecumenical Counselling Centre has been established by

- the Episcopal Conference of Malawi (ECM)
- Evangelical Association of Malawi (EAM)
- Malawi Council of Churches (MCC)
- Association of Christian Educators in Malawi (ACEM)
- Christian Health Association (CHAM)

### **Meaning of Counseling**

- A therapeutic relationship between the counsellor & the counselee that aims at assisting the counselee to move on positively with life, to grow and to be empowered to find solutions to problems and challenges personally encountered
- It is a process that promotes social, spiritual, psychological and emotional growth as well as personal self-esteem to enable people live up to their God-given dignity

### **Vision**

To improve the life of the common Malawian by empowering men & women leaders in the churches and communities with counselling skills to help people develop coping mechanisms to deal with life challenges especially the impact of HIV/AIDS with faith values, in a gender sensitive and human rights based approach

### **Mission**

To provide and strengthen the service work of the churches in Malawi by building the capacity of female and male Church leaders to provide adequate, gender sensitive, Christian faith based counselling to men and women, boys and girls in a way that gives hope and empowers them to take responsibility for their lives

### **Values**

- All human beings, male & female, are created in the image of God and enjoy equality & dignity
- Liberation of all human beings and restoration of their human dignity empowered by Christian faith values and the Word of God
- Commitment to justice and peace and working for the rights of all especially the poor, women, the girl child, the oppressed and suffering in the world
- Mutual respect & affirmative cooperation & working for fellowship & unity of all in Christ.

### **Areas of Counselling**

- HIV/AIDS Counselling (including VCT)
- Youth Counselling
- Children Counselling
- Marriage Counselling
- Alcohol & Substance Abuse Counselling
- Grief & bereavement Counselling
- Crisis Counselling
- Violence & Abuse Counselling

## **Target Groups**

Training in Counselling will be offered to:

- Lay counsellors identified through the Churches in the local communities
- The clergy; pastors, priests, deacons etc
- The health professionals & those offering pastoral support services in hospitals & health centres
- Primary & secondary school teachers including those involved in adult literacy programs
- Groups of women, men and youth involved in Church programs such as Home based Care, care of orphans & street children
- The in-school & out-of-school youths as peer counsellors
- Volunteers in counselling programs as identified by the Churches
- Other people from other Churches and faith groups, custodians of traditions & cultural values & civil society upon request

Counselling services will be offered to:

- Any person who shall request such services at the centre on in the communities
- Those that will be invited for training will be encouraged to undergo counselling

## **Duration of Trainings**

- The centre offers short courses that last for two weeks or one week or even three days depending on the topic & target group
- Fees, Funding & Donations
  - » There is an annual membership fee & a prescribed registration fee per participant for each training course as well as fees for each counselling session
  - » The centre appreciates the support it gets from its partners. More grants and donations are welcome to support the operational costs, training programs & counselling sessions

## **Contact**

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## **APPENDIX 6. EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE OF MALAWI**

### **ARCHDIOCESE OF BLANTYRE HEALTH COMMISSION HBC PROGRAMME ORPHANS & VULNERABLE CHILDREN (OVC)**

#### **Data**

- Organisation: Mwaso
- Location: Mwanza District
- No. of Members: 335 (Male 91, Female 244)
- No. of support Groups: 7
- Aim: to restore hope in people living with HIV/AIDS and improve quality of life

#### **Activities**

- Formation of CBCCs
- Supervision of HIV support groups
- Awareness campaigns at prison & Kwenda Village

#### **OVC**

- Established: 2005
- No. of orphans: 267 (Male: 97, Female: 170)
- Children with HIV/AIDS: 108 (Male: 31, Female: 77)
- Children in school with HIV/AIDS: 36 (Male: 10, Female: 26)
- Children out of school: 72 (Male 18, Female: 54)
- Youngest child: 2 years
- Oldest Child: 18 years

#### **HIV/AIDS Infected & Affected Children Support Group**

- Total Number: 115
- Aim: to encourage them to live positively by giving them/each other moral & psychological support

#### **Activities**

- Early childhood development activities through CBCCC
- Sunday meetings with older children
- Awareness campaign

#### **Successes**

- Diminishing stigmatisation
- Increased awareness in the community
- Commitment of the children

#### **Challenges**

- Stigmatisation from fellow children from the community & primary school teachers
- Lack of resource centre
- Lack of learning materials
- Lack of skilled health personnel specializing in ART delivery for children
- Unavailability of children's ARV drugs
- Lack of proper drug adherence due to poor supervision by secondary guardians
- Inadequate food supplements

**Way Forward**

- Mobilise resources for academic education
- Complete the resource centre for skills training
- Initiate IGAs in form of maize mills, houses for rent
- Train enough peer educators
- Mobilize community support for groups of OVC management
- Source food supplements as a short term measure
- Source farm inputs for crop/livestock management
- Formulate support groups to other communities

## **APPENDIX 7. National Association of Business Women (NABW)**

### OVC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

#### **NAME OF ORGANISATION**

#### **MAIN AREA OF WORK**

NABW is a local NGO which was established in 1990 with a mission “to promote and support the social and economic empowerment of women in business through microfinance, skills training, information dissemination and advocacy to ensure that they are self-reliant.” Its membership stands at 10,000 women (Year 2006) up from 1,000 at its inception in 1990.

To date, NABW has provided entrepreneurship training to 4,500 women and nearly half of them have received credit. Though not dealing with OVCs directly, NABW’s programmes and activities have a significant bearing on the livelihoods of OVCs. For example, in the extended African family network, most orphans are kept by either their paternal or maternal relations (in most cases women). The availability or non-availability of economic resources to these caregivers will in turn have a positive/negative impact on the health, education and social advancement of the orphans. It is the endeavour to provide these economic resources that now indirectly links NABW to the OVCs.

#### **GEOGRAPHICAL AREA**

Both the training and credit programmes are operating in the following districts:

South:	Blantyre, Chiradzulu, Chikwawa, Mwanza
Centre:	Lilongwe, Mchinji, Dowa
North:	Karonga, Nkhatabay, Mzuzu.

Consequently the HIV/AIDS activities under the “Sensitization and Awareness Creation Programme for Women Entrepreneurs are also being undertaken in the same districts.

#### **OTHER KEY PLAYERS AND THEIR ROLES**

All the funds for credit and entrepreneurship training are provided by donors. The National Aids Commission has funded the HIV/AIDS activities. HIV/AIDS combatants such as Macro, Manaso, Napham and Lighthouse play a pivotal role in the sensitization and awareness creation programme. They provide the necessary IEC materials, HIV/AIDS education talks, advice on nutritional requirements basic health and broad guidance to positive living. The Malawi Microfinance Network with funding from HIVOS helped us to develop an HIV/AIDS workplace policy.

#### **SUCCESSSES AND CHALLENGES**

Overall the HIV/AIDS programme has recorded moderate successes if the ten districts in which we operate are mirrored against the national population.

Within the ten districts significant behavioural changes have been observed and a greater proportion of the women are going for VCT possibly as a result of the IEC materials distributed and the HIV/AIDS education talks. Specific milestones achieved are;

In Blantyre (Lilangwe) and Mwanza (Boma) women have formed HIV/AIDS clubs which meet every month to assist with the spread of HIV/AIDS messages as well as support female orphans.

In 2005 – 2006 Karonga reported the highest number of women going for VCT compared to the other project districts.

The challenges are numerous. There are a lot more women to be reached within the ten districts and beyond. Funding to broaden and deepen the HIV/AIDS activities is not forthcoming. Human capital is inadequate and generally untrained.

Compiled by:  
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