



Technology, Security, and Development: Problems and Prospects Symposium on Harnessing Emerging Technology to Achieve Malawi Vision 2063

Bingu International Convention Centre, Lilongwe 28-29 November 2024





Technology, Security, and Development: Problems and Prospects

Symposium on Harnessing Emerging Technology to Achieve Malawi Vision 2063

WHAT?

The National Defence College (NDC) of the Malawi Defence Force (MDF), in partnership with the Malawi Computer Emergency Response Team (MWCERT), the Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority (MACRA), will host a symposium titled “Technology, Security, and Development: Problems and Prospects.” The theme will focus on “Harnessing Emerging Technology to Achieve Malawi Vision 2063 (MW2063).”

WHY?

The symposium will address the challenges and opportunities posed by emerging technologies in the realms of national security and development in Malawi. With a population density of 222 individuals per square kilometre, Malawi ranks as the fourth poorest country globally, with 70 percent of its population living below the poverty line of less than US\$2.15 per day. Agriculture is the backbone of the Malawian economy; however, most farming remains rain-fed, primarily subsistence-based, and lacks mechanisation.

The 2018 National Security Policy and Malawi Vision 2063 acknowledge the critical role that technology plays in advancing national security and development. Unfortunately, the misuse and abuse of technology can undermine security and hinder progress. To achieve sustainable development, the country must harness the pace and scale of innovation within the industry.

Collaboration among the public, private, and academic sectors is crucial for conducting policy-relevant research that fosters the development of necessary skills, innovations, and technologies to realise the aspirations of MW2063. This partnership enables innovators to focus on their technologies and other vital success factors, ensuring the advancement of effective capabilities in agriculture, education, health, mining, tourism, and more.

WHO?

The Symposium targets individuals and institutions advancing the technology, national security, and development agendas to access contemporary ideas that give the country’s frontline services a strategic advantage through cutting-edge capability to achieve MW2063. The symposium’s output is to ensure that the country’s law enforcement, defence, and security agencies harness emerging technology to improve national security and development. The symposium’s outcome will be an academically rigorous and research-based Policy Brief.

WHEN?

The Symposium will be held from Thursday, 28 to Friday, 29 November 2024.

WHERE?

The Symposium will take place in the Mbidzi Room at the Bingu wa Mutharika International Convention Centre, Lilongwe, Malawi.



DRAFT PROGRAMME

THURSDAY, 28 NOVEMBER 2024

Venue: Mbidzi Hall, Bingu wa Mutharika International Convention Centre, Lilongwe, Malawi.

08:30 – 9:30

Welcome Remarks.

- HOST:** **Lt General George Alexander Jaffu, Jr.**, Deputy Commander, Malawi Defence Force (MDF).
- CO-HOST:** **Mr Daud Elvin Suleman**, Director General, Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority (MACRA).
- REMARKS:** **Mrs Bridget Chibwana**, Chairperson, Malawi Communication Regulatory Authority Board
- KEYNOTE:** **Mr Themba Arthur Kalua**, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Samoa. Cook Islands, Niue, and Tokelau.
- DISCUSSANTS:** **Dr Rachel Sibande**, Founder and Director, mHub.
Dr Eliya Msiyaphazi Zulu, Executive Director and Founder, African Institute of Development Policy.

9:30 – 10:00

Health Break and Group Photo

10:00 – 10:30

PRESENTATION: Cybersecurity, National Security, and Development

- Presenter:** **Mr Loyiso Boyce**, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Clyfor, South Africa.



10:30 – 11:30

PANEL DISCUSSION:

“Development Decoded: Leveraging Technology to Achieve MW 2063”

Moderator: **Dr Levis Eneya**, Director of Higher Education, Ministry of Education .

Panelists: **Ms Florence Love Nkosi**, Lecturer, Birmingham City University.

Mr Kondwani Mtalimanja, Regional IT Advisor, Africa and Eurasia, HIAS

Dr Michael Zimba, Executive Dean and Associate Professor, Malawi Institute of Technology, Malawi University of Sciences and Technology (MUST).

Dr Thabbie Chilongo, Research Fellow, Centre for Agricultural Research and Development, Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

11:30 – 12:30

BREAK AWAY SESSION:

“Development Decoded: Leveraging Technology to Achieve MW 2063”

Group A **Ms Pamela Kuwali**, Country Manager, CARE International in Malawi.

Group B **Dr Andrew Jamali**, Research Manager, National Planning Commission

Group C **Dr Ken Machira**, Associate Professor, Department of Applied Economics, Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources

12:30 – 13:30

Lunch Break

13:30 – 14:00

PRESENTATION: “Health and Wealth: Innovation and Technology for Inclusive Growth”

Presenter: **Prof Nyovani Janet Madise**, Director of Research and Sustainable Development Policies and Head of the Malawi office, AFIDEP.



14:00 - 15:00

PRESENTATION: "Health and Wealth: Innovation and Technology for Inclusive Growth"

Moderator: **Mr Clarence Gama**, Chief Executive Officer, NICO Technologies Limited.

Panelists: **Dr Kingdom Kwapata**, Senior Lecturer, Molecular Genetics and Biotechnology, Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Professor Adamson S Muula, Professor and Head of Community and Environmental Health, Kamuzu University of Health Sciences .

Ms Alinafe Kalombo-Mitiyani, Head of Information Technology Operations, World Food Programme.

Mr Kondwani Gondwe , Director of Planning, National Commission for Science and Technology

15:00 - 15:30

Health Break

15:30 – 16:30

BREAK AWAY SESSION: "Health and Wealth: Innovation and Technology for Inclusive Growth"

Group A **Dr Bridget Msolomba Malewezi**, Country Director, Mothers2Mothers.

Group B **Capt (Dr) Emma Silema**, Medical Corps, Malawi Defence Force.

Group C **Dr (Eng) Edwin Khundi**, Lecturer, Biomedical Engineering, Malawi University of Science and Technology.

End of Day One



FRIDAY, 29 NOVEMBER 2024



08:00 – 08:30

PRESENTATION: “Blind Spot: Use, Misuse and Abuse of Artificial Intelligence”

Presenter: **Mr Daud Elvin Suleman**, Director General, Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority.

08:30 – 09:30

PANEL DISCUSSION: “Blind Spot: Use, Misuse, and Abuse of Artificial Intelligence”

Moderator: **Dr Candida Nakhumwa**, Vice President/Country Director, Agricultural Transformation Initiative

Panelists: **Mr Ackim Sanuka**, Deputy Director, Department of eGovernment, Ministry of Information and Digitalisation.

Mr David Kumwenda, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Southern Region.

Mr Vincent Kumwenda, Senior Manager, Tech and Digital Transformation, Tony Blair Institute for Global Change.

Mr Peter Tsamwa, Head of Information Technology, Standard Bank PLC.

09:30-10:00

Health Break

10:00 – 10:30

BREAK AWAY SESSION: “Blind Spot: Use, Misuse, and Abuse of Artificial Intelligence”

Group A **Mr Ben Wandawanda**, Chief Adviser to the President of the Republic of Malawi, Foreign Direct Investment and Financial Services.

Group B **Brig Gen Cleveland Wilson Kachala**, Chief of Research and Development, Malawi Defence Force Joint Headquarters

Group C **Mr Patrick Machika**, Director for Special Duties, Office of the President and Cabinet.



10:30 – 11:00

PRESENTATION: “Beyond MW63: Securing the Future of Digital Transformation”

Presenter: **Dr Chipo Kanjo**, Associate Professor, ICT Specialist, Department of Computer Sciences, University of Malawi

11:00 – 12:00

PANEL DISCUSSION: “Beyond MW63: Securing the Future of Digital Transformation”

Moderator: **Mr William Mpinganjira**, Group Chief Executive Officer, FDH Financial Holdings Limited.

Panelists: **Ms Thandi Mbvundula**, Strategy Management Information Systems Consultant
Ms Isabel Kumwembe-Steward, Special Projects Manager, alx_Africa
Ms Tusayiwe Sikwese, Policy Coordinator, ActionAid.
Ms Imelda Kandiero-Sabuni, Product Manager, NICO Technology.

12:00 – 13:00

Lunch Break

13:00 – 14:00

BREAK AWAY SESSION: “Beyond MW63: Securing the Future of Digital Transformation”

Group A **Ms Barbra Tsiga**, Commissioner of Police, Research and Development.

Group B **Ms Thokozani Chimbe**, Director of Legal Services, MACRA.

Group C **Brig Gen Kondwani Gift Kalino**, Commander, 22 Signals Brigade, Malawi Defence Force.

14:00 – 14:30

PRESENTATION: “Crystal Ball: Emerging Technologies and Potential Future Risks”

Presenter: **Prof Wallace Chigona**, Professor of Information Systems, University of Cape Town, Director of Cybersecurity Capacity Centre for Southern Africa



14:30 – 15:30

PRESENTATION: “Crystal Ball: Emerging Technologies and Potential Future Risks”

Moderator: **Dr Kingdom Kwapata**, Lecturer in Molecular Genetics and Biotechnology, Lilongwe University of Science and Technology.

Panelists: **Ms Twambilile Mwalwanda**, e-Hub, Mzuzu
Mr Eshard Karim, Data Quality Manager, FDH Bank PLC.
Mr Webster Chidze Mbekeani, Chief Executive Officer, NITEL Technologies.
Mr Bram Fudzulani, Director of Research and Development, Angle Dimension.

15:30 – 16:00

BREAK AWAY SESSION: “Crystal Ball: Emerging Technologies and Potential Future Risks”

Group A **Mr Mgawa Mkandawire**, Independent Green Energy Expert

Group B **Ms Bahati Phiri**, Lynch Systems.

Group C **Dr Ted Nakhumwa**, Chief Executive Officer, Agricultural; Commercial Company (AgriCom).

16:00-16:30

Health Break

16:30 – 17:00

Closing Session: Key Takeaways and Next Steps

CO-HOST: **Mr Daud Elvin Suleman**, Director General, MACRA.

Mrs Bridget Chibwana, Chairperson, Malawi Communication Regulatory Authority Board

HOST: **Lt General George Alexander Jaffu, Jr.**, Deputy Defence Force Commander

End of Day Two



