Document:	EB 2009/98/R.21	
Agenda:	15(b)	
Date:	4 November 2009	_ A
Distribution:	Public	
Original:	English	



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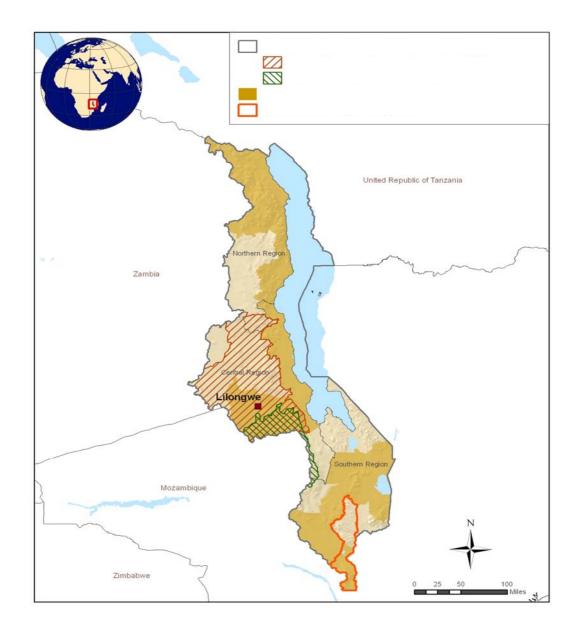
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⁵ تهدف المبادرة إلى زيادة إنتاج وإنتاجية المحاصيل الزراعية والمواشي وصيد الأسماك في المياه الداخلية وعلى شواطئ بحيرة ملاوي، وضفاف نهر شير وغيرها من المياه.

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COSOP consultation process

Design of the 2010-2015 COSOP was undertaken during 2009 and included the following processes:

A three week COSOP Design Mission in February 2009 involving:

- close interaction and discussions with Government coordinated by MOF;
- consultations with other key ministries and departments including MOAFS, MIWD, MLGRD, MITPSD;
- meetings with other development partners in agriculture and rural development including the World Bank, African Development Bank, NORAD, FICA, EU, JICA, DFID and USAID;
- meeting with the Donor Committee on Agriculture and Food Security;
- consultations with UN agencies including FAO, WFP and with the UN Resident Coordinator;
- meetings with other internationally financed projects including IRLADP and RLSP (IFAD), FIDP and IDAF (EU);
- meetings with rural financial service-providers including the Malawi Rural Finance Corporation and Opportunity International Bank in Malawi;
- meetings with various NGOs, farmers organizations (NASFAM), CSOs and private sector (Africa Invest); and
- meetings with the COSOP working group convened by MOF.

The first draft of the COSOP was prepared in March-April 2009 and circulated for review within IFAD. A meeting of the IFAD CPMT was held on 4th June 2009 to discuss the draft COSOP and offer comments for consideration.

A revised draft was circulated in Malawi and discussed with all key stakeholders during June-July 2009. This included a presentation to the Donor Committee on Agriculture and Food Security. Participants included representatives from World Bank, African Development Bank, EU, NORAD, Irish Aid, FICA, JICA, DfID FAO, WFP, UNDP and USAID. The draft was widely endorsed by Government and the donor community.

The draft was subsequently revised on the basis of government, stakeholder and donor comments, and on 01 September 2009, Government of Malawi sent a letter to IFAD fully endorsing the draft COSOP and urging the accelerated implementation of the SOs. The COSOP has been approved on 02 October 2009 by IFAD's Operational Strategy and Policy Guidance Committee (OSC).

Presentation of the COSOP to IFAD's Executive Board is scheduled for December 2009.

الذيل الثاني EB 2009/98/R.21

Country economic background

COUNTRY DATA

Malawi

Land area (km2 thousand) 2006 1/	94	GNI per capita (USD) 2006 1/	230
Total population (million) 2006 1/	13.57	GDP per capita growth (annual %) 2006 1/ Inflation, consumer prices (annual %) 2006	5
Population density (people per km2) 2006 1/	144	1/	14
Local currency Kwacha (MWK)		Exchange rate: USD 1 = MWK 140	
Social Indicators		Economic Indicators	
Population (average annual population growth rate) 2000-2006 1/	2.6	GDP (USD million) 2006 1/	3 164
Crude birth rate (per thousand people) 2006 1/	41	GDP growth (annual %) 1/	0 10 1
Crude death rate (per thousand people) 2006 1/	15	2000	1.6
Infant mortality rate (per thousand live births) 2006 1/	76	2006	7.4
Life expectancy at birth (years) 2006 1/	48		
		Sectoral distribution of GDP 2006 1/	
Number of rural poor (million) (estimate) 1/	0	% agriculture	34
Poor as % of total rural population 1/	0	% industry	20
Total labour force (million) 2006 1/	6.29	% manufacturing	14
Female labour force as % of total 2006 1/	50	% services	46
Education		Consumption 2006 1/	
School enrolment, primary (% gross) 2006 1/	119	General government final consumption expenditure (as % of GDP)	12
Adult illiteracy rate (% age 15 and above) 2006 1/	n/a	Household final consumption expenditure, etc. (as % of GDP)	77
		Gross domestic savings (as % of GDP)	11
Nutrition	0		
Daily calorie supply per capita	0	Balance of Payments (USD million)	
Malnutrition prevalence, height for age (% of children under 5) 2006 2/	49 a/	Merchandise exports 2006 1/	540
Malnutrition prevalence, weight for age (% of children under 5) 2006 2/	19	Merchandise imports 2006 1/	1 209
Health		Balance of merchandise trade	-669
Health expenditure, total (as % of GDP) 2006 1/	12 a/	Current account balances (USD million)	
Physicians (per thousand people	0	before official transfers 2006 1/	n/a
Population using improved water sources (%) 2004 2/	76	after official transfers 2006 1/	n/a
Population with access to essential drugs (%) 2/	n/a	Foreign direct investment, net 2006 1/	n/a
Population using adequate sanitation facilities (%) 2004 2/	61 a/		
		Government Finance	
Agriculture and Food		Cash surplus/deficit (as % of GDP) 2006 1/	n/a
Food imports (% of merchandise imports) 2006 1/	15	Total expenditure (% of GDP) 2006 1/	n/a
Fertilizer consumption (hundreds of grams per ha of arable land) 2006 1/	353 a/	Total external debt (USD million) 2006 1/	850
Food production index (1999-01=100) 2006 1/	92	Present value of debt (as % of GNI) 2006 1/	6
Cereal yield (kg per ha) 2006 1/	1 107	Total debt service (% of GNI) 2006 1/	3
Land Use		Lending interest rate (%) 2006 1/	32
Arable land as % of land area 2006 1/	28 a/	Deposit interest rate (%) 2006 1/	11
Forest area as % of total land area 2006 1/	36 a/		
Irrigated land as % of cropland 2006 1/	2 a/		

 $[\]ensuremath{\mathrm{a}}/\ensuremath{\mathrm{Data}}$ are for years or periods other than those specified.

^{1/} World Bank, World Development Indicators database CD ROM 2008

^{2/} UNDP, Huan Development Report, 2009

COSOP results management framework

Country Strategy Alignment		Institutional/Policy Objectives		
_	Goal: Reduce Poverty and Expand Economic Opportunities among the Rural Population			
MGDS and Draft ASWAp Targets Sustainable land management through adoption of improved agricultural land use (ASWAp). Protect and manage water resources to meet agricultural demand (MGDS). Sustainable water management by increasing the irrigated area for high value commodity production (ASWAp).	Strategic Objectives SO1: Improved access to appropriate technology and services for sustainable natural resource management (land and water) Sustainable management of land and water resources.	Outcomes which COSOP Seeks to Influence a/ Improved productivity of rainfed and irrigated agriculture. Widespread adoption of conservation agriculture techniques. Reduced rate of land degradation and soil fertility decline. 33% increase in the area under small and medium scale irrigation systems. Improved water use efficiency and crop production in existing and new irrigation schemes. Improvement in household incomes and nutrition status of participating	Milestones Showing Progress Towards SOs a/ • At least 10 000 smallholders adopting improved agriculture techniques in programme areas. • Area of smallholder farms irrigated using sustainable land and water management systems increased by at least 30%. • No. of Water User Associations taking responsibility for operation and maintenance. • 50% increase in value of production from smallholder irrigation.	Specific Policy/Institutional Ambitions Clearly articulate and adequately resource MOAFS policy on conservation agriculture and link to national social and environmental policies. Address environmental issues associated with irrigation schemes. Strengthen market linkages for irrigation and other smallholder farmers. Alignment of MOAFS budget with ASWAp focal areas.

Country Strategy Alignment	Key Results			Institutional/Policy Objectives
	Goal: Reduce Pov	erty and Expand Economic (Rural Population	Opportunities among the	
Increase agricultural productivity, avoid food shortages, add value and increase food exports (MGDS). Food Security: increase maize productivity and reduce post-harvest losses; diversify food production for improved nutrition; risk management to sustain national food availability (ASWAp). Commercial Agriculture: promote agricultural exports; develop commercial agriculture and agro-processing for the domestic market (ASWAp).	Strategic Objectives SO2: Improved Access to Sustainable agricultural input and produce markets Facilitate the transition from subsistence to small and medium scale commercial farming.	non-tobacco agricultural exports. Increased share of Malawian produce in domestic regional and international food markets. Amount of value adding applied to agricultural raw materials. Number of rural households with access to financial services. Availability of commercial agricultural inputs in rural areas.	smallholders participating in outgrower or contract farming schemes. • 50% improvement in household incomes and nutrition status of participating smallholders.	Specific Policy/Institutional Ambitions Develop an enabling commercial environment which will attract the necessary private investment. Develop a collaborative approach between private and public sectors within the framework of PPPs. Formulate a comprehensive rural microfinance policy and regulatory framework. Alignment of MOAFS budget with ASWAp focal areas. Strengthen coordination and M&E arrangements across relevant ministries and donor organisations under the ASWAp umbrella.
Promote growth and development of rural growth centres (MGDS)	commercialisation th	ntres will have an important ro rough the development of inpu cessing and provision of financ	ut supplies, marketing, agro- ial services.	Streamline and focus RLSP approach to develop a model for integrated rural development.
Prevent and manage nutrition disorders, HIV and AIDS (MGDS) (All indicators to be gooders)	SOs and in a	uth and nutritional issues will programmes and projects ind	cluded in the COSOP.	Contribute to refinement of GOM policies on nutrition, gender and HIV/AIDS.

2005 COSOP logical framework

Programme structure	Verifiable indicators	Means of verification	Assumptions/risks
Goal: Livelihoods of rural poor strengthened through agricultural development and economic diversification	Impact indicators based on RIMS: No of households with improvement in household assets ownership index	National Monitoring Indicators PBAS	
	Reduction in prevalence of child malnutrition (weight for age) No of households with improved food security Literacy rates (by sex)	Completion evaluations	
Objectives: Objective 1. Strengthen agriculture as main livelihood for semi-commercial and emergent smallholders (MPRSP pillar 1 pro-poor growth and MEGS) Objective 2. Secure and diversify rural livelihoods for marginal farmers and vulnerable households (MPRSP pillar 3 improve quality livelihoods for vulnerable) Objective 3. Strengthen human, social, physical and natural resources at community and household level (MPRSP pillar 2 strengthen human	Second-level results based on RIMS: Incremental hectares of crops grown (rainfed, irrigated, dimba/dambo) No of farmers adopting promoted technologies and practices No of farmers reporting production/yield increases No of farmers reporting increased herd sizes No of farmers reporting livestock production/yield increases No of farmers with secure access to water No of water user associations operational No of functioning marketing, storage, processing facilities No of farmer marketing groups operational No of off-farm enterprises operating after three years No of jobs generated by small and medium enterprises No of women on management committees by type of group No of active savers (by sex) No of households reporting reduction in property grabbing	Reports on results and impacts Project Progress Reports Supervision Mission Reports Evaluations	GOM committed to implementing MPRSP GOM creates enabling policy and institutional environment to stimulate economic growth Increase in private sector involvement in economy Reduction in HIV prevalence rates Reduction in external shocks to economy
capital) Outputs: 1.1 Intensify agricultural production for semi-commercial and emergent smallholders. 1.2 Improve access to profitable markets. 2.1 Effective utilisation of limited resources for partial food security for marginal farmers and vulnerable households. 2.2 Develop and diversify non-farm employment.	Ha improved through soil and water conservation measures First-level results based on RIMS: No of farmer field schools formed (by sex of members) No of farmers trained in crop and livestock production (by sex) No of farmers using purchased inputs No of hectares under small scale irrigation established No of farmers trained in irrigation agronomy (by sex) No of water users associations formed (by sex of members) No of farmers trained in marketing (by sex) No of marketing groups formed (by sex of members) No of household storage facilities constructed/improved No of marketing facilities constructed/rehabilitated No of processing facilities established No of farmers trained in business skills and micro-enterprises	Project Progress Reports PPMS Reviews	Trade opportunities on international markets Urban markets create demand for agricultural produce Opportunities for profitable crop and livestock production Rural industrialisation Opportunities for non-farm employment People willing to switch to more nutritious, non-maize based diets People willing to reduce HIV-risky behaviour

Programme structure	Verifiable indicators	Means of verification	Assumptions/risks
3.1 Develop community's capacity to participate in development initiatives. 3.2 Develop farmers' capacity to use financial services and promote culture of savings. 3.3 Strengthen human resources and gender empowerment. 3.4 Increase understanding about HIV/AIDS and stimulate behaviour change. 3.5 Introduce HIV/AIDS workplace programmes. 3.6 Increase understanding about nutrition, particularly for PLWHA. 3.7 Promote asset protection and development. 3.8 Maintain and enhance natural resource base and environment.	(by sex) No of farmers trained in savings and credit (by sex) No of people attending functional adult literacy classes (by sex) No of people attending gender training (by sex) No of community based organizations formed (by sex of members) No of HIV/AIDS community conversations held (by sex and age) No of HIV/AIDS workplace programmes in place No of nutrition education classes (by sex) No of hectares under nutritious crops No of enabling policies promulgated by type No of farmers trained in soil and water conservation and agro-forestry (by sex)		People willing to reduce gender inequalities People willing change from culture of dependency to self-reliance People willing to recognise new property and inheritance legislation

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Project pipeline during the COSOP 1

Sustainable Agriculture Production Programme (SAPP)

A. Possible Geographical Area and Target Groups

1. The programme will target entire poor rural communities, with special measures to encourage inclusion of more vulnerable households, without intending to exclude the better off, who are still poor by most standards. In most of northern and southern Malawi at least 60%, and sometimes over 70% of people are poor. Programme activities would start in 4-6 districts in the north and south of the country where overall poverty levels are high. Districts with serious but reversible levels of land degradation and heavy population pressure will be given priority.

B. Justification and Rationale

2. Malawi has one of the highest population densities in Africa with around five people per arable hectare, placing heavy pressure on the environment. Poverty is closely linked to the capacity of the environment to support such pressure as poor people rely mostly on exploitation of natural resources. Declining soil fertility, land degradation as well as the combination of low or declining crop yields, small landholdings and erratic rainfall means that Malawi frequently experiences large food deficits, and widespread hunger and starvation in drought years. There is a need to break this cycle of poverty and hunger by introducing new ways of growing crops which are more productive but affordable by the poor, and offer potential to reverse the long-term decline in soil fertility.

C. Key Programme Objectives

3. The Programme will directly address Strategic Objective 1 which is intended to contribute to: (i) widespread adoption of improved agriculture techniques; and (ii) reduced rate of land degradation and soil fertility decline with the aim of achieving sustainable and increased agricultural productivity.

D. Ownership, Harmonisation and Alignment

4. The Programme will be implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MOAFS). It is harmonised with the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (2006-2011) and the Agriculture Sector Wide Approach - ASWAp (2008-2012). In the ASWAp, the Programme addresses the pillar on sustainable management of land and water; and also addresses the pillar on food security and risk mitigation by promoting innovations which sustainably improve crop yields overall, and reduce the risk of crop failure in dry years.

E. Components and Activities

- 5. The Programme will include two main initiatives (plus programme management) which will be incorporated into a number of components and activities to be further defined during the design process. These may include:
 - a) Farmer Adoption of Improved Agriculture Techniques to improve average crop yields, especially in drier areas and poor rainfall years, reduce yield variability, reduce labour inputs and improve soils. Activities may include: (i) creation of a low-cost farmer-to-farmer extension network with the specific purpose of demonstrating and promoting sustainable agricultural technologies; (ii) support for farmer organisations and farmer groups in the promotion of superior and appropriate agronomic approaches; (iii) support for large numbers of on-farm demonstrations, and monitoring of their performance; (iv) support for the conduct

¹ Names of projects may change during design

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of farmer-to-farmer training programmes based on the demonstration sites; (v) preparation and dissemination of extension materials designed for use by potential beneficiaries with low levels of literacy; and (vi) engagement with input suppliers/agro-dealers to encourage the commercialisation of input and equipment supplies needed for sustainable agriculture.

b) Applied Research and Knowledge Management to further refine and adapt the agronomic techniques to the socio-economic and agro-ecological conditions. Activities may include: (i) on-farm trials to refine the agronomic technologies already in existence for different agro-ecological conditions, farming systems, and socio-economic contexts; (ii) further development and testing of equipment (hand tools, animal traction equipment etc); (iii) studies of adoption behaviour and adoption constraints of CA and other agriculture techniques; (iv) baseline studies and monitoring of the physical, biological, social and financial impacts of the various agricultural technologies; (v) preparation of technical literature on sustainable agriculture practices, including crop and farm budgets; (vi) support for creation of, and participation in, national and regional networks on sustainable agriculture; and (vii) study tours, workshops and seminars to increase awareness amongst MOAFS personnel and other organisations engaged in agriculture and rural development.

F. Costs and Financing

6. The size and scope of the Programme will be tailored to match the availability of financing from IFAD and possible co-financiers, and would most likely fall in the range of USD 15-30 million over 7 -8 years. Government financing the Programme will be limited to taxes paid or foregone

G. Organisation and Management

7. The Programme will be managed within the ASWAp framework with overall responsibility assigned to a programme support unit within MOAFS. Organisation and management will coordinate closely with other sustainable agricultural production and intensification initiatives supported by other development partners. Collaboration will also be with agricultural research and training institutions.

H. Monitoring and Evaluation Indicators

8. Specific indicators² may include: (i) measures of capacity and performance farmer groups and farmer-to-farmer extension networks engaged in promotion of improves agricultural practices; (ii) the number and quality of on-farm demonstration sites established, and farmer awareness of these; (iii) number of farmers trained and rates of adoption of improved methods by target group farmers; (iv) data on the physical, biological, social and financial impact of CA on the fields of adopting and non-adopting farmers; (v) availability and quality of extension and training materials; (vi) commercial availability of inputs in the Programme areas; (vii) documented results of on-farm trials to refine and adapt selected agricultural methods; (viii) quality and quantity of technical literature generated by the Programme; and (ix) reports on the activities of national and regional networks, study tours, workshops etc.

I. Risks:

9. The Programme will be subject to a number of generic risks affecting the entire country programme which are detailed in section V.F of the COSOP. Risks which relate specifically to the sustainable agriculture production programme include: (i) lack of institutional capacity of MOAFS particularly at District level and below, and on research stations; and (ii) the potential for agricultural research and extension effort to be dissipated among a number of un-coordinated initiatives; and (iii) other initiatives offering free or subsidised handouts which reduce the incentives for farmers to change the way they grow their crops.

² All indicators will be gender disaggregated.

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J. Timing: 2009/2010.

II. RURAL FINANCIAL SERVICES PROGRAMME (RFSP)

A. Possible Geographical Area and Target Groups

1. The Programme will have a thematic rather than a geographic focus. The target will be smallholder farmers who have the potential to move from subsistence to semi-commercial activities which will increase their cash incomes from the current very low levels.

B. Justification and Rationale

2. It is estimated that approximately only 12% of the population have access to financial services. Millions of poor rural households are seeking access to financial services. Households use financial services to build incomes, mitigate risk, and protect against vulnerability often exacerbated by economic crises, illness, and natural disaster. For the most part, agricultural production is not integrated into markets, and remains a subsistence-oriented activity. Financial services are critical for sustainable agricultural production and commercialization.

C. Key Programme Objectives

3. The Programme will directly address Strategic Objective 2. A sector review will be carried out and will provide a more definitive Programme strategy, objectives and components. Specific quantitative objectives may include: (i) increased outreach of microfinance institutions in rural areas; (ii) an increase in the number of rural households engaged in commercial activities which have access to a broad range of financial services; and (iii) establishment of an enabling policy, legal and regulatory environment.

D. Ownership, Harmonisation and Alignment

4. The Programme concept is harmonised with the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (2006-2011) and the Agriculture Sector Wide Programme (2008-2012). In the ASWAp, it addresses the pillar on agri-business and market development by supporting the commodity value chain in terms of financing; and also addresses the pillar on food security and risk mitigation by providing innovations for reducing risks.

E. Components and Activities

- 5. The Programme will include three main initiatives (plus programme management) which will be incorporated into a number of components and activities. These may include:
 - a) Supply side initiatives to improve the capacity of microfinance institutions to offer services to the target groups. This may include activities such as: (i) capacity building and capital raising for microfinance institutions; (ii) incentives for microfinance institutions to expand their services to rural areas, including the promotion of branchless banking technologies; (iii) support development of the microfinance support infrastructure, e.g. deposit insurance system, credit bureaus; and (iv) development of instruments for managing risks and widening the range of financial products.
 - b) **Demand side initiatives** to stimulate demand for rural financial services through sensitisation and awareness-raising among target groups. This may include activities such as: (i) support to farmer groups to form linkages with microfinance service providers as part of wider smallholder agribusiness development initiatives; (ii) training for actual/potential microfinance clients in the use of various types financial services, linked to financial literacy and business management training; and (iii) support for savings and loans groups as an entry point to the formal

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financial services sector; and (iv) consider linking up with on-going initiatives in such innovative fields as smart card applications and the expansion of risk mitigation strategies in agricultural finance, e.g. weather indexed insurance.

c) Policy, legal and regulatory reforms. This may include activities such as: (i) development of the necessary legal and regulatory framework to enable the Reserve Bank of Malawi to supervise the sector in the interests of quality, transparency and sustainability; (ii) measures to address the shortage of capital in the microfinance sector; (iii) measures to encourage the adoption of best practices by rural financial service providers; and (iv) improved coordination among the actors in the microfinance sector through support for sectoral organisation(s).

F. Costs and Financing

6. Approximately USD 15-30 million. Government financing of the Programme will be limited to taxes paid or foregone.

G. Organisation and Management

7. The Ministry of Finance is leading the process of addressing rural finance. Against this background, the ministry will take the lead in designing the Programme, working closely with the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Private Sector Development, and the ASWAp Secretariat.

H. Monitoring and Evaluation Indicators

8. Specific indicators³ may include: (i) measures of capacity and performance among rural microfinance service providers; (ii) the extent to which microfinance service providers extend their reach in rural areas (e.g. number of branches or agencies, number of clients); (iii) the range of products and services on offer to the target group; (iv) number of farmer groups and group members with linkages to financial institutions; (v) measures of financial literacy among farmer groups; (vi) number of active savings and loan groups; (vii) existence of an enabling legal and regulatory environment for rural financial services; (viii) amount capital available to the sector; and (ix) rate of adoption of best practices by relevant institutions.

I. Risks

9. The Programme will be subject to a number of generic risks affecting the entire country programme which are detailed in section V.F of the COSOP. Risks which relate specifically to rural financial services include: (i) the possibility that microfinance institutions and/or commercial banks will be reluctant to develop their services in rural areas; (ii) the Programme will be seen as a Government initiative or Government may intervene in ways that lead to poor loan recovery rates (as has occurred in the past); and (iii) other initiatives will offer subsidised services making it difficult to establish a sustainable rural microfinance sector.

J. Timing

10. Design of the Programme will await the findings of the proposed rural microfinance sector review proposed to take place during 2010. Subject to the findings of the review, and the availability of IFAD funds from the 2010-2012 PBAS cycle, design could take place during 2011.

³ All indicators will be gender disaggregated.

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III. Smallholder Water Management Project (SWAMP)

A. Possible Geographical Area and Target Groups

1. The primary target group will be smallholder farmers who have access to irrigation infrastructure, but lack the means to independently operate and manage the schemes. These would include small-scale and semi-commercial farmers, and emergent smallholder farmers with potential to produce a marketable surplus from plots in irrigation schemes, or *dambo*⁴ lands.

B. Justification and Rationale

2. Malawi has both a great need for irrigation development and great potential. Most rural households grow only one crop per year, and are underemployed during the long dry season when no crops are grown. The result is a low level of national and household food security and persistent high levels of poverty and malnutrition. A very small fraction of agricultural land is irrigated despite the availability of water from Lake Malawi, the Shire River, and a number of smaller perennial streams and *dambo* lands. Irrigation has the potential to increase yields substantially and provide at least two harvests per year, thereby generating attractive benefit/cost ratios as well as assuring sustained food security.

C. Key Project Objectives

- 3. The Programme will directly address both Strategic Objectives 1 and 2. It will also create a platform for IFAD engagement in policy dialogue on environmental issues associated with irrigation schemes, the need to strengthen market linkages for irrigation farmers, and the responsibility of WUAs for operation and maintenance.
- 4. Specific quantitative objectives would include: (i) sustained increases in smallholder agricultural production on small-scale irrigation schemes; (ii) increased net incomes and reduced prevalence of poverty and malnutrition among target group households; and (iii) strengthened local-level institutional capacity for sustainable self-management of land and water resources.

D. Ownership, Harmonisation and Alignment

5. The Programme concept is harmonised with the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (2006-2011) and the Agricultural Development Programme (2008-2012). In the ASWAp, it addresses the pillar on sustainable land and water management; and also the pillar on food security.

E. Components and Activities

- 6. The Programme will include three main initiatives (plus programme management):
 - a) Sustainable Land and Water Management to improve water use efficiency and cropping intensity in irrigation schemes. This may include activities such as: (i) introduction or scaling-up of improved irrigation technologies and training for farmer groups in their application; (ii) rehabilitation physical and organizational of small-scale irrigation schemes (with emphasis on on-farm irrigation improvement); (iii) enhancing adoption of improved varieties and cropping practices and efficient water management practices; (iv) strengthen agriculture extension service and technology transfer in and around the irrigation; and (v) addressing issues concerning security of land tenure in irrigation areas.
 - b) **Commercialisation** of agriculture on small-scale irrigation schemes. This may include activities such as: (i) support to farmer groups to form linkages with microfinance service providers and commercial enterprises as part of wider smallholder agribusiness development initiatives; (ii) training for farmers in basic financial management, marketing, agro-processing and business management; (iii)

⁴ Swampy lowlands capable of producing crops in the dry season.

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linking farmer groups to financial services; and (iv) support for SME-scale agribusiness enterprises and other value chain actors with the potential to add value to agricultural produce .

c) Institutional Development to support communities and their capacity to access complementary goods and services to optimise their returns from irrigation farming. This may include activities such as: (i) facilitation and training support for WUAs; (ii) support for implementation of the new legal and regulatory framework and operational guidelines which devolve responsibility for water management to WUAs; and (iii) improved coordination among the actors in the small-scale irrigation sector through support for sectoral organisation(s).

F. Costs and Financing

7. The size and scope of the Programme will be tailored to match the availability of financing from IFAD and possible co-financiers, and would most likely fall in the range of USD 15-30 million. Government contribution to the financing of the Programme will be limited to taxes paid or foregone.

G. Organisation and Management

8. The Programme will be managed within the ASWAp framework with overall responsibility assigned to the Ministry of Irrigation and Water Development (MIWD). Several other ministries will have responsibility for specific sub-components and activities, including the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, and the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Private Sector Development.

H. Monitoring and Evaluation Indicators

9. Specific indicators⁵ may include: (i) number and type of improved irrigation technologies deployed and number of farmers trained in their application; (ii) area of small-scale irrigation schemes rehabilitated; (iii) number of small-scale irrigation farmers with secure land tenure; (iv) number of farmer groups with established linkages to microfinance institutions and agro-enterprises; (v) number of farmers trained in business skills; (vi) SME agribusiness enterprises supported by the Programme; (vii) number of water user associations formed, trained and sustained as effective management units; (viii) number of farmers trained in sustainable water and environmental management of the schemes; and (ix) legal and regulatory instruments for devolving water management responsibility to water user associations.

I. Risks

10. The Programme will be subject to a number of generic risks affecting the entire country programme which are detailed in section V.F of the COSOP. Risks which relate specifically to small-scale irrigation development include: (i) institutional complexity relating to the involvement of two ministries (agriculture and irrigation) and possible ambiguities about roles and responsibilities; (ii) shortages of technical capacity in the irrigation sector as well as failure to recognise the importance of soft investments to complement civil works; (iii) diversion of resources and capital into the construction of new large scale irrigation schemes; and (iv) a tendency to discontinue support for water user associations before they have the capacity to independently manage schemes in a sustainable manner.

J. Timing

11. Design of the Programme will take place in the second half of the COSOP period with funding allocated from the 2013-15 PBAS cycle. This will also allow time for completion and evaluation of IRLADP to inform the design process, and for the design to fit within the proposed irrigation development master plan which is likely to be formulated in the next few years. On this basis the Programme would be launched around 2013-14 and run for 6-7 years.

⁵ All indicators will be gender disaggregated.

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IV. Smallholder Agricultural Commercialisation Programme (SACP)

A. Possible Geographical Area and Target Groups

1. The geographic location of the Programme cannot be defined at this stage since it depends on decisions by the commercial partner about the type of enterprise (most likely an industrial crop), the availability of land for a nucleus estate, and very likely the availability of irrigation water and transport infrastructure. The main target will be smallholder farmers who have the potential to move from subsistence agriculture to become small-scale commercial farmers as outgrowers linked to a nucleus estate. The Programme's outreach will extend to some of the "ultra-poor" through employment opportunities generated by commercial development.

B. Justification and Rationale

- 2. The great majority of Malawi's smallholder farming households are caught in a poverty trap related to small landholdings, poor infrastructure, low education standards, and limited access to markets and services. The poor tend to live in remote areas with limited roads and/or means of transport which restricts their access to markets and limits their economic opportunities. Any cash income they are able to generate is immediately spent to satisfy urgent needs and the rural economy is unable to generate sufficient savings to finance the investments needed to break out off the circle of low productivity and poverty.
- 3. A key development issue is the need for sustained rural economic development through commercially oriented investments to overcome the constraints of limited market demand, underdeveloped entrepreneurial capacity and the inability of most households to effectively manage risk. Malawian farmers are generally un-prepared for the market-led world. They struggle to be competitive in a situation where they are not well connected to markets and lack the knowledge, skills and financial resources to participate fully in the commercial transactions. Few have succeeded in transforming from subsistence to small scale semi-subsistence or semi commercial status. Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) offer a new option for addressing these issues, and the Government is currently drafting a bill to regulate such arrangements.

C. Key Programme Objectives

4. The Programme will directly address Strategic Objective 2 of the COSOP. Specific quantitative objectives will be articulated during the programme design process, and may include: (i) increased private investment in Malawi's agricultural sector with substantial smallholder participation; (ii) an increase in the number of rural households engaged in commercial activities under outgrower and/or contract farming arrangements; and (iii) establishment of an enabling policy, legal and regulatory environment for profitable agribusiness investments.

D. Ownership, Harmonisation and Alignment

5. The Programme concept is fully in line with the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (2006-2011) and the Agriculture Sector Wide Approach (2008-2012). In the ASWAp, it addresses the pillar on commercial agriculture, agro-processing and market development by integrating smallholders within larger scale commercial operations; and also addresses the pillar on food security and risk mitigation by providing innovations for reducing risks.

E. Components and Activities

- 6. The Programme will include two main initiatives (plus programme management) which will be incorporated into a number of components and activities:
 - a) **Nucleus Estate Development:** This would be financed by one or more private investors, and calls for a number of complementary initiatives by Government in

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order to provide the investor(s) with secure access to land and water resources and a regulatory framework which underpins satisfactory social and environmental protection: This may include activities such as: (i) acquisition or lease of agricultural land (and probably irrigation water) required for establishment of a nucleus estate; (ii) establishment of crops/plantations and agro-industrial facilities; (iii) development of transport and social infrastructure; and (iv) recruitment of outgrowers and/or contract growers and the development of outgrower support services such as input supplies, technical training, financial services, crop harvesting, transport, storage etc.

b) Outgrower and Contract Farming Initiatives: This would include the "soft" investments needed to ensure that the smallholder component of the investment operates as planned for the benefit of the target group. This may include activities such as: (i) support to farmer groups in their dealings with the nucleus estate, and to provide complementary social and environmental services; (ii) livelihood support for community members who are not engaged as outgrowers; (iii) provision of extension services (in conjunction with the nucleus estate); (iv) special incentives to encourage participation of vulnerable groups who may otherwise lack the resources or capacity to be engaged as outgrowers; and (v) assisting to connect outgrower farmers to financial services.

F. Costs and Financing

7. The size and scope of the Programme will be tailored to match the availability of financing from IFAD and possible co-financiers, and would most likely fall in the range of USD 15-30 million. Government contribution to the financing of the Programme will be limited to taxes paid or foregone. The private sector partner would be expected to finance development of the nucleus estate and processing/marketing facilities, and also provide technical support for outgrower groups.

G. Organisation and Management

8. The Programme would be organised and managed as a PPP under a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the Government and the agribusiness investor(s). The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MOAFS) may be the lead Government agency. The Ministry of Industry, Trade and Private Sector Development (MITPSD) and the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (MLGRD) would also be key players.

H. Monitoring and Evaluation Indicators

9. Specific indicators⁶ may include: (i) measures of the value of private investment in agribusiness (local and foreign) with smallholder participation; (ii) the number of smallholders participating in outgrower or contract grower arrangements and their levels of income and other livelihood measures including food security; (iii) measures of production and value addition relating to smallholder output from nucleus estate schemes supported by the Programme; and (iv) overall fiscal impact - the amount of taxation revenue generated from the investments less the cost of services provided by the Government.

I. Risks

10. The Programme will be subject to a number of generic risks affecting the entire country programme which are detailed in section V.F of the COSOP. Risks which relate specifically to the smallholder commercialisation programme include: (i) the possibility that it will prove difficult to attract suitable agribusiness investor(s) – in which case the proposed scheme(s) would never get of the ground; (ii) the possibility that the an investor might pull out or fail to meet its obligations under the proposed MOU; and (iii) failure to attract the participation of significant numbers of smallholders or if smallholders engage in rampant "side-selling" to competitors.

⁶ All indicators will be gender disaggregated.

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J. Timing

11. It is not possible to determine precisely when it will take place, since it depends on securing an agreement with a private investor. Should a suitable investor come forward at an early date it would be desirable to initiate the Programme as soon as possible, or the opportunity may be lost. Experience from similar initiatives suggests that once an agreement is in place, implementation can proceed quite rapidly.

Key file 1: Rural poverty and agricultural/rural sector issues

Priority Areas	Major Issues	Possible Actions by Programme
Commercialisation of smallholder production, promotion of value	Lack of entrepreneur culture, business and financial management skills	Sensitise/promote entrepreneurial culture, farmer group/MSE business, financial management skills
	Absence of contract loyalty/credit repayment culture among small farmers	Facilitate resilient market linkages based on sustainable MSE business relationships
addition and MSE development	Limited supply contract-based market linkages	Promote market-led, rural-based MSE agro-processing ventures
de telepillem	Low purchasing power of local consumers, local market	Facilitate generation of market information and timely dissemination
	volumes	Facilitate development of storage and market infrastructure by private
	Limited value addition and high MSE dependence on huving and colling of upprecessed agricultural products.	sector/joint venture
	buying and selling of unprocessed agricultural products, dominated by food items	Collaborate with relevant stakeholders to promote financial services to support business ventures
	Limited availability of skilled service providers	Develop marketing skills among service providers
	Lack of adequate and timely market information	Identify market opportunities and convey to farming community
	 Inadequate market infrastructure: storage, collection centres, feeder roads 	Support MSE lobbying for sector policies and regulations for improved business environment
	Limited availability/access to financial services	Facilitate access to functional adult literacy classes, related to enterprise
	Lack of comprehensive policy/regulatory framework for MSE development	development
	Limited capacity of farmer based organisations to bargain and negotiate	
	 Lack of skills in post harvest, value-adding and agro- processing activities 	
	Limited capability to identify/exploit value chain opportunities	
	High levels of illiteracy, innumeracy	
Poor natural resource	High population density limiting availability of quality agricultural land	 Promote low cost organic soil conservation methods mulching, manuring and composting - to prevent erosion and build/protect fertility
management	Limited use of organic methods to improve soil fertility	Promote community reforestation activities
	High price of inorganic fertiliser for profitable production	Roll-out successfully demonstrated conservation agriculture packages suitable for
	Environmental degradation through deforestation,	smallholder adoption
	erosion and siltation	Promote water use efficiency through water user associations
	High demand for fuel wood to meet domestic and agricultural usage	
Vulnerability of rural livelihoods	Predominantly subsistence production on small acreage holdings	Diversify farm base through market-led opportunities supported by training and improved extension
	Dependence on a few crops with low marketing potential	Promote group action and cohesion - and contract discipline
	Unreliable climatic conditions frequency of	Provide demand/commodity led research and disseminate appropriate

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Priority Areas	Major Issues	Possible Actions by Programme
	droughts/floods	technologies for smallholders
	Risk averse approach to production	Facilitate linkage with suppliers, providers and buyers and support collaboration
	Limited use of improved technologies/reliance on manual cultivation	Build self-reliance based on commercial approach and relationships - and higher incomes
	Limited access to extension services	
	Weak input supply and marketing systems	
	Food insecure for a number of months a year	
	Limited opportunity to strengthen asset base and diversify income	
	Large percentage of ultra poor who have little time, resources, ability or motivation to participate in agricultural commercialisation	
Weak public sector	Poorly funded and resourced District Administrations	Focus public services on few critical areas related to financial aspects of
capacity for support to community and enterprise development	Government extension and community development services limited by low staff: farmer ratio and inadequate operating funds	 development and livelihood uplift; and clearly define public/private responsibilities Promote private sector/ NGO provision of services, in tandem with public services, where possible
	Weak knowledge integration for small farmer decision making	 Promote service provision that responds to market oriented knowledge needs of the poor
	Inadequate attention to sustainability/ownership issues	Strengthen capacity of DAs to coordinate development partners in their area
	as communities are not fully involved in planning and decision making for development	Promote capacity and participation by smallholders and farmer organisations in planning and review exercises that influence how funds are utilised
	Slow and imperfect implementation of the decentralised processes	Promote public/private/NGO partnerships for synergy, sustainability
Gender inequality and HIV/AIDS	Limited access to natural and productive resources for women	Include gender/socio-economic analysis in pre-implementation baseline and awareness exercises
	Limited opportunities for income generation for women	Support gender and HIV/AIDS sensitive/informed development initiatives
	Restriction of women benefiting from income by traditional male dominance	Link Programme activities with gender/HIV efforts/resources of other projects, initiatives
	High illiteracy rates and limited outside exposure among women	Promote gender equity in service provision and decision making by the farmer groups and service providers
	Reduced productivity, increased costs and depletion of	Assist women to access productive resources (physical and knowledge)
	family assets from the disease and its side and after effects	Provide functional literacy training in context of value chain/enterprise development
	Limited availability/use of labour saving technologies and practices	Encourage affected people and families that have capability to join enterprise groups
		Attempt to develop inclusive approaches for affected people and orphans in enterprise activities

Key file 2: Organisations SWOT analysis

Institution	Strengths	Weaknesses/Threats	Opportunities	Remarks
Ministry of Finance	Qualified and experienced staff for budgetary allocations and disbursements of funds	Delays in disbursement of funds Weak monitoring system	Streamline financial flows and disbursement procedures Strengthening capacity for effective monitoring Conscious/supportive of need for more realistic and sustainable local economic development	Plays a key role in Programme implementation re flow of funds.
Ministry of Development Planning and Cooperation	 Highly qualified and experienced staff Responsible for economic planning, project and programme oversight 	Limited presence/capability in District affairs	Conscious/supportive of need for more realistic and sustainable local economic development	Plays key role in Programme planning, oversight.
Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MOAFS)	Well established structure from headquarters to District level Past investments in facilities for the delivery of services to the farmers Staff well trained in several aspects Established system of communication Core functional analysis is being conducted Taking lead role in formulating the ASWAP	 Poor past record of development effectiveness Over-dependency on donor-funding Insufficient public funding for services/facilities Inadequate coordination of activities in the five main departments High level of turnover and attrition mainly due to HIV/AIDS, affects service delivery capability Weak leadership and analytical skills of field staff Gender imbalance in staff and targeting of services Inadequate financial know-how, M&E and accountability Inability to retain staff due to low salaries NGO demand for staff compromises availability Reluctance to devolve power and resources under decentralization 	Agriculture remains a priority of Government Donors willing to support MOAFS to implement policies Existence of training institutions for capacity building Tax exemption for agricultural inputs Complementarity and synergy with NGOs and the private sector	Need capacity to direct involvement of NGOs in delivery of services to the farmers Decentralization process is still new, and responsibilities of central ministry and district level staff still need to be clarified Possible service provider
Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development	 Government supports decentralization Key staff positions at Centre and District level filled with qualified staff Incorporates National Local Government Finance 	Limited operating budget Weak democratic representation at District level due to election delay Limited M&E capacity Limited experience/understanding of commercial aspects of local development	Identification of development projects that are reflective of real need and priorities of rural people Strong commitment to implementing decentralization to get resources out to rural areas and measure impact Good working relations with other	A key role in streamlining decentralization process and development of community-based projects Main Programme Government counterpart

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Institution	Strengths	Weaknesses/Threats	Opportunities	Remarks
	Committee which determines District budget allocations Experience under RLSP and other District development projects	Pressure of work for staff at Centre	ministries	
Ministry of Industry, Trade and Private Sector Development (MITPSD)	Government policy supports increased participation of MSEs and smallholder farmers in commercially viable business enterprises MITPSD is currently well positioned as the lead Government agency charged with development issues relating to MSE and MFI sectors	 Lack of adequate funding for operational budget, computers and transport facilities Lack of adequate/qualified staff at HQ and in field Low capacity for effective operation in rural areas Lack of sufficient MSE sector information and capacity for M&E Slow progress in re-drafting and implementing MFI and MSE policies and regulations 	 Internal policy commitment for MFI and MSE sectors Significant donor interest and involvement in working with MITPSD towards development of MFIs and MSEs MITPSD currently coordinating the process of re-drafting MSE and MFI policies and regulations Clear appreciation of private sector as engine of growth Willingness to work with other MSE and MFI stakeholders Collaboration between Programmes 	Needs additional qualified staff, finances, computers, transport Need to decentralise operations to field level for more effective interaction with rural MSEs MSE commitment not yet reflected in sector policies and regulations Major service provider, if enabled
Ministry of Irrigation and Water Development (Department of Irrigation)	Specialist staff available, experienced and competent at Centre Policy and development strategy in place for small scale irrigation Track record of water user association (WUA) formation and support	Pressure of work, other project commitments including IFAD/WB IRLADP of HQ staff Limited number of field staff, since role now to facilitate, not implement • Lack of proper, full training of staff • Dubious past history of project implementation, irrigation promotion and financial management	Potential for development, improvement, expansion of micro- irrigation schemes and WUAs in value chains	Ambitious programme of capacity building, expansion underway for IRLADP purposes Possible service provider Possible adviser and member of project PSCs
Ministry of Mines, Natural Resources and Environment (MMNRE)	Several specialized departments: forests, fish, with qualified staff Well established offices nationwide Devolved functions Legal and policy framework to ensure service delivery to the public	Loss and limited ability of qualified staff Bureaucratic rigid decision-making processes Insufficient public funding of ministry activities Poor planning/coordination of dept activities Absence of sustainable supplementary funding Functions devolved but severe lack of facilities, equipment at some Districts/offices Lack of management information system	Specialized departments Donor interest in NRM issues Increased involvement of local communities in natural resource management issues Diverse natural resources Poverty leading to over exploitation of natural resources	Need to promote community-based natural resource management Low level of awareness historically and locally on environmental issues
Ministry of Women and	Addresses both gender and community development through	Short of staff High level of turnover and attrition	Fourth department to be established from July 2007: Entrepreneurship	

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Institution	Strengths	Weaknesses/Threats	Opportunities	Remarks
Child Development (MWCD)	economic activities all in one Ministry Has experience of working with donor funded projects (such as SSEEP)	mainly due to HIV/AIDS and staff leaving to work with other organizations	Development, under which Economic Activities of the Community Development Department will fall and links will be made with the MITPSD and Private Sector	
Department of Agricultural Extension Services (DAES within MOAFS)	New demand driven pluralistic extension policy Experienced extension staff at Centre Gender and HIV/AIDS mainstreaming activities underway	Shortages of qualified and trained staff generally Lack of staff trained in new demand driven mode of extension service delivery Weak competence of Subject Matter Specialists Limited back-up capability to support extension delivery at District level Weak extension-research linkages Shortage of basic resources for extension delivery Weak agri-business/marketing extension service	 Experience in forming and farmer associations Resources available to upgrade services with European Union support Restructuring on-going under EU funding to better align with a decentralized mode of operation 	Need for organizing farmers and training for decentralized structures Lack of clear definition of responsibility between Central Ministry and District staff Requires change of MOAFS mindset from traditional supply-side extension service delivery approach Possible service provider
Other MOAFS Depts: Planning; Trade and Marketing; Land Resources and Conservation; Co-operatives; and Communications	 Professional staff and specialist units at Centre capable, active Substantive donor/project funding and support 	Shortage of staff away from HQs Loss of trained staff to other ministries and private sector due to salary levels, prospects Lack of on-the job training Lack of facilities for full operation More theoretical than practical, esp commercial Over-reliance on projects, donor funding	New agriculture sector policy and strategy ASWAp implemented Experience of development of farmer organisations	Need reorientation, strengthening to comply with new decentralization and demand-led approach Probable service providers
Department of Community Development (of MWCD and at District level)	Has staff experienced in facilitating communities to form groups carrying out economic activities Has expertise in training, for instance in business management and leadership Used to working with NGOs	Short of staff numbers about one third of positions filled at District Insufficient operating expenses therefore transport not maintained, equipment lacking, insufficient funds for group training	CD staff considered key for the implementation of projects – particularly for formation and sensitisation of farmers groups	As above Key service provider, Programme partner, if enabled
National Smallholder Farmers Association of Malawi (NASFAM)	 Well qualified and motivated staff Specific mandate to work with private sector Professional approach to tasks Ability to identify niche sectors and support farmers to exploit 	Donor funded and maintained with yearly financial budget Uncertainty of sustainability if donor withdrawal Serving specific areas based on the funds available Seen as unfair competitor by private	Government support for diversification of food crops as well as rural incomes Existing involvement in value chain commodities trading Existing extension capacity need to justify their costs Strong affiliation with farmer groups	Sound capability and interest to provide advice and services to small holder farmers Probable value chain partner

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Institution	Strengths	Weaknesses/Threats	Opportunities	Remarks
	them	sector • Seen as equivocal buyer by some farmer groups • Caters more for commercial farmers		
Bunda College of Agriculture	Well established curriculum Fully accredited college Professional staff, good facilities Experience in drafting collaborative projects with private sector and Farmers Union of Malawi (FUM)	Reliant on Government subventions for developments Limited commercial knowledge, understanding Emphasis on theoretical aspects and limited practical training	 Need to develop suitable curricula for training in market oriented smallholder agriculture Involved in collaborative groundnut improvement proposal with private sector and FUM. 	Capability to develop tailor-made training courses in market-oriented smallholder agriculture Has professional staff in areas of interest of the Programme Probable adviser, service provider
Natural Resources College	Good infrastructure and facilities Good demonstrations Practical training tailored to local needs	Qualifications only at certificate level Diploma courses not recognized by University	 Practical training in high demand at field level Institution is autonomous and self sustaining 	Capability to train trainers in natural resources management and environmental subjects Probable adviser, service provider
Malawi Social Action Fund (MASAF)	 Financial management, accountability Multi-disciplinary staff Proven methodologies for community mobilization and empowerment Use of decentralized structures for implementation, with safeguards, guidelines and MoUs Well equipped 	 Slow responsiveness to requests, because it follows a systematic approach Heavy demand on staff from existing activities, including IRLADP Decentralization process has led to loss of control over implementation Assumption of new responsibilities may be beyond its capabilities 	Ability to deliver projects with community-based, demand-driven approach	Capability to assist implementation and financial management of demand-driven initiatives Probable adviser, service provider
Malawi Rural Finance Corporation (MRFC)	Significant amount of Government financial resources available Qualified and motivated staff Well represented at the District level Comparatively better financial management system, loan recovery rate	 High dependence of Government financing and likely future decrease/suspension Focused on provision of micro credit and weak capacity in non-credit BDS services No mandate nor capacity to mobilize savings Government-driven business operations High loan default rate and unlikely financial sustainability 	Possible source of financing for value chain development activities	Needs to re-orient attitude towards sustainable commercial business Need to sensitize organisations on importance for other noncredit business development services Possible service/finance provider

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Institution	Strengths	Weaknesses/Threats	Opportunities	Remarks
Input Suppliers	Significant retail branch network in the rural areas for the main input suppliers (Kulima Gold, Farmers World, Chipuku Stores, Peoples Supermarket) Professional approach to business	Limited technical knowledge regarding application of inputs being dealt with resulting in limited extension support services Inadequate staffing and transport facilities to facilitate after sales support in form of extension services to smallholder farmers Overly high interest and dependence on Government subsidy schemes Possibility of unsustainable business operations in the event Government subsidies are withdrawn Shortages and high cost of working capital	Potential to offer BDS services to farmers Potential to maximize outreach given the wide rural branch network	Some input suppliers are not genuinely interested in farmers welfare May be more interested in maximizing profits, which is reflected in the common practices of buying back, at the lowest possible price, coupons provided to poor households under the subsidy scheme Possible advice/service providers, value chain partners
International NGOs	Sound experience Well financed with resources to carry out identified tasks Ability to mobilize communities through PRAs, rights based approaches, gender/HIV-AIDS awareness training Good linkages, mentoring of local NGOs	Staff professional capabilities often expensive Depend on public sector staff for tasks locally In many cases operate independent of consensus with the public sector Decrease in financial support from donors Time required to build trust with communities Perceived competition between NGOs and the Government Some resentment due to differences in remuneration Failure to address needs of the communities but instead carry out what they perceive is required. High operational costs Draw staff away from Government service to work for NGOs	Potential capability to supply essential services, both ad hoc and longer term Need for Programme to develop contracts with fair terms but rigorous performance rewards/penalties Need for Programme/donors/Government to intervene to break up apparent cartel approach	Better cooperation required between public and NGO sectors At broader level, Government appreciates their role and has retained services on public funded projects to support and train Government staff Probable advice/service providers
National NGOs	Good experience and knowledge of local situations. Understand national and local issues	Limited resources as they are dependent on international NGOs and donors Activities very localized at times due to limited financial resources Difficulties in recruiting, retaining qualified staff	 Relatively low operational cost. Decrease in financial support from donors Competition between national NGOs for qualified staff 	Government appreciates their role and has retained their services on public funded projects to support and train Government staff Probable advice/service provider

Institution	Strengths	Weaknesses/Threats	Opportunities	Remarks
Local NGOs	 Clear understanding of local problems Identify with and trusted by local communities Government appreciates their role in rural development. Motivated staff 	 Limited resources both human and financial Tend to be partisan when there are disputes between communities Limited outreach Not sustainable as they are initiated with donor funds and last as long as the funding is available May have unqualified/less qualified staff 	 Fill the existing gaps in public sector Decentralization policy has a role for local NGO in service delivery to local communities Often donor-driven and wind up after funding ceases 	 Many activities initiated are not sustainable Need to be strengthened as the staff understand local situations Many are opportunistic and have no clear vision Possible advice/service provider

Key file 3: Complementary donor initiatives/partnership potential Donor/ Nature/Title of Complementarity/ **Implementing** Project/Programme Project/Programme Coverage Status Synergy Potential Agency European Union/ Farm Income Coverage: Country-wide, 17 Districts, including 4 (non-RLEEP) Districts in the Central Close Date similar approach MOAFS Diversification (CD): and content to Programme (FIDP) -RLEEP, but less Objective: Overall objective: To achieve a sustainable improvement in livelihoods of 31-Mar-08 Phase 1 rural communities through diversifying farmers' income. emphasis on Programme purpose: to increase food security and income levels of rural households Total commercialization ensuring a sustainable use of soil and water resources by encouraging business Costs and economic development and employment as well as improved marketing of agricultural products (TC): arowth in selected communities. Euro complementary Components: On-farm activities; Capacity building; Support at village level supplies; 16.2m and **Technical Assistance** liaison/learning Planned Output/ Results: opportunities - Improved knowledge, attitude and organisation of rural communities. - Sustainable management of soil conservation and soil fertility. - Enabling environment for agriculture business initiatives promoted. - Improved capacity of rural communities to access and develop post-harvest agricultural activities. - Timely and relevant education and training opportunities available in horticulture. European Union/ Institutional Coverage: Country-Wide CD: 01-Jun-• covers much of **MOAFS Development Across** Objective: 1. To achieve sustainable improvement in Livelihoods of the rural poor in 11 ground of RLEEP, line with the national strategic priorities as set out in the Malawi Poverty Reduction the Agri-Food Sector but in broad brush. (IDAF) Strategy, National Indicative Programme and ongoing policy development for the TC: strategic and Malawi Agri-food sector. Euro 7.97m capacity building 2. To foster an enabling institutional environment for the development and growth way across the agricultural and food industry, through the development of institutional possibility of capabilities of public and non-public actors, within a coherent conceptual framework. synergy for some Components: 1. MOAFS functions, mandate and organizational structure are revised activities, including and reviewed. policy dialogue 2. MOAFS capacities are strengthened in policy formulation, strategic planning, provision of production services and support to decentralization. 3. District agricultural services are responsive to demands of agricultural stakeholders. 4. Farmers based organizations are supported and developed. 5. Institutions and support systems to promote agri-food trade and access export markets are developed and promoted. 6. Systems, facilities and competent personnel are in place to attain international standards in agri-food exports. Planned Output/ Results: 1. Growth pattern and development in the agricultural and food sector particularly after implementation of the major reforms and capacity building during the first 2 years. 2. New mandate and organigram of Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, active

performance management system and impact evaluation report and strategic plans.

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Donor/ Implementing Agency	Nature/Title of Project/Programme	Project/Programme Coverage	Status	Complementarity/ Synergy Potential
World Bank/ GEF/Norad	Malawi Social Action Fund (MASAF) III	Coverage: Country-Wide. Objective: Improve the effectiveness of investments aimed at food security and sustainable agricultural growth; and the global environmental objective is to strengthen the natural resource base in agricultural lands through doubling the area under sustainable land management as a basis for securing ecosystem services and sustainable agricultural productivity Components: 1. institutional development and capacity building in preparation of a Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) in agriculture. 2. Sustainable food security 3. Project coordination Planned Outputs: 1 strengthen institutional capabilities necessary to further develop, and implement, a harmonized and aligned investment framework leading towards a full-fledged SWAP in the agricultural sector; 2. increase the land, water and nutrient use efficiency o f maize Based rainfed cropping systems targeted by the Government's Agricultural Development Programme; and 3. increase the resilience of the maize supply system to cope with climate induced risks and shocks.	CD: 15- SEPT 2013 TC: USD 47.5m	Key partner as project is support to the ASWAp.
World Bank, IFAD, Government	Irrigation Rural Livelihoods and Agricultural Development Project (IRLADP)	Coverage: Nsanje, Chikwawa, Blantyre, Phalombe, Zomba, Dedza, Lilongwe, Salima, Nkhatabay, Rumphi, Chitipa Objective: 1. To raise agricultural productivity and net incomes of the rural households in 11 target districts in a sustainable manner by providing an integrated package of support covering irrigation, agricultural/irrigation advisory services, marketing and post-harvest assets and services 2. To strengthen the country's institutional capacity for long-term irrigation development Components: 1. Irrigation rehabilitation development 2. Farmer Services and Livelihoods Funds 3. Institutional Development 4. Project Coordination and monitoring and evaluation Planned Output: 1. Small scale irrigation schemes rehabilitated and developed 2. Existing small storage reservoirs rehabilitated 3. Demand for rainwater harvesting and catchment conservation increased 4. Farmer services and livelihoods enhanced 5. Institutional development and community mobilization strengthened 6. Project implementation well coordinated	CD: 31- May-12 TC: USD 52.5m (IFAD USD 8m)	other main IFAD- assisted project possible synergy for learning on implementation
World Bank, Government	Community Based Rural Land Development Project (CBRLD)	Coverage: Mulanje. Thyolo, Mangochi, Machinga Objectives: 1. To increase incomes of 15,000 poor rural families through a decentralised community based and voluntary approach to land reform; 2. Facilitate land acquisition for the landless and poor rural people. Components: 1. Land acquisition and Farm Development; 2. Land administration; 3. Capacity building.	Continuing until 2009	Has potential to draw lessons on land reform process in Malawi.

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Donor/ Implementing Agency	Nature/Title of Project/Programme	Project/Programme Coverage	Status	Complementarity/ Synergy Potential
		Planned Outputs: 1. Increased incomes of beneficiary families control group and/or pre-project income levels; 2. Increased and sustainable agricultural productivity on participating farms; 3. Effective evaluation of the piloted approach; 4. Security of tenure of acquired land guaranteed; 5. Land accessing, titling and registration improved.		
World Bank, Government	Business Environment Strengthening Technical Assistance (BESTAP)	Coverage: Country wide Objective: To reduce constraints to new business formation and expansion and increase the productivity of SMEs supported by the project. Components: 1. Strengthening private property rights institutions and services 2. Promoting access to finance and productivity enhancement 3. Strengthening private property rights institutions and business facilitation 4. Capacity building and implementation support	Continuing until 2012	Possible linkage with commercialization and agribusiness development.
Africa Development Bank (AfDB)	Smallholder crop production and marketing project	Coverage: Balaka, Chikwawa, Chitipa, Dedza, Dowa, Karonga, Kasungu, Lilongwe, Machinga, Mangochi, Mchinji, Mzimba, Nkhatabay, Nkhotakota, Nsanje, Ntcheu, Ntchisi, Rumphi, Zomba. Objectives: To increase productivity and income of rural livelihoods in the project area through promotion of intensification and diversification of existing cropping system and improvement of the marketing system which will significantly increase production, productivity and incomes of the small farmer whilst improving household nutrition and environment management of natural resources. Components: 1. Irrigation developed; 2. Farmer support programme; 3. Project coordination and management. Planned outputs: 1. Irrigation schemes; 2. Increased household income above baseline information; 3. Improved marketing systems; 4. Natural resources management improved; 5. Improved nutrition status of households; 6. Increased crop productivity.	Continuing until 2013	
AfDB	Smallholder Irrigation project.	Coverage: Mwanza, Nsanje, Chikwawa, Neno, Thyolo, Chiradzulu, Blantyre Objectives: 1. To improve the well being of Malawians through poverty alleviation among rural people, by promoting broad based and accelerated agricultural development 2. To contribute to food security by increasing the irrigated land by 4600ha and increasing agricultural productivity of 12000 smallholders Components: 1. capacity building (training staff of MoAFS, Bunda College, NRC) Planned Output: 1. Building institutional capacity in irrigation technology and rural microfinance credit nationwide; 2. Establish a credit system; 3. Establishment of small scale irrigation schemes managed by farmers; 4. Irrigated land increased by 4,600ha in 25 EPAs by PY5; 5. Average farm income increase from US\$ 260 to 2,225 annually; 6. Irrigated land will be cultivated 2.5 times per year and productivity will increase more than 2.2 times by end of PY5; 7. Target group (12,000 families) adopt, form, own and manage 400 farmer clubs and 12 credit unions by PY5; 8. Survey, Soil, water flow and soil sampling practices in DOI, 4 RDPs and 2 research stations improved by end of PY5; 9. Capacity of the two NGOs group formation and training significantly improved by PY2; 10. Capacity of managing micro credit by MFI significantly improved	Continuing until 2009	

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Donor/ Implementing Agency	Nature/Title of Project/Programme	Project/Programme Coverage	Status	Complementarity/ Synergy Potential
		by end of PY2.		
IFAD	Rural Livelihoods Support Programme	Coverage: Thyolo, Nsanje, Chiradzulu Objectives: 1. The overall goal is sustainable poverty reduction through the promotion of on and off – farm and wage based income 2. Promoting sustainable agricultural production and simple but efficient natural resources management technologies for improved food security. 3. Nutrition and agriculture based incomes for better living conditions for the selected target groups 4. Promoting the development of skills for selected targets and availing financial support for both on and off farm investments that will utilise the acquired skills to improve their incomes. 5. Promoting employment through support for infrastructure development to provide incomes especially during off seasons. 6. Developing/improving individual and local community capacities and capabilities in terms of their organisation to access relevant resources to improve their livelihoods Components: 1. Village investment; 2. Abolish a dual system of local administration; 3. Promote accountability, good governance and popular participation in local development process; 4. Improve coordination among the ministries/departments operating at the district level; 5. Diversification of household incomes, with improved health and nutritional status of the target groups; 6. Support target groups with resources to invest in a series of activities that respond to their concerns and that use local opportunities as identified through the village planning process. Planned Outputs: 1. Invest in human capital. All villagers empowered to express, act upon including seeking support in resolving matters of genuine concern to them; 2. District administration and service providers oriented towards helping all villagers to solve problems of concern; 3. Village investments: Improved productivity of villagers' assets. Poorest villagers' asset based improved; 4. Programme management and co-ordination; 5. Effective management and co-ordination of 1-3 above, which involves ensuring transparency in operations, accountability, in local	Continuing until 2013	Lessons can be drawn for future interventions.
IFAD	Rural livelihoods and Economic Enhancement project (RLEEP)	downwards and upwards reporting to Govt. and IFAD. Coverage: Country wide Objectives: 1.Strengthen value chains and enhance the enabling environment to make it more conducive to rural commercial development. 2. improve linkages to farmers to value chains by establishing more efficient production, transport, storage, processing and marketing systems for targeting commodities thereby expanding economic activity and employment 3. Facilitate and manage the programme in an effective and efficient manner. Components: 1. Value chain mobilisation and organisation 2. Agricultural production enhancement and commercialisation	Just completed, discussions not effective yet	Will provide practical experiences with commercialisation.

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Donor/ Implementing Agency	Nature/Title of Project/Programme	Project/Programme Coverage	Status	Complementarity/ Synergy Potential
		3. Programme facilitation and management		
EU	Publics Works programme (PWP)	Coverage: Blantyre, Chikwawa, Dedza, Lilongwe, Dowa, Mchinji, Ntcheu, Kasungu, Nkhotakota, Machinga, Mangochi, Mzimba, Mulanje, Thyolo, Zomba Objectives: To contribute to the governments objective of poverty reduction in line with the Malawi Poverty Reduction Strategy (MPRS) Components: Roads, Irrigation, Forestry Planned Output: 1. Rural roads maintenance: 4050 kms of roads maintained; 2. Forestry: 27 Million trees planted and 3050 village clubs formed and accountable. 3. Irrigation: 4,940 treadle pumps distributed and 1,040 water harvesting projects 4. District assembly capacity: 15 district assemblies enhanced. 5. Cross cutting issues: 79,000 people empowered through awareness 30%of women and youth employed MK 210 million earned by women and youth. 30% of women and youth represented in development committees 610 linkages are facilitated	Continuing until 2010	
		6. Project management: 10 local project managers employed and earn MK184 million		
JICA	Capacity development of Smallholder Farmers for the Management of Self Help Irrigation Scheme (Medium Scale)	Coverage: Country wide Objectives: 1. To formulate action plan for the improvement of crop productivity in the existing self help irrigation schemes (Medium scale) 2. To formulate development plan for the self help irrigation schemes (medium scale) in the potential irrigable area 3. To carry out capacity development of Malawi counterpart personnel as well as of the communities concerned in the course of the study. Components: 1. Irrigation scheme 2. O&M of irrigation facilities 3. Farm management 4. Farmers group management Planned output: 1. Irrigation development plans 2. Improved crop productivity 3. Low cost rehabilitation with maximum use of local materials and minimum use of outside materials. Mobilisation of simple structures to be constructed, operated and maintained by smallholder farmers themselves.	Continuing	
JICA	Smallholder Irrigation Technical Cooperation Project	Coverage: Country wide Objectives: 1. To establish a package for extension system for small scale irrigation development in all potential EPAs; 2. To adapt small scale irrigation farming technologies and systematize experiences. Components: Establishment of a nationwide extension system for comprehensive small scale irrigation farming. Planned Output: 1. Extension system for small scale irrigation development package established at all EPAs. 2. Adaptation of small scale irrigation farming technologies and experiences systematized.	Continuing until 2009	

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Donor/ Implementing Agency	Nature/Title of Project/Programme	Project/Programme Coverage	Status	Complementarity/ Synergy Potential
JICA	Farmer Artificial Insemination Technician Foster Project	Coverage: Nation wide Objectives: Strengthen the system for artificial insemination (AI) service delivery through training for farmer AI technicians by dispatching several numbers of JOCVs specialized on Animal Husbandry.	Continuing until 2011	
FAO	Integrating food and Nutrition Security with Sustainable Livelihoods	Coverage: Kasungu and Mzimba Objective: Strengthen and build capacity of community groups, particularly farmer associations; improve nutritional and hygienic knowledge and status at household and community level. Components: Farmer based organisations, communities and government capacity strengthened and Gender and HIV and AIDS knowledge and issues main streamed.	Continuing	
NORAD/FAO	Enhancing Food Security and Developing Sustainable Rural Livelihoods	Coverage: Mangochi, Machinga, Balaka Objective: Alleviate immediate problems poverty and food security for chronically poor by sustainable use environment. To reach approx.40,000 HHs with tot. pop.of 250,000 Components: Small scale irrigation; water control; watershed development; intensify/diversify farm production; capacity building / institution strengthening.	Continuing until 2011	Potential to draw lessons for the design of natural resource management project
FAO	Capacity Building in farm planning and management for extension workers and farmers	Coverage: Country wide Objectives: 1. Strengthen the capacity of the staff of agribusiness units and frontline extension workers in pilot districts in farm business management. 2. Strengthen the capacity of the extension service to design and implement a farm data system for the collection, compilation, analysis and utilization of farm and enterprise management information relevant to farmers' needs. 3. Strengthen the capacity of selected 'lead farmers' in pilot district sites to develop skills and competencies for market driven farming activities. Components: 1.Computerised database 2. Capacity building Planned Output: 1. Computerised databases and simple excel programme for collating farm data for enterprise profitability analysis in the eight pilot districts 2. A portfolio of tools developed for farm level data collection and analysis 3. Analysed farm management information for use by farm management specialists and frontline extension workers at district level. 4. CTT (eight individuals) trained in the use of a training of trainers manual in farm business management 5. Thirty subject matter specialists at district level trained in data collection, processing and analysis. 6. Hundred and twenty extension personnel trained in farm business management in eight pilot districts. 7. Fifty lead farmers from the ADD pilot areas trained through farm business schools; 8. National action plan for scaling up farm management extension activities throughout the country prepared.	Continuing	
FAO	Enhancing Food Security in Cassava based Farm systems in Malawi and Zambia	Coverage: TBA Objective: Increase incomes and living standards of small rural households via more profitable agriculture production systems. 10,000HHs reached. Components: Production and productivity of cassava enhanced in new areas.	Continuing	

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Donor/ Implementing Agency	Nature/Title of Project/Programme	Project/Programme Coverage	Status	Complementarity/ Synergy Potential
		Profitability and consumer acceptability of cassava increased by intro of on-farm value adding, processing, utilization technologies.		
NORAD	National Smallholder Farmers Association Support Programme	Coverage: Country wide Objectives: 1. To improve the livelihoods of smallholder farmers by promoting farming as a business and by delivering programmes that produce economic and social benefits for members, their communities and the country. Components: 1. Input and output markets 2. Association development and management 3. Crop production 4. Training of association members 5. Farmer sensitization to issues of gender, adult literacy and HIV/AIDS 6. Policy and advocacy 7. Crop and input financing Planned outputs: 1. Improved commercial revenues or households incomes by providing members with access to competitive outputs and input markets 2. Increased production of good quality and yields of crop varieties demanded by local and international markets 3. Members, and when practical non-members provided with the best possible technical help with regard to running their farms as businesses. 4. Members provided the livelihood skills and options that promote improved access to foods, equitable participation of both sexes in association activities and leadership; and HIV/AIDS interventions. 5. Smallholder farmers provided with a voice and enhance their ability to contribute to national development.	Continuing until 2012	
NORAD	Capacity Development for Bunda College of Agriculture	Coverage: Objectives: To enhance the performance of BCAs as a lead institution in relevant and efficient learning, teaching, research and outreach for the agricultural and natural resources sectors in Malawi and enable the college play the significant role in the development of the country. Components: 1. Human resource development 2. Outreach programme; 3. Research; 4. Regional, national, international cooperation through exchange visits with partner colleges. Planned Output: 1. Teaching and research capacity improved; 2. Revenue generation improved; 3. Financial management improved; 4. Human resource capacity enhanced; 5. Infrastructure capacity of the college improved; 6. Teaching, learning, administrative and financial management improved; 7. institutional collaboration/ cooperation and linkages strengthened; 8. Organisational restructuring/ reforms strengthened; 9. programmes management, coordination and implementation enhanced.	Continuing until 2011	
Irish Aid /NASFAM	Promoting Conservation Agriculture in	Coverage: 19 districts Objectives: 1. To increase awareness and adoption of Conservation Agriculture principles and practice in smallholder farming systems; 2. To build capacities within NASFAM to support implementation of Conservation Agriculture practices; 3. To		Good potential for linkages with the proposed SAPP

Donor/ Implementing Agency	Nature/Title of Project/Programme	Project/Programme Coverage	Status	Complementarity/ Synergy Potential
	Smallholder Systems	document and promote 'best bet' practices in Conservation Agriculture among smallholder farmers; 4. Increase food and cash production through increased productivity from use of nitrogen fixing plants; Promote water conservation in response to erratic rainfall Panned Outputs: 1. Strengthened adoption of CA practices among farming systems: 2. Strengthened capacity by NASFAM to implement CA practices; 3. Best bet practices on CA documented and disseminated; 4. Increase productivity of food and cash crops through use of N-fixing plants	Euro 230 000	
Irish Aid / International Potato Center (CIP)	Rooting Out Hunger with Nutritious Orange-Fleshed Sweet Potato in Malawi	Coverage: Chikwawa, Phalombe, Dedza, Zomba Objectives: 1. Improve vitamin A intake for rural vulnerable groups in Central and Southern Malawi; 2. Increase effective demand by changing the perception of sweetpotato and develop fresh root marketing chains for orange-fleshed sweetpotato; 3. Increase the productivity and quality of sweetpotato; 4. Increase the capacity of DARS to produce clean, tissue culture sweetpotato plantlets, maintain primary multiplication sites, and design and conduct seed systems and integrated crop management research. Planned outputs: 1. Improved nutrition among the vulnerable groups in central and southern Malawi through Vitamin A intake from sweet potato.; 2. Increased supply and demand for orange fleshed sweet potato with developed value marketing chains; 3 Increased productivity and quality of sweet potatoes; 4. Increased capacity of DARS to produce clean, tissue culture sweet potato plantlets, maintain primary multiplication sites, and improved integrated crop management research.	2009 (To be extended for 4 years) TC: Euro 215 000	Potential for linkages with RLEEP
Irish Aid/ICRISAT	Malawi Seed Industry Development	Coverage: 11 districts Objectives: 1. Develop the Capacity of Existing and Potential Local Seed Companies; 2. Improve the Policy Environment for Seed Trade; 3. Strengthen the Commercial Distribution Networks for Improved Seeds, Complementary Inputs, and Resulting Crop Outputs Planned Outputs: 1. Increased number of NASFAM farmers growing high quality certified seeds; 2. Increased quality and speed of seed processing using proper equipment; 3. Seed production and processing operated in a sustainable way.		Important potential for partnership related to quality seed production and supply .

Key file 4: Target group identification, priority issues and operational response

Typology	Poverty Levels and Causes	Coping Actions	Priority Needs	Possible Programme Response
Economically Active and Transient Poor Smallholder Farming Households	 Few opportunities to diversify livelihoods Inadequate access to markets, knowledge about market opportunities and marketing skills Traditional and cultural practices limiting women's production and access to services, markets and cash Low literacy, numeracy, especially for rural women Limited access to quality agricultural land Dependence on rainfed farming Limited productive and household assets Limited access to farm inputs: availability, cost, credit Limited use of improved cropping practices Limited contact with extension services Non-profitability of input use, especially fertilizers Loss of livestock due to disease, theft and funerals 	Sell produce on local markets at low prices Rent land Risk averse cropping pattern Restrict use of purchased inputs Use manure to improve soil fertility if available	 Improved access to information and markets Opportunities for adding value through processing and storage Opportunity to diversify livelihoods into non-farm activities Enterprise related literacy training Access to land and/or micro-irrigation Opportunities to diversify crops/livestock Improved seed varieties Access to affordable credit Reformed, enhanced extension services Reduced post harvest losses Improved farming skills Availability of appropriate technologies 	 Promote commercial crop/livestock diversification Develop skills in produce marketing Form and strengthen FBOs through training Facilitate access to finance, advice, training and mentoring for farmer groups to develop enterprises Link farmers, women to private sector co-actors Enforce discipline in contract arrangements HIV & AIDS awareness, understanding for behavioural change Gender training and empowerment Ensure representation of women in grassroots organizations and participation in decision making
Smallholder Farming Communities in General	 High incidence of HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria Shortage of labour in households and the community due to sickness, caregiving, funerals and death Increased food insecurity and poor nutrition Heavy responsibility for the core poor: orphans, aged, vulnerable female headed households Marked and persistent dependency syndrome 	Take up ganyu labour Use traditional doctors Leave land uncultivated or switch to less labour intensive activities Food aid and relief income	Assistance with home-based care including safe care practices Appropriate health care and improved nutrition for the sick Ease burden of rural living, for example, fetching water and firewood Promote, support self-help, self reliance	Improve nutrition through diverse production and higher income Build HIV/AIDS awareness and behaviour change communication into enterprise activities Apply gender training and empowerment in connection with value chain development Ensure women's representation and participation on enterprise and community decision-making bodies