

“Skills for work and life are very high on the policy agenda of UNESCO’s Member States in the context of rapid technological changes and rising concerns over youth unemployment, social inequalities and environmental sustainability.”

Qian Tang, Ph.D., Assistant Director-General for Education, UNESCO

Recommendation concerning Technical and Vocational Education and Training, UNESCO, 2015

“The EU believes that technical training is essential in order to increase the quality and volume of the skilled workforce and thereby contribute to inclusive and sustainable growth in Malawi.”

Mr. Marchel Germann; EU Ambassador

“The Government of Malawi has prioritized skills development in its agenda. Skills development is a key pillar for economic development.”

Honourable Henry Mussa, M.P., Minister of Labour, Youth, Sports and Manpower Development.



Among the construction programmes to be enhanced under STEP are carpentry, brick-laying, plumbing, electrical installation, and painting and decorating.

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Skills and Technical  
Education Programme



## WHY STEP?

Technical, entrepreneurial, and vocational education and training (TEVET) in Malawi faces considerable challenges in four significant areas: quality and relevance, access and equity, funding and governance. TVET enrolment rates are very low, particularly for girls and young women. Some figures: enrolment into formal TEVET institutions in Malawi is at 35 per 100,000 inhabitants, with only 27% female participants. This is very low compared to for instance Mozambique (130), Botswana (1200), and Mauritius (1500 per 100,000 inhabitants).

## OVERALL OBJECTIVE

To empower the Technical, Entrepreneurial, Vocational Education and Training (TEVET) sector and its capacity to satisfy the economy's need for professionals through improvement of equitable and gender-balanced TEVET.

## SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. Promote equitable and gender balanced access to TEVET
2. Improve the quality and relevance of TEVET
3. Strengthen the governance and management of TEVET regulatory bodies and training institutions



One STEP activity is to help establish a nation-wide Malawi Qualification Framework (MQF) so young persons have a pathway to work and to gain further qualifications. Credentials that are locally recognized and internationally credible.

**MALAWIANS MUST HAVE RELEVANT COMPETENCIES, SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE BECAUSE THESE ARE THE FOUNDATION OF MALAWI'S PRODUCTIVE BASE AND ITS EXPORT CAPACITY, WHILE ALSO BEING CRITICAL IF THE DEVELOPMENT GOALS OF THE MALAWI GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (MGDS II) ARE TO BE ACHIEVED**

## SAMPLE INDICATORS

- 25% increase in enrolment of women
- 600 scholarships awarded
- 80% of teachers improved their delivery
- 50 instructors trained in entrepreneurship
- 30% of secondary schools receive capacity development in counselling and guidance
- 4 new level "4" programmes (NQF) created
- 5 new regular apprenticeship programs delivered
- 10 approved entrepreneurship programs piloted
- TEVET service providers and regulatory bodies' governance and management systems will be strengthened

## LINKS WITH INDUSTRY ARE KEY TO STEP SUCCESS

**“A firm and holistic marriage between STEP and industry completes the equation for a skills revolution in Malawi.”**

**Joe Ching'ani;** Contractor, Chairperson of Construction Sector Advisory Committee [SAC], Country Chair for Construction Sector Transparency [CoST] Initiative

## STEP IS..

- Four years in duration (2016 - 2020)
- Focusing on the construction sector
- The part of STEP managed by UNESCO is valued at €9 million
- The UNESCO element is only part of the larger EU-funded Skills and Technical Education Programme with a total investment of €32.6 million.

## STEP INCLUDES A FOCUS ON

- Supporting greater inclusiveness with particular focus on increasing access of 'women and vulnerable groups to technical colleges.