



Strategic plan 2021-2026

Nature based solutions for Better
Livelihoods

1. Introduction

Simpson Foundation is a locally registered non-governmental organization, compelled and committed to transform and enable poor smallholder farmers overcome poverty.

Purpose

The purpose of Simpson Foundation is to promote nature based solutions as lasting solutions to overcome the injustice of poverty. We endeavor to be part of a global, regional and local movement for change, to empower people to create a future that is secure, just, and free from poverty.

Our Belief

We strongly believe that the restoration of degraded ecosystem, the development of climate change adaptation and mitigation actions through value creation as a sustainable incentive is the most viable and lasting solution to address the social, economic and environmental problems causing poverty, hunger, inequalities in Malawi.

Our Commitment

This Strategic Plan sets out the commitment and the priorities for Simpson Foundation for the six years, 2021-2026. It is the strategy that Simpson Foundation will use to guide resources, partnerships, collaborations, programs and fundraising, and how we operate in the next 6 years. It is the shared agenda with our focus target groups, communities, stakeholders and partners to promote nature based solutions that will reverse and reduce the level of environmental degradation. The strategic plan will guide and enable us achieve sustainable restoration of ecosystems to reduce poverty, hunger, inequalities, and ensure that targeted communities enjoys health and well-being in a justice society.

2. Vision, Mission and Core Values

Our vision

Enhancing resilient and adaptive capacity for vulnerable and poor communities



Our mission

Is to create an environment that will enable communities to be resilient, adaptive to climate change shocks, through the provision of knowledge and expertise.



Core Values

Our values define our commitment on what we do, how we do it and unite us with our partners in our work.

Knowledge sharing



Enhance access to knowledge and best practice information that is needed by poor people to participate in decision making to enhance resilience and adaptive capacities to climate related shocks, stresses and uncertainty

Accountability & Transparency



We are accountable to those whose lives we hope to see transformed, to those we work with and to those who support us.

Partnership



We work with others to maximize our impact, respecting diversity and difference in the pursuit of common goals.

Opportunities and challenges

Drivers and Challenges

Land degradation remains the major contributing factor causing poverty, hunger and unfair sharing of natural resources in Malawi. 60% of Malawi's land is currently affected by soil erosion and nutrient loss at a rate of 29 tons of soil per hectare per year. (Word Bank Report 2019).

Population, Poverty and Livelihoods

Malawi is facing rapid population growth which is exerting pressure and stress on the natural resource base. Natural resources are the main source of livelihood for the poor population.

Wealth and Natural capital

Malawi's wealth is dominated by renewable natural capital (43%), mainly cropland which is declining due to pressures of land degradation, reduced forest land area, and climate.

Institutions, Policies and expenditure

The Environment and Natural Resource sector has many policy contradictions and gaps. Much of Malawi's wealth 43% comes from renewable natural capital, which suggests a need for close alignment of policy and legal frameworks that guide the management of the country's natural resources.

Climate change and resilience

Malawi is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and the economy and livelihoods are directly dependent on rain-fed agriculture. However, when climate variability impacts on soil health and land degradation, farm systems struggle to be productive. This lead to increased poverty and food insecurity.

Opportunities

Malawi Vision 2063

A resolution of Malawi to be "an inclusively Wealthy and Self –reliant Nation" by among other things investing in:

Sustainable Land Management Practices

Investments in soil and water conservation, soil fertility improvement, conservation agriculture and agroforestry.

Climate Smart and Resilient Agriculture

Investments in climate smart technologies and practices in all sector.

Health and Nutrition

Investments in universal health coverage with quality, equitable and affordable health care for all Malawians

Environmental Sustainability

Investments in environmental sustainability to ensure sustainable development with programmes based on minimizing depletion of natural resources.

Our approach

The way we work

To drive change and deliver lasting results, we will work with a wide range of government departments, civil society, private sector partners, and local, regional and global partners. Together we will analyze the political, economic and social context of the problems facing Malawian communities to develop responsive programmes of service delivery, capacity development, and campaigning to influence sustainable transformational change. This strategic plan will endeavor to achieve the following 4 enabling operational goals:

Operational Goal 1: Partnership

Be part of multi-stakeholder high impact partnerships as member of global, regional, and local networks on Nature based solutions.

Be part of the greater public to raise a collective voice to protect our Planet natural resources and climate for future generations and fight the injustice of poverty

Operational Goal 2: Program quality, monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEAL)

Innovation, learning and Knowledge management

To increase the quality and impact of our program work and that of our partners while demonstrating strength capacity to meet agreed Programs standards.

Operational goal 3: Active Youth groups

To voice fair sharing and sustainable management of natural resource

Youth groups empowered to engage communities to be more active in calling for fair and just sharing of natural resources. Youth groups empowered to hold political and social leaders to account on policies that influence access and control of natural resources.



Operational Goal 4: Leadership engagement

Engage leaders from across society to prioritize nature based solutions safe water, sanitation and hygiene, with a particular focus on the rights of the poorest and most marginalized communities

How change happens

To ensure that targeted communities are actively engaged in nature based solutions, we believe that certain conditions need to be in place.

Our strategic aims seek to accelerate progress towards our vision of the future, where we will see the following:

Sustainability

Service providers having the skills, resources and systems necessary to deliver and maintain permanent nature resource management.



Empowerment communities

Empowered communities diversifying their livelihoods with viable microfinance and entrepreneurship opportunities to reduce heavy reliance on nature.

Environmental Stewardship

Responsible use and protection of the natural environment through conservation and sustainable practices



Capacity Building

Innovative responses, new knowledge, technologies and systems to enhance adaptive capacity

Our strategic aims

We believe in Nature based solution to promote

1 Climate smart agriculture

SDG 2, 12

Ensure sustainable food production systems and enhance scaling up of agricultural practices that increase sustainable productivity, while restoring the ecosystems to strengthen adaptive capacity to climate change, extreme weather, drought, and flooding.

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

2. Health and well-being

SDG 3

Engage with local partners to deliver equitable and sustainable water, hygiene and sanitation services. Support, empower and enable communities to call for appropriate service and to influence their delivery. We will share these experiences to influence others who can replicate and multiply our efforts.

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

3. Environment and natural resources management

SDG 6,7,13,15

Empower communities to undertake nature conservation actions as an enterprise to generate social, economic and environmental value to conserve, restore and protect natural resources and biodiversity. Communities, stakeholders and partners collaborate through Nature Co-operative to enhance resilience, and climate change adaptation.

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage

4. Equity and Justice

SDG 5,8,10,11, 16

Empower more women and men to realize their right to secure and sustainable livelihoods (Economic justice), improve capacity to deliver better protection and assistance (Rights in crisis), and support women's leadership at all levels to achieve greater power in decision making and greater control over their lives.

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Reduce inequality within and among communities.

Make human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Influencing

Combining and coordinating resources to create a critical mass needed to deliver a sustainable change in natural resource management. In this strategic period, we will place a greater emphasis on designing our programmes to maximize our influence.



Raising Public Awareness

Creating a public awareness among marginalized communities to be aware of the universality of the Sustainable Development Goals, to lift the prospects of everyone.

Accelerating action

As our communities become politically active, organized and people begin to realize their strength and their capacity to challenge the injustice of poverty. Together we will support innovative approaches to building a Nature movement for change.

Scaling up

Combining delivery capacity across geographies, taking successful programmes and approaches to scale to multiply the impact

Every one Counts

Safeguarding nature is the responsibility for everyone, there is no time to waste. Let everyone act with courage, work with justice and always tell the truth about Nature

Our work dependent on the correct identification of the problems our communities face and development of effective solutions to achieve a positive change in their lives. We value the need to assess and determine the extent of how our organization will be performing to achieve the set outputs, outcomes. We are committed to assess our performance as follows:

Organization effectiveness

Assess how effective our organization is in achieving the outcomes and impacts we intend to achieve in our communities.

Organization capacity

Assess the potential of our organization to use the human, financial and other resources to achieve the desired outcomes and impacts in the communities we serve.

Organization efficiency

Assess how successful our organization is using the least possible resources in order to produce the highest possible planned outputs.



We will continue to grow as a vibrant organization that is committed to upholding our values. Our working practices will be people-centered and dynamic, drawing strength from our diversity.

People and culture

To deliver this strategy, we will develop our organization structure, building on our strengths and the great potential of our people.

We take pride in our Youth, full of energy and passion to drive our programs as Leaders of today.

We will further develop our culture based on our values and invest in leadership, good management, skills development and employee engagement.

Governance

Our board of governance cuts across our will continue to evolve to support the delivery of our strategy. They will reflect the diverse skills and perspectives from across our organization. We will continue to apply the highest principles of governance and accountability, and will ensure that our work is guided by the voices of those we serve, our partners and staff.

Growth

We aspire to do as much as we can to contribute to the changes required to realize our vision. Accordingly, we will strive for manageable growth and seek new partnerships and funding that allow us to deliver our plans.

Where we work

We've worked in Malawi since 2012, transforming and bring poor smallholder farmers together to fight poverty. Our previous works were more focused on sustainable agriculture and natural resource management.

We are currently active in central region of the Malawi in the following three districts: Lilongwe, Dowa and Mchinji



Nature 4 All

Let's Work together,
to reduce Poverty and Hunger
in the World of Plenty

By 2026

Nature 4 All

a

Better future for everyone



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