

# PROTECT, EDUCATE AND EMPOWER GIRLS IN MALAWI



Global Giving Fundraising Concept

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## PROJECT SUMMARY

YONECO volunteers in Malawi are doing great work in ensuring that girls who are at risk of getting married or have been withdrawn from child marriages are being counselled and enrolled back in primary and secondary schools. Many girls fail to continue with their education due to lack of basic necessities like sanitary pads, school materials and poor support to teen mothers. With your donation, many girls will have writing materials, face masks, sanitary pads, improved sanitation systems, quality ECD services and many teen mothers will go back to school.

## CHALLENGES

Malawi continues to slide down the poverty ladder, with the most affected populations coming from the rural areas. Child marriages and teenage pregnancies are on the rise with girls and boys being denied access to education. Schools and early childhood development centres (ECDs) lack basic facilities including poor sanitation to meet girls SRHR needs.



## CONTACT

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With fewer girls persevering until the end of their primary or secondary education, many lack basic skills for gainful employment or to pursue higher education. Education is the key for most girls and boys in rural communities to move out of poverty.

## SOLUTION

YONECO volunteers work to create a future for 1800 teenage girls and 3000 children in need of ECD services in 15 rural schools; providing quality counselling, school retention campaigns, provision of learning materials, sporting events and meals for children in the ECDs. YONECO also creates sanitation infrastructure while enhancing the skills for making sanitary pads and engaging in small scale business for livelihood.



## LONG TERM IMPACT

We anticipate low levels of teenage pregnancies and child marriages which will lead to reduced school dropout rates among girls and boys; educated and empowered girls who will be more resilient, self-reliant and protective of their own children, and improved mental health services for the girls. Further, we expect more children will have early learning experiences.

## PROBLEM STATEMENT

High school drop out rates as a result of teenage pregnancies, child marriages and poverty are making more girls vulnerable to gender based violence and circus of poverty for generations to come. Despite women contributing 70 percent of the agriculture labor force, many girls are not engaged in these activities. Saving culture is limited and poverty continue to strike. Lack of basic needs like notebooks, school fees at secondary level, lack of school uniform etc make the girls out of school. Menstrual hygiene is not attended to making it difficult for girls to remain in school meaning girls will miss the school a minimum of three days in a month during the cycle.

Non availability of sanitation facilities and low cost pads and menstrual cups pushes the girls out of school. Return to school policy is a distant dream for most girls as the care for their children once they want to return to school is nightmare as the ECD services are usually not accessible or if accessible do not provide the much-needed support to the girls. Even the quality of the education in the ECDs leaves a lot to be desired.

## PROJECT GOAL

Empowered girls and young women that have good education and are protected at all levels in Malawi.

## OBJECTIVES

- (a) Adolescent girls and young women have social asset skills that promote their reliance to the social challenges affecting their lives in the communities.
- (b) Adolescent girls and young women have vocation and technical skills that improve their livelihoods and the livelihoods of their own children and families at community levels.
- (c) Children of adolescent mother's and young women and those in need of ECD services and basic nutrition services at community levels in the areas.
- (d) Improved sanitation services in schools and communities including engagement of menstrual hygiene services for the young women and girls in schools.

## PROJECT BENEFICIARIES

### **Primary Beneficiaries:**

The primary beneficiaries are

- (i) Adolescent girls in schools
- (ii) Adolescent girl out of school
- (iii) Adolescent Mothers
- (iv) Young boys

### **Secondary Beneficiaries**

The secondary beneficiaries include:

- (i) Children of teen mothers and adolescents returning to school.
- (ii) GBV survivors
- (iii) Child marriage survivors



## PROJECT ACTIVITIES

The project activities include:

(a) Social asset skills and counselling through mentoring and creation of safe spaces for girls and young women.

(b) Vocational training including agro activities, tailoring, carpentry, bee keeping etc.

(c) Pass on animal schemes.

(d) Access to credit include village savings and loan associations (VSLA).

(e) Early Childhood Education (ECD).

(f) Scholarships for girls in secondary schools and tertiary.

(g) Sanitation and menstrual hygiene activities (making of reusable sanitary pads, creating girls sensitive hygiene facilities, water to schools, making masks).

(h) Nutrition services to child below age of 5 in ECD and community based nutrition programmes (awareness raising, skills building, backyard gardening and animal husbandry etc)

(i) Capacity building of ECD care givers.

(j) Role modelling sessions.



## PROJECT EXPECTED OUTPUTS

### EDUCATION

>1800 teen mothers supported with scholastic materials such as exercise books, back bags, pens, ruler, instrument, school fees and school development fund.

>7500 AGYW supported in schools with scholastic materials.

>5000 out of school AGYW linked to complementary basic education and others send them back to school and support them with school materials such as exercise books, back bags, pens, ruler, instrument, school fees and school development fund.

>100 girls supported with tertiary education.

### SRGBV

>15,000 AGYW protected and prevented from child marriages.

>1000 girls withdrawn from child marriage.

>200 girls withdrawn from child prostitution. and repatriated to their homes.

>2000 clients supported on SRGBV.

### LIVELIHOOD AND AGRO OPPORTUNITIES

>500 vulnerable out of school AGYW supported with livelihood opportunities.

>500 parents of adolescent girls supported with livelihood opportunities.

>100 AGYW benefit from goat pass on programme.

### SANITATION AND HYGIENE

>Train mother groups members, in school adolescent girls and out of school adolescents girls on menstrual hygiene management and face masks.

>Procurement of materials for reusable sanitary pads and face masks.

>Provision of pails and basins in schools for MHM and sanitary pads in schools.

>Support with materials for construction of changing rooms in schools such as poles, nails and *linya*.

### ECD SERVICES

>3000 children patronizing the ECD centres.

>150 care givers trained/refreshed on ECD management for five days.

>3000 children improved their nutrition through ECD feeding programme.

>Procure materials for feeding programme in centres such as pots, basins, pails, construction of kitchen shelters, plates, spoons, soap among others.

### SOCIAL ASSET SKILLS (LIFE SKILLS AND COUNSELLING

>15,000 in school adolescents girls reached with life skills

>1800 teen mothers supported on social asset skills and counselling services

>1000 out of school supported with counselling services