

Malawi

October 21-27, 2012



Country Overview



Population: 16.3 million
Size: 118,484 square kms
Borders: Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia
Official Languages: English, Chichewa
GDP per capita: \$900
Life Expectancy: 52 years





Justice System in Malawi

- Courts:
 - Supreme Court of Appeals
 - High Courts
 - Magistrate Judges
- Legal Representation:
 - Department of Public Prosecutions
 - Legal Aid
 - Private Attorneys
- Prisons: 23



Legal and Logistical Challenges

- Lack of legal training
 - Prosecutors
 - Defense counsel
 - Judges
- Lack of legal assistance for prisoners
- Backlog of cases leads to long remand periods
- Judiciary support staff strikes
- Missing or incomplete prisoner files
- Severe overcrowding
- Fuel shortage





NU Law Clinic Work

- Assistance to Legal Aid on homicide trials
- Mental Health Workshop
 - Malawi's Draft Mental Health Bill
 - Convention on the Rights of the Disabled
 - International Best Practices in Legislation
 - Documenting Prisoners
 - Mental Health Assessments
- Workshop on State and Shadow Reporting before UN Treaty bodies for the Malawi Human Rights Commission, Ministry of Justice and NGOs



NU Law Clinic Work (cont.)

- Presentation to village mediators on international human rights law
- Juvenile Bail Applications
- Appeals on behalf of death row clients post-Kafantayeni (juvenile appeal, Phambala appeal, Kuchande appeal)
- Mitigation Investigations for appeal
- Camp Court
- Re-sentencing hearings for Kafantayeni prisoners

Camp Court: Kasungu Prison



The Legal Team

Camp Court



Magistrate



Police Prosecutor



Defense Counsel

Camp Court: The Result



Camp Court: The Result (cont.)



Meeting with Justice Twea



Goodbye, Malawi

