

Local Community Ownership Strategy

Sub - Strategy





Local Community Ownership Strategy

Goal

Ensure that the local community is engaged, coordinated with, and supportive of our aims and activities.

Considerations

- Encourage local ownership of school building projects by identifying and addressing roadblocks to construction.
- Bottle what we have done to date—we have a deep understanding of local issues, and we must maintain high standards in our approach to engaging local communities.
- Poverty—address localised inequality and the challenges of living day-to-day versus long-term investment in education.
- Address favouritism—local resource scarcity can encourage bias, which can increase regional disparities.
- Take the time to understand local cultural practices before we undertake work in a new zone.

Process

TMP will involve the local community in two ways:

I. Identifying the right school project using our school selection strategy

Support and resources from the local community are essential for a school building. When building a new school, TMP must meet with stakeholders (local chief, school headteacher, PTA, school committee, and mothers' group) to build relationships and gauge their willingness to support and maintain the school.



2. Project execution using our manual for building at scale (view a worked example [here](#))

From identification of the project through to its completion, our manual for building at scale includes notes on project execution and a list of stakeholders.

Each time TMP agrees to help construct a new building, we will prepare and sign an MOU outlining the agreement. TMP will design the MOU in a way that ensures local community ownership. It will include a commitment to community contribution—for example, a commitment to clear land for building construction.

Once TMP finishes a building, we will hand over all responsibility (including maintenance) to the school administration. This encourages ownership because it motivates the school to limit damage to the buildings to avoid ongoing costs.

Begin building

At each school, TMP will employ labourers from the community, which will increase ownership.

There is an acute need for school buildings in Malawi, so it is unlikely that a community would opt out of a project. However, to mitigate this risk, TMP will only commit to constructing one building when starting a new school.

If a community cannot uphold their agreed contribution (as outlined in the MOU), TMP will not construct any more school buildings.

Prioritised Deliverables

Completion of agreed community contribution

Future Actions

A complete manual for building at scale (view a worked example [here](#))

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