



starfish malawi
MAKING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

Newsletter

August Edition

from the Starfish UK & Malawi Teams.

Thank you from all of us at Starfish Malawi. Without your donations and prayers, our work would not be possible. We thank God every day for what He is doing in Malawi and here with us in the UK.

This month we would like to share the following stories with you.



Mission Direct



A team from this charity has recently been in Malawi painting the second classroom at Trinity school Moyo and refurbishing the painting of the Glad Tidings main building at Ngolowindo, alongside Malawian volunteer.

It is so good to be partnering with this enthusiastic group. They are making the primary school at Moyo a reality for the village and their practical work and funding is so appreciated.

You can read what they have been doing by viewing their Facebook page at - <https://www.facebook.com/MalawiMD> but here is a taste of it for you.

The team have been busy painting a lime wash on the classroom walls working alongside volunteers from Starfish Malawi. Masks and gloves are for safety when using the lime wash.



Good progress being made on the painting work at Trinity School, Moyo with the help of local volunteers from Starfish Malawi.



The involvement of Starfish Malawi staff and volunteers has helped ensure good progress with painting at Glad Tidings Orphan Care with Mary, Susan and other staff getting stuck in.



The Mission Direct team also visited many of the Starfish projects and got involved with cooking, making Gateway kits and much more.



The Container has arrived!

We are pleased to report that after nearly 3 months on the high seas, our container has arrived in Salima.

The team have been busy unpacking it and getting ready to distribute the items. This year we have some really great items, including a lot of IT and computer accessories and medical equipment. We also were able to transport a lot of donated clothing, some of which is brand new.

We are so grateful to those who have donated various things to us, which will be so appreciated by the people who receive it.

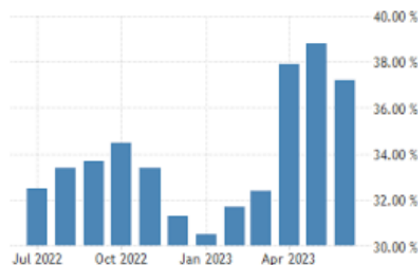
A video is available online of the container being unpacked - <https://youtu.be/uPrGbagYVzo>

Increased poverty concerns from the effects of devaluation, scarcity of fuel and a lack of foreign exchange.

We are increasingly concerned that the communities that we are working with are being badly affected by these issues. Malawi is now the third poorest country in the world.

On 27th May 2022, the Malawian Kwacha had devalued by 25% as Malawi had to align the exchange rate to reflect the value of the kwacha vis-à-vis demand and supply dynamics at that time. It is now extremely sad to hear that there are fresh calls for another round of devaluation. This will lead to further increases in food prices in a country where there is much poverty.

An estimated 3.8 million people in Malawi are facing severe acute food insecurity. The situation is projected to continue to worsen because of high food prices, the depletion of food stocks, and the lean season (November–March). Shortages in fuel and basic items and a further increase in the prices of both, as a result of soaring inflation, are expected to continue affecting living standards.



Food inflation figs

There are now long queues at fuel stations across Malawi as the government is still struggling to resolve a longstanding foreign exchange shortage. Many fuel stations have no fuel and some only have diesel. This nationwide shortage of fuel is affecting work, businesses, domestic activities and is impacting on Starfish's work.



Reminders:

Sponsored Knit a Scarf

Join in a fun evening at your church knitting scarves for children in Malawi and raising funds for our work.

Full details at - <https://starfishmalawi.com/sponsored-knit-a-scarf>

Annual Dinner – Saturday 7th October 2023

Bookings are being taken for this event.

Contact Nikkie on admin@starfishmalawi.com