

University of Malawi Launches Student Laptop Empowerment Programme in Partnership with Astria Learning

ZOMBA, MALAWI, September 2, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [Hon. Dr. Lazarus Chakwera](#), President of Malawi, in collaboration with [Hon. Dr. D. M. Banda](#), Vice President of Malawi, has officially launched the Student Laptop Empowerment Programme, a groundbreaking initiative designed to make laptops affordable and accessible on August 29, 2025. The programme aims to bridge the digital divide and equip students with the tools they need to learn, innovate, and lead in the digital era.



[Hon. Dr. Lazarus Chakwera](#), President of Malawi, in his address, [Hon. Dr. D. M. Banda](#), Vice Chancellor of the [University of Malawi](#), underscored the historic significance of the initiative:

“The laptops we launch today are more than machines. They are tools of empowerment, enablers of knowledge, and catalysts for transformation. With them, we are opening doors for our students to excel, to innovate, and to lead.”
He further highlighted how the programme aligns with MW2063 and UNIMA’s Strategic Plan, ensuring students gain the skills and tools needed to thrive in a global knowledge-driven economy.

[Hon. Dr. Lazarus Chakwera](#), President of Malawi, emphasized that this programme is a milestone in the government’s mission to build an inclusive and technology-enabled education system:

“A laptop today is a student’s digital backpack- the gateway to lecture notes, research databases, simulations, e-assessment, and collaborative learning. With these devices, students can participate fully in blended learning, access the [eCampus](#), and build the digital fluency employers expect.”

She underscored the government’s commitment to ensuring that every eligible student, regardless of income, location, or background, has a fair pathway to access a learning device.

On behalf of Astria Learning, Dr. Bordes described the initiative as a catalyst for

long-term change and an investment in Malawi’s digital future:

“Every device we place in the hands of a student is a seed for Malawi’s digital future. If we nurture it with learning, innovation, and resilience, it will grow into skills, jobs, and solutions that will transform Malawi into a thriving nation.”

Dr. Bordes reaffirmed Astria Learning’s long-term commitment to supporting inclusive education and advancing the country’s digitalisation agenda.

The first phase of the programme delivers 1,000 laptops for UNIMA students, supported by

affordable financing from the National Bank of Malawi and facilitated through Astria Learning’s digital expertise. This structured empowerment model will scale across other universities in the coming phases, making devices accessible to more students nationwide.

The initiative is anchored in three guiding principles:

- Inclusive Access – Ensuring all eligible students, regardless of location or background, have access to digital learning devices.
- Digital Literacy – Providing training and support to build students’ confidence and skills in using technology.
- Sustainable Impact – Establishing a model that can be scaled and sustained, ensuring long-term benefits for students and the country.

This launch builds on UNIMA’s broader eCampus initiative and reflects a joint commitment by

academia, government, and the private sector to equip students for success in the digital economy.

As Dr. Bordes concluded:

“By providing students with digital learning devices, we are investing in their future and the future of Malawi. We are committed to ensuring that every student has the opportunity to succeed in the digital age.”

About the Partners

- University of Malawi (UNIMA): Malawi’s premier higher learning institution, committed to academic excellence and innovation.
- Astria Learning: A global education technology company specializing in eCampus solutions and digital transformation across Africa.
- National Bank of Malawi (NBM): A leading financial institution committed to sustainable development and education empowerment.

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