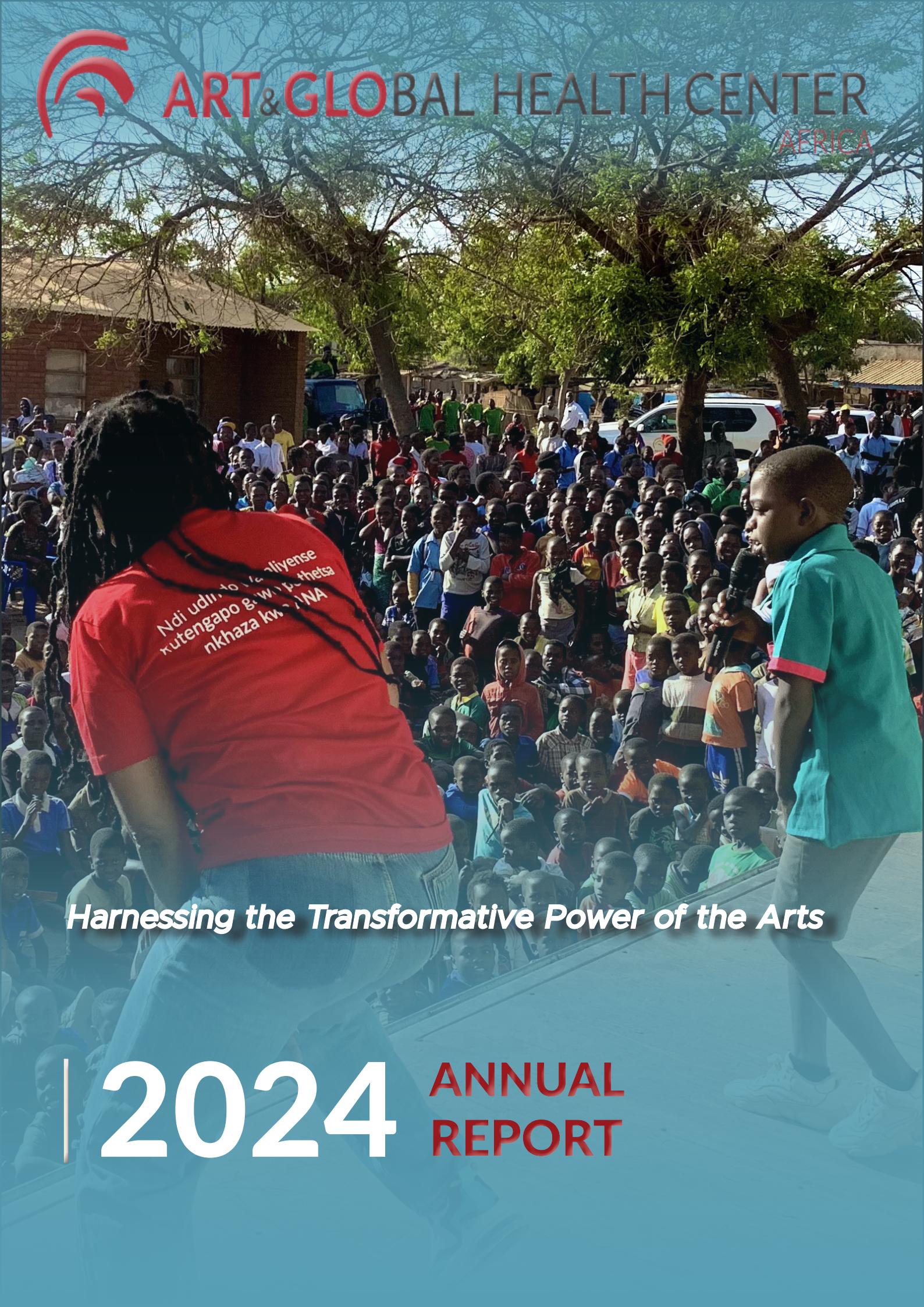




ART & GLOBAL HEALTH CENTER
AFRICA



Harnessing the Transformative Power of the Arts

| 2024 ANNUAL
REPORT

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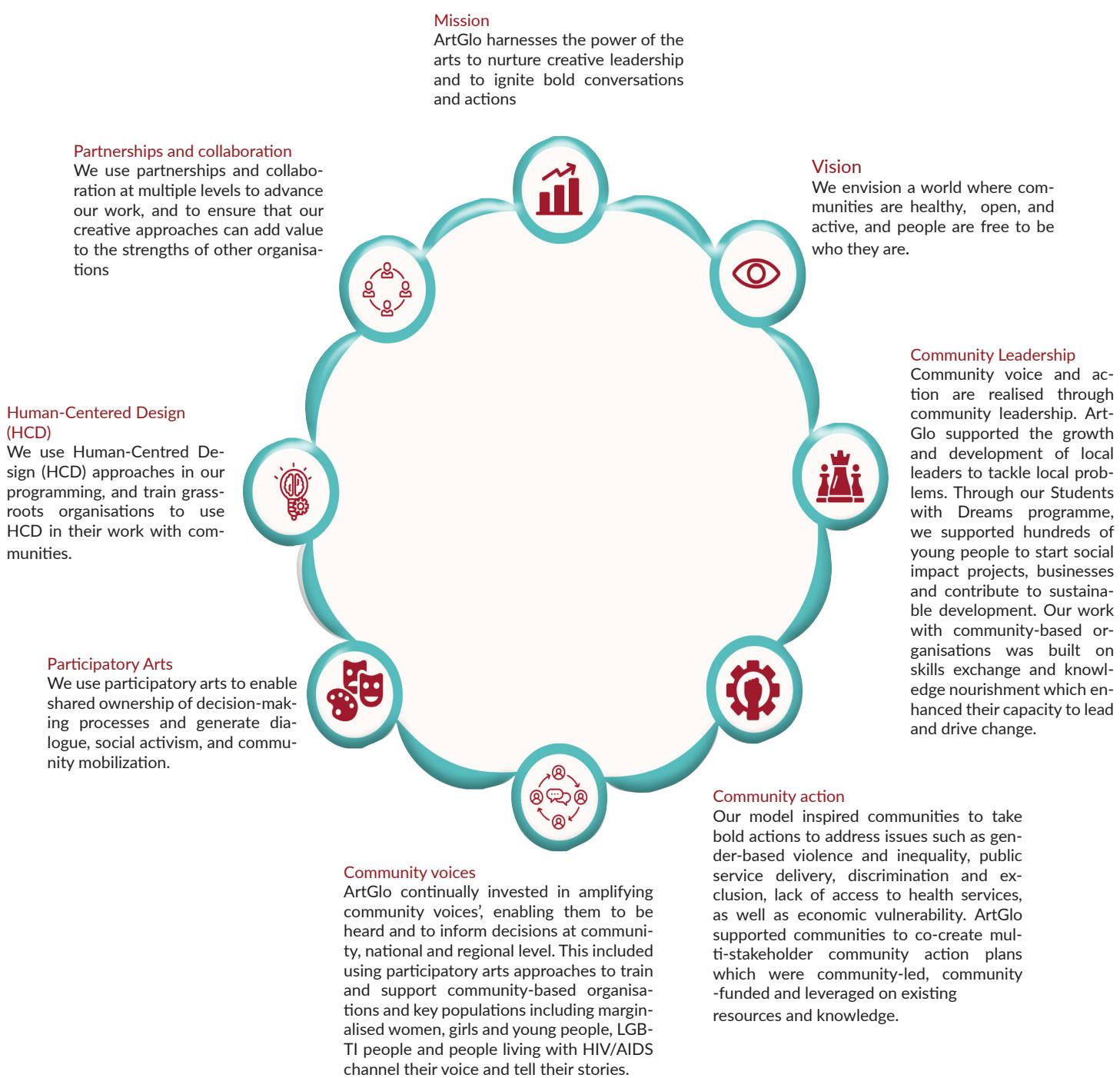
Abbreviations

ADC	Area Development Committees
ArtGlo	Art and Global Health Center Africa
CAP	Community Action Plans
CBO	Community-Based Organisation
CSE	Comprehensive Sexuality Education
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DBU	Development Broadcasting Unit
EPM	Eastern Produce Limited
EVAWG	Ending Violence Against Women and Girls
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GVH	Group Village Head
HCD	Human-Centered Design
LGBTI	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender And Intersex
MICGBV	Malawi Irish Consortium on GBV
NELD	Non-economic Loss and Damage
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
PLWD	People Living With Disabilities
SALC	Southern Africa Litigation Center
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
TAs	Traditional Authorities
TfD	Theatre for Development
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls
VDC	Village Development Committees
VCPC	Village Civil Protection Committee

ABOUT ARTGLO

WHAT WE DO AND HOW WE DO IT

To achieve our goals, ArtGlo is committed to complementing the efforts of the Malawian government and other key stakeholders in achieving the Malawi 2063 Vision and the Sustainable Development Goals. We believe that by leveraging our participatory arts approaches, we can partner with organizations that have strong technical skills in emerging issue areas. This will enable us to broaden our impact while continuing to develop and strengthen our expertise in focus areas where we have significant experience. Our impact and track record over the last 10 years is there for everyone to see. ArtGlo has established itself as a leader in community engagement using participatory arts, Umunthu philosophy and Human-Centred Design methodologies.



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND BOARD CHAIR

Dear Partners, Friends and Supporters, as we end and reflect on the year 2024, we are filled with immense pride and gratitude. This year has marked a period of tremendous growth for ArtGlo—growth in our programming, our reach, research and most importantly, our impact. Together, we have strengthened our relationships with donors, project co-implementers, research collaborators, and government stakeholders, all of whom have been vital to our journey.

Through conferences, webinars, partnership meetings, and co-design initiatives, ArtGlo has increasingly influenced national, regional and international stakeholders. These platforms have amplified our voice and the voices of the communities we serve, showcasing the power of creativity and art-based approaches in fostering dialogue, leadership, and sustainable change.

At the heart of our work is a deep commitment to our mission: harnessing the transformative power of the arts to nurture creative leadership and ignite bold conversations and actions. In 2024, this commitment has been evident across all our programs.

In our Gender Justice initiatives, we completed the first phase of our impactful work in the tea and macademia estates of Eastern Produce Malawi. Under Tiyambe project, we addressed gender-based violence, supported the return of girls to school, and helped end child marriages—efforts continued by local champions we've mentored. We were proud to lead the Mulanje commemoration of International Women's Day, bringing together government officials, district stakeholders, media, and partners from Thyolo and Mulanje..

Our Social Inclusion and Diversity program made significant strides in addressing justice disparities faced by marginalized groups. We engaged police, magistrates, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Homeland Affairs, the Media Council of Malawi, MISA Malawi, media professionals, CSO leaders, and community and religious leaders. We are pleased to report that many of the action plans developed through these dialogues are still being implemented.

In our Youth and Community Engagement Program, we continued our work fostering dialogue between teachers and students to strengthen the delivery of comprehensive sexuality education. Under Child Safeguarding Project, we strengthened



local community structures and established self-sustaining reporting mechanisms.

Our Climate Justice Program flourished through impactful collaborations with the University of Adelaide, University of York, and University of Stirling. The Art for Nthaka Yanthu project empowered youth to develop and implement local initiatives that mitigate the effects of climate-induced disasters. We also engaged communities in Zomba and Nsanje in exploring the contextual understanding of non-economic loss and damage related to climate change.

Under Special Initiatives, Neo Tree Project advanced engagement with mothers of newborns, promoting the use of digital health tools for timely care. Under Reprieve we have engaged the media, the Legal Affairs Committee of Parliament and facilitated interaction with death row inmates in our pursuit of weighing in on the abolition of death penalty in Malawi. We also worked with Mission Rabies Malawi in engaging community stakeholders to understand and play an active role in the prevention of rabies in the country. We also took part in international forums including the Regional Activists Forum in South Africa, ILGA International Conference, the Regional Advocacy Formulating Symposium, YALI's Public Management and Governance sessions, and the Africa Conference on Climate Change, among others.

Going forward, we are filled with optimism and fortitude. We remain deeply committed to our mission and will continue to push the boundaries in addressing pressing social issues in Malawi and beyond. We aim to strengthen existing partnerships, forge new ones, and embrace innovation to drive



even greater impact in the years to come.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated staff, volunteers, and partners whose passion and resilience have brought our vision to life. Your unwavering commitment fuels our momentum and inspires everything we do.



We invite you to explore this Annual Report and celebrate with us the milestones we have achieved together. Your continued support, feedback, and ideas are invaluable as we move forward.

Together, we can build a world where communities are healthy, open, and active, and where every individual is free to be who they are.

Thank you for being an integral part of our journey.



With gratitude and hope,

Galia Boneh (Board Chairperson)

and Rodger Kumalire Phiri
(Executive Director).



GENDER JUSTICE

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Gender Justice best signifies our intersectional approach that centres the diverse needs, experiences, and leadership of people most impacted by discrimination and oppression. This approach helps achieve both equity (equal distribution of resources, access, and opportunities) and equality (equal outcomes for all). Gender justice also means the full equality and equity between women and men in all spheres of life, resulting in women jointly, and on an equal basis with men, defining and shaping the policies, structures and decisions that affect their lives and society as a whole. In 2024, we made remarkable progress with the Tiyambe Project. We finalized reaching out to all the 18 Tea and Macadamia Estates. We held TfD performances and facilitated formulation of Community Action Plans in EPM's Phwazi, Glenorchy and Esparanze estates. We also supported the launch of the Mulanje District 16 Days of Activism District event to raise awareness about GBV, reporting mechanisms and to inspire action against the vice.

REACH

7,854
Beneficiaries

3,175
Women

1,555
Men

1791
Girls

1,151
Boys

90
Stakeholders

48
Drama club
members

33
GBV cases
reported

11
GBV cases
addressed

MILESTONES

TIYAMBE PROJECT

The 3 year-long project (2021-2024), implemented by ArtGlo, empowers women, men, girls, and boys to drive social change, challenge behaviours related to gender-based violence, and promote gender equality. The project is an initiative by the EPM aimed at enhancing gender equality and addressing violence against women and girls within its 18 Tea and Macadamia estates in the Mulanje and Thyolo districts. We train local drama clubs to identify issues and create performances based on real problems affecting their communities. The performances culminate into the creation of multistakeholder Community Action Plans which are community owned, led, and funded.

In 2024, we successfully reached out to the three-remaining estates, namely, Phwazi, Glenorchy and Esparanza estates in Mulanje. We also conducted an endline evaluation of the project which has indicated that we surpassed the projected reach from 15,000 people to 29,661. We have seen communities implementing innovative solutions to combat GBV and promoting gender equality. We have also witnessed more community stakeholders and members leading the fight against GBV in their communities. District stakeholders have also reinforced their commitment to advance community awareness and understanding about their various roles and reporting mechanisms at their disposal.

Reach

29,661
beneficiaries

12,739
women

7,526
girls

4,165
men

5,231
boys

Impact (cases addressed)

108
Early child marriages

118
School dropouts

157
Intimate physical violence

221
Economic violence

19
Rape

GENDER JUSTICE

Mulanje 16 Days of Activism Launch and Tiyambe Open Day Event



This year, we have kicked off the 16 Days of Activism event in Mulanje district, aimed at raising awareness, empowering communities, and challenging harmful norms that fuel gender-based violence. Alongside the event, we are celebrating the strides, mile-stones, and achievements through the Tiyambe project that we are implementing with support from Eastern Produce Malawi Limited. Apart from a solidarity march, the event featured performances from

Fred MW, SLYC, Salvation Army Band, drama clubs, EPM staff, Esparanza Dance Troupe and Chitedze primary school learners. A football match was also held between Esparanza and Limbuli Football clubs with the latter emerging as the winner. The event was graced by the Mulanje District Commissioner, Mulanje District Council Chairperson, EPM's staff and local chiefs and officials from the Gender Offices, Magistrates and Police from Thyolo and Mulanje.



GENDER JUSTICE

CEDRICK AND MARY FELIX REDEFINE FAMILY AND FUTURE IN KATUTE VILLAGE, RUO ESTATE



For Cedrick and Mary Felix, residents of Katute Village under Traditional Authority Mabuka, Ruo Estate in Mulanje, life has taken a dramatic and positive turn since participating in the Tiyambe Project. Cedrick, once grappling with alcohol dependency and financial mismanagement, now stands as a symbol of commitment and hope for his family and community. Inspired by the project's emphasis on personal accountability and family support, he decided to make significant changes in his life.

"Before the project, I barely gave my wife any money because I was too focused on drinking," Cedrick admits. This often led to economic hardships for the family, especially as he withheld the resources his wife needed to manage their household. However, the Tiyambe Project helped him realize his responsibility toward his family and motivated him to make lasting changes.

"Now, I have a vision. I stopped drinking and started to prioritize my family. I bought goats, opened a small shop, and even invested in tea, which after selling, helped us grow our resources," he shares with pride.

Cedrick has even started budgeting alongside his wife and is considering purchasing a sewing machine to support his family's financial stability further. Mary, his wife, has noticed remarkable changes as well.

"Since the project, my husband has become more involved in family life. He helps around the house, cooks, and even joins me in the garden. We now make our budget together," she explains.

The impact of Cedrick's commitment is clear in their improved family dynamics and their children's lives. The children can now attend school regularly and enjoy proper meals, marking a significant step up from the struggles they once faced.

Cedrick hopes that his story will inspire other men in the community. *"I advise my friends to think about the future, to have a vision for their families. When men share resources with their wives, everyone's life improves,"* he says earnestly. Mary, too, encourages others to participate in projects like Tiyambe, which she believes have been transformative for their family.

The Tiyambe Project has empowered Cedrick and Mary to rebuild their lives, proving that change is always possible with determination and the right support.

DISTRICT STAKEHOLDERS APPLAUD THE TIYAMBE PROJECT FOR IGNITING ACTION AGAINST GBV

Stakeholders that the Tiyambe Project has been working with at the district level in both Mulanje and Thyolo, have praised the approach that was used to engage communities within and around the tea and macadamia estates in the two districts. Key stakeholders, especially the District Gender Officers attest that the project has contributed to significant breakthroughs in the increasing awareness, reporting, and management of gender-based violence in the two districts.

"There is an increase in the number of cases that we receive due to an increase in people's awareness about GBV. This change has been inspired by the performances that were done in different communities. People used to normalize abuse, perpetuated by social norms like the belief that men are the heads of households, leading women to tolerate their husband's abusive behavior as normal." Explained Mafunga Jamu, Mulanje District Gender Officer.

Jamu attributes this significant change to the TfD performances that were based on real issues that happen in these communities. Apart from increasing their reach as Mulanje Gender office to more communities, he further said that access and control of resources in the families has changed in respect to gender equality. Additionally, some practices in the communities are now discouraged such as the belief that only men can provide for their families and those that were encouraging women to endure in the marriage regardless of domestic abuse.



In concurrence with Jamu, Tiyanjane Dauda, a former Gender Officer at Thyolo District Council, actively involved from the inception of the project, believes that the project has made significant gains in promot-

ing gender equality. "One of the key issues predominantly appearing in the performances was to do with challenging social norms inhibiting girl child education." He further said that the performances have helped to reduce incidents of suicide among men who were suffering in silence due to GBV by demystifying the belief that men can never face abuse from their wives.

Dauda also highlighted that his involvement in the project has inspired future programming at the council with regard to community engagement. He said that the project has assisted them to be more innovative in reaching out to communities as active participants to enhance understanding and ownership. Acting on the same, he proposed the adoption of TfD in all community engagement activities across different departments at Thyolo District Council for maximum impact.



It is however worth noting that the Tiyambe TfD performances have reduced the number of GBV cases reported at the Thyolo Magistrates court according to Grace Piyo, an Assistant Judicial officer. This has reduced the backlog of cases at the court because community structures have been empowered to manage some GBV cases right in their communities. She observes that most incidents of economic abuse and other abuses, except defilement and rape, are now addressed using community structures.

The Tiyambe project has been working with district stakeholders such as the Gender Office, the police, and the courts. Representatives from these offices availed themselves in each of the four performances and Community Action Plans sessions per estate. This accorded community members a chance to interact with such offices and to learn more about their role in addressing GBV.

IMPACT

- The communities are getting support from the government officers. This relationship seemingly has the potential to continue after ArtGlo exits the community. For example, the officer from the court committed to attend a community meeting to help sensitizing the communities on GBV related laws. This commitment implied the use of their own resources to support the community initiative.
- Through engagement, some communities seem to understand the depth of the gender inequality problem to the extent of recognizing that a once-off activity cannot transform unequal norms that perpetrate violence. For example, in Chisinkha 1 village, the community stakeholders suggested that there should be men's club that should facilitate continuous male engagement sessions. These sessions are capable of transforming gender norms that perpetrate violence.
- Communities have owned the fight against GBV and others have gone beyond by removing barriers to reporting. For instance, the tiyambe TfD performances in Phwazi estate has inspired a community under GVH Songwe to enhance reporting through safer means such as a suggestion box. To guarantee safety and ensure anonymity, the box is positioned at a neutral location. Additionally, a police officer was designated to be present when opening the box, preventing conflicts of interest if a case involved a local stakeholder and ensuring transparency.

CHALLENGES

- Voluntary work or responsibilities are sometimes shunned when there are some opportunities with economic benefits. Some community stakeholders did not fully attend the training sessions due to other political commitments with monetary benefits. This affected their comprehension of the training content as topics build on each other. Consequentially, they may not be fully able to execute their roles and may rely on those that were present throughout the session.
- There are gaps in community self-monitoring of action plans made during Theatre for Development plans. This may result in either partially implemented plans or completely unimplemented plans.
- Most action plans are on sensitization and are not going beyond what TfD is already achiev-

ing. These plans assume that people are lacking knowledge of what violence is and its dangers. Action plans to transform norms ought to go beyond sensitization. However, project design needs to consider the capacity of the community members and the extent to which they can implement tangible action plans.

- Absence of men remain a challenge in all communities. Similarly, the number of boys is also significantly low. This is a challenge because most reported GBV incidences are perpetrated by men and it is important to get the message across and work with men as allies if GBV prevention is to materialize.

WAY FORWARD

In future programming, male engagement strategy has to be in place at the onset of project implementation. Programs should also focus more on activities that aim at practical and measurable social norm transformation. Although all trained stakeholders are trained to monitor community action plans, the TfD schedule ought to have specifically assigned stakeholders to monitor each performance and its action plan. Reporting to the trained team on the action plan progress may ensure accountability.

TESTIMONIES

"I am one of the men who have been denying women the opportunity to do business. After watching the play yesterday, I gave my wife some money to start a business that I denied her for a long time" Religious leader, Glenorchy Estate, Mulanje

"TfD captures real life situations that resonate with people in the communities hence it was a powerful tool for conveying messages on GBV and GE." Female respondent, Limbuli Estate, Mulanje

KUTHETSA NKHANZA KWA

AMAYI, ABAMBO NDI ANA

"Through our interventions, over 10 child marriages have been reported to us. Following our meetings with the children and their parents, we have annulled these marriages and ensured safe return to school of these children." Mianga Drama Club, Thyolo

YOUTH AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (YCE)

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

The "Youth and Community Engagement program" is an initiative that seeks to empower young people and promote community-driven development. The program works with local structures and young people to provide thought leadership, activism, invention, critical conversation, problem solving and much more. In addition, the program encourages youth participation in community development by supporting projects that address local needs such as health, education, and child protection. The program uses innovative approaches such as human-centered design and participatory art to engage young people in discussions on social issues affecting their communities. Through this program, young people are equipped with the skills and knowledge to become agents of change and contribute to the development of their communities.

REACH

2,580
Beneficiaries

945
Girls

804
boys

329
Women

257
Men

128
Orphans

61
Elderly men

36
Elderly women

20
PLWD

MILESTONES

UNICEF ENDING VAC, VAW AND GBV

Community Dialogue sessions:

We facilitated community dialogue sessions in TA Kalumbu, Chiseka, M'bwatalika, and Njewa in Lilongwe. The main purpose of the community dialogue sessions was to bring together different stakeholders in child protection for a dialogue on the issues that are very critical in their line of work. Stakeholders discussed about how to strengthen their collaboration, opportunities for growth, challenges they face in their roles and most common forms of abuse that children from four TAs mentioned above face.

Following from these sessions, the stakeholders facilitated performances in their communities. These performances enabled stakeholders to conduct awareness campaigns in their communities, focusing on child protection.



Child Protection Open Day Event:



We facilitated a child protection open day event as the project came to an end. The event brought together key stakeholders, community members, and children to reflect on the project's achievements, share success stories, and celebrate its impact. It also provided an opportunity for both adults and children to reflect on their journey in the project and to celebrate the meaningful strides made toward protecting children's rights in the areas of TA Njewa, Kalolo, Chiseka, Tsabango, Chimutu, M'bwatalika, Masumbankhunda and Kalumbu in Lilongwe.

YOUTH AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (YCE)

ZOMBA CITY FESTIVAL

We created a fun experience for people from all works of life who patronized the 2024 Zomba City Festival, between the 27th to 28th of April, where we utilized participatory tools including games. On the first day, a number of visitors took their time to brainstorm and express through writing, what an Ideal Zomba City would look like for women, girls, children and minority groups. This was accompanied by a photobooth session open to everyone interested. On the second day, we aired a live broadcast of a session of Artist Liaison where we interacted with visual, tattoo and screenprinting artists from within Zomba and beyond. This was followed by a Karaoke afterparty session where participants sang songs from their favorite artists.



NEOTREE

We continued our work with mothers in hospitals at Kamuzu Central Hospital and in Zimbabwe at Sally Mugabe Central Hospital. Since April 2024, we held two engagements between the mother's group and other mothers at the hospitals. These are support groups that encourage mothers address their concerns in the hospitals. The mothers worked together with hospital personnel to address these issues.

We are excited to share that our Patient and Public Involvement work, implemented with support from Neotree and UCL, has been published in the BMC Proceedings. The online journal recognizes that creative storytelling, through our participatory approaches, is an effective method to foster dialogue and enable patient-driven quality improvement.

BMC Proceedings is part of Springer Nature and has over 300 peer-reviewed journals sharing discoveries from research communities in science, technology, engineering, and medicine.



YOUTH AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (YCE)

TIMVENI WORKSHOP

We were part of a joint workshop between WUSC and ArtGlo that aimed to build the capacity of TIMVENI staff and presenters on the state of Gender, Youth and Children's Rights issues in Malawi. The workshop was held at the end of May where our team delivered the training to the TIMVENI staff to enhance their knowledge along with a Gender expert from WUSC. It covered the basic framework documents and looked at the practical ways of applying the knowledge in their work. TIMVENI expressed interest in working with ArtGlo and highlighting our work through their broadcasting.

UNESCO



We worked with UNESCO in supporting the ministry of education in revision of the Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) curriculum in Malawi. We produced a report, based on the youth teacher dialogues, a policy brief on inclusive education and a toolkit for teachers.

MOVEMENT FOR COMMUNITY LED DEVELOPMENT (MCLD) ANNUAL CONFERENCE

We participated in the consultative workshop on Locally-Led Development organized by the Movement for Community-Led Development (MCLD) in partnership with Peace Direct. The workshop brought together local NGOs and community-based organizations across Malawi to discuss how to transform development systems through a community-driven approach. As an organization we shared our experiences around community engagement using participatory arts approach with USAID mission staff and also registered as a member of the MCLD Malawi chapter.



YOUTH AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (YCE)

STRENGTHENING STAKEHOLDER COLLABORATION TO PROTECT CHILDREN



In Malawi, various organizations are tasked with safeguarding children in different communities, but their efforts have often been hindered by a lack of collaboration. This changed when ArtGlo, with the support from UNICEF, initiated child protection campaigns, which has significantly improved cooperation among stakeholders, leading to remarkable progress in the fight against child abuse.

Suzgika Nyirenda, a child protection worker in Traditional Area (TA) Tsabango, recalls the struggles before ArtGlo's involvement. *"We faced many challenges, especially when it came to working together as stakeholders. Our lack of coordination limited our success in protecting children,"* she explains. But through ArtGlo's activities, these gaps have been filled, and collaboration has been greatly strengthened. As a result, Nyirenda and her colleagues have successfully addressed over 100 cases out of the 245 child rights violations reported between January to June 2024.

One of the most notable achievements of this collaboration was a recent intervention that saved a young girl from an illegal child marriage. *"Everything was set, the church was ready, the villagers had prepared food, and all arrangements for the wedding were finalized,"* Nyirenda recalls. However, thanks to the united efforts of local authorities, including the police, health-care workers, social welfare personnel, and chiefs, the wedding was called off. The girl, who was on the brink of a grim future, was rescued and given a second chance at life, proving how crucial this partnership has become.

While the program has made significant strides, Nyirenda emphasizes that challenges remain. *"There's a gap in what happens after a child is rescued. These children need resources to support their education and basic survival,"* she stresses. She also highlights the role of parents and guardians, noting that they bear a critical responsibility in ensuring their children enjoy their full rights.

Even though the ArtGlo program has ended, its impact is still felt across the community. Nyirenda proudly points out that stakeholders continue to work together, building on the foundation laid by ArtGlo's Child Protection initiative. The spirit of collaboration, once a major challenge, now fuels their ongoing efforts to protect the most vulnerable children, proving that lasting change is possible when people come together for a common cause.



YOUTH AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (YCE)

ADVANCING COMMUNITY-DRIVEN CHILD PROTECTION



The UNICEF Child Protection project implemented by ArtGlo, has made significant strides in empowering communities to take a hands-on role in addressing child protection issues. One of the most impactful aspects of the project has been fostering community-driven solutions to child rights violations, enabling local leaders and facilitators to step up and resolve these issues without over-reliance on external authorities.

A shining example of this is the Children's Corner initiative, which creates safe spaces for children to gather, interact, and share experiences about their lives. One particular case from Kumara Children's Corner in Traditional Authority (TA) Chiseka, overseen by Child Protection Worker (CPW) Doreen Mumphonya, illustrates just how powerful community involvement can be in addressing child protection challenges.

In this remarkable incident, a local facilitator noticed that one of the regular children was absent from the Children's Corner activities. Concerned with the sudden change, the facilitator took the initiative to investigate the absence. What followed showcased the strength of community-led action. The missing girl had been married off to another child, a situation that, in many cases, would escalate to formal interventions involving law enforcement, often causing fear or strain within the community.

However, this time, the community chose a different path. *"Rather than immediately involving the police, the facilitator, local authorities, including chiefs and community leaders, and I came together to resolve the issue,"* Doreen recalls. With trust and collaboration as the

foundation, the local team was able to reverse the marriage, safeguarding both the girl's and the boy's futures. Both children were enrolled back in school, the girl in Standard 7 and the boy in Standard 8, and they continue their education today.

This case highlights the success of empowering community leaders and facilitators through the Children's Corner program. It underscores how, with the right training, communities can address sensitive child protection issues effectively while maintaining harmony and trust within the community. The program's approach has proven to be a lifeline, not just for children, but for the entire community.

Beyond this individual success, Doreen shared more about the broader achievements of the program in her area. Since its inception, they have rescued 109 children and helped them return to school. Partnerships with key stakeholders, including chiefs, police, healthcare workers, teachers, and community-based organizations (CBOs), have been critical to the project's success. These collaborations ensure that child protection services are delivered in a holistic and community-focused manner.

Doreen also highlighted the unique challenges they face, particularly the high incidence of abandoned children, a byproduct of widespread sex work in the area. One heart-wrenching case involved a 1-month-old boy who was abandoned in a pit latrine. Thankfully, the baby was rescued, treated at the hospital, and eventually placed in a safe home. Another prominent issue in the community is defilement, which remains an ongoing concern.

Despite these challenges, Doreen remains committed to the cause. She noted that she needs to visit 88 Teacher Development Centres (TDCs) to continue raising awareness and building capacity, but transport issues often hinder these efforts. "When you teach a child, you have taught the nation," she said, echoing the sentiment that child protection is everyone's responsibility.

Doreen encourages community members to stay actively involved, emphasizing that the well-being and future of children lie in the hands of those closest to them. Thanks to ArtGlo and UNICEF, communities are not only being empowered to protect their children, but are becoming stronger, more cohesive units in the process.

YOUTH AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (YCE)

IMPACT

- Increased Awareness on Child Protection in Lilongwe. The UNICEF child protection project raised public awareness about violence against children, empowering communities in 8 TAs with knowledge on children's rights, protection laws, and reporting mechanisms.
- Strengthened Multi-Stakeholder Collaboration in child protection. Through the UNICEF project, ArtGlo managed to bring together government officials, social welfare officer, police, child protection workers, chiefs, and community leaders, fostering a coordinated response to child protection issues.

WAY FORWARD

- Since we concluded the activities under UNICEF Ending Violence Against Children (EVAC) Project, ArtGlo has been supporting Integration of Child Protection into existing Community Structures like Community Victim Support Units (CVSUs), youth networks, and child protection committees to continue awareness campaigns and reporting mechanisms.

TESTIMONIES

“ Each of the awareness campaigns resonated with me on a personal level, reminding me of the urgency to protect our children from harm,” Lyford Gwazani, CVSU lead and Chimutu CBO member

“ I learned that if I or someone I know experiences abuse, we can report it to authorities like the Police, Victim Support Unit among others.” Trinity Gwetsani.

“ People would wait for four or five days before reporting cases to the police. With ArtGlo's awareness campaigns, communities are now better informed, and people are acting more swiftly when such incidents occur.” Sub Inspector Innocent Banda, Chitedze Police, Lilongwe.

“ Our lack of coordination limited our success in protecting children. But through ArtGlo's activities, we have strengthened our collaboration with key stakeholders. We have managed to address over 100 cases out of the 245 child rights violations reported between January and June 2024.” Suzgika Nyirenda, Tsabango CPO.

“ Through ArtGlo, we've learned that art can be a powerful medium to relay critical information about Child protection,” Sergeant Munthali, Kalolo Police Unit, Lilongwe.

“ Through the Children's rights corner initiative that ArtGlo was supporting, we have rescued 109 children and helped them return to school.” Doreen Mumphonya, Chiseka CPW

SOCIAL INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Our social inclusion and diversity program aims to address differences in public service provision, particularly in the health, justice, and social sectors. At the same time, we're committed to promoting social inclusion and equality for all, grounded in a human rights perspective.

To further these goals, we progressively promoted justice through our work with inclusion champions advancing in Mchinji, Dedza, Chikwawa and Phalombe districts, where we are implementing the Umunthu Inclusive Society Project. These chosen individuals have shown greater and deeper understanding of Umunthu and pledged their support towards advancement of the same in justice delivery.

In 2024, we conducted an impact assessment of constitutional court cases on the legality of section 153 of the penal code. Following from this assessment, we held Legal Empowerment Workshops with the LGBTQ+ people. We facilitated discussions with the Media Council of Malawi and Editors from all main media houses to promote responsible and ethical reporting. We further engaged with Human Right Activists to harmonize their efforts in promoting Human Rights for all. We celebrated the strides and achievements of primary justice actors in their jurisdictions.

REACH

229
Beneficiaries

78
LGBTQ

80
PJA

71
Family & Friends

PJA
35-44
yrs

51%

LGBTIQ
18-24
yrs

50%

F&F
18-24
yrs

40%

MILESTONES

UMUNTHU INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES Changing Hearts and Minds Project

This is an extension of the Umunthu Inclusive Societies project. The project intends to change the hearts and minds of religious leaders, judicial officers and the media, through creative participatory workshops, culminating into the formulation of action plans to be co-implemented together with the project staff. It further creates a space for dialogue, to address misinformation, disinformation and lack of information in regard to sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sexual characteristics (SOGIESC). The project attempts to tackle areas of concern that have come about due to the constitutional case that has exposed the knowledge gap with regards to SOGIESC, the law and public attitudes, beliefs and perceptions. Opponents of sustenance of section 153 have

taken advantage of this gap by intensifying misinformation through traditional media outlets to incite public anger and pressure towards the court not to determine the penal code section as unconstitutional.



SOCIAL INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY

The project conducted an impact assessment of the cases on LGBTQ+, namely the NRA registration case and the constitutional case to determine the legality of section 153 of the penal code. The findings informed the design and formulation of the training curriculum of the subsequent workshops with the LGBTQ+ community, the media and Human Rights Activists. Legal Empowerment workshops were conducted with the LGBTQ+ people to enhance their legal literacy, human rights and their right to participation.



We engaged the Media Council of Malawi and all main Editors in the main media houses in Malawi to address under-reporting, misreporting and publishing of misinformation, disinformation by the traditional media houses. We further engaged Human Rights and LGBTQ+ Activists to discuss how best they could synergize their efforts in fostering human rights for all.

Primary Justice Actors Evaluation meeting

In August 2024, we held an evaluation meeting with Primary Justice Actors (PJA) such as police officers and magistrates from Chikwawa, Dedza, Mchinji and Phalombe districts. This was an opportune time to reflect on their work, brainstorm and strategize on the way forward following the recent developments on human rights cases in the country. We further celebrated their significant strides, invaluable efforts, and notable achievements in the promoting access to justice for all in their respective jurisdictions.



ILGA WORLD CONFERENCE

We attended the 2024 ILGA World Conference in Cape Town, South Africa aimed at strengthening global solidarity to the ongoing anti-rights push-back for the LGBTI communities. During the Faith and Diversity Group session, our Executive Director emphasized the importance of focusing on our commonalities and encouraging constructive discussions, rather than confrontational approaches.



The five days event brought together hundreds of LGBTI human rights defenders and development experts, policy makers, international human rights mechanisms experts, government representatives, researchers, journalists, funders, and allies.

DIVERSITY FORUM

We are honored to have received a Certificate of Recognition for ArtGlo's Advancements in Equality and Inclusion, alongside U.S. Embassy Lilongwe, Royal Norwegian Embassy in Malawi, FHI 360, Malawi Human Right Commission, and German Embassy.



We are grateful to Diversity Forum for honoring ArtGlo's work in advancing human rights, dignity, inclusion, and justice for all. This prestigious award is a testament to our team's collective and individual efforts.

SOCIAL INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY

REFLECTIONS ON MAGISTRATES AND POLICE ENGAGEMENTS IN MALAWI THROUGH THE INCLUSIVE UMUNTHU PROGRAM.



In Malawi, access to justice remains complex and often protracted and tiresome, especially for vulnerable and marginalised communities, such as LG-BTIQ+ communities. The lack of access to justice for marginalised groups goes beyond mere legal misunderstandings. It stems from deeply learnt societal attitudes that often view these groups as undeserving of protection and rights.

These attitudes are perpetuated by several connected factors, such as societal prejudice, where marginalised groups face multiple forms of systemic stigma and discrimination. For example, transgender individuals face significant barriers to accessing justice due to harmful actions and misconduct by law enforcement officers, who are often the first point of contact for those seeking justice. In some extreme cases, they are forced to undress, subjected to invasive searches such as anal testing, often with other officers watching. Such acts violate personal dignity and serve as a tool of humiliation and degradation, reinforcing the message that they are not seen as equals under the law.

For many, the trauma of these experiences outweighs the potential benefits of pursuing justice, leading to widespread underreporting and a continued lack of accountability for those who perpetrate crimes against them. When marginalised groups are treated as criminals or societal outcasts, even when they are the victims, their trust in the system goes away, and they become reluctant to pursue justice. These experiences create a hostile environment where marginalised individuals are not only afraid of being mistreated but also feel that the justice system exists to punish rather than protect them.

Secondly, the lack of inclusive legal knowledge contributes to social and legislative exclusion, resulting in them needing help to report human rights violations or claim their rights. The misconception of who is entitled to legal protections, often built on biases

and stereotypes, discourages the community from seeking support, leading to further marginalisation. Other actors, such as religious leaders, influence various aspects of society, such as the courts, magistrates, police, and healthcare workers in Malawi. This influence, which is mainly manifested through unwillingness to provide service to other sectors of society, significantly impacts LGBTIQ+ individuals' ability to access the justice system.

To bridge the gap between vulnerable and marginalised groups and the justice system, a local human rights organisation, the Art and Global Health Centre (ArtGlo), designed and implemented the Umunthu inclusive project in four districts in Malawi since 2022. The Umunthu project takes a leaf from the golden African philosophy, Ubuntu, believing that a universal bond connects all humanity. All human beings deserve respect, protection and dignity by being human, which is even emphasised in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Using modern, traditional and innovative methods, ArtGlo connects with various community members to raise awareness of human rights and promote social inclusion and cohesion. The project has enabled ArtGlo to work with different community leaders, including magistrates, police, CSOs, and traditional and cultural leaders, especially about LGBTIQ+ inclusion and protection issues.

The Umunthu project has produced human champions who emphasised the need for sensitisation on human rights for fellow magistrates and police officers. Seeing the work that NGOs such as ArtGlo carry out, there is an urgent need to expand the Umunthu inclusive project. One of the working ways of the project is its accommodation for everyone as its inclusive approach does not exclude other identities but rather advocates for a positive shift in the narrative of LGBTIQ+ people, promoting human rights while at the same time strengthening the capacity of justice actors.

SOCIAL INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY

LGBTIQ+ NETWORKS APPLAUDED FOR IMPROVING ACCESS TO JUSTICE



Primary Justice Actors (PJA) have recorded an increase in the number of cases that they handle involving LGBTIQ+ people across the districts of Chikwawa, Dedza, Mchinji and Phalombe. The rise has been attributed to the work that LGBTIQ+ networks are doing in the respective districts to achieve an inclusive social climate for discriminated persons, especially LGBTIQ+ people.

Art and Global Health Center Africa's (ArtGlo) Umunthu Inclusive Societies Project engaged with grass-root LGBTIQ+networks to build strong and resilient networks through movement building initiatives to better support their members. The movements further strengthened linkages and relationships with PJAs committed to play their role to achieve an inclusive society for all. One of the PJAs from Mchinji has observed an increase in the number of LGBTIQ+people opening up to access justice.

"The rising number of cases that our office receives involving LGBTIQ+ people demonstrates that the minority group has been reached with information that they deserve to access justice like everyone else. We have been holding meetings with LGBTIQ+ networks in the district to understand their plight, highlight each others roles and reporting structures to ensure equal access to justice." She explained.

She believes that these networks will be sustained because both the PJA and the LGBTIQ+ networks have embraced and owned the drive to ensure access to justice for all. She assures ArtGlo that their knowledge, lessons and experiences will be passed on to other officers who were not part of the project. However, she highlighted that distance is a main barrier for the to expand their reach since it requires funding for fuel.

"The project has greatly improved my understanding and application of human rights principles. My perception towards the LGBTIQ+ people has changed I assist them equally as I do with everyone because human rights must be enjoyed by all regardless of sexual orientation." She added.

It is this change in attitude by PJAs that has created trust among LGBTIQ+ people to be able to seek justice services. Primary Justice Actors work in collaboration with LGBTIQ+networks to plan activities and interventions that engage communities to promote access to justice and assurances about the same. The LGBTIQ+ networks act as an immediate point of reference for LGBTIQ+ people. They also refer cases to PJAs depending on the gravity of the matter.

IMPACT

Improved Attitudes and Understanding among Primary Justice Actors:

There is a significant shift in the perceptions of primary justice actors towards LGBTIQ+individuals. The previously held discriminatory views have been replaced by a more inclusive and informed perspective. Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, Transgenders, Intersex and Queer individuals are no longer solely defined by their sexual activities, and their dignity is increasingly recognized. This progress marks a crucial step towards creating a more just and equitable environment for LGBTIQ+ individuals.

Relationships between Primary Justice Actors (police, magistrates) and LGBTIQ+ Individuals:

The project has connected LGBTIQ+ individuals with

primary justice actors to ensure increased access to justice. This suggests that efforts to enhance responsiveness and inclusivity of the legal system yielded positive outcomes.

Preference of LGBTIQ+ people while Seeking Services:

All Primary Justice Actors engaged through the project, are now accessible and providing support to LGBTIQ+ individuals, ensuring a safe and inclusive environment for all.

Strengthened Networks and Movements for LGBTIQ+ People:

Umunthu Inclusive Society Projectinterventions have successfully established and augmented LGBTIQ+ support networks in each district, providing ro-

SOCIAL INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY

bust and visible movement for LGBTIQ+ individuals. The networks have been instrumental in promoting inclusivity, advocacy, and support for LGBTIQ+ social inclusion thereby fostering a sense of solidarity.

Empowered Allies and Support Networks

Relationship with Friends and Family Members:

Families and friends who were involved in this project became more open, accepting, and supportive of LGBTIQ+ individuals that led to a more inclusive and loving environment.

Enhanced Confidence of LGBTIQ+Community Members

A key factor in this transformation was the involvement of family and friends in the community. The workshops informed them about the LGBTIQ+community and helped to normalize their identity, leading to greater acceptance and understanding within the community.

Enhanced Leadership Capacity among Champions

All primary justice actors in all the districts selected to be champions under this project demonstrated effective advocacy and support for LGBTIQ+ individuals. The strategy that has been effective in establishing and strengthening networks for LGBTIQ+ in the projects is the good communication and coordination between the champions both from the LGBTIQ+community and primary justice actor's sides. The champions were able to communicate, meet and discuss with each other what to do on specific LGBTIQ+ issues.

CHALLENGES

Religious Demonstrations against LGBTIQ+ People

The project team encountered a major obstacle when a constitution court case necessitated the rescheduling of project activities, affecting the project timeline. It also affected the turnout of LGBTIQ+ people for fear of compromising their safety and security with Mchinji as an example.

Sodomy Cases

The team was forced to pause their PJA's follow-up activities for a month in Mchinji district due to a high number of reported sodomy cases, which created a challenging and stagnant environment for activities.

Lack of Understanding

The primary justice actors in Dedza had a misconception about the project, confusing it with the ongoing constitutional court case. However, after a thorough explanation, they gained a clear understanding of the project's objectives and goals.

Poor network connectivity and transportation issues

Hinders the district network or movement to assist members of their group.

TESTIMONIES

"I have learned how to help my colleagues at work to become aware of LGBTIQ+ people and the kind of support LGBTIQ+people need from them". PJA, Phalombe.

"Building relationships with the police has transformed our experience. They now treat us with respect and we have learned effective ways to address grievances". LGBTIQ+ person, Mchinji

"Previously, we thought LGBTIQ+ individuals were mentally ill or even associated with evil. We now have a better understanding and acceptance, and things are improving." Friend of LGBTIQ+ person, Dedza

"In January 2024, I witnessed a disturbing incident where hospital nurses initially refused to assist my child because of their LGBTIQ+ identity. I intervened, sharing my knowledge and advocating for inclusivity, which helped the nurses understand and provide necessary care" Family member of LGBTIQ+, Mchinji.

"We have handled 3 LGBTIQ+ cases and successfully resolved them through our internal procedures without going to a court of law". PJA, Mchinji.

"The project encouraged us to be true to ourselves. It also established unity and relationships between us and the PJA's that they came to understand us and how best they can serve." LGBTIQ+ person, Dedza.

CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Our work on climate and environmental justice is built on the understanding that, "The impacts of climate change will not be borne equally or fairly, between rich and poor, women and men, and older and younger generations." Climate change is not only an issue of environmental conservation, but also an issue of justice and human rights. The Program remains steadfast in its commitment to mitigate the profound impacts of climate change on vulnerable populations. It transcends addressing environmental injustices to action geared towards forging sustainable and equitable solutions that empower key populations at risk from climate adversities.

In 2024, we kickstarted the Art4NthakaYathu (ANY) project and distributed 1,250 trees to youth in Zomba, Jali to build resilience against climatic shocks and restore the area's vegetative cover.

REACH

265
Beneficiaries

114
Women

33
Girls

5
GVHs

6
Other
stakeholders

78
Men

26
boys

3
District Forestry
Officers

MILESTONES

ART FOR NTHAKA YATHU

This is an intervention aimed at strengthening community resilience through building, nurturing and nourishing the capacities of youth champions for climate change and health. The youth champions developed and presented innovative prototypes that underwent scrutiny by a panel of judges from the community and ArtGlo during a community meeting. Three teams presented prototypes at the event to familiarize their designed intervention with community members. Considering that one team emerged as a winner, the remaining teams agreed to collaborate with the former to implement their project.

Through the ANY, ArtGlo is working with Youth from Zomba Jali area, who have demonstrated their passion in reducing the impact of climate change in their communities through a number of self-driven initiatives. We are working with 15 youth champions who are involved in developing and delivering projects to address issues that affect their community around climate change.



CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Tree Planting

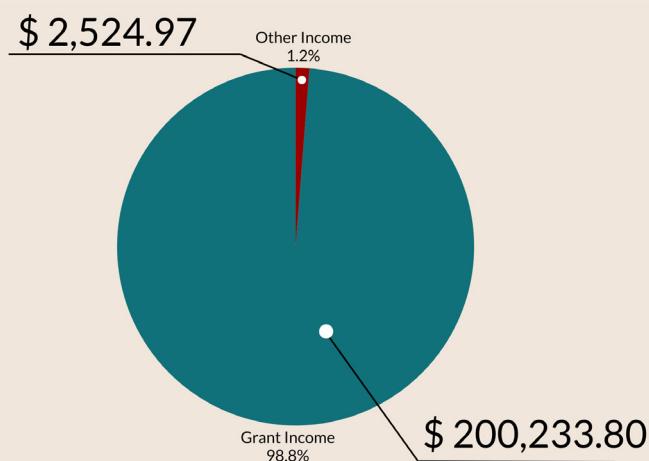
We facilitated a tree planting activity which took place at Makina Health Centre's open space on 7th December 2024 in the area of TA Mwambo, Zomba district. All participants joined in the tree planting activity, successfully planting 250 trees. ArtGlo also distributed 1000 tress to the youth champions of the

other four GVH's. The aim of the activity was to continue ArtGlo's efforts in strengthening and building the capacity of youth climate champions in Jali to be proactive in different initiatives aimed at mitigating and reducing the impacts of climate change.



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

INCOME



OUR PARTNERS AND DONORS

On behalf of the men, women, boys and girls that we work with in different communities, we extend a heartfelt vote of thanks to our donors and partners for their unwavering support. Your generous contributions have enabled us to deliver impactful programs and initiatives, which have transformed the lives of many individuals and communities. We are deeply grateful for your continued commitment to our mission, and we look forward to working with you to create a brighter future for all.

Thank you!

SUMMARY

	DOLLARS	MWK
TOTAL INCOME	202,758.78	355,030,630.40
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	184,622.39	323,273,813.05
BALANCE	18,136.39	31,756,817.35

Rate of Exchange

\$ 1 = MWK 1,751

SUPPORT US

Your support is what makes it possible to transform the communities we work with. To support us you can;



Donate through our website
<https://artgloafrica.org/>



Explore some exciting volunteering opportunities here:

<https://artgloafrica.org/opportunities/>

WAY FORWARD

As we look ahead, ArtGlo remains steadfast in its commitment to co-creating and co-developing arts-based, participatory projects that inspire, engage, and influence. Our work continues to be guided by our mission, to harness the transformative power of the arts to nurture creative leadership and ignite bold conversations and actions, aimed at driving social change.

In the year 2025, our Social Inclusion and Diversity Program, will embark on new efforts to confront hate speech and hate crimes in public discourses. These harmful narratives, often perpetuated in traditional and social media, as well as on religious and political platforms, will be addressed through creative and inclusive artistic and creative workshop interventions aimed at fostering understanding, empathy, and Umunthu. We are also collaborating with Outright International to assess the prevalence, forms and impacts of conversion practices in Malawi.

We are also proud to launch Tiyambe Phase 2, in partnership with Eastern Produce Malawi Limited. This next phase will deepen our efforts to address gender-based violence in and around the tea and academia estates of Thyolo and Mulanje. Through engagement with staff, communities, educators, law enforcement agencies, justice actors, and local leaders, we aim to develop and implement effective ways that promote safer, more equitable and knowledgeable environments.

In 2025, ArtGlo will collaborate with the Sustainable Futures Global Network to assess the alignment of local and indigenous climate change adaptation indicators with Malawi's National Adaptation Plan. Through inclusive dialogue and knowledge sharing, we aim to support the integration of community-based insights into national climate resilience frameworks.

Our Climate Justice Program will also expand through our participation in the international research and implementation initiative, From Catastrophe to Community: A People's History of Climate Change, which brings together partners from Canada, the USA, Malawi, the UK, and Singapore. This project will amplify community voices in climate narratives and contribute to a deeper understanding of lived experiences in the context of climate change.

We will continue our collaboration with NeoTree, advancing digital health technology engagement among mothers and health workers to improve the wellbeing of newborns across Malawi. This initiative underscores our ongoing commitment to health equity and innovation.

ArtGlo will also partner with Dr. Sharifa Abdulla in the dissemination of findings from Rethinking Public Health Approaches to Community Engagement in the Management of HIV and AIDS in Malawi. Together with the Directorate of HIV, STIs and Hepatitis, and other key national stakeholders, we will work to translate these insights into actionable plans in support of the UNAIDS goal to end HIV as a public health threat by 2030.

Finally, in collaboration with researchers from the University of York and University of Adelaide, we will explore the gendered impacts of climate change on rural women living around Lake Chilwa in Zomba. This work will inform both local advocacy and global discourse on the intersection of climate, gender, and rural livelihoods.

As we move forward, we remain inspired by the resilience and creativity of the communities we serve. With your continued support and partnership, we are confident that 2025 will be another transformative year—one where the arts continue to light the way toward a more inclusive, just, and empowered future.

TO THE ARTGLO TEAM

We would like to express our sincere gratitude for your hard work and dedication in 2023. Your passion for creating social change through the arts has been truly inspiring and has had a significant impact on the lives of many individuals and communities. Your tireless efforts have enabled us to achieve our organizational goals and make a positive impact in various areas, including gender equality, education, health, and civic engagement. We recognize that the work we do is challenging and often emotionally taxing, but your commitment to the cause and unwavering support have enabled us to overcome these challenges and continue making a difference.

Your creativity, resilience, and willingness to go above and beyond to achieve our objectives have been invaluable. We appreciate your contributions towards making ArtGlo a dynamic, innovative, and impactful organization. We look forward to continuing our journey together and achieving even greater successes in the future.

Thank you for your hard work, dedication, and commitment to social change through the arts.



OUR STAFF

» Roger Kumalire Phiri , Executive Director	» Chiyembekezo Noel Kapitapita , Communications and Partnerships Assistant	Operations Intern
» Lekodi Magombo , YCE Programme Manager	» Aaron Mahamah , Climate Justice Advisor (WUSC)	» Praise Mbedza , Communications Associate
» Deliwe Kasakala , Finance and Operations Manager	» Binuel Phale , YCE Assistant	» Rehema Chitimbe , MEL Intern
» Esther Harawa , Tiyambe Project Officer	» Patience Munyenjembe , Tiyambe Project Assistant	» Chivaz Dzinyoza , MEL Intern
» Chisomo Liwimbi , SID Programme Officer	» Edward Ted Kandoje , Communications and Development Intern	» Deborah Kaning'a , YCE Intern
» Eva Mihalik , Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Advisor (WUSC)	» Nancy Chisomo Chimbwanya , YCE Intern	» James Sande , Office Assistant
» Florence Simbota , Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Officer	» Raffick Poison , SID Intern	
» Rhoda Malowa , Tiyambe Project Officer	» Watipaso Chikopa , MEL Intern	
» Effie Mgala , Tiyambe Project Assistant	» Abel Ngwira , Finance and Operations Intern	
» Precious Phiri , Finance and Operations Assistant	» Priscilla Kapolo , MEL Intern	
	» Laurel Whidden , YCE Intern	
	» Maggie Storo , Finance and	

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- » **Sharida Hassan**
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