



MONTHLY REPORT

JULY 2020

COMPILED BY

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(COUNTRY DIRECTOR)

## Introduction

Healthcare service provision continues at Kasese Health Centre amidst the global pandemic. In the wake of Covid-19, Orant Charities Africa is promoting preventative measures such as encouraging (mandatory) handwashing upon entering Kasese health centre premises, wearing masks and observing social distance, among others. Health Education is done every day as patients wait to receive treatment. Cloth masks are available at our gate at a subsidized price of **MK100** for all people entering the gate to ensure that everyone wears a mask. Dr. Jeffrey Peller once said 'Wearing a mask to protect others is an intentional act of kindness'.



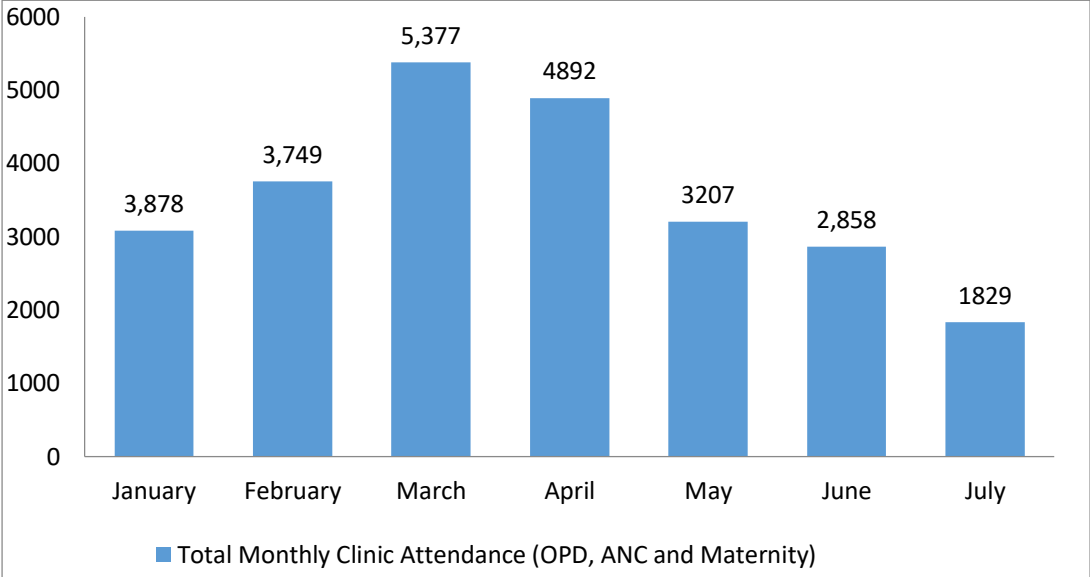
*Chinsisi, one of our Patients Care Attendants giving a health talk to Women about masks wearing and other Covid-19 preventative measures*

## Monthly patient's attendance

As for the month of July 2020, the health Centre attendant to **1829** patients, this is the lowest figure this year most likely due to the fact that this time of the year is off malaria season and the clinic was closed for a week when fumigation (decontamination) of the premises was been done to prevent spread of Covid-19. Pictures below show staff cleaning our health facilities;



About **18** children age between 2 months and 12 years were admitted in 24 hours children’s ward, majority having malaria and they all got parenteral treatment of Artesunate. Maternity department had **33** deliveries and referred 2 women for c/s at Madisi hospital (see figure 1).



*Summary of total Monthly patient attendance at Kasese health Centre (OPD, ANC, and Maternity).*

**Health facility Corona Virus (COVID -19) updates**

Malawi continues to confirm many cases of Corona Virus (COVID 19). Daily average statistics of new confirm cases is 70, the number seems low as the test is not proportion to its population, we are sure many asymptomatic cases are there transmitting the virus unknowingly. Kasese Health Centre registered two health care workers with COVID 19, all are stable and they are now asymptomatic, one has return to work after completing 14 days’ quarantine as per MOH protocols. By the time this report was written the country has registered total of 4658 with 146 deaths.

In a bid to curb the spread of the disease, the health centre closed the premises for a week for fumigation and during the same period staff was asked to observe for sign and symptoms of the disease. Those with close contact of the confirmed person with Covid-19 were screened.



Figure Above shows one of the staff sample of Covid 19 test done

### Maternal and Child healthcare

The Health Centre continues to provide excellent maternal and neonatal health care. All women access high quality care during pregnancy and delivery. All received quality medicine and most of them, except those born before arrival (BBA) at hospital are attended by skilled healthcare workers, those in need of referrals to hospital are timely done, this is evidenced by good maternal outcomes as the Health Centre have not experienced maternal related mortality for the past five years. As for the month of July 2020, the maternity department had **30** deliveries; all spontaneous vertex deliveries (SVD), **one** neonate was born on transit to the clinic (BBA), **3** mothers were referred to Madisi hospital for Ceasarian section (C/S). The Health Centre had no neonatal death.

Tables below shows new born's survival / PMTCT for the month of the July 2020.

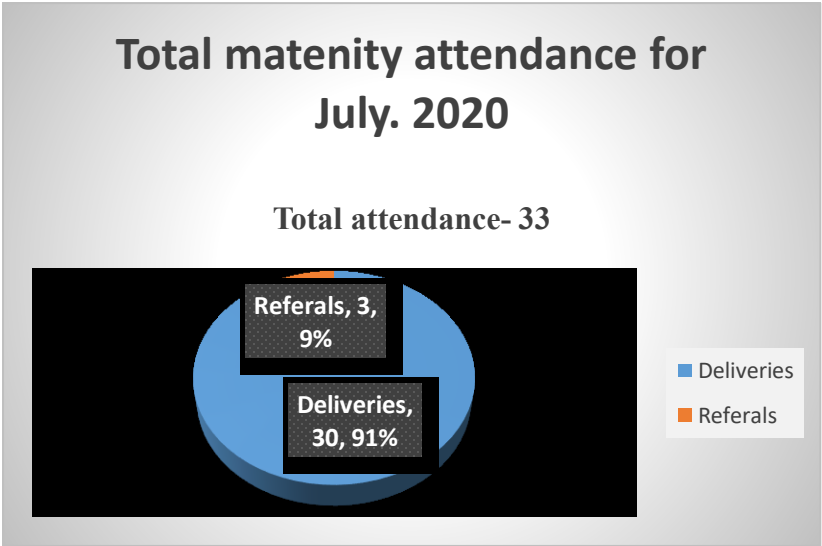
<b>Alive, not HIV exposed</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Alive,exposed,no NVP</b>	0
<b>Alive, exposed, NVP started</b>	0
<b>Alive,unknown exposed</b>	0
<b>Fresh still birth</b>	0
<b>Macerated still birth</b>	0
<b>Neonatal deaths</b>	0

### ***Newborns complications.***

<b>New born with no complications</b>	<b>30</b>
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<b>Weight less than 2500grams</b>	1
<b>prematurity</b>	1
<b>Asphyxia</b>	1
<b>Sepsis</b>	0
<b>Total</b>	33

Figure 1: Maternity attendants for July 2020



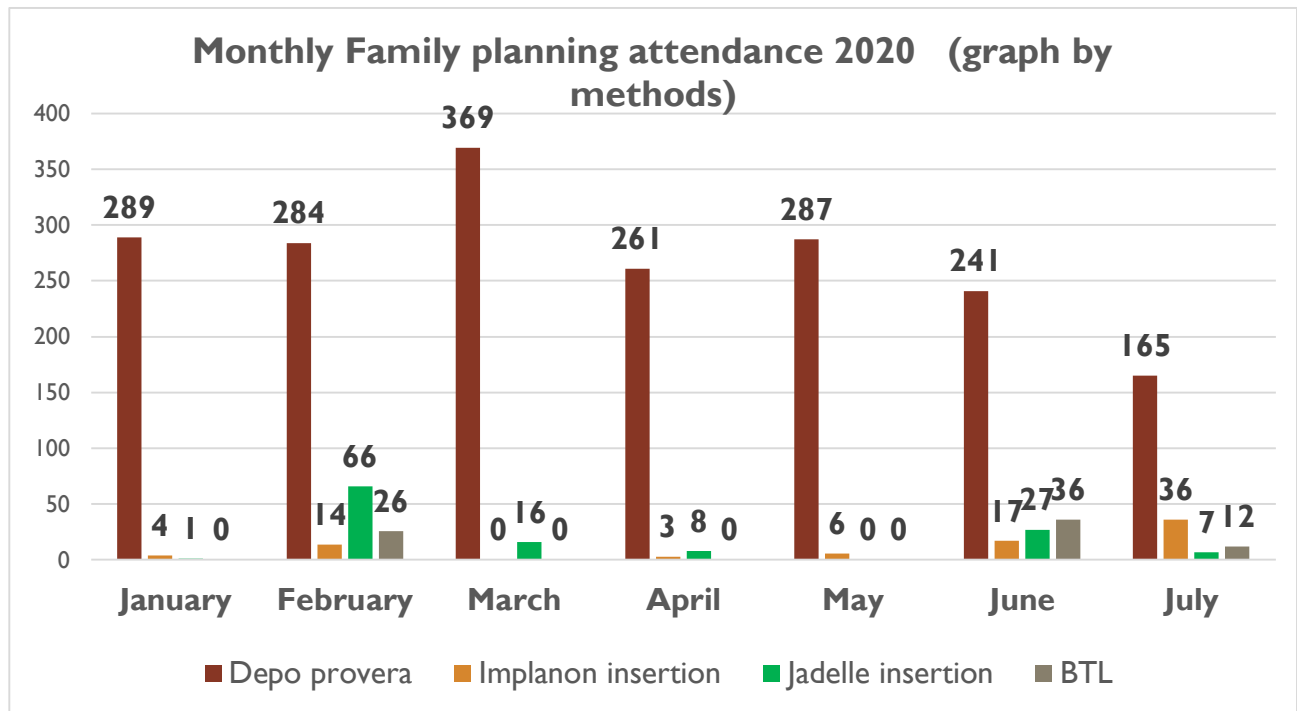
**Cervical Cancer Control Clinic**

Cancer of the cervix remains a public health problem in Malawi and amongst the top three leading cause of cancer death (MOH, National cervical cancer strategy 2016-2020) In addressing this problem, the health Centre conducts routine visual screening of cervix using acetic acid to women of childbearing age between 25 to 49 years. As for the Month of July 2020, 30 Women were screened, one had VIA Positive and did coagulation therapy. One suspected of having cancer lesion and was referred to Kamuzu central hospital for further management, they were all supported by OCA in terms of hospital bill payments and bus fare. Below is a table showing Monthly total cases screened and positive results.

Monthly number of clients screened for cervical and their outcomes

Month	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept
<b>TOTAL</b>	36	48	80	31	28	31	30		
<b>positive</b>	0	1	5	4	2	2	1		

## Family Planning

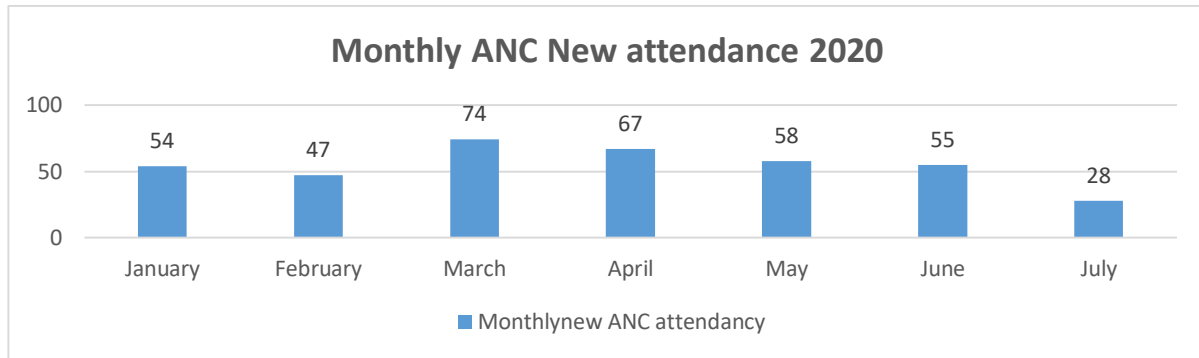


From the graph above many clients opt for injectable Depo- Provera family planning method because it is easy to administer. The month of July 2020, a total of **165** patients received deprovera injection. While **43** clients opted for Norplant's method, as it's the second most liked method. 12 patients went for Permanent family planning methods , bilateral tubal ligations (BTL). Most of the method were offered by the health centre partner BLM organisation

### Antenatal Care (prenatal care)

The health Centre conducts prenatal (antenatal) clinics twice a week, on Tuesdays for those enrolling for the first time and Thursdays for subsequence visit. The recommended visit by world health organization (WHO) for ANC is more than 8 visits which should start as early as possible. However, according to the data many women do not comply. For the month of July 2020, the health Centre antenatal clinic registered **28** new mothers. During the Antenatal clinics, mothers receive; two doses Tetanus toxoid vaccines, 3 doses of SP, FEFOL tablets, albendazole, Insecticides Treated Nets( ITNS) and get tested for syphilis .

### Monthly antenatal attendance

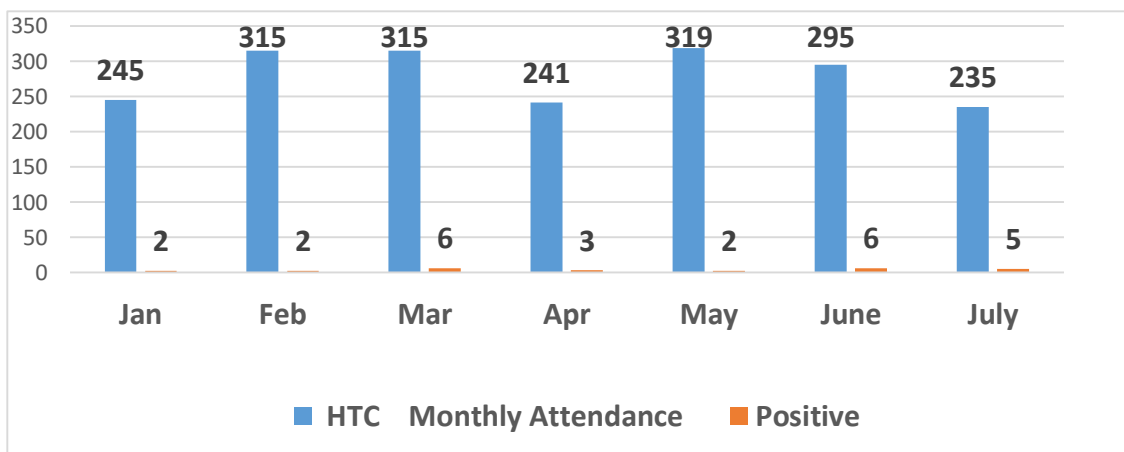


### HIV Care Clinic

The Health Centre HIV/AIDS Clinic continues to provide excellent ART/ TB care as depicted by quarterly award of certificate of excellence by the Malawi Ministry of Health (MOH) through HIV/AIDS unit. The Clinic has **279** patients alive on ART medicine, exposed children are 7 . Good percentage of patients continues to get their viral results which are routinely done at every visit according to their milestone. The health clinic continues to switch patient’s treatment from 5A to 13A which is DTG based regimens ( DTG/3TC/TDF). Due to the COVID 19 pandemic and in order to reduce clinic congestion, the health Centre continues to provide 6 month bottle supply of ARV to all clients who are stable on ART.

### HIV Testing and Counselling

The health centre conducts opt in HIV counselling and testing, the prevalence rate is at 1.2% against national prevalence rate of 8.2%. Graph below shows monthly HTC attendances and number of HIV Positives cases.



## Laboratory Services



As for the month of July 2020, the Centre conducted the following tests;

### **Complete blood count tests.**

The health centre conduct a full blood count test to the only special cases and for the month of June **54** tests was conducted.

### **Malaria test** (MRDTS & microscopy)

The Malaria epidemic is lower at this time around, A total of **871** Malaria tests were done and those positive were **408** , negative tests were **463** this represents 47% positivity rates

*Table shows other Laboratory tests conducted*

<b>Tests</b>	<b>Total tests</b>	<b>Result(pos)</b>
<b>H. PYLORIS</b>	34	08
<b>Salmonella</b>	5	3
<b>Hep B</b>		0
<b>VDRL</b>	1	0
<b>HCG</b>	38	18
<b>TB MICROSCOPY</b>	5	1
<b>GLUCOSE</b>	28	0



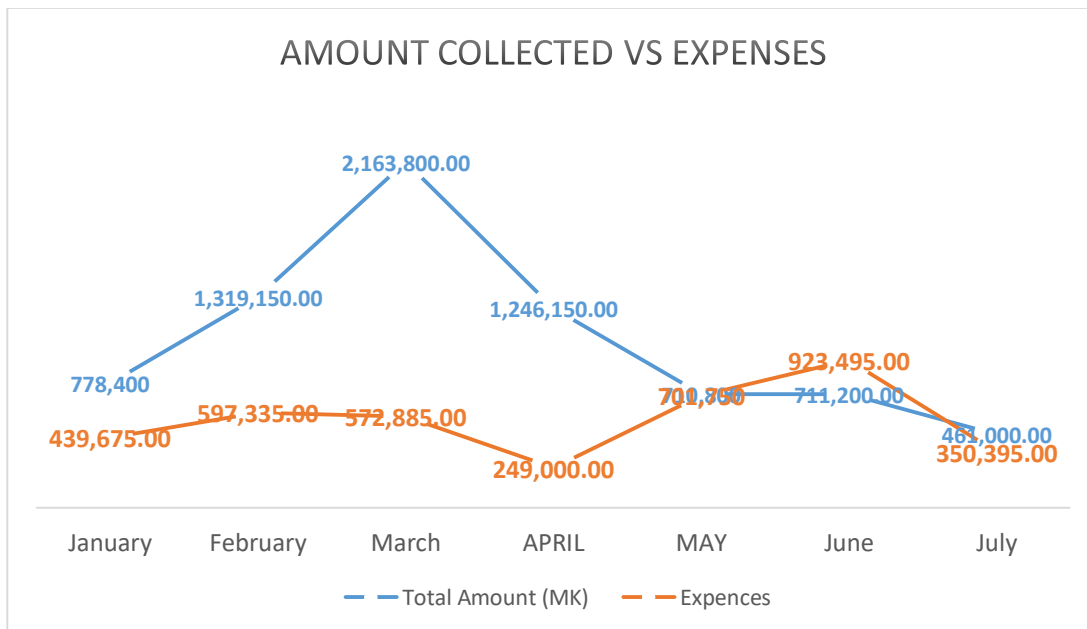
## Clinic Administration.

Due to Corona virus Pandemic (COVID 19), the Clinic was temporally closed for a period of one week,( 23 July to 3<sup>rd</sup> august 2020) in order to conduct fumigation of the buildings and give staff time to be in self-isolation while observing for the signs and symptoms of the disease in case of local transmissions. The staff who shown signs were tested together with their close contact, among them those infected were advised to do self-quarantine and were supported with some upkeep to buy supplies/groceries like herbal remedies ( garlic, Lemon and other fruits).

## Health Finance

The Health Centre's major funding is from donors (Orant Charities USA). In addition, the Health Centre charge a small user fee from patients, User fee collection is the little money the patients pay at the Clinic. The fee is within the means and resources of our average community member. However, those who cannot afford are not barred from accessing the services, while others are exempted in accordance to the user fee policy. For the month of July 2020, Kasese Kealth Centre collected a total of **MK 461,000.00 (USD 622)** and at the same time assisted good number of destitute patients with bus fare and payment of hospital bills, which amounted to **MK 350,395.00 (USD 473 )**.Specifically, **MK150,000 (USD 202)** was used for bus fares for patients referred to Kamuzu Central hospital, while about **200,395 (UDS 270 )** was spent on other patients bill at Madisi Hospital..

*Graph showing monthly user fee collected and expenses.*



## WATER PROGRAM



### Executive Summary

In July 2020, OCA continued to reach out to communities with water and sanitation interventions as per its plan. Two new boreholes were drilled and efforts to ensure steady supply of water in the existing boreholes continued through repairs and also community wide sanitation interventions amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. Detailed account of the aforesaid activities is outlined below.

### Progress on work Plan

No	Planned Activities	Target	Achievement	Reach / Participants		
				Male	Female	Total
1.	Borehole Drilling and Construction	2	2	NA	NA	700 beneficiaries
2.	Water Quality Testing	2	2	NA	NA	NA
3	Water Users' Training	1	1	5	6	11
4	Borehole Repair	NA	7	NA	NA	

### Borehole Drilling and Construction

During the reporting period, OCA drilled the fourth and fifth boreholes in 2020. Additional 700 people in Kasese catchment area can now afford access to potable water in Ngoma 2 and Chilindauta villages of TA Chakhaza, Dowa owing to the two new boreholes that have been drilled in the area by OCA.

Residents of Ngoma 2 village have never had access to potable water in their lifetime, this village is located far from the main road and communication services are a challenge, this puts the area in a hard to reach status, as such, actors in the WASH sector have not been able to reach the area with WASH services. The drilling of a borehole by OCA in this area brought much joy and is expected to bring solution to long standing challenges that the area has been experiencing. The images below depict the sources of water that people of Ngoma 2 village used to regard as their source of potable water.



Chilindauta village is situated near Kasese trading Centre, the borehole that has been drilled here is expected to serve 300 people from Chilindauta villages and also residents from the surrounding villages and the trading Centre. Before the drilling of the borehole, people were scrambling for water at the borehole situated at the trading Centre for drinking purposes while for other chores such as washing and bathing people were using water from unprotected wells and streams. The drilling and construction of these new water facilities was preceded by a detailed hydrogeological assessment of the areas to locate water bearing zones.



*Images showing borehole drilling and construction works in progress*



*Women and Children enjoying water from a borehole drilled by OCA in Chilindauta Village*

### **Water Quality Testing and Analysis.**

Following the drilling of a new borehole in Ngoma 2 and Mankhaka villages, there was need to ascertain the quality of water if it was fit for human consumption as per World Health Organization (WHO) and Malawi Bureau of Standards (MS) standards. OCA thus engaged the Central Water Laboratory of the Ministry of Agriculture Irrigation and Water Development to carry out a full biological and chemical analysis. The water Samples were analyzed and results indicated that the water was fit for human consumption.

### **Water Users' Training**

Water Users Committee called water point committee (WPC) was established in Mankhaka village with an aim of managing the new water facility in the area. In order to build capacity of the committee, OCA organized 5-day training in operation and maintenance of the water facility for continual health benefits. The training had 11 participants of which 10 (4 males and 6 females) were committee members and 1 was a chief. Technical components of the borehole, sanitation and hygiene, group dynamics and financial management were some of the topics covered during the training. The training mode of delivery include lectures and practical sessions. Moving forward, OCA will continue to monitor and mentor the WPC to see to it that it has the undoubted capacity to manage and operate the borehole.

### **Borehole Repairs.**

OCA continued to support communities with major repairs during the reporting period, 07 wells were repaired as indicated in the table below, a total of 07 boreholes were repaired during the reporting period.

<b>SN</b>	<b>VH</b>	<b>Repair(s) Done</b>
01	Buza	1 fulcrum pin, 4 bush bearings,13 rod centralisers,1 cup seal,2 Bobbins

02	Katalima primary School	6 sockets, 1 fulcrum pin, 4 bearings, 12 rod centralizers, 2 pipes, 4 rod steel 2 Bobbin, 1 cup seal
03	Joseni	Cylinder, 4 rod steel, 12 rod centralizers, 6 sockets 4 bearings, 6 pipes, 12 pipe centralizers, 1-foot valve
04	Msoa	4 sockets, 2 pipes 3 rods, 12 rod centralisers, 4 bearings
05	Mtambalika	Cylinder, 4 rod steel, 12 rod centralizers, 6 sockets, 4 bearings, 6 pipes, 12 pipe centralizers, 1-foot valve
06	Mkwinya	1 Rubber flapper, 10 Rod centilisers, 9 rod steel, 1-foot valve, 2 Bobbins 4 bush bearings, 1 corn plate
07	Kalirani	cup seal, rubber flapper, hunger pin, 6 pipes, 4 sockets, 1 cylinder, 3 rods

## Conclusion

During the period under review, OCA managed to execute activities as per its plan. The emergence of 2 covid-19 cases in its campus had a bearing on some activities, out of two trainings that OCA eye marked to conduct, only one was done due owing to the situation. The remaining trainings will be conducted in the next reporting period. Moving forward OCA water program will adapt most of its activities to incorporate latest covid-19 preventive measures and government guidelines on the same. OCA will continue to drill and repair water boreholes to increase access to clean water.



## AGRICULTURE PROGRAM



*The Joy of Harvesting*

### **Executive Summary**

For the month of July 2020, Irrigation clubs were taken through several activities such as Sowing, Planting, harvesting and marketing, and microloan repayment. Fumigation was also done to the maize (in our storage containers) which OCA bought in preparation of lean season (hunger period). With COVID-19 pandemic, people are likely to struggle finding what to eat since the little which they might have harvested has already been sold at cheap prices to vendors since business is slow.

### **Microloan repayment**

As some of the irrigation clubs have started harvesting and selling of the produce, microloan repayment is also in process. Microloan program with irrigation clubs is being done in form of farm inputs and repayment is being done in form of cash after harvesting. Timvane irrigation club has launched loan repayment program for the irrigation year of 2020 as they are on final stage for their first irrigation growing season. The microloan is paid back both using mobile money and also cash which is banked. OCA requires only irrigation clubs to pay back 50% of the loan. This helps the farmers to make a better profit and be able to help their families.

### **Planting**

Planting has to be done carefully to ensure bumper harvest at the end of production process. This activity has to begin with good choice of planting materials and following proper planting spacing for particular crop. Madzimayela has planted Maize and Beans crop in their field and they are practicing intercropping (Maize and Beans planted on the same field). Intercropping is beneficial as it saves land and labour which is costly within our country. The type of maize crop being cultivated is SC304 which matures within 75 days and it is important to farmers as they will have less days for managing the crop.

## Harvesting and Marketing

Harvesting has commenced at Ndalusa and Mvunguti irrigation clubs where tomato was cultivated. Tomato is perishable crop as it has low shelf life compared to other crops such as maize and beans, therefore finding a ready market for tomato fruits is essential. At present, the ripen tomato fruits can be stored without getting rotten for a period of 4 weeks and we there are hence buyers from surrounding areas including Kasungu, Chinkhoma, Madisi and Mponela, who finds the harvested crops while still fresh and good condition.



*Tomato fruits ready for marketing*

## Sowing

Timvane irrigation club has finalized harvesting and sowing of second crop has commenced. Tomato crop has been appreciated most by many club members of Timvane as it is easy to manage, adaptable to soil conditions and weather of the area, and gives better profits than other crops being cultivated in the past within their community. Despite some challenges which club members went through during past cultivation, such as water lodging and pests and disease attack, Timvane has done sowing in Nursery beds which is expected to be transplanted as seedlings during month of September and harvesting to begin within months of November to December.

## Pests and diseases control

Pests and diseases reduces quantity and quality of the produce to be harvested. During the time of harvesting, pests and diseases mostly attack the fruits which will reduce the quality of the fruit hence resulting into reduced demand by buyers. In order to maintain and increase demand from the buyers, control measures were done and quality of the produce was being improved hence good prices from buyers was being attained. In picture below, Mantchedza irrigation club



was applying pesticides to the germinated maize. The woman in the picture applying pesticides using sprayer

### **Fertilizer application**

For a farmer to obtain high yields and maximum returns from planted crops, a farmer is advised to add manure and fertilizer in the crops. Following the recommended time and fertilizer to be applied, helps farmers to reliably produce sufficient yields to meet their own needs. Mayela club applied NPK (23:10) as basal dressing fertilizer into maize crops at the rate of 5g per planting station. Basal dressing fertilizer was applied after 7 days from the day of planting. This will help farmers to obtain sufficient yields from maize crops.



*basal dressing fertilizer application in progress*

### **OCA Farm**

OCA has passion to assist the vulnerable and reduce hunger in the community. OCA has stock piled Malawi's staple food (Maize). This Maize comes from cultivating maize (through a tenant) and also buying extra Maize which has been stored in the OCA storage facility. To keep these produce self from damage, fumigation was done during reporting month and was bagged and kept safe from any termites and weevils attack. Crop sharing has not yet done with the tenant since he is outside the country.



**Part of the maize purchased (left) and harvested from OCA farm (right)**