

Malawi's Social Impact Incubator- Accelerate 2020 Graduates are Fighting for Fairness

The Social Impact Incubator Malawi- SII Malawi, has been running an annual capacity building and status quo challenging program since 2016. This year, despite the uncertainties of the global pandemic, SII Malawi, amped up their offering and created a blended learning SII-Accelerate program, which focused on enhancing the impact of 12 sector agnostic organisations from across Malawi.

Pilirani Kumasewera, CEO of Padziwe an organisation that specialises in providing digital learning tools, is one of this year's SII-Accelerate graduates. Migrating mid-program to a fully online format was relatively easy for Kumasewera's award winning team of digital content producing specialists. Padziwe joined the SII-Accelerate program with the aim of creating links to stakeholders to further invest in digital educational access for all.

"We are fighting for equal access to education, especially for learners from disadvantaged contexts." Their products and services target schools, teachers and, most importantly, low-income students. "We want every student to be able to understand what they are studying, pass and aim high for the future they dream of having", explains Kumasewera, who also calls for all Malawians to demand better quality education for our youth. The Padziwe team believes that creating inclusive and widely accessible digital learning materials will take us further towards that goal. Beatrice Mateyo, Executive Director of Coalition for the Empowerment of Women and Girls CEWAG echos the sentiment of Malawian unity in voice and development goals. CEWAG's work is focused on fighting for equal access, promoting the rights of women



CEWAG team showing their commitment to gender equality



Padziwe Team



Zayane Creations

and girls through advocacy, coalition building, and active citizenship. "I often describe SII as an opportunity for local leaders to build on each other's strengths and networks to achieve maximum impact. As we fight for fair access, fair opportunities and fair returns for women and girls, we need such networks to embolden

us". Mateyo notes their key challenges as access to various resources from talent in the form of willing and able volunteers, to more citizens who are also willing to stand behind them and drive forward the fight for every Malawian to enjoy their human rights.

Her fellow graduate Eunice



Eunice Banda - Zayane Creations founder



CEWAG ED training construction workers in Karonga

Chimphoyo-Banda, Founder; and Director of Operations and Human Resources Manager for Zayane Creations also proudly fights for inclusive and protective gender sensitive access. Zayane Creations promotes improved access to diverse social services and opportunities for all women- and especially those who have been victims of gender based violence. As a survivor who experienced GBV at age 15 herself; Chimphoyo-Banda faced shame, poverty, isolation, blame and hopelessness during a venerable age. She has built Zayane Creations as a safe space to give others the opportunity to rebuild their lives through education and income generating vocational skills. "My own experiences inspired me to give similar opportunities

to survivors of GBV and other struggles highlighted above. I love being a part of this fight for fairness because it is an important principle that makes sure that everyone, especially the vulnerable are more protected in our societies. It also encourages me and I believe others too, to develop leadership, respect, responsibility, ownership and trust by having a common goal for good. In this fight for fairness that we are in as Malawi's social Impact leaders, we need the country to join as we in our different ways promote justice, and fair opportunities to thrive for all".

Meet more of SII- Accelerates 2020 Graduates this week by following us @SIIMalawi.

