DAPP Malawi participated in the 32nd Malawi International Trade Fair (MITF). The event was held from 28th July to 7th August, 2022 at Trade Fair Grounds in Blantyre under the theme “Achieving Business Resilience through Market Diversity”.

We shared with the general public our interventions in promoting social and economic development through our fundraising project (second hand Clothes and Shoes Sales) in implementing health, education, agriculture and community development programs.

In his remarks, DAPP Malawi’s Country Director, Moses Chibwana, expressed gratitude towards the event organisers. “The fair provided a platform for us to interact with the wider community about our work in the country. I am certain many people have learnt more about DAPP Malawi, our social programs and how these are being supported via the funds we raise through our shops.”

The Fair is an annual trade promotion event organized by The Malawi Confederation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (MCCCI) with the sole objective of promoting trade by bringing together exhibitors from the continents of Africa, Asia, America and Europe. The event was launched in 1987.

William Sambo, a former Cobbler and Shoe making student at DAPP Mikolongwe Vocational School, participated in the 2022 Trade Fair event. William showcased his handmade shoes which attracted the attention of many including the President of Malawi during the official opening and throughout the 32nd Malawi International Trade Fair (MITF) to his stand.

William is one of the students who have been recruited by Malawi Department of Defense in a bid to produce shoes (boots) for soldiers in the Defense Force locally.

“I established my shoe making business to economically empower myself and offer employment to my fellow youth. Everything is possible if effort and belief are placed in one’s goals, I am a good example of this as I am able to make good quality shoes,” he said.

Cobbler and Shoe Making is one of the courses being offered at DAPP Mikolongwe Vocational School. The school trains youth in both formal and informal training and has to date imparted over 13,000 youth with technical skills across Malawi.
HEALTH WORKERS TRAINED IN TB CASE FINDING

From 22nd to 26th August, 2022, we held a workshop in Zomba under the TB Local Organisation Network-2 (TB LON-2) project. The workshop focused on training health care workers on chest image interpretation and the Focused Assessment with Sonography for HIV-associated tuberculosis (FASH) strategy in combating tuberculosis (TB). The training also aimed to: support improved detection of pediatric TB, support expansion of FASH strategy, contribute to rapid identification of Extra-Pulmonary Tuberculosis (EPTB) at targeted facilities and improve quality pediatric TB diagnostics.

The training was facilitated by four National Trainers (a Sonographer, a Principal Radiation Therapist, a Principal Radiographer, and the Chief Radiographer) from the Ministry of Health. Fifteen health care workers, five from each of the three districts where the project is operational, benefitted from the training.

Chief Radiographer on behalf of the Diagnostic Department in the Ministry of Health, Mrs E. Kanjombo, stated the importance of the workshop.

“This training has provided necessary skills to our health workers that will enhance case finding as well as minimise chances of missing TB cases in the three districts.”

One of the participants, on behalf of the others, commended DAPP for the training as it met some of their professional needs and further assured to support in boosting diagnosis of TB in their respective districts.

The TB LON-2 Project is implemented by DAPP Malawi in Mangochi, Machinga and Mulanje districts with funding from United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and technical support from National TB Control Program. The overall objective of the project is to increase case notification and TB treatment coverage through Active Case Finding in health facilities and surrounding communities.

30 YOUNG WOMEN GRADUATE IN TAILORING AND DESIGN

Thirty vulnerable young women from Blantyre Rural have graduated from a four months Mikolongwe Vocational School Satellite training at the DAPP Chilangoma Teacher Training College in Blantyre district on 30th August, 2022. They were trained in Tailoring and Fashion Design with the aim of improving their livelihoods economically.

Standard Bank funded the training of these women through a donation of MK21.3million. The beneficiaries were also given startup tools which included a sewing machine, a pair of scissors, threads, sewing needles, a tape measure, a roll of fabric and a charcoal iron.

Jacqueline Somba, one of the beneficiaries, shared her remarks about the training.

“I would like to thank DAPP and Standard Bank for the skills I have acquired. I also encourage DAPP to continue providing such trainings to other girls in order to reduce poverty among women in this country”.

The graduation was graced by Senior Chief Kuntaja and Standard Bank’s Manager of Industrials, Power and Infrastructure, Zizwani Khonje.