

## Fun fundraising ideas

There are hundreds of different ways to fundraise. Here are a few ideas to get you started.

- > **Mine's biggest!** Hold a competition to see who can grow the tallest sunflower.
- > **Bargain.** Offer to do some gardening for friends or family – for a price.
- > **Hold a cake bake with a difference.** Give your event a theme, for example 'faces', and judge entries before the sale.
- > **Cress head!** Create your own cress head and judge the best haircut.
- > **Did you know?** Run a poster competition to highlight how climate change threatens lives in Malawi.
- > **Go online!** Set up a page on our fundraising website [www.myactionaid.org.uk](http://www.myactionaid.org.uk) where you can collect donations, share ideas and upload photos.



Photo: Istockphoto

## Real lives: Silika's story



Silika Mikithao, 58, with grandson Fatch at home in Nsanje.

Photo: Jenny Matthews/ActionAid

Silika has worked the land her whole life. She has noticed changes in the climate, and the negative impact this has had on both her livelihood and on her grandson Fatch's education at Mchere primary school.

"It is only in the last two years that the flooding has been such that we have been unable to harvest. When the rice was washed away this left us with nothing to do for work so we had to do casual labour to get money... Sending Fatch to school having had enough to eat is also challenging, and he won't go if he is sick."

## Priority Projects

actionaid

# Malawi: school gardens and education

**Fact:** worsening droughts and floods in low-lying Nsanje are leaving children hungry, and keeping them out of school.

**Aim:** to provide a daily meal and fresh kitchen garden produce to reduce hunger and help children concentrate in class.



Children playing at Mchere primary school, Nsanje, Malawi.

Photo: Jenny Matthews/ActionAid

## Climate change is causing hunger

Floods and droughts are getting steadily worse in Nsanje, southern Malawi, and harvests are suffering badly. Families are not getting enough to eat and children often go to school hungry. For those well enough to attend, hunger makes it difficult to concentrate.

As well as lack of food, children face other obstacles. Flooding has damaged school buildings, and desks and books have been swept away, leaving pupils with few learning materials. Flooding has also contaminated water sources, making pupils vulnerable to malaria and diarrhoea.

### Malawi factfile



- > The population of Malawi is almost 13 million.
- > Average life expectancy is just 38.
- > 38% of people cannot read or write.
- > One in six children dies before the age of five.
- > One in seven people lives with HIV or AIDS.
- > ActionAid has been working in Malawi since 1990, improving access to sustainable food sources, safe water, healthcare and education.

### Real lives: Maria's story



Maria Bishop, seven, Nsanje, Malawi.  
Photo: Jenny Matthews/ActionAid

Maria attends Mchere primary school in Nsanje, Malawi. It is increasingly difficult for her to get the education she needs. The river between her home and her school is now prone to severe flooding and has washed her family's crops away. Often Maria goes to school hungry, with little energy to concentrate in class. When the river swells the journey to school becomes dangerous and Maria has to turn back. Her school is regularly flooded and classes are often cancelled.

**"I would love to go to secondary school because I would like to be a doctor," she says.**

## How you can help

### The project

This project will set up school kitchen gardens in four primary schools in Nsanje, providing a regular, fresh food supply. This will guarantee pupils a daily meal, reducing hunger and the pressure on families struggling to provide enough to eat. It will also help pupils to concentrate in class.

### What this Priority Project will do:

- > Ensure 2,500 children receive at least one nutritious meal per day.
- > Strengthen school buildings to withstand flooding – the wider community will be able to use the buildings as safe shelter during floods.
- > Improve safe access to school through restoring bridges and roads.
- > Enable farmers to irrigate their crops using the new water source.
- > Support river dredging and de-silting schemes, making rivers less prone to flooding and protecting schools, villages and crops in the long term.



Maria with her family, at home in Nsanje.  
Photo: Jenny Matthews/ActionAid

### What your money can buy

# £15

could provide a school desk for one pupil.

# £100

could provide 1,000 primary school pupils with a daily meal of nutritious porridge for one week – sometimes the only guaranteed meal they will have.

# £500

could fund one school garden for a year, providing a lasting food source for pupils to ensure they have enough to eat.

# £1,000

could establish tree nurseries alongside riverbanks for one school. These will absorb excess water, reducing the likelihood of flooding.

# £3,000

could refurbish a block of three classrooms for 200 children, protecting them from future flooding.

# £5,000

could provide a borehole for one school, providing a clean and safe water supply.