e) To provide accurate weather and climate information for the efficient planning, management and operation of commerce and industry;
f) To conduct research with the object of improving the understanding of weather processes affecting the country;
g) To develop and maintain an effective training programme for a responsive staff structure able to provide meteorological services;
h) To promote measures for reducing and reversing the degradation of the environment including aspects of climate change;
i) To contribute to the strengthening of international meteorological cooperation since weather transcends national boundaries and affects all people.
j) To contribute, through effective application of meteorological data and services, to the efficient use of energy sources, especially those that would help reduce the rate of increase of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.
k) To contribute, through effective application of meteorological data and services at national and international levels, to the accurate assessment of water resources to the efficient use of water for the increasing national population.
l) To ensure that the general community better understands the value of, and is better assisted to benefit from, the basic public information, forecast and warning services provided by Meteorological Services.

The DoCCMS therefore needs to ensure effective implementation of the policies, in line with the climate change policy which is being developed (see below).

"From 1979 to 2010, natural disasters affected nearly 21.7 million people and killed about 2,596 people" in Malawi. Disasters play a significant role in the persistence of household poverty and hindering national economic growth trends through economic losses and shocks to livelihood systems in both rural and urban areas. "Malawi is exposed to hazards which include drought, floods, stormy rains, strong winds, earthquakes, landslides, accidents, civil strife, HIV and AIDS, fires, epidemics and pest infestations" – of which drought, heavy and unseasonable rains leading to flooding and landslides, also strong winds are extreme events becoming more frequent and intense and are attributed to climate change. Thus these types of disasters are relevant to the CC programme. The objective of the draft **National Disaster Risk Management[10] Policy (2011)** is "to provide an enabling framework for the establishment of a comprehensive disaster risk management system for Malawi". Furthermore, the long-term goal for disaster risk management in Malawi is to "sustainably reduce disaster losses in lives and in the social, economic and environmental assets of communities and of the nation".

The National Disaster Risk Management Policy aims to ensure the mainstreaming of disaster risk management in development planning and policies of all sectors in order to reduce the impact of disasters and ensure sustainable development in the country.

Six priority areas have been identified towards the achievement of the policy goal and ensuring that Malawi meets its commitments to the Hyogo Framework of Action 2005 -2015 (HFA), the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction, MDGs and the MGDS. These are:

> Priority Area 1: Mainstreaming of disaster risk management into sustainable development policies and planning processes at all levels; *[clearly linked to mainstreaming CC]*
>
> Priority Area 2: Establishment of an effective system to identify, assess and monitor disaster risks;
>
> Priority Area 3: Development and strengthening of a people-centred early warning system;
>
> Priority Area 4: Promotion of a culture of safety, and adoption of interventions that enhance resilience through the use of knowledge, education and innovations;*[clearly linked to elements of the CC programme]*

[10] **'Disaster risk management'** is a collective term used in this policy to refer to the 'systematic process of using administrative directives, organizations, and operational skills and capacities to implement policies and improved coping capacities in order to lessen the adverse impacts of hazards and the possibility of disasters in Malawi.

Priority Area 5: Reduction of underlying risks;*[clearly linked to adaptation elements of the CC programme]*

Priority Area 6: Strengthening preparedness capacity for effective response and recovery at all levels; *[also clearly linked to adaptation elements of the CC programme]*

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The country does not yet have in place a **Climate Change Policy,** however, work began in early 2012 (under the NCCP) to formulate an integrated climate change policy that recognizes the multiple dimensions and cross-cutting nature of CC. This aims to harmonize policies and programmes, while bridging gaps between sectoral policies. The policy response will highlight gaps in the sector policies, while at the same time providing a holistic climate change policy framework for the whole country.There are clear differences between CC adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction / Management (DRR/M). In some respects, the two fields have the potential to benefit from the synergies if policies combine them to address weather and climate related natural disasters. However, as adaptation is required across the entire country across all sectors to address the changing "business as usual" situation, for example regarding temperatures, rainfall patterns, pest and disease outbreaks, not only in disaster-prone areas, it seems clear that in most respects separate actions are required.

Overview of on-going and planned climate change activities in Malawi

Many UN, bilateral donor and NGO projects and programmes are addressing aspects of climate change in Malawi, these include:

Under the UNDP's Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP) for 2008-11, the Malawi **Africa Adaptation Programme** (AAP) entitled "Building Capacity for Integrated and Comprehensive Approaches to Climate Change Adaptation in Malawi" and the **National Programme for Managing Climate Change** (NCCP) are currently being implemented (to be completed in December 2012).

In addition to catalysing this project, **UNDP** is developing two LDCF projects. One, entitled "Climate proofing local development gains in rural and urban areas of Machinga and Mangochi Districts", will use ecological, physical and policy measures to reduce vulnerability to climate change driven droughts, floods and post harvest grain losses for rural and urban communities. The other will contribute to the wider UN programme, including analysis of expenditure frameworks to determine adaptation needs within government budgets, developing cost-effectiveness information, identifying effective replication mechanisms and tools, also developing and testing decentralised capacity for CC adaptation planning. The results of these projects will inform on best practices for the evolving programme.

FAO is up-dating the land cover mapping of Malawi (part of the CCP), also will be using CC scenarios with crop models to predict impacts of CC on food security. FAO also have vast expertise across the developing world in promoting innovation in agriculture, notably using farmer field school approaches (learning-by-doing / action research) to catalyse innovation among land users. In Malawi, they have many sites where they have promoted conservation agriculture, which would be useful as demonstration areas. They have an invaluable range of learning materials which could be used as they are or tailored to local needs (e.g. translated into Chichewa) and are currently developing resources on climate smart agriculture. In June 2012, a CSA expert is to begin work for FAO Malawi (on a 3 year contact), providing a valuable resource person to the wider UN programme.

The **World Food Programme** (WFP) is leading aspects of the UNDAF on social and disaster protection. As WFP's role and comparative advantage is presence on the ground (bottom-up approaches), WFP are implementing aspects of the AAP, including developing on-farm demonstrations of adaptation actions. WFP is working with communities to develop district contingency plans for emergency preparedness and response and with DoCCMS establishing district climate information centres. They have developed 7 district centres to-date and will hand these over to GoM for districts to manage from the end of 2012.

During the CC PSD formulation, WFP has begun work to develop their new Country Programme for 2012 – 2016, which encompasses disaster risk reduction, provision for cash transfers for work and seeds for food security, also CC adaptation activities. WFP may work in around 2 – 3 districts, which they are yet to

identify (to be chosen on a "needs basis") and will consult with districts / communities from June 2012 to decide on this selection, what each require, where and the appropriate approach.

The **World Bank** Shire River Basin Framework, linked GEF project (a multi-focal area project under LD, CC and BD) and other DRM / adaptation activities include studies to improve the knowledge base, SLM (including CSA & CA), wetland management, flood management in the Lower Shire, institutional capacity building, training and development of a water resources information system.

The **European Union** are contributing funding to FAO to support climate smart agriculture in Malawi.

ICRAF use trees to address climate change adaptation and mitigation – but in Malawi, due to the low biomass of Miombo woodlands, focus is on food security and adaptation, targeting vulnerable areas / groups and aiming to increase tree cover in cropland to increase rain use efficiency.

DFID, the Royal Norwegian Embassy (RNE) and Irish Aid are funding a new project entitled Enhancing Community Resilience to Climate Variability and Change (2011 – 2015), which is being implemented using NGO partners (*inter alia* Christian Aid, Concern Universal, CARE and Action Aid). The project includes the following interventions:

- Conservation agriculture;
- Agroforestry;
- Small-scale livestock;
- Village savings and loans;
- Low carbon development and financing;
- Post-harvest management;
- Small-scale irrigation;
- Community-based early warning systems for disasters;
- Micro-solar entrepreneurship;
- Knowledge management and information sharing;
- Climate Change Policy Development.

JICA is mapping land cover with a view to using this for MRV of mitigation actions.

Total Land Care (TLC) focuses on sustainable agriculture, also micro-enterprise development, water and sanitation, crop diversification, small-scale irrigation (treadle pumps and river diversion), use of energy efficient stoves and natural woodland management. They will promote SLM practices such as CSA, and including similar activities done with DFID funding. TLC is also working on mitigation using Terra Global Finance, targeting borders of protected areas to benefit local communities.

USAID's 2011 report entitled Sustainable Landscapes was a preparatory study to identify how USAID can assist the GoM to become ready to participate in REDD+ including instituting the coordination and transparency structures to move forward and develop a National REDD+ Strategy. Specifically, developing a National REDD+ Secretariat with participation across the forestry sector (but not limited to the Department of Forestry, DoF); providing technical assistance by providing an embedded REDD+ advisor; and build technical capacity across Ministries for landscape-level land use planning that balances multiple uses.

To integrate USAID adaptation and mitigation efforts, the following are planned:

- Support landscape-level planning and vulnerability assessments that consider multiple land uses, including agriculture and forestry.
- Build capacity of forest, land, and agriculture extension officers to balance competing land uses and improve coordination between extension officers at local level.
- Develop integrated water resource management in catchments key to feed the Future and Food for Peace investments.
- Build capacity for use of GIS and RS as tool for climate change analysis, adaptation, and mitigation, for example for hazard mapping, vulnerability, and risk assessment, and land use planning.
- Pilot, evaluate, and implement climate smart agriculture to increase resilience of smallholder farming systems in line with the ASWAp
    - Build capacity in communities and district extension officers to apply agroforestry and conservation agriculture techniques
    - Encourage diversification of livelihoods

    - Apply ecosystem management approaches and land use planning principles in implementation of agro- forestry and conservation agriculture
    - Support reforestation in key areas (slopes, river banks) to decrease soil erosion and improve water quality and quantity
    - Maximize soil and tree carbon sequestration in agricultural systems and link with carbon markets
- Build capacity for use of GIS and Remote Sensing as tool for climate change analysis and deployment of appropriate adaptation methods
    - GIS/RS as tools for hazard mapping, vulnerability, and risk assessment
- GIS to integrate resource information such as soil suitability, land classification
- Pilot, evaluate, and implement Climate Smart Agriculture techniques and land management to increase resilience of smallholder farming systems in line with ASWAp
    - Build capacity in communities and district agricultural extension officers to apply agro-forestry and conservation agriculture techniques (no till, crop rotation, etc.)
    - Encourage diversification of livelihoods (livestock, beekeeping, etc.)
    - Apply ecosystem management and land use planning principles in implementation of agro-forestry and conservation agriculture
    - Support reforestation in key areas (slopes, river banks) to decrease soil erosion and improve water quality and quantity
    - Maximize soil and tree carbon sequestration in agricultural systems and link with carbon markets
- Develop integrated water resource management in catchments.

Irish Aid are supporting a national consultant who is researching options for crop diversification in Malawi (focusing on nutritional aspects, also farm diversification and production of export crops) (under DCAFS), which will provide invaluable evidence for scaling-up via Output 2 of this programme.

The **Global Climate Change Alliance** (GCCA) was launched in 2007 by the European Commission (EC) to strengthen dialogue and cooperation on climate change between the European Union (EU) and developing countries most vulnerable to climate change, in particular the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) which will be the hardest hit by the adverse effects of climate change.

The GCCA provides technical and financial support to targeted developing countries to integrate climate change into their development policies and budgets and to implement adaptation and mitigation interventions. The technical and financial cooperation in turn informs the policy dialogue and exchange of experiences between the EU and developing countries.

The five GCCA priority areas include:

- Mainstreaming climate change into poverty reduction development strategies;
- Adaptation, building on the National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs) and other national plans;
- Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD);
- Enhancing participation in the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM);
- Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).

Malawi is expected to be eligible for GCCA financial support in 2013, a mission to Malawi was undertaken in January 2012 to assist with the identification process and a decision on whether funding will go-ahead is expected in May 2012. During the GCCA scoping mission it was recommended to undertake the CC policy, planning and mainstreaming issues in collaboration with the on-going CCP and this PSD.

Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) is developing a programme to support CC-related activities in Malawi, focusing on adaptation in a wide range of sectors. The CC programme will include supporting 2 VSO volunteers to work in placements in positions which to-date have not been closely involved in the 2008-2012 CC programme (to be confirmed with GoM and VSO, provisionally in the Ministries of Health and Education).

UNEP will undertake the development of the Third National Communication (TNC), under the GEF enabling activities fund, and coordinated by the UNFCCC. This is expected to take place from 2011 – 2013.

Other UN agencies represented in Malawi (notably UN-Habitat, UNICEF, and UNFPA) do not yet have specific activities / plans to address how climate change is affecting their stakeholders. UNICEF is interested in the increased vulnerabilities of children under CC. UNFPA looks at the CC – Population interface and intends to fund elements of vulnerability studies and hazard mapping. It is intended that this programme will catalyse them to include this programme which has been designed in a way as to be sufficiently flexible to allow annual work plans of this programme to encompass them.

Co-ordination in climate change adaptation and mitigation in Malawi

Co-ordination of activities and also (if available) funding are prerequisites to successful adaptation to and mitigation of climate change. However, although better than in many countries, studies, plans and actions on climate change in Malawi suffer from a lack of effective co-ordination and information sharing, at GoM levels (national and local), between development partners / NGOs and also between GoM and development partners. This can in part be attributed to the cross-sectoral nature of CC. The lack of co-ordination is exemplified by the fact that several donors are working to develop down-scaled CC scenarios for the country, without (it seems) reference to one another – and several independent initiatives are underway to map land cover and quantify, for example, remaining forests, which will be important for land use change monitoring, also land use planning and "monitoring, reporting and verification" (MRV) for mitigation. Such duplication is wasteful of resources. Inevitably, in addition to duplication, there are likely to be gaps between activities.

Table 1 summarises the current situation in Malawi.

Table 1: Summary of existing co-ordination mechanisms on CC in Malawi

Title	Membership	Frequency of Meeting	Other Info / Assessment of Effectiveness
National CC Programme Steering Committee	PS from key ministries as stipulated in the TORs	Once a quarter	Oversee the programme and advise on the policy issues. Meets bi-annually for now.
National CC Programme Technical Committee	Comprises of climate change Focal Points from different key ministries – also CSOs (NGOs + academia)	Once a month	Provides technical guidance to different climate change projects in the country, though in the past they were focusing more on NCCP. Chaired by Dir. Of DoCCMS, Dir LRCD Vice-chair, EAD secretariat
Sector Working Group (SWG) on ENRM and CC	Government, Development partners supporting programmes in the sector, Civil society related to the sectors	Quarterly for Technical Working Group – Technical is for sub-sector *Reportedly only met twice*	Forum to evaluate and review commitment of parties (Govt and Donors) activities/programmes in the sectors. Review of progress RNE Co-Chairs group
Government - Donor Working Group	Comprises of PSs and Heads of missions/country directors from all major donors in the country	Twice a year	Co-chaired by PS EP&D and UNDP. Looks at the potential funding avenues and advises accordingly. It is a forum where donors are informed and sensitised on different intentions and plans in CC of which they can subscribe to.
National Conservation Agriculture Task Force	GoM, NGOs, private sector TVM, MBC, Zodiak, DAES, (Media Council of Malawi), FUM, NASFAM, ARET, DAPS, CISANET, TLC, DARS, FAO, WFP, FIDP, IRLADP, Seed Co, Monsanto	Four times per year	Chair - Farmers Union, Vice Chair – Monsanto, Secretariat - Land Resources Conservation Department "driving policy"
Donor Co-ordination on Agriculture and Food Security (DCAFS)	Donors	Monthly	"working well"

Joint Resilience Unit	DFID, Norway, Irish Aid	Theoretically monthly, in reality on average every 2 months	To facilitate information sharing on the theme of vulnerability/resilience, as a lot of the various programmes share this concern. The JRU was instrumental in creating the Enhancing Community Resilience Programme. Has ToRs. Other DPs (UNDP, WB, USAID) were invited earlier, but since late 2011 have no longer been invited to meetings. JRU is now being evaluated by DfID (May 2012)

A potential solution to the lack of co-ordination would be to develop a CC and ENRSWAp to support GoM. According to the 2011 study on CC and ENR SWAp, "A number of stakeholders in Malawi would like to see ASWAp implemented for the CC&ENR for a number of reasons". These include that the SWAp approach:

1. helps government coordinate other stakeholders;
2. reduces friction between and among stakeholders;
3. enables a common practice to be adhered to by all partners in the sector;
4. achieves economies of scale by using coordinated funding;
5. assists in translation of adaptation at higher level into actions on the ground;
6. minimise duplication of efforts.

The study's 2011 draft report does not yet include conclusions or recommendations and there is not yet a consensus on the CC and ERM SWAp issue at GoM or donor levels. There are particular concerns, for example: "some donors... are not interested in working with the government and vice versa" (pers. comm. during formulation mission in April 2012); CC is inter-sectoral, and therefore by definition a SWAp is not appropriate; CC includes too many sectors to be manageable as a SWAp; a SWAp could not include NGOs which are very active in the field; and for certain bilateral and multilateral donors, it is currently not possible to pool financial resources.An alternative funding mechanism could be a multi-donor trust fund.

It is essential that the difficulties which have arisen due to the complexities of funding of the current two projects (CCP and AAP) are taken into account as lessons learned, in order that funding operations can be better streamlined in the future.

The existing NCCP Technical Committee provides a fairly effective information sharing mechanism among donors, NGOs and academia, thus provides a model which could be further strengthened in the future programme.

Donor coordination could be developed following the successful model for Agriculture and Food Security (DCAFS) (with the demise of the JRU, this seems currently underway).

Due to the inter-connected nature of the programmes, the CC project is inextricably linked to the UN Programmes being developed on Disaster Risk Management, Environment and Natural Resources and also on Sustainable Energy Management. The programmes will benefit from the synergies between these programmes, notably as all are likely to promote adoption of an ecosystems approach, and will achieve multiple benefits from activities (from the policy level to implementation) as these all fall under and respond to a specific Outcome in the UNDAF 2012 – 2016 (Outcome 1.3: *Targeted population in selected districts benefit from effective management of environment; natural resources; climate change and disaster risk by 2016).* Notably, the DRM programme includes the mitigation of and planning for extreme events arising from CC, while sustainable energy management contributes to CC mitigation by reducing GHG emissions (use of PV / geothermal / wind, also energy efficient stoves / sustainable charcoal / biogas / biofuels from waste). The detailed joint planning will also avoid the risk of trade-offs.

II. STRATEGY

For Malawi, climate change adds another layer of complexity to existing development challenges (*inter alia* high levels of poverty and inequality, rapid population growth, underdeveloped markets, poor infrastructure and service provision, also weak governance systems). This needs to be tackled in a holistic manner, with a focus on the national development challenges that climate change poses, by creating the enabling environment and capacities to put in place a national climate change response framework, and operationalize this response framework, through improved mainstreaming of climate change in policy and planning, increased financing to mitigate and adapt to climate change, better knowledge management and more effective coordination at all levels. The activities under this framework at local level will be targeted to vulnerable areas and households so that especially the poorer and more vulnerable segments of the population will be able to adapt to and counter the effects of climate change.

Vision

This project intends to assist the Government to ensure people and communities have the knowledge and information to respond appropriately to the interaction of these new and old pressures. Since change is a constant, sustainable interventions can only be achieved if people can adapt them in the future (beyond the time-span of this project) to a changing context. Accordingly, the vision of this project is to work with Government of Malawi and other stakeholders to support "climate-proofing" for all sectors and levels, to create an enabling policy and regulatory environment, increase financing and strengthen capacity to adapt to the effects of climate change, which will better support all Malawi's people, communities, ecosystems and hence the wider economy of Malawi.

Climate change policies

The project is aligned to and follows the priorities of Malawi Growth and Development Strategy II for 2012 - 2016 (MGDS II). It is directly linked to the MDGS II priority areas on Climate Change, Natural Resources and Environmental Management and on Agriculture and Food Security (see Annex 6 for details). The project is also in line with the Malawi Government priority to mainstream climate risks in development, in order to drive national development within the context of the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy.

The project contributes to the following existing policies and programmes: a) National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP); b) National Action Programme to Combat Desertification and Mitigate the Effects of Drought; c) Food Security Strategy; d) Agricultural Sector Wide Approach (ASWAp), specifically the pillars on Sustainable Land & Water Management and Food Security &Risk Assessment.

This project will provide the framework for UN assistance (under the One UN approach[11]) to the Government of Malawi for climate change (CC) adaptation and mitigation for 2013 – 2016. It contributes to the 2012-2016 United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), within which each UN agency will focus on their areas of comparative advantage under Joint Outcomes.

The project is based upon the achievements and lessons learned from the existing UN climate change and other wider environmental projects /programmes, notably the Malawi Africa Adaptation Programme (AAP) entitled "Building Capacity for Integrated and Comprehensive Approaches to Climate Change Adaptation in Malawi" and the National Programme for Managing Climate Change in Malawi (NCCP), which are being implemented to December 2012. Most notably, the 2013-2016 project will build on the draft national climate change policy (which is currently being developed), by operationalising these vital cross-sectoral policy and investment frameworks, catalysing promulgation of associated Acts – and ensuring that key sectoral policies are climate-proofed, creating an enabling environment to minimising the adverse impacts of CC on the people and economy of Malawi.

[11] Also known as "Delivering as One", to which Malawi is a "self starter" country, and under which in country the UN is increasingly applying joint programming, analysis and prioritization.

Climate finance

The project will also contribute to actions to ensure Malawi benefits from developments in climate financing, both from emerging adaptation funds and assisting in securing CC mitigation funding, recognizingthat new sources of climate finance have the potential to create a double dividend ("win-win" benefits), delivering multiple climate and development benefitsnot only from REDD+ (as specified in the UNDAF), but extending to include other C funds[12] which are easier to secure than REDD+[13], which for example includes a notoriously complex monitoring, reporting and verification system (MRV).

The project will particularly strengthen national capacities to access new and innovative sources of CC finance, promote synergies between development and CC finance and the use of public finance to catalyze private investment within a national broader investment framework (Investment Plan, National CC Fund) and taking into consideration barriers to improve CC investment capacity (institutional, behavioural, technological, regulatory, fiscal, etc.). The possibility of establishing a national climate fund will be also evaluated, specifically in order to raise innovative sources of domestic climate finance, to facilitate accessibility to national or international public funds, to bring under one roof a collection of existing national funds/financial programmes with similar objectives but disparate governance and accountability arrangements, or to blend these resources with multiple complementary international and national resources for specific sectors/projects, as well as manage, monitor and evaluate them in an integrated manner. As increasingly recognized by UNDP (2011), developing the capacity of policy-makers to blend and sequence different sources of public climate finance will be indeed critical to establishing synergies between development, climate and ecosystems finance. The past few years have also seen the emergence of a number of innovative public-private partnerships to reduce investment risks, optimize the use of both sources of finance and pool public and private sector talents and strategic capabilities. International support to Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs), as foreseen under this project, may increase opportunities to blend public and private domestic and international finance and develop innovative PPP to scale up GHG reduction efforts in different economic sectors. In any case, most transformational initiatives will involve multiple policy instruments and mechanisms (like sector wide approaches), financing options and stakeholders' consultation processes.

The project will use lessons learned from past and on-going experience in Malawi (e.g. DoF 2006 – 2010 national "Tree planting for C sequestration and other ecosystem services" programme; "Trees of Hope", led by the Clinton Foundation and Plan Vivo; Terra Global Capital with DNPW) but also learning from successes elsewhere in SSA (e.g. Plan Vivo in Mozambique, Tanzania and Uganda). The project will build on and operationalize the CC Investment Plan that is currently being developed and that will be ready by the end of 2012. The private sector investment in climate change will in particular be pursued, mainly in Climate Change mitigation, where overseas investment funding is potentially available (e. carbon financing, clean development mechanism), but also on adaptation, where the private sector is normally less present. The national investment flow will in particular be supported, by providing opportunities to the national private sector and investors, e.g. through specific climate change investment windows in on-going investment programmes. The project should also address direct access to climate finance for Malawi, which may help reduce the transaction costs associated with projects that presently involve a large number

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[12] Adaptation - notably GEF, the LDCF and the World Bank's Pilot Program on Climate Resilience (PPCR).Mitigation - REDD+, REDD++, the Clean Development Mechanism, the Africa Carbon Exchange, the Green Carbon Fund and the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility. Also Voluntary Markets, including the Verified Carbon Standard, the American Carbon Registry, the Gold Standard (which certifies renewable energy and energy efficiency carbon offset projects to ensure that they all demonstrate real and permanent greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions, as well as, sustainable development benefits), Carbon Fix Standard (a standard that can be followed to produce carbon credits through forest activities that have social and ecological co-benefits) and Plan Vivo (a standard for designing and certifying community-based payments for ecosystem services programmes. Activities are focused on the land use and forestry sectors).

[13] In "the final year of the Fast Start period, it is apparent that the start has not been all that fast. A significant proportion of pledged REDD+ finance remains to be allocated to specific funds, programs or initiatives. Where monies have been committed, disbursal to implementing agents has been very slow. However, the reach of this financial support is increasing. As reported in the Voluntary REDD+ Database, 75 countries are planning or implementing REDD+ activities supported by international public finance. These countries represent a broad geography and a range of country circumstances. So far, the majority of participating countries have secured funding only for readiness, capacity building and demonstration activities (Phases 1 & 2). Only three countries – Brazil, Guyana and Indonesia -- have received commitments for interim funding for full-scale implementation (Phase 3), primarily from the government of Norway." (ODI REDD finance delivery, 2012)

of intermediaries. Direct access, however, demands that national institutions have the capacity to meet fiduciary standards and manage and spend this money well. Some of this was addressed in a recent Climate Finance Readiness Workshop (June 2012), and Lessons Learned from this workshop and subsequent national activities will be taken into account in detailing future support activities.

Adaptation and adaptive capacity

The UN and UNDP in particular is uniquely positioned in Malawi, as a locally-based UN agency with a track-record and comparative advantage in capacity development and successfully implementing up-stream activities that can provide a vital co-ordination role (for other UN agencies and more widely between other donors) to catalyse enhanced capacity to adapt to climate change risks and impacts across sectors in Malawi (one of the MDGS II goals).

At individual and institutional level, substantive capacity development has already taken place, following the Capacity Needs Assessment (CAN) / Training Needs Assessment (TNA) and Training Action plan under the CCP / AAP. Given newly emerging conditions (e.g. installation of a new Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Management) and challenges (socio-economic situation), these efforts need to continue and be intensified.

One of the biggest challenges within all development programming is how to ensure that individuals and societies can adapt beyond the programme cycle of an intervention (in this case beyond 2016). This is crucial to climate change adaptation, because there is no end-point to which people have to adapt; people need to acquire the capacity to adapt for generations to come. This project aims to meet immediate needs but also build this capacity to adapt in the long-term.

Policy development alone will not achieve the required transformational results. Therefore the programme aims to catalyse a change from the traditional approach to one which focuses on developing people's adaptive capacity. Adaptive capacity needs knowledge and information to know what to adapt to, to have more options and to be able to make informed decisions. Many kinds of knowledge and information are needed, both by communities and by the development planners and actors who shape their economic world. These include:

- Knowledge for planners and policy makers: Better information on the likely impacts of CC in different areas of Malawi.

Thanks to the NCCP, AAP and other CC-related programmes, there is already a good general level of awareness among policy makers of climate change[14] and a wide range of CC related activities have started. However, no systematic efforts have yet been completed to model CC scenarios to show the effects and differing vulnerabilities in the districts / regions through the use of scientific tools such as downscaled General Circulation Models (GCMs) or Regional Circulation Models (RCMs).The CC project will continue the vital modelling work which has begun under NCCP in 2012(by consultants to the World Bank and UNDP) and is also being undertaken *inter alia* by ICRAF and USAID. The CC scenarios generated by the World Bank are to be used by FAO in crop yield models and crop suitability assessments to assess the likely effects of CC on agriculture in different regions / districts (in 2012). This project will extend this approach to include other key sectors (*inter alia* water resources, human health, energy, forestry, fisheries and wildlife) to ensure that all key sectors can develop the capacity to prepare appropriate, area-specific adaptation advice / interventions.

The 2011 AAP review of legal, policy and sectoral development frameworks relating to CC concluded that that there is very limited research in the process of integration of climate change. Most of the existing policies and legislation do not include provisions that encourage the knowledge sharing and / or research on climate change mitigation and adaptation, yet there are gaps in the knowledge necessary for effective response to CC. Both adaptation to and mitigation of CC are evolving topics, which require continuous knowledge generation and sharing[15] to support sound decision making. The UN programme should

[14]This may only relate to the increasing frequency of disasters, as these reach headline news – and not the widespread and more insidious effects of for example rising temperatures on crop yields and livestock growth and reproduction.

[15] For example TerrAfrica (www.terrafrica.org), FAO (http://www.fao.org/climatechange/fao-adapt/en/)

continue to work closely with Universities in Malawi, research institutions (e.g. ICRAF and ICRISAT) and professional bodies (*inter alia* meteorology, engineering, architecture, environment, agriculture, irrigation) to generate knowledge and disseminate expertise. The project will particularly emphasise that activities in Malawi should benefit from and share lessons with wider international developments in CC – avoiding the costly and time-wasting tendency to "re-invent the wheel".

- Knowledge for land users and wider communities (both rural and urban): adaptive capacity rests with people's ability to make informed choices, i.e. supported agency and allows people to make their own, better (more informed) choices. This is in contrast to current provision of information, which tends:
    - To be prescriptive;
    - To preclude choice
    - To be unreliable;
    - To be limited to a narrow range of issues;
    - To exclude uncertainty;
    - Not to be forward looking;
    - To lack medium- and long-term analysis.

Recent research indicates that even where no projects addressing CC have been implemented, land users in Malawi (G. Phiri – unpublished) are innovating and adopting some land management practices which contribute to adaptation and (incidentally also) mitigation, based on traditional knowledge (autonomous adaptation). However, the rates and patterns of change in weather and climate are more rapid than have been experienced in the past, thus many of the challenges created are beyond the scope of traditional knowledge / coping strategies, thus assistance and advice are required for planned / proactive / incremental adaptation – and mitigation.

Rural land users' efforts to adapt are also constrained, as generally they have an incomplete understanding of the causes and range of scenarios predicted for climate change, which gives rise to risks of maladaptation.

The project will catalyse improved provision of information (facts) which can be turned into knowledge (appropriate to people's levels of understanding) – to enable people to use it to answer their own questions and to have the ability then to act. This will benefit both district authorities and rural communities to enable them to understand the potential impacts of increasing weather variability and longer term climate changes on livelihoods and empower them to proactively adapt to coming challenges. Disseminating this analytical ability will be labour intensive and needs long time-horizons, thus can be costly, however it is adjudged to be vital. The project aims to rectify the all too common tendency for educated "elites" not to credit land users with the intelligence to make rational choices[16].

Information and knowledge

The Project will assist in generating, collecting, storing and sharing up-to-date data, information and knowledge on climate change in Malawi. The project will implement a selected number of the wide range of capacity building activities recommended in the newly approved National Environment and Climate Change Communication Strategy (NECCCS) and will work closely with the UN-CC Learn programme[17] to support local flexible decision-making and agency. It will also include focus on key groups in society who can further disseminate the information, notably parliamentarians, journalists and traditional leaders.

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and WOCAT (www.wocat.net)

[16]ODI and ACCRA (2011) Rethinking Support for Adaptive Capacity to Climate Change, the Role of Development Interventions, London, UK.

[17]The recently started pilot project of UN CC Learn will catalyze provision of comprehensive capacity building for the country. The goal and approach of the CC Learn project is directly linked to the climate change capacity building needs of Malawi and the programme will begin the process of helping to harness existing scientific knowledge at national, regional and global levels and to package and disseminate this information for the adoption and utilization by end-users (policy makers, academicians, private and civil society) to enable them to produce realistic plans and take improved adaptive actions to limit the adverse effects of climate change.

It is recognised that rural poor, particularly women, children, the elderly and people with ill health are most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change[18] and that in Malawi agriculture is the priority sector for adaptation (NAPA, 2006). Consequently, the priority for this UN support project will target pro-poor activities which will bring benefits to the most vulnerable land user in the selected districts of Malawi, to support adaptation of agricultural practices (*inter alia* crop diversification which effectively can reduce the risk of crop yield failure and improve nutritional status; CSA; CA; agro-forestry; supporting agro-biodiversity, encouraging more agro-ecological approaches, increasing small livestock keeping – there are examples of many of these, e.g. TerrAfrica and www.wocat.net) which require massive scaling-up, also improvements in post-harvest storage – through capacity building for extension staff, community leaders (traditional and modern) and land users. This will also bring new income generating opportunities (*inter alia* marketing of surplus crops, agro-processing, local manufacture of CA tools, non-woody forest products).

The recent LTS (2012) report noted that "there is a need for revitalization of extension services to go hand in hand with the agricultural input subsidy programme. This will require renewed investments in training of extension officers and their deployment in the rural areas." The project will include capacity building for extension staff to ensure they not only have skills in CSA, but also the knowledge of how to access the information land users require. This will be achieved through working in collaboration with other donors, notably FAO and Flanders International Cooperation Agency (FICA).

Low-Emission and Climate-Resilient Development Strategies

According to the SNC Malawi is a net GHG emitter, and although Malawi's current total emissions of GHGs are still low, it is a priority to ensure that with development, these do not rise exponentially. Thus, the programme will begin work to plan Low-Emission and Climate-Resilient Development Strategies (LECRDS) for Malawi[19], possibly in conjunction with USAID who have also embarked on a similar programme in the region ("Low Emission Development Strategies" – LEDS).The LECRDS process may be usefully broken down into the following five steps:

1. Develop partnership and coordination platform and multi-stakeholder participatory planning process;
2. Prepare climate change profiles and vulnerability scenarios[20];
3. Identify strategic options leading to low-carbon, climate-resilient development trajectories;
4. Prioritize strategic options through technological, social, and financial feasibility and cost-benefit analysis;
5. Prepare low-emissions and climate-resilient development roadmap (with the Sustainable Energy Programme).

Malawi is now part-way through the LECRDS process. By the end of 2012, CC profiles and vulnerability mapping should be in place – thus the programme should begin at stage 3, by identifying strategic options leading to low-carbon, climate resilient development trajectories. Particularly, technology can be a powerful solution for simultaneously addressing climate change and advancing development. If the process of technology development, diffusion and transfer is designed and implemented effectively, it will generate significant opportunities for Malawi to address climate change and promote sustainable, innovation-based growth. As such, choices that are made on technology selection and investments will have profound and long-term impacts. A key step for Malawi is to select technologies that will enable it to achieve development equity and environmental sustainability, and to follow a low emissions and low vulnerability development path. Key priority is also to identify priority mitigation and adaptation technologies, barriers to

[18]UNDP (2010) Mapping Climate Change Vulnerability: A Guidebook for Sub-National Planners

[19]http://www.beta.undp.org/undp/en/home/ourwork/environmentandenergy/focus_areas/climate_strategies/green_lecrds_guidancemanualsandtoolkits.html

[20]The impacts of the increasing variability of weather, longer-term climate change – and the increasing frequency of extreme events (dealt with in detail in the UNDP DRM Programme) will vary dependent not only on the events themselves but also on varying exposure, vulnerability and resilience of people and their livelihoods across Malawi. The CC profiles and vulnerability assessments are being prepared to ensure information and knowledge from varying sources are integrated (e.g. using GIS approaches to link information on soils, topography, livelihoods and poverty levels) to enable Ministries / Departments of GoM and partners to target support for CC adaptation and DRM (source SREX 2012 report, available from www.ipcc.ch).

investment in adaptation and mitigation technologies and priority climate actions by sector and according to the national development priorities (through a Technology Need Assessment for Climate Change).The CC programme will include a technology needs assessment, to identify, evaluate and prioritize technological means for both adaptation and mitigation, in order to achieve sustainable development ends. The three areas of technology which are very high priority for Malawi to ensure LECRDS into the medium to long term are in commercial agriculture, energy and infrastructure. These are also the areas identified for NAMAs (including transport), and the project will further support the completion and operationalisation of these NAMAs.

Gender and climate change

It is now widely acknowledged that climate change impacts are not gender neutral. The gender differentiated impacts of climate change are directly linked to gender differentiated vulnerabilities, coping and adaption capacities and practices. Women in general are more vulnerable to the immediate effects of natural disasters and the long-term effects of climate change because, as the majority of the poor, they are more directly dependent on natural resources for their livelihood.

Any planned climate change response is therefore incomplete without a gender perspective. Integrating gender dimensions into national climate changes policies, strategies, action plans and projects or programmes has become critical for realizing Government commitments put in place a response framework to climate change impacts and vulnerabilities. To ensure that gender concerns are incorporated effectively in national climate change responses, a clear understanding of the relationships between gender and climate change is critical. This requires a gender analysis, which will be undertaken in 2012 under the NCCP / AAP, and possible pilot studies to understand the dynamics of gender differences across a variety of issues critical for achieving adaptation as well as building resilience to climate change. These issues include for example, gender roles and activities, access and control over resources, services, knowledge, institutions of decision-making and networks of power and authority of specific needs of men and women. It is on the basis of this understanding that informed decisions with a gender perspective can be made to cover the broad context and the multiple dynamics in which a particular policy, project or programme will operate.

On these assumptions, the project will foster the following strategic actions:

- Advocate for women's participation on policy making bodies relevant to climate change and ensure that they are systematically engaged in dialogue;
- Advocate for the formulation and enactment of gender sensitive laws in relation to climate change;
- Ensure that relevant climate change policies and plans are gender responsive;
- Promote the use of gender disaggregation data in climate change management programmes;

Coordination

Given the magnitude of potential impacts in Malawi, climate change responses require concerted efforts by the development community to ensure adequate and effective adaptation and mitigation measures. This project includes continuation of the previous NCCP efforts to improve the coordination of efforts to address CC in Malawi, including the existing National Platforms (e.g. the NCCP Technical and Steering Committees), but particularly becoming even more inclusive[21], to bring together all other development partners working on climate change (*inter alia* other UN agencies, bilateral donors, NGOs), including strengthening the CC Sector Working Group (SWG) and a possible future CC SWAp.

The project will link and share lessons with complementary activities, notably at the implementation level, which are included in the programmes of other UN agencies (e.g. WFP, including GEF / LDCF projects),

[21]UNDP Malawi is already making concerted efforts to bring together as many DPs as possible for the CC work (e.g. in the on-going DP "Joint Analysis" around CC).