Titukulane

Program brief

Titukulane is a $75M five-year USAID-funded Resilience Food Security Activity, running from 2019 to 2024. Titukulane, meaning “let’s develop together” in Chichewa, is being implemented by CARE together with its partners: Emmanuel International, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), National Smallholder Farmers Association of Malawi (NASFAM), Save the Children, and WaterAid. The Activity aims to support implementation and ensure effectiveness of the Malawi National Resilience Strategy (NRS), which is established to guide investments in agriculture, reduce impacts and improve recovery from shocks, promote household resilience, strengthen management of Malawi’s natural resources, and facilitate coordination between government institutions, civil society organizations, and development partners.

Integrated throughout the Titukulane design are three inter-related domains of change that are fundamental to the elimination of poverty and inequality:

• The principles of good governance are practiced across the systems receiving support and duty bearers at all levels are held accountable for their decisions.

• Activities across the program increase household, community and systems resilience capacities.

• Greater gender equality, women’s empowerment and youth opportunities at the household, community and systems levels.

Purpose 1
Increased stable and equitable incomes from agricultural and non-agricultural livelihoods for ultra-poor and chronically vulnerable households, women and youth.

Purpose 2
Nutritional status among children under five, adolescent girls and women of reproductive age improved.

Purpose 3
Increased institutional and local capacities to reduce risk and increase resilience among ultra-poor and chronically vulnerable households in alignment with the NRS.
**Goals & Objectives**

The primary goal of Titukulane is "sustainable, equitable, and resilient food and nutrition security for ultra-poor and chronically vulnerable households in Mangochi and Zomba Districts." The cross-cutting objectives of Titukulane are Gender Equality, Governance and Accountability, Youth Engagement, and Environmental Safeguarding.

Integrated throughout the Titukulane design are three inter-related domains of change that are fundamental to the elimination of poverty and inequality:

- **The principles of good governance are practiced across the systems receiving support and duty bearers at all levels are held accountable for their decisions.**
- **Activities across the program increase household, community and systems resilience capacities.**
- **Greater gender equality, women’s empowerment and youth opportunities at the household, community and systems levels.**

**Program Participants**

- **Hanging In:** limited labor capacity who need direct support until they have resources and capacities to move up the poverty continuum (around 10% of the population).
- **Stepping Up:** some labor capacity but with resources too limited to enable them to become food self-sufficient (around 15% of the population).
- **Stepping Out:** already beginning to move up the poverty continuum as they acquire additional assets, but are food insecure for at least part of the year (around 25% of the population).

**Guiding principles**

- **Going Deep:** Titukulane deliberately chooses to focus on prioritized pathways with intention of going deep into achieving change.
- **Systems Approaches:** Titukulane will analyze systems from top to bottom and implement interventions to open bottlenecks or capitalize on opportunities to make systems more effective and efficient.
- **Thinking & Acting Sustainably:** Titukulane will conduct rigorous sustainability analyses periodically, and implementation staff will continuously consider how activities should be implemented sustainably to ensure long-term resources, capacities, relationships, and motivation.
- **Working with Local Stakeholders:** Titukulane will not impose its own strategies and plans on these stakeholders, but rather will hold dialogues with them to find common ground.
- **Participant-Driven:** Participants will drive the process for planning and implementation to address constraints or capitalize on opportunities.
- **Transformative Transfers:** Transfers will be used because evidence shows that they can empower women and girls, promote local production, increase purchase and consumption of nutrient rich foods, and facilitate transitions to new, viable income-generating activities.

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