

# THYOLO DISTRICT COUNCIL CITIZENS' BUDGET (1 JULY 2017 – 30 JUNE 2018)

*What we expect  
from the  
2017/2018  
Budget*

## LIST OF GOALS FOR THYOLO DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 2017 TO 2018



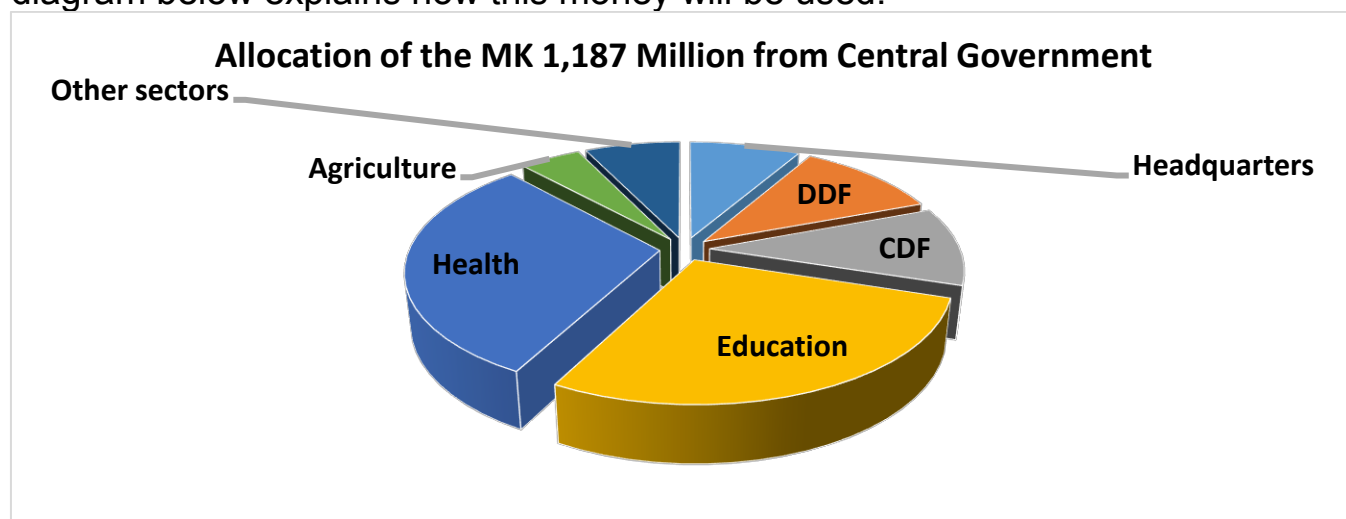
1. Encourage and promote good health for the future
2. Promote work to make clean water available in future
3. Encourage women to follow their duty and take part in community development
4. Promote work to conserve the forests and the environment for the sake of the future
5. Encourage and promote work for the future of education
6. Encourage and promote work for the future of agriculture
7. Encourage community members to take part in the work of the Council and to encourage transparency.

## Introduction

This Citizens' Budget (Bajeti ya Nzika) gives a short description of how funds coming to Thyolo district from the Malawi government budget for July 2017 to June 2018 are shared out and managed. Each year, central government meets its obligation to provide various services to the people with the aim to reduce poverty. These services include: Health, Education, Agriculture and Water & Sanitation. For these services to be delivered, money is needed. Therefore, the Government sources funding for these various activities. Every year the Government of Malawi produces a plan that explains how they will source these funds, and how they will use the money they have sourced in the various parts of the country. Part of the funding is distributed among 35 districts (including Thyolo district). The districts prepare a list to show how this money will be used.

## Income from Central Government

In the 2017/2018 Budget, the Malawi government has made available 1,187 million kwacha to be allocated to Thyolo district for various purposes. The diagram below explains how this money will be used.



The chart below shows how this money will be used for various purposes in the year 2017 to 2018, in comparison with the year 2016 to 2017.

AREA OF ALLOCATION	2017/2018	2016/2017	DIFFERENCE (%)
Education	330,903,721	408,476,976	-19%
Health	360,055,014	325,319,303	11%
Agriculture	55,119,649	5,008,676	0%
Water	7,475,538	5,980,430	25%
Housing	5,366,649	5,111,095	5%
Trade	2,980,512	2,838,583	5%
Gender Equality	15,371,090	14,639,139	5%
Environment	2,995,857	2,881,769	4%
Forestry	4,387,490	4,178,562	5%
Fisheries	4,928,131	4,693,458	5%
Labour Office	7,314,895	5,257,611	39%
National Registration	8,678,510	6,273,622	38%
Irrigation farming	8,750,000	8,333,333	5%
Immigration	6,819,651	6,494,906	5%
Youth	5,556,759	5,292,152	5%
Sports	5,292,152	5,292,152	0%
Headquarters/General Resource Fund	99,806,410	95,053,724	5%
Constituency Development Fund (CDF)	126,000,000	84,000,000	50%
District Development Fund (DDF)	129,139,569	112,936,076	14%
<b>Total allocation</b>	<b>1,186,941,596</b>	<b>1,158,061,567</b>	<b>2%</b>

### IMPORTANT!

The allocation of the central government contribution into each area is under the control of central government (not Thyolo District Council). This is done in an accountable way, by finding out the population of the district where the money is to go.

## Other expected sources of income

### Locally generated revenue

**MK97 million** – is raised from market fees, trading licences and rents collected by the council.

### Local Development Fund (LDF)

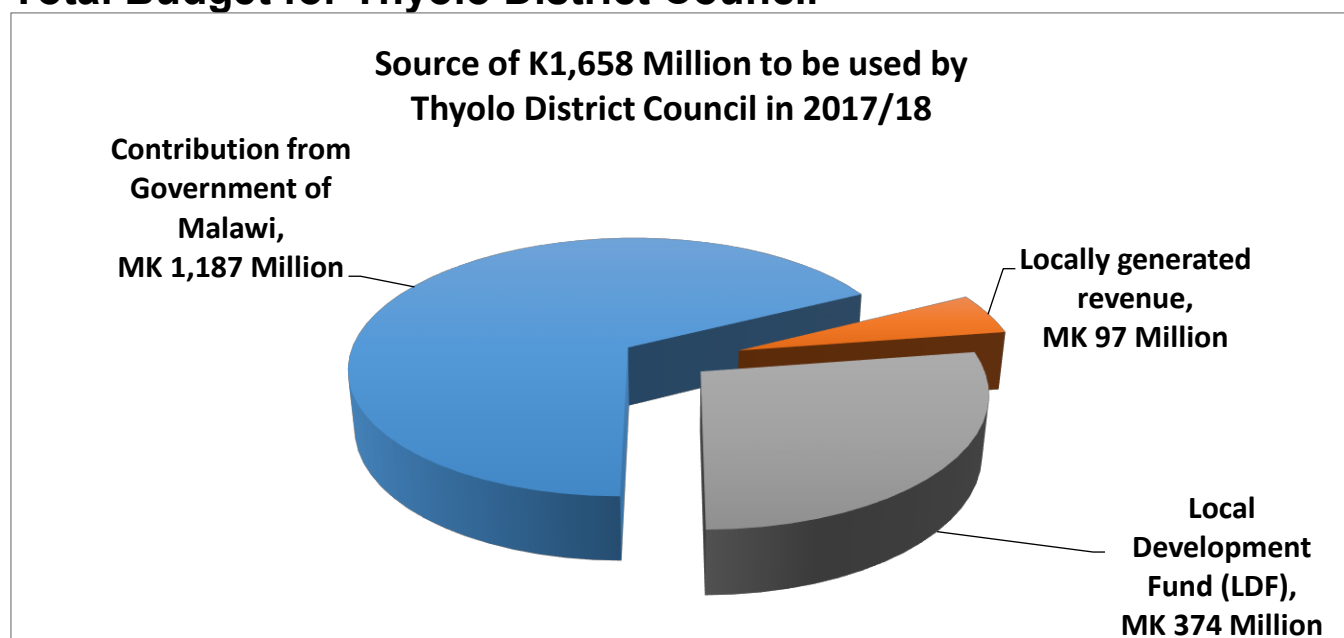
**MK 607 million** - is given by LDF. The LDF is a government programme to offer money for community development at local level in our country. The LDF money comes from international organisations that wish to help this country.



### Other income from organisations to be spent through Thyolo District Council

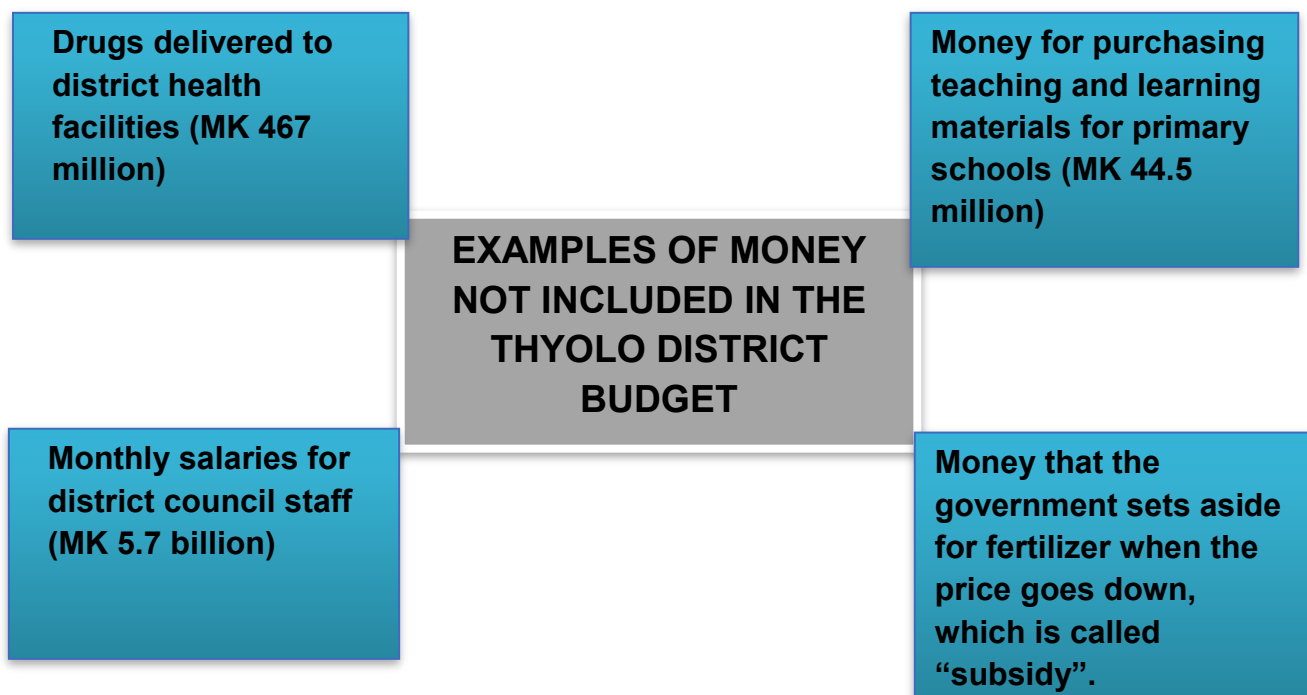
Organizations like UNICEF, Malawi Floods Emergency Recovery Project (MFERP), and Malawi Drought Resilience Program (MDRP), will also give money to Thyolo Council to support its various activities in 2017/2018. The actual amount of money that these organizations are offering this year cannot be reported in this plan and the amount will become known during the year.

### Total Budget for Thyolo District Council



This diagram shows that a large proportion of the money that Thyolo District Council is expecting will come from the Government of Malawi.

## Examples of Central Government money spent by Thyolo Council which does not go through the Council budget

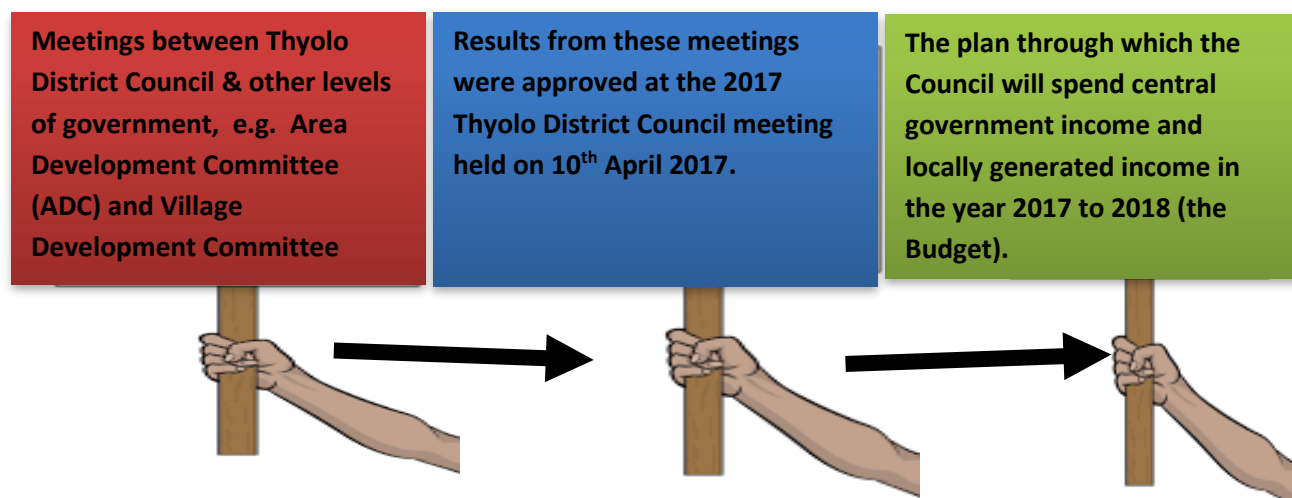


## Other organizations that work for development in Thyolo District Council



## Budgeted expenditures

Thyolo district has the opportunity to prepare a budget showing how the various funding - from central government and locally generated - will be used each year. The budget is prepared based on the steps shown below.



## Examples of budgeted outputs in sector programmes

SECTOR	SUB-PROGRAMME	MEASURE OF OUTPUT	TARGET
1. Agriculture	Extension Services	Number of farmers accessing extension services	203,300
2. Education	Implementing PSIP	Primary schools receiving PSIP	183
3. Water	Access to clean water in villages	Repairing boreholes	500
4. Health	Vaccinations	12-month-old babies have had all vaccinations	26,466
5. Forestry	Planting more trees	Number of newly planted trees.	800,000
6. Labour	Disagreements between employer & employees	Number of employee cases resolved.	240

The table above shows only 6 indicators. However, there are about 100 indicators of progress. Page 8 explains how to get detailed information about these outputs and indicators.

## Development projects in Thyolo district

The development budget for Thyolo district has two branches - the DDF (District Development Fund) for large-scale, long-term projects, and the CDF (Constituency Development Fund) for smaller projects

2017/2018 development projects for DDF include the following:

<b>Project</b>	<b>Funds allocated</b>
1. Renovate Thyolo Rest House	MK 20 Million
2. Renovate Thekerani Rest House	MK 12 Million
3. Purchase of land by Thyolo Council	MK 50 Million
4. Installation of street lighting in Bvumbwe	MK 10 Million
5. Construction of a maternity building	MK 10 Million

MK 24 million will be provided through the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) for use in each constituency in the district. Thyolo District Council will provide a breakdown explaining how this money will be used.

In addition, Thyolo District Council will set about using funds raised itself locally through various sources, e.g. city rates, for the projects like those shown below.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Funds allocated</b>
1. Constructing VIP public toilets in markets	MK 1.5 Million
2. Constructing vending stalls in markets	MK 10.14 Million

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THIS YEAR'S BUDGET

**Inadequate funds:** The Government of Malawi has severely limited resources and there are inadequate funds for local authorities to carry out all their important activities. In addition, the prices of goods are going up every day while the allocated funds increase only a little and may not be enough from year to year. This means that Thyolo District Council has to use the funds carefully.

**Outstanding loans:** Thyolo District Council took out loans to support some projects in past years. This was because the funds coming to the Council were inadequate in the past. These loans have to be repaid, leading to a lack of funds, because in this year's budget (2017-2018) there is no allocation for the repayment of such loans.

### **District Development Fund (DDF) & Constituency Development Fund (CDF):**

Funds managed by the DDF and CDF are supposed to be used following a set of rules set out by the government to promote transparency and accountability. The Council, like others, is transparent in giving oversight to the funds, in case at any time the rules are not followed. These practices are very common in the management of the CDF and are found in many districts. Here are some examples of what is shown to happen:

- Personalization of the CDF by individual Members of Parliament
- Lack of participation of the community members on the development issues and in how the CDF is managed
- No transparency in the use of funds
- Lack of adequate reporting on the funds used.

Under CDF, the Government has given us MK 18 Million to assist with small development projects in this constituency. I would like to hear your views on what projects this money can be spent on in different parts of this constituency.



**Progress of decentralization:** The 1998 Local Government Act gives the power to District Councils to manage their own development themselves. However, over the years there is very slow progress with this process. Failure of some ministries to decentralize real power and authority to District Councils has posed a major challenge for the promotion of local development.

**Weaknesses in accountability mechanisms:** Thyolo District Council has the responsibility to ensure accountability for resources provided to the Council. In the past, when there were no Councillors, progress here was not good. In addition, many people were not interested in holding duty bearers to account for their decisions and actions in managing public funds.

## Roles and responsibilities of citizens

“Citizens” are people born in this country, for example the following groups:



All people living in this country (especially you if you are a Malawi citizen) should play an important role in the monitoring of funds used for the development of the country, considering these funds come from taxes and rates that you have paid when you are employed or when you buy goods.

People are able to ask about and see how these funds are used. Do you know who to contact to get more information about how the budget is used for development in your district? People in Thyolo district can find out all this information by asking the director for Planning & Development (DPD). Also, Mr Kaunda from the National Initiative for Civic Education (NICE) can be contacted on 0999330369.

### IMPORTANT!

If you have understood the message conveyed in this document which explains the aims of Thyolo District Council for 2017-2018, you can ask to take part in the next annual budget (2018-2019). You can do so by going through the VDC or ADC (“Participatory budgeting”). Also, you can also track the progress of this year’s budget (2017-2018) by joining the “Accountability Club” and also taking part in the PET exercise to monitor the budget.

