



# NENO MACADAMIA TRUST

*in a nutshell*

**Neno Macadamia Trust (NMT) is a UK charity born from a strong connection to Neno, a rural district in the highlands of Malawi.**

Malawi has a painful, familiar and deeply frustrating story. Problems spiral in vicious circles: poverty, malnutrition, disease, drought. Malawi is one of the poorest countries in the world.

Since over 80% of Malawians are smallholder farmers, it's hardly surprising our solution starts with a crop: Macadamia, a tree that produces an edible, marble-sized nut and for Malawians the crop offers so much more.

## *An Unassuming Answer*

### **Macadamia provides an income...**

Unlike other high value crops - coffee, tobacco - macadamia can be eaten. People shouldn't have to gamble their life for an income. Macadamia leaves farming families the choice.

### **...and nutritious food**

According to the WHO chronic malnutrition is one of the major causes of the low life expectancy in Malawi. Macadamia is highly nutritious, and rich in important missing nutrients.

Elisy one of the many women farmers "When you eat the nuts you get strong and when you give it to an unhealthy child he changes and gets healthy."

### **...at the right time**

When you live from hand to mouth timing can be a matter of life and death. Macadamia fruits at a different time from other crops, during the 'lean period' when food prices increase and many people go hungry.

### **...year in year out**

Macadamia is drought tolerant. When the maize crop fails macadamia can be the difference between life and death.

### **...and is genuinely additive.**

Ken Mkangala who's worked with us in Malawi since the beginning explains "The spacing of this crop is so wide the farmer can also grow other crops in between, so the farmer can produce a lot of crops from one piece of land...even with minimal management, even with just organic matter applied a farmer should be able to get a yield"

The canopy shades other crops from the harshest heats and the roots bind the earth, aiding soil and water conservation.



*"For someone who has never grown macadamia, the first thing you should know is macadamia is a very high value crop. Economically a farmer should really benefit by growing macadamia."*

**Ken Mkangala**, who's worked with us in Malawi since NMT's beginnings



## Sounds like Magic

**There's a catch; there always is. Who do you sell a macadamia nut to if you live in rural Malawi? How do you learn how to tend macadamia? Where can you buy a tree to begin with? Understanding this, the Emmotts founded NMT in 2004.**

Andrew Emmott has spent his long career working with organisations such as the African Development Bank and Liberation Foods a fair trade brand.

For over 15 years the trustees have been supporting farmers in building the cooperatives, skills and nurseries, giving them control and connecting them to the markets needed to release their crop's value. Starting a solution that helps immediately but compounds to something bigger is a powerful use of money.

Now, things are getting even more exciting.

## Macadamia Sequesters Carbon

Macadamia has another vital benefit. One that matters to all of us. The trees sequester carbon. In collaboration with Imperial College we have demonstrated just how much: Each macadamia tree in Malawi sequesters an average of 20 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> per year, for decade after decade.

The lone farmer considering planting 10 trees in Africa has no way to gain money from the carbon sequestered. If you are close to starvation waiting three years for a crop without reward is near impossible, no matter what the benefits to your family or the world.

A route to market is needed for carbon just like for nuts. Working with the same cooperatives, NMT has created a way for you to offset your carbon.

We sell carbon on trees that we can show exist. We ensure the money supports the cooperatives and families who plant and tend the trees, trees that provide food and absorb carbon for a lifetime. Win-win.

**The makings of a virtuous circle at last.**



*“The only problem that farmers are facing is that the seed gives a crop that gives them yield or return after 3 or 4 years, so farmers are not very ready to wait for that period - that's the only problem.”*

Ken Mkangala



**And the benefits don't stop there. From women's empowerment to health, from food security to green fuels, when you seed a virtuous circle opportunities start to appear everywhere.**

Without you the tree isn't planted, the food isn't available, the carbon isn't removed. Your support is truly additive, your support directly helps today, and the benefits of your support compound for a lifetime.

**If you do just one thing now, please offset your carbon through NMT.**

*We believe that virtuous circles, can tackle Africa's big problems starting right now*



“When you seed a virtuous circle opportunities appear everywhere” find out how at [www.nenomacadamiastrust.co.uk](http://www.nenomacadamiastrust.co.uk)