



Frequently Asked Questions on Malawi 2063 (MW2063) Vision

1. What is the Malawi 2063 (MW2063) Vision and how different is it from Vision 2020?

The Malawi 2063 is focused on creating ‘An inclusively wealthy and self-reliant nation’ by 2063 and emphasizes on getting things done through setting milestones and accountability mechanisms. It aims at attaining an industrialized upper middle-income economy by 2063 so the country can fund its own development needs primarily by itself through three main pathways (pillars): agricultural productivity and commercialization, industrialization and urbanization. On the other hand, Vision 2020 was a collection of poverty-reduction aspirations that were largely to be supported by donors and lacked milestones and accountability mechanisms.
2. Were enough people consulted in developing the Malawi 2063 Vision?

The MW2063 is an outcome of extensive consultations amongst Malawians within and across borders through physical and virtual platforms including radio and TV (both mainstream and community levels). The validation of the outcomes was also extensive involving Malawians and various stakeholders that included Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), private sector, youth groups, academia, research institutions, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), political and traditional leaders, Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs), trade unions, development partners and the general public.
3. The year 2063 looks too far. Why target the year 2063 and not earlier?

We are panning long enough for our children and their children. In 2063, Malawi will have attained 100 years of self-governing. That time, we wish our children to have attained economic independence too so they can fund their needs at household, community and national levels primarily by themselves without waiting for the goodwill of others. Notably, since 2063 is over 40 years away, there will be regular 5-year reviews to track progress.
4. Given the implementation challenges that beset Vision 2020, what mechanisms have been put in place to ensure that Malawi 2063 (MW2063) Vision does not fail?

A number of mechanisms have been put in place but we could single out three. First, unlike Vision 2020, the MW2063 has high-level outcomes indicators/milestones that will help in tracking progress on a regular basis. Second, there is now a requirement to amend the Political parties Act, so that all party manifestoes should be aligned to the Vision to ensure continuity in development programmes. Thirdly, there is a body established by an Act of Parliament, the National Planning Commission, whose mandate is not just coordinating crafting of long and medium-term development plans but to also oversee their implementation. This body will be tracking progress and reporting to the President, Parliament and Malawians – this will promote accountability for getting things done.

5. Why does the Vision document not define the flagships like roads, power plants, education and health facilities to be built across the country?

The MW2063 reflects Malawians long-term aspirations – what they desire Malawi to be like by 2063. The flagship projects and any other programmes for meeting those aspirations will be defined in the 10-year implementation plans and the 5-year quick-win interventions that will be operationalizing the Vision.

6. How has the MW2063 ensured that political parties don't derail from the Vision and start implementing their own agendas?

From the onset, all political party manifestoes will be aligned to the Vision. This will entail that all projects and programmes that political parties will be selling to the citizens will be talking to the people's aspirations (Vision). Relatedly, the NPC will be tracking progress on the Vision implementation and will report to Malawians (owners of the Vision) if there is any project or intervention that is derailing the Vision attainment. It should be recalled that Malawians have made a clear resolution in the Malawi 2063 that they will not allow any state or non-state actor to derail them from the Vision.

7. How does the MW2063 ensure that NGOs and development partners' programmes also align to the Vision?

Under the implementation framework of MW2063, there will be Pillar and Enabler Coordination Groups which will bring together all state and non-state actors in those areas so they can prioritize and review progress together. These Coordination Groups will replace what have hitherto been Sector Working Groups. Relatedly, as part of overseeing implementation of the Vision, the National Planning Commission will be interfacing with development partners, NGOs and other non-state actors at the formulation or review stages of their country assistance strategies to ensure that they are really geared towards catalyzing or sustaining our Vision.

8. Having led the development of the MW2063 Vision, is the National Planning Commission also the implementer of the MW2063 Vision?

The National Planning Commission is not an implementing agency. Its main mandate is to coordinate the development of the Vision and the medium-term plans that will operationalize it. The implementation of the Vision and plans will largely be by the Ministries, Department and Agencies. NGOs and development partners will also play a critical role especially in the early years of the Vision implementation largely around supporting catalytic interventions. Suffice to mention that the Commission will also have the role of overseeing implementation by track what is working or not working and why.

9. What are the mandates of the National Planning Commission?

The National Planning Commission has two main mandates. First, is to coordinate the development of the Vision and the medium-term plans that operationalize it. Second, is to oversee implementation of the Vision and the plans operationalizing it. This entails tracking progress mostly and recommending remedies for accelerating the realization of the Vision.

10. What is the reporting line of the National Planning Commission?

The National Planning Commission reports to the President and Parliament. However, the Commission has a strong interface line with the Ministry of Economic planning and

Development and Public Sector Reforms because the Ministry is the policy holder for all development plans.

11. What is the interfacing line between the National Planning Commission and the Ministry of Economic Planning, Development and Public Sector Reforms?

The National Planning Commission has the main mandate of coordinating development of long and medium-term development plans and overseeing their implementation. On the other hand, the Ministry of Economic Planning, Development and Public Sector Reforms is the policy holder for all development plans in this country including monitoring and evaluation policies and frameworks. So when the plans have been developed under the leadership of the National Planning Commission, the Ministry of Economic Planning and Development champions their implementation including ensuring that the short-term development plans like national budgets, talk to the Vision and to the medium term development plans. To ensure effectiveness in development plans and their implementation, the secretary responsible for economic planning is by law, the vice chairperson of the National Planning Commission.

12. Will the Vision be enacted into law so every political party, government ministry/ Department/Agency as well as non-state actors are compelled to adhere to it?

By the Cabinet agreeing to Malawian's own aspirations and approving it as the country's long-term Vision, the Malawi 2063 becomes a policy that guides the country's development plans. If you enact it into law through parliament, the Vision will require to go back to Parliament every time any strategy in implementing it has to change. That will create inflexibilities that can dampen the acceleration of the countries' development progress. The leaders in office (governing party and members of parliament) as well as non-state actors only need to have strong conviction that the Vision is meant for the good of the country. They will hence be held accountable during elections and regular reviews. Otherwise, even if enacted into law, with low conviction, our leaders can still change the law. The main source of adherence to the Vision will be strong citizen engagement since this is their Vision and so they will not allow any state nor non-state actor derail them from it.

13. Where will the resources for implementing the MW2063 come from?

Implementation of the MW2063 will happen over time. What will be key is to create wealth through the defined three pillars of agricultural productivity and commercialization, industrialization and urbanization. To accelerate the wealth creation agenda, a trailblazer parastatal (equivalent of the then Malawi Development Corporation) will be established to spearhead investments in the strategic areas that will support operationalization of these pillars. It should be appreciated too that as part of catalyzing the Vision and sustaining initiatives that are driving us towards inclusive wealth creation, development partners and non-state actors will be key especially in the initial years.

14. What is the role of an ordinary Malawian in the implementation of the Malawi 2063 Vision?

The MW2063 is a Vision for all Malawians. It spells out the Malawi we want to have and bequeath to our children and their children. This Malawi we aspire will not happen if we think others will do it for us. We are the change that we have been looking for. Through hardwork, we all can contribute to the Malawi that we want because the national cake will only grow optimally if we all do the best of what we can. We should build a positive 'ndizotheka' mindset. We need to remain united, patriotic, hardworking and full of pride. We should hate hand-out that keep us

as perpetual beggars when we are capable of tapping on our capabilities and rich natural endowments. We need to hold each other accountable including fighting corruption together and not allow anyone derail us (be it leaders, fellow citizens, development partners and any non-state actors).

For more on the Malawi 2063 (MW2063) Vision, visit the National Planning Commission website: www.npc.mw or contact Mr Thomson Khanje, the Public Relations and Communications Manager (tkhanje@npc.mw).