# REPUBLIC OF MALAWI

# A BRIEF ABOUT MALAWI

Malawi is a landlocked country sharing boundaries with Mozambique, Zambia

and Tanzania.

Administratively, the country is divided into four regions namely North, Central,

## POPULATION

Malawi's population is growing rapidly, and in just over 40 years has increased from 4 million

people in 1966 to 13.1 million in 2008.

Estimated at 17 million

Older Persons population is estimated at 5.3%. In 2008 there were 684,316 It is projected that by 2050 there will be 3 Million plus older persons in Malawi 85% of Malawian population live in rural areas with 50.7% living below the poverty line.

Play an important role in leadership and conflict management at family



# POLICES AND PROGRAMMES

#### 1. The Constitution

The Constitution of the Republic of Malawi guarantees the welfare and development of all the people of Malawi,

It defends the human rights and opportunities for all citizens and national harmony.

#### 2. The Malawi Growth and Development Strategy

medium term national development strategy formulated to attain the country's long term development aspirations.

It represents a decisive and strategic single reference document to be followed by all stakeholders



#### 3. The National Policy for Older Persons

Policy for the Elderly and its Implementation Strategy sets out the principles, objectives and strategies that will contribute to the improvement of the quality of life of older persons.

The Policy is built around six key Priority Areas: Promotion and Protection of older persons rights, Promotion of access to health, water and sanitation services, Promotion of food and nutrition security,

Provision of Welfare support and income security, Provision of Housing and shelter and Promotion of research, Education and Training on Ageing

# SOCIAL PROTECTION PROGRAMMES

- 1. Public Works Programmes- labour intensive and involve working on community projects. Partcipants are paid cash or in some cases inkind for the number of days they work on a particular project
- 2. Social Cash Transfer Scheme- Targets 10% ultra poor and labour constrained households
- 3. Farm Input Subsidy Programme- Provide poor farmers with seeds and

4. Decent Housing Programme- Poor families are provided with a soft loan of building materials to improve their houses

5. Public Welfare Assistance where needy older persons are provided with food, clothing and

repatriation for those who become destitute.



### CHALLENGES

The concept of ageing is not understood by many. As a result there is little recognition of older persons needs and concerns in most of the national policies;

Negative attitudes towards older persons resulting into failure by stakeholders to appreciate their situation;

Limited budgetary support for ageing progammes

Very few research has been done on ageing resulting into limited information and data for programme design;

# **END**

# Thank you!!