

# PERMACULTURE PARADISE INSTITUTE

# **ORGANIZATION PROFILE**



Organization Name Permaculture Paradise Institute Location Mchinji, Malawi Founding Director Luwayo Biswick Co-Founder Grace Luwayo

#### **Mission Statement**

Permaculture Paradise Institute is dedicated to empowering farmers in rural communities with sustainable agricultural practices, promoting permaculture techniques, and fostering food forests for enhanced biodiversity, improved nutrition, and environmental resilience. Through education, consultancy, and practical initiatives, we strive to create a harmonious coexistence between people and the land, ultimately leading to a thriving and regenerative ecosystem.





#### **Our Story**

Luwayo Biswick, the visionary Founding Director of Permaculture Paradise Institute, stands as a beacon of hope and expertise in the realm of agro-ecology and permaculture. With over 12 years of experience as a dedicated Agro-Ecology and Permaculture Facilitator, Consultant, and Designer, Luwayo has been instrumental in transforming the agricultural landscape in Mchinji, Malawi, and beyond. A passionate advocate for sustainable farming practices, Luwayo's journey began with a profound realization of the pressing need for regenerative solutions in agriculture. Inspired by the potential of permaculture to harmonize human activities with nature's inherent wisdom, he embarked on a mission to empower farmers and communities with the knowledge and skills needed to nurture the land sustainably

His dedication to environmental stewardship and the pursuit of innovative solutions earned him recognition as an EU Climate Smart Champion. Additionally, Luwayo was accredited as an international Holistic Land Management, Professional Educator by the 2 prestigious Savory Institute, further enriching his expertise in sustainable land management practices. Luwayo's passion for teaching and sharing knowledge became evident during his tenure as an adjunct Permaculture Lecturer at Shareworld University. Here, he inspired young minds to embrace the principles of permaculture and agro-ecology, fostering a new generation of environmentally conscious individuals.

His commitment to social impact and community engagement led him to establish the New Life Permaculture Youth organization, focusing on recycling and waste management. The organization collaborated with local and international entities, schools, colleges, hospitals, villages, communities, churches, and individuals, touching countless lives through permaculture and agro-ecology initiatives. In recognition of his vast expertise, Luwayo co-authored 13 comprehensive step-by-step manuals on permaculture and agro-ecology, serving as invaluable resources for aspiring farmers and sustainability enthusiasts. His own masterpiece, the "Permaculture Design Manual," stands as a testament to his knowledge and dedication to empowering others with practical solutions for sustainable land use. Luwayo's work is deeply rooted in the belief that sustainable agriculture is not merely about producing food but creating holistic health and well-being for individuals and the land. His integrated land management designs fostered improved food production, reduced poverty, and mitigated climate change, leading to the rehabilitation of oncedegraded and chaotic landscapes.

At Permaculture Paradise Institute, Luwayo's legacy lives on as a driving force for change. With unwavering commitment, the Institute continues to nurture a regenerative paradise where farmers thrive, communities prosper, and nature thrives. Through education, consultancy, and transformative projects, Permaculture Paradise Institute embodies Luwayo's vision of a greener, healthier world for all. The Institute's endeavors align seamlessly with Luwayo Biswick's lifelong dedication to permaculture, agro-ecology, and sustainable land use, making a profound impact in Mchinji, Malawi, and beyond. Together, we carry the torch of his vision, cultivating a future of abundance, resilience, and harmony with nature.



#### Impact: Addressing Hunger Through Permaculture

Luwayo Biswick and his wife Grace Luwayo stand as the embodiment of change, transforming not just agricultural practices but entire communities in their quest to address hunger in Malawi. With a resolute commitment to permaculture, they harnessed the power of sustainable farming to uplift thousands of lives, turning a modest group of 20 farmers into a flourishing network of 12,200 in just three years. Faced with the pressing issue of hunger and the stark realities of food insecurity, Luwayo and Grace understood that conventional farming practices were simply inadequate to meet the needs of Malawi's vulnerable population. Armed with their profound knowledge of permaculture principles, they set out on a mission to create lasting change from the ground up.

Through their guidance, dedication, and unwavering belief in permaculture's potential, they started a journey that would inspire and empower farmers on an unprecedented scale.

They worked hand in hand with local communities, teaching them how to harness nature's inherent wisdom to cultivate bountiful harvests, restore degraded land, and secure a sustainable future for their families.

Luwayo and Grace's transformational work reached beyond the fields, addressing the root causes of hunger. By integrating permaculture techniques into every aspect of farming, they not only increased crop yields but also nurtured a deeper connection between farmers, their land, and their communities. The ripple effects of their efforts were felt in improved nutrition, enhanced economic stability, and strengthened social bonds. The impact of Luwayo and Grace's initiatives was astounding. In just three years, their guidance and expertise propelled the number of participating farmers from a mere 20 to an astonishing 12,200. This exponential growth showcased not only the effectiveness of permaculture but also the power of community-driven change.



Beyond the numbers, Luwayo and Grace's work touched the lives of each individual farmer, instilling a sense of hope, resilience, and empowerment. Farmers who once struggled to feed their families now stood as agents of transformation, equipped with the knowledge and tools to cultivate abundance sustainably.



Their journey is a testament to the fact that sustainable solutions hold the key to addressing complex challenges such as hunger. Luwayo and Grace Luwayo's tireless efforts remind us that change is possible when passion, expertise, and a shared vision come together. Their story continues to inspire not only the farmers they've worked with but also the world at large, showcasing the incredible potential of permaculture to create a brighter, more nourished future for all.



# Vision

To transform agricultural practices in Mchinji, Malawi, and beyond, by inspiring and empowering farmers to adopt permaculture principles and regenerative farming methods. We envision a future where rural communities are selfsufficient, prosperous, and in harmony with nature, ensuring sustainable food production and ecological preservation.

# Objectives

**1. Farmers' Permaculture Training:** Conduct comprehensive training programs that equip farmers with practical knowledge and skills in permaculture techniques. Our training includes sustainable farming practices, soil restoration, water management, agroforestry, and more.

#### 2. Starter Pack Distribution:

Provide farmers who complete our training with starter packs containing essential tools and resources to implement permaculture practices effectively on their farms. These packs may include seeds, gardening tools, composting materials, and more.

#### 4. Food Forest Projects:

Establish and manage food forest projects in collaboration with local communities. These projects focus on planting diverse trees and plants that contribute to soil fertility.

**3. Permaculture Consultancy:** Offer consultancy services to organizations and institutions seeking to integrate permaculture principles into their projects and initiatives.

We collaborate with stakeholders to design and implement sustainable, ecologically sound





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# Our Holistic Approach: Empowering Farmers Every Step of the Way

At Permaculture Paradise Institute, our commitment to transforming agriculture and empowering rural communities is reflected in our comprehensive approach. We understand that sustainable change requires a multi-faceted strategy that addresses the needs of farmers at every stage of their journey. Here's how we work:

Recruiting Farmers



Our journey begins by reaching out to local communities and identifying farmers who are eager to embrace sustainable agriculture. We collaborate closely with community leaders, local organizations, and agricultural extension services to identify and engage potential participants. Through community meetings and outreach programs, we establish a strong foundation of trust and partnership.

Training Sessions



Education is at the heart of our mission. We conduct comprehensive training sessions that empower farmers with the knowledge and practical skills needed to implement permaculture techniques. These training sessions are tailored to the specific needs and conditions of the community, covering topics such as soil restoration, water management, agroforestry, and permaculture design principles. Our goal is to ensure that farmers have a deep understanding of sustainable practices and are equipped to make informed decisions about their land.

Starter parks



Education alone is not enough. We provide farmers who have completed our training with starter packs containing essential tools and resources. These packs include Open Pollinated Variety (OPV) seeds, gardening tools, composting materials, and informative guides. By supplying these resources, we enable farmers to immediately put their newfound knowledge into practice, jumpstarting their journey towards sustainable farming.

Supervision



We believe in the power of ongoing support and supervision. Our team of experienced agricultural experts regularly visits the farms to provide guidance, answer questions, and offer solutions to challenges that may arise. This hands-on approach ensures that farmers receive personalized support and can continuously improve their farming practices.

# Our Holistic Approach: Empowering Farmers Every Step of the Way continues..



We recognize that sustainable agriculture extends beyond the field and into the kitchen. To promote better nutrition and healthy eating habits, we offer nutrition and cooking classes. These sessions teach families how to prepare nutritious meals using the produce from their farms, promoting holistic health and well-being.

Seed Bank



Seed preservation is critical for long-term sustainability. We build seed banks within communities to safeguard traditional and locally adapted crop varieties. These seed banks serve as repositories of genetic diversity, ensuring that farmers always have access to a wide range of resilient and climateappropriate seeds.

**Farmers Market** 

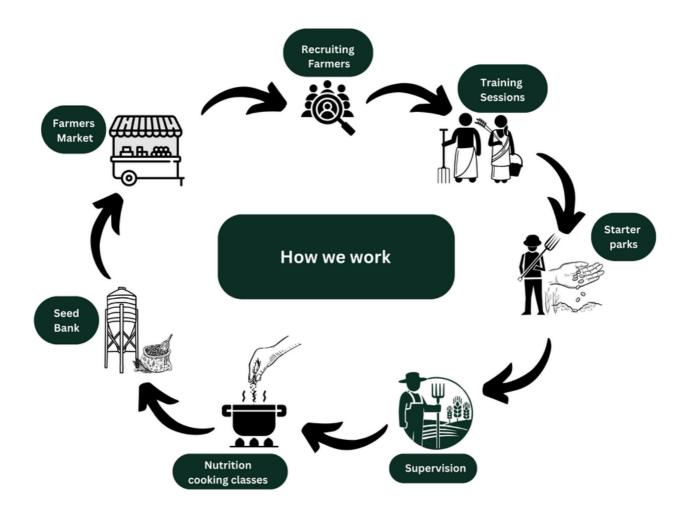


To create economic opportunities and help our hardworking farmers thrive, we do more than just assist them – we roll up our sleeves and build real, brick-and-mortar markets. These are not just any markets; they're vibrant hubs where farmers can proudly display their organic, locally grown products and interact directly with shoppers.

It's not just about buying produce; it's about forming connections, sharing stories, and building a stronger sense of community.

By constructing these physical markets, we're not only boosting farmers' incomes and livelihoods, but we're also nurturing the bonds that tie us all together. It's all part of our mission to support both the economic and social well-being of our communities.

# Our Holistic Approach: Empowering Farmers Every Step of the Way continues | Model



Through this holistic approach, we empower farmers to take control of their agricultural practices, improve their livelihoods, and contribute to the overall well-being of their communities. Our work extends far beyond the field, encompassing education, nutrition, economic empowerment, and community development. Together, we cultivate a future where farmers thrive, the land flourishes, and sustainable practices are at the core of food production.



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