

MICHAEL JACKSON LEGACY ANNUAL 2022 REPORT

The Michael Jackson Legacy Ngolowindo Orchard was established to help children at Glad Tidings Orphan Care (GTOC) supplement the nutritional needs of the children at the GTOC centre. This is because some fruits in Malawi are seasonal and this makes it difficult for households to buy in the markets, which is reflected in the costs to purchase and they can become unaffordable for many. Furthermore, it was established to help children at the neighbouring Ngolowindo Primary School as a practical platform to learn how things grow and the nutritional values that the fruits provide. Starfish employ a gardener to care for the orchard and welcome the children and staff.



Mr McJohnson Chituzu, teacher from Ngolowindo Primary School, observing a guava tree

During the last reporting period, we mentioned that in the months of February to May, the orchard produced a large number of guavas and mangoes. These resulted in being an important supplement to the diet of children at Everland and Glad Tidings nursery.



Construction of the maternity wing Underway

However, we have had to reduce the number of the mango and guava trees to make space for the construction of a maternity wing at the Hope Clinic in the Ngolowindo area. Nonetheless we will proceed with the planting of new trees for the benefit of the children.



Pupils at Everland Special Needs Centre with their mangoes

Challenges

During the COVID-19 pandemic, there have not been extra-curricular educational activities due to government restrictions. As a result children at Ngolowindo Primary who usually use the orchard as an extra-curricular activity were no longer able to visit. However by September schools relaxed this restrictive measure, yet Ngolowindo School did not conduct field visits to the orchard as the teacher in charge of the project in the school was involved in a road traffic accident. Currently, he is recovering and we are anticipating the resumption of the programmes once he is fit and able.