

Challenge TB

Malawi

*Celebrating 5
Years of Success*



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE




CHALLENGE TB

FAST

Finding TB
Actively, Separating
Safely, and Treating
Effectively



A man with short dark hair and a mustache, wearing a blue vest over a white collared shirt, stands outdoors. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background shows a building with windows, trees, and a clear blue sky. The lighting is bright, suggesting a sunny day.

Health Promoters are positioned in the outpatient departments of hospitals where they provide health talks and screen visitors for TB symptoms.



Mangochi General Hospital

FAST promoters identify a woman with a cough. She is taken to the TB office, given a mask, registered, and asked to provide a sample which is taken for testing in the nearby laboratory.



“If you wait too long it is harder to treat TB, get tested as soon as you can, and if you are diagnosed with TB take your drugs without fear, you will get cured, I am the proof.”

Lapken Banda - Cured TB patient
& FAST promoter.

Visitors with TB symptoms are separated and fast-tracked for testing and diagnosis.



FAST takes place in three district hospitals: Chikwawa, Mangochi, Machinga, and the central hospital in Zomba.



10 dedicated FAST promoters work in Zomba General Hospital.



FAST was implemented from May 2018 to June 2019.

The total number of adult OPD attendees was 219,872, out of which 11,190 were identified with presumptive TB - meeting the national target of 5%.

The total number of TB patients notified was 1,279 - a yield of 11%



AREA 25 - LILONGWE

Sputum collection booth at Area 25
Health Center in Lilongwe.



New whirlybird fans provide efficient and cheap infection control.



UVGI units are used to kill TB bacteria in high-risk spaces for TB transmission in all 28 district hospitals in Malawi.



Staff have been trained on 'Finding and Treating the Missing Persons with TB' (FTMP)

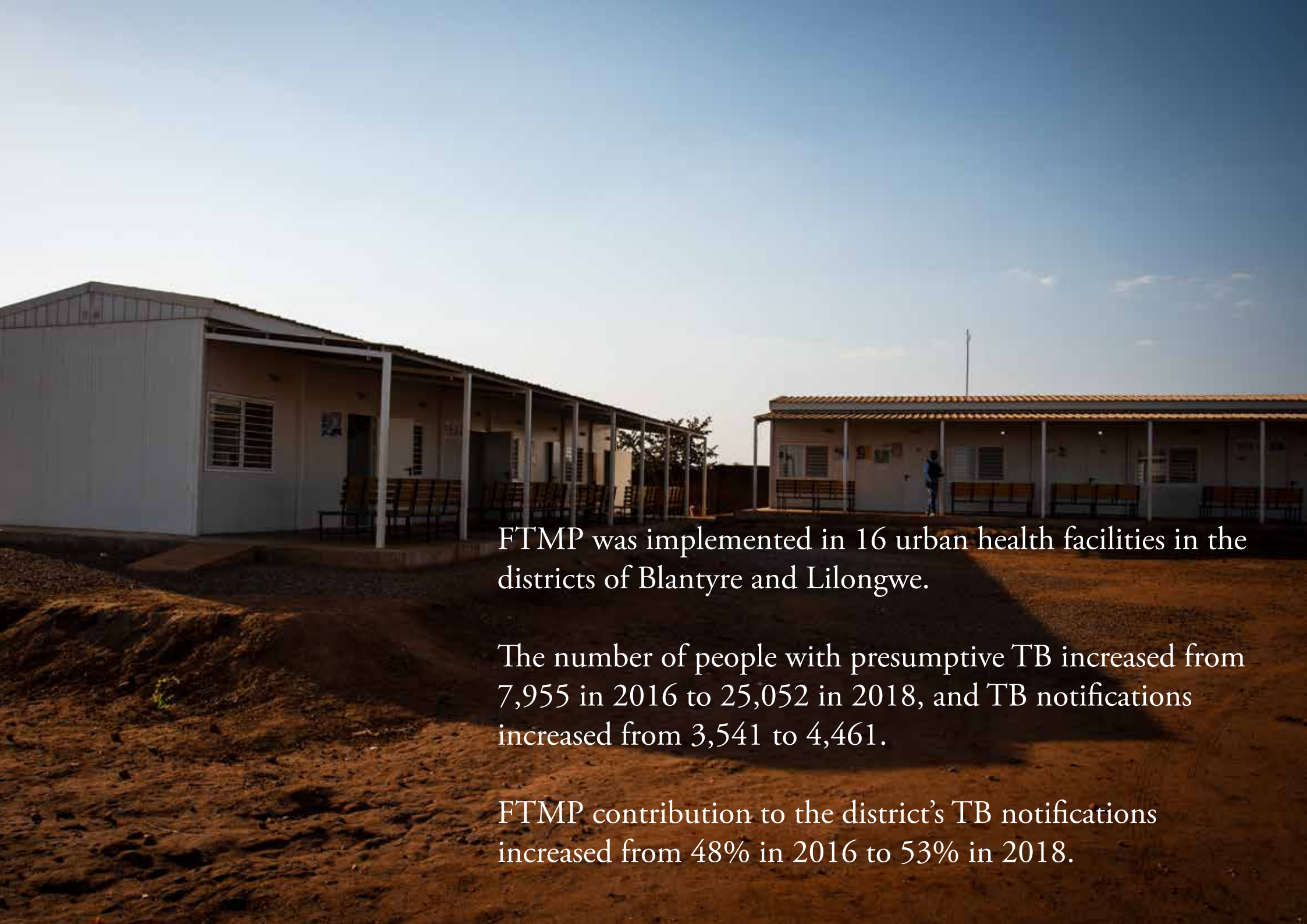


iLED fluorescent microscopy reduces the time necessary for slide examination.



GeneXpert allows for faster bacteriologically confirmed diagnosis and testing for rifampicin resistance.





FTMP was implemented in 16 urban health facilities in the districts of Blantyre and Lilongwe.

The number of people with presumptive TB increased from 7,955 in 2016 to 25,052 in 2018, and TB notifications increased from 3,541 to 4,461.

FTMP contribution to the district's TB notifications increased from 48% in 2016 to 53% in 2018.

PRISONS

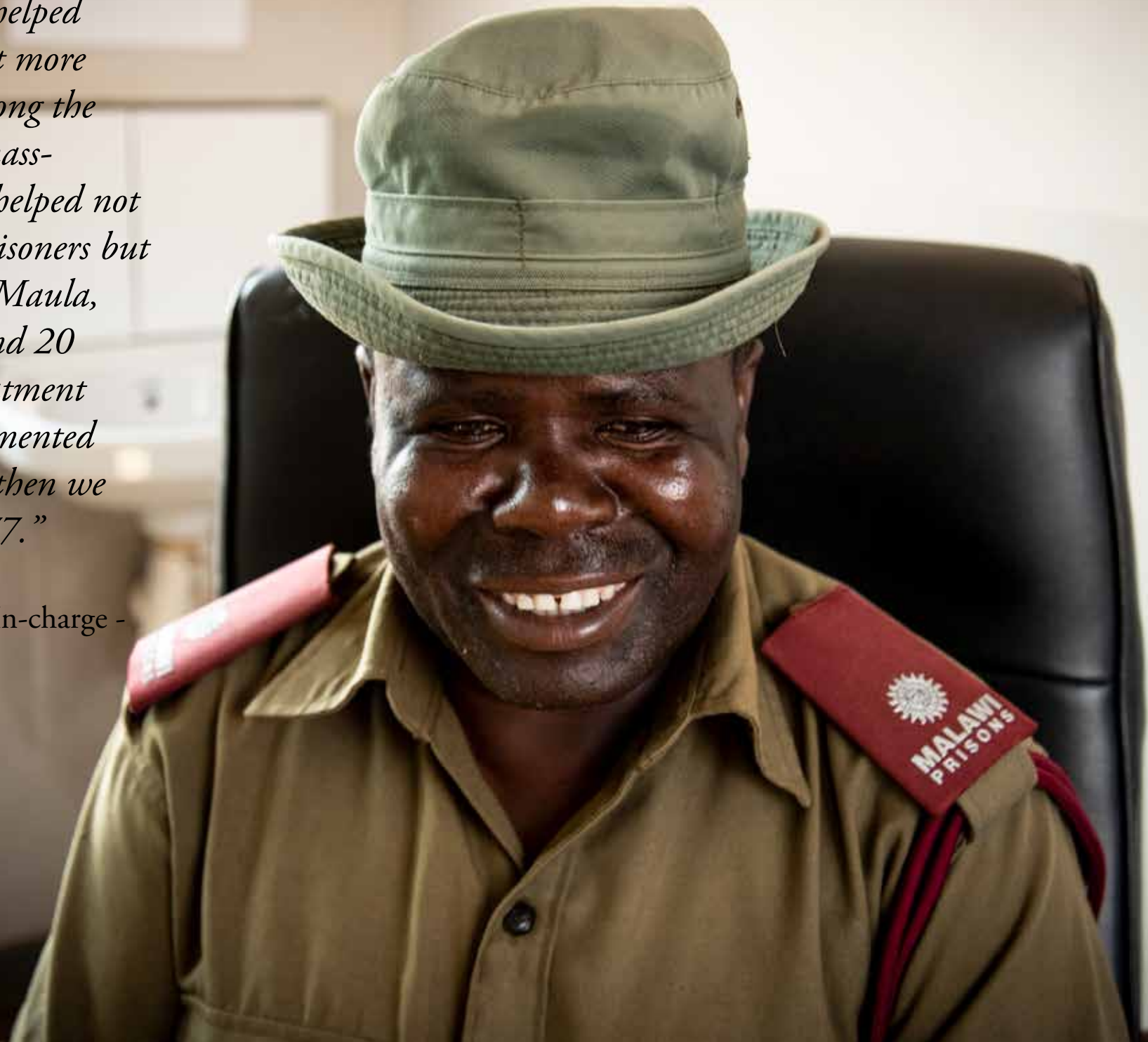
Mass-screening and TB awareness raising takes place in 10 prisons.

Chichiri in Blantyre, Maula in Lilongwe, and in Chikwawa, Dedza, Kasungu, Mulanje, Nkhotakota, Mzuzu, Zomba, and Mzimba.



“Challenge TB helped us find and treat more TB patients among the prisoners. The mass-screenings have helped not only to screen prisoners but staff as well. In Maula, there were around 20 prisoners on treatment before we implemented mass-screening, then we found another 77.”

Chikadza - Clinic In-charge -
Maula Prison.





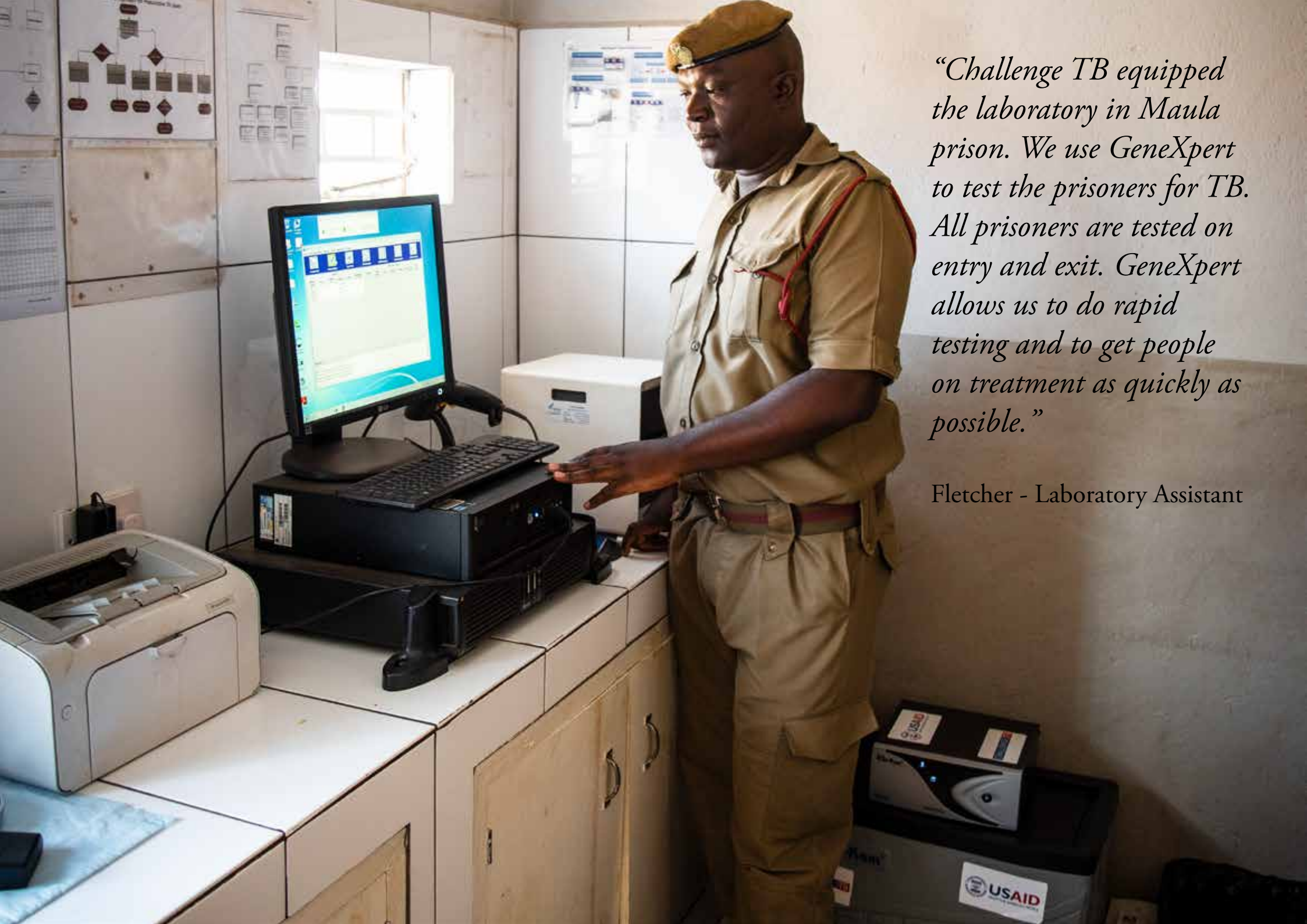
Kodi TB imafata bwanji?

Ukwaka wa TB unafuata kwa njia ya hewa. TB ni kawaida, lakini kuna njia za kuzuia. Kuzuia TB ni kuzuia ukwaka wa hewa. Kuzuia TB ni kuzuia ukwaka wa hewa. Kuzuia TB ni kuzuia ukwaka wa hewa.

Peer Educators teach prisoners about TB

Nelson was diagnosed with TB in prison, but thanks to screening he was diagnosed, treated, and cured.





“Challenge TB equipped the laboratory in Maula prison. We use GeneXpert to test the prisoners for TB. All prisoners are tested on entry and exit. GeneXpert allows us to do rapid testing and to get people on treatment as quickly as possible.”

Fletcher - Laboratory Assistant

Prisoners work as
peer educators and
in the prison clinic

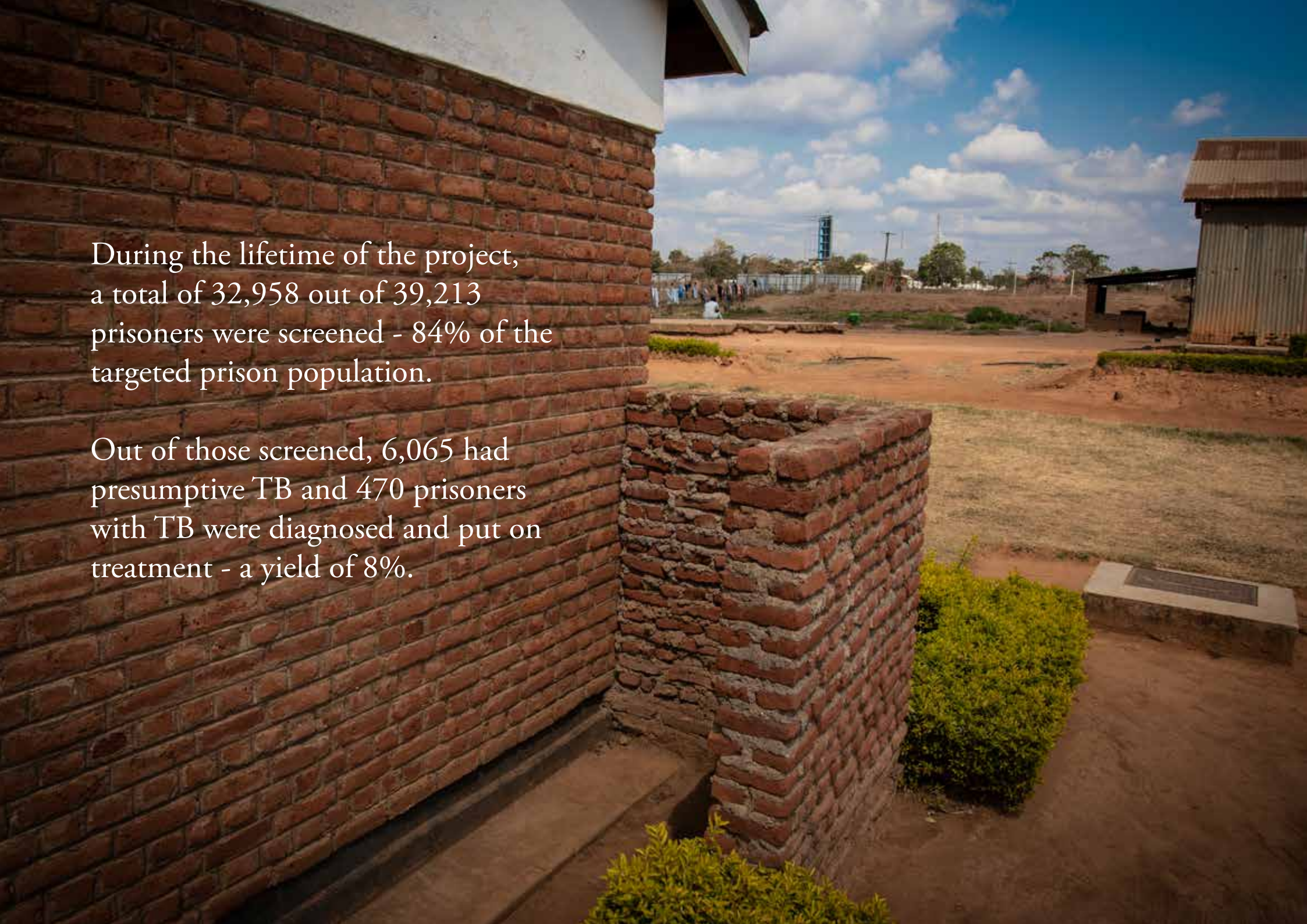


Andrew takes his job as a health promoter very seriously. He teaches new prisoners about the symptoms of TB, how it is treated, and how to avoid infection.





Aaron was diagnosed with TB three months ago when he arrived at Maua Prison as a remand prisoner. He had no idea that he had TB. He is now on treatment and progressing well.

A photograph showing a corner of a brick building. The wall is made of reddish-brown bricks. In the background, there is an outdoor area with dry ground, some green bushes, and a building with a corrugated metal roof. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds.

During the lifetime of the project,
a total of 32,958 out of 39,213
prisoners were screened - 84% of the
targeted prison population.

Out of those screened, 6,065 had
presumptive TB and 470 prisoners
with TB were diagnosed and put on
treatment - a yield of 8%.

LABORATORIES

The new containerized (BSL-3) culture laboratory in Zomba was procured with Global Fund support and installed and equipped by Challenge TB.

THE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE BSL3 CONTAINERIZED
LABORATORY HAVE BEEN FUNDED
BY THE UNITED STATES AGENCY
FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID)
THROUGH THE CHALLENGE TB PROJECT



USAID

CHALLENGE TB



DRUG-RESISTANT TB





Benadetta was diagnosed with XDR-TB and her young son Tokozani has TB too.

When contact investigation was carried out, Benadetta's 11-year-old daughter Elizabeth was found to have TB.



Like Elizabeth, her twin sister Christina, is also on treatment for TB, both are doing well.





Abigail is the only child in the family not diagnosed with TB.

Sadiq Mbwana visits by the family every day by bicycle to make sure they take their medicine.





Benadetta is being treated with the new drug Bedaquiline.



By December 2018, all 28 districts in Malawi had started implementation of the Shorter Treatment Regimen and Individualized Treatment Regimens for patients with drug-resistant TB.



Rahima Juma is on the newly introduced shorter treatment regimen, she has no side-effects and is improving every day.



The number of patients found and treated with multidrug-resistant TB increased from 89 in 2017 to 126 in 2018.

The 126 cases notified in 2018 represent 106% of the annual target.





Out the 107 MDR-TB patients initiated on treatment in 2018, 39 patients were initiated on the shorter regimen, 24 on individualized treatment, and 44 on the longer conventional regimen.

Challenge TB closeout meeting
29th July 2019 - Lilongwe



kukhosomola
TB imapha!
Doctor paralysed from drug-resistant tuberculosis
Mumbai

Kulimbana ndi chifuwa
cha TB - Fighting
Against TB

Photos & Text - Tristan Bayly
www.challengetb.org
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