



**Transforming Malawi through Higher
Education: NCHE Insights
by
Ambumulire N. Phiri, PhD**

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Presentation Overview

Malawi's journey in transforming higher education through the work of the NCHE, but within the context of the African Union Agenda 2063 and the Malawi 2063, which positions human capital as a foundation for an inclusive, self-reliant and prosperous nation. The presentation will cover:

- The Mandate of the NCHE
- Country Context and Demographics
- NCHE's Role in System Transformation
- Strategic Reforms and Achievement
- Strategic Challenges and Policy Recommendations
- Conclusion



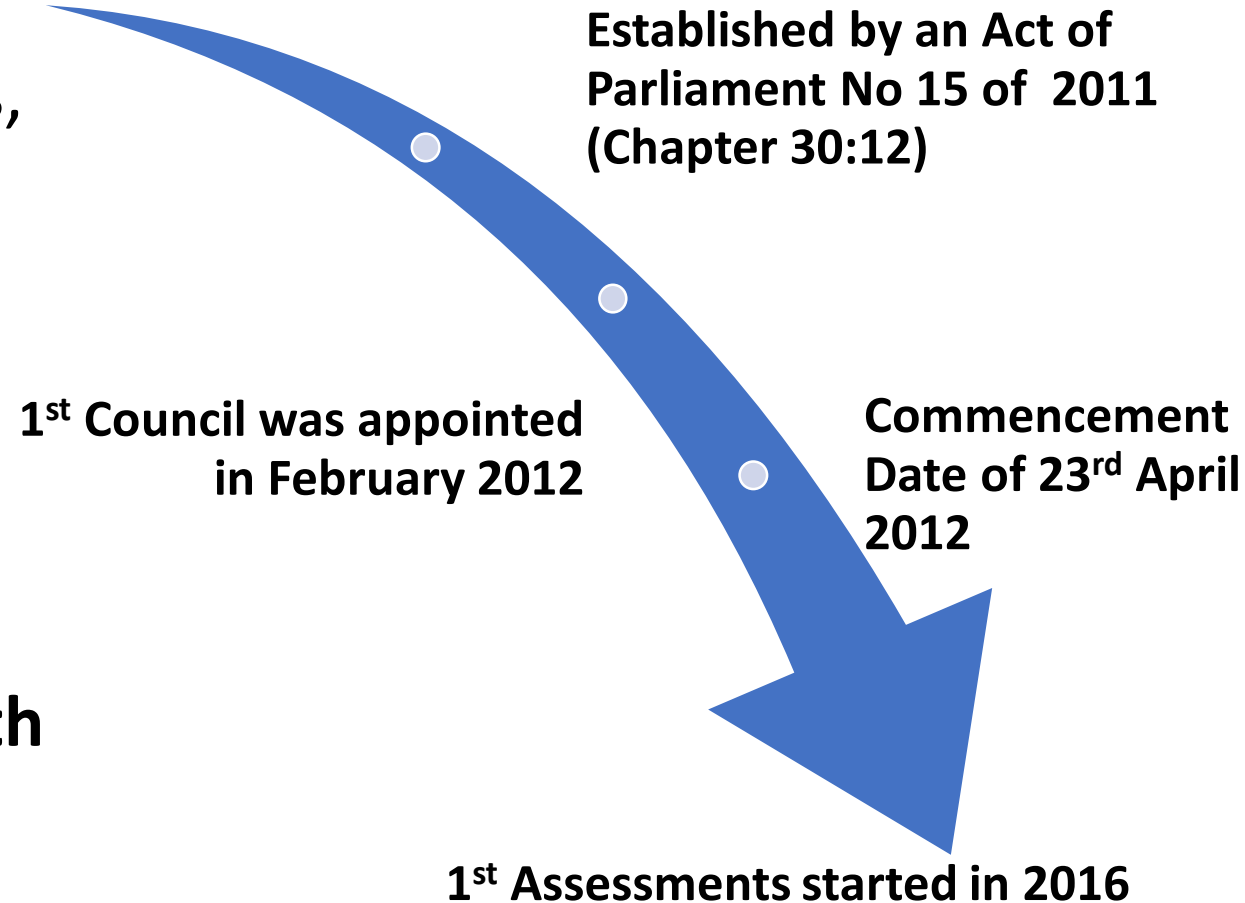
Establishment of NCHE



A Statutory Corporation (Fully Subvented)

A 13 Member Council includes: Vice Chancellors, Seasoned HE Experts, Industry representatives, and Government as ex officio.

This mix ensures that our decisions are **credible, inclusive, and aligned with national priorities.**



Mandate

**To regulate higher education in Malaŵi
(NCHE Act No 15 of 2011)**

Mission

To promote quality, accessible, relevant and inclusive higher education and training in Malaŵi through use of best practices in higher education regulation.

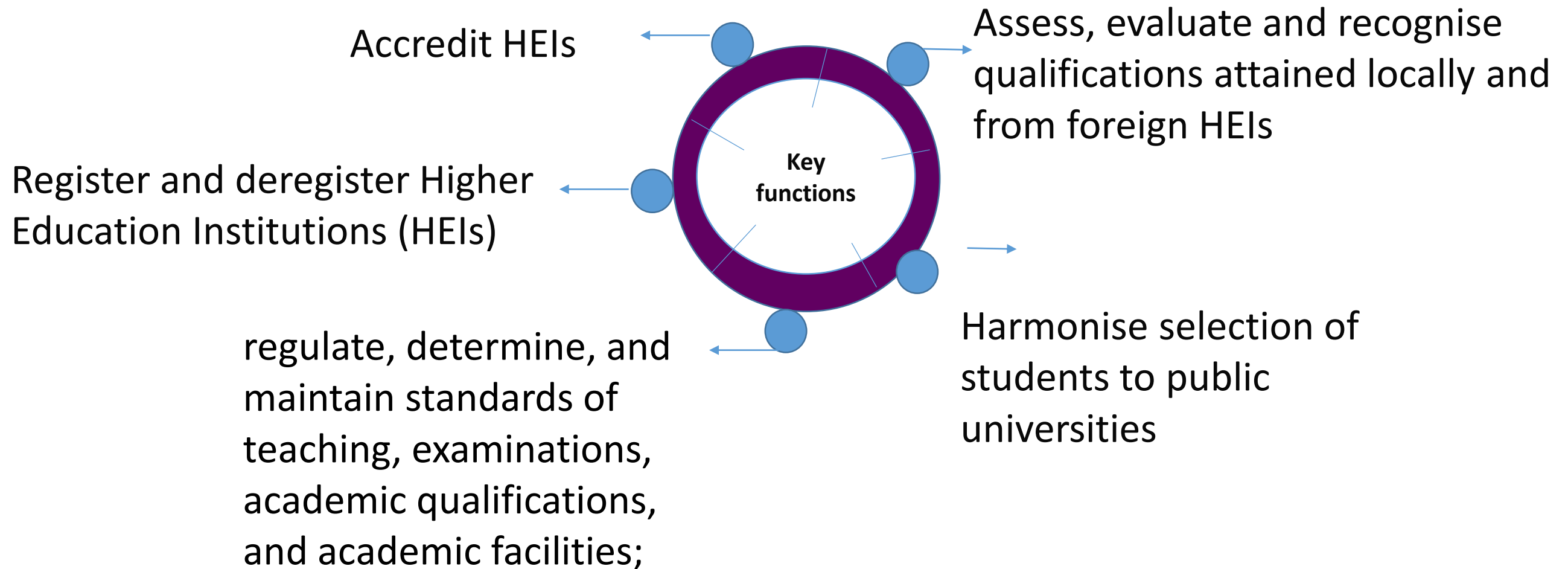
Vision

To be a higher education regulator which supports systematic growth and excellence of higher education institutions in Malaŵi.

Core values

Integrity, Transparency,
Accountability, Efficiency,
Team spirit, Service-centered

Key Functions of NCHE



Other Functions of NCHE



- Develop a national qualifications framework that is compatible with regional and international standards;
- Represent the interests of the Malawian higher education regionally and internationally;
- Monitor the implementation of international agreements concerning higher education;
- ▶ Promote international cooperation and facilitate exchange in higher education; and
- ▶ Advise the Minister on all matters of higher education.

Country Context and Demographics

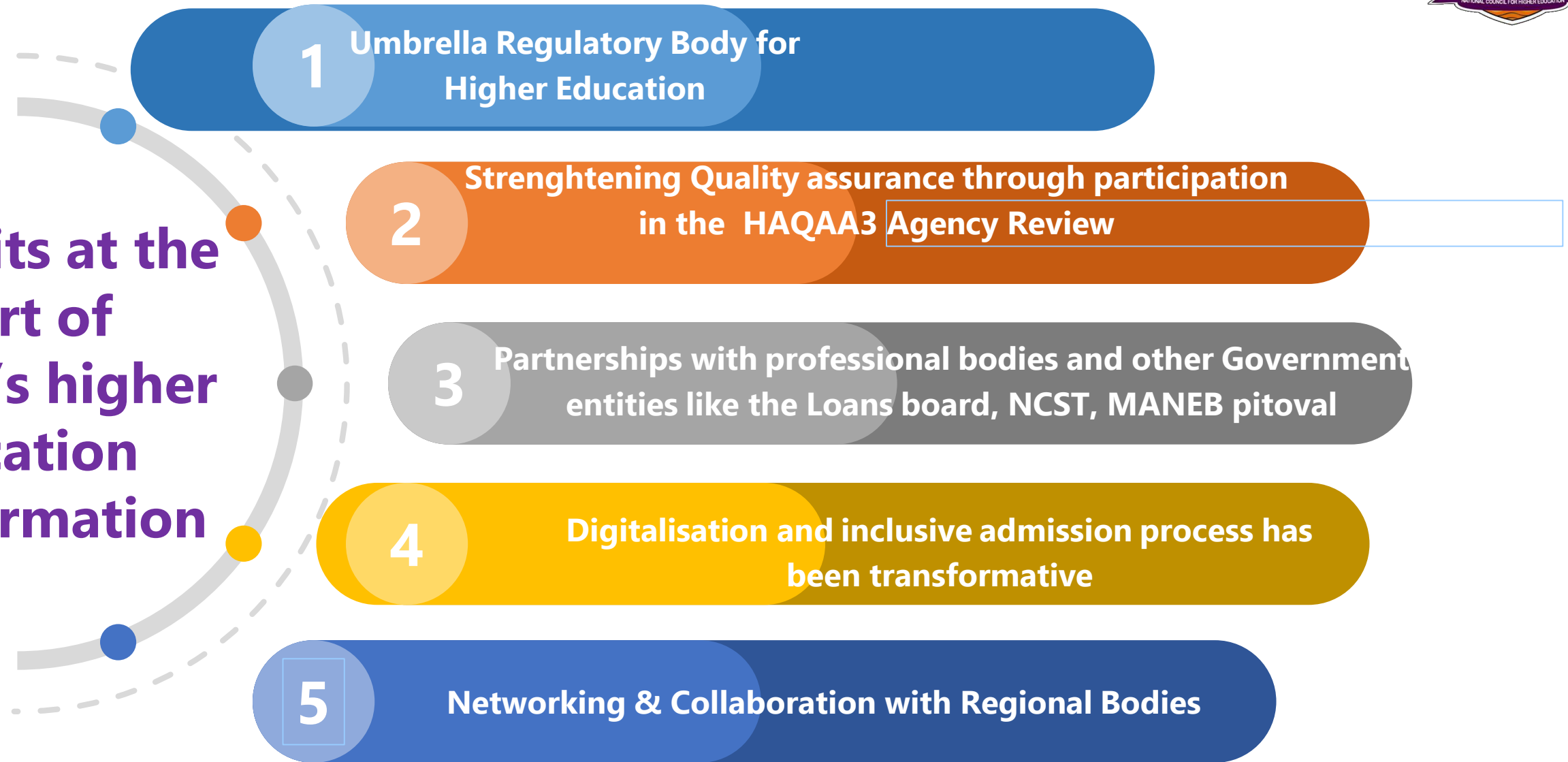


- Malawi is located in the Southeastern part of Africa, Landlocked
- Bordered by Tanzania, Mozambique and Zambia
- 22 Million population estimated for 2025
- Youthful population, majority under 25 with a growing demand for tertiary education, vocational training

NCHE'S ROLE IN HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION



NCHE sits at the heart of Malawi's higher Education transformation



Challenges to Transformation

- Despite progress, challenges remain:
 - Delays in finalising the Malawi Qualifications Framework, which is critical for coherence and recognition
 - Persistent gender gaps, particularly in STEM fields
 - Fragmented data environments limiting evidence-based planning
 - Significant investments required for digital infrastructure, staff upskilling, and innovation systems

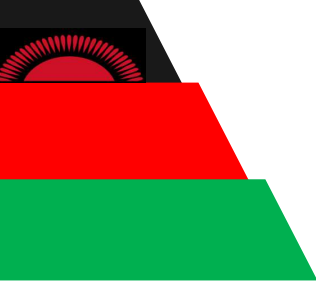
Strategic Direction & Policy Recommendations

- To accelerate transformation, NCHE continues to focus on:
 - Finalising the Malawi Qualifications Framework
 - Strengthening digital systems for evidence-based regulation
 - Advancing Education 5.0 principles to link learning with industry and innovation
 - Expanding research and innovation pipelines through NCST and private sector partnerships
 - Promoting gender equity in enrolment,
 - Fostering regional collaboration for shared learning and research

Conclusion



- ▶ Malawi's experience shows that regulatory bodies can be powerful catalysts for higher education transformation when equipped with strong systems, partnerships, and aligned policies.
- ▶ Since 2014, NCHE has strengthened Malawi's higher education ecosystem through domestic reforms and regional collaboration.
- ▶ We believe that as Africa pursues Agenda 2063, coordinated regulation, digital transformation, and investment in research will be essential for improving the dynamics of our higher education systems
- ▶ Malawi is committed to learning from peers, fostering regional cooperation, and building a higher education system that truly supports national and continental development.



Thank you!

Looking forward to hearing from you on how we can collaborate to support the transformation of the higher education systems in Africa!