



GOVERNMENT OF MALAWI

DRAFT

NATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE MANAGEMENT

May, 2013

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ISBN 999 08 – 26 - 47 - 1

Available in book form in English (2013)

Printed in Malawi by xxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Foreword

The Government of Malawi recognizes that impacts of Climate Change have serious implications for the country. Globally, climate change has been recognized as one of the biggest challenges facing humanity. It is scientifically accepted that human induced climate change, through increased carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions and through depletion of CO₂ capture by deforestation and other sources such as vehicular emissions and land use change, play a major role in exacerbating its impacts, even though Malawi's contribution to greenhouse gas emissions is low on a global scale. However, Malawi's unique and fragile ecosystems are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, thereby negatively affecting the livelihood of Malawians. This vulnerability is exacerbated by Malawi's socio-economic and demographic factors such as slim economic base, dependence on rain-fed agriculture greater reliance on biomass energy, and low adaptive capacity at the community and national levels.

The goal of the Climate Change Policy is to create an environment for the development of a country-wide, coordinated and harmonized approach, which attends to the needs and concerns of all sectors of society, while ensuring continued sustainable development. The National Policy on Climate Change will contribute to the attainment of sustainable development in line with Malawi's National goals, as outlined in Malawi's Growth and Development Strategy II and Vision 2020. It will achieve this through better adaptation to, and mitigation against, climate change, with a focus on resilience building, technology transfer and capacity building for Malawi's citizens. This Climate Change Policy is intended to guide actions that reduce peoples and ecosystem vulnerability through adaptation and mitigation, technology transfer and capacity building. The policy is also intended to guide financing of climate change initiatives and harmonized approaches by different sectors and institutions towards building peoples and ecosystem resilience to climate change.

The policy will also act as a guide to enable Malawi on how it can benefit from the global climate change financial, technical and technological opportunities such as investment in renewable and environment friendly energy alternatives.

The policy lays down a number of principles and outlines an institutional framework to guide Malawi in the application and the implementation of adaptation, mitigation, technology transfer and capacity building measures. Translating this policy into action will prepare the country to have the capacity to overcome the challenges of climate change and embrace the opportunities that are available to enable the country lay a solid foundation for a sustainable and prosperous Malawi. The Government of Malawi therefore commits to fully addressing Climate Change issues through implementing this policy in line with the Vision 2020, National Environmental Policy and Malawi Growth and Development Strategy II amongst others.

Signed: Minister of Environment and Climate Change Management

Preface

Malawi is a signatory to various international treaties and instruments including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) which Malawi signed on 10th June 1992 and ratified on 21st April 1994. Malawi also ratified the Kyoto Protocol on 26th October 2001. The treaties and instruments oblige her to develop climate change policies and legislation. This Climate Change Policy demonstrates the commitment of Malawi Government to meeting its obligations towards addressing the challenges of climate change. Globally, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has predicted increase in extreme weather events. In Malawi, the 2010 Malawi State and Environment and Outlook Report has shown that there is an upward trend of such extreme weather related events since the 1970's which further supports the need for a Climate change policy.

This policy was developed after extensive consultations with Government Officials, Civil Society, Academia, NGOs, Experts and Development Partners. District consultations were conducted in districts of Lilongwe, Karonga, Rumphi, Kasungu, Balaka, Ntcheu, Machinga, Thyolo and Chikwawa. These districts were also carefully selected through a consultative process to ensure that all critical climate change issues including unique socio-economic and ecological profiles would be adequately considered from the experiences of these districts.

The policy is guided by principles set out in the Malawi Constitution, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol. The principles include protection of human rights, gender equality, sustainable development, equitable development, the polluter pays principle, the precautionary principle and informed stakeholder and community participation.

Signed: Secretary for Environment and Climate Change Management

Acknowledgement

This policy has been developed by the Government of Malawi with financial support from the Development Partners (Norway, UNDP, DFID and the Japanese government) through the National Climate change Programme in the Ministry of Economic Planning and Development.

Stakeholders interviewed during the process of development of this policy are acknowledged. University of Malawi and Leadership for Environment and Development Southern and Eastern Africa were the consultants assigned the task to develop this policy by Government of Malawi.

List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ADC	Area Development Committee
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
CO ₂	Carbon Dioxide
COP	Conference of Parties
CBO	Community Based Organizations
DEC	District Executive Committee
DPRA	Disaster Preparedness and Relief Act
FBO	Faith Based Organization
GHG	Green House Gases
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
MGDS	Malawi Growth and Development Strategy
NAMA	Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions
NAP	National Adaptation Plans
NAPA	National Adaptation Programmes of Action
NAMA	Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions
NEP	National Environmental Policy
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
OPC	Office of President and Cabinet
SWAp	Sector Wide Approach
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
VDC	Village Development Committee

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1.0 Introduction

In Malawi, natural resources and the environment play a very significant role in influencing social and economic development at both household and national levels. Approximately 80 percent of Malawians depend on renewable natural resources for livelihoods, and the foundation of the national economy is primarily rain-fed agriculture. The success of many important sectors of the economy such as agriculture, water supply and sanitation, transport, tourism, industry, health and education relies on environment and natural resources to enhance their productivity. However, recently environment and climate change have emerged as major development issues that are severely impacting on people's livelihoods. Evidence in Malawi shows that the most serious ones have been prolonged dry spells, seasonal droughts, intense rainfall, riverine floods and flash floods. Some of these, especially droughts and floods, have increased in frequency, intensity and magnitude over the last two decades; and have adversely impacted on food and water security, water quality, energy and the sustainable livelihoods of rural communities.

In recognition of the country's vulnerability to adverse effects of climate change, the Government of Malawi has taken important steps to address climate change issues by signing and ratifying the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol. The objective of the UNFCCC is to achieve "the stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic (man-made) interference with the climate system and such a level should be achieved within a time frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change and ensure that food production is not threatened and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner". As a Party to the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol, the Malawi Government has among other activities conducted assessment studies on vulnerability, greenhouse gases inventories, adaptation, mitigation, technology transfer needs assessment, and research and systematic observation. At the Conference of Parties (COP) of the UNFCCC, held every year, climate change adaptation remains a major focus by the developing countries alongside mitigation, technology cooperation and finance.

Malawi has taken significant strides towards addressing climate change. Malawi has developed the National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPA) with the overall goal of addressing urgent needs for adaptation. The NAPA has identified sectors that are affected by climate change and these include agriculture, human health, energy, fisheries, wildlife, water forestry and gender. Malawi Government has also prioritized climate change, environment and natural resources management as one of the priorities within priorities of the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS II). The MGDS II recognizes that natural resources form a principal source of social wellbeing and economic development in Malawi. It identifies climate variability, inadequate institutional capacity for managing climate change, inadequate mainstreaming of climate change issues, inadequate enforcement of legislation, increasing deforestation and unsustainable land use patterns as areas that need urgent attention.

The Government has also put in place a series of legislative sectoral frameworks and strategies to promote and consolidate the environment, climate change, and other socio-economic developmental activities. These include: Food and Nutrition Security Policy, 2005; HIV and AIDS in the Agriculture Sector Policy and Strategy, 2003; National Land Use Planning and Management Policy, 2005; Malawi Irrigation Policy and Development Strategy, 2000; Malawi National Water Policy, 2004; National Forestry Policy of Malawi, 1996; Malawi Energy Policy; National Environmental Policy (NEP) 1996, which was revised in 2004; National Environmental Action Plan 2002; National Strategy for Sustainable Development 2004 among many others. These are supported by legal frameworks such as the Environmental Management Act (1996), The Forestry Act (1997), the Water Act, Energy Act and the Disaster Preparedness and Relief Act (DPRA) (1991).

However, a variety of studies and assessments have shown that except for the NAPA, most of these documents do not explicitly focus on climate change mitigation and adaptation measures. Current climate policy instruments operate within the context of general environmental management frameworks and they provide inadequate incentives and enforcement tools for mitigation action. This reduces their effectiveness in addressing the full range of challenges posed by climate change in Malawi. Malawi Government acknowledges that the nature of climate change impacts in Malawi necessitates that adaptation, mitigation and disaster risk reduction activities need to be linked across sectors and a comprehensive policy that recognizes the multiple dimensions and cross-cutting nature of climate change should be formulated.

To this end, Government of Malawi has developed a National Climate Change Policy as a country wide mechanism for harmonizing and enhancing the planning, development, coordination, financing and monitoring of climate change initiatives and programmes in Malawi. This National Climate Change Policy articulates the National vision on Climate Change Management, Policy Goals and Objectives for Climate Change Management in Malawi, Principles and Strategies. The Policy guides implementation of critical Climate Change issues and strategies, including capacity building; education, training and public awareness; the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM); Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+); adaptation and mitigation in Agriculture, Energy, Industrial processes, Waste management, Forestry, Water resources, and Wildlife sectors. In particular, the policy will build on the National Environmental Policy (NEP) that deals with issues of air quality, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and supplement several guiding principles in the policy. The Climate Change Policy will compliment other policies such as those of energy, water, agriculture and forestry that are relevant in climate change issues. It specifies strategies for each sector under the broader themes of climate change adaptation and mitigation.

The mandate for this climate change policy is derived from the Constitution of Malawi, 1995. The constitution recognizes the need to shape the path for sustainable development by embracing principles of environmental protection, sustainable natural resource use and conservation of biodiversity. Specifically section 13 (d) describes the principles of national policy and states the environment principle as follows: "to manage the environment

responsibly in order to prevent the degradation of the environment, provide a healthy living and working environment for the people of Malawi, accord full recognition to the rights of future generations by means of environmental protection, conserve and enhance the biological diversity of Malawi. These are all underscored in Article 2 of the UNFCCC. This is also in tandem with the Mandate of the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change which is to protect and foster management, development and sustainable utilization of natural resources and environment.

At the national level, the Vision 2020, the country's overarching long term strategy, provides an enabling framework for the National Climate Change policy and other strategies that would allow addressing climate change and other environmental challenges in a comprehensive manner. Vision 2020 is strategically useful as it envisages the long-term ambition of achieving sustainable development. Vision 2020 aims for Malawi to be "secure, democratically mature, environmentally sustainable, self-reliant with equal opportunities for and active participation by all" and to have "social services, vibrant cultural and religious values and a technologically driven middle-income economy".

This National Climate Change policy has also considered other necessary global, regional and nation frameworks, plans, strategies, and conferences. At the global arena, the Rio+20 global conference brought out "The Future we want" which focused on green economy as a tool for enhancing human well-being, social equity and derive benefits contributing to better environmental management. The National Climate Change policy has encompassed aspects of green economy as a way of creating more jobs, involving the private sector and preserving environmental benefits through reducing carbon emissions and pollution. Regionally, the NEPAD Environmental Action Plan is of importance. It recognizes the importance of poverty reduction and socio-economic development in the region. These objectives are dependent on sustainable environmental management they take cognizance the climate change threats that are being addressed by this policy.

The National Climate Change policy will serve as an overarching reference document for policy makers in Government, the private sector, civil society, and donors concerning climate change as a priority development issue. It will feed into the Sector Wide Approaches (SWAPs) to inform strategic government programming, including programming for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. It does not usurp powers and responsibilities of sectoral ministries, but instead reinforces them and highlights areas of high priority for the nation. The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change will play a facilitating, coordinating and advisory role in ensuring its implementation, setting and enforcement of relevant and acceptable standards. The Climate Change Policy objectives should be seen as addressing the broad range of climate change problems facing Malawi at the present time. These problems and their relative importance may change over time. As such the policy will be reviewed and updated every five years. The development of this policy is also in tandem with Malawi's international and regional obligations.

2.0 Policy Goals and Guiding Principles

2.1 Overall Policy Goal

UNFCCC has emphasized the sense of urgency and the need for nations to reduce their emissions to levels to prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. This call for action has promoted the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Management, the mandated ministry to develop this climate change policy.

The Policy's overall goal is:

“To promote climate change adaptation, mitigation, technology transfer and capacity building for sustainable livelihoods through Green Economy measures for Malawi”.

2.2 Policy Objectives

The Malawi climate change policy aims to:

- i. Effectively manage the impacts of climate change through interventions that build and sustain the social and ecological resilience of Malawians;
- ii. Contribute towards the stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous human-induced interference with the climate system within a timeframe that enables social, economic and environmental development to proceed in a sustainable manner ;
- iii. Work towards the integration of climate change into planning, development, coordination and monitoring of key relevant sectors and
- iv. Integrate cross-cutting issues including climate change financing, capacity building, research and technology, population, gender, HIV and AIDS into climate change management through an appropriate institutional framework.

The Policy outcomes are expected to be as follows:

Outcome 1: Reduced vulnerability to climate change impacts through improved social and ecological resilience in Malawi

Outcome 2: Controlled greenhouse gas emissions from Malawi

Outcome 3: Increased awareness of climate change impacts, adaptation and mitigation measures

Outcome 4: Improved policy coordination and harmonization of climate change management

Outcome 5: Increased funding in the national budget and improved access to external funding sources for climate change adaptation, mitigation, technology transfer and capacity building

Outcome 6: Climate Change mainstreamed in development policies and planning

2.3 Guiding Principles

The policy would be guided by principles set out in the Malawi Constitution, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol. The principles among others will include:

1. **Protection of Human Rights and Freedoms:** The Constitution of Malawi affords? protection of human rights and freedoms. Malawi's climate response strategy should therefore take a human rights approach;
2. **Common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities** – aligning our domestic measures to reduce the country's GHG emissions and adapt to the adverse effects of climate change with our unique national circumstances, stage of development and capacity to act;
3. **Gender Equality:** This is a principle in the Malawi Constitution. Women are disproportionately affected by climate change and are more vulnerable to the impacts therefore; gender equality must be promoted as a response;
4. **Sustainable Development:** Malawi's development should help reduce poverty and improve living standards, while at the same time uphold the three pillars, social, economic and environment, of sustainable development;
5. **Equitable development:** No development would be sustainable in the long run if it does not address Poverty reduction and equity. Participation of vulnerable groups including the disabled has to be ensured;
6. **Polluter pays principle:** Those who are responsible for polluting the environment should pay the cost of mitigating the effects and supporting consequent adaptive response;
7. **Precautionary principle:** Malawi must take a cautious approach, taking into account limitations in knowledge, as decisions may have unintended consequences for the environment and economic development;
8. **Informed participation:** Public participation in developmental activities is essential and the general public must be aware of climate change causes and impacts and how they will effect development in Malawi;
9. **Intra- and Inter-generational sustainability:** Managing our ecological, social and economic resources and capital responsibly for current and future generations;

10. **Uplifting the poor and vulnerable:** Climate change policies and measures should address the needs of the poor and vulnerable and ensure human dignity, whilst endeavoring to attain environmental, social and economic sustainability;
11. **Special needs and circumstances:** Considering the special needs and circumstances of localities and people that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, including vulnerable groups such as women, and especially poor and/or rural women; children, especially infants and child-headed families; the aged; the sick; and the physically challenged; and
12. **Economic, social and ecological pillars of sustainable development:** Recognizing that a robust and sustainable economy and a healthy society depends on the services that well-functioning ecosystems provide, and that enhancing the sustainability of the economic, social and ecological services is an integral component of an effective and efficient climate change response.

3.0 Economic Policy Issues and Instruments

3.1 Alleviation of Poverty Objective

Climate change adaptation and mitigation activities can address poverty alleviation directly and indirectly. Adaptation will help communities diversify their livelihoods, become resilient to shocks in the environment and assist in ensuring long term sustainability of projects, plans and programmes. Mitigation will help improve the natural resource base through better land use decisions and use of greener technologies including renewable energy. Climate change is said to impact negatively on women and vulnerable groups who are weaker and further burdened by climate change impacts due to their social roles and vulnerabilities. Effective climate change adaptation that takes into consideration gender and vulnerable groups will help improve resilience of communities and thereby reduce poverty. Furthermore, population management has been indicated as an area which can indirectly assist in poverty reduction too. As women gain access to family planning and are able to better space their families they are able to effectively participate in climate change adaptation and mitigation activities. A lower population will also reduce the pressure on natural resources thereby indirectly assisting in poverty reduction. Green technology promotion will provide more employment through creation of green jobs. Payment of ecosystems services schemes and CDM also provides economic support to communities thereby reducing poverty.

3.2 Economic Incentives for Climate Change Management

Although Malawi has contributed very little to emissions that caused climate change, it is impacted at a large scale. Climate change adaptation and mitigation provides an economic incentive for countries including Malawi as there are mechanisms such as Clean Development Mechanism, REDD+ and PES schemes where economic benefits can be derived while mitigating and adapting to climate change. A disincentive for activities that aggravate environmental degradation and increase climate change emissions can be provided through using the Polluter Pays Principle and establishing penalties to offenders.

4.0 Policy Priority Areas

4.1 Climate Change Adaptation

Adaptation to climate change is any activity that reduces the negative impacts of climate change and/or takes advantage of new opportunities that may be presented. Adaptation to address climate change is a priority area for Malawi as it impacts on all sectors and affected groups and individuals, especially the most vulnerable. Adaptation to climate change in Malawi is hampered by its heavy dependence on natural resources, endemicity to climate sensitive diseases, high poverty and weak technical and financial resources.

4.1.1 Goal

The Government of Malawi shall strive to reduce vulnerabilities of populations in Malawi and to promote community and ecosystem resilience to the impacts of climate change and thereby ensure its populations are able to adapt to climate change, while at the same time promoting Climate Compatible Development.

4.1.2 Specific Objectives

1. To ensure that the nation is able to adjust to several changes as result of climate change;
2. To develop adaptation responses that will address both short and long term development goals; and
3. To ensure that the responses will have a much stronger specific local autonomous adaptation context that will promote conservation of natural resources, improvement of food security and rural livelihoods, creation of jobs (Green jobs) and addressing other challenges such as rural-urban migration.

4.1.3 Strategies

4.1.3.1 Agriculture

In order for Malawi to build resilience to climate change and reduce any negative impacts that climate change might have on agriculture, the following strategies will be used:

1. Integrate agriculture into climate-resilient rural development planning to address job creation, food security and livelihoods with a particular emphasis on building climate resilience through leveraging synergies between adaptation and mitigation;
2. Based on scientific evidence through vulnerability studies and assessments, develop short and long term adaptation scenarios to identify climate –resilient land uses and promote climate smart agriculture;
3. Improve integration of socio-economic and political participation and protect rights of vulnerable households as this is critical to securing resilient livelihoods outcomes;
4. Advance research and technology that will explore new crops and livestock breeds that will easily adapt to climate change and promote practices that will reduce impacts of climate change on existing agricultural systems;
5. Increase investment in agriculture, in particular low-input, agro-ecological approaches, and rural development;
6. Develop and invest in rural based agricultural markets and provide timely information of agricultural related interventions to farmers including sources of inputs;
7. Developing mechanism that will utilize early warning systems on adverse weather, pests and diseases occurrence, which will also provide up-to-date information and decision support tools to assess the vulnerability of farmers and inform farm management decisions;
8. Promote and invest in education and awareness programmes for extension workers, farmers and rural communities in order to allow both small and commercial farmers understand, respond and adapt to challenges of climate change;
9. Support research programmes into soil and water conservation, plant and animal breeding, livestock feeds and feeding, practices that lower emissions and those that will boost agricultural yields; and
10. Promote adaptation in such a manner as to enhance incorporation of agro-forestry, land use planning and soil and conservation, food security, livelihoods and natural resource resilience;
11. Promote technologies that can be up-scaled such as water harvesting for food and fodder production, conservation agriculture, ecologically compatible cropping systems, highly adaptive and productive livestock breeds and crop varieties;
12. Prevent land degradation and deforestation, and address the issues of bush fires;

13. Create awareness of emerging technologies and knowledge for example: climate smart agriculture, climate compatible agricultural development and greening agriculture; and
14. Address inequitable access to resources (land and water) to improve climate resilience.

4.1.3.2 Water Resources

Climate change poses a threat to water resources management and Malawi needs to respond to this by:

1. Promoting water retention technologies such as rain water harvesting and reduce over-abstraction of water from its rivers and lakes;
2. Promoting good catchment management to reduce siltation and pollution of Malawi's waters;
3. Enforcing legislations to prevent pollution of Malawi's waterways and providing incentives for water treatment;
4. Employing ecosystems approach to managing water resources;
5. Harmonizing conflicting policies; and
6. Enhancing irrigation through climate compatible water resources infrastructure development where infrastructure is climate proofed.

4.1.3.3 Health

Government of Malawi should harmonize and integrate health interventions and service delivery within a climate change perspective. The Government must employ strategies such as:

7. Promote more research in eco-health issues and impacts of climate change on health;
8. Put in place strategies to integrate climate change issues in the health policy;
9. Harmonize data collection to improve linkages between other departments on climate change issues;
10. Build building across sectors to understand climate change linkages;
11. Create awareness of systems thinking as climate change will exacerbate diseases and pose new challenges which can be overcome using a systems approach and increased understanding of eco-health issues.
12. Recognize that the nutritional status of individuals is key to building resilience to environmental health threats, ensure that food security and good nutritional policies form part of an integrated approach to health adaptation strategies;
13. Put in place a national awareness campaign on health risks associated with changes in climate and weather variability;
14. Support research programmes that will strengthen information dissemination especially on the linkage between disease occurrence and climate change;

15. Develop and enhance a health data management support system to facilitate the delivery of health services nationally;
16. Facilitate the review of education programmes and curriculum to incorporate issues of climate change and human health;
17. Strengthen awareness programmes on Cholera, Malaria and other diseases that are directly or indirectly linked to climate change; and
18. Support research that will examine the relationship between human development and adaptations to climate change such as agriculture changes that may affect food availability, increased use of pesticides and prevention of leaching from toxic waste.

4.1.3.4 Human Settlements

Climate change is likely to impact human settlements by way of extreme weather events causing damage to settlements and infrastructure. Moreover, the practice of constructing houses using burnt bricks impacts negatively on the environment and contributes to greenhouse gas emissions. In this regard, strategies to manage human settlements in Malawi include:

1. Improved zoning and planning to reduce vulnerability of people by ensuring that settlements and infrastructure are not built on sensitive areas and flood prone areas;
2. Development of human settlement policy to optimize land use and building resilience to climate related disaster risks. This policy should be harmonized with the climate change policy, disaster management act and other relevant policies
3. Encourage improved land tenure systems;
4. Mandate cities and municipalities to dispose solid waste in proper sanitary landfills and where possible linked to CDM projects; and
5. Providing incentives for environment friendly brick making through supporting technology for hydrafoam and cement block making industries;
6. Improve infrastructure and ensure climate proofing of infrastructure and human settlements.

4.1.3.5 Energy

Energy demand in Malawi is predominantly met by biomass which puts pressure on forests thereby having negative repercussions for the environment and contributing to greenhouse gas emissions which cause climate change. Energy demand management must also take into cognizance factors such as urbanization and rural-urban migration, where informal settlements in urban areas create more demand for charcoal, as they are not connected to the electricity grid. This needs a holistic approach addressing issues of migration and providing developments

and job opportunities in rural areas through rural growth centres thereby discouraging urban migration, thus managing demand for charcoal.

The strategies that can help Government of Malawi to achieve enhanced management in energy sector are:

1. Reducing duty on the import of renewable, low carbon and related technologies that are not manufactured in Malawi;
2. Promoting the local manufacture, establishment of and access to renewable energy technologies;
3. Adopting a climate compatible development approach when planning of energy infrastructure needs and aim for low carbon solutions;
4. Providing incentives to consumers to opt for cleaner energy sources and opportunity for customers who generate clean energy to sell their excess energy back into the grid;
5. Incentivizing alternative energy sources such as wind and solar to reduce dependence on biomass;
6. Encouraging afforestation activities and non-extractive livelihoods from forests, which will also improve catchments for hydropower generation;
7. Promote energy efficient appliances to reduce energy demand and energy efficient stoves that would use less firewood;
8. Promote innovation in energy sector;
9. Enforce legislation against illegal charcoal making;
10. Promote payment for ecosystems services projects that would support protection of forests;
11. Encourage community based forest conservation;
12. Upscale briquette making and promote its use; and
13. Dis-incentivize use of firewood for making burnt bricks, through innovation and subsidy for environment friendly brick making.

4.1.3.6 Forestry

Forests in Malawi have been under threat from deforestation due to demand for arable land and fuelwood and has been declining as a result. Forests act as carbon sinks and when they are reduced, carbon sinks are reduced, thereby contributing to greenhouse gas emissions. The major climate hazard to forest is drought which causes bush fires and forest fires. Climate change related temperature variations may promote changes in species diversity. Government of Malawi must strive to promote afforestation activities and planting of appropriate trees species that will promote livelihoods and access to biomass in a sustainable manner. Forest conservation through co-management and benefit sharing will assist communities adapt better

to climate change and enhance livelihoods. The forestry policy and related legislations must include climate change issues.

Government of Malawi will integrate climate change into forestry sector through:

1. Afforestation and supporting rehabilitation of degraded industrial forest plantations;
2. Enforcing stricter penalties for offenders and better enforcement of legislation for sustainable extraction, marketing and sale of timber in the country as well as export of timber;
3. Implementation of legislation aimed at curbing bush fires;
4. Reducing dependence on fuel wood by promoting alternatives that would substantially shift the majority of Malawians up the energy ladder;
5. Creating awareness about the climate regulation function of forests and thereby promoting conservation of forests;
6. Improving the livelihoods of local communities through the sustainable provision of forest goods and services and the development of forest-based enterprises;
7. Promoting tree planting and management for carbon sequestration and other ecosystem services;
8. Promoting REDD+ as a strategy for Malawi to mitigate against climate change;
9. Promoting research to preserve Malawi's indigenous, wild, endemic and/or economically important flowering plant for future use and biodiversity conservation;
10. Promoting agro forestry and a means of integrating poverty reduction into forest conservation and at the same time mitigating against climate change;
11. Promote alternative fuels to reduce dependence on firewood and charcoal thereby addressing deforestation;
12. Addressing the linkage between forestry sector and energy sector as majority of Malawians use biomass for fuel and tackling the deforestation issue in a holistic manner;
13. Improving ecosystem services from forests through better conservation and awareness; and
14. Supporting valuation of forest ecosystem services including soil and water conservation, soil fertility enhancement and provisioning services.

4.1.3.7 Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Wildlife

Climate change is an emerging threat to both aquatic and terrestrial biodiversity. Gaps and contradictions between other sectoral policies must be harmonized and include climate change issues and address the impacts in a harmonized manner. Government of Malawi must promote research in biodiversity and its changes as a result of climate change and enforce strong penalty measures for activities which are exploitative of natural resources and biodiversity. Man-animal conflicts need to be addressed in such a manner as to allow human livelihoods to progress while at the same time not threatening wildlife habitats. Moreover, the policy recognizes that

addressing food security and poverty is key to ensuring biodiversity richness. The Malawi Government will therefore integrate climate change considerations in biodiversity and ecosystems management. This will be done through:

1. Promotion of the sound management of ecosystems through the wider application of the Ecosystem Approach in programmes and projects;
2. Including biodiversity concerns in adaptation programmes, projects and plans;
3. Creating awareness that ecosystems have a role in moderating the global carbon cycle and therefore climate;
4. Supporting research to demonstrate the cost-benefit advantages of protecting ecosystems and biodiversity;
5. Highlighting the socio-economic and environmental advantages of adopting an ecosystems management approach;
6. Inventorise ecosystems services in order to track how anthropogenic activities are impacting them;
7. Conserve, rehabilitate and restore ecosystems as a means to provide resilience to climate change impacts; and
8. Realisation that healthy, fully functional well managed and adequately protected ecosystems can achieve cost effective objectives for climate change mitigation, adaptation and long-term sustainability whilst continuing to provide the essential services.

4.1.3.8 Fisheries

Fisheries is a sector that will be affected by climate change and shocks such as drying up of lakes and temperature changes affecting aquatic life has already been experienced in Malawi. Malawi has been experiencing declining fish stocks and the following strategies are to be employed to assist fisheries sector adapt to climate change:

1. Promoting aquaculture and technologies that reduce loss;
2. Improving collection and dissemination of climate and weather data;
3. Promoting protection of water resources and good catchment management to allow ecosystems services such as water retention improvement in soils and regulating flow in rivers as they affect fisheries sector;
4. Promoting research on fish species and aquaculture technologies;
5. Promoting a harmonized approach and ecosystems approach in water resources management, value chain improvements; and
6. Enhancing data collection and dissemination for effective climate change adaptation in the fisheries sector.

4.2 Climate Change Mitigation

Climate change mitigation is any action to decrease the intensity of radiative forcing in order to reduce the effects of global warming. Mitigation will yield positive local as well as global socio-economic and environmental benefits through increase in below and above ground carbon and reduced Greenhouse gas emission.

4.2.1 Goal

The Climate Change Policy strives to control greenhouse gas emissions while at the same time allow for sustainable development.

4.2.2 Specific Objectives

Government of Malawi must strive to mitigate against climate change through better land use, climate-smart agriculture, renewable energy, Clean Development Mechanisms (CDM), voluntary carbon markets, Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+), as it will yield positive local as well as global socio-economic and environmental benefits through increase in below and above ground carbon and reduced Greenhouse gas emission.

4.2.3 Strategies

The strategies for major sectors are as given below.

4.2.3.1 Energy

The strategies for Energy sector to mitigate against climate change are to reduce emissions through:

1. Promotion of energy saving technologies so as to decrease the pressure on the forest reserves for provision of firewood;
2. Promotion of low carbon energy alternatives through incentives and other means; and
3. Engaging the transport and motor industry in the development and marketing of higher ethanol-petrol blends.

4.2.3.2 Industry

The strategies for Energy sector to mitigate against climate change are to:

1. Promote industries that use carbon capture and storage, recycling and use of waste as raw materials, promoting eco-industrial parks;
2. Strengthen and implement policy and legislation on industrial waste management;
3. Encourage private sector to mitigate their emissions; and
4. Incentivize and institutionalize the practice of waste reduction, recycling and reuse.

4.2.3.3 Waste Management

The strategies for enhancing waste management as a way of mitigating against climate change is by:

1. Monitoring and evaluation through collection of emissions data and reduction of actual emissions through CDM;
2. Promotion of strategies that would reduce vehicular emissions;
3. Promoting environment friendly sanitary landfills; and
4. Promoting recycling, reuse and reduce of waste.

4.2.3.4 Clean Development Mechanism

Clean Development Mechanism should be promoted through:

1. Promotion of CDM initiatives as smaller programmes of activities;
2. Promotion and upscaling of CDM projects and carbon financing mechanisms;
3. Ensuring that sectoral policies make provisions for CDM and
4. Raising awareness on CDM projects.

4.2.3.5 Forestry Management and REDD+

Forestry management will help in mitigating against climate change impacts through the following strategies:

1. Promotion of REDD+ as a strategy for mitigation, to ensure continuous forest cover for carbon conservation, maintenance of biodiversity, protection of watersheds, and prevention of soil erosion;
2. Enforcing policy/legislation and improving infrastructure for arresting deforestation and bushfires and
3. Promotion of increasing tree cover in other sectoral policies such as is already promoted under the Land Policy.

4.2.3.6 Agriculture

The agricultural sector can mitigate against climate change through the following strategies:

1. Increase of below ground carbon storage through conservation agriculture;
2. Increase of above ground carbon storage through promotion of agro forestry and
3. Increase in enforcement of such policies through harmonization of other sectoral policies.

4.2.3.7 Transport

The transport sector can mitigate against climate change impacts through the following strategies:

4. Promotion of approaches that would reduce vehicular emissions;
5. Enhancing monitoring and evaluation of emissions from transport sector through collection of emissions data;
6. Enacting and enforcing vehicle emissions standards and
7. Encouraging the private sector to implement and roll out government policy on higher ethanol-petrol blends.

4.2.3.8 Housing and infrastructure development

1. The housing and infrastructure development sector can mitigate against climate change using the following strategies:
2. Promotion of cleaner energy technologies in this sector thereby discouraging environment unfriendly methods such as use of burnt bricks for construction;
3. Embedding clean energy technologies in infrastructure development;
4. Capacity building for Businesses through public private partnerships and training. Malawi Government must forge for partnerships with private sector to ensure that their capacity is developed for low carbon development. Businesses must build their capacity to embrace low carbon technologies that will provide green jobs for Malawi.

4.3 Capacity Building, Education, Training and Awareness

4.3.1 Goal

The overall goal of the Climate Change Policy is to ensure that Malawi builds capacity in all aspects of climate change in order to ensure the availability of relevant high quality, complete and current data, and tools with which to analyze the data, skills and knowledge to implement

low carbon development projects and awareness on climate change adaptation, mitigation and low carbon technologies for policymakers to make evidence based and informed decisions.

4.3.2 Specific Objectives

Specific objectives are to:

1. Build capacity on climate change issues nationally
2. Improve capacity of institutions for information sharing, education in climate change issues
3. Improve awareness of climate change issues nationally

4.3.3 Strategies

Malawi Government must take the following measures to develop capacity, education and awareness in the country:

5. Increasing the availability and access of relevant high quality, complete and regularly updated data
6. from international databases
7. through enhanced systematic observation of key climate and ecosystem variables at national level
8. increasing and rehabilitating weather and environmental monitoring stations to provide robust national data while accommodating local variability
9. Improving individual and institutional capacity for analysis of data, hazard mapping, modelling and the use of scenario based tools for long term planning
10. Access to, and development of, user friendly toolkits/manuals and other practical knowledge sharing methods for climate change advocacy
11. Promoting training on management of climate change risks and impacts at national, district and community level
12. Promote management training for the integration of climate change issues horizontally and vertically among key stakeholders
13. Promoting awareness on climate change adaptation and mitigation for policymakers to make informed, evidence based decisions
14. Involvement of media in creating awareness on climate change
15. Supporting inclusion of climate change into the educational curriculum at primary school, secondary schools and higher education including technical and vocational training institutions

16. Encouraging education and skills base development for the use, application and adaptation of low carbon technologies, CDM and REDD+
17. Providing incentives to reduce brain drain in this area from the country
18. Promoting partnerships with private sector to ensure that their capacity is developed for low carbon development and provision of green jobs
19. Strengthening Malawi's role in International Climate Change negotiations through capacity building in negotiation skills and improving knowledge in the area.
20. Capacity building for academia and scientists: There is need for inclusion of climate change into the curriculum of tertiary education. There is need to build capacity in climate science and appropriate adaptation and mitigation responses. Incentives need to be provided to reduce brain drain in the country.
21. Capacity building for teachers: There is also need for the inclusion of climate change in primary and secondary school curricula and to provide teachers with the skills, tools and resources to educate the children and youth about climate change
22. Capacity building for NGOs and Civil Society: There is need to develop skills in CDM, REDD+ and low carbon technologies in order for them to develop projects which will help Malawi effectively adapt to and mitigate climate change. NGOs and Civil Society must work together with Government to inform the nation about the social and economic impacts and challenges of climate change in Malawi.
23. Capacity building for the media: The media has a major role to play in educating the general population. Every effort must be made to work with and through the media and journalists to promote and explain issues associated with climate change. The capacity of journalists to report on climate change must be enhanced.
24. Capacity building for Businesses: Malawi Government must forge for partnerships with private sector to ensure that their capacity is developed for low carbon development. Businesses must build their capacity to embrace low carbon technologies that will provide green jobs for Malawi and thereby reduce unemployment.
25. Capacity building for Local Government: There is need for Malawi to develop its capacity in green technologies such as renewable energy and low carbon development Programmes to build capacity for local government's climate response strategies need to be prioritized, and user friendly toolkits/manuals and other practical knowledge sharing methods need to be prepared and disseminated.

4.4 Research, Technology Development and Transfer, and Systematic Observation

4.4.1 Goal

The Climate Change Policy strives to enhance research, technology and systematic observation for climate change management, supported by appropriate capacity development and dedicated financing.

4.4.2 Specific Objectives

The specific objectives are:

1. To improve understanding about climate change at all levels of society;
2. To systematically observe (monitor) and model climate change phenomena to better predict their evolution and impact;
3. To analyse and generate evidence-informed policies, decision-making, planning and action for mitigation and adaptation;
4. To manage transfer, adoption, imitation, adaptation and absorption of clean technologies into local productive practices, especially to reduce dependence on wood and fossil fuels as an energy source; and
5. To promote research and innovation for mitigation and adaptation, including technological innovation.

4.4.3 Strategies

The strategy required to address the above objectives is multi-fold. It requires an inclusive approach to engage stakeholders and must be built upon partnerships across sectors, nationally, regionally and globally. It must be mindful of the need to develop individual and institutional capacity. It must be driven by evidence and requires foresight, planning and financing.

This will be achieved through:

1. Implement the recommendations made by the capacity needs assessment reports and technology needs assessment reports;
2. Encouraging and supporting research on climate change to help Malawi make informed and evidence based decisions to improve its adaptation and mitigation strategies;
3. Supporting technology transfer and innovation to enhance low carbon growth in both public and private sector;

4. Supporting the rehabilitation, maintenance and upgrade of existing weather and environmental monitoring stations and to introduce new stations to provide reliable data for better understanding of climate change and guide appropriate action against its impacts;
5. Supporting the documentation and validation of indigenous knowledge, through community engagement, so that it will be fully integrated within the overall knowledge base that informs policy and action;
6. Requiring the inclusion of monitoring and evaluation for all major climate change related programmes, to avoid unforeseen risks;
7. Enhancing collaborations between researchers, policy makers and media for effective advocacy and outreach make better use of research findings;
8. Promoting centers of excellence to undertake research in climate change science, adaptation and mitigation and
9. Put in place financing and supporting mechanisms for the development of a national research agenda for climate change, through National institutions coordinating and conducting relevant Science and Technology research.

4.5 Climate Change Financing

4.5.1 Goal

Malawi will prioritize enhanced financing of climate change management activities through increased national budgetary allocation, improved capacity to access to international climate financing (both multilateral and bilateral) and involvement of the private sector. Assess and address barriers that limit access and efficient absorption of international climate financing.

4.5.2 Specific Objectives

The Climate Change Policy strives

1. to increase budgetary allocation for climate change management interventions, improve access and management of international finance and funding; and
2. to provide incentives to encourage private sector investment.

4.5.3 Strategies

This will be achieved through:

1. Passing of legislation to ensure that levies are made on externalities that contribute to climate change but structured in a pro-development way.
2. Proactively supporting government, non-governmental and private sector institutions seeking multilateral and bilateral resources and financing for enhanced climate change adaptation, mitigation, technology transfer and capacity building;
3. Increasing knowledge and skills to develop proposals and negotiate access to climate change finance and
4. Incentivizing private sector investment in climate change adaptation and mitigation approaches, that will promote innovation and create more employment.

5.0 Important Cross-Cutting Issues

5.1 Legislation

Malawi has several legal and policy frameworks that are directly or indirectly dealing with climate change, economic development environment and natural resources. These include:

- The Constitution
- The National Environmental Policy (2004)
- National Forestry Policy (1996)
- Wildlife Policy (2000)
- National Energy Policy (2003)
- National Water Policy (2005)
- National Land Policy (2002)
- National Land Resource Management Policy and Strategies (2000)
- Mines and Minerals Policy (2007)
- National Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy (2001)
- Food Security Policy (2006)
- Draft National Agricultural Policy
- Environmental Management Act (2006)
- Disaster Preparedness and Relief Act (1991) (being revised 2013)
- The National Parks and Wildlife Act (2004)
- The Road Traffic Act (1997)
- Water Resources Act (1969)
- Mines and Minerals Act (1981)
- Energy Regulation Act (2004)
- The Local Government Act (1998)
- Forestry Act (1997) and Forestry Policy (being revised 2013)
- The Fisheries Conservation and Management Act (1997).

As climate change will affect almost all sectors, the sectoral acts and policies need to consider climate change. The Climate Change Policy will serve as an overarching reference document for policy makers in Government, the private sector, civil society, and donors concerning climate change as a priority development issue. It will feed into the Sector Wide Approaches (SWAPs) to inform strategic government programming, including in relation to the MDGs. It will also support broader guiding legislation, policies and strategies, such as the constitution of the Government of Malawi, Vision 2020, the Malawi Growth Development Strategy and United Nations Development framework for Malawi (UNDAF). In particular, the policy will build on the National Environmental Policy (NEP) that deals with issues of air quality, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and supplement several guiding principles in the policy. It will compliment other policies such as those of energy, water, agriculture and forestry that are relevant in climate change issues.

5.1.1 Goal

Malawi will incorporate climate change into policies, programmes and projects through revising and updating its sectoral legislations, policies and planning documents to consider climate change impacts.

5.1.2 Specific Objectives

The Climate Change Policy strives

1. To ensure that sectoral policies and planning documents/strategies take account of climate change; and
2. To ensure climate change impacts are adequately addressed in programmes and projects in Malawi.

5.1.3 Strategies

This will be achieved through:

1. Revision of outdated sectoral policies and inclusion of climate change impacts in them;
2. Ensuring that climate change is included into planning of district level planning; and
3. Ensuring that major developmental strategies such as the MGDS will continue to include climate change as a priority.

5.2 Population

Populations are both the driver of climate change and are affected by climate change. Incorporation of population dynamics, reproductive health and family planning in national climate change and development plans will help Malawi deal with effects of climate change.

5.2.1 Goal

The Government strives to integrate population into climate change management in development agenda through an integrated approach which would help reduce poverty, protect natural resources and reduce inequality by creating opportunities for all.

5.2.2 Specific Objectives

1. To integrate population into climate change programmes and projects in Malawi
2. To enhance family planning as a way of helping communities have smaller families thereby helping them adapt and mitigate better to impacts of climate change
3. To address population density issues including rural-urban migration by providing rural growth centers and employment creation in rural areas thereby reducing risks of urban dwellers against unplanned settlements and related hazards.

5.2.3 Strategies

To reflect the strong and inseparable linkages between population dynamics and sustainable development, Malawi Government must address the following:

1. There is need for a two-pronged approach in addressing climate change issues: promotion of more sustainable patterns of consumption and production, by encouraging a shift towards the green economy, and human-rights based policies that address population dynamics.
2. Providing comprehensive information about, access to and choice of the widest possible range of safe, effective, affordable and acceptable modern methods of family planning, so that they are able to exercise free and informed reproductive choices, and that family planning programmes have a sufficient and continuous supply of safe, effective, affordable and acceptable modern contraceptives.
3. Systematically consider population trends and projections in our national, rural and urban development strategies and policies. Through forward-looking planning, which anticipates changes in population size, geographic distribution and age structures in order to address the challenges and seize the opportunities that are associated with demographic changes, including urbanization and migration.
4. Improving the access to education opportunities by the youth especially the girl child beyond the primary level; to information and services, particularly for sexual and

reproductive health and promoting their full participation and civic engagement, as well as addressing gender inequality.

5. Increasing awareness and education on linkages between population, sexual and reproductive health, gender and climate change;
6. Investing in health programmes that adequately and efficiently meets the needs for family planning;
7. Supporting empowerment of women through access to education, health facilities, micro finance and reproductive health services;
8. Promoting establishment of rural growth centres that will reduce rural-urban migration and provide better livelihoods and employment for rural populations;
9. Promoting targeted adaptation programmes to build resilience among the most vulnerable sections of the rural population;
10. Ensuring that disaster management architecture includes the provision of safety nets for rural communities most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change;
11. Promoting rights based approach in addressing climate change issues and
12. Promoting participation of all population groups including vulnerable groups and youth in climate change issues.

5.3 Gender and Disadvantaged groups

5.3.1 Goal

The goal of the climate change policy is to ensure mainstreaming of gender issues and disadvantaged groups into all climate change adaptation, mitigation, technology transfer and capacity building strategies, plans and programmes are effected.

5.3.2 Specific Objectives

1. To include vulnerable and disadvantaged groups such as women, children, the elderly and the physically and mentally challenged in adaptation programmes and projects
2. To include vulnerable and disadvantaged groups such as women, children, the elderly and the physically and mentally challenged in climate change mitigation activities
3. To include vulnerable and disadvantaged groups such as women, children, the elderly and the physically and mentally challenged in technology transfer and capacity building plans and programmes.

5.3.3 Strategies

Inclusion of gender issues and disadvantaged groups into climate change management will be achieved by:

1. Consideration of, and engagement with, disadvantaged groups when drawing up adaptation, mitigation, technology transfer and capacity building plans and programmes
2. Consideration of, and engagement with, disadvantaged groups within the institutional structures established to support the implementation of the climate change policy
3. Inclusion of the impact on disadvantaged groups, and their engagement, in the monitoring and evaluation framework developed in support of climate change policy implementation
4. Promotion of technologies that are amenable for use by vulnerable groups and culturally appropriate for these groups to use.

5.4 Private Sector and Community Participation

The participation of private sector and community are essential to make any development meaningful. With regard to climate change community participation is indispensable because it is communities who are affected by the impacts of climate change and will need to adapt and mitigate to climate change. Private sector has a major role to play in climate change mitigation and adaptation as they can be an influencing and shaping for the growth of green economy in Malawi. Furthermore, the private sector will play an important role in climate compatible development and creation of green jobs.

5.4.1 Goal

To provide for adequate community participation in climate change adaptation and mitigation activities and involve private sector in climate compatible development with a purpose of embracing green economy principles for the benefit of the country.

5.4.2 Specific Objectives

1. To promote public sector involvement in climate compatible development and environment friendly production and employment creation through provision of incentives;
2. To promote public sector participation in climate change related activities through inclusion of members from private sector into the National Technical Committee on Climate Change;
3. To increase number of public –private partnerships for climate compatible development;

4. To promote private sector participation in innovation and creation of green jobs, clean development mechanism and payment for ecosystem services schemes; and
5. To promote community participation in climate change adaptation and mitigation by providing for adequate stakeholder consultations.

5.4.3 Strategies

1. Promote public-private partnerships in clean development such as renewable energy and eco-tourism by providing incentives;
2. Provide incentives through new market mechanisms necessary for the promotion of sustainable green growth;
3. Promote participation of private sector to tap into Clean Development Mechanism funds through fostering opportunities that safeguard investments; and
4. Share success stories through national forums and media when private sector participates in climate compatible development.

5.5 Institutional Strengthening and Coordination

The public sector institutions whose mandates and activities need to incorporate climate change management include Ministries of:

- Environment and Climate Change Management
- Agriculture and Food Security
- Finance
- Economic Planning and Development
- Education, Science and Technology
- Transport and Public Infrastructure
- Local Government and Rural Development
- Trade and Industry
- Lands, Housing and Urban Development
- Water, Development and Irrigation Minister
- Gender, Child & Community Development
- Tourism, Wildlife and Culture
- Youth Development and Sports
- Health
- Information and Civic Education

There is need for strengthening of institutions and enhance coordination in order to have effective climate change management. Furthermore, other players such as private sector also must be adequately coordinated for effective climate change management. Finally,

communities and district decentralized structures must be strengthened and well-coordinated for adequate participation at all levels.

5.5.1 Goal

Malawi must strengthen its institutions and have well-coordinated measures to ensure that all relevant sectoral and development institutions, decentralized structures, private sector and community are able to manage climate change in a holistic manner collectively.

5.5.2 Specific Objectives

1. Strengthen institutions and create capabilities at decentralization levels and community levels to ensure collective and timely response to climate change and disaster risk reduction;
2. Improve coordination and provide a voice for all institutions and sectors through the adequate participation in National Technical Committee on Climate Change.

5.5.3 Strategies

1. Strengthen institutional capacity for climate change management and disaster risk reduction in government institutions, decentralized structures, private sector and communities;
2. Strengthen human resource capacity building and improve level of awareness, education, training for climate change management; and
3. Improve capacity of institutions through better data management, technology transfer and knowledge exchange.

6.0 Implementation Arrangements

This section highlights the institutional arrangements and implementation plan for the climate change policy.

6.1 Institutional Arrangements

There are many stakeholders operating across many sectors that need to be engaged in the implementation of this policy. Coordination and leadership across these sectors and between these stakeholder groups is critical to success. First and foremost, this leadership and coordinated approach has to be seen at government level. The prime goal of this leadership is to convene, facilitate and guide rather than to command and direct so that an integrated approach towards the common goals and objectives of this policy can be achieved. This

leadership role must also embrace district and local levels of government as well as the national level, and also seek community based engagement and action.

Key stakeholders include: government, non-governmental organizations and civil society, the private sector, academia, development partners, local communities, the church and identified disadvantaged groups.

The proposed institutional framework is presented in Figure 1.

At government level the current cabinet committee on Natural Resources and Environment should expand its mandate to include Climate Change issues. Similarly the Parliamentary Committee on the Environment should be expanding its mandate to incorporate climate change. The Cabinet Committee will enable all arms of government to coordinate their actions. The Parliamentary Committee will serve to provide good governance oversight of climate change issues.

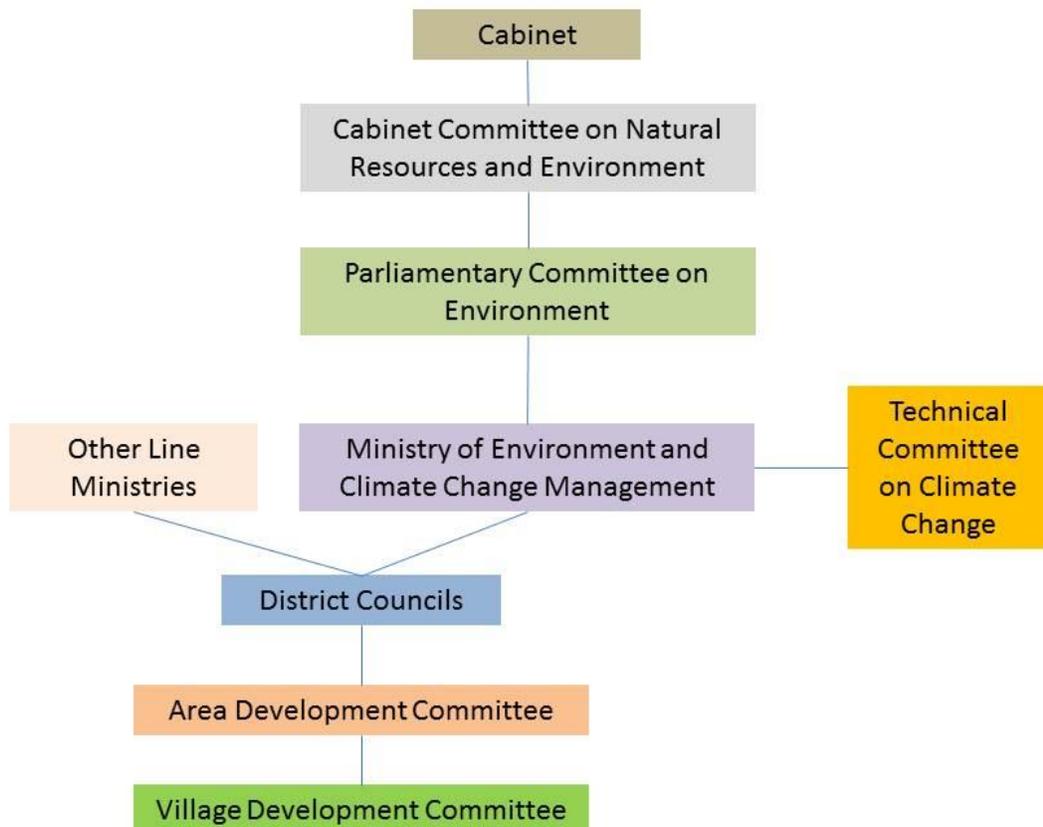


Figure 1: Institutional Framework for Climate Change

The existing Technical Committee on Climate Change may be strengthened by including any sectors that are not currently represented in its membership. Furthermore, adequate representation of private sector is also needed in this committee as green economy measures form an integral part of climate change management and need participation of private sector in this regard.

6.2 Roles and Responsibilities of stakeholders

6.2.1 General Public

Majority of Malawi's population lives in rural areas and is dependent on natural resource based livelihoods and therefore affected by impacts of climate change and extreme weather related events (floods and droughts). However, the population also contributes to climate change inducing emissions through land use change and deforestation. Therefore, Malawi's populations must be made aware of climate change impacts and human activities that cause climate change. They can contribute by adoption of environment friendly technologies and creating awareness on climate change adaptation and mitigation activities.

6.2.2 Private Sector

Private sector is an important stakeholder when it comes to economic growth and job creation in the country and therefore must take an active part in climate change management. The private sector can contribute towards green growth through innovation and provision of green jobs. Government can provide incentives for this and promote public-private partnerships to take this forward. Furthermore, the private sector should take an active part in decision making through membership in Technical Committee on Climate Change where they can air their views and participate in climate change management in the country. In particular, the private sector can take an active role in participating in projects for clean development mechanism, low carbon development, offsetting their emissions and investing in renewable energy.

6.2.3 The Media

The media must enhance its capacity to play a role of creating awareness amongst all stakeholders including at community level about climate change issues. The dissemination of information should be based on good robust science and evidence and in this regard there is need to promote science journalism. Messages disseminated by media in a timely manner and

will empower communities to take necessary action on climate change adaptation, mitigation and disaster risk reduction.

6.2.4 Non-Governmental Organizations, Faith and Community Based Organizations

NGOs, FBO and CBOs have an important role to play as they work closely with communities and can influence communities response to climate change adaptation and mitigation as they have the necessary resources to do projects at that level. It is important for this group of stakeholders to realize that mainstreaming of climate change and disaster risk reduction into their activities will help climate proof and sustain their activities for the longer term.

6.2.5 Training and Research Institutions

In Malawi it has been noted that there is need for more research in climate change issues and capacity needs assessments and training needs assessments have indicated that more work has to be done. In this regard training and research institutions have a pivotal role to play. Research which is local specific and which will provide solutions to problems faced in Malawi must be boosted. Training must continue for enhancing capacity of individuals and organizations to mainstream climate change issues into their activities and effectively adapt and mitigate to the impacts of climate change. Scientific knowledge from research must be used for decision making and practical solutions recommended that is user friendly and sensitive to local needs.

6.2.6 Development Partners

Development partners provide resources for Government and organizations in Malawi to carry out developmental activities. Their interventions/ support must be harmonized so that everyone works towards a common goal and climate change must be mainstreamed in all programmes and projects.

6.2.7 Decentralized structures

Decentralization in Malawi has been largely successful as structures have been put in place and communities' views are able to trickle upwards to District Councils and national plans. The organizations and committees at various levels (VDC, ADC, DEC etc) must ensure that views of people at grassroots level are included and projects and plans must not neglect to mainstream climate change.

6.3 Implementation Plan

6.3.1 Development of a National Strategic Plan

Government, through the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Management, and in conjunction with the key structures outlined in the institutional framework, will develop a national strategic plan to take forward this policy. The strategies developed should be in accordance with international cooperation and soft laws that Malawi subscribes to.

6.3.2 Incorporation of Climate Change into Sectoral and Partners' Strategic Plans

The bodies established in the institutional framework will review and promote the incorporation of climate change into all relevant Sector Wide Approaches, ministerial and partner strategic plans.

6.3.3 Review of Progress

Regular review of progress in the implementation of the policy and advice on how to take the policy forward will be provided by the bodies established in the institutional framework.

6.4 Monitoring and Evaluation

Climate change is a global, multi-sectoral and interdisciplinary issue. As a consequence, adaptation, as well as mitigation, technology transfer and capacity building requires intensive and continuous cooperation on local, regional, national and global levels. Observing change, in ecosystems and livelihoods alike, can only be achieved by monitoring key indicators and communicating anomalies and trends to those who can take action.

The Malawi Government is mindful of the need to monitor and evaluate: short term climate variability and long term climate change variables; climate change related impacts; and programmes and interventions. This will enable it to make evidence based decisions and to plan and respond effectively for adaptation, mitigation, technology transfer and capacity building. Monitoring and evaluation also provides a mechanism for institutional accountability. Progress with national developmental goals such as the MGDS II, NAPAs, NAMAs and NAPs can also be assessed. The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Management will be responsible for developing appropriate indicators, in consultation with the bodies identified in the institutional framework, and reporting regularly on those indicators. The Environmental

Affairs Department and Department of Climate and Change Meteorological Services will play a vital role in this endeavor.

The Government will further develop measureable, reportable and verifiable indicators to monitor and evaluate implementation of this policy. Where possible these indicators could be extended to cater for activities, sectors and institutions dealing with climate change issues. NGOs, civil society and the private sector may also participate in monitoring and evaluation, thereby improving national data availability and accountability. The Technical Committee for Climate Change may receive reports from the monitoring and evaluation to better advise Government and other stakeholders on managing climate change.

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