



## EMPOWERING MALAWIAN FARMERS TO THRIVE



Together with TANGO (Technical Assistance to Non-Governmental Organizations) International, World Vision has been documenting the progress of households that previously could not provide for basic family needs. The mid-term evaluation in Malawi, where THRIVE (Transforming Household Resilience in Vulnerable Environments) has been in place for over three years, indicates a significant and positive impact on parents' ability to provide for their children's needs through increased household income and assets.

### Transforming families' futures

Many smallholder farmers in Malawi face overwhelming challenges to making a living. Their climate is unpredictable, with increasingly variable rainfall and frequent drought. They have little or no access to training or technology. They lack financial services and market expertise. Like every parent, Malawian farmers want to provide nutritious food, safe shelter, healthcare, and educational opportunities to their children. World Vision's \$10 million economic empowerment program is designed to address these needs. This integrated, innovative program will equip communities of hardworking people to move from dependence to dignity.

### Progress for the most vulnerable

The TANGO report shows that households which previously could not provide for the most basic family needs are now able to provide sufficient year-round food, adequate clothing, improved shelter, healthcare, and education, especially for their children. The Malawi baseline report indicated that 80% of the target population reported incomes of \$1.25 per day. By contrast, the midterm evaluation reported that the average farmer generates income of \$3.10 per day, while high performers—the top 25%—earn \$10.40 per day (eight times the baseline). Participants are gaining an empowered view of their place in the world, growing a variety of crops and selling them collectively, and accessing loans to start or further develop businesses.



### Findings on THRIVE successes in Malawi

- » A total of **15,417 people** have received Empowered Worldview training—over 14,500 of them in the past fiscal year—helping them understand their God-given value and potential. This represents **96% of the program goal**.
- » Smallholder farmers improved their skills and sold **1,342 tons** of 11 kinds of produce, **exceeding sales projections by more than 45%**.
- » More than **600 new clients** accessed loans through VisionFund, reaching **70% of the project's target**.
- » **10,264 farmers** used improved agricultural technology, **64% of the project's target**.
- » Nearly **1,200 Savings For Transformation groups** collectively saved **\$443,828**, with **26% of participants** able to keep some funds for emergencies. This represents **15,128 group members** accessing financial services, **95% of the project's target**.
- » **9,461 producer group members** accessed new markets, **nearly 60% of the project's target**.

### Findings on opportunities for improvement

- » At the midterm evaluation, only 54% of households reported having an adequate number of meals per day. While this is three times better than at the project's baseline, more needs to be done to ensure families are eating well.
- » Households that know the early warning signs and what to do in case of an environmental stress or disaster increased from 13.3% at baseline to 19.9% at midterm, presenting a continued opportunity for focused interventions.



### About World Vision's THRIVE program

A model pioneered by World Vision, THRIVE (Transforming Household Resilience in Vulnerable Environments) helps families manage the end-to-end business of farming, adopt natural resource management, and develop emergency and situational awareness.

When these three skills are anchored on the foundation of an empowered worldview, families are equipped and supported to break the cycle of poverty for the next generation.

For more information, visit [worldvisionphilanthropy.org/ee](https://worldvisionphilanthropy.org/ee) or contact your World Vision representative.



World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice.