

## **Looking for Partners, Developers, Financiers and Funders for CDM Projects in Malawi, Balaka District!**

From our name, Positive Steps it reflects our approach to critical human development issues. Rural community households and families face continual challenges in getting their daily survival needs. The emerging issues, shocks and stresses: pandemics, dry spells, devaluation of the local Malawi currency and climate change effects compromise the families' ability to meet their basic subsistence needs. This includes quality health and nutrition levels. Extreme levels of poverty and food insecurity present additional obstacles to the health and well-being of families attempting to cope with adverse circumstances.

We are a local grassroots-based NGO founded in 2003 and registered in 2007 and legally operating in Malawi. Our desire is to address the plight and connection between HIV/AIDS, food security, livelihood patterns and the prevailing gender imbalances its effects and impact to the poor rural households in Balaka district, Malawi.

**Vision** - We envision a world in which all human beings are morally, mentally and physically developed and have opportunities to reach their full potential

**Mission** - Positive Steps exists to improve rural and grassroots households livelihood by providing sustainable integrated, locally driven solutions for human development

### **Values**

- **Innovation** - to meet the evolving needs of our beneficiaries, funders and partners
- **Gender sensitive** -we strive to make women fully participate and be involved in all development
- **Integrity & Mutual respect** -for diversity and cultural differences
- **Passion** -driven by a personal commitment to make a positive difference
- **Accountability & Transparency** -for our work, measuring, reporting and continually improving all that we do
- **Teamwork** -across disciplines within the organization and with our partners
- **Diligence & Commitment** -excellence assured by the highest ethical, quality, operational performance and proven standards

### **Beliefs**

- A holistic approach and perspective is required to address complex human development needs.
- Sustainability is achieved from building the capacity of individuals, households and communities to address their needs.
- Generating, sharing and applying of knowledge is the possible means to improving lives
- Partnering with communities, local governments, civil society organizations, and the private sector leads to significant success.

### **Strategic Integrated Focus Areas**

**1. Community Health, Nutrition and HIV/AIDS-** This is core to our mission we have an integrated program that aims at improving the health and nutrition of the women, men and children in the aspect of combating HIV and AIDS

**2. Livelihood** – the program helps women and men create a sound economic future for themselves and their families. We promote and encourage agri-business, renewable energy and energy efficiency projects, SMMEs and vocational skills training.

**3. Food security** –household agricultural practice that enables families to have adequate food even though they are faced with climate change which affects rainfall patterns.

**4. Early Child and Youth Development-** encouraging, involving children and youth in their hopes challenges of human development.

**5. Women in Development/Gender And Development (WIDGAD)** -girls and women are empowered socially, economically to improve to achieve their full potential in at household and community level.

**6. Education** – most vulnerable children especially girl children are provided with adequate access to education, which may enable them realize full life potential

### **Emerging Issues**

**1. Environment and climate change-** developing sustainable solutions to natural resource management, agriculture, energy and climate change

**2. Water** – Balaka is a dry area, most rural parts do not have access to potable safe drinking water and for agricultural practice they depend on rainfall. The unpredicted and changing rainfall patterns usually bring stress to the household farmers who depend on agriculture for both income and food production.

Positive Steps is developing projects for CDM:

- Renewable energy and energy efficiency: e.g. biogas, solar PV-household systems and improved cooking stoves;
- Forestry: e.g. pro-poor REDD+ carbon credit generation;
- Low-carbon farming: e.g. carbon credit standard development; organic farming and conservation agriculture etc
- Climate-neutral value chain development
- Waste management to energy and waste management to organic manure

We therefore are seeking for developers, partners, equity investors, funders and development partners who may work with us. We position ourselves as local partners and are fully committed to work with those interested either from private sector, bi-lateral cooperation, NGOs, equity investors and financiers.

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