



Corridor Economic Empowerment Project in Malawi



Since March 2011, the Corridor Economic Empowerment Project has worked within Malawi, focusing on five hotspots in Malawi. These are based within Lilongwe, Mchinji, Dowa and Ntchisi.

At a Macro level the project has provided 16 460 national stakeholders and policy makers with technical assistance and strategic information on the link between Economic Status, Gender Equality and HIV and AIDS vulnerability. Through these informative exchanges the project has influenced the development of 3 national policies which focused on HIV and AIDS, including the National HIV and AIDS policy, the Decent Work Country Programme for Malawi, 2011, and the National HIV/AIDS workplace policy. Through these engagements the project has provided support to 20 programmes have been implemented by these stakeholders (National 5, workplace 5 and Business Support Structures 10).

At a Meso level the project, has built the capacity of 10 Business Support Structures through the training of 118 trainers on the CEEP approach. Together the project was able to train 1,285 beneficiaries on Business Skills, Gender Equality and HIV and AIDS (80% being women). This has provided the opportunity to refer these individuals for various HIV and AIDS related services.

Further, at a meso level the project was able to solicit \$296 823 in public private partnerships

The effects at a Micro level, that is at the level of the beneficiaries is apparent and clear when considering the qualitative and quantitative data that was collected in the 2014 outcome survey. Drawing on a sample of 782, the quasi-experimental design categorized beneficiaries into levels of business skills adopted (BSA) as this forms the key strategy of the Economic Empowerment, Gender Equality and HIV and AIDS trainings—it also suggests the level of internalization of the projects' teachings. The following key and significant effects were observed:

Economic Empowerment	No BSA	BSA
Mode for business skill adopted	0	5
Profits (\$) reported over the last six months	266	422
Average monthly income (\$)	48	93
Percentage with savings	79%	94%
Gender	No BSA	BSA
Percentage with equitable contributions to household decision making	42%	71%
Percentage acceptance that wife can refuse sex	38%	71%
HIV and AIDS	No BSA	BSA
Levels of comprehensive HIV and AIDS knowledge	4.5	4.9
Adoption of HIV and AIDS risk reduction strategies	4%	56%
Percentage of people engaged in transactional sex	45%	5%
Percentage of people using alcohol before sex	64%	15%
Uptake of HIV and AIDS related services	17%	20%

The results from the outcomes surveys and the output reports indicate that there have been great strides and successes for the project in Malawi. Having achieved the project targets for the macro level



Focus areas or hotspots in Lilongwe, Mchinji, Dowa and Ntchisi

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