

**Scottish Government International Development Programme
Mid-Year Report**

Notes for Completion:

- Please note, with the exception of the cover page, this report will be published.
- To ensure compliance with GDPR, refrain from using any personal or identifying information unless you have obtained consent from the data subject and are content for this to be made public.
- Answer all questions in the template provided, noting the word limits.
- Include all relevant information in the reporting template – hyperlinks and annexes will not be accepted as part of the report.
- Ensure answers are clear, concise and in plain English. Avoid using jargon and explain acronyms.

<p>Supporting Documentation</p> <p><i>Check box to confirm key documents have been submitted with this report</i></p>	<p>Logical Framework, which reflects any changes in this reporting period.</p> <p>Budget</p> <p>Case study</p> <p>Risk register</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>As the project manager responsible for the completion of this report, I hereby confirm the information included is accurate and complies with the notes for completion.</p>		
<p>Scottish based Project Manager:</p>	<p>Signature:</p>	

**Scottish Government International Development Programme
Mid-Year Report**

1. General Project Information		
1.1	Project Reference Number	MAL 18/10
1.2	Name of organisation	Chance For Change Malawi/ Mwayi Wosintha Kwathu
1.3	Lead Partner(s) organisation	Chance For Change
1.4	Project Title	Access to Justice
1.5	Reporting Period	From: 01/04/2019 To: 30/09/2019
1.6	Reporting Year	PY2
1.7	Project Start date	01/10/2018
1.8	Project End date	31/03/2023
1.9	Total Project Budget*	£1,304,863
1.10	Total Funding from IDF*	£1,265,759
1.11	Provide a brief description of the project's aims, highlighting which of the SDGs your project is working towards? (200 words)	<p>The project aims to support child justice services in Malawi by working towards a child-welfare centred child justice system, and by advocating for and supporting the full implementation of the Child Care Protection and Justice Act (2010). The project will also offer direct support to the Child Case Review Board, the National Child Justice Forum, and the Ministry of Gender.</p> <p>The project naturally aligns with almost all of the UN Global Goals, but will contribute specifically in the following ways:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SDG (1) Poverty, SDG (2) Hunger, and SDG (8) Work and Economic growth - through vocational training and providing business start-ups for participants. 2. SDG (3) Good health and well being; we take malnourished and sick prisoners and through therapeutic feeding and medical and health provision, we bring them back to health. 3. SDG (4) Quality education through training and education programmes 4. And finally; SDG (16) Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions through access to justice for participants and our advocacy activities for

**Scottish Government International Development Programme
Mid-Year Report**

		<p>their human rights, particularly in supporting the full implementation of the CCPJA</p> <p>We also contribute indirectly through eg SDG (7) Affordable Clean Energy through solar businesses, or SDG (15) Life on Land with sustainable agriculture training.</p>
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2. Project progress and results

Please use this section to give an update on the progress the project has made during this reporting period.

2.1 Provide an update on the progress your project has made during the reporting period. Use this space to update us on what has gone well and any challenges you have experienced, detailing how you have overcome these. (Max 350 words)

Our project has been largely operating as normal, but we have experienced difficulties with some of our activities as a result of recent unrest, which has been a factor throughout the reporting period.

Overall, our performance has been broadly on track. This is due to over-performance in some areas offset by under-performance against targets in areas badly affected by the civil unrest. The breakdown of outcomes has been skewed by political events since elections in May 2019, and our operations since, have been curtailed by ongoing civil unrest.

The political problems have certainly slowed down throughput, but the only real effect has been slow performance against targets with a travelling component. Business at the reformatory centre has been very good, and we are pleased to report no abscondee or breaches of court orders during this reporting period.

A side effect of reduced throughput has been a more settled group of inmates at the centre, and although outcomes have been affected on a quantitative basis, on a qualitative basis standards have been exceptionally high during the disruption.

In order to reduce the impact of the difficulties all have experienced, in the recent reporting period, we have concentrated efforts on the legal team and community programmes. The legal team in particular have been very effective on case files and legal opinions and have been working closely with CCRB members to reduce blocked file channels and have had input on 432 files to date. For instance they have written 119 recommendations for judges or magistrates to approve; they have collected 52 cases of unlawful disposals, they have supported 56 trials, and made 55 bail applications. They have also concluded 22 pending case files. This ensures that our impact is maintained to a high level throughout this difficult period.

**Scottish Government International Development Programme
Mid-Year Report**

	<p>The Diversion/ community elements of the programme have also done exceptionally well and have increased activities during this difficult time.</p>
2.2	<p>Have you experienced any delays to planned activities? Provide full details including what action is being taken to bring activities back on track.(Max 350 words)</p> <p>Of course we have experienced much disruption to travel during this period, particularly as travel necessitates a high degree of preparation, such as obtaining court orders, access documents to gain entry to prisons etc.</p> <p>Unofficial roadblocks and violent groups of individuals have been making travelling risky and have adversely affected both transportation of referrals from other regions, and reintegration, which covers all regions. Travel to workshops within Lilongwe and Dowa has also been affected, and some workshops and programmes have been rescheduled. This has affected our timings. The effect of limited travelling has also disturbed the legal operations as visits to courts and prisons have been similarly disturbed.</p> <p>In addition to travel restrictions, the courts have been operating on a much-reduced basis and have subsequently been also subject to severe disruption. This has affected inputs, particularly referrals. The governing bodies – the CCRB, NCJF, and the Central High Court have been affected, but they have also lately taken measures to catch up, and have had intensely focused case conferences in order to try to recover the backlog.</p> <p>In order to mitigate the effects of the disruption, we have concentrated resources into activities that have been able to function normally. Consequently, we are down on targets in some areas, but exceeding targets in others. We will endeavour to balance this up in the coming six months.</p> <p>Another effect of the disruptions to Courts, CCRB, and travel, has been that inmates who are rehabilitated and ready for reintegration have been held back at the centre.</p> <p>This is primarily due to the difficulty of obtaining court orders, and travelling to rural areas to prepare for reintegration. We also have had a backlog of assessed inmates who have been offered places, but who have not been picked up. Overall, there seems to be no cause for alarm at this stage, but the situation must resolve itself soon.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the disruption, we have by and large managed workarounds in most areas, and hope to regain any lost ground.</p>
2.3	<p>Are you on track to meet your year-end milestones? Give details of any areas that are behind, and how you plan to overcome this. (Max 350 words)</p> <p>In terms of our overall impact targets, we have not been too badly disrupted as we have increased activity where possible to maintain the momentum of the project. There are however, still areas where we will struggle to make up ground.</p>

Scottish Government International Development Programme Mid-Year Report

In particular, the area that will prove most difficult to regain lost ground is reintegration. The travel restrictions and difficulties in communicating with families and communities, and of course underwriting the personal safety of the inmates themselves as they return to communities, has been all but impossible during this reporting period. Whilst we can plan to increase reintegration activity, there are factors outside our control. These factors, such as length of sentences that referrals come with, home situations of the boys, and geographical locations of home communities, are outside of our control.

It would not be well received if we were to select referrals on any of these criteria to increase throughput; and procedurally from a court point of view, there is no legal precedent. With sentence management and reintegration being absolutely dependent on favourable decisions from the courts, and the careful preparation of communities, it is difficult to influence processing time. We of course intend to reintegrate all of our current inmates as soon as it is safe, and as we have a waiting list of referrals offered places, we will have no delay in reallocating places at the centre immediately.

Although there are challenges with reintegration, we feel confident that our performance so far in other areas has been very high, and that we have made excellent progress in the circumstances. We feel that outwith reintegration; we will be on track soon if the situation resolves itself.

3. Partnerships and collaboration

This section allows you to discuss how partnership working is progressing on the project, as well as wider collaboration and sharing of learning.

3.1 Provide an update on how partnership working has gone during this reporting period, letting us know about any highlights, challenges or changes to roles and responsibilities. (Max 350 words)

CCRB; our relationship with the CCRB is improving steadily. Support is still strong from the wider Board and we have recently hosted a successful inspection visit. The statutory child justice authorities are taking measures to increase the effectiveness of the CCRB, and the NCJF and Ministry of Gender are playing an important role in this. Although court activity has been very much affected in the recent period, we are very pleased with our partnerships with the judiciary.

Malawi Police; our relationship with Malawi Police remains good and if anything is strengthening within our catchment. Levels of referrals are still very good and improving. We have exceeded targets in this area.

Malawi Prisons; again relationships remain good at local level and our legal team are enjoying good relationships with MPS law department who has facilitated access to prisons. Outreach projects are going well but have been slightly affected by decongestion measures.

**Scottish Government International Development Programme
Mid-Year Report**

	<p>OCG; have ceased operating</p> <p>WOJAM; We have had little contact with WOJAM, due to them being less active during the post election problems.</p> <p>Family of Hope; although this partnership is dormant, we still access services from KCH to supplement our own counsellor. We have however, had a marked drop in mental health problems lately during a settled period at the centre</p> <p>CHREEA; as CHREEA are based in Blantyre and the National Prisons Steering Group has been dormant, we have had little contact, but expect to be able to resume shortly</p> <p>Byounique; Byounique have to some extent found a solution to their funding issues, at least temporarily. We have met with them recently and as we currently are expecting some inmates from Bvumbwe, we intend to liaise with them.</p> <p>Irish Rule of Law; are currently not so active due to changes in staff and leadership.</p>	
3.2	Have any international visits to the project taken place in this period? Give details including key activities and outputs of these visits.	
	No international visits have taken place during this reporting period	
	Date of visit	Key achievements / outputs of visit
4. Safeguarding and Fraud		
Please ensure you complete questions 4.1 and 4.2 even if you have no incidents to report.		
4.1	Have there been any incidents, relating to the Grant or the Project, in the last reporting period which contravene your safeguarding policy?	

**Scottish Government International Development Programme
Mid-Year Report**

	There have been no safeguarding incidents during this period. We have however overhauled our safeguarding policy recently, and carried out Safeguarding training for all operational staff.		
4.2	Have there been any incidents in the last reporting period of financial mismanagement or fraud, relating to the Grant or the Project?		
	No, there have been no such incidents during this period.		
4.3	Have these incidents been reported to relevant authorities, and if so, to whom?		
	N/A		
4.4	Describe what action has been taken, and highlight any lessons learned.		
	N/A		
5. Risk Assessment			
5.1	Have any issues materialised during this reporting period? If so, how will were these addressed?		
	Assumption	Risk	Action Taken
			Was this included in your original Risk Assessment Table?
	Political unrest/ civil instability	Civil unrest	Have plans for safe travel of staff Ensure non party-political affiliation and engage with civil society and non-affiliated organisations.
			Yes
6. Financial Information			
This section will be reviewed alongside your mid-year budget spreadsheet, which must be included with this report.			
6.1	Explain any variances to planned expenditure in this period. (Max 350 words)		

**Scottish Government International Development Programme
Mid-Year Report**

	Our expenditure during this period has been in accordance with budget. There are no variances of note.
6.2	At this stage, does your projected expenditure look to be on track? If not, outline the reasons why, and what plans are in place to bring spending back on track. If you are requesting changes to your budget at this stage, outline them below. (Max 350 words)
	At this point, we are not expecting any large variances and expenditure is being tightly managed. We will however be reforecasting the budget early next year to reflect staffing changes. We have some personnel leaving the organisation and will be adjusting staffing in the budget to reflect the changes. We will consult our grant manager as soon as we have details of new personnel and the salary adjustments. The changes will be minor and not expected to alter the overall budget.
6.3	Do you have a proposal for how you would like to utilise any of your ring-fenced underspend, excluding any currency gains? (Max 350 words)
7. Any other Information	
Use this section to tell us any other relevant information regarding your project. (Max 350 words)	
<p>Although there has been some interruption to the normal running of the project, we have managed to minimise disruption to our effectiveness, and keep up momentum. Although the civil unrest still continues, we have strategies for ensuring that too much ground is not lost. In the past month, we have had satisfactory inspections at the reformatory centre, and the Legal Team are busy capitalising on successful CCRB relationships with new Ministry personnel to strategise for structural improvements to child justice. Partnerships with government reformatories are healthy, and we are sharing our ideas and practice with them.</p> <p>The Legal Team are processing a significant amount of files, and have been asked to help audit statutory provision.</p> <p>In summary; although we are still in a difficult period of civil instability, we have managed to continue to be flexible and productive. We will find it challenging to regain lost ground on reintegration, but we are confident that we will find solutions. The staff team remain highly motivated and optimistic, and results this term in a qualitative sense have maintained high standards.</p> <p>We feel optimistic that in the next year, we will begin to have a significant effect on the wider sector and will be positioned well, with the Ministry of Gender, the CCRB, and the NCJF to move further in our objective of supporting full implementation of the CCJA 2010.</p>	