

LEAVING NO-ONE BEHIND: TRANSFORMING GENDERED PATHWAYS TO HEALTH FOR TB



**UNCOVERING LIVED EXPERIENCES OF
YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN AFFECTED
BY TB: A PHOTOVOICE STUDY**



LILONGWE, MALAWI



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Tuberculosis (TB) affected more than 10.6 million* people worldwide in 2022, primarily those living in poverty and those who are marginalised. TB is an infectious disease that is caused by bacteria, most often affecting the lungs, taking the lives of an estimated 1.3 million* people globally every year. Although TB can affect anyone, people on the African continent are disproportionately affected, accounting for close to 2.5 million* new cases of TB and over 300,000* TB-related deaths annually.

**WHO Global Tuberculosis Report 2023*

TUBERCULOSIS IN MALAWI



Malawi is a high-burden TB country where every day in 2022 more than 68 people developed TB disease and about 10 people died because of TB. In line with global trends, most people developing TB disease in Malawi were men (56%).* Furthermore, more than 1 in 4 people with TB remained undiagnosed in 2022, especially men, who missed out on TB treatment and care.*

Although 1 in 10 people who developed TB disease are aged 15-24 years, TB interventions often do not address the specific needs or concerns of young people. The photovoice study, undertaken by LIGHT Consortium partners in Malawi, AFIDEP and MLW, set out to understand the challenges of young people who were impacted by TB, and through the findings, advance person-centred TB services that ensure young people get the treatment and support they need.

**WHO Global Tuberculosis Report 2023*



This booklet is one of a series of four, with one booklet created for each of the participatory action research studies by LIGHT partners in Nigeria, Kenya, Malawi and Uganda.

LIGHT is a six-year cross-disciplinary global health research programme funded by UK Aid, led by Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine working with partners in Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Uganda and the UK. The partners are the African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP), Malawi Liverpool Wellcome Programme (MLW), Makerere University Lung Institute (MLI), Respiratory Society of Kenya (ReSoK), Zankli Research Centre (ZRC), London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, and the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM).



African Institute for
Development Policy



Malawi Liverpool Wellcome Programme



Zankli Research
Center



RESPIRATORY
SOCIETY OF KENYA



PLACE, PEOPLE & PROCESS

PLACE

The study took place in Lilongwe, the capital city of Malawi, which has a population of about one million people. The study participants were engaged through Bwaila District Hospital, which is in the heart of the city.



PEOPLE

Twelve young people affected by TB participated in this study, including three adolescents (15-17 years) and nine young adults (18-24 years), seven males and five females. Nine participants were receiving or had completed TB treatment. Three were caregivers for a person with TB; some of them were TB survivors themselves. In addition, twelve key stakeholders, including healthcare providers, TB programme managers, community leaders, and policymakers, participated in the exhibition and action workshop.

PROCESS

Photovoice is a creative participatory research method, which empowers people to document their everyday lives and express their perspectives through photography. It uses visual narratives to foster understanding and empathy, promote dialogue, and encourage action. Young people were actively engaged throughout the study. People in the photos are participants as well as models who gave consent to be photographed.

Pictured: Entrance of Bwaila District Hospital, Lilongwe

Consulted TB stakeholders
on the study

1



Trained the research team
(method, photography, ethics)

2



Recruited participants
& obtained informed consent

3



Trained participants
(photography & ethics)

4



Distributed
cameras to
participants

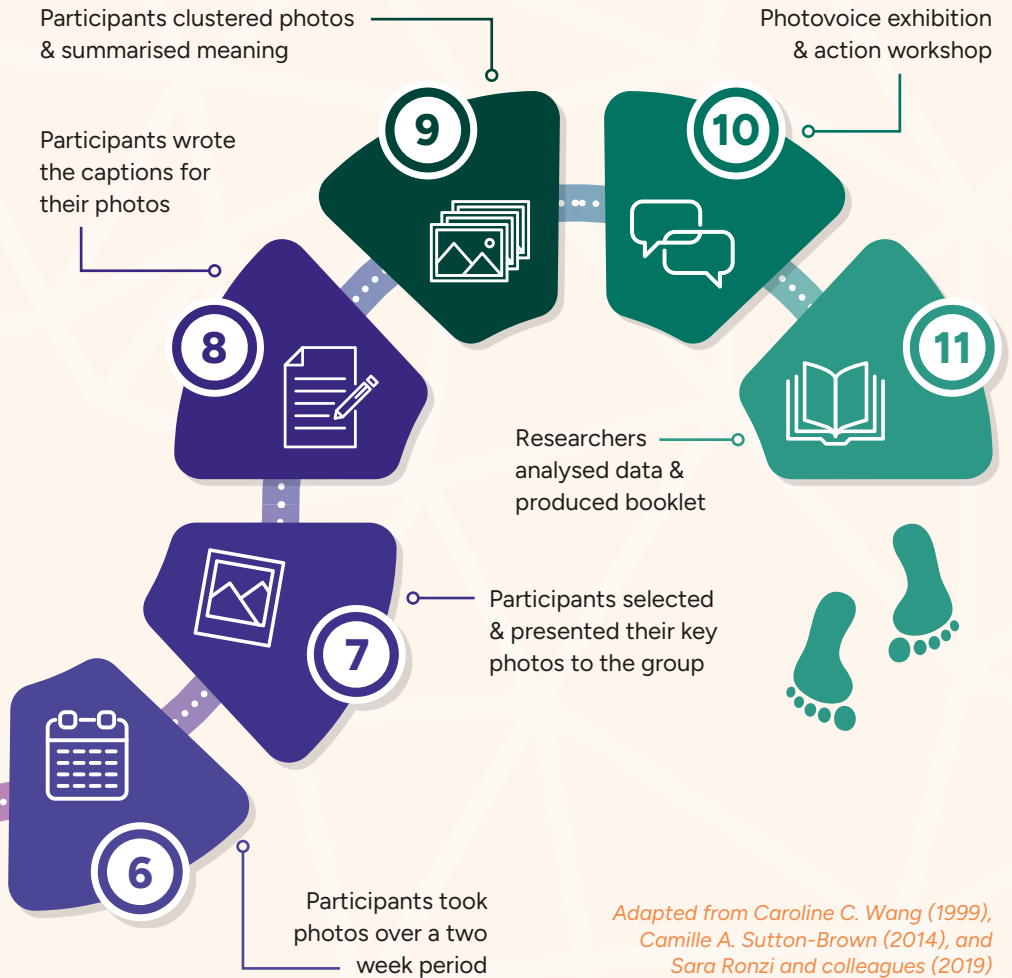
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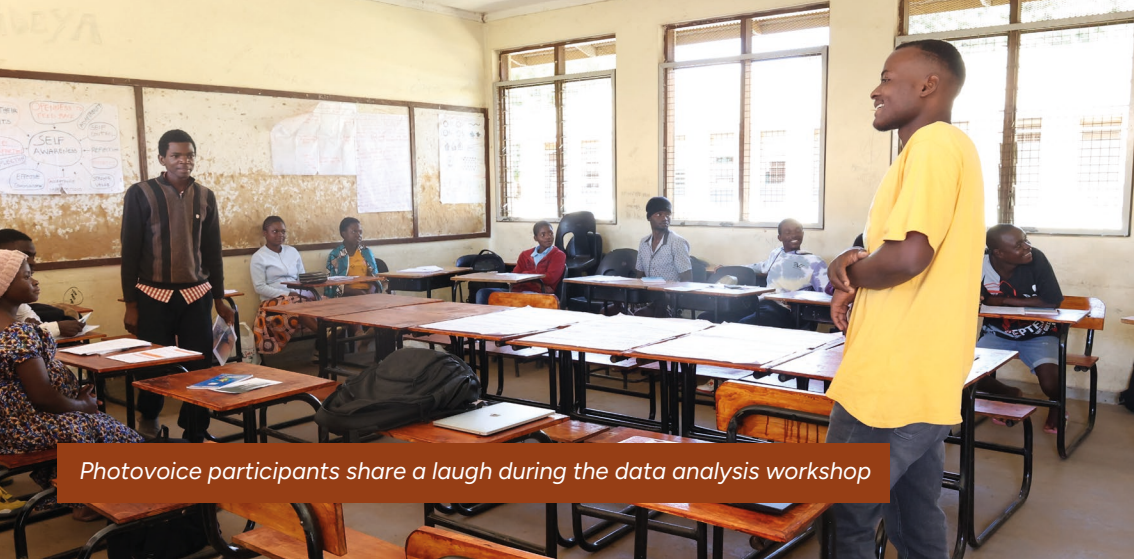
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STEPS IN THIS PHOTOVOICE STUDY



*Adapted from Caroline C. Wang (1999),
Camille A. Sutton-Brown (2014), and
Sara Ronzi and colleagues (2019)*



Photovoice participants share a laugh during the data analysis workshop



Dr Azariah Benjamin Mosiwa (AFIDEP) speaks with a participant about his lived experiences of TB captured in a photo during a photovoice workshop in Lilongwe

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PEOPLE BEHIND THE LENS



ACKIM JOHN (19)
STUDENT



ALICE KAWONGA (24)
BUSINESSWOMAN



BILLY (24)
BUSINESSMAN



EUNICE GELESOMU (17)
STUDENT



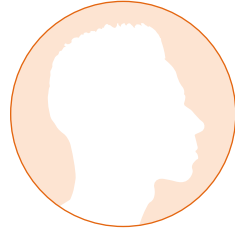
HALUNA CHAPOTERA (24)
HEALTH WORKER



LOUIS WISDOM (16)
STUDENT



FAUZA YUSUF (17)
STUDENT



ISLAM NNADI (23)
BUSINESSMAN



PRISCILLA MPASU (18)
STUDENT



RAFICK JACKSON (23)
BUSINESSMAN



TIMOTHY CHINTENGA (23)
BUSINESSMAN



VINCENT CHIKAONDA (19)
STUDENT

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**PHYSICAL HEALTH
CHALLENGES LIMIT
ACTIVITIES OF YOUNG
PEOPLE AFFECTED
BY TB**

TB significantly impacted the physical health of adolescents and young adults. Many struggled with experiences of **weakness, pain, shortness of breath, and fatigue** which caused difficulties performing everyday activities including tasks assigned to their gender roles.

Young women emphasised how TB hindered their ability to manage **domestic responsibilities** like fetching water and cooking, tasks that were central to their daily routines.

While some young men mentioned domestic tasks, they often spoke about their inability to engage in **physically demanding tasks**, such as lifting heavy objects or working with machinery. This loss of physical ability was particularly challenging as it affected their sense of strength and disrupted their roles in labour-intensive work. Young men also reported **medication side effects**.



"Before I fell ill, I could easily fetch at least 5 pails of water from the well. Now, I struggle to fill more than one pail because I get short of breath when I try to do more."

Adolescent girl on TB treatment

"Before I fell ill, I could carry two buckets of water from the well to my home. However, after getting sick, I couldn't even carry a bucket on my head. That's when I decided to seek help from the hospital. Upon assessment, it was clear I was very weak and lacked the strength to do many things."

Adolescent girl who completed TB treatment





"These are the wastes that I used to sweep while attending Madrasa (Islamic school). The dust would often fill my nose, causing me to cough and sometimes vomit. In summary, I experienced significant discomfort."

Adolescent boy who completed TB treatment

"There was someone who was providing me with medication. Before I fell ill, I could cook and engage in various activities like playing football. However, after being diagnosed with TB, I struggled with basic tasks such as cooking. The person administering the medication in the photo illustrates how much assistance I needed during this difficult time, highlighting my struggles with everyday activities."

Young man on TB treatment





"You can see on the picture it's the cylinder head of a car engine. That time, before I was diagnosed with TB, I could break this engine on the middle without problem. But now I fail to break this engine because I experience shortness of breath. So, I feel sorry that I can no longer break the engine meaning I don't have energy."

Young man on TB treatment

"In this photo, you can see leveling equipment, a knife, and measuring tools, including a proper knife. Before I became ill, I could handle physically demanding tasks like construction and similar work. I could lift heavy blocks without difficulty. However, now it's challenging for me to do these tasks, especially due to the dust, like cement and others, which contributed to my illness. I can no longer perform this type of work, and I feel like I've lost that ability. Currently, I struggle with many everyday tasks."

Young man on TB treatment





"This photo brings back memories of the struggles I faced when my brother-in-law was suffering from TB. After his diagnosis, he became unable to walk, and we had to carry him everywhere. This is the photo I took reflecting that time."

Young man, caregiver

"Before I developed TB, I loved playing games that kept my body strong. However, after contracting TB, I can no longer do this because of severe shortness of breath."

Young woman who completed treatment



"In my photo, you can see the medication I was taking. I was very sick and coughing excessively. When my mom asked what was wrong, I told her about my severe cough and rib pain. She decided to take me to the hospital, suspecting it might be TB. After being tested at the hospital, I was diagnosed with TB. Surprisingly, I felt relieved to finally know what was wrong."

Young man on TB treatment



"I have come with my picture. You can see I was eating Malambe, this was hard. This shows the burden of being forced to eat something. Before suffering from TB, I did not like eating Malambe anyhow. But the time I was sick, particularly when I take medication, 10 to 15 minutes after, I feel nauseated. This makes me eat Malambe or else I could spit a lot. This brings discomfort to friends seeing me spit around. To avoid nausea, I just eat Malambe."

Young man on TB treatment



"When I was chosen to go to Livimbo school, they gave me very large tablets, which were too big for my age. These medications caused my legs to swell, and it became a real challenge for me to walk to Livimbo school, as I usually went there on foot. This photo captures the hardship I faced during that time."

Adolescent boy who completed TB treatment

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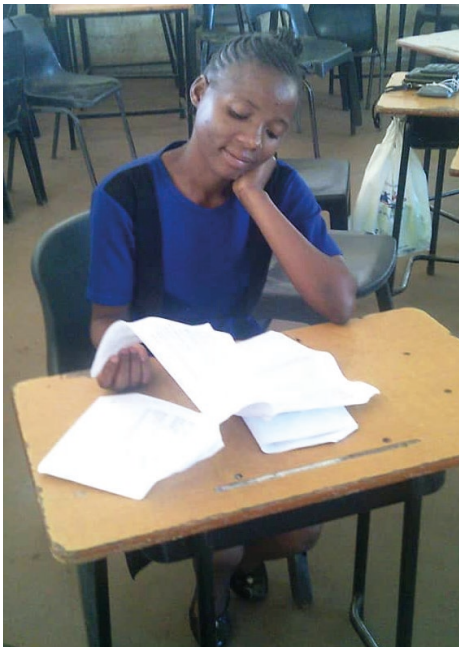


**THE ECONOMIC BURDEN
OF TB JEOPARDISES
THE FUTURE OF
YOUNG PEOPLE**

TB brought about severe economic challenges, affecting the financial stability of both young men and women and their families. Both genders highlighted **high costs** associated with TB diagnosis and care and the risk of incurring debts or forgoing treatment. TB **disrupted education** of young people, including those with the disease and the carers.

While the economic burden of TB was heavy for both genders, young women highlighted the broader impact on family finances, whereas young men were concerned with their personal contribution. Young men's narratives often focused on their inability to perform labour-intensive work and to support their families financially. As a result, they sold personal belongings and saw their businesses collapse and their families stay without food. Their **loss of employment** and earning power did not only affect their financial independence but also their sense of responsibility and self-worth.

Young women, on the other hand, discussed how TB disease **disrupted household finances** through increased medical expenses and reduced family income due to TB stigma.



"I was diagnosed with TB whilst I was still attending school, and it caused me to worry constantly. My friends would leave the classroom, but I stayed behind, unaware of what was wrong with me. I visited multiple hospitals, spending a significant amount of money before finally discovering that I had TB. Since I didn't know what I was dealing with, I often sat alone, reading or doing other things, while my friends distanced themselves from me."

Young woman who completed treatment

"This picture shows how we live at home. Trying to escort my brother-in-law to the hospital, transportation is always a problem. Sometimes we do not go to the hospital to receive the treatment because of transport."

Young man, caregiver



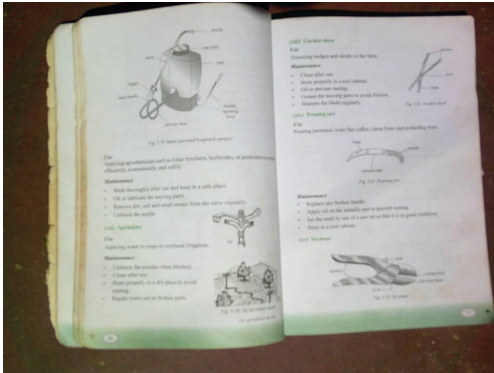
"These are schoolbooks. When I became ill, I had already taken my Form 4 exams in 2022 which I did not do well. In January 2023, due to my illness, I found myself repeating Form 3 instead of progressing to sit for the Form 4 exams which were scheduled for September."

Young woman who completed treatment



"This photo shows a bucket with water spilling out, symbolizing my life's journey. When I was healthy, I had a strong desire to return to school. I packed my certificate, despite its poor results, and planned to resume my studies. However, when I fell ill, I had to stop attending school and remained at home. The money my husband had saved for my education and exam fees was instead used for my medical care to help me recover. This bucket and water represent the loss of everything I had worked towards. My husband lost his job, and we have been facing significant challenges due to TB. It has caused considerable strain in our marriage and disrupted many aspects of our lives."

Young woman who completed treatment



"This picture represents my life before my brother became ill. I used to study late into the night or in the afternoon whenever I had free time. However, when he fell ill with TB and became bedridden, I took on the responsibility of caring for him. This included various tasks and responsibilities that left me exhausted, making it impossible to continue studying late at night or during the day when I had free time. My focus shifted entirely to caring for him, even during the afternoon hours."

Young man, caregiver

"This photo shows the secondary school I attended before my brother fell ill. While I was studying there, my brother, who used to provide financial support, became sick and was unable to work. This made it challenging for him to earn money while lying on a mat. It became difficult to pay school fees and to afford food. Eventually, we faced situations where we were sent home from school, and eventually, we had to stop attending altogether. I took on the responsibility of caring for him, and we endured a period of hardship together."

Young man, caregiver





"You can see from the picture, there is a plate with floor. On this photo, since my brother-in-law got sick, we found it difficult to find food. He was the breadwinner and stopped going to work. Finding food is hard, and also for me to eat at home it's problematic."

Young man, caregiver



"Before I got sick with TB, I could eat a variety of foods, as shown in the photo, including beans, vegetables, and eggplants. However, after becoming ill, I found it difficult to eat the same foods and became very selective. If the food I wanted wasn't available at home or we couldn't afford it, I would go into debt to get what I craved."

Young man who completed treatment



"This picture reminds me of how I was before being affected by TB. I was rearing a lot of chickens, but now the business has gone down because the one who had capital is not providing for the business as he is unable to walk now due to his illness."

Young man, caregiver

"The time I was not sick, people were coming to buy from our shop. After being sick and people hearing that doctors couldn't find anything, they started speculating that I was being used for ritual to boost the shop. This made them not to buy from our shop."

Young woman who completed treatment



"Before I became ill, I could take care of the farm animals without any difficulty. However, since falling ill, I am unable to perform this task."

Young man who completed treatment





"You can see ashes in the picture. Many people say I contracted TB from ashes. Most of the times when I cough amongst my friends, they would leave the place. When I go to work, I can't work without ashes, it's part of my work. So, this picture makes me worried because of the work I learnt to do. I want to stop, but when I think of it, what will I do if I stop. So, I am worried that maybe I chose the wrong profession. So, I am always complaining."

Young man on TB treatment

"As you can see my picture, this is me. Before I was diagnosed with TB, I had a studio for burning discs. After I was diagnosed with TB, the materials were no longer in use, and I had no support for accessing medication at the hospital. I decided to sell them so that the money could be used during my sickness. This made me to lose my studio materials."

Young man on TB treatment



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**TB CAUSES
EMOTIONAL AND
SOCIAL HARM TO
YOUNG PEOPLE**

The psycho-social impact of TB was profound for both young men and young women, who faced stigma, discrimination, and isolation. TB forced both young men and women to **give up hobbies** and activities they loved. Many felt **isolated from family and neglected by friends**. Whilst the significant emotional challenges were universal, the sources of their distress were at times different because of social expectations and responses towards them.

Young women often discussed the emotional distress caused by the reactions of their community and family members. **Community gossip**, like false accusations of promiscuity and rumours about the source of the disease, triggered shame and grief among young women with TB.

Some young men, on the other hand, struggled to come to terms with the disease, **denying their diagnosis** and neglecting treatment initially. The **loss of social and physical activities** that had been part of their identity triggered a sense of loss. Young men also reported experiencing **violence** as caregivers or because TB affected their performance.



"At our school we do sporting activities. I was the best football player. After being diagnosed with TB, whenever I played football, I experience shortness of breath and therefore could not run. So here in the picture I was admiring my friends playing football at school. I still want to play football, but I can't until now. This makes me to be worried. It's like I lost my chance to play football."

Adolescent boy who completed TB treatment

"This photo shows some fruits. I used to enjoy planting fruit trees, nurturing them by watering and caring for them. However, due to TB, I began to neglect my fruit trees, causing the fruits to dry up. It was disheartening for me because I have a deep love for fruits."

Young man on TB treatment



"As you see this picture, I used to wake up daily without knowing what I was suffering from. I could sit on the veranda thinking of what I could be suffering from. I also went to different hospitals. So, this picture shows I was a sad person before realizing what disease I was suffering from."

Young woman who completed TB treatment



"The time I suffered from TB, people did not show me love as you see on this photo. They deserted me. Others were afraid that they would contract the disease from me, while others thought I was suffering from unknown diseases. So many different stories. I was always alone and sad. I missed their love."

Young woman who completed TB treatment



"When I was ill, I lost a significant amount of weight, which made me very sad. At that point, I hadn't yet been diagnosed with TB. I was taking medication to alleviate my symptoms, but there were many rumours circulating. Some people claimed I had an abortion, while others ostracised me, assuming I was promiscuous and had contracted HIV/AIDS. This caused me a lot of distress, and I often found myself feeling sad and troubled. I frequently sat alone, reflecting on my situation."

Young woman who completed TB treatment

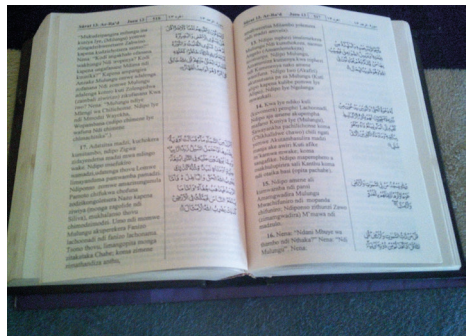


"After my grandmother was diagnosed with TB, most of the times I was alone. I was lonely like the way this woman is looking. My friends were not coming, and some used to say a lot of bad things. So, when I took this picture, I was recalling when I was alone. I was living with sadness because I didn't have friends to chat with."

Young woman, caregiver

"Before I got sick, I was able to go to Madrasa (Islamic school) to read Qur'an. After being diagnosed with TB, people at Madrasa were not willing to associate with me. So, I decided to read the Qur'an at home."

Adolescent girl on TB treatment



"When I was diagnosed with TB, I couldn't believe it at first. So, I was very confused. I used to drink alcohol and engage in other habits. Initially, I didn't take my medications properly, but after receiving counselling, I stopped those behaviours and began following my treatment regimen correctly."

Young man on TB treatment



"The time I was not sick, I could ride any bicycle I find on the rank. But after being diagnosed with TB, people denied me their bicycles saying I was going to transmit the TB disease to them."

Young woman who completed TB treatment

"The time I was taking care of the patient suffering from TB, I could not go to school and if I went, I was sent back because I didn't have school fees. I couldn't find school fees. I couldn't learn with my friends. Because of this, I was a sad person because didn't know what my colleagues were learning."

Young man, caregiver



"I have come with this photo. The time I was suffering from TB, I was wearing a pink big shirt which I used to put on before being diagnosed with TB. At that time, I was fat. It became too big because I lost weight. I used to be in the sun most of the time near the Mosque before people knew that I was suffering from TB. So, when people came to pray, they thought I was a street kid and there to beg for help. They used to give me money. That was not my intention. They felt sorry for me and when I recall, it was a sad situation."

Adolescent boy who completed TB treatment





"You can see that on my picture there are pots. These are the sets of pots I was able to make before I got sick. But falling sick, I can't even make two sets of pots. I can only make one set. But I cannot manage because of my sickness. So, when I see these pots, I feel sorry that back then I was able to make them, but now I cannot. As a result, I am sad and depressed a lot."

Young man on TB treatment

"I took this picture of me reading a Bible. That time, before I got sick, I was able to do fasting. After I got sick, I was told that if a person is on medical treatment, you are not supposed to do fasting. I believe that when a person is fasting, he gets answers to what you want that you cannot get. But through prayer and fasting, God intervenes and answers your prayers faster. Here I was reading the Bible over a story of fasting. When I sit and think, I know that if I fast, I will receive my answers. Here I am sad because now that am sick, I cannot do fasting."

Young man on TB treatment



"On the picture, you can see I am smiling but with reservations. What affects me a lot is that I don't understand if it's really me, the same person who got ill. At first it was like hearsays. I still don't understand that it's me passing through this situation. But I encourage myself to laugh, like you can see from my face - I am laughing but not with all my heart, laughing but also with so many thoughts. Two things happening at the same time."

Young man on TB treatment



"You can see on my picture I am taking medication. Before I suffered from TB, I had good relationship with my friends and family members. We slept in the same room with my family members. After I was diagnosed with TB, all family members did not want to associate with me. I started sleeping alone in the room. This made me sad."

Young man on TB treatment



"Before I got sick with TB, my friends, relatives, and I would cook and eat together. However, after my TB diagnosis, I had to use separate cooking utensils and eat alone. This photo captures that change in my life."

Young man on TB treatment

"As you can see on the picture, there is a deserted house. The time my brother-in-law got sick, no one has visited our house including our relatives despite their knowledge over his illness. So, I get worried that a person is sick and no one is willing to cheer him up."

Young man, caregiver

"I have come with this picture. Back home, I liked playing football as I said in my earlier picture. After being diagnosed with TB, when I play football, I experience shortness of breath and start vomiting. My friends no longer come home to play football with me because I was the owner of the ball and they are afraid that they will get TB."

Young man, caregiver





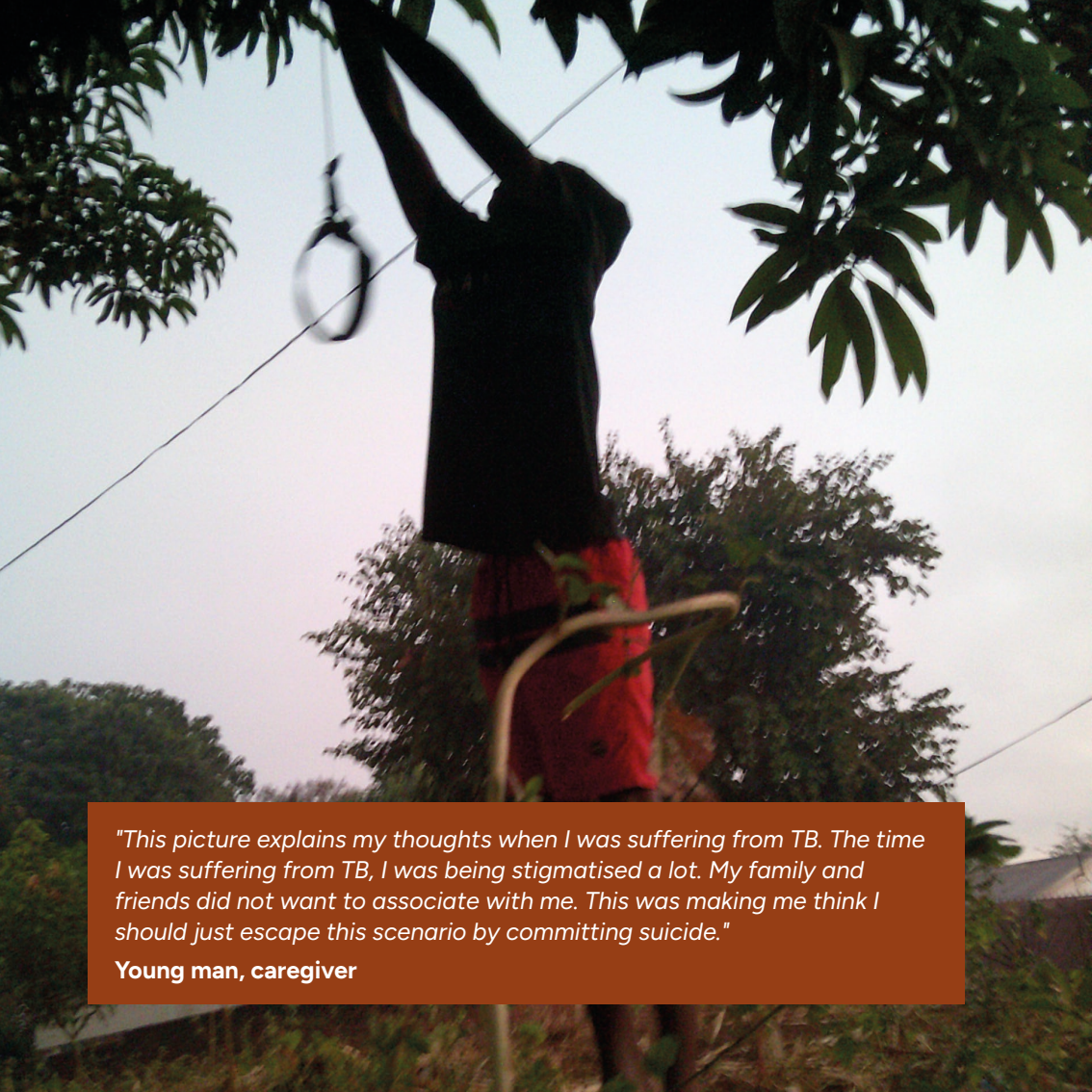
"This picture reminds me of what I was passing through when my in-law was sick. Because we visited the hospital several times without identifying the disease, some people were saying that this disease might be associated with witchcraft. This made us start believing and seeking help from witch doctors."

Young man, caregiver

"See this photo? This was the spot where we spent our break time at school. I used to meet all my friends here, and we'd chat together. However, when I started coughing frequently, my friends would run away, fearing I would spread my cough to them. Eventually, they told me to stay away from this area. During breaks, I could see them sitting there, but whenever I tried to join them, they would all run away. Now, whenever I pass by this place, I'm reminded of how my friends treated me."

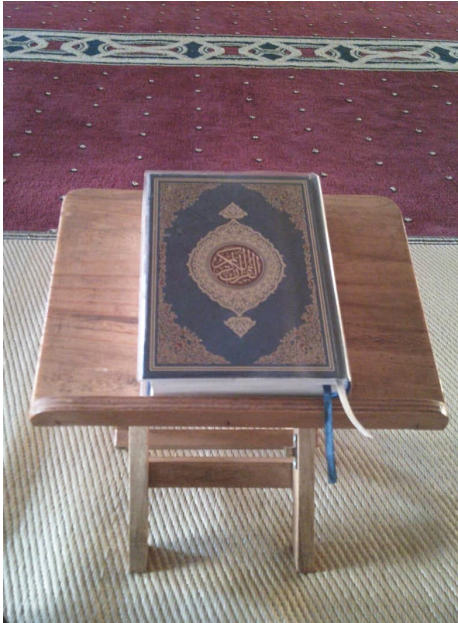
Young man on TB treatment





"This picture explains my thoughts when I was suffering from TB. The time I was suffering from TB, I was being stigmatised a lot. My family and friends did not want to associate with me. This was making me think I should just escape this scenario by committing suicide."

Young man, caregiver



"When I became very sick, I was attending Madrasa. During that time, students who memorised the material but failed to recite it to the Sheikh were punished. Due to my illness and shortness of breath, I couldn't read as much, which he perceived as a failure. As a result, he would beat me and call me various names. I also struggled to memorise the Qur'an."

Adolescent boy who completed TB treatment

"This picture reminds me of the time I was taking care of the sick by giving him medication. He used to shout at me, saying not so kind words to me. When I recall such, I feel sorry and get depressed as to why he shouted at me when I was taking care of him."

Young man, caregiver



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**POSITIVE EXPERIENCES
AND RELIGION HELP
YOUNG PEOPLE
COPE WITH TB**

Despite the hardships, both young men and women found moments of positivity during their TB journey, often rooted in the support they received from family and friends. Both young women and men found joy and hope in their **physical recovery**, celebrating the gradual return to activities like sports or work, which helped restore their sense of normalcy and strength. Both young women and men found strength in **religion and spirituality** to cope with TB.

Social support was crucial for both young men and women, though they tended to highlight different aspects of their journey. Young women cherished the **emotional and practical support**. They felt valued and connected during a difficult time through the affection, gifts, special food, and help with transport they received from their loved ones. Young men received **encouragement** to pursue their education and vocational training alongside the practical support they got.



"As you can see on the picture, I started taking TB treatment, I am now fine. I have more energy. I am able to climb steps but then I could not. I can even run now."

Young woman who completed TB treatment



"While I suffer from TB, what makes me happy is when I read the Bible and sometimes watching TV."

Young man on TB treatment



"This photo brings back memories of when my brother-in-law was diagnosed with TB, and mobility was extremely difficult. However, after coming here, moving around became much easier. This picture symbolises happiness, particularly in relation to improved mobility, which is now effortless."

Young man, caregiver

"Before I was diagnosed with TB, I was thinking it's difficult to get cured from TB. But after I was diagnosed with TB and started taking medications accordingly, I now believe that TB can be cured."

Young man, caregiver





"The time I was taking care of the sick, I had time to read the Qur'an so that he should return to good health. I was encouraged to do good."

Young man, caregiver

"Despite our family having been affected by TB, we didn't stop believing in God. We still go to church despite that the patient has difficulties in walking to church. So, we try to go with him."

Young man, caregiver





"The time I was sick, I didn't have energy. I could not even walk to go and collect my medication. However, there were some people who showed me love and were doing all these things for me."

**Adolescent girl
who completed TB
treatment**

"You can all see this photo. After suffering from TB, I was a weak person. I could not do anything for myself, for example cooking, playing football and the like. Everything was being done for me by my relatives. They used to give me food, drugs, and other things to make me happy. So, this picture shows happiness because I used to be happy with the love they were showing me."

Young man on TB treatment





"When I fell ill, friends and relatives would bring me gifts, including dolls like these, to cheer me up and ensure I felt remembered. This symbolises moments of happiness during that time."

Young woman who completed TB treatment



"When I was ill, I often requested that people buy me doughnuts, and they would fulfil my request. I really enjoyed eating doughnuts."

Young woman who completed TB treatment

"The time we were going to get medication from the hospital, we lacked transportation. Some relatives gave us this bicycle so that it should ease transportation going to the hospital."

Adolescent girl who completed TB treatment



"You can see this photo here, it depicts the period when my relative was ill and the difficulties we faced in moving him. We received this wheelchair at the hospital to make it easier to transport him. Now, I am relieved that I no longer have to struggle to carry him and manage everything myself."

Young man, caregiver



"This picture shows how my brother-in-law encouraged me to still go to school despite being sick. He is the one who seeks school fees for me. Even though he is ill and it's difficult to find basic necessities at home, he still encourages me to work hard in school."

Young man, caregiver

"I took this picture where you can see a person sewing. That time before being diagnosed with TB, I had dreams to learn sewing and I started. But after I got sick, I was not able to operate the sewing machine. In other words, I was feeling numbness in my lower extremities. Despite that, I still go and learn sewing machine, and they encourage me a lot. As you can see in the picture, the person is telling me that I should not be discouraged."

Young man on TB treatment



RECOMMENDATIONS OF ACTIONS FOR CHANGE

FROM YOUNG PEOPLE AFFECTED BY TUBERCULOSIS

During the action workshop, study participants and stakeholders explored various ways for improving TB services among young people affected by TB in Malawi, which included:

STRENGTHENING TB SYSTEMS AND SERVICES

- Integrate mental health services in TB treatment programmes to ensure holistic care for young men and women and address gendered experiences of stigma and discrimination.
- Enhance and improve accessibility of physiotherapy and rehabilitation services during and post-treatment for TB to aid recovery and well-being among young men and women.
- Provide nutritional support to ensure a robust diet during treatment, thereby facilitating adherence to TB medication.
- Increase investments for mobile clinics and community outreach to bring TB services closer to adolescents and young adults through outreaches to schools, workplaces, and social venues of young men and women as well as decentralised drug distribution points.



PROMOTING YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AND EMPOWERMENT

- Establish youth platforms to facilitate peer support, advocacy, and information sharing among young women and young men affected by TB.
- Ensure economic empowerment and social protection to mitigate against the loss of education, employment, and income among young men and women and to maintain financial stability of their families while undergoing treatment for TB.
- Provide counselling and legal support for young people newly diagnosed with TB to protect their rights and dignity and investigate all forms of discrimination against young men and women affected by TB.



ENABLING COLLABORATION BETWEEN KEY STAKEHOLDERS

- Develop comprehensive TB policies and multi-stakeholder collaborations that consider gender and youth-specific issues in TB programmes and services.
- Deliver stigma-reduction TB awareness campaigns through community and media programmes to counter gendered misinformation in communities and empower young women and men.



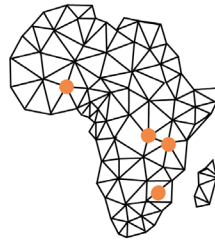
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The research team extends our sincere gratitude to the young participants of this photovoice study in Lilongwe, Malawi. We appreciate their commitment, time, enthusiasm, and openness in sharing their experiences of the impact of tuberculosis in their lives and generating their ideas for a youth-friendly TB response.

We also thank Bwaila District Hospital, Lilongwe District Health Office, the National Tuberculosis and Leprosy Elimination Program (NTLEP), Ministry of Gender, Community Development and Social Welfare (MoGCDSW), Partners in Hope, Radio Alinafe, JournAIDS, and Facilitators of Community Transformation for their support and guidance throughout this study.

The research team comprised Dr Azariah Benjamin Mosiwa and Aduino Anyiam-Osigwe (AFIDEP), Dr Luke Banda (MLW), Laura Munthali (independent research consultant), Rebecca Karimu Mtambo (NTLEP), and Hannah Kisyombe (MoGCDSW), with technical support from Dr Beate Ringwald (LSTM) as well as Dr Leyla Abdullahi and Eliya Zulu (AFIDEP).

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