



**Irish Aid**

An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

# Malawi

## Climate Action Report 2017



# Background

Malawi is a landlocked country in southeast Africa of approximately 118,480km<sup>2</sup> with a population of over 18.5 million. Malawi is already suffering from the negative effects of climate change. Extremely high temperatures are occurring more frequently and precipitation patterns are changing. In the coming decades, rainfall is likely to become more erratic and concentrated into heavy rainfall events that can cause flooding, temperatures will reach the heat threshold of some crops, and extended dry periods will become more common. These changes have major implications for human welfare and threaten to undermine development gains across sectors. Malawi's vulnerability to climate change is exacerbated by high population growth, rapid deforestation, and widespread soil erosion. Further details on Malawi's climate change risks can be found in the ['Malawi Country Climate risk Assessment Report'](#).



The World Bank climate profile of Malawi states that Malawi is particularly prone to adverse climate hazards including dry spells, seasonal droughts, intense rainfall, riverine floods and flash floods. The Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative (ND-GAIN) Index ranks Malawi as the 32nd most vulnerable and 27th least ready to adapt to climate change, of the countries it covered for 2016.



18,622,104

2017 Population <sup>1</sup>



\$ 320

2017 GNI per capita <sup>2</sup>



170<sup>th</sup> (out of 188)

2016 Human Development Index rank <sup>3</sup>



21<sup>st</sup> (out of 187)

2016 Climate Risk Index rank <sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> World bank (2013): 'Ethiopia' [online] available to access via: <<https://data.worldbank.org/country/malawi>>

<sup>2</sup> World Bank (2018): 'GNI per Capita, Atlas method (current US\$)' [online] available to access via: <<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GNP.PCAP.CD?locations=MW>>

<sup>3</sup> UNDP (no date): 'Human Development Reports: Malawi' [online] available to access via: <<http://hdr.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/MWI>>

<sup>4</sup> Germanwatch (2017): 'Global Climate risk Index 2017' [online] available to access via: <<https://germanwatch.org/en/download/16411.pdf>>

# Climate Finance

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In 2017, Ireland provided a total of €9,905,759 to Malawi in climate finance through its bilateral aid program. In addition, Ireland provided €2,610,813 in climate finance to projects in Malawi through its civil society program. Further information on the programs that Irish Aid fund in Malawi can be found [here](#).

The largest contributions from the bilateral program include:

- €500,000 for social cash transfers in the districts of Balaka and Ntcheu to reduce the impact of climate induced disasters (The programme is primarily focussed on addressing chronic food insecurity and high poverty with climate resilience as a secondary component)
- €3,800,000 channelled through the International Crop Research Institute and the International Potato Centre to help improved food and nutrition security in the face of climate change. Funding for similar objectives on food security was also provided to Concern Universal for the ASPIRE programme (€680,000), to the World Bank (€1,500,000), and the World Food Programme (€750,000)

Civil society partners Concern, GOAL, Gorta Selfhelp Africa and Trocaire are helping to build resilience to climate change through a wide range of projects. The largest contribution to the civil society programme is €1,095,000 to Concern International to increase community resilience to climate shocks in poor neighbourhoods in Nsanje and Mangochi districts.

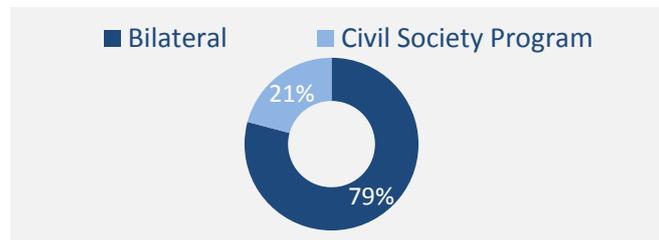
Ireland also provided € 8,229,795 to Malawi for Disaster Risk Reduction through its bilateral aid program. Please note that Climate Finance and Disaster Risk Reduction amounts should not be aggregated as some disbursements have multiple co-benefits.

The OECD Development Assistance Committee has agreed definitions for reporting environmental expenditures. Rio Markers enable the consistent measuring and monitoring of climate finance provided to developing nations. Activities are marked as ‘principle’, ‘significant’, or ‘not relevant’ as explained below;

- An activity can be marked as **principal** when the objective (climate change mitigation or adaptation) is explicitly stated as fundamental in the design of, or the motivation for, the activity. Promoting the objective will thus be stated in the activity documentation as one of the principal reasons for undertaking it. In other words, the activity would not have been funded (or designed that way) but for that objective.
- An activity can be marked as **significant** when the objective (climate change mitigation or adaptation) is explicitly stated but it is not the fundamental driver or motivation for undertaking it. Instead, the activity has other prime objectives but it has been formulated or adjusted to help meet the relevant climate concerns.
- The score “0” means that the activity was examined but found not to target the objective (climate change mitigation or adaptation) in any significant way. For activities that have not been assessed, the marker field should be left empty. This ensures that there is no confusion between activities that do not target the objective (score = “0”), and activities for which the answer is not known (score = “null”). This important distinction has implications for statistical presentations of Rio marker data.

*Table 1: Breakdown of the climate finance provided to Malawi by Ireland in 2017 (including the bilateral program and the civil society program).*

	Bilateral (€)	Civil Society Program (€)
Climate Finance Adaptation (UNFCCC)	9,373,259	1,209,178
Climate Finance Mitigation UNFCCC)	300,000	NA
Climate Finance Cross-cutting (UNFCCC)	232,500	1,401,635
<b>Total Climate Finance</b>	<b>9,905,759</b>	<b>2,610,813</b>



**€12,516,752**

2017 Total Climate Finance

*Figure 1: Contributions from the bilateral program and the civil Society program towards the overall 2017 climate finance total (€12,516,752) from Ireland to Malawi.*

## Climate Finance Trends

In 2017, Ireland provided approximately 10% (€915,248) more climate finance to Malawi through its bilateral program compared to the previous year (2016). This increase was due to an increase in the funding provided for a number of food and nutrition security programs. In 2017, the majority of the climate finance provided to Malawi by Irish Aid was for adaptation.

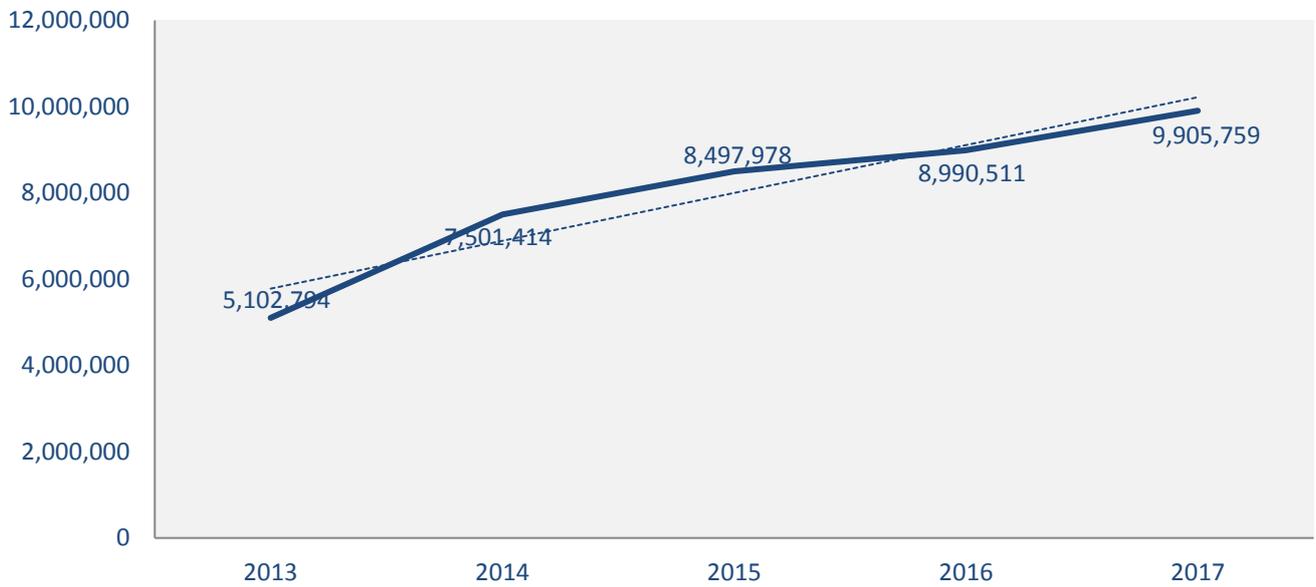


Figure 2: Total climate finance provided to Malawi from Ireland's bilateral program over the past 5 years (2013-2017)

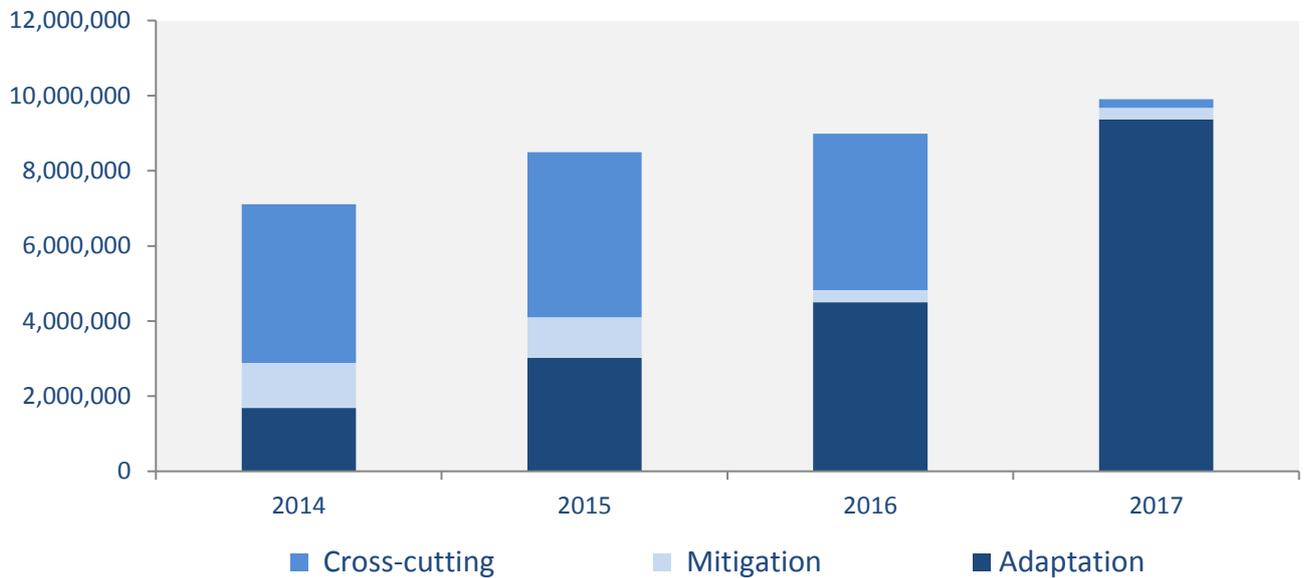


Figure 3: Cross-cutting, mitigation, and adaptation climate finance provided to Malawi from Ireland's bilateral program over the past 4 years (2014-2017). Please note: mitigation spend represents projects where the mitigation marker is higher than the adaptation marker, adaptation spend represents projects where the adaptation marker is higher than the mitigation marker, and cross-cutting represents projects where the markers for adaption and mitigation are the same.

# Case Study

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## Sustainable Village Biomass Model

The Sustainable Village Biomass Model for producing, Transporting and Marketing Biomass was a project developed by Total LandCare in 2015. This project supports the production of sustainable biomass to meet fuel needs, implements reforestation initiatives and promotes the use of efficient cook-stoves, in Lilongwe, the capital city of Malawi. This work aims to manage the growing demand for firewood and charcoal, reduce carbon emissions, provide an opportunity for carbon credits, and promote general environmental protection within the city and the surrounding catchment villages.

Irish aid provided an initial €100,000 of funding in 2015 and 2016 to support the pilot stage of the project. In 2017, Irish aid provided a further €5,200 of climate finance to fund the exit strategies and final activities of this project.

**€5,200**

**Total climate finance provided to the Sustainable Village Biomass Model from Irish Aid in 2017**



*Veronica Chikera, a stove producer from Dedza District – photo credit; CLIOMA*