MALAWI UNIVERSITY OF BUSINESS AND APPLIED SCIENCES

MUBAS

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



2025

Sustainable Development Goals **Report**

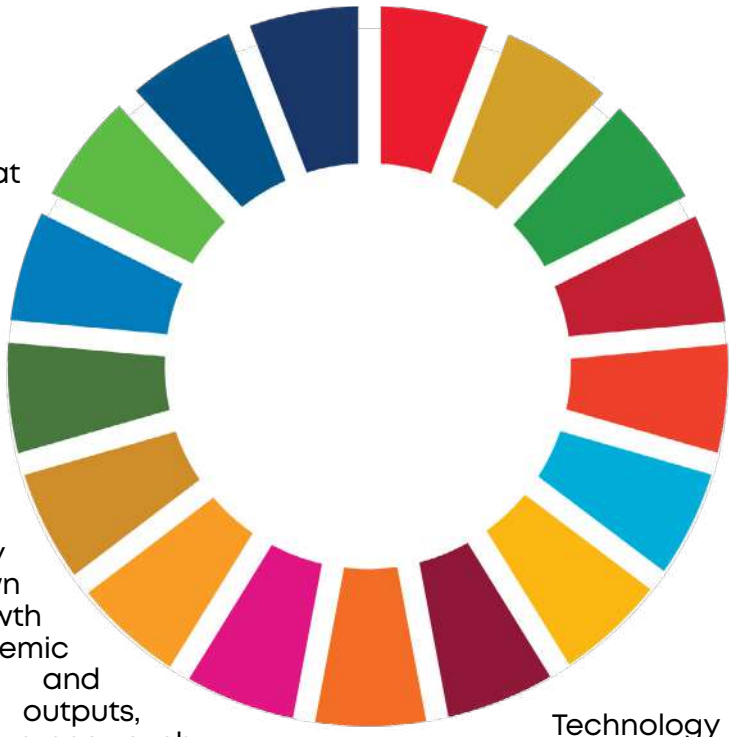
Table of Contents

Introduction	3
SDG 1: No Poverty	4
SDG 2: Zero Hunger	6
SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	8
SDG 4: Quality Education	10
SDG 5: Gender Equality	12
SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	14
SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	16
SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	18
SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	20
SDG 10: Reduced Inequality	22
SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	24
SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	26
SDG 13: Climate Action	28
SDG 14: Life Below Water	30
SDG 15: Life on Land	32
SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	34
SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	36
About this report	38
Acknowledgements	39

Introduction

The Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences (MUBAS) was officially established under the MUBAS Act of 2019, positioning itself as a leading institution dedicated to fostering academic excellence, research, and innovation in the private sector. It is a premier higher learning institution in Malawi, renowned for its innovative academic and research programs. It operates with a mission to advance knowledge and professional competencies through outstanding teaching, research, and industry engagement. MUBAS enrolled its first cohort of students in 1965 under its original identity as the Polytechnic, a constituent college of the University of Malawi (UNIMA). MUBAS officially became an independent university following a rebranding and restructuring process in 2021. Since then, it has expanded its impact by focusing on innovation, entrepreneurship, engineering, and applied sciences, positioning itself as a leader in education tailored to Malawi's development needs.

MUBAS' vision is to be an inclusive, engaged, entrepreneurial, innovative, and research-intensive university that significantly contributes to sustainable development. Its mission focuses on providing high quality education, research, consultancy, and community service that foster socio economic growth. The university's core values include excellence, integrity, inclusivity, innovation, and relevance. The university has shown significant growth in academic programs and research outputs, particularly in areas such as science and technology, engineering, business, communication, and media studies. Through its various schools: School of Science and Technology, School of Built Environment, School of Business and Economic Sciences, School of Education, Communication and Media Studies, and School of Engineering, MUBAS offers diverse programs from undergraduate to doctoral levels. Its centres: Centre for Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Appropriate Technology Development (WASHTED), Management Development Centre (MDC), Institute of Continuing Education (ICE), Business Incubation Centre (BIC), Printing Press Centre (PPC), Engineering and Technical Services Centre (ETSC), Technology Transfer Office (TTO), further enhance its role in addressing pressing global challenges.

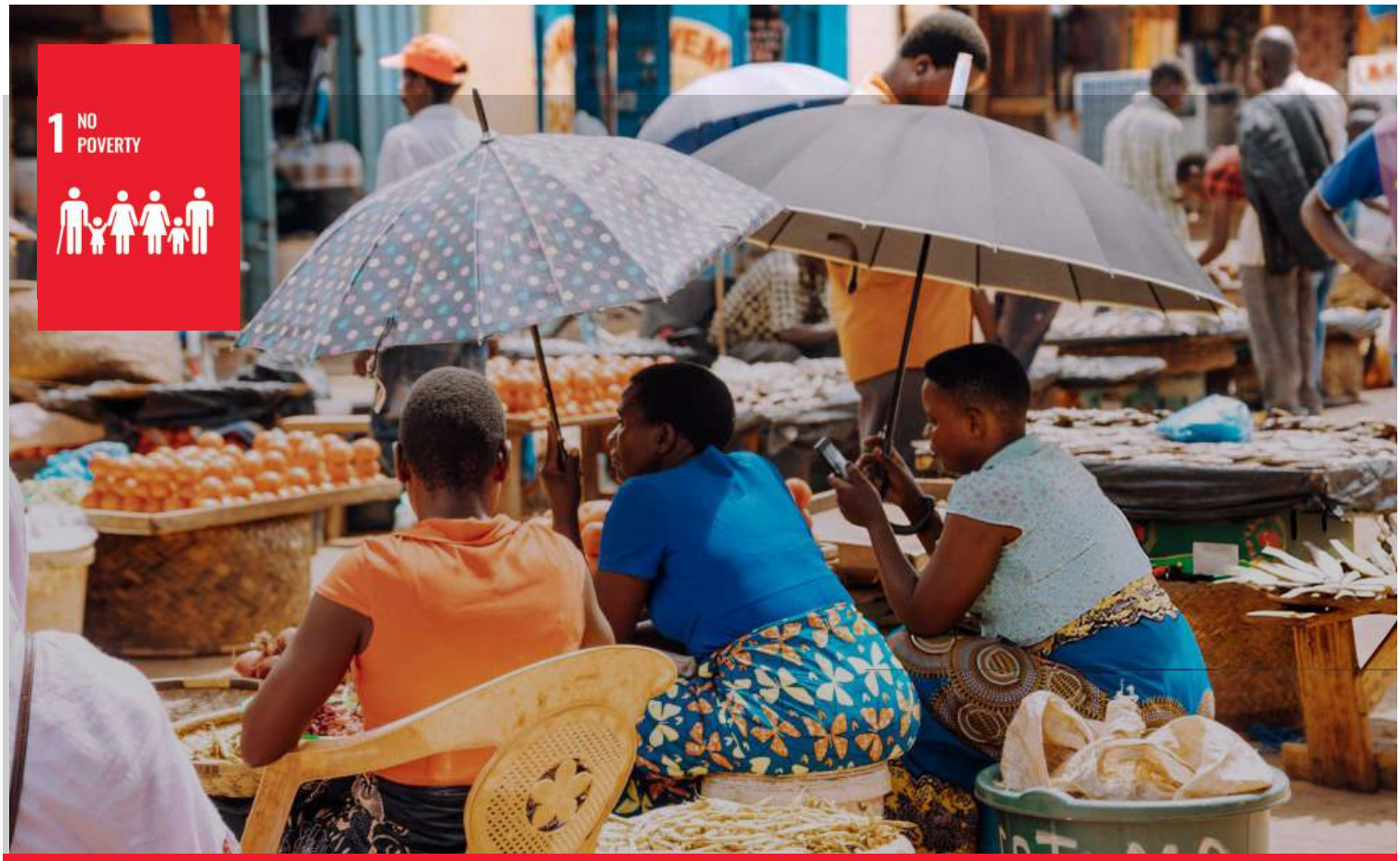


This sustainability report presents MUBAS' drive in contributing to the global aspirations as guided by the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This 2025 MUBAS SDG report is the result of a collaborative, inclusive process across the University. The efforts on sustainability are showcased in cases of research, teaching, engagement and operations, and they all demonstrate broad commitment to sustainability at MUBAS. This report presents selected cases on sustainability activities at MUBAS; it is not an exhaustive review of MUBAS' sustainability related work.



"We strive to drive innovation and entrepreneurship through research, while sustaining our mission as a public academic institution"

Assoc. Prof. Nancy Chitera-
Vice-Chancellor



End poverty in all its forms everywhere



FDH Bank MD, Noel Mkulichi (R) presenting a symbolic donation to MUBAS VC, Assoc. Prof. Nancy Chitera

Investing In Future: MUBAS Endowment Fund Advances No Poverty Goals

The Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences (MUBAS) continues to address its barriers to Higher Education through its Endowment Fund, a long term initiative supporting financially disadvantaged students with tuition fees, accommodation, food and learning materials, to ensure that vulnerable students are able to access and complete their studies despite economic challenges.

Following its launch on 15 November, 2025 at Blantyre sports club, FDH contributed MWK 150 million to the fund, strengthening efforts to support students. The fund also received MWK 200 million from internal university resources alongside contributions from other stakeholders.

In addition, a fundraising golf tournament raised MWK485 million towards the fund, contributing to its growth to over MWK 1 billion. The initiative directly contributes to SDG 1: No Poverty by reducing the impact of financial hardship on students' ability to access and complete higher education. It also demonstrates effective university-industry coordination in promoting educational inclusion and student success.

Through the Endowment Fund, MUBAS is investing in vulnerable students while strengthening Malawi's human capital and contributing to the inclusive development ambitions of Malawi 2063

04 PUBLICATIONS

Empowering Women Through Financial Literacy

MUBAS, through its Management Development Centre (MDC), reinforces its commitment to community empowerment by providing financial literacy training to women. In 2025, MUBAS organised the training to women entrepreneurs in Machinjiri, the outskirts of the Blantyre city.

The initiative brought together 43 women entrepreneurs from the Nanjiriri Group in Machinjiri, Area 6, representing various small and medium enterprises, as part of MUBAS's efforts to share practical knowledge and skills that address community socio-economic challenges.

The training focused on financial management, record keeping, budgeting, and business decision-making, aiming to strengthen women's entrepreneurial skills, improve profitability, and promote long-term economic resilience.

Dr. Ella Kangaude, MDC Manager, highlighted the training as part of MUBAS's corporate social responsibility, demonstrating the university's commitment to using academic knowledge to support community development and create societal impact beyond the classroom.



Women entrepreneurs during a financial literacy training at MUBAS, Blantyre.

Participants described the training as practical and transformative, noting that it improved their understanding of financial management and business decision-making. One of the participants, Ms. Fallesi Msamala, particularly described it as an eye-opener that would help her manage her enterprise more effectively □



Pupils at the Rise and Shine Private School

Rise and Shine School Creates Jobs in Mulanje

The MUBAS Graduate Start-Up Programme contributes to SDG 1 by promoting sustainable economic opportunities, employment creation, and improved livelihoods through graduate-led enterprises. A key example is Rise and Shine Private School in Mulanje, established in 2023 with financial support from FDH Bank under the MUBAS/FDH Graduate Start-Up Programme.

The school has created 19 jobs, including 12 teachers and seven support staff, providing stable incomes for local households. Employee Susan Bokosi noted that her job has improved her livelihood and enabled her to support her daughter's education, showing how graduate enterprises reduce household poverty and enhance welfare.

Founder Chipiliro Mvula credited the school's growth to financial support and mentorship from MUBAS and FDH Bank, highlighting improved access to economic resources for graduates. This support enables business ideas to become viable enterprises that generate income and employment.

Beyond job creation, the school strengthens community wellbeing by expanding access to education. Its 100% pass rate and 85% PSLCE selection rate in 2025 further reflect its broader social impact. Overall, the programme demonstrates how entrepreneurship, mentorship, and financing contribute to income generation, employment, and reduced poverty □



End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture



A student receiving a nutritious meal at the MUBAS Junior Staff Common Room

Affordable Food Access and Nutrition at the MUBAS Junior Staff Common Room

The Junior Staff Common Room at MUBAS contributes to SDG 2 by improving access to affordable and nutritious food for staff and students. Located in the Administration Block, the facility provides a welcoming space where the university community can access meals, refreshments, and snacks throughout the day.

Its restaurant offers a variety of affordable food options, including local foods such as mandasi and samosas, as well as full meals served with nsima, rice, or chips. By providing convenient access to food, the facility supports efforts to end hunger and ensure food access within the university community while contributing to wellbeing and productivity.

The facility also provides opportunities to promote healthier and diverse food choices, supporting efforts to stop all forms of malnutrition. Where locally sourced foods are included, the Common Room can also support small-scale farmers and strengthen local food systems.

Through accessible food services and a supportive campus environment, MUBAS demonstrates its commitment to food security, nutrition, and sustainable food systems□

04 PUBLICATIONS



Agriculture Machinery Production Project - Farming tractors

MUBAS Advances Food Security Through Agricultural Machinery Innovation

MUBAS is improving food security and supporting sustainable agriculture through the Agriculture Mechanisational Unit, which develops affordable and locally made machinery for smallholder farmers.

The project has designed, fabricated, and tested tractors, planters, harvesters, and threshers to improve efficiency from land preparation to harvesting and reduce post-harvest losses. By developing machinery suited to Malawi's farming conditions, AMPP supports small-scale farmers and reduces reliance on imported equipment.

The project also provides practical training for different stakeholders. In 2025 the project provided practical training to students, engineers and technicians while working with research institutions and farming communities to validate the machinery under real farming conditions. Collaboration with Chitedze Agricultural Research Station, NEEF, and farming communities helps ensure that the technologies respond to farmers' needs.

Through these efforts, AMPP contributes to ending hunger, improving food access, supporting small-scale farmers, and building sustainable and resilient agricultural systems in Malawi□



Associate Professor Innocent Kafodya (2nd left) presents the donation to BAHASI officials

MUBAS Supports Children in Need Through Community Outreach

MUBAS has strategic initiatives demonstrates to contribute towards food security, wellbeing, and inclusive development through university-community partnerships. On 5 April 2025, the Civil Engineering Department at MUBAS demonstrated its commitment to community development by donating food and essential items to the Bangwe HIV/AIDS Self-Help Initiative (BAHASI). The initiative supported more than 150 children receiving education and care through the organisation.

The donation included food supplies, hygiene products, learning materials, and sports equipment to support the children's welfare and development. By providing essential food items, MUBAS contributed to efforts to end hunger and improve food access among vulnerable children.

Staff and students also engaged the children through motivational activities and career guidance, encouraging them to value education and pursue future opportunities. The outreach also gave MUBAS students an opportunity to understand community challenges and strengthen their sense of social responsibility.

Through continued community engagement, MUBAS extends its impact beyond the classroom by supporting vulnerable communities and promoting meaningful social change□



Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages



Officials at the MEHA 2025 Conference

Promoting Good Health and Sanitation

MUBAS, through the Centre for Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Appropriate Technology (WASHTED), is advancing Sustainable Development through research by addressing key public health and environmental challenges.

WASHTED showcased its research at the 2025 Malawi Environmental Health Association (MEHA) Conference and the First National Public Health Research Dissemination Conference, presenting studies on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), adolescents' mental health, wastewater treatment, sanitation-related quality of life and plastic waste.

The research demonstrates MUBAS' contribution to evidence-based approaches that support healthier communities and sustainable public health systems. At the MEHA Conference, WASHTED was also recognised with the Best Research and Innovation Institution Award for its contribution to environmental health research and innovation.

Through its research and knowledge-sharing initiatives, MUBAS continues to contribute to SDG 3 by generating practical evidence to inform public health interventions, environmental management and community wellbeing□

37
PUBLICATIONS

Promoting Mental Health and Wellbeing for All

The Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences (MUBAS) strengthens its commitment to SDG 3, and in 2025, it held its annual Mental Health Week, from 1 to 6 September under the theme *Mental Health Care: A Universal Right*.

The programme brought together students, staff and partners for awareness activities, open discussions and engagements aimed at promoting mental health and reducing stigma. The programme highlighted the importance of mental health in academic achievement, personal development and social inclusion.

Speaking during the closing ceremony, Nancy Chitera, the Vice Chancellor of the University, emphasized the need for a supportive environment where students and staff can access the care and understanding needed to thrive.



Assoc. Prof. Nancy Chitera (Left) pauses with Chiwaka, FDH Representative

With support from FDH Bank, MUBAS promoted holistic wellbeing through recreational and sporting activities under the 2025 Vice Chancellor's Trophy. Through this initiative, MUBAS demonstrated its continued efforts to create an inclusive environment that supports the mental, social and physical wellbeing of its community□



MUBAS' Environmental Health students take part in community cleaning activities in Makata, Ndirande

Students Champion Clean Communities Through Environmental Action

As the world commemorated World Environmental Health Day 2025 under the theme "Clean Air, Healthy People," Students from the Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences (MUBAS), through the Malawi Environmental Health Society and in collaboration with the Malawi Environmental Health Association (MEHA), engaged communities in Makata, Ndirande, Blantyre, to promote healthier living through environmental awareness and community action.

The students sensitised residents on air pollution, its health impacts, and practical ways to reduce exposure to harmful pollutants, including improving household ventilation and reducing smoke from solid fuels.

The initiative also demonstrated the important role young people can play in creating healthier and more sustainable communities. This aligns with SDG 3, Target 3.9, which seeks to reduce illness and deaths from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution□



Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all



Professor Joshua Valeta, Director of Open, Distance and e-Learning in the Ministry of Education, delivering his speech

Strengthening Education Dialogue Through MUBAS' First Education Conference

MUBAS continues to advance quality education through research and publication. One of its schools, the School of Education, Communication and Media Studies (SECOMS), MUBAS reinforced its role in advancing educational research and shaping national development conversations by successfully hosting its first-ever Education Conference.

Held on 25 to 26 September 2025 at the MUBAS Main Campus in Blantyre, the conference brought together key education stakeholders to explore how education can address development challenges, promote sustainable development, and contribute to economic growth.

The conference provided a platform for research dissemination, knowledge sharing, and dialogue on Malawi's education sector, with discussions focusing on innovation, human capital development, wealth creation, and evidence-based educational transformation.

Professor Joshua Valeta emphasized the importance of collaboration among researchers, practitioners, and policymakers in addressing education challenges, noting that education drives innovation, productivity, and improved livelihoods.

MUBAS's inaugural Education Conference established a platform for research dissemination, collaboration, and policy engagement, strengthening the university's contribution to educational development and policy in Malawi□

08
PUBLICATIONS

Inspiring the Next Generation

The education outreach programmes demonstrate a strong commitment to **Quality Education (SDG 4)** by providing learners with meaningful exposure to higher education, academic programmes, and future career pathways. In 2025, MUBAS hosted students from Katole Community Day Secondary School in Thyolo, offering them an opportunity to explore campus life and gain insight into available study programmes. This engagement reflects the university's broader education outreach efforts aimed at inspiring the next generation.

The visit helped bridge the gap between secondary and tertiary education by equipping learners with information on academic requirements, skills development, and professional opportunities. It also promoted **equal access to learning opportunities** by ensuring that students from different backgrounds can envision themselves in higher education settings.

Through interaction with lecturers, students, and university facilities, learners were introduced to supportive learning environments that encourage academic ambition and informed decision-making. The experience strengthened their awareness of STEM and other career pathways while fostering motivation to pursue further studies.



Students from Katole Community Day Secondary School in Thyolo visiting MUBAS

The initiative advances SDG 4 in promoting inclusive education, mentorship, career guidance, and lifelong learning, while inspiring learners to pursue higher education and contribute meaningfully to society□



Learners and Teachers of Chitawira Primary School pose for a photo following an innovation and intellectual property awareness session organised by MUBAS

Fostering Innovation and Intellectual Property Awareness: MUBAS Engages Young Learners in Blantyre

The MUBAS TTO, through UniPod, conducted an outreach visit to Chitawira Primary School in Blantyre to introduce pupils to innovation, creativity, and the importance of protecting intellectual property.

The interactive session introduced learners to creative thinking, innovation, and problem-solving, encouraging them to identify community challenges and explore potential solutions through UniPod's innovation ecosystem.

Learners were introduced to intellectual property rights and the importance of protecting their ideas, inventions, and creative works to promote ownership, recognition, and future opportunities.

Facilitators highlighted UniPod as an innovation hub offering technology, mentorship, and resources to help young innovators turn ideas into practical solutions.

The outreach demonstrates MUBAS' commitment to fostering innovation among young people, promoting knowledge transfer, and contributing to national development through creativity and skills development□



Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.



Executive Management and Leadership Programme Launch

Building Transformational Leadership Through the MUBAS Executive Management Programme

The Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences (MUBAS), through its Management Development Centre (MDC), promotes SDG 5: Gender Equality by expanding access to leadership and professional development opportunities. The Executive Management and Leadership Programme, launched on 30 June 2025, equips professionals from the public, private, and non-profit sectors with practical management and leadership skills.

The six-month programme provides participants with opportunities to strengthen their decision-making, organisational management, and leadership competencies. By creating access to professional training, MUBAS supports equal leadership by enabling women and men to develop the skills needed to take on leadership and decision-making roles. The programme also contributes to ending discrimination by promoting equal access to career development and advancement opportunities regardless of gender.

With its inaugural cohort of 12 professionals and plans for a second intake, the programme demonstrates MUBAS' commitment to developing inclusive and transformational leaders. By strengthening leadership capacity and promoting equal opportunities, MUBAS contributes to a more equitable and inclusive professional environment.

03
PUBLICATIONS

MUBAS Advances Gender Equality Through Female Engineers' Leadership

MUBAS advances gender equality in engineering through the MUBAS Association of Female Engineers (MAFE), an academic student organisation that provides a platform for female engineering students to connect, collaborate and develop professionally.

MAFE contributes to reducing gender-based barriers in engineering by encouraging female students to participate confidently in academic and professional activities. In a field where women are often underrepresented, the association provides a supportive environment where female students can learn from one another, share experiences and challenge stereotypes that may discourage women from pursuing engineering careers.

The association also supports equal leadership opportunities for female students. Through participation in student activities and organisational responsibilities, women have opportunities to develop leadership, communication, teamwork and decision-making skills. This helps prepare female students to take up leadership roles in engineering and other technical professions.

By supporting women's participation and leadership, MUBAS promotes an inclusive academic environment where opportunities are not limited by gender. The initiative contributes to SDG 5 by addressing gender discrimination, promoting equal participation and strengthening women's leadership in engineering and technology□



MUBAS Association of Female Engineers



Hope Khasu (first from left) with a colleague in the UniPod lab

Promoting Women's Leadership and Equal Opportunities

The Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences (MUBAS) continues to promote gender equality by creating opportunities for women to participate and advance in education, technical careers, and leadership. This commitment is demonstrated by women working at the University Innovation Pod (UniPod), including Upile Matululu, a Computer Technician, and Hope Khasu, an Electrical and Electronic Technician. Their achievements demonstrate that women can succeed in technical and professional fields traditionally underrepresented by women.

Beyond their technical roles, Upile and Hope support and mentor young people, particularly girls and young women interested in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). Their work helps inspire the next generation to pursue careers without gender-based barriers.

Through female leadership, mentorship, and equal access to professional opportunities, MUBAS continues to create an inclusive environment where women can develop their talents, take on leadership roles, and contribute meaningfully to society. These efforts strengthen women's participation in decision-making and professional spaces while challenging gender stereotypes and promoting equal opportunities for all□



Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all



The winning team: Tawonga Chisimba, Esther Mkwamba, and David Kalulu

MUBAS Students Win Innovation Challenge for Sustainable Sanitation

MUBAS advances SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), particularly targeting sanitation and hygiene, water quality, and protection of water-related ecosystems. During the WaterAid Malawi Innovation Challenge, held to commemorate World Toilet Day, MUBAS students comprising Tawonga Chisimba, Esther Mkwamba, and David Kalulu from the MUBAS Environmental Health Society, emerged as winners after competing against teams from LUANAR and MUST. Their solutions focused on disability-friendly toilets, environmentally sustainable sanitation facilities, and climate-resilient sanitation systems.

The innovations promote safe and inclusive sanitation while addressing risks and the need for resilient infrastructure. The improved access to sanitation facilities, contributes to better hygiene, public health, and sustainable water resource management.

The challenge enabled students to apply academic knowledge to real-world water and sanitation challenges, demonstrating how higher education can generate solutions for healthier and more sustainable communities□

21
PUBLICATIONS

SURG-Water Transforming Maternal Healthcare Through Sustainable Water Access.

MUBAS is committed to advancing Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG 6), which seeks to achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all. A practical example of this commitment is the SURG-Water project. In 2025, the SURG-Water project, a partnership between the MUBAS and the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI), continued to demonstrate how research and innovation can address critical water challenges in rural healthcare. At Thekerani Rural Health Centre in Thyolo District, the project has transformed access to water for maternal and newborn care.

For nearly three years, the facility relied on a community borehole and, at times, river water, placing patients and health workers at risk. Through SURG-Water, installed a sustainable rainwater harvesting and solar-powered UV water treatment system. The system collects rainwater in two 20,000-litre tanks, treats it using low-energy technology and supplies safer water directly to the maternity ward.

The project responds to critical SDG 6 priorities by developing sustainable water



Water springs at Thekerani Health Centre in Thyolo District.

treatment solutions that provide reliable access to safer water when conventional water supplies are unavailable or disrupted. The intervention continued supporting hygiene, infection prevention and equipment cleaning while reducing the burden on mothers who previously walked long distances for water, hence contributing to resilient rural healthcare and improved dignity for mothers and newborns□



Enumerators and participants during focus group discussions.

WASHTED Spearheaded on Evidence-Based Research

MUBAS, through its Centre for Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Appropriate Technology (WASHTED), is advancing Sustainable Development Goal 6 through research that strengthens access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene in vulnerable communities.

WASHTED is leading a formative study under the Tiwoloka Project, a collaboration with WaterAid Malawi, CARE International and FAWEMA. The study is generating evidence to guide context-specific water, sanitation, hygiene and nutrition interventions in schools, early childhood development centres and surrounding communities.

Ten enumerators were trained to collect qualitative and quantitative data across Mulanje, Thyolo, Chiradzulu, Ntcheu and Lilongwe. Through interviews, focus group discussions, observations and checklists, the research examined conditions affecting learners, households and institutions.

Using a Behaviour-Centred Design framework, the findings will identify barriers and opportunities for improved hygiene practices, sanitation services and safe water access. The evidence will support interventions that promote healthier environments, reduce risks associated with inadequate sanitation and strengthen community capacity for sustainable water and hygiene management.

Through Tiwoloka, MUBAS demonstrates how university-led research can generate practical evidence for improving water, sanitation and hygiene outcomes and supporting sustainable development□



Ensure access to afordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all



Chipeta (c) receives his grant

Supporting Local Innovation Through Renewable Energy Grants

The Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences (MUBAS), in collaboration with the National Commission for Science and Technology (NCST), has supported local innovation through grants under the Sustainable Renewable Energy Technologies (RETs) Programme.

Two Malawian innovators received grants worth K40 million each to develop solar-powered technologies. Innocent Phakhalekhale received support for a solar-powered food preservation system, while Alex Chipeta received support for his solar-powered rope and washer pump he developed to support irrigation for smallholder farmers.

The initiative promotes the development and adoption of renewable energy technologies, contributing to SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, Target 7.2 on increasing the share of renewable energy□

09 PUBLICATIONS

Solar-Powered Innovation for Efficient Water Management

MUBAS' three final year Engineering students developed an innovative solar-powered prepaid water meter that uses renewable energy to improve water management and reduce reliance on conventional battery power.

Developed by Computer Engineering students Takondwa Mphande and Tatiana Zingeni alongside Telecommunications Engineering student Kumbukani Mwambembe, the innovation combines a solar panel with a Hall Effect Sensor to improve water-flow measurement and monitoring.

The prototype also features a customer mobile application which enables users to purchase water tokens, monitor balances and track consumption in real time.

The project contributes to SDG 7 target 2, which promotes increased use of renewable energy, and Target 7.3 which calls for improved energy efficiency. By using solar energy to power an essential water-management system, the students demonstrate how engineering innovation can support cleaner energy use and more efficient service delivery□



Engineering student showcasing the prototype



Prof. Ole Jørgen Nydal of Norway making a presentation on renewable energy

Strengthening Renewable Energy Through Collaboration

The Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences (MUBAS) hosted the 2025 Energy Technology Network (EnergyNET) Annual General Meeting, bringing together researchers, policymakers and energy practitioners from 8 universities in 7 countries including Malawi, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Uganda, South Sudan, Tanzania and Norway to advance sustainable energy solutions.

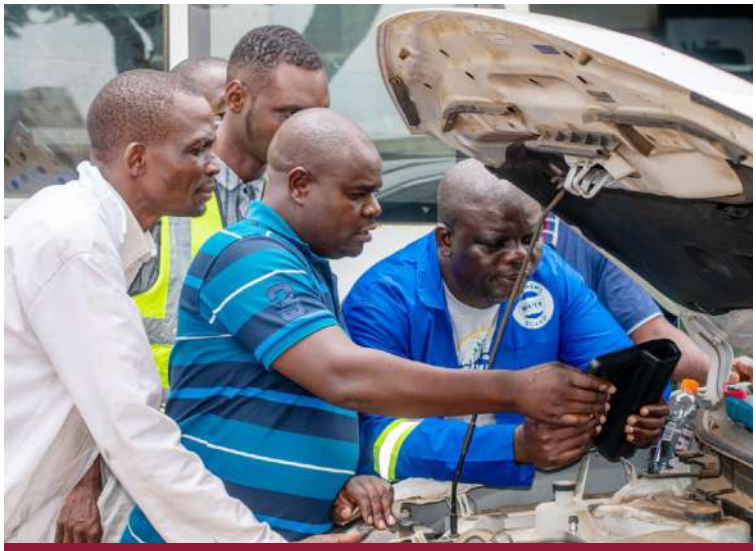
The meeting focused on renewable energy research, clean energy technologies and expanding access to affordable and reliable electricity, particularly for rural and off-grid communities. Participants also explored decentralized renewable energy systems and clean cooking technologies.

Delegates visited the Mthembanji Solar Mini-Grid, demonstrating how renewable energy innovations can improve access to electricity for households, businesses and public institutions.

The initiative directly contributes to SDG 7 Target 7.2, which calls for increasing the share of renewable energy, while also supporting Target 7.1 on ensuring access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services□



Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all



Participants and facilitators engage in hands-on automotive skills training for improved employability and productivity-MUBAS Blantyre.

MUBAS Equips Technicians with Modern Automotive Skills to Enhance Workforce Productivity

The Department of Mechanical Engineering under the School of Engineering trained motor vehicle technicians from the Lilongwe Water Board in modern automotive mechanics, equipping them with practical skills for the evolving automotive industry.

Page 18

The five day training, held from 10th to 14th November 2025 at the MUBAS main campus in Blantyre, strengthened participants' technical competencies in emerging automotive technologies, particularly hybrid and electric vehicles.

The training aimed to help technicians remain competitive and meet modern workplace demands. Participants gained hands-on experience in vehicle diagnostics, fault detection, workshop management, and the use of advanced scanning and diagnostic equipment.

Facilitator Mr. Tusha Ngosi said the programme responds to the growing need for a skilled workforce capable of servicing and maintaining modern vehicles. He emphasized that as electric and hybrid vehicles enter the Malawian market, continuous skills development is essential for improving productivity, enhancing employability, creating employment opportunities, and supporting economic growth. The initiative contributes to the promotion of relevant technical skills, workforce competitiveness, and sustainable employment opportunities□

08 PUBLICATIONS

Expanding Access to Skills Development: MUBAS Partners with TEVETA to Strengthen Human Capital

MUBAS has entered into a strategic partnership with the Technical, Entrepreneurial and Vocational Education and Training Authority (TEVETA) and the Ministry of Labour to strengthen inclusive education, skills development, and human capital formation in Malawi.

The collaboration was formalised through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed on 4 September 2025 at the MUBAS main campus in Blantyre. The agreement establishes a coordinated framework aimed at expanding access to training and professional development opportunities, while creating flexible academic pathways for learners from technical and vocational institutions across the country.

The initiative is designed to align skills development with national development priorities, particularly in addressing unemployment and



Associate Professor Nancy Chitera (R), Labour PS Chikondano Mussa (C) and TEVETA Board Chairperson Pyoka Tembo sign the MOU.

improving workforce readiness through inclusive and demand-driven training systems.

Speaking during the signing ceremony, the Principal Secretary for Labour, Ms. Chikondano Mussa, highlighted the importance of coordinated institutional efforts in strengthening human capital development. She noted that the partnership provides a structured platform for recognising diverse learning backgrounds beyond traditional academic routes□



Students undertaking their placement at Research Support Unit

Employment Placement

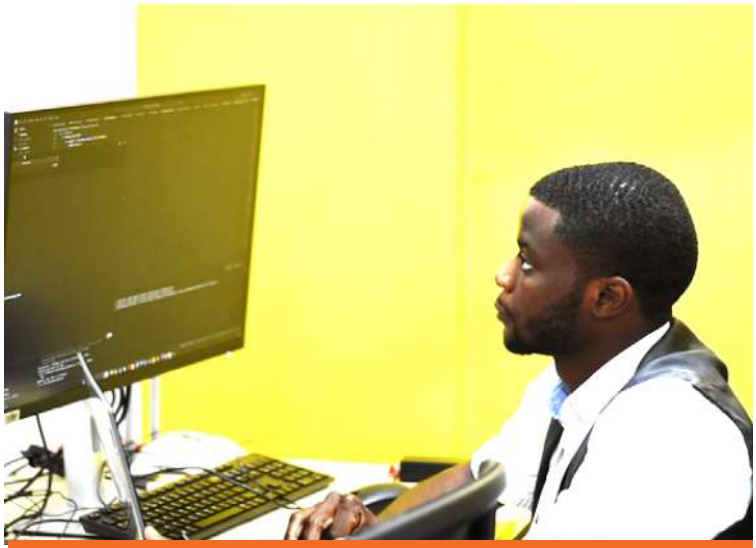
MUBAS integrates mandatory work placements into a range of academic programmes to provide students with direct exposure to the world of work. Through internships, industrial attachments, work placements and teaching practice, students apply knowledge and skills gained in the classroom within environments outside the University. In 2025 MUBAS sent students from 23 academic programs to various industrial attachments to be equipped with transferable knowledge as Engineers, Educators, Accountants, Communicators among others.

These placements strengthen practical and technical competencies while developing communication, teamwork, problem-solving, professional ethics and workplace readiness. They also provide opportunities for students to build professional networks, understand workplace expectations and gain experience relevant to their careers. Work placements are embedded within eligible programmes as an academic requirement and are undertaken at designated stages of study, depending on programme requirements.

Students may be placed in private-sector organisations, government institutions, industries, professional organisations, NGOs, educational institutions, research organisations and appropriate workplaces. MUBAS recognises these experiences as a pathway between education and employment, supporting graduate employability, entrepreneurship, innovation and contribution to socio-economic development. Placements generally extend beyond one month, with the University indicating a three-month placement period□



Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation



Chimwemwe Liwonde working on his innovation at UniPod computer laboratory in Blantyre

Driving Inclusive Innovation: Malawi-Made AI Expands Digital Access for Persons with Disabilities

In its initiatives to break barriers in Malawi's digital landscape, MUBAS, through UniPod Malawi, supported the creation of a locally engineered AI solution designed to expand computer access for persons with physical disabilities. Innovator **Chimwemwe Liwonde** developed an affordable assistive technology that adapts everyday devices into accessible interfaces, enabling independent typing, browsing, and communication. Unlike costly imported systems, this innovation is scalable, adaptable, and tailored to Malawi's context, reducing reliance on caregivers and opening new opportunities for inclusive education.

MUBAS has shown how universities can translate ideas into practical solutions that strengthen both social equity and technological progress. With growing recognition on national innovation platforms, this initiative demonstrates how inclusive innovation can drive resilient infrastructure and digital participation, positioning MUBAS as a catalyst for sustainable national development under **Vision 2063**

25
PUBLICATIONS



Arch. Nyong'onya officially opening the School of Built Environment Conference in November 2025.

Promoting Sustainable Infrastructure: MUBAS Hosts Built Environment Conference.

MUBAS strives to demonstrate its commitment to **SDG 9; Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure** by hosting the inaugural **School of Built Environment Conference** at its Blantyre campus. The conference brought together academia, regulators, and industry stakeholders to share research and explore innovative solutions for sustainable and inclusive infrastructure development.

Speaking at the opening, Dorthy Nyong'onya of the Construction Industry Regulatory Authority emphasized the importance of investing in research and innovation to advance environmentally sustainable construction practices, aligning with Malawi Vision 2063 priorities. MUBAS reinforced its institutional role by fostering collaboration, disseminating research, and engaging students, who presented innovations and were recognized with industry-sponsored awards.

This initiative advanced SDG 9 by promoting resilient infrastructure, encouraging applied innovation, and strengthening partnerships between academia and industry, positioning MUBAS as a catalyst for sustainable national development□

MUBAS incubates souring like eagles

The Business Incubation Programme at MUBAS continues to demonstrate its effectiveness in fostering sustainable enterprises. In 2025, alumni Daniel Kwizombe of Dek Engineering & Electrical Contractors and Victor Daffrece of Spark DeLight were nominated for the National Product of Malawi Awards. Kwizombe's energy-saving LED bulbs and Daffrece's eco-friendly soap and detergent products highlight how incubation nurtures businesses that address national priorities in manufacturing and sustainability.

Both innovators credited MUBAS for mentorship, funding, and training that transformed their ideas into impactful ventures. Centre Manager Chisomo Thaulo-M'baya emphasized that these achievements prove the programme's role in building resilient industries. Their recognition at national and international levels underscores MUBAS' ongoing contribution to SDG 9 by promoting inclusive innovation, supporting sustainable production, and strengthening Malawi's industrial development□



An alumnus of the MUBAS Business Incubation Programme displaying his products



Reduce inequality within and among countries



Cohort 7 Hello Tomorrow Graduates captured after the graduation ceremony

Leaving No Youngster Behind

The MUBAS Innovation Hub at the Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences (MUBAS) is promoting inclusive digital development by expanding access to practical technology skills for children, young people, and professionals.

Through the Hello Tomorrow Programme, launched in 2022, children aged 6 to 17 are introduced to programming using Scratch and Python. The programme encourages creativity, problem-solving, and computational thinking in an inclusive learning environment.

In August 2025, the Hub partnered with the Kairos Sporting Foundation to provide digital literacy training to 40 children from Chirimba, Blantyre. The interactive session covered basic computer skills and Scratch programming, encouraging learners to explore technology and future career opportunities.

The Hub also conducted two Data Analytics using Python short courses in 2025, benefiting 16 participants. Senior MUBAS students supported these programmes as facilitators and mentors, gaining practical leadership and communication experience.

Through these initiatives, the Hub is helping bridge Malawi's digital skills gap and ensuring that young people from diverse backgrounds can participate in the growing digital economy□

10 PUBLICATIONS

MUBAS Advances Digital Inclusion Through Nzeru Hub

The Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences (MUBAS) is committed to promoting digital inclusion and reducing inequalities by expanding access to digital skills and learning opportunities. Through the Department of Computer Science and Information Systems (CSIS), MUBAS launched Nzeru Hub on 25 July 2025 as a platform supporting students and surrounding communities.

The platform provides foundational digital skills training and open learning resources that support academic development, personal growth, and lifelong learning. It also promotes inclusive digital transformation by reaching people who may have limited access to technology and educational resources.

The initiative supports MUBAS' commitment to empowering communities through digital knowledge. It trains students as digital advocates who can transfer skills to communities, while placing particular emphasis on improving digital competencies among women and girls.

Supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) through the Inclusive Digital Transformation for Malawi project, Nzeru Hub demonstrates the value of partnerships in advancing digital equity.



Dr. Martin Msendema delivering his speech during the lalunch of Nzeru Hub

Through this initiative, MUBAS continues to reduce digital inequalities and promote inclusive participation in the digital economy□



One of the digital advocates explaining how the IDT4M project is benefitting her community

Promoting Digital Inclusion Through Community-Based Advocacy

MUBAS is strengthening digital inclusion through the Inclusive Digital Transformation in Malawi (IDT4M) project, which improves access to technology, information, and digital opportunities in underserved communities.

Through the initiative, MUBAS has established community-based digital advocacy teams that provide practical digital literacy training to marginalized groups. During a monitoring visit to Mwanza on 9 December 2025, the project team engaged digital literacy advocates to assess progress and gather feedback.

Trained student advocates and community representatives serve as resource persons, helping community members confidently and safely use digital platforms. Training covers online services, secure mobile money transactions, e-commerce, and protection against online fraud and scams.

The initiative is producing positive results. Beneficiaries report improved ability to create online accounts, search and apply for jobs, and use social media to promote businesses. Increased awareness of digital security is also helping communities protect mobile money accounts and personal information□



Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable



High-tech construction equipment on display

MUBAS Showcases Innovation at National Construction Day

As Malawi works towards sustainable urban development, the Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences (MUBAS) is contributing to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 11 (SDG 11) through innovation, research, and skills development in the construction sector. This commitment was demonstrated during the inaugural National Construction Day held at the Bingu International Conference Centre, where the University showcased technologies and research-driven solutions for a more sustainable built environment.

The MUBAS exhibition featured sustainable construction materials, smart infrastructure solutions, and innovative technologies designed to improve efficiency, strengthen resilience, and reduce the environmental impact of infrastructure development. These innovations demonstrate how research and technological advancement can support safer, more resilient, and environmentally responsible communities.

The event also strengthened collaboration between academia and industry, creating opportunities to translate research into practical solutions for Malawi's infrastructure needs. Through applied research, innovation, and industry-relevant training, MUBAS is preparing professionals capable of addressing challenges associated with urbanisation, infrastructure development, environmental sustainability, and resilient communities.

Advancing sustainable construction practices and supporting knowledge-driven infrastructure development, contribute to SDG 11 by making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable□

13 PUBLICATIONS

Nanjiri Building Project for Sustainable Infrastructure Development at MUBAS

MUBAS is demonstrating its commitment to sustainable and inclusive infrastructure development through the construction of the Nanjiri Building under the Skills for a Vibrant Economy (SAVE) Project. The modern two-storey facility is designed to expand access to quality higher education while strengthening the University's contribution to national development.

Beyond providing additional learning space, the project reflects MUBAS' practice of integrating environmental, social and occupational safety standards into infrastructure development. Through continuous monitoring, stakeholder engagement and collaboration with project implementers, local leadership and surrounding communities, the University is promoting responsible and accountable construction practices. The stakeholder engagement held at the construction site on 10 July 2025 reinforced this commitment, highlighting the importance of protecting workers, communities and the environment throughout project implementation.



MUBAS' SAVE Project Implementation Team

By investing in resilient educational infrastructure and fostering strong community partnerships, MUBAS is contributing to inclusive growth, sustainable human settlements and improved access to essential educational facilities, demonstrating how responsible institutional development can support the objectives of SDG 11



Dr. Becky Jones-Phillips delivering her keynote speech

MUBAS Hosts 2025 Research and Innovation Week

Sustainable Development Goal 11, aims to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable by 2030. In support of this goal, the Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences (MUBAS) continues to promote innovation and practical solutions through its Annual Research and Innovation Week.

Held on 11 August 2025 at the MUBAS Main Campus in Blantyre, the event was conducted under the theme "Research and Innovation: Driving Sustainable Growth for an Inclusive and Entrepreneurial Malawi." It brought together academia, industry, and community stakeholders to showcase research outputs, innovative technologies, and solutions addressing societal challenges.

The event strengthened collaboration between MUBAS, industry, and communities while promoting entrepreneurship and inclusive innovation. Sessions focusing on women in innovation and entrepreneurship further highlighted the importance of inclusive participation in sustainable development.

Through Research and Innovation Week, MUBAS demonstrates its commitment to translating knowledge into practical solutions, strengthening innovation capacity, and supporting sustainable communities



Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.



Plastic waste collected ready for recycling

Citizen Participation Shapes Responsible Plastic Waste Management

MUBAS, through the Centre for Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Appropriate Technology Development (WASHTED), is contributing to efforts to address plastic pollution by involving citizens in responsible waste management.

On 28–29 January 2025, WASHTED, in collaboration with the University of Malawi, Malawi Liverpool Wellcome Programme and the University of Stirling, organized a Citizens' Jury in Blantyre to discuss the environmental and public health impacts of plastic pollution.

The initiative brought together community members who took part in discussions on plastic waste management. Their deliberations resulted in recommendations focused on reducing single-use plastics, increasing the use of reusable alternatives and strengthening coordination among stakeholders.

Through the research, collaboration and public participation, WASHTED is helping strengthen efforts to reduce plastic pollution while encouraging responsible use of resources for a more sustainable environment□

05
PUBLICATIONS

Reducing Glass Waste Through Sustainable Innovation

UniPod, under MUBAS, is supporting Emma Steinke in developing a solar-powered glass tumbler designed to address the growing challenge of glass waste in Cape Maclear, Mangochi District. Her research has identified more than 200 tonnes of glass waste in the area, largely associated with tourism-related consumption of imported beverages, placing pressure on existing recycling and reuse systems.

Building on her initial prototype, Emma is refining the tumbler with support from UniPod, which is providing mentorship, technical guidance and access to prototyping facilities. The integration of solar energy adds a sustainable feature to the innovation while the reusable glass design offers an alternative approach to reducing waste.

The project responds to a local environmental challenge by promoting reuse and developing a practical solution that can benefit communities and ecosystems. It also demonstrates how research and innovation can be translated into locally relevant products that support more sustainable consumption practices□



Emma Steinke and a UniPod staff member working on the solar-powered glass tumbler innovation.



UniPod Staff puts collected plastic bottles into a recycling machine

Turning Plastic Waste Into Innovation

The MUBAS Innovation Hub (Unipod) is engaging students in recycling by calling for the collection of used plastic bottles to support the development of innovative products. Students deposit bottles at designated collection points around the University, where they are collected and prepared for reuse as raw materials.

The initiative provides a practical way for students to participate in addressing plastic waste while encouraging responsible use of resources. By recovering materials that would otherwise be discarded, the Unipod is creating opportunities to explore new uses for plastic through innovation and product development.

The initiative also supports a culture of recycling within the University by connecting waste collection with practical innovation. Through student participation, the Unipod is encouraging more responsible management of materials, reducing waste and demonstrating how discarded resources can be given new value for use in the University and wider community□



Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts



Community-based plastic waste sorting and audit process.

Addressing Plastic Pollution Through Research and Community Action

MUBAS, through its Centre for Water, Sanitation, Health and Appropriate Technology Development (WASHTED), is continuing to advance environmental sustainability by leading the SPACES project (2021–2025), which tackles plastic pollution in Malawi's urban communities. This initiative combines research, international collaboration, and community engagement to address both environmental and public health challenges. In Blantyre's Ndirande area, researchers quantify plastic waste, monitor mosquito breeding linked to discarded plastics, and explore connections between polluted environments, bacterial survival, and antimicrobial resistance. Beyond data collection, SPACES emphasizes behavioral change, working with communities to design practical solutions for reducing plastic use and improving disposal practices.

Supported by global partners and funded by the Natural Environment Research Council, the project strengthens evidence for policy, promotes sustainable urban management, and enhances community wellbeing thereby proving MUBAS's continuing role in building resilience through research and action□

17 PUBLICATIONS

MUBAS Leads Tree Planting Initiative Across Campuses

MUBAS continues in its commitment to environmental sustainability through a large-scale tree planting initiative across its Blantyre and Lilongwe campuses. In March 2025, students, staff, and surrounding communities joined forces to plant over 1,400 trees, including indigenous species such as m'bawa, restoring degraded areas, enhancing biodiversity, and strengthening natural protection against floods and cyclones. The initiative not only contributes to carbon sequestration but also promotes experiential learning, community ownership, and collaboration with development partners and local leadership. By integrating climate resilience into its institutional activities and fostering collective responsibility, MUBAS demonstrates tangible impact in environmental stewardship and long-term sustainability□



MUBAS staff plant trees at Blantyre Campus during the 2025 tree planting exercise



Dr. Chidziwisano of MUBAS WASHTED (right) with global partners at the 2025 UNC Water and Health Conference, advancing climate-resilient WASH systems.

Strengthening Climate-Resilient WASH Systems: WASHTED Engages in Global Water and Health Dialogue

MUBAS, through its Centre for Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Appropriate Technology Development (WASHTED), is strengthening climate-resilient WASH systems by actively engaging in global research and policy dialogue. At the 2025 UNC Water and Health Conference, WASHTED joined leading institutions including the World Health Organization, WaterAid, and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine to address how climate change disrupts water, sanitation, and hygiene infrastructure worldwide. Drawing on evidence from Malawi, Dr. Chidziwisano emphasized how cyclones and climate shocks have damaged sanitation systems and reversed progress in hygiene interventions, underscoring the urgent need for adaptive solutions. By contributing research, sharing lessons, and advocating for resilient WASH systems, MUBAS demonstrates its institutional impact in safeguarding public health, advancing sustainable development, and positioning itself as a key voice in global climate and health discourse□



Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.



Wastewater discharge into the Mudi River in Blantyre, posing risks to aquatic ecosystems.

Drivers of Antimicrobial Resistance and Protection of Freshwater Ecosystems in Malawi and Uganda

Through Drivers of Antimicrobial Resistance in Uganda and Malawi (DRUM) project, MUBAS, under its Centre for Water, Sanitation, Health and Appropriate Technology Development (WASHTED), collaborated with local and international partners to investigate how pollution contributes to antimicrobial resistance in aquatic ecosystems.

The project examined how antibiotics, chemicals, and other pollutants enter and persist in urban rivers. Although the project ended in 2022, its findings continue to inform research and policy. A key study published in 2025 provided evidence on pollution and antimicrobial resistance in urban freshwater systems.

Freshwater ecosystems support biodiversity, human wellbeing, and sustainable development but face growing pollution from untreated wastewater, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, and antimicrobial agents, threatening water quality and aquatic life.

The project demonstrated that polluted rivers can serve as reservoirs for antimicrobial resistance, threatening aquatic biodiversity and human health. On the other hand, the project strengthened collaboration among researchers, environmental specialists, and policymakers, promoting awareness, improved wastewater management, and sustainable water protection strategies to save life below water□

03
PUBLICATIONS

MUBAS Supports Water Protection Through Blantyre Water Board Treatment Efforts

MUBAS is contributing to sustainable urban wastewater management through its connection to the Blantyre Water Board's wastewater collection and treatment system. This collaboration supports improved sanitation, environmental protection, and public health in Blantyre City.

Located in the city's central business area, MUBAS is connected to the wastewater network, which collects sewage from residential, industrial, and institutional areas, including the university. Wastewater is treated using technologies such as trickling filters and oxidation ponds to remove contaminants before discharge into surrounding water bodies.

Through this system, MUBAS benefits from a cleaner and healthier campus while supporting responsible water and resource management. The treatment process also generates sludge that is converted into organic fertilizer, supporting agriculture in surrounding communities and promoting resource recovery and circular economy practices.



Oxidation pond for Blantyre Water Board

MUBAS' participation demonstrates its commitment to sustainable urban water safety development, environmental protection, and responsible wastewater management□



MUBAS students protecting life below water through campus clean-up.

MUBAS Clean Day Protecting Our Campus and Water Bodies

At MUBAS, maintaining a clean campus is a continuous practice involving both students and staff. Regular clean-up activities include litter collection, proper waste disposal, and keeping shared spaces safe and hygienic while helping protect life below water.

These efforts help create a healthy learning environment while reducing pollution that could be washed by rain into drains, streams, and rivers that lead to oceans. Proper waste management prevents contamination of water systems and protects aquatic life. Although MUBAS is not located near the ocean, actions taken on land directly affect connected water bodies.

By making cleanliness a routine responsibility, MUBAS promotes environmental stewardship, responsibility. The Clean MUBAS initiative demonstrates that simple everyday actions can help protect water resources and support healthier ecosystems for present and future generations□



Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss



MUBAS campus lawn reflect its commitment to conserving biodiversity and managing ecosystems sustainably

Mubas Conserving Biodiversity Through Sustainable Ecosystem Management

MUBAS continues in its commitment to environmental stewardship by conserving biodiversity through sustainable ecosystem management. Recognizing that healthy terrestrial ecosystems are vital for climate resilience and human well-being; the University integrates conservation into its campus landscaping and land management practices. Green spaces are maintained to support diverse plant and animal life, while tree-planting initiatives restore degraded areas, enhance carbon sequestration, and strengthen resilience against climate change. Measures such as soil and water conservation, erosion control, and the protection of indigenous vegetation ensure ecological balance and combat land degradation. Beyond beautification, MUBAS creates living ecosystems that safeguard habitats, regenerate native species, and foster environmental awareness among students, staff, and surrounding communities. These efforts demonstrate MUBAS's role in protecting threatened ecosystems and advancing sustainable development□

04
PUBLICATIONS



MUBAS students planting a tree

Sustaining Environmental Conservation Through Tree Planting

MUBAS strives to advance environmental sustainability through regular tree-planting initiatives across its campuses. In March 2025, staff, students, and Council members joined Council Chairperson Professor George Yobe Kanyama Phiri in a tree-planting exercise that formed part of the University's broader conservation programme. The initiative seeks to increase tree cover, enhance biodiversity, and promote responsible stewardship of natural resources. Speaking at the event, Professor Kanyama Phiri emphasized that protecting the environment is a shared responsibility, urging the community to care for the planted trees. Support also came from Professor Sosten Chiotha, Director of LEAD, who highlighted the role of higher education institutions in advancing conservation and integrating nature-based solutions into development. Through such activities, MUBAS fosters environmental awareness while contributing to greener campuses, healthier ecosystems, and sustainable futures.meaningfully to society□

Promoting Sustainable Food Production Through Campus Farming

The Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences (MUBAS) promotes environmental sustainability through responsible food production and agricultural resource management. In support of Sustainable Development Goal 15 (Life on Land), the university recognises the importance of farming practices that protect soil, conserve ecosystems, and promote sustainable land use.

At its Nanjiri farm, MUBAS cultivates maize as part of its agricultural activities. The farm provides an opportunity to demonstrate responsible land management while producing food and maintaining the long-term productivity of agricultural land.

Through sustainable farming practices, the Nanjiri farm contributes to soil conservation, reduces pressure on natural ecosystems, and promotes responsible use of land resources. It also provides a practical environment for



MUBAS maize farm at Nanjiri, promoting sustainable food production and soil conservation

demonstrating sustainable agriculture to the university community.

The initiative complements MUBAS' wider environmental efforts, including tree planting and ecosystem conservation activities. Together, these initiatives demonstrate the university's commitment to conserving terrestrial ecosystems, protecting natural resources, and promoting sustainable practices that benefit both people and the environment□



Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels



MUBAS 2025 Student Representative Council

Empowering Student Leadership, Participation and Institutional Accountability

MUBAS advances Sustainable Development Goal 16 (SDG 16) by strengthening inclusive, participatory, and accountable governance systems that actively engage students, staff, and key stakeholders in institutional decision-making. Through established engagement platforms, the University promotes representation, transparency, and collaboration, thereby enhancing trust and institutional cohesion.

The MUBAS Students Representative Council (SRC) serves as a central structure for student engagement, providing a formal link between students and University management. It facilitates continuous dialogue on academic, welfare, and institutional matters, ensuring that student perspectives are integrated into decision-making processes and service delivery improvements.

In 2025, MUBAS reinforced student participation and leadership development by supporting governance frameworks that encourage ethical leadership, responsibility, and civic engagement. The 2025 SRC team includes President Francis Magwaza, Vice President Gracia Kamphinda, General Secretary Ernest Munthali, Director of Finance Damien Chirwa, and Director of Investments Robert Chikalumpha. The University also embedded leadership training within academic programmes to build practical governance skills□

08
PUBLICATIONS

MUBAS Enhances Management and Governance Systems

MUBAS continues to advance its institutional strength by investing in governance and leadership development. From 22 to 27 June 2025, the University hosted a Leadership and Governance Workshop at the TFM Centre of Excellence in Blantyre, bringing together academic and non-academic managers to enhance management capacity and align institutional priorities. The training emphasized accountability, operational efficiency, and collective leadership, while industry experts provided practical insights on managing public institutions with a performance-driven approach. Vice-Chancellor Nancy Chitera highlighted that leadership transformation requires mindset and behavioral change to position MUBAS as a leading university nationally and beyond. Participants, including Leonard Gondwe, underscored the importance of collaboration, resource mobilization, and team coordination in advancing institutional goals. By equipping leaders with tools in governance, marketing, and team building, MUBAS continues to strengthen its culture of accountability and strategic management, reinforcing its commitment to institutional excellence□



MUBAS staff participate in team building exercise



Building trust and accountability through collective responsibility

Strengthening Transparency and Accountability

In its continued efforts to strengthen institutional integrity, MUBAS is enhancing transparency and accountability through systems designed to prevent, detect and respond to corruption and fraud within the University.

This is led by the Institutional Integrity Committee (IIC), established in line with Malawi's National Anti-Corruption Strategy II (2019) and working in collaboration with the Anti-Corruption Bureau.

The committee brings together representatives from academic, administrative and support departments and coordinates key measures including corruption risk assessments, system reviews, an Anti-Corruption Action Plan, and monitoring of procurement and financial management systems.

The University also conducts corruption prevention awareness activities for staff and students and provides confidential channels for reporting suspected malpractice. Through these measures, MUBAS is instilling transparency, ethical conduct and accountability across its operations.

By promoting transparent systems, responsible resource management and ethical conduct, the initiative supports efforts to build accountable institutions and reduce corruption, in line with SDG 16's commitment to reducing corruption and bribery□



Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

MUBAS and JICA Strengthen Knowledge Partnerships in Mining

MUBAS continues to strengthen knowledge exchange in Malawi's mining sector through collaboration with JICA and other universities. On 10 October 2025, the Department of Mining, JICA and the Japanese Embassy hosted a JICA Chair Seminar, bringing together experts, academics and students from MUBAS, UNIMA, MUST and LUANAR.

The seminar facilitated knowledge sharing on mineral exploration, governance, regulation and value addition. JICA reaffirmed its commitment to capacity building, technology transfer and human resource development.

The partnership is strengthening knowledge and skills transfer while connecting Malawian universities with international expertise to address challenges in the mining sector.



Associate Professor Burnet Mkandawire giving his remarks

Beyond academic engagement, MUBAS is expanding its practical contribution to the mining sector through initiatives such as limestone mining and has established a lime manufacturing facility in Balaka, further strengthening its role in applied learning, innovation, and industrial development□

03
PUBLICATIONS



MUBAS officials pose with Dr. Bryan Rodgers (Front R) after signing the MOU

Global Academic Partnerships

MUBAS is expanding international academic collaboration through a Memorandum of Understanding with Heriot-Watt University, signed on 9 October 2025 at the MUBAS Main Campus in Blantyre.

The partnership establishes cooperation in teaching, research and academic development, including joint research, publications, staff development, student exchange and knowledge sharing. It also provides opportunities for collaboration in MBA programmes and student progression pathways, broadening access to international academic opportunities.

The partnership strengthens cross-border exchange of knowledge, expertise and skills between higher education institutions. Through this collaboration, MUBAS is contributing to SDG 17.16, which calls for stronger global partnerships that mobilise and share knowledge, expertise and technology to advance sustainable development□

WASHTED Develops 2026–2030 Strategic Plan

In 2025, MUBAS, through the Centre for Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Appropriate Technology Development (WASHTED), strengthened its commitment to research, innovation, and sustainable development through the development of its 2026 to 2030 Strategic Plan.

WASHTED convened a five day Strategic Plan Development Workshop bringing together stakeholders from government, non-governmental organisations, and academia. The workshop provided a collaborative platform for shaping institutional priorities and building on lessons from the implementation of the previous strategic plan.

The engagement strengthened cross-sector partnerships and aligned WASHTED's strategic direction with national development goals and global priorities in water, sanitation, hygiene, energy, and appropriate technology. Through participatory discussions, stakeholders contributed to a shared vision for research, innovation, and evidence based solutions.



Stakeholders collaborate to shape priorities for sustainable development

The process demonstrated the importance of partnerships in developing responsive institutional frameworks that address emerging environmental, social, and technological challenges. It also enhances collaboration, knowledge sharing, and institutional visibility at global scale.

The initiative demonstrated MUBAS's commitment to advancing research, capacity building, innovation, and sustainable development through strong partnerships and collaborative approaches to identify global problems and challenge□



About this report

This report presents a snapshot of initiatives undertaken by the Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences (MUBAS) to advance the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Covering activities from the 2025 calendar year, the data was gathered between November 20 and December 20, 2025. Comprehensive details on MUBAS's contributions to the SDGs through research, teaching, collaborations, and operations are available on its website.

The activities highlighted in this report have been identified and selected through comprehensive consultations with key stakeholders from all schools: School of Science and Technology, School of Built Environment, School of Business and Economic Sciences, School of Education, Communication and Media Studies, and School of Engineering; all Units: Agricultural Mechanisation (AGRIMEC), Technology Transfer Office (TTO), University Pod (UNIPOD), and all Centres: Water, Sanitation, Health and Technology (WASHTED), Management Development Centre (MDC), Institute of Continuing Education (ICE), Business Incubation Centre (BIC), Printing Press Centre (PPC), and Engineering and Technical Services Centre (ETSC).

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"MUBAS reaffirms its commitment to turning knowledge into impactful outputs, fostering partnerships, and reforming society towards sustainable livelihoods. Together, we look forward with determination and confidence, knowing that today's innovations will shape a more inclusive, progressive, and self-reliant tomorrow."

Prof. Ishmael Bobby Mphangwe Kosamu
Deputy Vice-Chancellor

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- Innovate
- Create
- Generate