



National ODF Malawi 2015 Strategy

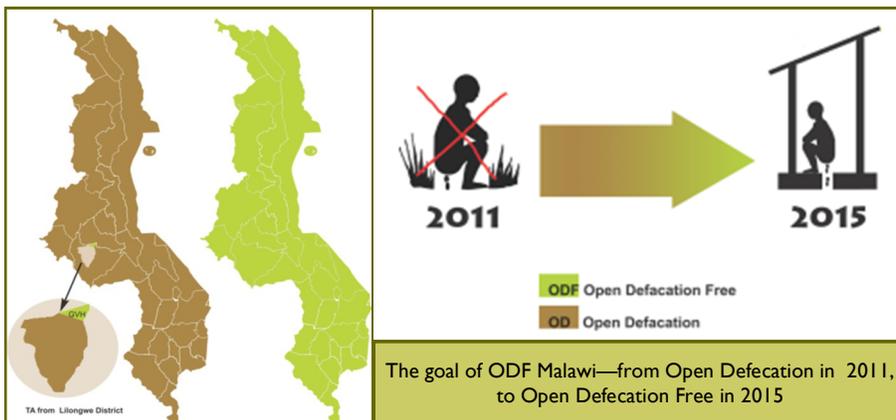
STOP OPEN DEFECTION!

With 11% of the population still defecating in the open, the ODF Malawi Strategy 2015 has been developed to ensure complete elimination of open defecation (OD) in rural Malawi by 2015, a leading cause of diarrheal diseases. Diarrheal diseases pose significant health risks for the rural population and accounts for 18% of deaths each year in children under the age of 5. The number of cholera cases in 2010 was 1,535 with 24 deaths. Increasing access to basic sanitation and use of safe hygiene practices are key to the prevention of future diarrhea and cholera cases. The goal of an Open Defecation Free (ODF) Malawi by 2015, although a huge endeavour, is achievable with a comprehensive nationwide strategy.

The strategy compliments a number of initiatives being undertaken by government that includes the 10 Year National Sanitation and Hygiene Plan and Strategy, Sanitation and Hygiene Master Plan for Low income areas, and the National Sanitation Policy 2008. The strategy aims to align, synchronise and harmonize sanitation and hygiene initiatives and interventions towards meeting the goals of the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS) II. In addition, it is meant to guide the country in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of halving the number of people without access to basic sanitation by 2015.

Key Components of the Strategy are:

- > Scaling up implementation of Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) in a cost-effective way to increase demand for basic sanitation
- > Sanitation Marketing in rural areas to match the increased demand created by CLTS with low cost, improved sanitation facilities to increase sustainability and move communities up the sanitation ladder
- > Involvement of Traditional and Religious Leaders to accelerate progress at the community level
- > Ample publicity to attract significant attention to the strategy and provide public recognition as the primary reward for villages to become ODF
- > Increasing networking, coordination and integration between key sanitation stakeholders, from implementers to donors, to ensure efforts in sanitation and hygiene complement the strategy



The strategy will be coordinated by the National ODF Task Force, whose membership comprise of key government staff from Water, Health, and other relevant ministries, as well as NGOs including UNICEF, Plan Malawi, EWB Canada, CPAR, World Vision, and WaterAid.

ODF Malawi 2015 Strategy Launch

- ▶ CHIPOJONGO VILLAGE
IN T.A. MBANG'OMBE
- ▶ DECEMBER 7, 2011

Sanitation stakeholders including government staff, religious and traditional leaders, major NGOs and community members come together on December 7th, 2011 to launch the ODF Malawi 2015 Strategy at an ODF village in Lilongwe District.

This event marks the beginning of the 4 year strategy, with the Honourable Minister from the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development presiding over the launch.

The Government of Malawi (GoM) would like to use this occasion to appeal to all Malawians to ensure that they stop open defecation and continue moving up the sanitation ladder.

Stop Open Defecation!



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