ORGANISATIONAL PROFILE

YOUTH ACTION AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE (YAACC)



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YAACC was established in 2009 as an environmental youth organization.

OUR GOAL

The primary **goal** of YAACC is to mobilize and empower youths and communities so that they take a lead role in their communities in fighting climate change and environmental degradation.

THEMATIC AREAS OF INTERVENTION

YAACC is currently involved in activities around four thematic areas as follows:

- 1. **Climate change awareness creation:** The objective aims at increasing awareness of climate change and the danger posed by environmental damage
- 2. **Environmental justice and advocacy:** the objective aims at reducing social injustices perpetuated by environmental related activities while helping to influence national and community level policies for the conservation of nature.
- 3. Community based support for climate change mitigation and adaptation: the objective aims at helping communities in initiating climate change mitigation and adaptation activities in the areas of energy, forestry, food security, wetland management etc
- 4. Capacity building for youth: the aim of this objective is to organize youths into meaningful networks and training them to create synergy for meaningful climate and environmental management.

PROGRAMME IMPACT AREA

Currently, YAACC is working in Mzimba South. This in the northern region of Malawi. With increased resource availability, the programme area shall expand.

SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED

- Tchemba and Muwango Forest conservation programme: Tchemba forest is affected by gemstone mining while Muwango forest is affected by unregulated timber harvesting. In 2017, YAACC received a grant from Global Green Grants Fund towards the programme
- 2. Mzimba urban public sanitation improvement (awareness, donating waste bins, conducting clean up exercises)
- 3. Climate change awareness creation through meetings, workshops, fliers, games
- 4. Building networks of youth clubs for environmental and climate change interventions
- 5. Participating in local and national networks and interventions e.g. National Youth Network on Climate Change (NYNCC), Mzimba South NGO Network where YAACC is in the Executive Committee, National REDD+ Program etc
- 6. Raising Seedlings and planting indigenous trees

KEY SUPPORTING PARTNERS

- 1. Global Greengrants Fund (GGF)
- 2. Network for Youth and Development (NFYD)
- 3. Centre for Youth and Children Affairs
- 4. National Initiative for Civic Education (NICE)
- 5. US Peace Corps Programme through Sophia Ford a volunteer based in Mzimba

- 6. The Forestry Department
- 7. The District Environmental Office
- 8. National Youth network on Climate change (NYNCC)

OUR ROLE IN THE DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

YAACC is aware that for Mzimba to realize its development goals, natural resources have to be utilized intelligently. At the same time, youths have to be at the core centre of development programming. In this case, YAACC plays a crucial role in mobilizing youths to take part in sustainable development programmes in their communities. By promoting conservation practices, YAACC is helping to protect resources that are crucial for the district's development.

YAACC will continue to engage with other players in the district at different forums including DEC, MZISONET, Youth Networks and local structures such as EDCs, VDCS, and community and school youth clubs