



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



# HEALTH, POPULATION, AND NUTRITION PROGRAM OVERVIEW

*“We envision a healthy population with improved life expectancy working towards the socioeconomic transformation of Malawi. The goal is to attain universal health coverage with quality, equitable, and affordable health care for all Malawians.”*

– Malawi 2063

As Malawi’s largest bilateral partner in the health sector, USAID has contributed \$641 million over the past five years to support the Government of Malawi improve access to quality health services. Through our partnership, we are advancing the Malawi 2063 vision of a healthy population by helping prevent maternal and child deaths, control HIV/AIDS, and combat infectious disease.

## OUR IMPACT

**1/2** USAID is helping to increase the number of Malawian children who survive to their fifth birthday. Since 2010, our interventions have helped to reduce child mortality by 50 percent.

**870,000+** By the end of 2021, over 870,000 Malawians have accessed life-saving treatment for HIV/AIDS. With support from U.S government, Malawi reduced the number of HIV/AIDS deaths by 80 percent since 2010.

**43%** The Presidential Malaria Initiative has helped to decrease the number of Malawians who contract malaria, and improved diagnosis and treatment for those who do—reducing deaths from malaria by 43 percent since 2010.

## APPROACH

Over the past decade, Malawi has achieved dramatic gains in most health indicators by focusing on the improved delivery of essential health services. With support from the U.S. government, Malawi has reduced malaria-related mortality by 43 percent, and reduced the number of HIV/AIDS deaths by 80 percent since 2010. Malawi has also made significant progress in child health, reducing under-five mortality by 50 percent since 2010. Malawi has experienced a steady decline in total fertility rate, from 6.7 births per woman of reproductive age in 1992 to 4.2 in 2020.

These broad gains, however, mask important realities and structural dynamics in Malawi's health system that must be addressed if the advances of the past decade are to continue. Malawi's health workforce faces an acute shortage of human resources for health and social welfare, and chronic childhood malnutrition affects more than one in three Malawian children. Despite progress in recent years, the rates of maternal and infant mortality remain among the highest in the region. USAID works with the Government of Malawi to address these challenges through a number of activities.

## RESULTS

**HIV/AIDS:** In partnership with the Ministry of Health and U.S. government agencies, USAID has contributed to the expansion of HIV treatment services in Malawi. We support Malawi's HIV response through services for orphans and vulnerable children and prevention programs, including programming around voluntary medical male circumcision, key populations, adolescent girls and young women, pre-exposure prophylaxis, condoms, and gender-based violence prevention, care, and treatment. Since 2004, the percentage of Malawians with HIV who are on treatment rose from **5 percent** to **88 percent** in 2021.

**FAMILY PLANNING AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH:** USAID works with the Government of Malawi to improve access to high-quality family planning services; empower individuals to determine whether, when, and how often to have children; and accelerate reductions in maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality. Since 2010, maternal mortality has declined by more than **30 percent** and neonatal mortality has declined by more than **15 percent**.

**NUTRITION:** USAID invests in nutrition activities for women and children, with a focus on the first 1,000 days of life. USAID's programs focus on preventing chronic undernutrition by providing nutrition-related assistance, and fight stunting and other forms of malnutrition through lasting community empowerment and integration of health services.

**TUBERCULOSIS:** USAID works with the National Tuberculosis Control Program to increase access to high-quality, patient-centered diagnosis, care, cure, and prevention. Treatment success for drug resistant patients has improved from **55 percent** in 2017 to **76 percent** for the 2020.

**HEALTH SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING:** USAID promotes health systems strengthening by bolstering national efforts to improve human resources for health; digital health; health governance and financing; supply chain, infrastructure; and private sector engagement. We work closely with the Government of Malawi to manage an uninterrupted supply of health commodities in the country's public health facilities and communities.

**PRESIDENTIAL MALARIA INITIATIVE (PMI):** The U.S. government, through PMI, provides \$24 million annually to support of malaria prevention, diagnosis, and treatment. In 2021, PMI procured **1.2 million** insecticide treated nets and **4.6 million** rapid diagnostic tests, and protected **481,075** Malawians from malaria through indoor residual spraying.