



## **Announcing AGRA Grant Award to MwAPATA and NYCOM for the LEAP4YOUTH Initiative**

**Lilongwe, Malawi-26 November 2025**

MwAPATA Institute and the National Youth Council of Malawi (NYCOM) are pleased to announce the award of a USD 400,000 grant from the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) to implement a two-year initiative titled *"Enhancing Inclusive Youth-Led Platforms for Evidence-Based Agricultural Policy Making and Implementation in Malawi (LEAP4YOUTH)."*

Running from 1 November 2025 to 31 October 2025, the LEAP4YOUTH project seeks to strengthen youth participation in Malawi's agricultural policy processes by establishing institutionalised platforms that empower young people to shape, monitor, and implement policies driving agricultural transformation. The initiative builds on AGRA's Youth Entrepreneurship for the Future of Food and Agriculture (YEFFA) program and directly supports Malawi's long-term aspirations under Malawi 2063, particularly: Pillar 1: Agricultural Productivity and Commercialisation and Enabler 4: Human Capital Development. It also advances the National Youth Policy (2023) and National Agriculture Policy (2024), both of which emphasise youth inclusion in agricultural transformation

Under the project, MwAPATA Institute will lead evidence generation and the development of policy knowledge products, while NYCOM will coordinate youth engagement, advocacy, and capacity-building activities. The project is expected to directly reach 10,000 youths, with at least half of them being young women across priority value chains, including maize, soybean, groundnuts, poultry, horticulture, and beekeeping.

Key interventions include establishing District Agri-Youth Action Forums (DAYAFs), convening regional and national policy forums, and establishing AgriSkills Labs, while also training Youth Agri-Policy Champions to lead advocacy and policy dialogue. These efforts will enhance youth policy literacy and foster consistent engagement between young people and policymakers.

MwAPATA Institute and NYCOM reaffirm their shared commitment to advancing youth empowerment, evidence-based policy-making, and inclusive agricultural development in support of Malawi 2063's vision of an inclusive, wealthy, and self-reliant nation.

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