

Lungwena health, nutrition, and agriculture research project

Main partners:

UiO : **University of Oslo**



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Other partner(s):

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Objectives:

Lungwena health, Nutrition and Agricultural Multidisciplinary Project - Towards poverty reduction

The College of Medicine and other constituent colleges in the University of Malawi together with the University of Oslo and the Norwegian University of Life Sciences have collaborated on this research programme aimed at improving the quality of life, and contribute to poverty alleviation in a rural community in Malawi. The specific aim of the first phase was to address the problem of poverty, food insecurity and ill health through a multi-sectorial and multidisciplinary approach. To assess what agricultural practices could improve food security of the area served by the Lungwena Health Centre and to assess the impact of such activities involving poverty reduction on the health of the community. The project has been initiated and coordinated through the College of Medicine in the University of Malawi which has had a field station in the Lungwena Health Centre since 1995. The College of Medicine together with Bunda College of Agriculture, Chancellor College, Kamuzu College of Nursing and the Polytechnic, in the University of Malawi collaborated with University of Oslo and the Agricultural University of Norway to develop strategies and facilitate basic and operational research to address the questions that relate health to agricultural practices, food security and poverty through postgraduate research and training to Masters and PhD level. The long term result in this phase has been to establish research capacity for staff in University of Malawi using data from the project area, in agricultural economics, biostatistics, and nutrition. It will also contribute to a deeper understanding on how issues of poverty alleviation only can be addressed in a multi-dimensional way, and enhance sharing of research experience and collaboration with one common goal.

Results:

Master students, graduated:

Awarding Institution	Degree title	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total
University of Oslo	M.Phil		1	1	1	1	4

Master students by funding

Awarding Institution	NUFU		Quota funding		Other funding		Total	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
University of Oslo			4				4	

M.Phils thesis: Lillian Ziyenda Katenga-Kaunda: Utilisation of skilled attendance for maternal health care services in Malawi: Rural health centres perspective (2010)

Lucy Chigwenembe: Dignity in Maternal Health Service delivery (2011)

Previous master students:

Austrida Gondwe: "Young women and family planning in Malawi, Mangochi District." (2008)

Elisabeth Chodzaza: "Quality care in a rural hospital, Malawi"(2009)

Ph.D. candidates by funding :

Awarding Institution	NUFU		Quota funding		Other funding		Total	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
University of Oslo		1	1	0	0	0	1	1
University of Malawi		1						1
University of Life Science (UMB) Norway			1				1	

PhD-students in the project: Penjani Kamudoni, UiO: "Breastfeeding: Determinants and implications for infant nutrition in Malawi" (delivered 2011)

Humphrey Misiri , UiO: "Maternal and child health differentials of infant mortality" (ongoing)

Justice Chingonda, University of Malawi: "Economic impact of the Lungwena health, nutrition, and agriculture multidisiplinary project on poverty reduction and indigenous livelihood strategies" (ongoing)

Tinna Manani, UMB:" Improving protein availability, palatability and acceptance of soy based products through fermentation into functional foods" (ongoing)

Selected Publications:

- Chinkonde Nkhoma J: Non-adherence with follow up care in the prevention of mother-to child HIV transission program in Lilongwe, Malawi: Clients' perspective (Reproductive health matters, 2007)
- Chodzaza, Elizabeth: National Management Guidelines for obstetric emergencies (African Journal of Midwifery and Women's Health 4 (2) 2010
- Kamudoni PR, Maleta K, Shi Z, de Paoli MM, Holmboe-Ottesen G: Breastfeeding perceptions in communities in Mangochi district in Malawi (Acta Paediatr.2010 Jan 5.)
- Thorsen V.C, Sundby J, Martinson F.: Potential initiators of HIV-related stigmatization: ethical and programmatic challences for PMTCT programs. (developing World Bioethics, 2008)

Programme: NUFU
ProjectID: NUFUPRO-2007/10149
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