

LCSS CONDUCTS EXIT TRAININGS

DAPP through its Let Children Stay in School (LCSS) project has trained 228 Standard 1 and 2 in-service teachers, 32 Primary Education Advisors (PEAs) and 6 Coordinating PEAs on sustaining the project's activities. All trainees come from the schools, zones and districts where the project is being implemented. LCSS aims to reduce the dropout rate for children in lower grades of standard 1 and 2 in 114 primary schools in six districts of Chitipa, Rumphu, Ntchisi, Lilongwe, Machinga and Nsanje.



Teachers carry out tasks in groups

The trainings were conducted from the 11th to the 14 of April 2018 as part of the project's exit strategies. They created a platform for the participants to give feedback on the project's activities, key achievements, lessons learnt and action plans for sustainability.

Some of the key achievements highlighted during the trainings were; reduced learners' absenteeism, successful introduction of school feeding programs, improved learners transition from Community Based Child Care Centres to primary schools, strengthened relationships between schools and communities and successful introduction of income generating activities.

The Coordinating PEA for Lilongwe district Nelson Kachikuni pledged support towards sustainability of the project saying the PEAs will work hand in hand with the communities to sustain the activities.

The project will phase out in May 2018 after three years of implementation

DAPP STUDENT TEACHERS ON A 10-WEEK STUDY TOUR



Students camping at one of their destinations

In April 2018, first year student teachers from Chilangoma and Dowa TTCs embarked on a 10-week learning travel across Malawi, a period known as **Bussing Our Country**. The students from each college are grouped in two teams that travel in separate buses called Bus 1 and Bus 2.

The Chilangoma and Dowa student teachers will visit over 18 and 14 districts respectively.

Before departure, Chilangoma TTC invited guardians and community members to see off the students as they go on their learning journey.

The school's Operations Manager Timothy Chadzandiyani assured the parents and guardians that the students will be safe. He also highlighted that the travel is part of their training requirement.



Chilangoma students visit Kapichira power station

The bussing students from the two colleges visited among other places Inkosi Ya Makosi Gomani 5 Headquarters, Kapichira Hydro Electric Power Station, Malawi Parliament, Zomba Mental Hospital and Lake Malawi in Mangochi district.

DAPP Malawi has four TTCs namely Chilangoma in Blantyre, Amalika in Thyolo, Dowa in Dowa and Mzimba in Mzimba district.

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DAPP AMALIKA AND MZIMBA TTCs GRADUATE 167 TEACHERS



A graduating teacher receives a certificate during the ceremony

On 27th April 2018 DAPP Amalika and Mzimba Teacher Training Colleges (TTCs) held graduation ceremonies for the students that joined the TTCs in 2014.

The ceremonies took place at the respective colleges. A total of 167 students – 58 from Amalika and 109 from Mzimba – graduated on this day. The TTCs train a generation of teachers who bring quality education to rural Malawi primary schools. DAPP Teacher Training program emphasizes the role of the teacher as a key figure in community development, to spearhead community building efforts.

To date, the four DAPP Teacher Training Colleges have graduated a total of 2,402 teachers since their establishment.



Graduating teachers – choir performance

400 PRIMARY SCHOOLS TEACHERS IN PRODUCTION CAMP

400 Primary Schools is a DAPP Malawi education program that allows teachers graduated from DAPP Teachers Training Colleges (TTCs) to stick together, meet regularly to share ideas and knowledge on how they can improve the environment around their schools as a network.

The program started in 2012 and currently it comprises of 78 teachers who are teaching in 69 rural primary schools.

Every three months, the teachers meet during what is called Production Camp to evaluate their achievements according to set plans, share experiences and develop future action plans.



Teachers producing teaching and learning materials using locally available resources

From 9 to 13 April 2018, the teachers held the Production camp at Chilangoma TTC in Blantyre. Among others, they prepared for Standard 8 mock examinations; produced teaching and learning materials using locally available resources; mastered the use of classroom trios and trio tasking – arranging learners in groups of three and undertook training on production of firewood saving stoves. The event was patronized by Maphunziro 265, a local organization that promotes girl child education. One of the organisation's ambassadors Hodges Zacharia made a presentation on "Fighting Harmful Cultural Practices for the Sake of a Girl Child". The topic is one of the areas the participating teachers focus on.

At the end of the 5-day camping, the teachers composed songs which they will be using in teaching learners when they go back to their schools.