

# nthali

## NEWSLETTER

SECOND QUARTER-2026

In this edition of nthali newsletter, we highlight inspiring stories of transformation as women and young farmers embrace solar powered irrigation systems and Ecospray technologies to improve productivity while promoting climate-smart agriculture. We also share how nthali continues to expand strategic partnerships and strengthen its network of collaboration by building a more resilient and regenerative food system. Together, these efforts reaffirm our commitment to advancing regenerative agriculture, empowering marginalized communities, and contributing to the achievement of zero hunger by 2030.



### From Training to Harvest!

After receiving training from nthali, young farmer Stambuli Chatama is successfully protecting his maize and Okra using EcoSpray—a natural pesticide made from neem and other locally available pesticidal plants. By replacing costly chemical pesticides with an affordable, eco-friendly alternative, Stambuli is producing healthier crops while reducing production costs. His story shows how practical knowledge and nature-based solutions are helping young farmers build resilient livelihoods and strengthen regenerative food systems.

### IRRIGATION FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE

**What if the floods that destroy crops today could become tomorrow's lifeline?**

In Salima, Mthiliro Farmers Club is proving that they can. Using a mobile-solar powered irrigation pump, farmers are turning flood water into opportunity, cultivating maize and other crops even during dry season. While the system only irrigates about 7 of the club's 15 hectares, it has already strengthened food security and created new income as fresh vegetables reach supermarkets, lodges and hotels. Building on this success, nthali is expanding a crowd-based solar irrigation model that empowers women and youth farmers to harvest up to three times a year, boosting productivity and moving marginalized communities closer to Zero Hunger.



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## When Savings Grow More Money!

Climate shocks may have destroyed crops but they did not destroy hope.

Through nthali's Village Savings and Loans (VSL) clubs, youth and women farmers are proving that collective action builds resilience. Rather than borrowing for family needs, farmers are investing in their farms- using loans to purchase indigenous seeds and bioinputs for winter irrigation farming.

In the wake of devastating January droughts, these community-led investments are helping farming families recover, restore their livelihoods, and strengthen regenerative food systems. Every contribution to the VSL is more than a financial investment. In climate resilience, food security, and a more sustainable future



## Founder Spotlight: Shaping Global Youth Voices for UNCCD COP 17

**From Malawi to the global policy stage.** Nthali Founder and Team Lead was selected as a **FAO World Food Forum (WFF) Policy Educator** under the **Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought (DLDD)** thematic area - one of the three key tracks addressing the Rio Conventions

As part of this prestigious global consultation role, Buthelezi is helping spearheading youth policy dialogues from **May to August, 2026**, bringing together youth from around the world to share recommendations ahead of the **UNCCD COP 17** in **Mongolia**. These consultations are ensuring that youth perspectives are reflected in discussions on restoring degraded land, building climate resilience, and advancing sustainable food systems.

This appointment is a significant recognition of nthali's growing contribution to youth leadership and regenerative agriculture, reinforcing our commitment to ensure that **young people are not just participants in policy conversations-but architects of the solutions that will shape the future of our planet**

## Nthali Engages in 2025 GHI Launch

On **15 April 2026**, Nthali, represented by its Founder and Team Lead, participated in the launch of the **2025 Global Hunger Index (GHI)** in Lilongwe under the theme, **"20 Years of Tracking Progress: Time to Recommit to Zero Hunger."** The event brought together government, development partners, civil society, and other stakeholders to reflect on global and national progress towards ending hunger.

The launch highlighted that Malawi is ranked 95th out of 123 countries, with a GHI score of 22.0, indicating a serious level of hunger.

Discussions emphasized that conflict, climate change, and fragile food systems remain major drivers of food insecurity, while coordinated action, stronger policies, and resilient agrifood systems are critical to achieving Zero Hunger.

Nthali reaffirmed its commitment to building regenerative and climate-resilient food systems in Salima by promoting regenerative agriculture, climate-smart farming practices, and empowering women and youth farmers. The organization joined the national call to recommit to ending hunger through sustainable and inclusive food systems.

Nthali appreciates the joint effort of Concern Worldwide and Welthungerhilfe Malawi with support from GIZ and Government of Malawi for making the event a success.



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## Nthali Founder Joins Global Network of Changemakers

Nthali has reached another exciting milestone as its Founder and Team Lead officially joined **Catalyst Now**, a global movement of social innovators driving systemic change to accelerate the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.

This membership connects Nthali to a worldwide network of changemakers, creating new opportunities for collaboration, knowledge exchange, and strategic partnerships. It also provides a platform to showcase Malawi's community-led innovations while strengthening efforts to empower women, youth, and smallholder farmers through regenerative agriculture, climate resilience, and sustainable livelihoods.

Together with Catalyst Now, Nthali is expanding its global reach while deepening its local impact—proving that local solutions can inspire global change.



## Buthelezi Kagwa Sichali



I am proud to announce that I am officially **Catalyst Now** member



## Forthcoming Project Activities

1. Community managed tree seedlings for agroforestry
2. Indigenous seed multiplication program under irrigation
3. Cold presser establishment
4. Digital agrimarketing for youth and women farmers clubs

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Would you like to support in creating an ecosystem of women and youth farmers building a **regenerative food systems** that is strengthening marginalized communities that are resilient to climate shocks? Visit [www.nthali.org](http://www.nthali.org) now to learn more, donate or volunteer with our Soil Rangers Project.



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