

UNESCO-UNEVOC Promising Practice 2019

DAPP Mikolongwe Mobile Training Centre

The project and its impact

The Mobile Training Centre, an innovative expansion of the [DAPP Mikolongwe Vocational School](#), was launched in 2016. The initiative expands the reach of training programmes to those who need it the most, particularly groups in remote, rural regions with little access to education and vocational training. As training takes place within the community, it makes it easier for girls, women, and disadvantaged groups to participate.

The mobile training unit is operational in Southern Malawi and moves to a new village every four months. At the conclusion of courses in tailoring and embroidery as well as basic business management, trainees are divided into groups of three and given start-up tools, including sewing machines, pieces of cloth, tape measures, and other tailoring equipment. There is also a focus on community development as the mobile unit serves as a youth centre in the afternoon. By the end of the project, the DAPP Mikolongwe Vocational School is on target to offer training to 270 girls and women. The development of technical, vocational, and entrepreneurial skills enables trainees to pursue sustainable and community-based, income-generating activities.

Through a team of Monitoring and Evaluation Officers, follow up is carried out with trainees after completion of the courses. Quantitative and qualitative data is collected and analyzed to verify if trainees have been able to apply what they have learnt to become economically self-sufficient. This information is then used to improve the learning experience for the next batch of trainees. The most recent follow-up study showed that former trainees have established 45 tailoring shops in their respective communities.

Learn more about DAPP Mikolongwe here: <https://www.dapp-malawi.org/where-we-work/where-we-work>



Overview

Who:	Development Aid People to People (DAPP) Mikolongwe Vocational School
Where:	Malawi
Tackles:	Youth employment Gender equality Inclusive TVET
Status:	Active since 2016

The Development Aid People to People (DAPP) Mikolongwe Vocational School was established as a TVET training centre to support government efforts in reaching out to those excluded from the tertiary education system. Since its establishment in 1997, the DAPP Mikolongwe Vocational School has provided new opportunities for Malawian youths through vocational skills training. The school is centred on equipping young men and women with technical skills and knowledge to become self-reliant and productive members of society, either by securing employment or starting their own businesses.

The DAPP Mikolongwe Vocational School was a collaborating partner in the 2018 UNESCO-UNEVOC Management Capacity Building Programme for TVET providers in Malawi. The activity was supported through the Skills and Technical Education Programme (STEP), an initiative funded by the European Union (EU), and partially implemented by UNESCO (<http://www.stepmw.com/>)

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