

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



WELCOME MESSAGE



As the Operations and Finance Manager at **Ntha Foundation**, I am pleased to share with you the first Ntha Foundation annual report.

What a year it has been here at Ntha Foundation, taking part in our first funded and biggest project yet, since we started in 2018, and holding various projects and collaborations along the way. Many thanks for those that have been with us in this journey.

Just to restate who we are and what we do: **The Ntha Foundation is an education trust which fosters the use of creativity and innovation for entrepreneurial development.** We do this by assisting in the creation of sustainable businesses, creating employment, and in the long run boosting the private sector. We also advocate for socio-economic transformation through strategic communication.

Our organisational culture at its core is made up of a mix of young professionals, researchers and creatives who create informative & engaging content to champion change and the pursuit of our mission – which is **Supporting the youth in the intentional use of their creative talents – helping them build sustainable brands; creating revenue for themselves and more job opportunities for other young creatives.**

As we step into our 5th year of existence, we find ourselves working towards a position of growth and agile sustainability. This is thanks to the amazing team and other stakeholders we have worked with along the way.

RHODA KAMWAZA

Operations & Finance Manager
Ntha Foundation



NTHA FOUNDATION
Annual Report 2021

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 01 Introduction
- 02 Projects
- 03 Bien Corp Africa (Partnership)
- 04 Kwathu Innovation & Creative Centre (The Dream)
- 05 Digitising Malawi
- 06 Financial Performance
- 07 Growth Plans (Dream with Us)

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CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION
for Development through Advocacy

OVERVIEW



The Ntha Foundation was established in 2018 with the aim of **supporting African youth to use their creativity and innovation for entrepreneurial development.**

This report highlights the progress of the Ntha Foundation as of the year 2021, with the foundation handling its biggest project yet – the **Digital Malawi Project**, with other various collaborations and activities.

Over the past year, and in partnership with Bien Corporation Africa, the Ntha Foundation also carried out several activities and programmes.

We spent the year developing and rolling out our flagship projects – the **Nyenyezi Fellowship** and the **M'mawa Management Training**. This report, and our many other achievements speak to the success of what was the first cohort of our M'mawa Management Training.

Through our various projects and activities, the Ntha Foundation has been experiencing growth through new employees, increased funding, and a growing global networks.

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ABOUT NTHA FOUNDATION

The Ntha Community Foundation is an education trust which fosters the use of creativity and innovation for entrepreneurial development. The organisation was founded in 2018 by Nthanda Manduwi in Malawi, and registered as a non-profit company (a company limited by guarantee) on the 12th of June 2020.



MISSION

To support the youth in the intentional use of their creative talents – helping them build their brands and creating revenue and more job opportunities for other young creatives.



VISION

To be a bridge between development researchers and creatives – to create informative and engaging content that champions social change, creates businesses, curbs unemployment and eradicates poverty.



FOCUS AREAS

CREATIVITY

EDUCATION

ADVOCACY

INNOVATION

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

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PROJECTS

NYENYEZI FELLOWSHIP

The Nyenyezi Fellowship is Ntha Foundation flagship programme - a fully-funded 6-month intensive training and business incubation which targets in each quarter **7 exceptional entrepreneurs** from Malawian Universities, who are in the final year of their studies, and they are taught how to transition from university into the entrepreneurship space.

M'MAWA MANAGEMENT TRAINING PROGRAM

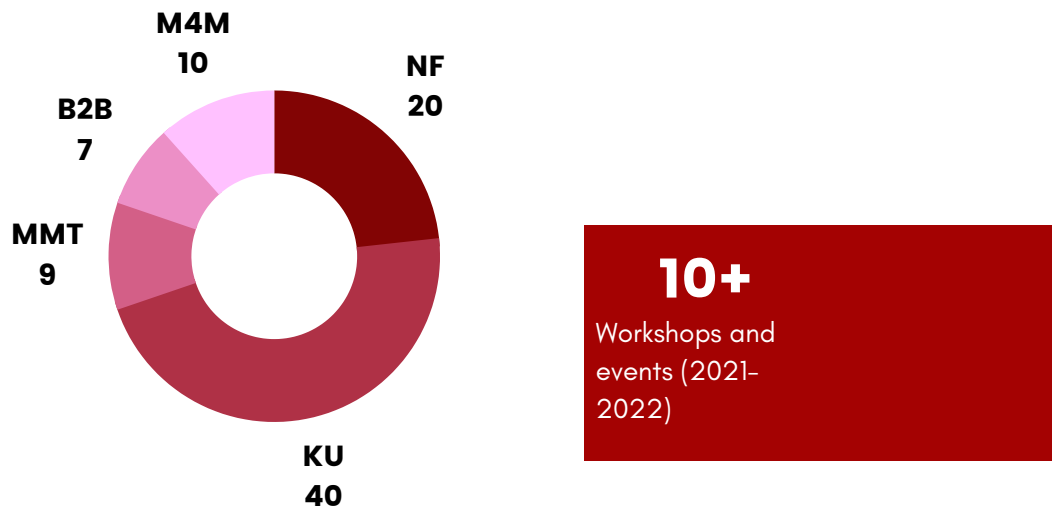
This project aims at providing young professionals with in-class lessons and on-the-job training in administration, communication, digital, and people skills; as well as work ethic.

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Our Impact

The Infographic below illustrates the impact we have had through our programs and events:



- **Nyenyenzi Fellowship** - Trained 20 exceptional entrepreneurs from Malawian universities, who are in the final year of their studies, and they are taught how to transition from university into the entrepreneurship space.
- **Kwathu Upgrade** - The Kwathu Upgrade platform has trained 40 creatives and entrepreneurs. The platform has conducted two workshop between 2021 and 2022, which are the Kwathu Upgrade Music4Malawi which was funded by the Music in Africa Foundation and the Kwathu Upgrade Women History Month was funded by the World Bank through the Public Private Partnership Commission
- **M'mawa Management Training** - The MMTP, was first piloted on Jun 15th 2021, with individuals selected in the following departments; Finance, ICT, Marketing and Communications, Administration where the organization has on-boarded 9 youths who 60% of which were fresh graduates between the ages of 22 to 29. 80% of the M'mawa Management Trainees were females
- **Bants2Business** - The B2B Platform has conducted 7 editions which have provided entrepreneurs an opportunity to network with prominent entrepreneurs and pitch their businesses
- **Music4Malawi** - The Music4Malawi platform has provided Malawian Musicians, Managers and producers the opportunity to enhance their capacity in regards to the Music industry with training in Artist Management, Digital Marketing, Alternative Revenue Models, Intellectual Property Management and Audience Development and Management. So far we have trained 10 Music Creative Professionals under the Kwathu Upgrade: Music4Malawi Project

BIEN CORP AFRICA

Bien Corporation Africa is a network of communications, media and business development specialists who offer first class digital solutions to Africa-based brands. It provides digital solutions to African problems, and it does this by creating innovations and helping clients integrate into and optimise for a digitally advancing world.



Digi Savvy Africa

Digi Savvy Africa is the first innovation under BCA – an e-learning platform for Africans to access digital skills. It offers a blended learning approach to students, so they can access our digital skills courses anywhere, anytime. In the event that they do not have access to a computer or affordable internet, we offer them free access to our hubs and co-working spaces.



Colance Africa

Colance Africa is a the first e-work system created with the intention of digitising the work and functionality of a digital innovation hub. The system that has been designed to enable innovation hubs, agencies, collectives and freelancers helping digitising Africa to collaborate and work together.



EdTech Innovation of the Year

Digi Savvy Africa was awarded as the EdTech Innovation of the year 2021 at the National Bank sponsored ICTAM Innovation Jam awards.

The prize was a trophy from National Bank and ICTAM and MK1,000,000 in financing from the Digital Malawi Project under the Public Private Partnership Commission.

KWATHU INNOVATION & CREATIVE CENTRE

The Kwathu Innovation & Creative Centre was established by the Ntha Foundation in May of 2021, in Lilongwe Malawi. Kwathu is an innovation and creative centre, created as a home to young Malawian creatives and innovators, to give an enabling environment for young people working together towards building an innovative and creative solution-oriented Malawi.

Through various projects and activities, the Ntha Foundation has been experiencing growth through new employees, increased funding, and new global networks.

KWATHU UPGRADE

The Kwathu Upgrade platform is a flagship multi-platform project under the Kwathu Innovation & Creative Centre, which aims at building the capacity of young creatives in Malawi through interactive workshops, Management training programs, business development trainings, business incubation, content development, networking opportunities and distribution as well as showcase events. In 2021, KICC hosted two Kwathu Upgrade projects: the Music4Malawi Edition which trained 10 artists and creatives in Creative Entrepreneurship skills; and the Digi Savvy Africa Edition, which trained 30 women in Digital and Entrepreneurship Skills.



BANTS2BUSINESS

Bants2Business is a multi-platform forum that connects young entrepreneurs and businesses to growth opportunities, resources, and experience mentorship through innovative events and new media. Bants2Business, which are quarterly events held for entrepreneurs to meet industry experts in their fields. The entrepreneurs can walk away with over MK100,000 seed funding. In 2021, KICC hosted 5 editions of Bants2Business: Creatives Edition, Women in Music Edition, Digital Skills Edition, Women in Tech Edition; which collectively brought together more than 500 young people in conversation and networking.



MUSIC4MALAWI

Music4Malawi is a Malawian initiative under Kwathu Innovation & Creative Centre that aims to support the Malawian music sector through promoting knowledge exchange and creating opportunities and capacity for music professionals. We do this in two ways: digitally via the Music4Malawi website (www.music4malawi.com) and offline through training programmes, artist mobility programmes, workshops, concerts, conferences and other related initiatives. The Kwathu Upgrade: Music4Malawi Edition trained 10 music creatives from November to December 2021, with each participant walking away with 300 euros.



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First Tech Hub in Malawi's Eastern Region

MANGOCHI HUB

**KWATHU INNOVATION
& CREATIVE CENTRE**

DIGITAL MALAWI

The Ntha Foundation was selected as one of 6 organisations in Malawi to implement the Digital Malawi Project. In partnership with the Malawi Government through the Public Private Partnership Commission, with funding from the World Bank, Ntha Foundation launched the Kwathu Innovation & Creative Centre at Excel Primary School at Makawa, and an online digital skills training for youths and creative entrepreneurs.

To achieve preset goals and the organisation mission, the Ntha Foundation established two Kwathu Innovation and Creative Centres. The first is the Lilongwe centre, which has a research centre, a Creative centre, a digital learning centre, and an entrepreneurship hub. The second centre is located in Mangochi, which at the moment only has a digital learning centre. Construction is underway for a fully-fledged innovation & creative centre.

The organisation has implemented the two cohorts of the Digital skills and innovation grant, a sub component of the Digital Malawi project which aims to impart digital and ICT Entrepreneurial skills to various youth. The learners ranged from 6 year-olds to professionals as old as 55; teaching any and all Malawians basic digital skills to prepare them for and catch them up with a digitising world.



The Ntha Foundation launched the first tech hub in Malawi's Eastern Region - Mangochi Digital Skills For Africa Learning Centre at Excel Primary School at Makawa. The initiative was welcomed by the community, and the hub was launched at the fully funded by the Makokola Retreat on the 11th of December, 2021.

Under the digital skills training, the Ntha Foundation offered courses to youth and creative entrepreneurs in Basic ICT Skills, Digital Branding, Programming, Graphic Designing, Digital Marketing and Digital Communications. Currently we have reached over 300 youth with the intervention.



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KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Over the past year Ntha Foundation has facilitated a number of projects and activities that focused on promoting youth entrepreneurship. The following are the projects and activities that NF was involved with their KPIs and outcomes

KPI	Activity	Data / Outcomes
Train 180 participants, with 60 % of them being female	Digital Malawi Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trained 228 trainees at the Lilongwe and Mangochi Hubs • 130 of the 228 trainees are female
Train 10 music creative professionals via workshops and interactive sessions	Kwathu Upgrade: Music4Malawi Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trained music creative professionals November-December 2021, for a 5 day workshop • Provided each participant with seed funding in the amount of 300 euros for their creative works
Hold quarterly events that put together entrepreneurs and experts with different backgrounds and levels of experience.	Bants2Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B2B has held 7 in person and virtual editions, since its launch in August 2021 • Reached over 500 virtual and in-person audiences.

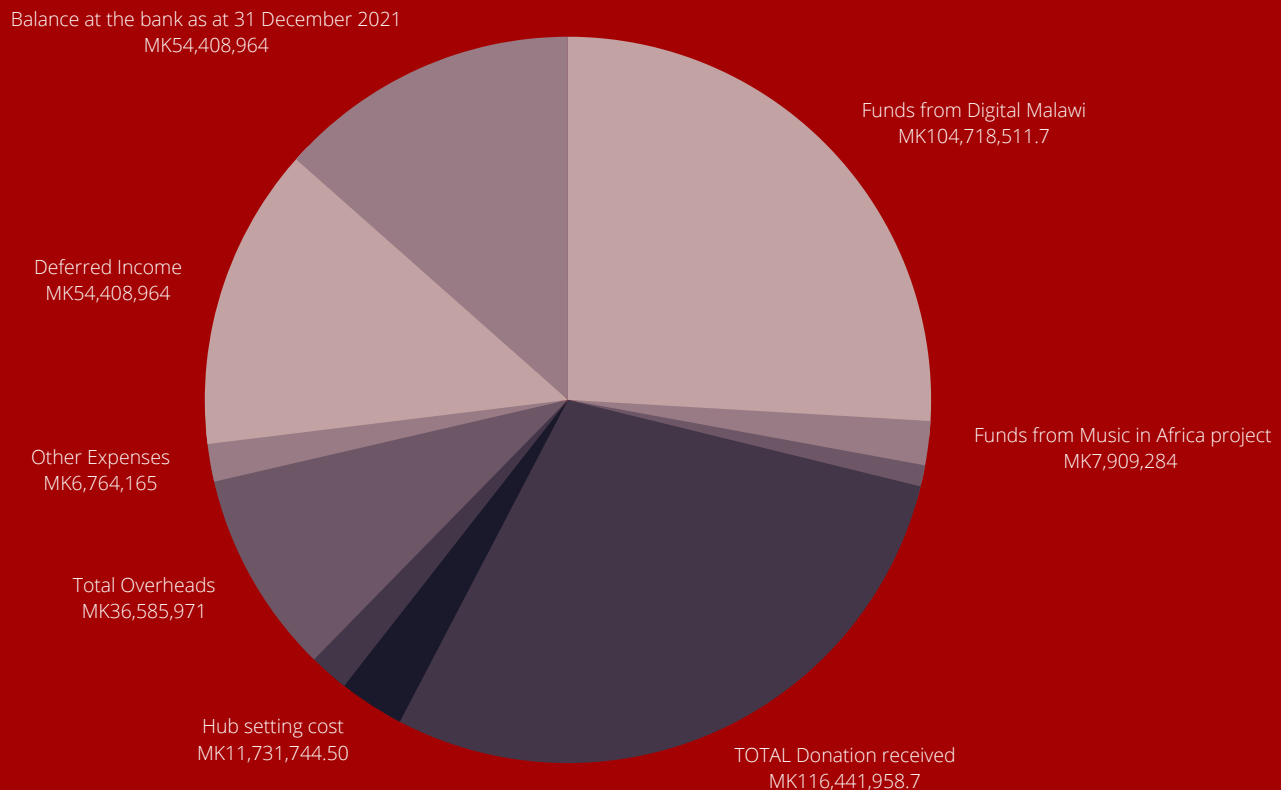
NTHA FOUNDATION

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE



2021 FINANCES

The financial summary for Ntha foundation in the year 2021. The organisation received funding for two projects during the year, which was the Digital Malawi project and Music in Africa project. The pie chart has the figures which was received during the year in Malawi kwacha and the expenses which were incurred during the year.



GROWTH PLANS



MANGOCHI HUB CONSTRUCTION

Over the course of next year, Ntha Foundation has the intentions of building up the Kwathu Innovation & Creative Centre in Mangochi to being a fully operational and sustainable hub. We intend to do this by constructing and outfitting a hub in Mangochi, as well as ensuring that we attract customers to utilize the space at a fee.



DIGI SAVVY AFRICA ONLINE PLATFORM

Digital revolution is the future of success. It can streamline processes, whilst expanding capabilities. If leveraged successfully, making use of the latest digital tools and applications assists in developing and maintaining a dynamic competitive advantage.



KWATHU UPGRADE PROJECT VISIBILITY

This will ensure all relevant stakeholders have a clear picture of the project performance, including potential risks, distribution of responsibilities, and the overall project goals.

WORK WITH US



VOTE OF THANKS

As is evidenced in this report, 2021 was a great year for Ntha Foundation. We are optimistic about creating a youth-led and youth-serving Malawi. Different faces, different colours, different voices, and different initiatives are all parts of what make up the vibrant space of creativity and innovation that is the Ntha Foundation. It would have never been possible without each and everyone of you.



We would like to offer our sincere gratitude to our participants, partners, donors as well as each and everyone who helped to make this year memorable and a success



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