

MALAWI

Political and economic news

Investing in manpower key to economic growth

Malawi, country rich in resources and untapped potential, continues to face significant economic challenges. High production costs, inefficient supply chains, and reliance on imported goods are just a few of the issues that contribute to the country's ongoing struggles. While these problems are multi-faceted, there is growing consensus among economists, policymakers, and business leaders that investing in manpower development may offer a path toward mitigating some of these challenges and promoting long-term economic growth. High production costs: A barrier to economic growth. One of the key contributors to Malawi's high production costs is the skilled labour shortage. The National Statistical Office (NSO) Producer Price Index (PPI) data for 2023 and 2024 shows a significant increase in costs across multiple sectors, including manufacturing, electricity, water supply and food production. This reflects a broader trend of rising costs of production, which is largely driven by inefficient labour practices, out-dated technologies and a lack of skilled workers. In sectors such as food production and mineral extraction, Malawi's reliance on outdated and inefficient practices hampers productivity. The manufacture of food products, which saw a staggering 44 percent increase in production costs from 2023 to 2024, remains one of the hardest-hit sectors. With a growing population and increasing demand for food, the country cannot afford to overlook the need for skilled workers who can drive innovation, improve efficiency, and reduce costs. *(Source: The Nation)*

K65bn project to boost health systems resilience

Malawi Government has partnered Save the Children in a USD 37 million (about K65 billion) project to strengthen the country's healthcare system to withstand future climate shocks. The Climate-Health and Wellbeing Resilience in Communities (CHWBRC) project, funded by the Green Climate Fund (GCF), is expected to directly benefit over 1.7 million people across six high-risk districts in the Southern Region over the next six years. Speaking in Lilongwe during the launch, Minister of Health described the project as a crucial intervention at a time when climate change is increasingly undermining human health. She said: "Climate change is significantly impacting countries like Malawi, leading to erratic rainfall, rising temperatures, and more frequent disasters such as floods and cyclones. These shocks disrupt agriculture, food security and, most critically, human health." She said Malawi was among the first countries to endorse the World Health Organisation's climate-health initiative during COP26 in Glasgow, adding that through this commitment, government has already undertaken a range of adaptation and mitigation efforts, including the distribution of insecticide-treated mosquito nets and the installation of solar power systems in health facilities. In his remarks, Save the Children Malawi executive director said the initiative comes at a critical moment for the country. *(Source: Times Business)*

Standard Bank renovates Zomba maternity HDU

Malawi Ministry of Health has applauded Standard Bank plc for renovating Zomba Central Hospital maternity wing high dependency unit (HDU), saying it will ensure quality healthcare for mothers and babies in Zomba and surrounding districts. Deputy Minister of Health, speaking during the handover of the HDU, said Zomba Central Hospital conducts 800 deliveries per month with about 120 done through Caesarian Section, but the facility lacked adequate space and equipment. This will significantly strengthen the hospital's ability to provide life-saving care to mothers and newborns during their most vulnerable moments," he said. Standard Bank said the renovation has cost K210 million and involved expansion of the HDU into a six-bed unit with baby coats and medical equipment for monitoring mothers and babies. Previously, the HDU was an improvised unit with three beds in a corner of a ward where mothers with medical conditions or complications were managed. Zomba Central Hospital director said the expanded unit provides space for health workers to move around and for installation of equipment such as oxygen concentrators and suction machines. On his part, Standard Bank plc chief executive officer said the bank recognises the importance of investing in healthcare infrastructure. Zomba Central Hospital is a referral facility that handles patients from surrounding districts such as Phalombe, Machinga, Balaka and Mangochi. Last year, Standard Bank also donated medical equipment worth K25 million and adopted Makhwira Health Centre in Chikwawa through Nation Publications Limited's Mother's Fun Run, a safe-motherhood initiative that mobilises resources. *(Source: The Daily Times)*

Market activity and colour

Market commentary

The market traded 5.7m shares in 486 trades recording a market turnover of MWK 2.4bn during the week ended. FDHB (0.2%), FMBCH (+13%), ILLOVO, NBM, NBS (32.1%), NITL, STANDARD BANK and TNM (+0.2%) were the market gainers whilst AIRTEL (-0.1%), BHL (-0.1%) and NICO (-3.6%) dropped in prices. The significant price jump on the counters registered pushed MASI up by 3.8%.

However, on year-to-date the index went up by 68.9% and 2.5% on month to date. As a result, the market capitalisation rose 372.62% in both MWK and USD terms.

Weekly Market Report



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SYMBOL SUMMARY



Trading Summary for the week ending
13 June 2025

Symbol	Open	Close		Volume	Value	Trades Count	Market Capitalization
AIRTEL	127.91	127.79	-0.1% ↓	849,643	108,626,727.98	45	1,405,690,000,000
BHL	14.52	14.51	-0.1% ↓	67,462	978,873.62	4	85,293,479,107
FDHB	313.38	314.00	0.2% ↓	2,002,491	628,544,340.00	141	2,166,923,812,500
FMBCH	885.11	1,000.01	13.0% ↓	352,497	350,921,623.00	26	2,458,274,582,500
ICON	17.95	17.95	0.0%	52,333	939,377.35	10	119,906,000,000
ILLOVO	1,791.37	1,791.38	0.0% ↓	73,248	131,214,830.00	26	1,278,050,013,150
MPICO	19.01	19.01	0.0%	25,779	490,058.79	4	43,685,882,215
NBM	6,200.21	6,200.27	0.0% ↑	7,843	48,628,506.88	43	2,895,102,847,169
NBS	355.21	469.27	32.1% ↑	799,545	294,404,860.00	72	1,365,844,758,770
NICO	776.38	748.66	-3.6% ↓	993,071	723,677,370.00	53	780,883,146,931
NITL	820.00	820.02	0.0% ↑	144,643	118,607,560.00	39	110,702,700,000
OMU	2,500.03	2,500.03	0.0%	262	655,007.86	2	42,444,386,827
PCL	3,999.98	3,999.98	0.0% ↑	252	1,007,996.07	5	481,020,874,884
STANDARD	9,510.01	9,511.51	0.0% ↑	2,236	21,267,690.00	5	2,232,048,569,545
SUNBIRD	350.01	350.01	0.0%	0	0.00	0	91,556,518,826
TNM	23.00	23.04	0.2% ↑	333,697	7,680,165.78	11	265,909,256,640
Totals				5,705,002	2,437,644,987.33	486	15,823,336,829,062

					13-Jun-25	6-Jun-25	31-Dec-24
INDEX (week)	279,755.09	290,490.35	3.8% ↑	MWK/USD	1734.01	1734.01	1734.01
INDEX (month)	283,288.66	290,490.35	2.5% ↑	MWK/GBP	2419.54	2407.39	2240.22
INDEX (year to date)	172,039.93	290,490.35	68.9% ↑	MWK/ZAR	99.48	100.10	95.03

Market cap (MWK'm)	15,823,336.83	3,348,012.68
Market cap (USD'm)	9125.276327	1930.790021

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