



Republic of Malawi

Chikwawa District Council

SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE



2017 - 2022

SEPTEMBER 2020

ON THE COVER

Chikwawa District Council Office

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF ACRONYMS	XIII
FOREWORD	XVII
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	XIX
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	XXI
CHAPTER 1: GENERAL FEATURES	1
1.1 PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION	1
1.1.1 Location and Size	1
1.1.2 Topography, Geology and Hydrology	2
1.1.3 Soils	3
1.1.4 Climate and Climate Change	4
1.1.5 Extreme Environmental Hazards by T/As and EPAs	7
1.1.6 Vegetation	8
1.2 ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURES AND LOCAL POLITICS	9
1.2.1 Formal Administrative Structures	9
1.2.2 Informal Administrative Structures	15
1.2.3 Local Politics	16
1.3 THE PEOPLE	17
1.3.1 Tribes	17
1.3.2 Language	17
1.3.3 Religion	17
1.3.4 Culture /Beliefs	18
1.4 DEMOGRAPHY AND SETTLEMENT	18
1.4.1 Population Size and Characteristics	18
1.4.2 Migration Patterns	21
1.4.3 Settlement Patterns	21
1.4.4 National Registration Services In Chikwawa District.	22
CHAPTER 2: LAND USE	25
2.1 LAND TENURE SYSTEM	25
2.1.1 Customary Land	25
2.1.2 Government Land	25
2.1.3 Public Land	25
2.1.4 Private Land	25
2.2 LAND USE	26
2.2.1 Economic	26
2.2.2 Estate Management and Development Control	27

2.2.3	Land Disputes	27
CHAPTER 3: ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES		28
3.1	ENVIRONEMNT AND NATURAL RESOURCES INTRODUCTION	28
3.2	FOREST RESERVES AND WILDLIFE	28
3.2.1	Size and location of forest and game reserves	28
3.2.2	Condition/ status of forest and game reserves	29
3.2.3	Forestry issues and their causes and proposed solutions	29
3.2.4	Forestry opportunities	30
3.3	AQUATIC AND MARINE RESOURCES	31
3.3.1	Water bodies and their Location	31
3.3.2	State/condition of water bodies	31
3.4	ENVIRONMENTALLY CRITICAL AREAS	32
3.4.1	Deforestation	32
3.4.2	Air Pollution	35
3.4.3	Soil Erosion	35
3.4.4	Poaching	36
3.4.5	Wildlife/Human Conflict	37
3.4.6	Greenhouse Gases	40
3.5	WASTE AND SANITATION	41
3.5.1	Types and major sources of waste	41
3.5.2	Areas most affected, existing interventions in waste and sanitation	43
3.6	BIODIVERSITY	43
3.6.1	Ecosystem and habitats, species diversity (Flora and Fauna)	43
3.6.2	Opportunity provided by biodiversity: economic and livelihood support.	44
3.6.3	Threats to biodiversity	45
3.6.4	Biodiversity conservation strategies	45
CHAPTER 4: THE ECONOMY		47
4.1	POVERTY INCIDENCE	47
4.1.1	Average family income	47
4.1.2	Components of income	47
4.1.3	Proportion of poor and absolutely poor households	47
4.2	LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	48
4.2.1	Agriculture	48
4.2.2	Livestock Production	62
4.2.3	Forestry	75
4.2.4	Mining	81
4.2.5	Commerce and Industry.	81

4.2.6	Labour and Employment	88
4.2.7	Tourism	92
CHAPTER 5: SOCIAL SERVICES		96
5.1	HEALTH SERVICES	96
5.1.1	Life Expectancy	96
5.1.2	Morbidity	96
5.1.3	Out Patient Department utilisation	98
5.1.4	Mortality	99
5.1.5	Health Facilities	103
5.1.6	Health Sector Human Resources	105
5.1.7	Key Issues Under Health	106
5.2	WATER AND SANITATION	107
5.2.1	Access to Safe Drinking Water	107
5.2.2	Sanitation and hygiene	111
5.2.3	Methods of Waste Disposal	113
5.2.4	Key Issues under Water and Sanitation	114
5.3	EDUCATION SERVICES	115
5.3.1	Education Indicators	115
5.3.2	Education Services	116
5.3.3	Education Facilities	122
5.3.4	Education manpower	127
5.3.5	Key issues from education sector and their trends	128
5.4	SOCIAL WELFARE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	129
5.4.1	Social Welfare Services	129
5.4.2	Community Development Services	136
5.4.3	Gender Affairs	139
5.5	YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND SPORTS	141
5.5.1	Youth Development	141
5.6	HIV AND AIDS	149
5.6.1	HIV and AIDS Situation	150
5.6.2	Impact of HIV and AIDS	150
5.6.3	Role of District Aids Coordinating Committee (DACC)	150
5.6.4	HIV and AIDS Service Coverage	151
5.6.5	Key issues under HIV and AIDS	152
5.6.6	Nutrition	153
5.6.7	under five Nutrition	153
5.6.8	Maternal Nutrition Situation	154

5.6.9	Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM)	155
5.6.10	Nutrition Coordination and Structures	156
CHAPTER 6: INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES		158
6.1	ROADS	158
6.2	BRIDGES	160
6.3	TRANSPORT AND TRANSPORT TERMINALS	161
6.3.1	Passenger Transport	161
6.3.2	Road Freight	161
6.3.3	Railway Transport	162
6.3.4	Key Issues under Roads and Bridges	162
6.4	COMMUNICATION SERVICES	162
6.4.1	Postal Services	162
6.4.2	Telecommunication System	163
6.4.3	Radio Net work	163
6.4.4	Publications	163
6.4.5	Internet Services	164
6.4.6	Other Services	164
6.4.7	Key Issues under Communication	164
6.5	HOUSING SERVICES	164
6.5.1	Rural Housing	164
6.5.2	Malawi Housing Corporation (MHC)	165
6.5.3	Institutional Houses	165
6.5.4	Private Houses	165
6.6	POWER AND ENERGY GENERATION	165
6.6.1	Power Generation Plants and Sub-Stations	165
6.6.2	Other Sources of Energy	166
6.6.3	Key issues under Power and Energy Generation	166
CHAPTER 7: SECURITY SERVICES		167
7.1	CRIME	167
7.2	SECURITY SERVICES	168
7.2.1	The Malawi Police Service	168
7.2.2	Private Security Companies	169
7.2.3	Community Policing	169
7.2.4	Victim Support Unit	169
7.3	JUDICIARY	170
7.3.1	Location of Courts	170
7.4	PRISON SERVICES	171

7.4.1	Staffing	171
7.4.2	Cell Capacity	171
7.5	FIRE FIGHTING SERVICES	172
7.6	IMMIGRATION SERVICES	172
7.7	KEY ISSUES UNDER SECURITY SERVICES.	173
CHAPTER 8: NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORKS		174
8.1	THE VISION 2020	174
8.2	MALAWI GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY III (MGDS)	174
8.3	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS)	175
8.4	THE NATIONAL DECENTRALIZATION POLICY	175
8.5	DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT PLAN FRAMEWORK	176

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1.1	State of Soils, Soil Types, and Topography	4
Table 1.2	Monthly Rainfall Pattern (Mm)	5
Table 1.3	Composition of Council Members by Sex	10
Table 1.4	Composition of DEC Members by Sex	10
Table 1.5	Number of Villages and VDCs by Traditional Authority	11
Table 1.6	List of NGOs by Sector	14
Table 1.7	List of Groups in Chikwawa	15
Table 1.8	List of Constituencies	16
Table 1.9	List of Wards	17
Table 1.10	Population by Year	19
Table 1.11	Population Distribution by TA	19
Table 1.12	Percentage Distribution of Households by Main Type of Materials Used For Walls	21
Table 1.13	Mass Registration in the District	23
Table 2.1	Designated Major Land Users	26
Table 3.1	Environmental Situation in Chikwawa District	29
Table 3.2	Aquatic and Marine in Chikwawa	31
Table 3.3	Patrol Efforts	37
Table 3.4	Patrol Coverage Expressed As Percentage of Total Area	37
Table 3.5	Proportion of Adult Wild Animals	39
Table 3.6	Legal Off Take of Crocodiles in the Lower Shire in 2008/12	39
Table 3.7	The Trend of Sanitary and Waste Diseases (2012-2016)	43
Table 3.8	Common Tree and Animal Species Found in Different Habitats in Chikwawa	44
Table 4.1	Summary of Policies Related To Agriculture	49
Table 4.2	Production (Tonnage), Yield (Tonne/Ha.), and Area (Ha.) Planted For Major and Minor Crops	50
Table 4.3	Horticultural Crops in Chikwawa District	52
Table 4.4	Farm Familiies in Each Extension Planning Areas (EPA)	52
Table 4.5	Farm Families in Each Traditional Authority	53
Table 4.6	Land Area by Extension Planning Area	53
Table 4.7	Land Holding Size For Major Large Scale Farms	54
Table 4.8	Agricultural Markets by Traditional Authority	54
Table 4.9	Fertilizer Application by Farming Families in the District From 2013/2014 To 2014/2015	56
Table 4.10	Number of Extension Per EPA	56
Table 4.11	Irrigation Schemes in Chikwawa	59
Table 4.12	Irrigation Technogies in the District	60

Table 4.13	Livestock Population	62
Table 4.14	Livestock Population, Monetary Value and Total Livestock Units Per Year	63
Table 4.15	Proportion of Livestock Affected by Diseases/Parasites	66
Table 4.16	Status of Dip Tanks, Crush and Cattle Market in Different EPAs	66
Table 4.17	List of BVCs in Chikwawa	70
Table 4.18	Fishing Gear and Craft Statistics	71
Table 4.19	Number of Fish Ponds Per EPA	72
Table 4.20	Distribution of Fisheries Extension Workers in the District	74
Table 4.21	Summary For the Fishery Activities Being Carried in the District	74
Table 4.22	Forestry Permits Issued	77
Table 4.23	Number of Forest Extension Workers by TA	78
Table 4.24	Village Natural Resource Management Committees by TAs	78
Table 4.25	Categories of Businesses in Malawi.	82
Table 4.26	Summary of Businesses by TA and Scale of Business by 2017	82
Table 4.27	Type of Businesses, by Scale by Traditional Authority	83
Table 4.28	List of Co-operatives in Chikwawa	84
Table 4.29	List of Banks and Financial Lending Institutions in Chikwawa	86
Table 4.30	Average Bank Interest Rates in Malawi	86
Table 4.31	Work Force Distribution Government Departments	89
Table 4.32	Work Force Distribution in Private Sector	89
Table 5.1	Health Posts by Traditional Authority and Distances	103
Table 5.2	Status of Hospitals, Health Centres Dispensaries and Clinics in Chikwawa District	104
Table 5.3	Human Resources Distribution by Facility	106
Table 5.4	Table5. 4 Health Sector Vacancy Rate	106
Table 5.5	Borehole Water Supply Status	108
Table 5.6	Piped Water Supply Status	109
Table 5.7	Water Users Associations Established	110
Table 5.8	Literacy Rate	115
Table 5.9	Total Number of Schools by Level	116
Table 5.10	Primary Enrolment Per Zone	117
Table 5.11	Enrolment in Secondary Schools	120
Table 5.12	Total Primary and Secondary Schools in the District by Zone	124
Table 5.13	Status of Primary School Classroom by Zone	125
Table 5.14	Primary School Pupil Classroom, Desk, Teacher and House Ratios	125
Table 5.15	Safe Water and Toilet Coverage in Primary Schools	126
Table 5.16	Secondary Education Indicators	126
Table 5.17	Junior Certificate Examination Results	127

Table 5.18	Malawi School Certificate of Education Results	127
Table 5.19	Distribution of Teachers by Zone and Sex	128
Table 5.20	Breakdown of Persons With Disabilities in the District	131
Table 5.21	Cases of Children in Conflict With the Law Handled	132
Table 5.22	Distribution of Community Based Childcare Centres (CBCCs) by TA As At June 2017	133
Table 5.23	Status of Childrens' Corner	134
Table 5.24	Instructors Disaggregated Data by Gender	137
Table 5.25	Chichewa Adult Literacy Classes by T/A	137
Table 5.26	English Adult Literacy Classes by T/A	138
Table 5.27	Adult Literacy Registered Learners	138
Table 5.28	Number of Community Development Staff by TA	139
Table 5.29	Youth Economic Empowerment Data	143
Table 5.30	Sexual and Reproductive Health Data	143
Table 5.31	Youths Clubs Per TA and Membership	145
Table 5.32	Sport Facilities Per TA	148
Table 5.33	Recreation Facilities by Zone in the District	148
Table 5.34	HIV and AIDs Situation	150
Table 5.35	HIV Testing and Counselling Sites	151
Table 5.36	Trends For Maternal Nutrition Outcome Indicators	155
Table 5.37	Trends For CMAM Indicators	155
Table 5.38	Infant and Young Children Feeding Outcomes	156
Table 6.1	Roads in the District	158
Table 6.2	Bridges in Chikwawa District	160
Table 7.1	Crime Cases Committed by Age Group, and Sex	167
Table 7.2	Major Offences Committed	167
Table 7.3	Staffing Positions in Chikwawa Police Department	168
Table 7.4	Housing Situation in Chikwawa Police Department	169
Table 7.5	Magistrate Courts	170
Table 7.6	Court Case Statistics (2016-2017)	170
Table 7.7	Staffing At Chikwawa Prison	171
Table 8.1	District Development Plan Framework	176

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1	Mean Annual Rainfall	5
Figure 1.2	Annual Temperature	6
Figure 1.3	Rainfall and Temperature Pattern	6
Figure 1.4	Religion in Chikwawa District	18
Figure 1.5	Population Distribution by age group	20
Figure 1.6	House ownership (%)	21
Figure 1.7	Percentage distribution of households by main type of materials used for roofing	22
Figure 4.1	Comparison of production of different crops over a 5 year period 2012-2017	51
Figure 4.2	Input Consumption- Fertilizer by EPA in Kgs	55
Figure 4.3	DAESS Structure	58
Figure 4.4	Fishing ground in Thedzi	69
Figure 4.5	Capture Fish Production	71
Figure 4.6	Fish Production by Number of Ponds	73
Figure 4.7	Community Tree Planting	77
Figure 4.8	Distribution of Village Forest Areas by Traditional Authority	80
Figure 4.9	Undesirable Forest utilization technologies in Chikwawa	81
Figure 4.10	Sable Antelopes Re-introduced into Majete Wildlife reserve	93
Figure 5.1	Major Causes of Morbidity(Top five)	97
Figure 5.2	Under Five Morbidity Rates	97
Figure 5.3	OPD utilisation per 1,000 Population	98
Figure 5.4	Crude In-Patient Death rate as a percentage of admissions	99
Figure 5.5	Institutional neonatal deaths.	100
Figure 5.6	Institutional under five mortality rate per 1000 live births	100
Figure 5.7	Institutional Maternal Mortality Rate per 100,000 live Births	101
Figure 5.8	Percentage of pregnant women attending antenatal clinic within the first trimester	102
Figure 5.9	Percentage of deliveries attended by skilled personnel	102
Figure 5.10	Water System Functionality Trend	111
Figure 5.11	Sanitation status: National vs Chikwawa	112
Figure 5.12	Sanitation coverage annual trends for the district	113
Figure 5.13	Net Enrolment Rate and Gross Enrolment Rate for Primary	118
Figure 5.14	PSLCE pass rates by sex	118
Figure 5.15	Primary Dropout rate by Sex	119
Figure 5.16	Number of Secondary Schools	120
Figure 5.17	Secondary Schools Net Enrolment	121
Figure 5.18	Enronlment at Mphungu Village Technical vocational centre	122

Figure 5.19	Gender Based Violence Cases	140
Figure 5.20	Percentage of Youth Tobacco Users	144
Figure 5.21	Underfive Undernutrition Trends	153
Figure 5.22	Anaemia in Women and Children	154
Figure 7.1	Number of Convicts and Remands (2012-2016)	172

LIST OF MAPS

Map 1.1	Location of Chikwawa District	1
Map 1.2	Topography of Chikwawa District	2
Map 1.3	Soil Texture of Chikwawa District	3
Map 1.4	Traditional Authorities in Chikwawa District	12
Map 3.1	African Parks-Majete Woodland	33
Map 4.1	Distribution of the key trading centres in the district	85
Map 5.1	Map of Chikwawa Showing Schools and Zones	123

LIST OF PHOTOS

Photo 1.1	Typical Vegetation of Chikwawa	9
Photo 3.1	Truncheon planting at Pende flood area, GVH Fombe	30
Photo 3.2	Impact of River Bank Cultivation on River Banks	32
Photo 3.3	Hazardous Brick Making and Burning in TA Kasisi	34
Photo 3.4	Environmental Conservation through Fire breaks	34
Photo 3.5	Poaching in Chikwawa	36
Photo 3.6	Animal – Re- introduction into African Parks-Majete Wildlife Reserve	37
Photo 3.7	Efforts to Minimise Wildlife and Human Conflicts in Protected Areas	38
Photo 3.8	Promotion of Enterprise Development Women group engages themselves in a bakery entrepreneur, an alternative livelihood, 2017.	40
Photo 4.1	Fish Smoking	72
Photo 4.2	Photo4. 3 :Tree Planting by VNMRCs	79
Photo 5.1	Water Systems in Chikwawa	110
Photo 6.1	Chapananga Post Office	163

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ABS	Area of Biological Significance
ADC	Area Development Committee
ADMARC	Agriculture Development and Marketing Co-operation
AEC	Area Executive Committee
AGLIT	Adolescent Girls Literacy Project
AAH	Action against Hunger
ALS	Alternative Livelihoods Strategies
ART	Anti-Retroviral Therapy
CAMA	Consumers Association of Malawi
CAHECOM	Catholic Health Commission of Malawi
CADECOM	Catholic Development Commission of Malawi
CAVWOC	Centre for Alternative for Victimized Women and Children
CONGOMA	Council for Non-Governmental Organizations in Malawi
CBO	Community Based Organization
CBCC	Community Based Child Care
CBR	Crude Birth Rate
CDA/O	Community Development Assistant /Officer
CDR	Crude Death Rate
CDSS	Community Day Secondary School
CHAM	Christian Hospital Association of Malawi
CCJP	Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace
CODA	Continental Development Associates
CKDEN	Chikwawa District Education Network
CO	Clerical Officer
CPR	Contraceptive Prevalence Rate
BLM	Banja La Mtsogolo
D Council	District Council/ Commissioner
DAC	District Aids Coordinator
DACC	District Aids Coordination Committee
DDP	District Development Plan
DDPS	District Development Planning System
DDF	District Development Fund
DPP	Democratic Progressive Party
DC	District Commissioner
DEC	District Executive Committee

DFID	Department for International Development
DHO	District Health Office
DAES	District Agriculture Extension System
ECD	Early Child Development Centre
EPA	Extension Planning Area
ERD	Eagles Relief and Development
EAM	Evangelical Association of Malawi
ELDS	Evangelical Lutheran Development Services
EPDs	Effective Patrol Days
EMIS	Education Management Information System
ESCOM	Electricity Supply Corporation of Malawi
EPA	Elderly People Association of Malawi
EU	European Union
EHO	Environmental Health Officer
AEHO	Assistant Environmental Health Officer
FBO	Faith Based Organization
FEW	Forestry Extension Workers
FHH	Female Headed Households
FINCA	Foundation for International Community Assistance
FP	Family Planning
FHI	Family Health International
GVH	Group Village Headman/women
GTZ	Germany Technical Zones
HIV/AIDS	Human Immune Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
HAS	Health Surveillance Assistant
HTC	HIV Testing and Counseling
HH	Households
HMIS	Health Management Information System
Ha	Hectares
HIPC	Highly Indebted Poor Countries
IGA	Income Generating Activities
IGPW	Income Generating Public Works
JC	Junior Certificate
IMR	Infant Mortality Rate
IRLADP	Irrigation Rural Livelihood and Agricultural Development Project
IEC	Information, Education, and Communication
Km	Kilometres

LEA	Local Education Authority
Ltd	Limited
MA	Medical Assistant
MASEDA	Malawi Socio-Economic Database
MDHS	Malawi Demographic and Health Survey
MGDS	Malawi Growth and Development Strategy
MSCE	Malawi School Leaving Certificate of Education
MCP	Malawi Congress Party
MHH	Male Headed Household
MO	Medical Officer
MK	Malawi Kwacha
MMR	Maternal Mortality Rate
MoH	Ministry of Health
MSH	Management Sciences for Health
MPTC	Malawi Posts and Telecommunications
MPC	Malawi Postal Corporation
MHC	Malawi Housing Corporation
MARDEF	Malawi Rural Development Fund
MRFC	Malawi Rural Finance Company
MUB	Malawi Union of the Blind
MTL	Malawi Telecommunication Limited
MPP	Micro Projects Programme
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
PA(s)	Protected Areas
NAC	National Aids Commission
NABW	National Association of Business Women
NRP	New Republican Party
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NICE	National Initiative for Civic Education
NSO	National Statistical Office
PAC	Public Affairs Committee
PACENET	Pan African Civic Education Network
PETRA	Peoples Transformation Party
PMTCT	Prevention of Mother To Child Transmission
PSLCE	Primary School Leaving Certificate of Education
RDP	Rural Development Project

SACCO	Savings and Credit Cooperation
ShIP	Smallholder Irrigation Project
SEDOM	Small Enterprise Development of Malawi
SDA	Seventh Day Adventist
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SEP	Socio Economic Profile
SSEEP	Sustainable Socio-Economic Empowerment
SS	Secondary School
SMC	School Management Committee
SDIG	Skills Development Investment Group
TA	Traditional Authority
TNM	Telecom Networks Malawi
TDC	Teachers Development Centre
TBA	Traditional Birth Attendant
TFR	Total Fertility Rate
UDF	United Democratic Front
UFMR	Under-Five Mortality Rate
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNICEF	United Nations International Children Emergency Fund
U/5	Under-five
UD	Undesignated
VDC	Village Development Committee
VFA	Village Forest Area
VH	Village Head Man/Woman
VNRMC	Village Natural Resources Management Committee
WHO	World Health Organisation
WSM	Wildlife Society of Malawi
WVI	World Vision International
WVM	World Vision Malawi
YAC	Youth Action Committee

FOREWORD

The district development planning process begins with the preparation of the Socio-Economic Profile (SEP). This is the basic foundation for all the planning as it provides a comprehensive picture and an analysis of the socio-economic situation of the district. This forms the basis for formulating the District Development Planning Framework (DDPF) and the District Development Plan (DDP) respectively. The District Development Planning Framework is the basis for updating the District Development Plan which in turn is linked to the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III (MGDS III) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SGDS)

In the preparation of the SEP, two instruments were used namely: the Village Action Plans (VAPs) which was developed based on the Participatory Rural Appraisal process and the District Data Bank. These two instruments provided primary data. Secondary data was also collected and used during the development process.

From the analysis of both primary and secondary data, there are many issues/problems which are hindering development in the district. The district has therefore prioritised 13 social economic development issues/problems, and identified their causes which are summarised in DDPF in Chapter VIII of the SEP. Apparently, not all development issues can be realistically and meaningfully tackled in the short-term period. This can be attributed to resource constraints such as financial, human and time.

The following development issues are ranked in order of priority and are earmarked to be addressed in the next five planning years (2017-2022):

1. Food Insecurity
2. High risk to disaster
3. High Environmental Degradation
4. High morbidity and mortality Rates
5. Low access to safe water and good sanitation
6. High Illiteracy rate
7. Low household income
8. Poor telecommunication and road network infrastructure
9. Poor settlement patterns
10. High HIV Prevalence rate
11. Narrow locally generated revenue resource base
12. Gender based Violence and Vulnerability among Children, women and the Elderly
13. High crime rate

This document has been divided into eight chapters. Chapter one presents the general features of the district which highlights the physical description, administrative and political structures, the people, land, demographic and settlement patterns, and the environment.

Chapter two focuses on land use systems in the district which include Land Tenure and Land Use Systems while the third chapter discusses the environment and natural resources.

The fourth chapter discusses the economy of the district in terms of agriculture, livestock, natural resources, commerce and industry, employment and income.

Chapter five analyses the social services and their delivery systems, namely; health, education, water and sanitation, community development and social welfare.

Chapter six presents road network coverage and their categories. It also discusses common modes of transport and general communication infrastructure ie postal services, cellular network, radio and telephone networks coverage. Energy sources and consumption levels and patterns are also discussed in this chapter.

Chapter seven discusses security services available in the district. It also presents governance systems such as the Judiciary and Prison and the services they provide.

The last chapter presents international and national development frameworks. The chapter conclusively outlines the DDPF which forms the basis for the development of the District Development Plan.

Councillor Gerald Bede
District Council Chairperson

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Chikwawa is one of the 28 Districts in Malawi located in the Southern Region of Malawi. It is one of the border districts sharing the country's international boundary with Mozambique to the West and district boundaries with Mwanza to the North, Thyolo to the East, Blantyre to North East and Nsanje to the South. Its main topographic features are the flat basin of Shire river (which is along the Great African Rift Valley) and the Thyolo-Chikwawa Escarpment.

In terms of land size, Chikwawa has an area of Four Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty- five (4,755) square kilometres. According to 2008 Population and Housing Census projections for 2017, Chikwawa has a population of 566,283 of which 281,838 are females representing 49.8% and 284,445 are males. The intercensal (1998-2008) population increase for the district has been 77,966 representing a growth rate of 21.9% which means the annual growth rate is 2.19%.

Chikwawa Social Economic Profile has been formulated to give an overview and provide information about the current situation of the district. It will serve as a guiding tool to the socio-economic development of the district for the coming five years. The document provides the necessary data that will lead to the production of the District Development Plan.

The document is divided into nine chapters. Chapter One describes the district general features, which include the physical features, administrative and political structures, its people, land, demographic as well as settlement patterns.

Chapter two highlights the land tenure system and land patterns in the district. Chapter three gives information on the state of the environment and natural resources. Chapter four provides information on the state of the district's economy. Particularly, it describes in detail the situation relating to agriculture, livestock, fisheries, forestry and natural resources, commerce and industry, tourism, mining, employment and income.

Chapter five looks at the social services available in the district, services in the health, education, transport and communication, water and sanitation, community development and social welfare, HIV and AIDS, Nutrition, Youth, Sports and Natural Disasters. Chapter Six dwells much on infrastructure and utilities. Chapter Seven focuses on the Security and Governance. Chapter Eight outlines the National Development Frameworks and finally chapter nine presents the district issues, their causes, development objectives and strategies that have been linked to MGDS III and Sustainable Development Goals.

The document articulates major problems facing the district. These include in order of priority are: food insecurity, low accessibility to safe water and sanitation, high morbidity and mortality, high illiteracy, poor communication infrastructure, environmental degradation, poor urban planning, high prevalence of HIV and AIDs and vulnerability, poor livestock management, unsustainable technologies and projects, declining fish stocks, wild life and human conflict over resources, and rise in crime.

Based on these problems, a Five year District Development Plan (2017-2022) will be developed to guide development interventions towards addressing them.

In spite of the numerous problems that the district faces, Chikwawa has enormous potential for development. It has an under-utilized huge flow of Shire-River water and other rivers especially in the Eastern Bank, arable land, and natural pasture, unexploited mineral deposits, banking and credit facilities, national parks and wildlife reserves, historical and cultural heritage centres, local and formal institutions, and vibrant human resources.

Perhaps if the mineral deposits, Shire River, Tourist centres, communication infrastructure could be developed, the district would sustain itself economically.

It is hoped that this District Socio-Economic Profile will serve as a benchmark and eye opener to our existing and potential development partners to support the Council in one way or another so that five years later we should be some steps ahead economically.

Ali Phiri
District Commissioner

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Production of the Socio-Economic Profile (SEP) would not have been possible without financial, material and human resource support from several individuals and organizations too numerous to mention. Chikwawa District Council would like to express special gratitude and appreciation to District Executive Committee (DEC) members for their dedication in providing data and information from their various sectors. Special thanks should go to the Chairman of DEC, Mr F. Movete, the District Commissioner, and the Task Force mandated to consolidate data and information from all the sectors and come up with SEP document which was not an easy task at all.

The following members of the task force need to be applauded for their tireless commitment to the team leader, Mr Newton Munthali ; the Acting Director of Planning and Development/M&EO, Mr Hector Mkawihwe; District Forestry Officer, Mr Peter Magombo; Environmental District Officer, Mr Steve Chirombo; District Information Officer, Mr Kamanula; District Labour Officer, Mr Mawela Sapuwa; District Lands Clerk, Mr Tomas Mbwebwe; Deputy District Education Manager, Mr Emmanuel Songola; District Water Development Officer, Mr Bibu Mdala; Chief Accountant, Ida Mphangwe; Assistant Director of Finance, Kelvin Khalamba; Management Information Systems Officer, Chigonjetso Chilomo; District Youth Officer, Spencer Kamalizeni ; District Community Development Officer; Mr James Chikoya District Agricultural Development Officer (DADO), Mr. Dicken Gausi; Chief Public Works officer and Mr Davie Chingwalu OC Police.

Further thanks go to Chikwawa non state actors for providing technical and financial support for the production of this document and National Statistical Office for providing updated data on demographic characteristics. The Council is also indebted to the department of Economic Planning and Development (DEPD) and Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (MLGRD) for providing technical support towards the production of this document in particular, Mr Walusungu Kayira, Mr Moses Zuze, Ms. Vera Munyenyembe, Mr Alfred Master and Mzilahowa UNICEF consultant for the technical input and editorial services rendered during the production of this Socio-Economic Profile.

The Council would further like to acknowledge the technical and financial support rendered by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), through the Local Government Accountability and Performance (LGAP) project.

Thokozile Munthali Ngwira
Director of Planning and Development

CHAPTER 1: GENERAL FEATURES

1.1

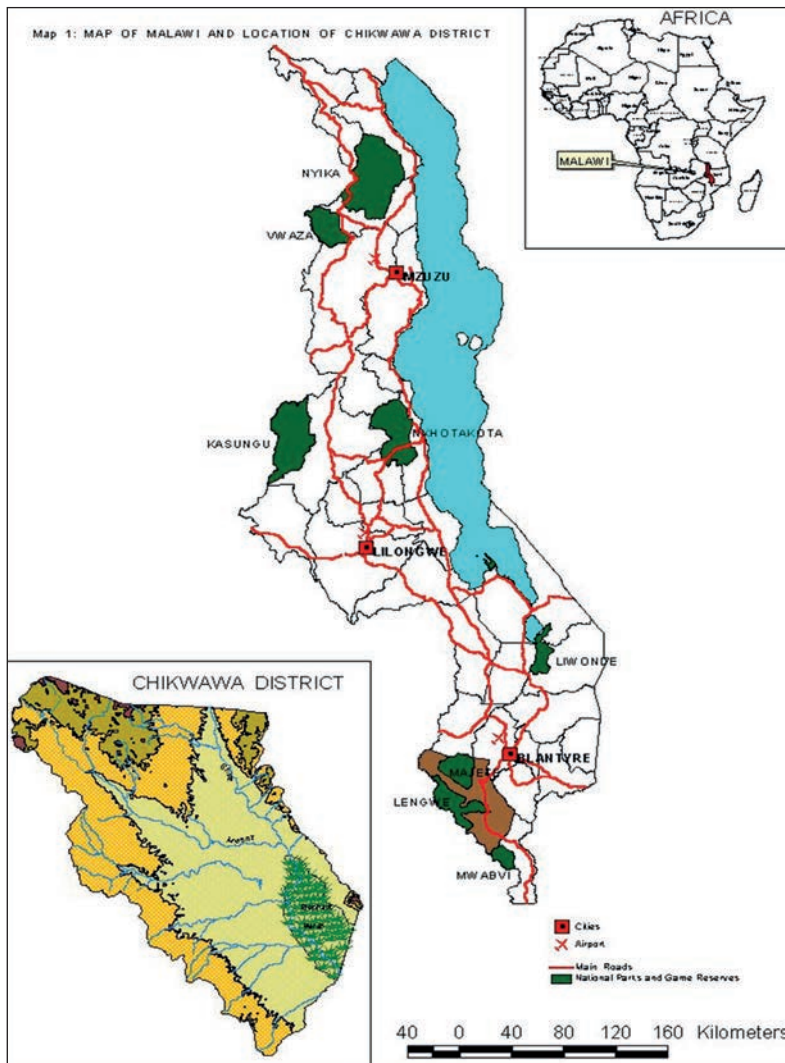
PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

1.1.1

Location and Size

Chikwawa District is located in the Southern Region of the Republic of Malawi. It is bordered with four districts, namely, Mwanza to the North, Blantyre to the North East, Thyolo to the East, Nsanje to the South and it also shares an international border with Mozambique to the West (see Map1.1). The District Headquarter is approximately 54 km away from Blantyre, the Commercial City of Malawi. The district lies on latitude 16° and longitude 34°.

The total area of the district is 4,755 sq. km, which is about 15 % and 5.04% of the area of Southern Region and national respectively. It is the second largest district in southern region and fifth in Malawi.

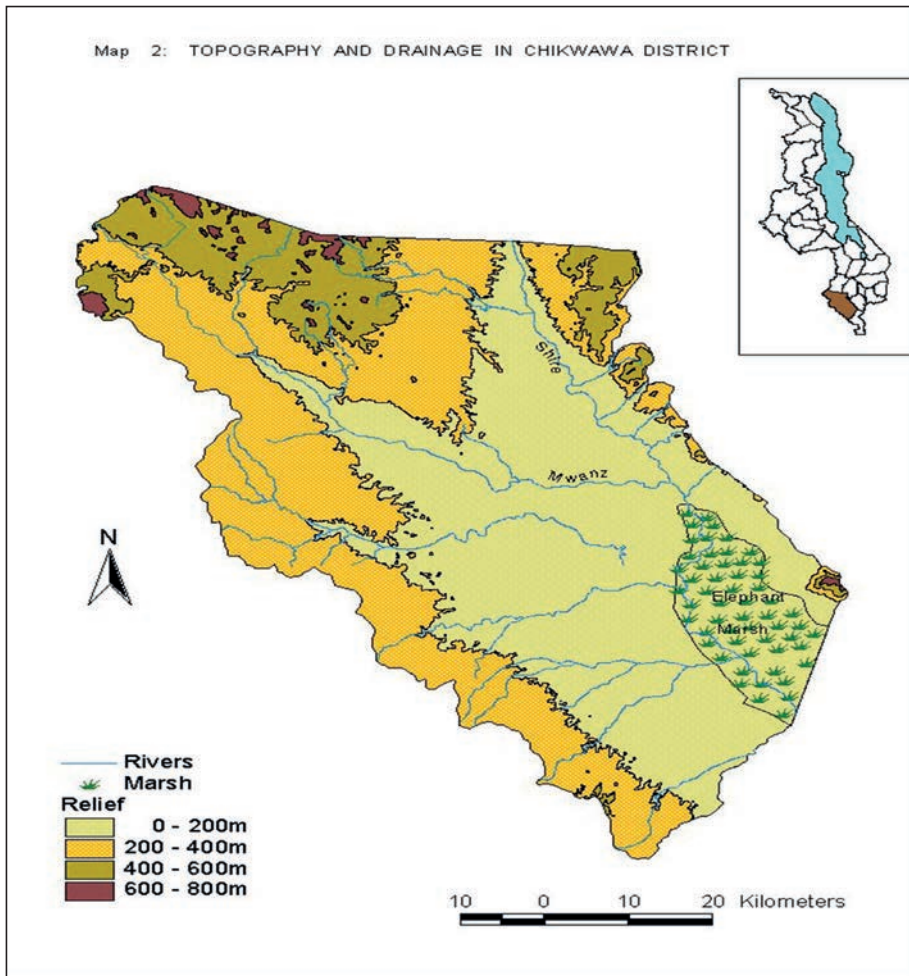


Map 1.1 Location of Chikwawa District

Source: National Atlas of Malawi

1.1.2 Topography, Geology and Hydrology

The district lies along the lower flat basin of Shire River, which is along the Great African Rift Valley characterised by meanders. Thyolo-Chikwawa Escarpment lies in the eastern side of the district and forms the major source of rivers in the eastern bank of the district where most irrigation farming takes place. These rivers include Maperera, Mwamphanzi, Nkudzi, Livunzu, Nkhate, Limphangwi, Likhubula and Chidzimbi. In addition, there are also other rivers in the district originating in the western part include Mwanza from Chapananga Catchment area, Phwadzi, Mkombedzi and Nyamikalango, Chidyamanga, Nyakamba and Lalanje and Shire River is the major outlet. The map below shows topography of the district.



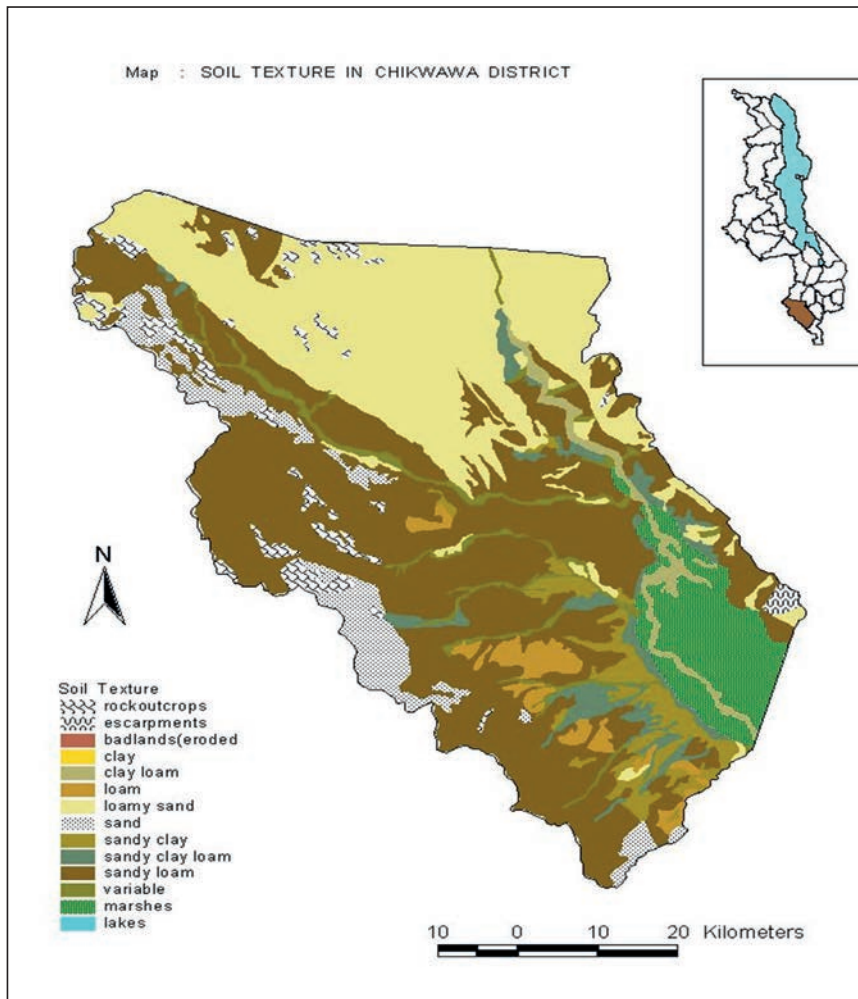
Map 1.2 Topography of Chikwawa District

Source: National Atlas of Malawi

Basement complex rocks of pre-cambrian age, consisting greisses and granulite underlie most of the hills and uplands of Chikwawa. Sedimentary rocks of the Karoo system (grits, sandstones, shales and mudstones) and Mesozoic basalts are found in the Shire Valley Uplands in the West. This is the area that forms part of the Great African Rift Valley. These rocks are rich in minerals and it would be a potential area for mineral exploration.

1.1.3 Soils

A wide variety of soils have developed in Chikwawa District that varies from area to area according to different types of sediments and rocks.



Map 1.3 Soil Texture of Chikwawa District

Source: National Atlas of Malawi

The soils are deep, medium to fine textured, brown to very dark-grey in colour. The soils have a drainage, which varies from good to very poor. Soils in the uplands and hills are predominantly moderately deep, medium textured, well-drained and yellowish brown. Alkaline and slightly saline soils occur, at the edge of swamps, otherwise soils have a slightly acidic to neutral reaction. The neutral status of most cultivatable soils is low widespread deficiencies of phosphorous and nitrogen. According to the FAO classification (FAO, 1988), most of the upland soils are cambisols or luvisols under undisturbed woodlands and grasslands phaeozems may also be found. The soils in the lowlands are more variable and classified predominantly as luvisols, fluvisols, vertisols and gleysols (ambisols). Chikwawa has ten soil groups out of a total of thirteen soil groups in Malawi indicating great variety of soils in the district. Agriculturally this means a several types of crops can be grown in the district. The table below provide state of soils, soil types and topography

Table 1.1 State of Soils, Soil Types, and Topography

Soil group	Soil family	Soil depth (cm)	Soil drainage	Particle size		Colour sub soil	Land form
				Top soil 0-30cm deep	Sub soil >30cm deep		
Calcaric	Mikalango	100-150	Moderately well + well	Medium	Medium	Brown	Dissected foot slopes
Fluvic	Nkhate	>150	Moderately well + well	Medium + Fine	Variable	Dark Brown	Outwash plain, flood plain
	Mbewe	>150	Well	Medium	Coarse medium	Dark Brown	Outwash plains
Eutric Fersialic	Jombo	>150	Well	Medium	Medium	Brown	Foot slopes, marshes, depressions,
Gleyic	Ubale	>150	Poor imperfect	Medium + Fine	Medium + Fine	Dark Grey	Bottom lands, depression
Salic	Alumenda	>150	Poor imperfect	Medium + Fine	Medium + Fine	Dark Brown	Marsh margins
Vertic	Malikopo	>150	Poor imperfect	Fine	Fine	Dark Grey	Depression, bottom lands, lakes margin plain
	Thudzu	>150	Imperfect	Fine	Fine	Dark Grey	Uplands
Paralithic	Lengwe	50-100	Moderately well	Medium skeletal	Medium skeletal	Greyish brown	Uplands
	Ndakwera	50-100	Well	Medium + coarse	Medium	Yellowish Brown	Uplands, Hillsides, foot slopes, Escarpments

Source: District State of Environment Report, 2017

In terms of soil erosion, the district soil erosion rate from 2014 Soil atlas survey report is 3.35tons per ha per year. Kalombo Extension Planning Areas (EPA) has the highest rates of erosion while Mbewe has the least.

1.1.4 Climate and Climate Change

The district experiences tropical climate and falls into wet and dry seasons. The wet season starts in November/December and ends in April/May, while the dry season occurs from May to October/November. It generally receives unreliable and variable rainfall ranging from a minimum of about 170 mm to a maximum of about 967.6 mm per annum. Temperatures are generally high with an average minimum of about 27.6 °C in July and maximum of about 44.0 °C usually experienced in November every year whilst the mean monthly temperatures are usually above 20.0 °C.

Climate change greatly affects the district in many ways. The effects result into different types of disasters with floods and prolonged dry spells dominating. Others include stormy rains, strong winds, high prevalence rate of HIV and AIDS pandemic, cholera and army worm outbreak and foot and mouth disease.

The impact of floods on rural communities is devastating and hinders development. Communities are mainly affected when their crops and livestock get washed away resulting into food insecurity and loss of livelihoods. The damage to infrastructure reduces access to social and economic amenities; among them being limited access to clean drinking water and sanitation facilities.

The negative coping mechanisms have left vulnerable households with no means of livelihood and hence trapped in the poverty cycle. In some cases floods and strong winds, strike at a period when the only viable

option for replanting is to use irrigation. However irrigation infrastructure is not well developed in Chikwawa district.

1.1.4.1 Rainfall

The district experiences general unreliable and variable rainfall ranging from about 967.6 mm to 170 mm maximum and minimum rainfall respectively probably because it lies on the leeward sides of Shire Highlands. The figure and table below show Mean Annual Rainfall and rain fall pattern by year respectively.

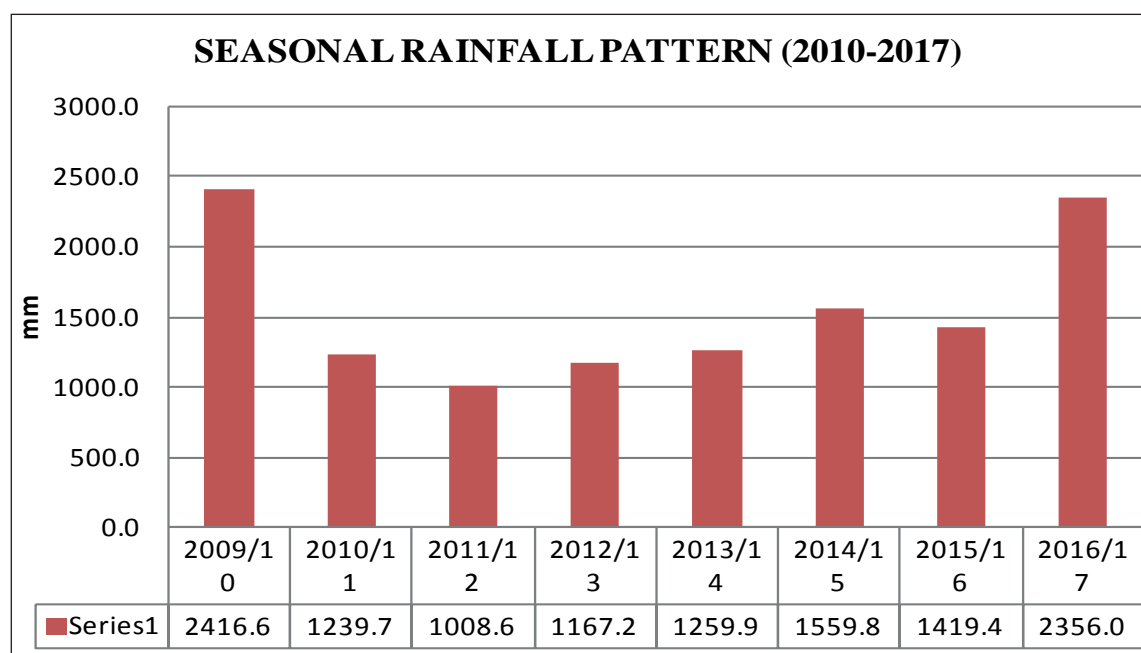


Figure 1.1 Mean Annual Rainfall

Source: Ngabu Metrological Station 2017

Table 1.2 Monthly Rainfall Pattern (mm)

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
2009/10	10.7	1.0	0.0	32.7	64.9	67.1	42.0	140.6	116.0	26.7	10.4	14.4
2010/11	15.3	0.0	0.0	4.1	90.8	179.0	122.6	55.7	115.5	6.9	2.4	1.0
2011/12	0	0	0	45.7	14.1	137.7	226.6	123.5	83	22.2	0	0
2012/13	0	0	0	0	0.4	178.6	319.5	137.8	77.1	39.5	8	19
2013/14	15.2	1.9	66.4	2.1	23.3	105	216.2	125.5	115.2	43.4	27.2	11.1
2014/15	17	0	0	2.8	9.2	104.5	257.2	104.7	318.9	371.7	0	1.9
2015/16	0	0	0	0	79.5	68.2	197.3	11.9	181.3	16.3	0	0
2016/17	0	0	0	0	29.9	149.8	326.6	84.3	230	27.8		

Source: Ngabu Meteorological Station 2017

The table above shows that the monthly rainfall pattern in the rainy season (November to May) in the past years ranges from 0.4mm to 326mm. The district receives most rains in the month of January than all other months.

1.1.4.2 Temperatures

Temperatures are generally high with a maximum of about 37.6 °C usually experienced in November and a minimum of 27.6 °C in July every year whilst the mean average temperatures are usually above 20 °C. Figure 1.2 and 1.3 below shows annual temperature and rainfall and temperature pattern by year respectively

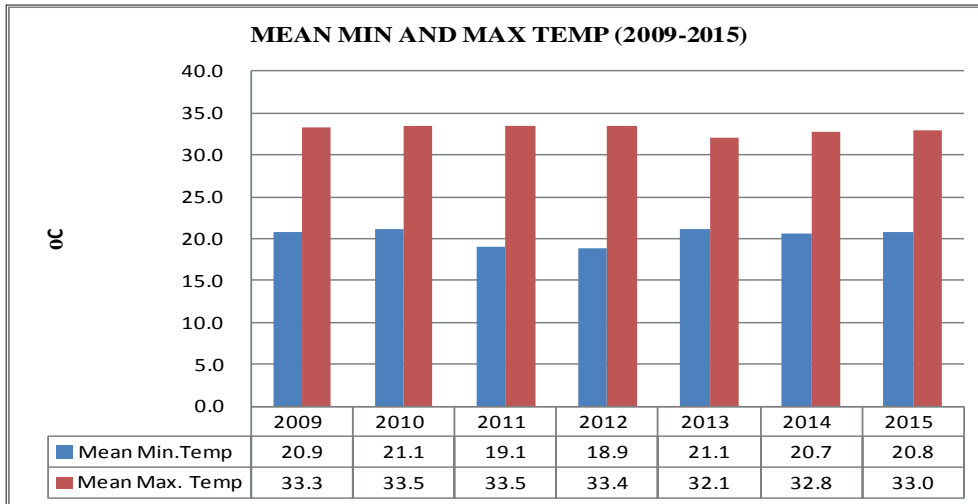


Figure 1.2 Annual Temperature

Source: Ngabu Meteorological Station 2015

According to figure 1.2 above, there has not been a significant change in the minimum and maximum mean temperatures in the district.

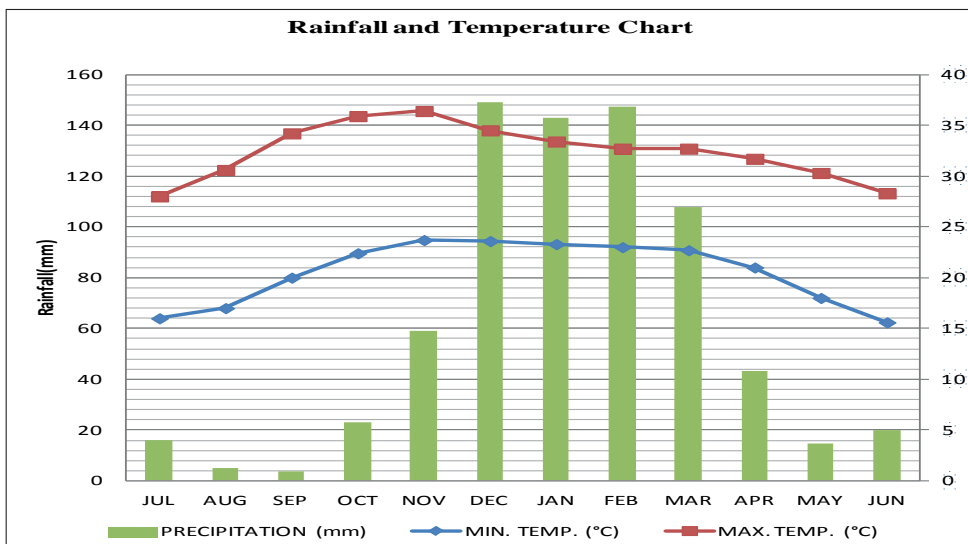


Figure 1.3 Rainfall and Temperature Pattern

Source: Ngabu Meteorological Station 2015

The district experiences highest temperatures in the month of November and the lowest temperature in the month of June.

1.1.5 Extreme Environmental Hazards by T/As and EPAs

The major environmental hazards comprise Floods, Dry spells, Strong winds, Cholera and Pests infestation in farming fields. The most affected vulnerable groups include children, female and child-headed families, the aged and people with disabilities. Floods mostly affect T/As like Makhwira with its rivers like Shire, Chidzimbi, Livunzu, Phala and Milore. We also have T/As at risk of flooding like TA Mulilima along Shire and Likhubula rivers; T/A Maseya due to Mthumba and Mwanza rivers; T/A Kasisi due to shire and Mthumba rivers; T/A Katunga is mostly affected with floods due to rivers like Mwanza, Mwaphanzi, Nakatale and Mthumba; T/A Ngowe has Lalanje as a major flooding river, Paramount Chief lundu is commonly affected with flooding of Mkombezi and Mwanza rivers; Some parts of Chief Chapananga have Mwanza, Kakoma, Tombokamwa and Thakodewere as major flooding rivers; a certain part of T/A Ndakwera is also affected due to mainly Mwanza river.

On the other hand, Dry spells are mostly prevalent in T/A Chapananga and T/A Ndakwera under Kalambo and Mbewe EPAs, Sub T/A Masache and T/A Ngabu under Dolo and Mikalango EPAs, some parts of Kasisi, Mulilima, Katunga and Maseya under Mitole EPA.

Cholera is also one of the environmental health issues, which is prevalent in T/A Maseya (Bereu area), T/A Mulilima (Medrum area) and T/A Kasisi (Tsapa area). In some cases, Strong winds and pests occur in all these T/As. The most recent pest of economic importance is the fall army worm.

1.1.5.1 Early Warning and Preparedness

At present, the District Authorities as well as the general public, depend on warnings originating from the Departments of Climate Change and Meteorological Services or Water Resources Department which are also mostly broadcast on the radios and TVs as well as the print media. Upon receiving disaster early warning information from MET, the DC and DCPC use all available means of communication such as radios (MBC Radio 1, Zodiak and Gaka FM), extension workers and any other tasked personnel to inform the communities in threatened areas.

In some instances, sectors communicate both to affected communities and the district authorities using phone calls. At village level, the Village Head is advised to use familiar means of communication among the subjects to alert people of the impending disasters. Members of District Civil Protection Committee (DCPC), Area civil protection committee (ACPCs) and Village Civil protection committees (VCPCs) are mobilized to sensitize the communities living and farming in disaster prone areas to adhere to relevant precautionary measures. Despite the measures put in place to disseminate early warning information, there are areas that need to be worked upon to improve the situation.

1.1.5.2 Conduct stakeholder Meetings (DCPC meetings)

Encourage Government departments and Organizations to conduct meetings in order to improve handling of early warning information to ensure that there is effective, accurate and consistent record keeping by relevant departments at district level. We have also embraced the humanitarian cluster system approach to ably handle emergencies.

1.1.5.3 Capacity building

The district strives to improving capacity of people involved in weather monitoring and environmental management, strengthen disaster warning systems through capacity building in disaster preparedness and

management, civic education and encouraging information sharing with neighboring districts since the major disasters emanating from floods as a hazard are associated with the rivers from the upland districts. The DRM governance structures have also just been revamped to accommodate the relevant personnel at grassroots level in coordinating DRM issues and programs at various levels. In selected areas like Makhwira and Lundu some local Artisans were trained on safer housing construction with support from Habitat for Humanity Malawi through the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development. Possibly this is also an initiative that can be upscaled to other T/As where construction techniques displayed through the housing facilities in such areas leaves a lot to be desired.

1.1.5.4 Land Resource Conservation

Land resources conservation fall under agriculture sector and contribute to mitigating against the effects of climate change through rehabilitating the degraded areas, implementing soil and water conservation measures, implement afforestation programmes and promote natural regeneration.

1.1.5.5 Implementation of Structural Mitigation Works

Apparently, some dykes and flood protection bunds have been constructed in some flood notorious rivers like along Mwanza in T/A Ndakwera with support from SGS-UNDP, as well as along Nkombezi river in Paramount Chief Lundu's area with support from MFERP.

However, experience has shown that more funding is required to implement the mitigation structures involving major civil works. There are also some river gauges which have been installed in some few rivers hence development of the river-line alliances to monitor the water levels and be able to disseminate or alert people in the down streams who may be at risk of flooding disasters.

1.1.5.6 Safety net programs

Safety net projects implemented by the district include inputs for assets, cash for work, food for asset, social cash transfer and livelihood and skills development (Community Savings and Investment Promotion – COMSIP). The implementation is supported by projects such as local development fund (LDF), Malawi floods emergency recovery project (MFERP), Malawi drought recovery and resilience project (MDRRP), World Food Programme, World Vision, CADECOM-UBALE and Farm input subsidy programme (FISP).

1.1.6 Vegetation

Chikwawa is one of the districts in Malawi that enjoys both terrestrial and aquatic vegetation types. The terrestrial ecosystem of the district is classified into two; acacia thicket clump savanna that is predominantly within Lengwe national Park. It comprises tree species like *Acacia hygrescens*, *Acacia ataxacantha*, *Albizia harveyi*, *Dalbergia melanoxylon* and *pterocarpus lucens*, and open/closed mixed woodland which comprise tree species such as *Brachystegia spp*, *Julbernadic spp*, *Diplorynchus spp*, *Combretum spp*, *terminalia*, *sericea* and *sceleroary caffra*.

The *marsh grassland* and *reed vegetation* predominate the aquatic ecosystem and is dominated by plants like *Pistia straitoites*, *Pycrens mundtii*, *Cynodon dacitylon*, *Echnocloa colona*, *Vossia cuspidata*, *Euphorbia prostata*, *Ageratum conyzoides*, *Nymphaea petersiana* and *Phragmites mauritania* (Mkanda and Kunchedwa, 1995). Photo 1.1 below shows the outlook of vegetation in the district.



Photo 1.1 Typical Vegetation of Chikwawa

Source: Topographic Photo of Eastern Bank of Chikwawa District

1.2

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURES AND LOCAL POLITICS

1.2.1

Formal Administrative Structures

1.2.1.1 Local Government System, Functions, and Structures

Planning and decision-making processes are anchored on the Local Government Act of 1998 and 2010 (Amended), and on the District Development Planning System (DDPS). The former provides the legal basis while the latter lays the system for operationalizing the process of a district-focused, people-centred, bottom-up, and participatory approach to planning and development. This system emphasizes, under this strategy, to make the district the focal point for development, as opposed to central planning, and to advocate the strengthening of local institutional capacities for planning and managing development at the local level. As such, development committees have been revitalised to enhance community ownership and promote popular participation from the grassroots to the district level. However, there is need to have the development committees trained on their roles and how they can participate actively.

Composition of the District Council

Chikwawa District Council is one of the local authorities established under the Local Government (District Council) Act cap. 22.02 of the Laws of Malawi. It is headed by a chairperson selected from among the 12 elected councillors each representing a ward. Membership also includes 5 appointed Members of the council representing special Interest Groups, 11 chiefs and 6 Members of Parliament. The District Commissioner (DC) heads the Council Secretariat supported by professional heads of Sectors.

The District Council is mandated to pass by-laws to govern its operation, as well as, to raise funds for carrying out its functions under the Local Government Act (LGA) of 1998 and 2010 (Amended).

Among the functions of the Council are:

- Making policies and decisions on local government and development;

- Consolidating and promoting local democratic institutions and participation;
- Promoting infrastructure, economic and social development through the formulation, approval and execution of a District Development Plan;
- Mobilising resources for development;
- Maintaining peace and security in conjunction with the Police and other law enforcement agencies;
- Passing by-laws for good governance;
- Birth and death registration.

The Act allow Councils to manage and maintain dispensaries, markets, rest houses, and roads and bridges within its area of jurisdiction, in addition, to empowering the same to borrow or lend money, levy rates on land or property, taxes and fees, maintain and manage disposal and treatment of waste and establish, maintain and manage markets, market buildings and premises.

Composition of council members

The district council is composed by councillors, members of parliament, Traditional Authorities and Interest Groups as presented in the table below.

Table 1.3 Composition of Council Members by Sex

Position`	Total number	Male	Female
Councillors	12	12	0
Members of Parliament	6	6	0
Interest Groups	5	4	1
Traditional Leaders	9	9	0

Source: Chikwawa District Council

The table above shows that the composition is dominated by males and it very difficult to push for women interest in the chamber. There is need to propagate the 50-50 campaign so that more women form part of the Council.

The LGA provides for the creation of service committees under the District Council. Chikwawa has seven functional service committees that include Finance and Audit, Development, Education, Works, Health and Environment, Agriculture and Natural Resources and Human Resources Committee.

District Executive Committee/Council Secretariat (DEC/CS)

This is composed of all Heads of Sectors, Non-state Actors and NGO partners in the district performing its role as the technical advisory body to the District Council as shown by the table below

Table 1.4 Composition of DEC Members by Sex

	Total number	Male	Female
Technical (Government Heads of Sectors)	30	20	10
NGO's representatives	18	11	7
Non-state Actors	2	1	1
TOTAL	50	32	18

There more men representation in DEC than women. Since DEC mostly is composed of heads of sectors it means there are more male sector heads than females.

Area Development Committee (ADCs)

This is a representative of all VDCs under a Traditional Authority with a membership of 10 to 15 members chaired by an elected member and supervised by a chief of the area. The ADCs are charged with the mobilization of community resources and the determination of development interventions in the area. There are 11 ADCs in the district.

Area Executive Committees (AECs)

Extension workers of government agencies and NGOs operating in Traditional Areas form the Area Executive Committees. It is the technical arm at the area level responsible for advising the ADCs on all aspects of local development. There are also 11 AECs.

Village Development Committees (VDCs)

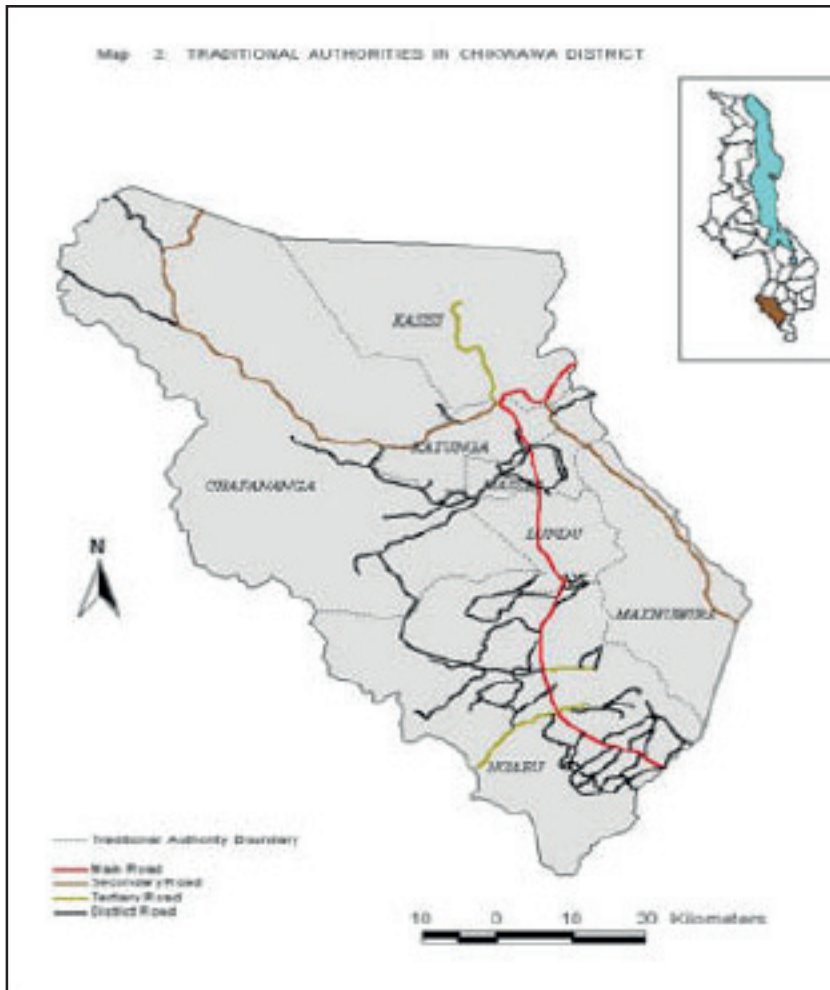
This is a representative body from a group of villages responsible for identifying needs and facilitating planning and development in local communities. There are 147 VDCs in the entire district and the table below provide such information.

Table 1.5 Number of Villages and VDCs by Traditional Authority

TA	VDCs	VGs
Ngabu	25	413
Ngowe	3	44
Masache	4	28
Lundu	15	28
Chapananga	12	115
Ndakwera	13	63
Kasisi	9	64
Mulilima	10	60
Maseya	17	39
Katunga	18	69
Makhuwira	21	124
District	147	1047

Source: District Council (2017)

Most of these structures are not functioning properly and others their composition is not as indicated in the Development Planning System Hand book. The structures lack capacity for them to perform their functions better. This affects development starting from projects identification, implementation monitoring and evaluation.



Map 1.4 Traditional Authorities in Chikwawa District

Source: National Atlas of Malawi

1.2.1.2 National Government Sectors

Almost all Ministries/Departments have offices at the district level carrying out their respective functions and mandates. Ministries not represented at the district level have their activities implemented through the Office of the District Commissioner. Nevertheless, all activities of ministries/ departments are channelled through the District Executive Committee (DEC) with the DC coordinating and overseer of the said activities.

The following are the devolved Sectors at district level: Health, Agriculture, Irrigation, Water Development, Education, Science and Technology, Trade, Labour, Youth, Sports, NRB, Immigration, Forestry, Fisheries, Community development, Gender, Housing and Environment.

Some of the central government arms operating in the district are:

- Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development
- Ministry Of National Defence
- Ministry Of Disaster And Relief Management, Public Events, Civil And Public Service Reform
- Ministry Finance, Economic Planning And Development

- Ministry Of Foreign Affairs And International Cooperation
- Ministry Of Gender Children, Disasbility And Social Welfare
- Ministry Of Education Sciency And Technology
- Ministry Of Justice And Constitutional Affairs
- Ministry Of Labour, Youth, Sports And Manpower Development
- Ministry Of Transport And Public Works
- Ministry Of Lands, Housing And Urban Development
- Ministry Of Information Commication Technology
- Ministry Of Civic Education, Culture And Community Development
- Ministry Of Agriculture, Irrigation And Water Development
- Ministry Of Natural Resources Energy And Mines
- Ministry Of Industry Trade And Tourism
- Ministry Of Home Affairs And Internal Security

1.2.1.3 Parastatal Organisations

Parastatal organisations represented at district level include the following:

- Agriculture Development and Marketing Corporation (**ADMARC**)
- Malawi Telecommunication Limited (**MTL**)
- Malawi Postal Corporation (**MPC**)
 - › Southern Region Water Board (**SRWB**)
 - › Electricity Generation Company (**EGENCO**)
 - › Electricity Supply Commission of Malawi (**ESCOM**)
 - › Malawi Housing Cooperation (**MHC**)

1.2.1.4 Non-Governmental Organisations

There are 33 Non-Governmental Organisations in the district complementing government efforts in the provision of health services, water and sanitation services, agricultural services, education services, justice and human rights, civic education and good governance, relief services and environmental protection. It should however be noted that only 13 NGOs are very active in the provision of most services including ELDS, WVI ,NICE, Eagles Relief, EAM, Goal(Malawi),Centre for Alternatives, CADECOM, CAHECOM, CCJP, FHI, BLM, Water for People, AGLIT , Sustainable Rural Growth and Development Initiative (SRG-DI), YONECO, Action Against Hunger, Project Partners in Health, Save the Children, CAMFED, FAWEMA, United Purpose and Redcross.

Currently NGOs tend to operate more as competitors in development in the district than complementing development efforts and these calls for the need to form a special forum for NGOs to ensure that they regularly meet apart from attending DEC meetings. Table 1.6 below provide list of NGOs

Table 1.6 List of NGOs by Sector

NO	NAME OF NGO	SPECIALISATION	LOCATION	CONTACTS
1	CICOD	Food security, DRR, VSL and environment	Ngabu Previously was in GVH KHOKHWA MPHONDE CHAPOMOKA now in the following gvh CHAMBULUKA CHIZENGA MALUWA	0888362466 0999655015-
2	CADECOM	Food security, DRR, capacity building, Advocacy (in disaster preparedness and response)	Lundu, Kasisi, Katunga Mlilima, Ndakwera, Makhwira	0888504406 or 01420284
3	CCJP	Good governance	Entire district	0888441990
4	BT. Synod Health and Development- church and Society	Education, Human Rights, Governance, Advocacy, Paralegal, Primary Justice, Climate Change, Livelihoods, Economic Empowerment, Afforestation and Environmental Management.	All Tas	0888365358 or 0999748141
5	UP	Climate change, Water and Sanitation	Katunga, Maseya, Kasisi	0999176480 or 0888850285
6	NAPHAM	HIV & AIDS, prevention, care and support. Advocacy, Livelihoods, membership anchor, capacity building	All TAs,	0888508218 or 0999868218
7	NICE	Good governance	Entire district	0881091711 or 0881014598
8	Eagles Relief and Development Project	Food security, afforestation, agroforestry	Kasisi, Ngabu, Katunga,	0992534823 or 0888358263
9	MACOHA	Education, Social and economic empowerment, Advocacy, Health	Entire district	0884704012 or 0881657757
10	GOAL Malawi	WASH activities	Ngabu, Lundu, Ndakwera, Ngowe, and Sub-TA Masache.	0888386264
11	Youth in Missions Organisation (YOMOR)	Food security, Local Governance, Human rights, Climate change	Katunga , Kasisi	0888927362 or 0999127362
12	SRGDI	Promoting youths through various interventions	All TAs	088217253
13	PAWEM	Health Governance	Katunga, Maseya Mlilima, Makhwira Chapananga, Ngabu	265888374760
14	Youth in Social Action	Education and environment	Ngabu	088859 5878
15	PASHELLO Charitable Trust	POVERTY ALLEVIATION BY EMPOWERMENT OF LESS PRIVILEGED PEOPLE	Ngabu	099 133 1233
16	SWAM	Accountability, Equality Respect for human rights Volunteerism	CHIKWAWA	+265 (0) 1774 499
17	COWHLA			
18	DAPP Malawi	Water, sanitation and Hygiene	Katunga, Mlilima, Makhwira, Maseya, Lundu, Kasisi, Lundu, Ngabu	
19	VOICES	Advocacy	Chikwawa	
20	Tiyamike Youth Organisation	Advocacy	Chikwawa	
21	KHAYO	Vocational Skills Development BEHAVIOUR CHANGE	Chapananga	0999 680 242 0881 431 000
22	CAHECOM	Health	Chikwawa	

NO	NAME OF NGO	SPECIALISATION	LOCATION	CONTACTS
23	SOS	Children's Village Programme is	CHIKWAWA	0888 338 438
24	CHANASI FOUNDATION	Prevention program for the general population	CHIKWAWA	0888 14 3273
25	YONECO	HIV/AIDS Sexual reproductive health Child protection	TA Katunga, Kasisi, Mlilima, Maseya Ngowe, chapananga and Ngabu.	0881388939 0999609301
26	WATER FOR PEOPLE	WATER and SANITATION	CHIKWAWA	0999704733
27	RED CROSS	HEALTH AND DRM	CHIKWAWA	0995510699
28	EAM	DRR and Food Security	CHIKWAWA	0888871378
29	AMREF	HEALTH	CHIKWAWA	0995158268
30	AGIC	EDUCATION	CHIKWAWA	0884098627
31	CAVWOC	FOOD SECURITY AND GENDER	CHIKWAWA	0999243389
32	PASTORS FRATERNITY		CHIKWAWA	08888376214
33	DIN	HIV and AIDs	CHIKWAWA	0991043004

1.2.1.5 Companies

Chikwawa has three major companies namely: Illovo, Majete African parks and Presscane.

1.2.1.6 Major Development Partners

- Department for International Development (DFID)
- Local Development Fund (LDF)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- European Union Micro Projects Programme (MPP)
- Irrigation Rural Livelihood and Agricultural Development (IRLAD)
- United Nations International Children Education Fund (UNICEF)
- National Aids Commission (NAC)
- World Food Programme
- World Bank
- USAID

1.2.2 Informal Administrative Structures

Youth Groups, Women Groups, Civic Groups, Community Based Organisations co-exist and complement each other in the district. Below are some of the lists of respective groups:

Table 1.7 List of Groups in Chikwawa

Group	Number	Importance
Youths groups	175	Create a platform for interaction of youths to enable them meaningfully participate and implement development projects in the areas of economic empowerment, health, environment and other developmental areas.
Women groups	20	Advocate for women voice, involvement and empowerment of women in the district
Community Based Organisations	109	CBOs operate in the areas of homebased care, OVC, child protection, children's corner, disability and elderly in communities. However most CBOs do not have adequate funds to carryout their activities following the ceasing of NAC grants to CBO

Group	Number	Importance
Faith Based Organisation	15	Churches usually have a large following hence FBOs have the potential to make an a big impact in communities through their activities.

1.2.3 Local Politics

1.2.3.1 Political Parties

There are seven active political parties in Chikwawa District, namely, the United Democratic Front (UDF), the Malawi Congress Party (MCP), Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), People' Party (PP), AFORD) and Peoples Transformation Party (PETRA). Considering the representation of Councillors and Members of Parliament at council level it shows that the predominant party in the district is the Democratic Progressive Party as it won all ward seats and two constituencies in 2014 elections.

1.2.3.2 Constituencies

There are 6 constituencies in the district that have constituency committees that assist the Member of Parliament in running the affairs of the party at that level. The six seats were distributed as indicated below in the 2014 tripitite elections. There is no female parliamentarian in Chikwawa District.

Table 1.8 List of Constituencies

No.	Constituency	Political party
1	Chikwawa South	Peoples Party
2	Chikwawa Mkombezi	Democratic Progressive Party
3	Chikwawa Central	Independent
4	Chikwawa North	Independent
5	Chikwawa East	United Democratic Front
6	Chikwawa West	Democratic Progressive Party

There has been lack of unity in decision making related to development initiative due the political differences in the district. At the Council level, there is a push for equal distribution of projects without considering the different needs in different communities. This result in areas which are in dire need not to benefit due to limited reasources.

1.2.3.3 Wards

There are 12 wards in the district and are all represented by 12 male councillors. All the 12 wards went DPP, in the 2014 elections.

Table 1.9 List of Wards

No.	Constituency	Ward	Political party
1	Chikwawa South	Kawanda	Democratic Progressive Party
		Nyakamba	Democratic Progressive Party
2	Chikwawa Mkombezi	Mikalango	Democratic Progressive Party
		Alumenda	Democratic Progressive Party
3	Chikwawa Central	Lengwe	Democratic Progressive Party
		Bwabwali	Democratic Progressive Party
4	Chikwawa North	Mwamphanzi	Democratic Progressive Party
		Ndalanda	Democratic Progressive Party
5	Chikwawa East	Makhwira North	Democratic Progressive Party
		Makhwira South	Democratic Progressive Party
6	Chikwaw West	Chibisa	Democratic Progressive Party
		Chimwanjale	Democratic Progressive Party

1.3 THE PEOPLE

1.3.1 Tribes

There are two main ethnic groups: Mang'anja and Sena. The minority tribes include the Yao's Lomwe's, Ngoni's and Nyungwe's that are mostly found in Chapananga North areas.

1.3.2 Language

The major languages spoken in the district are Chichewa, Chisena and Mang'anja and are spoken by more than 159,535, 96,865 and 80,028 people respectively. The rest speak other languages.

1.3.3 Religion

Malawi is a God fearing nation with majority of the population being Christians. Christianity is the main religion in Chikwawa. Approximately 92.2% (403,812) of the people are Christians, 1.2% (5,309) are Moslems, while 1.3% (5,604) belong to other forms of religions and 5.3% (23,167) do not belong to any religious groupings.

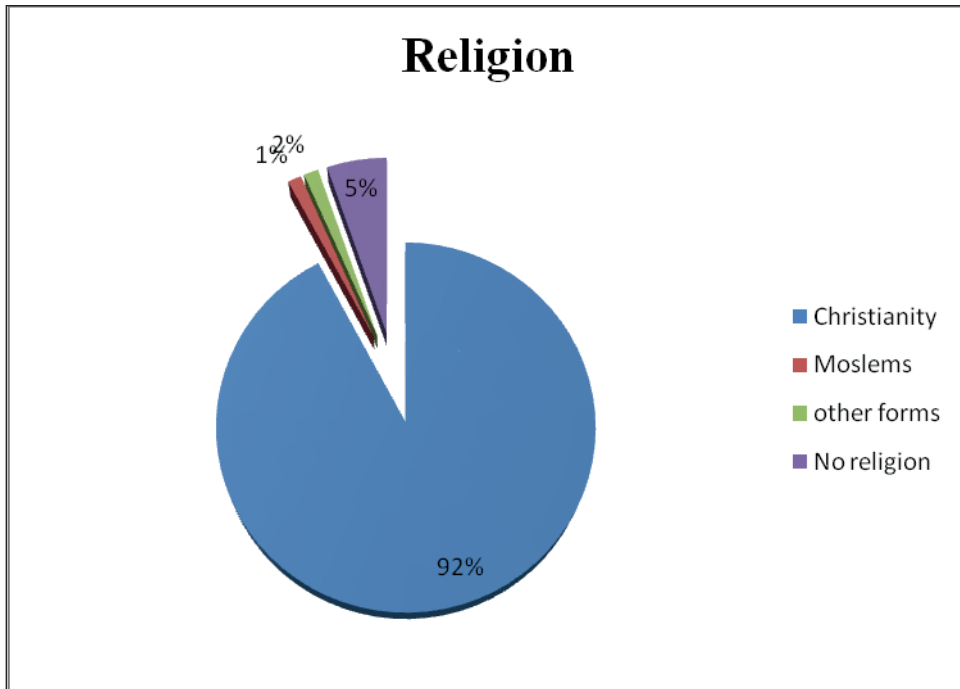


Figure 1.4 Religion in Chikwawa District

Source: Chikwawa District Council reports

The main Christian denominations are Roman Catholic, Seventh Day Adventist, Church of Central African Presbyterian, Abraham, Anglican, Church of Christ, New Apostolic Faith, Living Waters, Methodists, Assemblies of God, Agape Life Church, Cavalry Family Church and Jehovah's Witnesses.

1.3.4 Culture /Beliefs

The majority of the people in the District follow partilineal system of marriage. In this system women live at their husband's home and dowry is paid to the parents of the girl. The minority practice matrilineal system of marriage which is prevalent in Northern part of Chikwawa and no *lobola* is paid. In most partilineal system, men dominate decision making over household issues hence women and children have less control over important household decision.

Chieftainship is handed down from one generation to another within the family of the same royal clan of the patriarch system of marriage where chieftainship is passed through male line. Matriarch system chieftainship is passed through the female line.

1.4 DEMOGRAPHY AND SETTLEMENT

1.4.1 Population Size and Characteristics

1.4.1.1 Size

According to the 2008 Population and Housing Census, the 2017 projected population for Chikwawa district is 566,283, which is 3.4% of the national population and a 30.3% increase from 2008 population of 434,648.

The average annual population growth rate was estimated at 2.1%, lower than the population growth rate in the country of 2.8%. The projected population increase will likely have an impact on services in the district such as health, education, agriculture, economy and other social services. The district needs to put in measures to respond to the increasing population.

Table 1.10 Population by Year

Year	Total	Male	Female
2012	489,030	244,044	244,985
2013	503,402	251,582	251,820
2014	518,287	259,376	258,911
2015	533,714	267,444	266,271
2016	549,706	275,796	273,910
2017	566,283	284,445	281,838
2030	834,723	424,010	410,713

Source: Malawi Population and Housing Census 2008

According to the table 1.10 above, out of 566,283 people in 2017, 50.2% are males while 49.8% are females. The projections indicate that in 2030, the population of Chikwakwa will reach 834,723.

The table below show projected population per TA:

Table 1.11 Population Distribution by TA

Traditional Authority	Population 2017	Percentage Distribution 2017
Chapananga	179287	31.7
Kasisi	49975	8.8
Mulilima	13743	2.4
Ngowe	10620	1.9
Masache	26549	4.7
Makhwira	44665	7.9
Lundu	12806	2.3
Katunga	34670	6.1
Maseya	23426	4.1
Ndakwera	29361	5.2
Ngabu	141180	24.9
DISTRICT	566,346	100%

Source: Malawi Population and Housing Census 2008

The percentage distribution of the population by TA shows that TA Ngabu has the highest population (34.39%). The population of Ngabu includes that of Masache and Ngowe which are not in the NSO data base. The least populated TA Katunga (5.68%)

Population by age

The population distribution by age group of Chikwawa District shows that about 46 % of the population are under the age of 15 years. This entails that the district has a high dependency ratio which necessitates the

district to plan for the future increase in the youth population who will need to be economically empowered to contribute to the country's development.

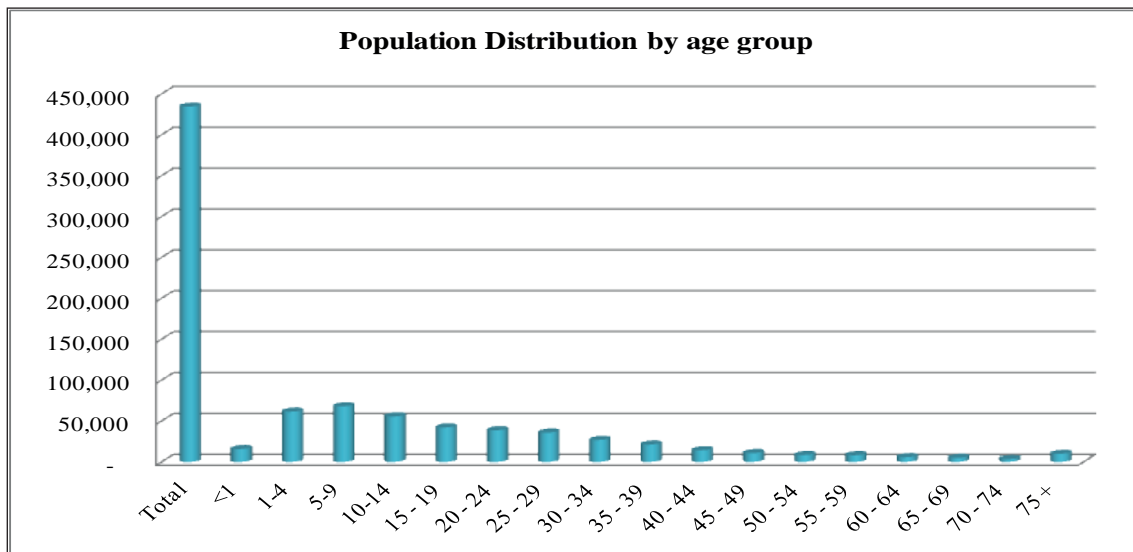


Figure 1.5 Population Distribution by age group

Source: 2008 Population and Housing Census

Population Density

The population density in Chikwawa District increased from 75.0 people per square km in 1998 to 91 people per square km in 2008. However, this is lower than that of Southern Region (184) and National level (139). However it is still on higher side and this will give pressure on the resources and retard development. Chikwawa population density for 2017 was projected at 15 people per square km.

1.4.1.2 Birth and Death Rates

The crude birth rate (CBR) is defined as the number of births in a given year per 1000 people in a population. The projected Crude Birth Rate for Chikwawa in 2017 according to 2008 Housing and Population Census report was estimated at 40.6 births per 1,000 people in the year 2008. This CBR was higher than the national CBR of 39.5 births per 1,000 people.

The crude death rate (CDR) is defined as the number of deaths in a given year in a population. According to 2008 Malawi Housing and Population Census report, the projected CDR for Chikwawa in 2017 is placed at 9.2 (10.3 for males and 8 for females) national is 6.3.

1.4.1.3 Total Fertility Rate

Total Fertility Rate (TFR) is the average number of children a woman is expected to have by the time she completes her reproductive life. According to the 2008 Malawi Population and Housing Census fertility Report projection for 2017 indicates that each woman in the district would bear an average of 6.2 children for the duration of her reproductive life. The reported or unadjusted national TFR was at 6.0 children per woman.

1.4.2 Migration Patterns

People in the district tend to immigrate to South Africa to seek employment. Immigration is high from Mozambique, the neighbouring country to the West of the district. According to 2008PHC Migration Report in migrant are estimated at 42,974 and out migrants 46,450 and Net migrants at -3,476.

1.4.3 Settlement Patterns

Human settlements consist of urban areas and village clusters representing approximately 2.5% of the total land area of the district. The main urban areas in Chikwawa are Ngabu, Nchalo and Chikwawa District headquarters. The housing sector is not well developed in Chikwawa due to the fact that the economic activities in the area are labour intensive therefore attract high density units. Generally the housing demand is quiet high while the supply is low and of relatively low quality. The figure below shows ownership of houses



Figure 1.6 House ownership (%)

Source: Social Welfare Monitoring survey 2014

According to the figure above about 85.5% of the households own the house which is higher than the national average of

80.8%. However, most households are constructed using low quality materials. Table 1.12 below shows materials used for the wall and figure 1.7 shows materials used for roofing:

Table 1.12 Percentage Distribution of Households by Main Type of Materials Used For Walls

Districts	Main material for walls						Total
	Grass	Mud	Compacted earth	Mud bricks	Burnt bricks	Other	
Malawi	1.1	3.5	7.3	30.9	55.3	2.0	100
Chikwawa	2.9	0.3	4.5	37.7	50.7	4.0	100

Source: Malawi Social Welfare Monitoring Survey Report 2014

According to table 1.12 above, More than half of the households use burnt bricks to construct walls of the houses while 37.3% use mud bricks. In terms of main roofing material, there has been a decrease in use of grass from 80% in 2008 to 56.2% in 2014 while iron sheet roofing has increased from 20% to 43.8%.

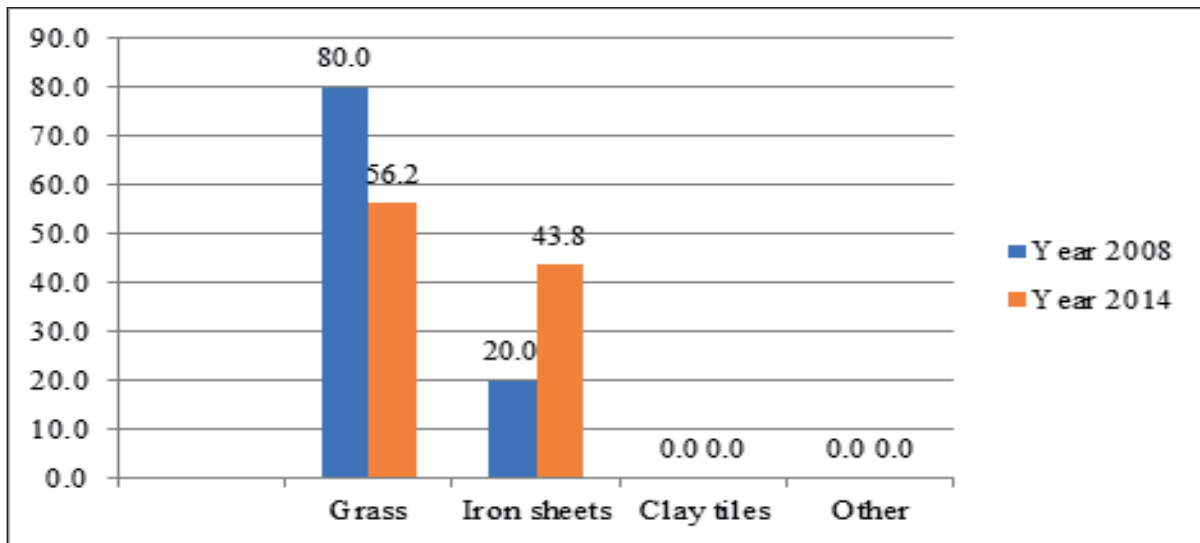


Figure 1.7 Percentage distribution of households by main type of materials used for roofing

Source: Social Welfare monitoring Survey Report, 2008 and 2014

In terms of number of room in a dwelling, about 51.1% of households had 3 or more rooms while 39.6% have 2 rooms in a dwelling.

Challenges in Settlement

Considering the current population growth, there will not be enough land to accommodate new settlements in the future. Chikwawa being a flood prone area, settlement is prohibited in low lying areas areas, however with the growing demand, some people may settle in these prohibited areas there by putting their lives in danger. The district has an out dated physical development plan which needs to be updated to guide physical development of land in the district.

1.4.4 National Registration Services In Chikwawa District.

The Malawi Government established the National Registration Bureau in line with the National Registration Act of 2010 to implement, coordinate, manage and maintain the National Registration and Identification System (NRIS). The NRIS was put in place to curb issues of fraud, impersonification, credit default, ghost workers, child labour and human trafficking. The system was aimed at enhancing internal and external security checks, management of deceased estates, targeted development and relief programmes such as the Farm Input Subsidy Programme (FISP), Disaster Preparedness Management, Social Cash Transfer just to mention but a few. In addition, the system will improve voter registration during elections and overall national planning for socio-economic development. Registration of citizens in Chikwawa commenced in August, 2016 where by National Identity cards at that time were being issued on pilot basis. The piloted areas in the district were selected including citizens in prison, government officers and two traditional authorities of Ngabu and Lundu.

1.4.4.1 Management of Registration in Chikwawa.

Registration activities in the district are managed by District Registration Task Force (DRTF), a sub-committee of DEC. Membership of DRTF in the district is as follows;

- District Commissioner; (Chairperson) Officer in Charge Police
- Principal Registration Officer; (Secretary) District Elections Officer
- District Education Manager; Director of Administration
- NICE officer NIB Officer
- District Information Officer

There are 4 females and 5 males

1.4.4.2 Mass Registration in the district

Mass Registration of citizens for National Identity Cards in district started early July, 2017 and ended early August 2017. There after registration was directed at the district headquarters for continuous registration. Apart from the registration of citizens for National Identity, the district also registers births, deaths and marriages. The table below indicates the trends of registration services;

Table 1.13 Mass Registration in the District

Service	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Birth Registration	0	0	1,300	1,400	5,555
Death Registration	0	0	0	25	48
Marriage registration	0	0	0	20	25
National ID Registration	0	0	0	670	335,575

Source: Chikwawa DRO annual report 2018.

Table 1.13 above shows that registration services were not there in the district at the DRO office in 2013 and 2014. Most of the registration activities were done at community level where chiefs were recording their subjects, births and deaths in village registers. In 2015 birth registration started taking place at DRO. National ID registration started with pilot programme in 2016 and thereafter there was a sharp increase in 2017 because of mass registration. Death and marriage registration shows very low figures because the services are not mandatory and citizens register on demand.

1.4.4.3 Key issues with registration in the district.

- Illiteracy levels leading to wrong filling of forms
- Births once registered at a health facility take time for the forms to reach District Registration Office
- Data entry for birth registration is a challenge because of a shortage of equipment and personnel to do the job.
- Parents and guardians take a long time to collect their childrens' birth certificate
- The district has a good number of uncollected ID cards that were produced during mass registration.

1.4.4.4 Opportunities with registration in the district

- Donor aid is available whereby Centre for Disease Control (CDC) is assisting in monitoring birth registration in health facilities.
- Decentralization of printing of birth certificates has reduced the pressure of depending on head office to provide the service.
- The presence of a reliable connectivity with head office simplifies the work at the district.

CHAPTER 2: LAND USE

Land is a basic factor of production and an important source of livelihood. There are provisions in the MGD-SIII 6.1.6 to deal with issues of encroachment, illegal developments on public land and various land conflicts which also happen to amongst the major issues for the district. This chapter analyses land use issue to inform the development of DDPF which will in turn lead to the development DDP which respond to the provisions in the MGD-SIII and SDGs. It is envisaged that appropriate land interventions will yield multiplier effects for the entire economy of Chikwawa.

2.1 LAND TENURE SYSTEM

2.1.1 Customary Land

Most of the land in Chikwawa is under customary ownership. Customary Land is all land falling within the jurisdiction of a recognised Traditional Authority, which has been granted to a person or group and used under Customary Law. This land is owned and controlled by Chiefs in trust. These include arable dry land, cultivated land, and arable wet land. The primary use of this land is for settlement and agricultural activities for people. Its secondary use is a source of income.

2.1.2 Government Land

Government Land is land acquired and privately owned by the government and dedicated to a specific national use or made available for private uses at the discretion of the government. Such land is reserved for and occupied by government buildings, schools, hospitals etc.

2.1.3 Public Land

Public Land is all land held in trust and managed by government or Traditional Authority and openly used or accessible to the public at large. These include Western Escarpments, Lengwe National Park, Elephant Marsh, Shire Valley Ranch and Phwadzi Area (formally controlled by government), Majete Wildlife Reserve, Forest Reserves, and Conserved Land. The primary use of this land is for conservation of natural resources and wildlife. Furthermore, it can be offered to individuals for residential purposes. Its secondary use is for ecotourism.

2.1.4 Private Land

This is land formally customary land but is exclusively owned, held or occupied freehold or customary land. It means land has been allocated exclusively to a clearly defined community, corporation, institution, clan, family or individual. Land under this category includes private estates and individual farms. These include Cattle Feed Lot/ Cattle Ranch, and Leasehold Estates like Nchalo Sugar Estate (Illovo). The primary use of Private Land is for building of houses for residential, business purposes and small scale agriculture. Its secondary use is for large scale agricultural and industrial purpose viz Cane growing by Illovo Sugar Estate at Nchalo, Kasinthula Cane Growers, Clark Cotton Company and Presscane Ethanol Limited. It is used also for Animal Farming i.e. Cattle Ranches at Ngabu. Table 2.1 below shows land users in the district.

Table 2.1 Designated Major Land Users

Land use category	Land Area (ha)	% of total district land area	% of national land area
Gross Area	472,931.63	100	5
Western escarpment	90,500	19.13	0.96
Lengwe National Park	88700	18.8	0.94
Elephant Marsh	27,367	5.8	0.29
Illovo	19,000	4.0	0.96
Shire Valley Ranch plus Phwadzi area	7,843	2.0	0.08
Majete Wildlife Reserve	69,100	15	0.74
Forest Reserves	17,000	3.6	0.18
Cattle Feedlots	719	0.15	0.008
Public Land and Government Land	220,778	46.68	2.35
Arable Dry Land	202,153	42.74	2.15
Arable Wet Land	29,952	6.33	0.32
Cultivated Land	122,701.63	25.94	1.31
Conserved Area	1515.16	0.32	0.016

Source: Chikwawa District Council, 2017

The table above shows that More than half, 58 % of the District is woodland, while about 1 % is used by main infrastructure. In agricultural terms, the total land area is 471,957 hectares of which 202,153 hectares is dry arable land and 29,962 hectares i.e. wet arable land. Estates occupy more than 19,000 hectares while Public Land and Government Land covers 220, 788 hectares.

2.2 LAND USE

2.2.1 Economic

Land in Chikwawa is used for economic purposes in the following categories;

2.2.1.1 Commercial

A certain size of customary, public and government land is being used for commercial purposes. These include important Trading Centres at Chikwawa Boma, Nchalo and Ngabu.

2.2.1.2 Industrial

A certain size of land is used for industrial such land covers Private land. The most notable ones are Nchalo Sugar Estate covering 19000 hectares, Presscane Limited covering approximately 65.6 hectares and Clark Cotton Limited covers 5.5 hectares.

2.2.1.3 Residential / Settlement

A fairly large size of land in the district is used for residential/ settlement purposes. All forms of land is used for residential and settlement in one way or the other. For instance government and public land is used for residential houses for civil servants and Malawi Housing Corporation houses are built on such land. There

are also some individuals who have residential houses for rent. Furthermore, big companies in Chikwawa also provide residential houses for their employees.

2.2.1.4 Animal Farming/Cattle Ranches

There are a number of cattle ranches belonging to different individuals. The notable ones are found in Traditional Authority Ngabu. In these ranches a large number of cattle are reared and later sold to Blantyre.

2.2.1.5 Land Administration

It is the controlling of land use which encompasses land title and ownership. Land use is a combination of human activities that occur on the land and are specifically tied to parcels of land.

2.2.2 Estate Management and Development Control

There is a need to have well planned land use of certain areas like Nchalo, Chikwawa Boma and Ngabu. These are centres that are growing into small Rural Growth Centres whilst under customary land. This brings conflicts on who should control land use between Assembly and Traditional Authorities and Village Headmen. As of now TAs and Village headmen are controlling the development of areas by allocating land parcels to individuals. There is a need to produce Structure Plans for Nchalo, Chikwawa Boma and Ngabu. Thereafter, Council should produce enforce compliance to existing Layout Plans or produce a new Layout Plans based on the Structure Plans that are to be developed.

With the enactment of Land Act (2016), councils have more powers in controlling land use at local level. The Council will need to enforce the provisions made in the act to guide planning and development in the district.

2.2.3 Land Disputes

Land disputes are very high in the district mainly on Customary Land Ownership. This is mainly attributed to intermarriages between people who practice different systems of marriage that is partilineal and matrilineal from one part to the other in the district. The other reason is the population density in the district coupled with a need to have more land for farming. Worse still, floods also contribute as it makes some land not suitable for agriculture as a result people search for new land. Abuse of trust ownership of customary land vested in the local leaders, they tend to favour a certain group of people in the community. This is one of the conflict potential areas in the district.

CHAPTER 3: ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

3.1 ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES INTRODUCTION

The Environment Management Act (EMA) of Malawi defines environment as the physical factors of the surrounding of the human being including land, water, atmosphere, climate, sound, odour, taste, and the biological factors of fauna and flora, and includes the cultural, social and economic aspects of human activity, the natural and the built environment'. In order to achieve sustainable development and the SDGs and the MDGSIII both at national level, environmental protection must constitute an integral part of development process and must not be considered in isolation from it.

The National Environmental Policy goal is to promote sustainable social and economic development through the sound management of the environment in the country. Specifically, the policy seeks to firstly secure for all person's resident in Malawi now and in the future an environment suitable for their health and wellbeing, secondly promote efficient utilisation and management of the country's natural resources and encourage, where appropriate, long term self-sufficiency in food, fuel wood and other energy requirements, thirdly facilitate the restoration, maintenance and enhancement of ecosystems and ecological processes essential for the functioning of the biosphere and prudent use of renewable resources, fourthly enhance public awareness of the importance of an understanding of various environmental issues and participation in addressing them, lastly promote co-operation with other governments and relevant international/regional organisations, local communities, NGOs, and the private sector in the management and protection of the environment.

3.2 FOREST RESERVES AND WILDLIFE

3.2.1 Size and location of forest and game reserves

According to FAO 1993 statistics, forest (comprising indigenous forests and plantations) are estimated to occupy 180,182 Ha representing 36% of Chikwawa land area. Most vegetation types are found in National Parks and wildlife reserves on customary land and hillslopes. Chikwawa has four game reserves (protected area) with different species of animals and trees grown naturally. Animals are harboured by the vegetative material found within their habitat. Common tree species and wildlife found in the protected areas, size (area) and location of forest and game reserves in the district, type of woodland (and tree species) in protected forest and game reserves, state/condition of forest and game reserves and afforestation/conservation practices are summarised in the table below:

Table 3.1 Environmental Situation in Chikwawa District

Protected Areas	Type	Legal Status	Staffing		Estimated Area (ha.)	Common Tree species	Afforestation/ Conservation Practices	State of Environment	Common Wildlife
			M	F					
Lengwe	National Park	Public	40	10	88,700	Tsanya, Com-bretum imberbe	Law Enforcement, Co- Management, Conservation Awareness, Afforestation, and Habitat Management., Re-introduction and Translocation of animals.	Partly encroached deforested, poaching pressure	Buffalo, Nyala, Kudu, Impala, Kaphulika, Bush pig, Sable antelope
African Parks-Majete	Wildlife Reserve	Public	30	5	72,000	Tsanya, Com-bretum imberbe	Law Enforcement, Co- Management, Conservation Awareness, Afforestation, and Habitat Management., Re-introduction and Translocation of animals.	Partly encroached, deforested, poaching pressure	Buffalo, Nyala, Kudu, Impala, Kaphulika, Lion Bush pig, Elephant, Black Rhino, Zebra, Sable antelope
Nyala Park	Game Ranch	Private	-	-	-	Acacia spp.	Law Enforcement and Habitat Management., Re-introduction and Translocation of animals.	Good and almost in virgin state	Buffalo, Nyala, Kudu, Impala, Kaphulika, Bush pig, Zebra, Sable antelope
Masenjere Escarpment	Local Forest Area	Customary	8	0	-	-Tsamba, Thombozi,	Law enforcement, co-management, tree planting and regeneration	Deforested but in the process of being restored through IFMSL project	Monkeys, Rabbits, Guinea fowls

Source: Department of Tourism, Parks and Wildlife, 2016

3.2.2 Condition/ status of forest and game reserves

The total forest cover is estimated to be declining at the rate of 1.0 to 2.8% annually due to deforestation for fuelwood, settlement and agricultural expansion. No recent district wide forest assessment has been done. However, it can be safely assumed that land under forest cover is significantly less than the 1993 estimates.

The trend of forest status in Chikwawa has not been consistent in the rate of deforestation, utilization, protection and forest management. These have culminated to the decline of forest cover, forest resource base and ecosystem service provision.

3.2.3 Forestry issues and their causes and proposed solutions

The most observed forestry issues over time are wanton cutting down of trees for fire wood, charcoal making, wood carvings and brick burning. Bamboos are also cut down for basket and chair making. Communities are involved in these acts for livelihood. Uncontrolled bush fires which are common during dry season as young people go mice and animal hunting destroys about 61 Km² (6,100 ha.) of forest annually. Trees are planted every year however the survival rate is always very low. Forest pest and diseases also pose a great challenge.

In order to improve the current situation there is need for enhanced capacity on forest management. Appeal to the entire community through ADCs to put out (extinguish) any fire that occurs either in a forest, garden or home. This could be through awareness meetings, Dramas, Role plays, Jingles, banners and even posters. Formulation of Management plans and By-laws consider fire management and forest protection in the By-laws, formulation of management plans for all VFAs that do not have them as this ensures proper manage-

ment of the forest and the resources. For the trees to survive communities should continuously water the planted seedlings until they are established, protect them against animals and fire.

On forest pests and diseases VNRMCs should report to DFO any incidences of forest pests and disease attack for a quick and adequate response given. Communities should also be encouraged select embarking on projects that promote natural regeneration .Forest based development projects should target interested, self-motivated communities who already show the zeal on forestry and natural resource management. VDCs and ADCs should bear the responsibility of making follow ups on implemented projects in their areas of jurisdiction. There need also encourage trees planting on farm, homesteads and boundary as silvicultural systems besides woodlot establishment and management. Promote sustainable utilization of forest produce and improve livelihood through provision of forest goods and services by use of alternative energy sources, use of energy saving stoves, promotion of forest based enterprises and avoiding deforestation

3.2.4 Forestry opportunities

Chikwawa District has the following attributes that are regarded as opportunities in as far as forest management is concerned It has self-motivated and committed communities in forest management. The district is very rich in natural regeneration, indigenous tree species which if well-tended could grow into future vibrant and big forests. It has wide range of biodiversity, both fauna and flora thereby creating a good natural ecosystem that attracts the attention of a range of stakeholders e.g. Non-Governmental Organizations who would plough the most needed resources in the natural resource management, have perennial water sources that could be used to water tree seedlings even in time of no rainfall. Furthermore the district has many domestic animals whose dung could be used to generate alternative source of energy (Methane gas and briquette Production) there by shifting from total dependence on wood energy. In addition, it has greater potential for lucrative forest based enterprise development from palm leaves which is a raw material for making a lot of things used in the home. This would suffice financial demands of the growing population. The best time for truncheon planting is dry season. This gives an opportunity to have an all season tree planting. Forests from truncheon are fast established, labour and financial economic, disease resistant and have shorter period of realising benefits. All flood prone areas of the district are encouraged to adopt the truncheon technology in order to arrest the effects of floods now and in future.



Photo 3.1 Truncheon planting at Pende flood area, GVH Fombe

3.3

AQUATIC AND MARINE RESOURCES

Aquatic and marine resources are among the largest of aquatic ecosystem in the world and Malawi at large. Examples include lagoons, marshes, ponds, rivers and lakes. The MGDS III on environmental management aims at conserving and sustainably use of water sources such as lakes, rivers and wetlands and enhancing conservation and sustainable utilization of biological diversity. Chikwawa comprises of rivers, lagoon and marshes which are spatial distributed in the district and are as much important to achieving the MDGS III and SDGs.

3.3.1 Water bodies and their Location

The table below illustrates the large water bodies, their characteristic and location

Table 3.2 Aquatic and Marine in Chikwawa

Water Bodies	Type	Common plant species	State of Environment	Conservation practices
Shire	River	Water lily, sedges, Reeds, Elephant grass, Water hyacinths	Deforested, river line cultivation, Depleted fish resources and wildlife	None
Lisuli	Lagoon	Water lily, sedges, Reeds, Water hyacinths	Over fishing, Marginal cultivation	None
Elephant	Marsh	Water lily, sedges, Reeds, Water hyacinths Elephant grass,	Over shooting of water birds, Depleted fish resources and wildlife	None
Mwanza	River	Water lily, sedges, Reeds, Elephant grass, Water hyacinths	Deforestation, Riverine cultivation, sand collection	Participatory Tree planting
Nkombedzi	River	Water lily, sedges, Reeds, Elephant grass, Water hyacinths.	Deforestation, Riverine cultivation	Participatory Tree planting
Livunzu	River	Water lily, sedges, Reeds, Elephant grass,	Deforestation, Riverine cultivation	Natural tree preservation by communities
Mapelera	River	Water lily, sedges, Reeds, Elephant grass.	Deforestation, Riverine cultivation	Natural tree preservation by communities

Source: Kasinthula Fisheries, 2016

3.3.2 State/condition of water bodies

Water bodies in the district are highly affected by pollution. This is as a result of human activities such as disposal of solid and liquid waste from residence and industries in the rivers, agricultural activities, deforestation which leads to river siltation and eventually drying up of the river. Siltation of water bodies which is mostly caused by riverbank degradation lowers water table for aquatic organisms as can be noted on the photos below (left) while conservation of water resources can contribute highly to the economy of the country (right electrical power station at Kapichira Hydro-electrical power station).



Photo 3.2 *Impact of River Bank Cultivation on River Banks*

Source: *Kapichira Hydro-electrical power station*

3.4

ENVIRONMENTALLY CRITICAL AREAS

Like all other districts in the country, Chikwawa faces a lot of environmental problems. There are several factors contributing to the worsening environmental situation in the district. This has largely been attributed to lack of environmental awareness, weak environmental information system, inadequate institutional support to environmental management, weak environmental legislation, vulnerability of the district to poverty and natural disasters and fragmented approach towards environment and natural resource management.

Consequently, there is decreasing forest cover due to energy demand (firewood and charcoal), opening of new gardens for cotton cash crops up scaling and settlement, brick making, drying of rivers, a direct result of human actions, cultivation along river banks, grazing and cutting down of trees in catchment areas of rivers, hence, most rivers dry up in the dry season. There has also been loss of biodiversity, for instance, disappearance of certain fish, wildlife and tree species due to habitat destruction, poaching and careless tree cutting.

The dependence on biomass (firewood and charcoal) as source of energy, and presence of manufacturing companies have resulted into deterioration of air quality. Due to emissions of carbon dioxide, particulates, sulphur oxides, and nitrogen oxides into the atmosphere.

3.4.1

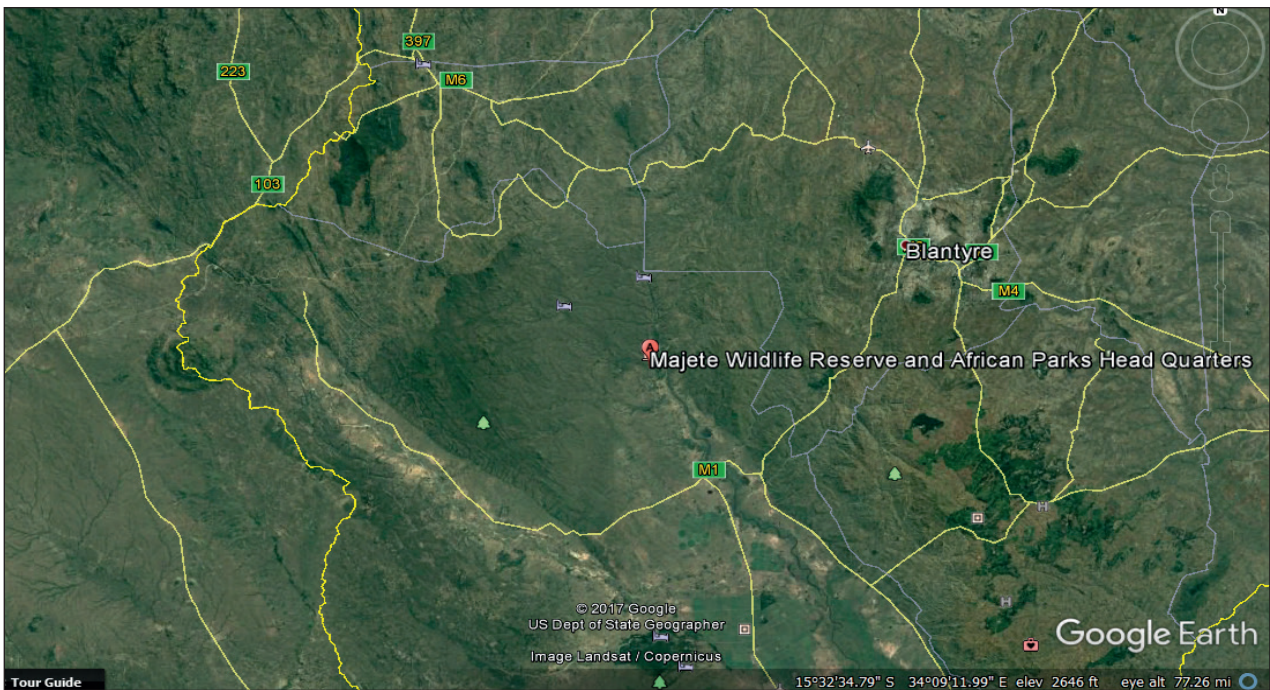
Deforestation

The district is experiencing heavy deforestation and factors leading to deforestation are many, intertwined and complex. The causes of deforestation are related to poverty and to a certain extent population pressure. Some of the causes are as follows;

a) **Lack of participation by the local leaders**

The national deforestation rate is pegged at 1.4% but specifically Chikwawa's deforestation rate is at 1.8% (Department of Forest, 2017). According to local communities, people are aware of the rapid vegetation change that has taken place over the years. Most of the rivers that used to be perennial like the Mwanza

River, Mkombedzi, Nyakamba and others are now seasonal rivers. The aerial figure below (Figure 4.2) illustrates a well conserved (left) and deforested (far right) of African Parks-Majete woodland depicting lack of commitment by local leaders to participate in natural resources management within their area.



Map 3.1 African Parks-Majete Woodland

Source: African Parks-Majete, 2017

b) **Curio and Timber Making.**

Another observation made is on the *Combretum imberbe* (**phingo**). There is a tremendous pressure exerted on the species due to its attractive appearance when it is carved which obviously has created an overwhelming demand for it. Dyeratu, Nchalo, Chapananga and Ngabu are the main manufacturing centers of curios but much of the tree resources are exploited in Chapananga forest areas. The species is gradually diminishing on the customary land and it is therefore now feared that the protected areas like Lengwe National Park and African Parks-Majete are the next targeted source of the tree.

c) **Fuel wood Collection, Brick and Charcoal Burning**

The most depleted forest areas are in TA Kasisi and Mlilima in Mitole EPA. These areas have suffered because of their proximity to the commercial city of Blantyre whose most of its inhabitants depend on firewood and charcoal as a source of energy. The damage caused as a result of this act accounts to over 50% of the total damage. Huge brick making and burning has heavily impacted on the environment in the district as shown in picture below



Photo 3.3 Hazardous Brick Making and Burning in TA Kasisi

Source: Chikwawa District Council reports, 2017

d) **Uncontrolled bush fires**

Fires at the onset of the dry season have caused significant damage to already grown up trees as well as coppices. In 2015, 134 ha were burnt in Nkhalamu section of the Blantyre City Fuel Wood Project but in Chikwawa only 61km². This was one of the few fire-recorded cases; however, we have a lot of fire cases where damage intensity by area has not been recorded every year.

In compliance with the ever-growing demand for forest resources and the degree of reduction of the forest coverage, the present forest policy calls for the participation and empowerment of the local community in the management, conservation and sustainable utilization of the forest resources.



Photo 3.4 Environmental Conservation through Fire breaks

Uncontrolled bush fires shown in Figure 4.4 (left) which is rampant practice in the district has devastating effects on the environment unlike and controlled bushfires (right) which African Parks-Majete promotes through fire breaks can conserve the environment.

Forest Conservation Measures

As a means to conserve forest, the department of forestry has been indulged in a number of measures such as promotion of villager to appreciate the resources of the forest; reduce number of trees cut. The former has been implemented through provision of licence to transport indigenous trees and checking in road blocks to restrict the transportation of indigenous trees. The department has issued 89, 113, 102 licences against transportation of charcoal and firewood in the month of July, August, and September 2018 respectively. However, this does not reflect number of trees cut, since a licence is only issued when there load in transit is supposed to cross a roadblock.

3.4.2 Air Pollution

The district faces numerous challenges in controlling pollution of air. This is mainly due to the dependence of firewood and charcoal as fuel in the district, thus emission of carbon dioxide is continuously increasing. In addition, the presence of sugar plantations which requires to be burnt prior to processing is another challenge in terms of managing air quality. Not only does burning of sugar plantations emit carbon dioxide but also ash fly, which later falls back to the ground causing an untidy environment. Lastly, the district does not have a disposal site (landfill) for refuse. This has resulted in use of open ponds as a disposal mechanism of industrial waste. Therefore, the area is affected by an unpleasant strong odour produced by industrial waste. Some people have complained that their health is at risk due to this odour, but to date there is no scientific proof to support their claim.

As noted above, most air pollution is contributed by industries in the district. To make sure that our environment is protected, the government has recruited environmental personnel under the district council so that they liaise with these companies.

3.4.3 Soil Erosion

Farmers in Chikwawa have encroached into marginal areas. An overlay of slope classes and land cover maps indicate cultivation on marginal lands such as on steep slopes and along rivers, and on soils with a high potential for erosion. Over the 14year period (1994 – 2008) there has been a 21% increase of general cultivation and 0.5% on wetlands cultivation. Chikwawa was reported to have had a mean top soil loss of 3.35ton/ha/yr with maximum soil rate of 21.33ton/ha/yr. Areas with high soil loss were those with steep slopes, shallow soils, and low vegetative cover (FAO 2016).

The Lower Shire Catchment was heavily cultivated with 65.7% (689,300 ha) of the total area of the catchment being under cultivation in 2008 (Shire valley ADD). These cultivated lands had increased from 518,850 ha in 1994 with an estimated annual increase of 1.16%, resulting in 12,175 ha of new cultivated land being opened up every year for the past 14 years. Most of these new cultivated lands must have been converted from forest land in the catchment.

A deliberate approach has been made by the department of land resource at Shire Valley ADD to facilitate crop ridges on all cultivated land with slopes greater than 3% but less than 13% should be realigned to the contour. This would control runoff and erosion and increase infiltration, particularly when in combination with tied ridges. A number of technologies aimed at addressing issues of land degradation have been developed and promoted among smallholder farmers over the years. The focus has mostly been in soil fertility improvement, soil and water conservation, agro forestry and forestry.

There is a gap in knowledge concerning soil erosion, since a survey indicating status of soil erosion in Chikwawa was conducted 5 years ago. Therefore, there is need to conduct a recent research to check the trend of soil erosion in Chikwawa and relate it to other factors such as population growth, and loss of plant cover.

3.4.4 Poaching

Animal poaching related activities represented by gunshots, hunting with dogs, encounters with armed groups and poachers' bases account for 6% of the total illegal activities registered for Lengwe National Park. As for African Parks-Majete Wildlife Reserve, gunshots were commonly recorded as compared to Lengwe in Lower Shire area. Armed groups and poachers' bases also indicated the presence of poaching in African Parks-Majete, representing 27% of the illegal activities encountered over a period of 10 years since 2005.



Photo 3.5 Poaching in Chikwawa

Source: Department of Forestry, 2017.

Photo3.5 above illustrates the remains of ensnared animals and the control team and their equipment. Although, the control team is in place, the presence of ensnared animal remains suggests the need for a more effective approach towards protection of animals. The reason is that the control team is understaffed, which makes it impossible to be active all the time hence giving chance to poachers.

An analytical report on law enforcement team's performance over a period covering fiscal year 2005 to 2012 for Lengwe indicates that there is high poaching in the Lower Shire protected Areas. This has been aggravated by a drop in morale and erosion of discipline among the law enforcers and low penalties metered out to the offenders among other factors. In order to measure and compare the effectiveness of law enforcement a number of parameters have been used, such parameters are patrol effort, coverage, frequency of illegal activities, animal mortality and number of arrests. After the analysis of the variables outlined, recommendations made to correct the situation where necessary based on the results.

Table 3.3 Patrol Efforts

Patrol Area	Long Patrol		EPDS		Short Patrol		EPDS		TOTAL EPDS	
	Planned	Achieved	Planned	Achieved	Planned	Achieved	Planned	Achieved	Planned	Achieved
Lengwe	144	129	564	645	40	40	20	20	584.5	520.5
Mwabvi	96	93	384	372	3	3	1.5	1.5	385.5	373.5

Table 3.4 Patrol Coverage Expressed As Percentage of Total Area

Patrol Area	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2015/16	2017
Lengwe	79	51.6	38.7	45.2	42.2
Mwabvi	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Southern Division Parks and Wildlife, 2017

As is depicted in 4.3 and 4.4, in order to reduce poaching the department has conducted patrols. However, it is noted that through the years the percentage of patrol around Lengwe has decreased. This is as a result of limited resources.

Efforts have been made to reintroduce elephants into Majete Game Reserve due to poaching from Liwonde National park.



Photo 3.6 Animal – Re- introduction into African Parks-Majete Wildlife Reserve

Source: Majete wildlife, 2016

This exercise was carried out due to report that indicated that Majete game reserve has lost its entire elephant species due to poaching.

3.4.5 Wildlife/Human Conflict

Wildlife and human conflict has been rampant especially if larger animals like Elephants break off the protected area into farm land. Efforts have been put in place to minimise this conflict over resources through erection of physical barrier fence in the case of Majete as expressed in photo 8 below;



Photo 3.7 Efforts to Minimise Wildlife and Human Conflicts in Protected Areas

Source: District Forestry Office, 2016

This picture illustrates separation of wildlife niche from human settlements through construction of a physical barrier (fence). In trying to reduce wildlife/human conflicts over resources, hunter scouts are located in four stations of Livunzu EPA (1), Mitole EPA (1) And Lengwe National Park (2) within Chikwawa District Council, and at least two firearms with ammunition rounds are issued to each one of them for that purpose.

The hunters are located in strategic areas where wildlife/human conflicts are on the increase, mainly along Shire River and around protected areas. Some of the incidents are however induced by people themselves in that electric fences constructed along the protected area boundaries are being destroyed, thereby giving chance to wild animals to come out and encroach into their farm and settlement area. In addition, some have either opened farmlands close to protected areas or even encroached thereby risking their lives especially along rivers and other water bodies where hippos and crocodiles are found.

Buffaloes, Hippos and Crocodiles are the trio problematic animals in vandalising human wealth in addition to baboons, monkeys and bush pigs, which are termed as vermin. The lower Shire Riverine is extremely an important area for the livelihoods of the communities and some of the communities that inhabit the western escarpment of the Lower Shire “Area of Biological Significance (ABS)” as one of the 27 identified and selected areas by the **WWF – SARPO Miombo Eco-region** conservation programme in 2003. Shire River also supports the most important population of the Nile crocodiles in Malawi; concern has been expressed for many years about the conflict between crocodiles and humans in this area. The scarcity of quantitative information on crocodiles in the river and on the actual extent of conflict were identified as obstacles to responsible decision making and a comprehensive survey of these aspects was required for conservation planning to ensure a healthy ecosystem and to possibly allow for the sustainable use of crocodiles for the benefit of the people who live with crocodiles in Lower Shire.

The principal threat to Nile crocodiles generally is conflict with human and habitat degradation. The lower shire is therefore potentially a good example of how human –wildlife interactions can be managed for mutual benefit. To that effect, three surveys were conducted (1967, 1996-1998, and 2000 – 2005) to determine the Nile crocodile populations and extent of attacks to humans as well as resultant deaths and injuries thereof.

In all the three surveys conducted, indicates that victims recorded were mostly engaged in fishing, followed by drawing water, bathing and washing in Shire River. This may reflect on both the provision of alternative and safer sources of water for household use as well as a difference in the way the data were recorded.

Several options for alleviation of crocodile conflict, including use of physical barriers, provision of alternative water supplies, education and raising awareness. The options of extermination and selective sustainable harvesting of crocodile population are discussed in detail in the recent survey report.

Table 3.5 Proportion of Adult Wild Animals

Survey section	Surveyed		Un surveyed		Overall estimated population	Estimated number of adults
	Distance (Km)	Estimated Population	Distance (Km)	Estimated Population		
Kapichira-Chikwawa Bridge	16.2	106	12.2	80	186	85
Chikwawa Bridge – Sucoma	46.2	244	34.1	181	425	197
Sucoma – Chilomo Bridge	59.3	214	237.2	855	1069	496
Chilomo Bridge – Nsanje	62.5	181	36.7	106	287	133
Total	184.2	745	320.2	1222	1967	911

Source: Ferguson R.A., 2005: *Survey of crocodile populations and crocodile human conflicts on the Lower Shire River, Malawi November 2005: Report submitted to WWF – SARPO Miombo Eco-region conservation programme*

Table 3.6 Legal Off Take of Crocodiles in the Lower Shire in 2008/12

Type of off take	Area and Number of off take (2008/2012)	
Government Hunters	25 between Kapichira and Chilomo Bridge	102 between Chilomo Bridge and Maraka
Cropping for export	40 between Mpatamanga and Nchalo	40 between Nchalo and Maraka
TOTAL	Average	103 crocodile/year

As illustrated in Table 3.5, the number of crocodiles is quite huge about 1967. This increases the chances of wildlife/human conflict. This is evidenced in Table 3.6, which portrays that 103 crocodiles are killed every year. Therefore, it is imperative that this conflict is monitored and managed as suggested above. The survey was conducted in 2005, which is a long time ago. This calls for a recent survey to reflect the trend of wildlife/human conflict in the district.

Collaborative Natural Resource Management Programme for Lower Shire Protected Areas

The government of Malawi in collaboration with donor agencies promotes collaborative natural resource management with communities. This approach has necessitated the exploration of alternative livelihoods for the surrounding communities.



Photo 3.8 *Promotion of Enterprise Development*
Women group engages themselves in a bakery entrepreneur,
an alternative livelihood, 2017.

As expressed in photo 3.8, women are using forest resources for baking. This allows them to appreciate the need of forest, and hence they are constantly trained on how to manage (planting trees) the resource so that they keep on benefiting from it.

3.4.6 Greenhouse Gases

Atmospheric gases such as CO₂, Nitrous oxide, water vapour, and ozone gas (collectively known as greenhouse gases) absorb reradiated energy from earth surface, and they lose the energy in form of heat, hence warming the globe. The increase in global temperature has caused a change in climate, followed by extreme weather events. This has attracted attention worldwide to work together in order to minimize climate change. Thus Sustainable Development Goals (Affordable and clean energy, and Climate action) have included reduction of greenhouse gases as a means to reduce these impacts. Malawi as a nation has complied to SDGs by indicating in the MGDS III the need to reduce further greenhouse gases, and sequestration of GHGs from the atmosphere.

In Chikwawa, there is a high (more than 50%) dependence level on biomass and fuel as a source of domestic energy (refer to chapter 6 under power and energy sector). This has increased the overall emission of carbon dioxide. Some industries in the district use coal as their energy source. The use of coal plants as a source of energy by these company have resulted in the emission of Carbon dioxide, and Nitrogen oxides. Carbon dioxide is also emitted in the district through burning of sugarcane stalks in farms prior to transportation to the processing plant.

3.5

WASTE AND SANITATION

3.5.1

Types and major sources of waste

In our everyday life we generate tons of wastes; these wastes can be categorized as solid, liquid and gaseous. These wastes come from homes, offices, industries and various other agricultural related activities. The following are major sources of solid and liquid waste:

3.5.1.1 Residential

residences and homes where people live generate garbage which include; food wastes, plastics, paper, glass, leather, cardboard, metals, yard wastes, ashes and special wastes like bulky household items (electronics, tires, batteries, old mattresses and used oil) and waste water from laundry, bathing and cleaning.

3.5.1.2 Industrial

Illovo sugar company (Nchalo) and Press cane ethanol distillery limited are the major factory in the district that generate tones of solid and liquid waste. These industries produce waste in form of housekeeping wastes, industrial process wastes, unwanted specification products, packaging wastes, ashes, construction, demolition materials and effluent.

3.5.1.3 Commercial

Commercial facilities and buildings are another source of solid waste in the district. Commercial buildings and facilities in this case refer to motels, lodges, rest houses, markets, restaurants, stores and office buildings. The solid wastes generated from these places include plastics, food wastes, metals, paper, glass, wood, cardboard materials, and other hazardous wastes.

3.5.1.4 Institutional

Institutional centers like schools, colleges, prisons and other government centers also produce solid waste including, plastics, food wastes, wood, paper, metals, cardboard materials, electronics and other various hazardous wastes.

3.5.1.5 Construction and Demolition Areas

New construction sites for buildings and roads, road repair sites, building renovation sites and building demolition sites also contributes to tones of solid wastes. These include steel materials, concrete, wood, plastics, rubber, copper wires, dirt and glass.

3.5.1.6 Agriculture

These are waste generated by agricultural activities, including horticulture, livestock breeding, market gardens and seedling nurseries. Among the wastes produced include spoiled food, pesticide containers, out of date medicines and wormers, used tires, corn husks and other hazardous materials.

3.5.1.7 Biomedical

This refers to hospitals and biomedical equipment. In hospitals there are some of these solid wastes include syringes, bandages, used gloves, drugs, paper, plastics, food wastes and chemicals.

3.5.1.8 Common waste collection methods and disposal

Manual collection of waste by individual households is the main and common method of waste collection. It involves collection of the waste in small buckets and disposing it to the bare land or a pit. In markets, commercial buildings, residential areas they also practice the same system as the council has no special vehicles for waste collection and no landfill.

3.5.1.9 Solid waste disposal method

In Chikwawa, about 20 % of households dispose their refuse in refuse pits, the rest (80%) use the most common means of refuse disposal like ground crude dumping followed by open ground burning. Incineration which involves burning of solid wastes at extremely high temperatures is done in hospitals and Chikwawa district office practice incineration as well.

3.5.1.10 Waste water disposal methods

Waste water management is a problem. The district has no appropriate places for disposing waste water or effluent from companies hence disposed on an open ground while untreated posing a nuisance and water pollution in water bodies like Shire River.

About 17% of boreholes have their wastewaters well managed in terms of soak ways, French drains or used for watering crops like vegetables (permaculture) and for growing trees. This means that 83% of boreholes have their waste waters unmanaged and form a pool that can easily contaminate the underground waters or form a better environment for mosquitoes breeding. At Illovo Sugar Company, waste water from the plant is being profitably utilized for irrigation farming at Mwanakakula Irrigation Scheme.

3.5.1.11 Availability of Sanitary Facilities

According to the SDGs ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all is one of the main areas under health and population management. In the district, the available environmental sanitation facilities do not meet the required standards and the state of affairs is appalling. According to statistics, 2.3 percent of households (from semi-urban) have flush latrines and 61 percent have traditional pit latrines and out of these, 10% have improved pit latrines. 49% of villages and 46% of TAs practice ODF. There is demand for sanitary facilities, but the mainstream population doesn't have adequate resources to meet the essential sanitation standards.

3.5.1.12 Common Sanitary and Waste diseases and their trends

Environmental and sanitation issues have been problematic in the district due to the unavailability of a readily development master plan. Poor environmental hygiene and sanitation causes such diseases as Cholera, Malaria, scabies, schistosomiasis, tuberculosis, bilharzia among other. The table here below depicts the trend of water and sanitation related infections for the past five years.

Table 3.7 The Trend of Sanitary and Waste Diseases (2012-2016)

Period	Diarrhea non-bloody under 5yr	Dysentery	Cholera	malaria
2012	17602	3809	203	53824
2013	17456	3487	0	122642
2014	15845	2865	0	156573
2015	18033	4333	260	184171
2016	21310	3223	0	109776

Source: HMIS and environmental health reports (2017)

In the past 5years sanitary and waste diseases has been on the rise due to poor management of the waste (solid and liquid), which harbors pests. These are the carriers of many diseases.

3.5.2 Areas most affected, existing interventions in waste and sanitation

In the district, areas that are more affected by waste and sanitation includes; Cattle ranches, markets, institutions, commercial buildings, factories and hospitals.

Little is done to educate the community about waste management or the council to implement some measures to safely dispose the waste where it has little effect to the communities. However, in markets for instance, the council employs sweepers to clean the market but disposal of garbage remains the problem.

3.6 BIODIVERSITY

Biodiversity means the variety of life in all of its many manifestations encompassing all forms, (plants, animals and microorganisms) at all levels of biological organization which includes genetic diversity, species diversity and ecosystem diversity. According to 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity, biodiversity constitutes valuable natural resources in economic, cultural, aesthetic, scientific and educational terms, providing enormous amounts of both monetary and non-monetary benefits to people.

3.6.1 Ecosystem and habitats, species diversity (Flora and Fauna)

Chikwawa district has various habitats for both terrestrial and aquatic species. These habitats consist of rivers including Shire river which is the longest river in Malawi. It is the one of the aquatic habitats that has a wide variety of fish species and other aquatic animals like Crocodiles and Hippos which form part of the rivers ecosystem. Forest reserves, game reserves (Majete), national parks (Lengwe) form major part of habitat that host terrestrial ecosystem. Majete has all the big five animals and others. Lengwe National Park has many grazers and some carnivals. The common tree and animal species found in these protected areas are listed in the table below.

Table 3.8 Common Tree and Animal Species Found in Different Habitats in Chikwawa

HABITAT	TREE SPECIES	ANIMAL SPECIES
Shire river		Fish (chambo, tiger fish and tiger fish) Birds (ranges from fish eagle to kingfishers) Others (crocodile and hippos)
Majete game reserve	<i>Adima microcephala</i> (Mgwenya) <i>Burkea africana</i> (Mkalati), <i>Pterocarpus angolensis</i> (Mlombwa), <i>Sclerocarya caffra</i> (Mfula), <i>Bauhimia thonningii</i> (Chitimbe), <i>Terminalia sericea</i> (Naphini), <i>Dalbergia melanoxylon</i> (Phingo), <i>Brachystegia floribunda</i> (Tsamba), <i>pericopsis angolensis</i> (Muwanga) and <i>Syzygium cordatum</i> (Katope).	Lion, Elephant, Zebra, Leopard, Warthog, Black rhino, Eland, Impala, Buffalo, Sable antelope and Hartebeest
Lengwe national park	<i>Adima microcephala</i> (Mgwenya) <i>Burkea africana</i> (Mkalati), <i>Pterocarpus angolensis</i> (Mlombwa), <i>Sclerocarya caffra</i> (Mfula), <i>Bauhimia thonningii</i> (Chitimbe), <i>Terminalia sericea</i> (Naphini), <i>Dalbergia melanoxylon</i> (Phingo), <i>Brachystegia floribunda</i> (Tsamba), <i>pericopsis angolensis</i> (Muwanga).	Impala, Kudu, Nyala, Buffalo, Leopard, Warthog, Bush pig and Reedbucks

Source: Chikwawa district forest office 2017

As shown from the table above, the variety of biodiversity that Chikwawa districts has, holds a lot of potential to transform Malawi considering that tourism and is one of the key priority areas in MDGS III to improve productivity, turn the country into a competitive nation and develop resilience to shocks and hazards. Currently, the sector is not contributing significantly to the GDP as evidenced by a meager 7% contribution and 6.2% of total employment in 2016.

3.6.2 Opportunity provided by biodiversity: economic and livelihood support.

According to the CBD article 11, it provides and adoption of economically and socially sound measures that act as incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of components of biological diversity among parties and ecotourism is one of the opportunities provided by biodiversity.

Ecotourism

Ecotourism is defined as responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment and improves the well-being of local people. Ecotourism is considered as the motivation and economic investment for management of natural resources. Importance of ecotourism include

- Ecotourism create necessary funds that promote permanent protection of ecological and socio-cultural resources.
- The local residents accrue economic and social benefits thereby contributing to project's long-term success.

In Chikwawa many communities have been developed for example villages surrounding Majete game reserve has gained a lot from ecotourism as tour guides. Most of Chikwawa Peoples livelihoods is built on the surrounding ecological resources including fish, timber, wildlife and agriculture and the future of such communities is directly tied to the sustainable use of the biological resources and to the health of the ecosystems of which these resources are a part.

3.6.3 Threats to biodiversity

Biodiversity ensures natural sustainability for all life on the planet for example abundant crops and fresher air. But there are a number of issues threatening our Chikwawa biodiversity, from climate change to invasive species. Below, we discuss some of the biggest threats facing biodiversity present.

1. **Climate change**

Changes in climate have, of course, altered life on Earth in the long run ecosystems have come and gone and species routinely go extinct because many are not able to cope, causing them to die out.

2. **Deforestation and loss of habitat**

Deforestation is a direct cause of extinction and loss of biodiversity. A large part of forest is lost each year which is causing habitat loss for forest species, destroying the ecosystems on which many other species depend.

3. **Overexploitation**

Overhunting, overfishing and over-harvesting contribute greatly to the loss of biodiversity, killing off numerous species over the past years in our protected area. Poaching for example in Lengwe national park and Majete wildlife reserve are risking biodiversity and other forms of hunting for profit increase the risk of extinction of species.

4. **Invasive alien**

The introduction of non-native species into an ecosystem can threaten endemic wildlife (either as predators or competing for resources), affect human health and upset economies.

5. **Pollution**

From the release of effluent and other solid waste from companies like press cane into water bodies and pits around Chikwawa is threatening life below water and life on land which is against achieving SDGs 14 and 15, pollution completely disrupts the Earth's ecosystems.

3.6.4 Biodiversity conservation strategies

1. **Maintain intact (viable) landscapes**

The intent of this strategy is to protect and improve the ecological integrity and long-term viability of the more intact landscapes of Chikwawa. Within these areas, priority actions would be to: remove threats and reinstate ecological processes.

2. **Reverse declines**

This strategy aims to reinstate ecosystems that have been differentially lost in locations where this will meaningfully contribute to stemming species declines and reinstating critical ecological processes (such as pollination). Within these areas, the priority actions are to reinstate open woodland systems and improve the habitat value of shrubby systems.

3. **Recover threatened species and ecological communities**

The intent of this strategy is to ensure the long-term persistence of species and ecosystems at immediate risk of extinction in the wild. The actions required to implement this work are specific to

individual species and ecosystems, but typically focus on increasing distribution and abundance trends a good example is what African parks is doing in bringing back the animals that went into extinction in Majete.

4. **Control emerging threats**

This strategy aims to address threats to biodiversity before their impacts are fully realized. A couple of the more pervasive threats to the district include climate change, deforestation and habitat loss. Promote awareness on conservation strategies for managing biodiversity in anticipation of a changing climate. This strategy is one of the priority strategies in climate change policy of Malawi.

CHAPTER 4: THE ECONOMY

In the Economic sector, the Sustainable Development Goals (SGGs) and the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS) III in general seek to eradicate poverty, promote prosperity, welfare and sustainable livelihoods for people of both sexes, in all ages and all sectors through emphasis on the need to invest simultaneously in identified key priority areas that can spur economic growth and development. Such key priority areas include Agriculture, Education, Transport and Energy. SGDs 1,2,3,5,9,14 and 17 contribute to building a sustainable economic development. The National medium-term development strategy towards the achievement of the same, the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS)III emphasizes on the following key priority areas: Agriculture and climate change management, Education and skills management, Transport and ICT infrastructure, Energy, industry and Tourism development, and Health and population management.

Chikwawa is one of the least developed districts in the country. Just like the rest of the districts, Agriculture (both crop and livestock production) remains the backbone of the local economy.

4.1 POVERTY INCIDENCE

4.1.1 Average family income

Average income levels in Chikwawa show that most households face serious inadequacy and cannot afford sufficient basic needs out of their income. According to the fourth Integrated Household Survey, approximately 72%, 56% and 59.4% of the households face inadequacies in food, housing and healthcare respectively. This is higher than the inadequacies reported for the nation which are 63.8%, 55.6% and 54.8% in food housing and healthcare respectively. This shows that, on average, income levels are relatively lower in the district. Only 4.9% households have an income that allows them to build savings. 31.7% households rely on borrowing as their income is not sufficient. If people can hardly have enough basic needs, let alone save then it means they are unable to build personal assets which are critical for improving welfare.

4.1.2 Components of income

Households rely on multiple sources of income from economic activities to transfers to improve their well-being. Households are engaged predominantly in crop and livestock production, employment in the farm labour market, employment in the non-farm labour market and self-employment. In remote areas, household income is dominated by farm activities.

4.1.3 Proportion of poor and absolutely poor households

According to the Fourth Integrated Household Survey, approximately 27.6 % households are poor while 39.8% households are reported to be in ultra poverty in Chikwawa. The ultra poor are typically food insecure, have few or no assets, lack education and suffer from poor health. They live on less than half a dollar per day. These are mostly the people that live in the rural. This is the case because most people's main economic activity is rainfed Agriculture which has proven not to be a reliable source of livelihood because of the shocks the district faces. Having about 40% of the districts population in such a critical situation is a very serious issue that calls for serious and intensive interventions.

4.2**LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

This section analyses sectors that contribute to local economic development. Such sectors include: Agriculture, Forestry, Mining, Commerce and Industry, Labour and employment, and Tourism.

4.2.1 Agriculture

Agriculture is the mainstay of the economy, contributing close to a third of the country's GDP and employing the majority of the labour force. It is a sector that can significantly support industrial development. However, its potential is hampered by dependency on rain-fed agriculture with its attendant challenges stemming from climate change and poor water management. In addition, there are other challenges such as post-harvest losses, lack of agriculture diversification, small size of landholding, land degradation and lack of investment in research, extension and underdeveloped market systems.

Investment in climate change adaptation has been found to have the largest multiplier effect on poverty alleviation, education, health, agriculture and water development, economic growth, urbanization and governance. Recognizing this, a number of strategies have been proposed including adaptation and mitigation of climate change impacts. Adaptation will protect against the effects of climate change, thereby reducing vulnerability of communities and ecosystems. On the other hand, mitigation avoids escalation of the risk of climate change by reducing further release of Green House Gases (GHGs) and by sequestration of GHGs from the atmosphere. Both adaptation and mitigation support the agriculture sector, as well as other sectors. (MGDS III)

However, according to the World Development Indicators, despite Malawi consistently surpassing the targeted agricultural sector budget allocation threshold, average agricultural GDP growth has been at about 4 percent per year since 1968, partly due to the lack of a coherent policy to guide the sector. Furthermore, growth in Malawi's agriculture has been volatile over the years, suggesting structural weaknesses and a lack of resilience in the sector. The food crises induced by erratic rainfall in 1992, 1994, 2002, 2004, and 2015 demonstrate the particular vulnerability of the sector to weather-related shocks (NAP 2016).

As Malawi's economy is largely dependent on agriculture which contributes about 40% of the GDP and due to persistent food shortages, Malawi has in the recent years aligned its agricultural policies towards rapid irrigation development to reduce dependence on rain fed agriculture, thereby moving towards the attainment of food security.

In view of this, Chikwawa Irrigation Office facilitate the use of irrigation technologies with due attention to efficient utilization of water resources. Some of the technologies that are being promoted for the small-holder irrigation include;

- Small scale gravity fed irrigation schemes.
- Small motorized pump based irrigation schemes.
- Treadle pump based irrigation schemes.
- Dam construction/rehabilitation and water impoundments to improve water availability and accessibility for irrigation development.
- Harnessing water resources for the irrigation through canalisation
- Below is the table showing the summary of the agriculture policies related to MGDS and Sustainable Development Goals

Table 4.1 Summary of Policies Related To Agriculture

Policy	Goal/Objectives	Intended Outcomes	Strategies
MGDS-PRIORITY AREA I: AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY Agricultural Productivity and Diversification	The goal is to increase agriculture productivity and diversification.	Increased smallholder farmers' output per unit area; Increased agricultural diversification; Increased production of high value agricultural commodities including cotton, wheat and macadamia nuts for exports; Improved agricultural research, technology generation and dissemination; Increased livestock and fish production; and Reduced land degradation	Providing effective extension services; Strengthening linkages of farmers to input and output markets; Enhancing livestock and fisheries productivity; Promoting appropriate technology development, transfer and absorption; Improving access to inputs; Promoting contract farming arrangements; Promoting irrigation farming; Promoting production of non traditional crops; Improving agricultural production for both domestic and export markets; · Strengthening farmer institutions; and Promoting soil and water conservation techniques.
FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY	To significantly improve the food and nutrition security of the population. Rapid and substantial reduction in the degree and severity of malnutrition among the men, and women, boys and girls, especially under-fives, expectant and lactating mothers of the population.	Sustainable food availability Sustainable access to food Food utilization Stable food availability Information	Promote contract farming for agricultural production development Strengthen management and maintain adequate stocks of the Strategic Grain Reserves Diversify the types of food stored in strategic food reserves at community and national level to include foods from all the six groups Create conducive environment for the private sector investment and local community participation in irrigation development Facilitate investments in rainwater harvesting and water management Encourage use of lakes, rivers, and underground water resources for irrigation Ensure stability of fertiliser supply (e.g. maintain a fertilizer buffer stock as necessary) Encourage domestic production of high quality improved varieties Promote establishment of community seed banks for easy access and sustainability
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM	All farmers are able to demand and have access to quality extension services		Demand driven Accountability Those who benefit must pay Resources sustainability Promotion of pluralism Decentralized coordination

Others

- AU 2003 Maputo declaration on Agriculture (10% allocation)
- Malabo Declaration on Accelerating Agriculture growth
- Declaration for Healthy food
- Africa Agriculture Status report 2018
- The Maputo commitments and the 2014 African Union

4.2.1.1 Agriculture Production

Major crops grown

Agricultural production in the district is predominantly subsistence. Major crops grown include Maize, Sorghum, rice, cotton, millet, pigeon peas and sweet potatoes which are complemented by beans, fruits and vegetables. Minor crops are sesame, cow peas, cassava, and groundnuts. Cotton remains the major cash crop in the district however slowly farmers are losing interest in the crop due to poor market incentives and lack of inputs for the production. Slowly outgrower sugar cane schemes are taking shape in the district. So far we have Kasinthula and Phata outgrower schemes. The schemes are offering greater economic value to the communities since sugarcane has a readily available market at Illovo sugar factory hence an upward push in the household per capita income. Table 4.2 below shows production, yield and area planted for major and minor crops.

Table 4.2 Production (Tonnage), Yield (Tonne/Ha.), and Area (Ha.) Planted For Major and Minor Crops

Crop	2012-2013			2013-2014			2014-2015			2015-2016			2016-2017		
	Area	Yield	Production	Area	Yield	Production	Area	Yield	Production	Area	Yield	Production	Area	Yield	Production
Maize	48241	1334	64332	51605	1454	75040	50490	1346	67960	48583	662	32146	57361	761	43668
Rice	3686	2322	8560	4278	2656	11362	4731	2280	10786	3906	1377	5377	4464	2209	9859
Sorghum	24860	962	23918	25842	1174	30346	25827	753	19452	29723	244	7248	33335	500	16666
Millet	13520	957	12939	13719	1086	14896	13865	725	10048	16282	118	1921	17531	407	7139
Cotton	39681	957	37961	35617	1124	40042	33933	801	27190	18740	245	4587	16584	442	7332
Beans	5949	1039	6178	5860	1089	6381	6728	1319	8872	5973	1282	7660	7124	1212	8634
Cowpeas	11928	474	5650	12083	489	5911	12009	510	6121	11951	246	2943	23036	322	7426
Sweetpotato	6886	16125	111038	7514	16353	122878	7637	16582	126640	7108	15709	111657	8515	16557	140984

Source: Chikwawa District Agriculture Office 2017.

In terms of production, sweet potatoes have the highest production as well as yield if compared to other crops. On the other hand, millet has the lowest production as well as yield (tonne /ha). Chikwawa being a district characterized by dry spell, maize crop does not produce enough yield, unlike sweet potatoes which have high yield even during dry spell.

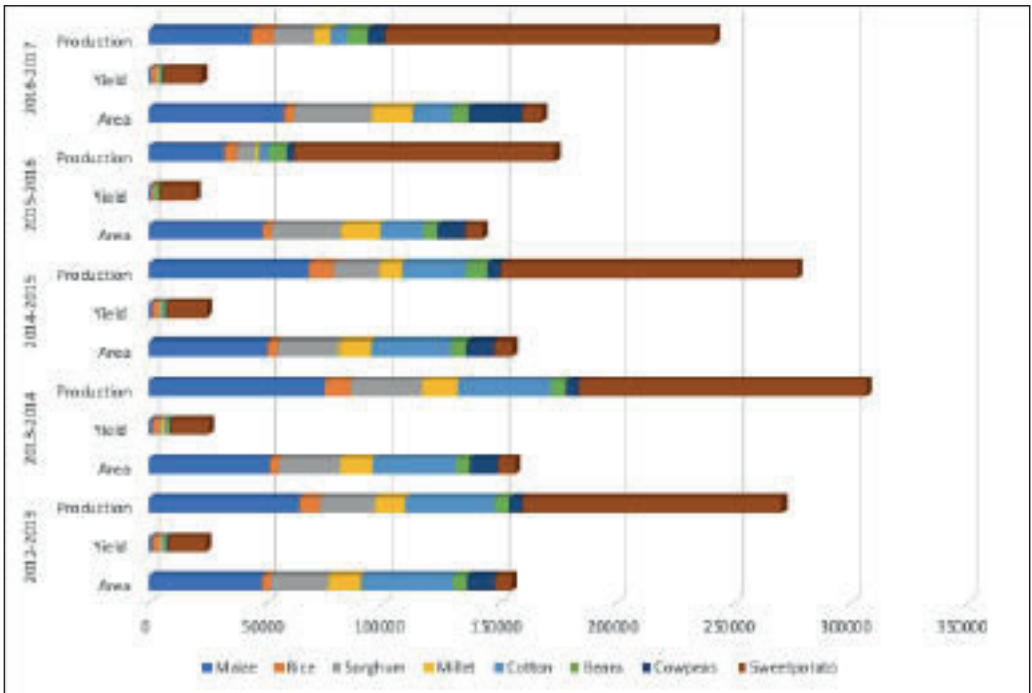


Figure 4.1 Comparison of production of different crops over a 5 year period 2012-2017

Source: Agricultural Production Estimates report, 2012-2017

As depicted in the figure above, most farmers are now shifting away from cotton production due to poor market incentives and non accessibility of inputs, hence most famers are opting for maize, sorghum and millet production as food crops while pigeon peas and phaseolus beans as a cash crops.

Yield trends vary according to climatic, economic and social factors spanning the period of production, these include rainfall intesity, dry spells, pest infestations, input availability and labour force availability. Yields tend to increase in the years where we have favourable weather (good rainfall intensity and distribution, moderate temperatures) and when there is availability of high quality inputs. Phaseolus bean production is usually done under irrigated season because it favours low temperatures from April to July. Substantial amount of maize and other horticultural crops are also produced under irrigated cropping.

Horticultural crops in Chikwawa District

The table below shows the number of trees per Ha, yield (Tonnes/Ha) and production (Tonnes) for different fruit treesfor 2014/2015 to 2015/2016 and area (Ha), yield (Tonnes/Ha) and production (Tonnes) for different vegetables in the same period

Table 4.3 Horticultural Crops in Chikwawa District

Fruit	2014/2015			2015/2016		
	Ha / No. of trees	Yield	Production in tons	Ha / No. of trees	Yield	Production in tons
Tangerines	12043	290	3431	12101	282	3369
Oranges	2538	228	578	2562	225	577
Banana	302	11613	3507	250	9212	2303
Mangoes	89531	892	91405	102810	889	91405
Tomatoes	876 Ha	18755	16429	975 Ha	19616	19128
Cabbage	212 Ha	16768	3823	228 Ha	16768	3823
Onions	54 Ha	19130	1033	90Ha	20489	1844

Source: Chikwawa Agriculture Office, 2017

The table above indicates that there was an increase in vegetable production in 2015/2016 season as compared 2014/2015 season because of the favourable condition during winter production

As for the fruits there is a decrease in the same years as the flowers were shading off due to heavy rains and winds

Farming Families in the District

The ditrict has six Extension Planning Areas (EPAs) and 11 Traditional / Sub Traditional Authorities. Table 4.4 below show farm families per EPA and TA

Table 4.4 Farm Famillies in Each Extension Planning Areas (EPA)

2016 /17 FF REGISTER SUMMARY OF FARM FAMILIES PER EPA		
EPA	Number of villages	Number of Farm Familes
Kalambo	284	20429
Mbewe	193	14329
Mitole	237	27660
Livunzu	165	25450
Mikalango	369	27487
Dolo	285	19329
Total	1533	134684

Source: Chikwawa District Agriculture Office, 2017

The table above shows that the district has a total of 134684 farm families . Mitole EPA has the highest and Mbewe has the lowest number of farm families. Interm of Traditional Authorities (TAs) , Ngabu has highest and Ngowe has the lowest number of farm families as depicted by the table below.

Table 4.5 Farm Families in Each Traditional Authority

2016/2017 SUMMARY OF FARM FAMILY PER TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY		
T.A	Village	Farm Families
Chapananga	314	22582
Katunga	72	9088
Lundu	60	6654
Maseya	93	9525
Ndakwera	89	4549
Ngabu	5000	37565
Ngowe	54	2644
Masache	100	6577
Mlilima	66	5318
Kasisi	57	9181
Makhuwira	128	21001
TOTAL	1533	134684

Source: Chikwawa Agriculture office, 2017

4.2.1.2 Land Holding Size

Twenty –Five percent of the land in Chikwawa is cultivated while about 53% is the total arable that can be used for various agricultural activities. The district has a total area of 4,892sq kms. In agricultural terms, the total land area is 489,168.769 hectares of which 20, 118 hectares is dry arable land and 29,962 hectares is wet arable land. Estates occupy 19,000 hectares while public land covers 211,788 hectares. Non arable land covers 191,089 hectares. The table below shows total area of EPAs in the district showing the potential of the land use.

Table 4.6 Land Area by Extension Planning Area

EPA	Total Area (ha).	Good - Moderately good quality land.	Marginal quality land.	Non-Arable land.	Forest and Wild-life.	% Arable of Total.
Kalambo	99,100	39600	19480	17500	42000	40%
Mbewe	111,375	40375	50299	4000	21400	36%
Mitole	90,392	45306	2806	0	47000	50%
Livunzu	51,340	27623	1717	0	22000	53.8%
Mikalango	78,750	43157	25074	23000	14260	55%
Dolo	41,000	30951	11432	10000	3300	75%
District	471957	227013	110808	90500	149960	53%.

Source: Chikwawa Agriculture Office 2017

The table above shows that Mitole Extension Planning Area has the largest total land area for crop production (45,306 ha) while Livunzu EPA has the smallest land area (27,623 ha) in the district.

About 39% of the population in the district are farmers with an average land holding size of cultivated land of less than 0.5 Ha per farm family, mainly due to growing population exerting land pressure for agricultural activities. About 82 % of the households have land-holding sizes less than 1 ha and only 18 % of the farm fami-

lies have above 1 ha of cultivable land. By gender, more male headed households (78%) own land compared to their counterparts 22% female –headed households. This put women at risk of poverty due to lack of access to land, including Agricultural land. Table below shows average land holding size per EPAs for smallholder farmers and estates.

Large Scale Farming

Large scale farming include: Illovo, KAMA, Phata and Kasinthula cane growers; and Nchalo Greenbelt Limited focusing on cotton production. Following are the details.

Table 4.7 Land Holding Size For Major Large Scale Farms

No.	Name	Crop	Hectorage
1	Illovo	Sugarcane	13600
2	Kasinthula Cane Growers Limited	Sugarcane	1435
3	Phata Cane Growers Limited	Sugarcane	600
4	Nchalo Green Belt Limited	Cotton	480
5	KAMA Cane Growers Association	Sugarcane	106
	Total		16221

Source: Chikwawa Agriculture reports, 2017

According to table 4.7 above, Illovo occupies the largest land which is used for cane growing. Apart from these farms, there are also small scale farms in the district

4.2.1.3 Agricultural Markets

District has both council markets, and Agricultural Development and Marketing Corporation (ADMARC) markets, and some seasonal markets being operated by private traders and cotton buyers including Export Trading Group (ETG), GLCC, Malawi Cotton, Afrisian, Mapeto and CGL Companies. Agricultural produce is mostly sold on these local council markets and on the farm gate due to its price competitiveness. Table 4.8 below shows markets in the district.

Table 4.8 Agricultural Markets by Traditional Authority

Traditional Authority	CouncilMarkets	ADMARC Markets	Total Markets
Katunga	1	1	2
Kasisi	1	2	3
Maseya	1	2	3
Makhuwira	6	4	9
Mlilima	0	1	1
Chapananga	3	5	8
Lundu	3	2	5
Ngabu	2	9	11
Ngowe	0	2	2
Masache	1	2	3
District	18	30	48

Source: Chikwawa District Agriculture Development Office, 2017

Most of these markets, especially government markets often they do not stock the inputs like seeds, chemicals and fertilizers, only during the time of farm input subsidy distribution do they stock fertilizers. Despite the fact that the markets do not always stock the inputs, but also in some hard to reach areas like Changoima in Kalambo, Chavala, in Mitole and Makungu in Livunzu EPA, travel long distances to have access to these inputs. Private traders (agro-dealers) mostly

stock seeds and pesticides, they are in most trading centres in the district, however the availability of some items in stock depend upon seasonality of specific agricultural season.

The district doesn't have reliable established agricultural produce markets in place, rather farmers sell their produce either on farm gate basis (right on the farm) or they travel to the local markets to sell their produce usually at very low prices. This is because the prices are not predetermined

as is the case in the designated markets, the prices are always determined by the market forces of demand and supply on a daily basis. As a result of this some farmers are discouraged to produce more since there are no readily available markets, this does not complement well with the Agriculture extension policy where farmers have to take farming as a business.

4.2.1.4 Agricultural Practices

Cropping seasons

Chikwawa District utilizes both summer (rainfed) and winter (irrigated) cropping seasons. Usually in summer, farmers make use of rain-fed agriculture whereas during winter, farmers utilize irrigation systems such as residual moisture, treadle pump, shallow wells irrigation and sola powered.

Agricultural inputs

The Government's input Subsidy Programme provided the greater part of Agricultural inputs (fertilizers, legumes and maize seed) to the farmers. Other sources of farm inputs are NGOs, Cotton Companies, Church Organizations and Other projects that assist farmers with input supplies through various programmes such as, input for Assets, Malawi Drought Relief and Recovery Programme (MDRRP), Malawi Flood Emergency Recovery Programme (MFERP) and other donations to support crop production. The figure and table below show Input Consumption fertilizer in the district by EPA from 2013/2014 to 2014/2015 seasons for Urea and 23:21:0+4s in kgs.

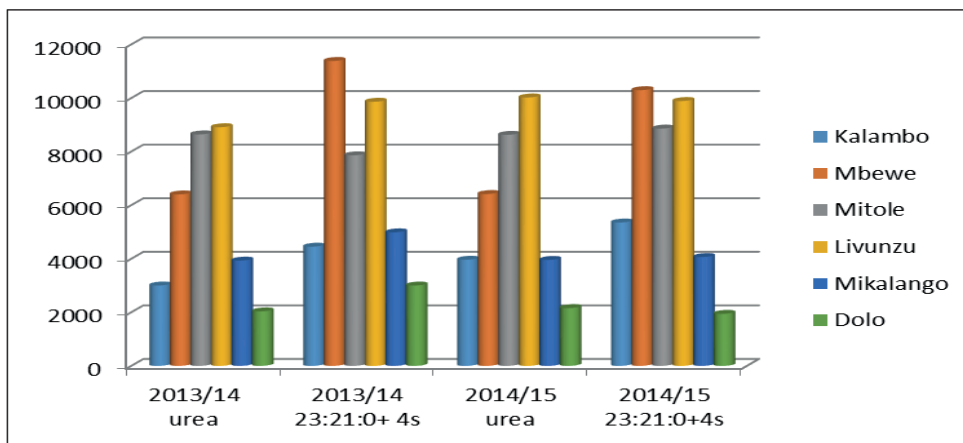


Figure 4.2 Input Consumption- Fertilizer by EPA in Kgs

Source: Chikwawa agriculture office reports 2017

The figure above shows that input consumption for urea was lower for both two seasons (2013/2014 and 2014/2015) compared to 23:21:0+4s. This is because most farmers are unable to access the fertilizer due inadequate income hence they find the fertilizer unaffordable to buy. The District Agriculture office has been encouraging farmers on compost manure making and application.

The table below shows number of farm families applying fertilizer in 2013/2014 to 2014/2015

Table 4.9 Fertilizer Application by Farming Families in the District From 2013/2014 To 2014/2015

Year	Fertilizer (kg)	Kalambo	Mbewe	Mitole	Livunzu	Mikalango	Dolo	Total
2013/2014	Urea	3000	6402	8643	8910	3931	2036	32922
	23:21:0+4s	4450	11385	7862	9862	4986	3000	41545
Total		7450	17787	16505	18772	8917	5036	74467
2014/2015	Urea	3964	6416	8627	10021	3956	2159	35145
	23:21:0+4s	5353	10294	8860	9889	4064	1943	40403
Total		9317	16754	17487	19910	8020	4102	75548

Out of 134,684 farming families in the district only 74, 446 (55%) and 75,548 (56%) were able to apply fertilizer in 2013/2014 and 2014/2015 seasons respectively. This shows that over 40% of farming families do not apply fertilizer to their crops. This has negative consequences on crop production; therefore the district has to implement interventions that would improve access to fertilizer to ensure that majority farmers are able to apply fertilizer to their crops.

4.2.1.5 Agricultural Extension Services

The district offers the following extension services

- Livestock production
- Crop production
- Fisheries and Aquaculture development
- Irrigation services
- Farm mechanization services
- Agribusiness
- Gender and HIV/AIDS
- Food and Nutrition
- Agriculture Communication services
- Land Resources Conservation services

These services are not offered at district level only, but also in the EPAs where the farmers are reached in their demarcated blocks within the sections. Table 4.10 below shows the Number of Extension workers against the farm families in the sections.

Table 4.10 Number of Extension Per EPA

EPA	Number of Sections	Number of Agriculture Extension workers	Number of Blocks	Farming Families (2014/15)	Extension worker to Farmer ratio.
Kalambo	21	16	168	20429	1:1276
Mbewe	22	19	176	14420	1:758
Mitole	19	21	152	27660	1:1317

EPA	Number of Sections	Number of Agriculture Extension workers	Number of Blocks	Farming Families (2014/15)	Extension worker to Farmer ratio.
Livunzu	18	18	144	25480	1:1415
Mikalango	29	18	232	27457	1:1525
Dolo	15	15	120	19329	1:1288
District	124	107	992	134,775	1:1259

Source: Chikwawa District Agriculture Development Office 2017

The table above shows that Mikalango has the largest number of farm families (27,457) followed by Mitole with 27,660 farm families. On the other hand, Mbewe has the lowest number of farm families (14, 420).

Chikwawa district has high vacancy rate of extension workers despite an increase in the demand for extension services, Mikalango being the largest of all the six EPAs in terms of number of sections. There are 124 sections against **107** qualified extension workers providing services to the farmers including other stakeholders. The current Extension worker to farmer ratio is **1: 1259** which is above the national average of **1: 700**. In order to reach out to all the farmers in the district an Extension worker is working in more 1 section.

The district offers pluralistic demand driven extension services in the areas of crop production and marketing, Livestock production and marketing and Irrigation. By plurastic approach, it means more players in the agriculture extension services can offer their services in the district so long as they follow the required standards and are in compliance with the government policies. On the other hand, by offering demand driven services, it means farmers can choose the type of extension service that they want to get, and the message can be tailormade towards that specific area. This approach is more objective and effective since there is no impositioning of the extension services.

4.2.1.6 Agriculture Institutional Set Up

The District Agricultural Extension Services System (DAESS) is a mechanism for enabling farmers to identify and organise their agricultural felt needs for appropriate action by relevant stakeholders. The system is thus, bottom up or demand driven.

The overall objective DAESS is

To empower farmers to demand high quality services from those that are best able to provide them.

Specific Objectives

- To organise farmers' agricultural needs.
- To pool service providers and related resources in order to address prioritised farmers agricultural needs.
- To instil sense of ownership and self reliance in agricultural programmes among farmers.
- To foster coordination among stakeholders in service provision

Main Focal Areas

- Organisation of farmers demands:
- Organising service providers' response to farmers needs:
- Stakeholders Coordination
- Funding acquisition

The district Agriculture extension advisory services structure is at different levels; at the district level, we have District Agriculture Extension Coordinating Committee (DAECC) which is comprised of different Agriculture service providers at the district level. The main objective of the committee is to oversee the quality of agriculture extension service in the district. This is more technical body at the district level and office of the DADO plays the secretarial role. Below DAECC is District Stakeholder panel (DSP), unlike DAECC, DSP is comprised of representatives from all area stakeholder panels and the DAEC members. At Traditional Authority level, we have Area stakeholder Panel and the AEDC is the secretary of the committee while at the GVH level Village Agriculture committees (VACs) oversee the Agriculture related issues.

The figure below depicts the structure from the district level up to the Group Village:

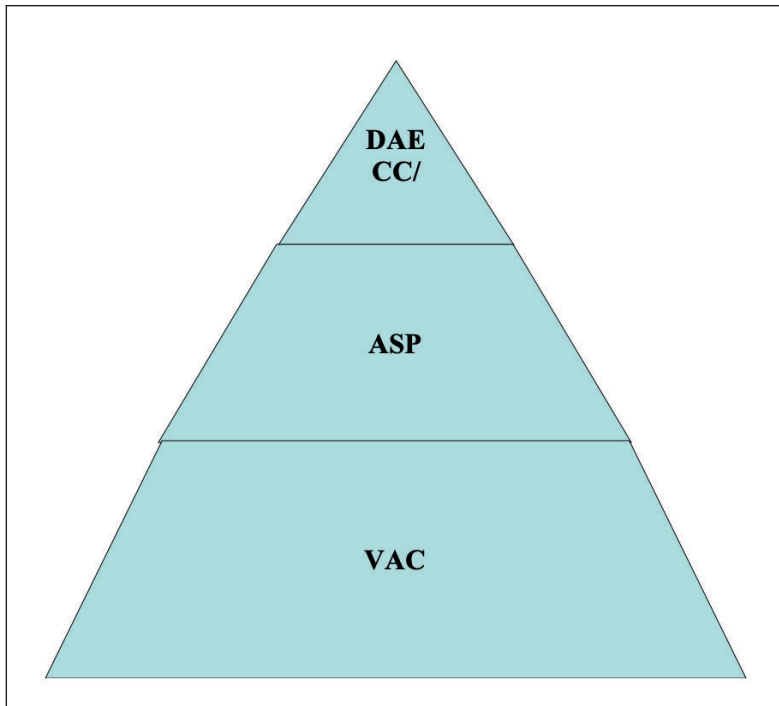


Figure 4.3 DAESS Structure

Source: Chikwawa District Agriculture Development Office, 2017

4.2.1.7 Agricultural Credit Services

Access to credit is vital to the social and economic development of the district. Currently there is no Agricultural credit service being rendered in the district, however some credit institutions such as Blue Bank, Green wing Finca and other local financial institutions provide credit but not specifically tailor made to agricultural credit facilities. The loans offered are mainly business, education loans and workers loans. Their interest rates are at 36% to 48%.

4.2.1.8 Irrigation

The Department of Irrigation in general, aims at developing small-scale irrigation schemes that are economically viable and sustainable under smallholder situation and circumstance. Specifically the department aims at offering technical advice to various rural communities in matters relating to irrigation, encouraging rural communities to increase their agricultural production through irrigation hence ensuring food sufficiency.

Approaching various donor organizations to seek assistance in implementing possible irrigation projects in the district.

Irrigation Schemes

Chikwawa has a great potential for Irrigation Development due to the availability of perennial rivers, such as Shire, Livunzu, Nkhate, Mapelera, Mwamphanzi, Nkudzi, Limphangwi, Chidzimbi, Nkombedzi, Nyakamba and other small rivers and water sources which provide free flowing water even throughout the dry season.

Irrigation Potential

Chikwawa district has potential irrigable area of 38,000 Ha. It is promoting irrigation through treadle pumps technology, motorized pumps (surface and sprinkler), stream/river-based gravity, canalization, water impoundments and watering cans. The area that has been developed so far for farmers under these technologies is 2223 Ha benefiting 10, 979 farmers. Table 4.11 below shows list of existing irrigation schemes with HA and number of beneficiaries and main crops grown and status whether it is functional and non functional.

Table 4.11 Irrigation Schemes in Chikwawa

No	Scheme	Ha	Beneficia- ries	Crops Grown	Status
1	Nkhate	243	1215	Rice/maize/sweet potato/beans/ pigeon peas	Functional
2	Nazolo A	10	121	Maize/Rice	Functional
3	Nazolo B	48	170	Maize/Beans	Functional
4	Nkombedzi	300	700	Rice	Non Functional
5	Kasinthula	784.6	272	Maize/sugarcane	Functional
6	Limphagwi	25	250	Maize	Functional
7	Mtendere	10	102	Maize	Non Functional
8	Kawaye	10	112	Maize/Beans	Functional
9	Khamalanthu	10	106	Maize/Beans	Functional
10	Namikhate	20	110	Maize/Beans	Functional
11	Mulomba	33	100	Maize	Non-Functional (Farmers not able to meet operational cost)
12	Malata	13	78	Maize	Non Functional
13	Mlunga	15	161	Maize	Functional
14	Namigoza	20	125	Maize	Functional
15	Bwalo	16	95	Maize	Non-Functional (Farmers not able to meet operational cost)
16	Mwanakakula	11	110	Maize/beans/rice	Non-Functional (Farmers not able to meet operational cost)
17	Mankhokwe	5	38	Maize/beans	Non Functional
18	Namicheni	15	150	Maize	Non-Functional (Farmers not able to meet operational cost)
19	Matabwa	13.5	40	Maize/Beans	Functional
20	Chipakuza	12	30	Maize/Vegetables	Functional
21	Various treadle pump sites	846	5688	Rice/maize/Sweet potatoes/Vegeta- bles	Functional
22	Various watering cans sites	120	2025	Vegetables	Functional
23	Various Impoundment sites	115.9	1231	Maize/beans/vegetables	Functional

Source: Chikwawa Irrigation Office 2015.

Interms of functionality, 65% of irrigation schemes are functional while 35% are non-functional. Those that are not functional are due to either dilapidated irrigation facilities caused by persistent floods and free-range livestock or High operating cost like fuel and electricity bills specifically in motorised based schemes. Dependency syndrome among farmers also contributes to low utilization of these irrigation schemes.

The table below shows location of potential irrigation sites with HA and possible water source and projected beneficiaries

Table 4.12 Irrigation Technologies in the District

Irrigation Technology	Irrigation Site	EPA	Ha	HH	Water Source
River diversion	Chindoko	Mikalango	10	50	Drain from Illovo
	Chidzimbi	Livunzu	250	1000	Chidzimbi River
	Likhubula	Mitole	500	1600	Likhubula River
	Mwanakakula	Mikalango	30	150	Chigumukiiretream
	Thima	Livunzu	250	870	Mwamphanzi River
	Mwamphanzi	Mitole	100	450	Mwamphanzi River
	Chilengo	Livunzu	500	1500	Livunvu River
	Chimenyere	Mitole	5	50	Mthumba River
DAM	Dzenje	Mikalango	30	200	Nkombedzi River
	Chikunumbwi	Livunzu	20	100	Chikunumbwi River
	Mafume	Dolo	10	50	Mafume Stream
Canalization	Mwananjobvu	Dolo	30	300	Ntayakhasu Stream
	chalo-Bello	Mitole	70	350	Shire River
Motorized pump	Mbenderana 1	Mitole	44	40	Shire River
	Mbenderana 2	Mitole	47	94	Shire River
	Mlomba	Mitole	245	1225	Shire River
	Kalima	Mitole	33	150	Shire River
	Joseph	Livunzu	27	54	Shire River
	Chagambatuka	Livunzu	7	68	Shire River
	Mwamphanzi 1	Livunzu	5	50	Mwamphanzi
	Chabuka	Mbewe	10	86	Shire River
	Nkhwazi	Mbewe	10	100	Nkombedzi River
	Tiyesenawo	Dolo	15	144	Underground
	Masanduko	Dolo	10	97	Ntayakhasu
	Mpoza	Mikalango	100	500	Shire River
	Livunzu	Livunzu	200	1000	Livunzu River
	Gumbwa	Mitole	43	230	Likhubula River
	Kabwatika	Kalambo	5	50	Underground
Mwamphanzi 2	Mitole	5	50	Underground	

Source: Chikwawa District Irrigation Office 2017,

According to table 4.12 above, out of 30 potential irrigation sites to be developed shows that Motorized pump based has highest percentage (53.3%), compared to river diversion based has (30%), Dam based has (10%)

and canalisation has (6.7%). This is because motorised based sites can be developed using either surface or underground water sources while others are limited to surface water only.

The most irrigation systems being employed in the district include treadle pumps, motorized furrow, motorized sprinkler and gravity water diversion and residual moisture.

Contribution of Agriculture to the Local Economy

- **Source of income and food**

Most crops can be used for food and incomes such as rice, ground nuts, horticulture crops and livestock. However, some crops can be used solely for cash such as cotton.

- **Source of employment**

Agriculture employs over 85% of Malawi's population on farm, estates and industries e.g Illovo, press cane and Phata cooperative. Illovo and other companies in the district employ many people.

- **Source of raw materials for industrial activities**

Agriculture provides raw materials such as cotton to textiles companies, sorghum and millet for beer brewing, skin hides for shoe companies etc

Challenges in the Agriculture Sector in the district

- **Climate change**

The district is mostly affected by prolonged dry spell and floods which affects both livestock and crops hence affecting the household, district and national economy at large.

- **Pests and disease attacks**

Heavy attack by pests and diseases such as fall army worm which attack grass family; Banana bunchy top which attack bananas and Cassava mosaic which affects cassava production in the district.

- **Low Access to farm inputs**

Inadequate availability and accessibility of inputs such as fertilizer, high quality seeds and pesticides compromise quality and quantity of production.

- **Under utilization of irrigation**

There is under exploitation of the potential irrigable areas due to inadequate funding since irrigation development requires huge investments. In addition, most irrigation schemes are not functional due to vandalism and effects of floods.

- **Low staffing levels against establishment**

There has been no recruiting of extension staff for over seven years and that has increased the ratio of extension workers to the farmer. And this has been exacerbated by transfers, staff turnover and deaths of extension workers.

- **Mobility problems for extension workers**

Most of extension workers stopped receiving bicycle allowance due to the low budget. Because of low staffing levels most front line staff man more than one section making it more tedious to travel for long distance

- **Housing problems for extension worker**

Most houses are very dilapidated as they were built in the early 70s. Due to budgetary constraints, maintenance is not done hence many officers live far from their duty stations, which affect their work effectiveness.

Opportunities existing in the district

- **Availability of Stakeholders**

There are a number of partners doing agriculture activities and extension services in the district eg GOAL Malawi, CADECOM, EAGLES, Islamic Relief, and CICOOD among others

- **Availability of Rivers**

The district is endowed with a number of rivers; some are perennial while others are seasonal with Shire River being the main one. The importance of these rivers can not be over emphasized as the rains in Chikwawa are always unreliable. Two extremes of floods and prolonged dry spell characterizes the rainfall pattern in the district, in view of the aforementioned farmers mostly rely on irrigated cropping other than rainfed due to its unpredictability. Furthermore, land holding size in the district remains very small, as a result the available land has to be fully maximized through multiple cropping per year, which can only be achieved through irrigation hence the call for a robust and sustainable irrigation initiatives in order to accelerate the agrobased income and food self sufficiency.

4.2.2 Livestock Production

4.2.2.1 Livestock Population and Monetary Value

Livestock production plays a very important role in the economy of the district, especially among small-holder farmers. It provides food, income, manure and to a limited extent draught power. While livestock management is mainly traditional, stall-feeding and breeding programs are being encouraged. The major livestock species in the district are cattle, goats, poultry, hog/pig, rabbits and sheep. Commercial cattle, goats, pigs and chickens are extremely important as they provide income and source of nutritional protein to the farmers.

The table below shows the number of livestock population from 2012/13 to 2016/17:

Table 4.13 Livestock Population

Year	Cattle	Goats	Sheep	Pigs	Chickens				Rabbits	G/Fowls	Turkeys	G/Pigs	Ducks
					Indigenous	Broilers	Layers	BAs					
2012-2013	128670	219037	5367	75747	490727	3996	2154	16642	3604	63235	210	528	52479
2013-2014	133687	196443	5621	81462	501394	35225	2002	13343	3630	60211	235	423	56329
2014-2015	142893	212463	5897	86733	546229	43821	2471	12659	4218	61333	198	518	57124
2015-2016	151229	221037	6233	92619	551205	46444	2709	16642	4961	6302	314	572	57831

Year	Cattle	Goats	Sheep	Pigs	Chickens	Rabbits	G/Fowls	Turkeys	G/Pigs	Ducks			
2016-2017	158116	305501	7034	84983	705305	2199	2687	10152	4900	58766	310	515	59287

Source: Chikwawa District Agriculture Office 2017

The district relies much on cattle, goats and local chickens for sustainability of their livelihood, and they are used as coping mechanism when there are floods and drought. Table 4.14 below shows economic gains through livestock in the district:

Table 4.14 Livestock Population, Monetary Value and Total Livestock Units Per Year

NAME OF SPECIES	POPULATION	UNIT VALUE	TOTAL MONETARY VALUE	TLU VALUE/ UNIT	TTLU/YEAR
	2012/13				
Cattle	128,670	60,000.00	7,720,200,000.00	1.00	128,670
Sheep	5,367	6,500.00	34,885,500.00	0.2	1,073
Pigs	75,747	7,500.00	568,102,500.00	0.68	51,508
Chickens	513,519	1,200.00	616,222,800.00	0.007	3,595
TOTAL LIVESTOCK VALUE 2012/13			10,691,706,800.00		228,653
	2013/14				
Cattle	133,687	80,000.00	10,694,960,000.00	1.00	133,687
Goats	196,443	12,000.00	2,357,316,000.00	0.2	39,289
Sheep	5,621	8,000.00	44,968,000.00	0.2	1,124
Pigs	81,462	9,000.00	733,158,000.00	0.68	55,394
Chickens	551,964	1,500.00	827,946,000.00	0.007	3,864
TOTAL LIVESTOCK VALUE 2013/14			14,658,348,000.00		233,358
	2014/15				
Cattle	142,893	95,000.00	13,574,835,000.00	1.00	142,893
Goats	212,463	12,500.00	2,655,787,500.00	0.2	42,493
Sheep	5,897	9,000.00	53,073,000.00	0.2	1,179
Pigs	86,733	11,000.00	954,063,000.00	0.68	58,978
Chickens	605,180	1,550.00	938,029,000.00	0.007	4,236
TOTAL LIVESTOCK VALUE 2014/15			18,175,787,500.00		249,780
	2015/16				
Cattle	151,229	110,000.00	16,635,190,000.00	1.00	151,229
Goats	221,037	15,000.00	3,315,555,000.00	0.2	44,207
Sheep	6,233	12,500.00	77,912,500.00	0.2	1,247
Pigs	92,619	14,000.00	1,296,666,000.00	0.68	62,981
Chickens	617,000	1,700.00	1,048,900,000.00	0.007	4,319
TOTAL LIVESTOCK VALUE 2015/16			22,374,223,500.00		263,983
	2015/16				
Cattle	158,116.00	130,000.00	20,555,080,000.00	1.00	158,116
Goats	305,501.00	18,000.00	5,499,018,000.00	0.2	61,100
Sheep	7,034.00	15,500.00	109,027,000.00	0.2	1,407
Pigs	84,983.00	17,000.00	1,444,711,000.00	0.68	57,788

NAME OF SPECIES	POPULATION	UNIT VALUE	TOTAL MONETARY VALUE	TLU VALUE/ UNIT	TTLU/YEAR
Chickens	720,343.00	2,200.00	1,584,754,600.00	0.007	5,042
TOTAL LIVESTOCK VALUE 2016/17			29,192,590,600.00		283,454

Source: Chikwawa District Agriculture Office APES reports from 2011 to 2017

Note: unit monetary value= average ruling price for the particular year

TLU =Total Livestock Unit =one adult cow of 24 and above months' equivalent.

Table 4.14 above discusses both monetary and nutritional value of five major livestock species in the district. It shows that the district has the potential to increase household economic base through livestock production looking at the monetary values in the table calculated against each year. Livestock is also used as a fall back during the lean months of the year where they are sold usually at a very cheap price for the farmers to buy food. Hence the movement of price index from one year to another varies according to the food availability and the ruling market price of main food on the market especially maize.

Chickens

Chicken dominates the rest of the livestock followed by goats and cattle in terms of population while sheep and rabbit's population is the least. This shows that chicken, goats and cattle production must be encouraged in the district.

Cattle

The population is slightly increasing with years. The slow rate of increase is due to frequent disease outbreaks such as trypanosomiasis and foot and mouth disease and of late the animals were affected by black quarter which registered a devastating effect on agriculture production. High demand for beef as a result of the growing population in the district, Blantyre city and Thyolo who rely on beef from Chikwawa.

Goats

There is generally an increase in goat population in the district. This is mainly because of the pass on programmes that the projects have been doing such as CARLA, climate change, CADECOM, EAM, MDRRP, WVI, FAO, CICOD and DAPP among other players, during the past few years This has been so because there has been an increased demand for goats by farmers and a number of organisations for purposes of distribution to smallholder farmers in the District for breeding because of its prolificacy (usually they give birth to twins or triplets/ three times in two years) and require less land and easy management. However, there have been high sales of goats by farmer to butchermen from upland districts like Blantyre city, Tholo and some parts of Chiradzulu. A total of 67141 goats were sold during 2017/2018 season. This has encouraged more farmers to go into goat production since there is ready market. This has positively impacted on the population of goats in the district.

Pigs

There has been a slight growth in the population of pigs generally in the district. However, fluctuations occur because of disease outbreaks, such as African swine fever and an increase in demand for pork among the local communities.

Poultry

The population of both local and hybrid chickens have shown an increase because of intensified campaigns on new castle vaccinations and some projects such as CARLA, CADECOM, EAM, SSLPP have distributed

a lot of Black Australops to the farmers. Apart from that most farmers have been trained in Agribusiness management and enterprise selection hence some farmers have opted to rearing chickens as business.

4.2.2.2 Livestock Use

1. Dairy

There is no noticeable dairying in the district mainly because of lack of dairy animals and market facilities. Livestock dairy production remains a challenge in the district just because of harsh climatic weather conditions which are unfavourable for the survival of the dairy breeds due to the volatile nature towards weather, quality feed inavailability, drugs as they require frequent treatment. On the other hand market remains a challenge in the district as we don't have bulking groups, so should the production starts, it means the milk will rely its market in Blantyre which is even delicate regarding the nature of the product. However, some few farmers are piloting the production.

2. Meat

Most of the livestock is used for meat production. 98 % of the cattle herd and poultry are used for this purpose.

3. Draught /Traction / Transport

Traction is done on a very small and limited scale. Only about 6,433 cattle have been registered to be used for traction or about 2.8% of the total cattle herd. About 8 % of the population in Chikwawa is registered in the use of cattle for transport. These are mainly people in the typical rural setting where transport of goods by vehicles is rare.

4. Livestock by-Products.

Hides and skins, manure, and feathers are the main livestock by-products. Hides and skins are used to manufacture leather products while feathers are employed in the making of pillows and cushions. Manure is applied into the soil as fertilizer to improve fertility. These animal by-products are widely used by every farmer mainly in agricultural production, if not sold for cash

4.2.2.3 Livestock Diseases

Ticks, Viruses, bacteria, and worms are the main causes of livestock diseases. While these may lead to low production and reduction in animal population, appropriate measures were instituted to remedy the situation and ensure the proper quality of livestock and other by-products coming out from the districts.

The common Parasites/Diseases are:

- New Castle Disease in poultry
- African Swine Fever in Pigs
- Anaplasmosis
- Lumpy Skin Disease
- Rabies in dogs
- Biting flies
- Ticks
- Internal worms

- Foot and Mouth Disease
- Foot Rot

Table 4.15 below shows the Proportion of Livestock affected by each disease/parasite from the period 2012/13 to 2016/17

Table 4.15 Proportion of Livestock Affected by Diseases/Parasites

Disease	2012/13 (%)	2013/14 (%)	2014/15 (%)	2015/16 (%)	2016/17 (%)
New castle	24	21	32	27	31
African swine fever	7	11	8	14	11
Anaplasmosis	11	9	18	14	12
Lumpy skin disease	8	12	9	12	14
Rabies	7	6	4	5	4
Biting flies	27	22	34	28	28
Ticks	42	44	31	36	47
Internal worms	62	69	57	49	53
Foot and mouth disease	16	18	26	15	18

Most of livestock pests and diseases such as internal worms, ticks, biting flies and lumpy skin disease are more prone in moist conditions and are accelerated by high rainfall, however some diseases such as new castle, foot and mouth diseases, and African swine fever become more prominent during the dry season and usually when the temperatures are very high in September October up to December,

4.2.2.4 Livestock Services and Facilities

The major Livestock services that are being offered to farmers include Cattle Dipping, meat Inspection, Livestock treatment, Vaccinations and Production estimates (inform of Census). Normally these activities/ services are offered during particular periods of the year.

The District has 11 Dip tanks, 8 dip tanks were rehabilitated in 2017/ 2018 season, cattle Crushes and 6 Cattle Markets, 5 cattle markets were rehabilitated by Ubale under CADECOM. However, after Market Liberalization, Government stopped operating the markets and private traders were allowed to operate the Markets. However, only 5 markets are operational now and most Dip tanks are not functioning as indicated in the table below:

Table 4.16 Status of Dip Tanks, Crush and Cattle Market in Different EPAs

ID No	Epa	Dip Tank/Crush/Cattle Markets	Status
1	Kalambo	Chilikha Dip tank	Non functional
		Chilikha Cattle market	Non functional
		Kubalalika crush	Functional
		Novu crush	Functional
		Misomali crush	Functional
		Ndakwera crush	Functional
		Makuya crush	Functional
		Chigwata crush	Functional
		Gola crush	Non functional

ID No	Epa	Dip Tank/Crush/Cattle Markets	Status
		Finiasi crush	Non functional
		Ngona crush	Non functional
2	Mitole	Mthumba Dip tank	Non functional
		Kanjedza Dip tank	Non functional
		Mthumba Cattle market	Functional
		Mbenderana crush	Functional
		Supuni crush	Functional
		Chavala crush	Functional
		Kandewu Cattle crush	Functional
		Gumbwa crush	Functional
		Kasisi crush	Functional
		Mawira crush	Non functional
		Mlomba crush	Functional
		Misili crush	Functional
3	Livunzu	Makhwira Dip tank	Non functional
		Nkhate crush	Functional
		Thedzi crush	Functional
		Ndombo crush	Functional
4	Dolo	Ndalapa Dip tank	Non functional
		Mwanawanjovu Dip tank	Non functional
		Thendo crush	Functional
		Dolo crush	Functional
		Masanduko crush	Functional
5	Mikalango	Jombo Dip tank	Non functional
		Ngabu Dip Tank	Functional
		Mwanawanjovu Dip tank	Non Functional
		Saopa crush	Functional
		Nsomo crush	Functional
		Therere crush	Functional
6	Mbewe	Tomali Dip tank	Non functional
		Mandrade crush	Functional
		Ndirande crush	Functional
		Nyamphota crush	Functional
		Ndakwera crush	Functional
		Nyasa crush	Functional

Livestock treatment is usually done by farmers themselves with the technical assistance from the government staff such as assistant veterinary officers, animal health surveillance assistants and the Agriculture Extension Development officers. In case of pests and disease attack of nation importance, such as Foot and mouth disease, Rabies, government provides the vaccine for free to the farmers. Government through the office of the DADO rely on the assistance that it gets from the stakeholders in the purchase of these drugs more especially rabsin. The vaccination campaigns are intended to be conducted throughout the district but due to the exorbitant price of the drugs, only few drugs are procured and therefore few animals treated leaving out a significant number of animals untreated thereby creating a huge risk to the animals and the district at large.

Of the recent past years, dip tanks have never been functional owing to the fact that the infrastructure in almost all the dip tanks was in a dilapidated state, of late UBALE project came to the rescue of the farmers by rehabilitating eight dip tanks as indicated on the table above. Another challenge is that in the past government used to provide dipping chemicals but now farmers have to buy it for themselves, so this change is taking long to be adopted by our farmers. However, we expect that with these rehabilitated dip tanks, dipping services will resume.

Contribution of Livestock to the Local Economy

- Source of income
- Source of employment
- Source of manure
- Source of nutrition

Key Issues from Livestock sector and their trends

- Lack of organised livestock markets hence users visit individual farmers so they can buy at a cheap price
- Disease outbreak eg Foot and Mouth Disease in 2012, 2015, 2017
- Shortage of pasture in some areas in some months in the year
- Wild animals (buffalos) sometimes mix with livestock

Opportunities

- Favourable conditions for livestock production in the district
- There is enough feed for livestock
- The district has dipping facilities
- The district has adequate livestock staff
- The district is near the major city of Blantyre where there is high demand for meat

4.2.3 Fisheries Resources

Fish is the most common and cheapest source of animal protein food in Chikwawa. It contributes to over 60% of dietary animal protein consumption in the district. Fish Industry also plays a significant economic role by providing employment opportunities and source of livelihood to fishermen and traders in the district. The per-capita consumption of fish in the district as of 2017 was estimated at 10kg/person/year, which is less than the FAO recommendation of 15kg/person/year. There is increasing fishing pressure on the fish stocks in the Shire waters leading to overfishing. This is attributed to a number of factors like increasing human population and limited alternative income generating activities. Habitat degradation within the aquatic environment and catchment areas and climate change also affect fish productivity.

The revised Fisheries policy 2016 provides guidelines in contributing towards economic growth and sustainable fisheries production. The goal of the Policy is to promote sustainable fisheries resource utilisation and aquaculture development in order to contribute to food and nutrition security and economic growth of the country. According to the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS III), Fisheries activities falls in the key priority no 1, Agriculture, Water development and Climate change Management which will help to contribute to higher productivity and resilience.

4.2.2.5 Fishing Grounds

Capture fisheries refer to the harvesting of fisheries resources from the natural water bodies such as lakes and river systems by using various fishing gear types and vessels. Chikwawa district is blessed with the River Shire which meanders through districts creating a large wetland known as the Elephant Marsh. The river is associated with many perennial water bodies of which three are significant and these are Lisuli, Gumbwa and Thedzi. The Shire River and its associated water bodies support an important fishery in Chikwawa. The wetland also has a potential in pond based aquaculture production in its peripherals. Currently is declared a Ramsa site, that's being awetland of international attraction. Photo below shows one of the significant water bodies in the district.



Figure 4.4 *Fishing ground in Thedzi*

4.2.2.6 Fisheries Governance and Structure

In order to protect and manage fisheries resources in Chikwawa, the Department of Fisheries offers extension and training services, research (in both capture fisheries and aquaculture), and enforcement of fisheries laws and regulations. This helps to support local communities and the private sector in the development of capture fisheries and aquaculture.

The extension services for capture fisheries follow the participatory fisheries management (PFM) regime, which advocates the participation and engagement of local communities through Local Fisheries Management Authorities (LFMAs) e.g. Beach Village Committees (BVCs) and Fisheries Associations (FA) with support from government. The LFMAs (BVCs and FAs) act as intermediaries between fishing communities and the Department of Fisheries. Participatory fisheries management allows for a two-way channel of communication in the sustainable management of the fisheries resources through active engagement of resource users and adoption of fisheries regulations. The extension services are delivered through designated areas known as minor strata along the coastline and corresponding beaches. As stipulated in the local community participation act, fishing communities form local management structures known as BVCs and a sub-committee is elected to assist in the management of the fisheries resources in a designated area.

The Act of Parliament on Fisheries Conservation and Management empowers the communities for the conservation, enhancement and management of the fisheries resources through participatory fisheries man-

agement. In line with this, Beach Village Committees (BVCs) were formed to manage the fisheries resources of the District. There are 8 Beach Village Committees in the District at present as shown in table below

Table 4.17 List of BVCs in Chikwawa

Minor Strata	Beach
Westbank (11.1)	Mchere
Westbank (11.1)	Alumenda
Eastbank (11.2)	Lisuli
Eastbank (11.2)	Yolodani
Eastbank (11.2)	Gumbwa
Eastbank (11.2)	Mitawi
Eastbank (11.2)	Thedzi
Eastbank (11.2)	Chijere

Source: Chikwawa Fisheries Office Report 2017

4.2.2.7 Enforcement and Inspectorate Services

Monitoring and controlling of fishing activities by government is needed to ensure that fishing laws and regulations are complied with. The main goal of the licensing and inspectorate unit is to maintain effective fisheries inspections in areas not under participatory fisheries management and also to support local fisheries management authorities in enforcement in order to control exploitation and ensure sustainable utilisation of fish resources.

4.2.2.8 Fish Production from Capture Fishery

The main fish species found and caught in the shire river and its associated water bodies are mostly dominated by cichlids, cyprinids and clarids. The commonly caught cichlids include; *Oreochromis mossambicus* locally known as Makakana, *Tilapia rendalli* locally known as Nyungwe or Nyumgwitsale, Tiger fish locally known as Ntchila. The clarids comprise; *Clarias gariepinus* (African sharp tooth catfish) locally known as Mlamba, *Clarias ngamensis* locally known as Chikanu and *Protopterus annectus* (African lung fish) locally known as Dowe and small quantities of other species such as *Syanodontis Njasae* locally known as Nkholoko-
lo Figure 4.4 below shows capture fish production in the district:

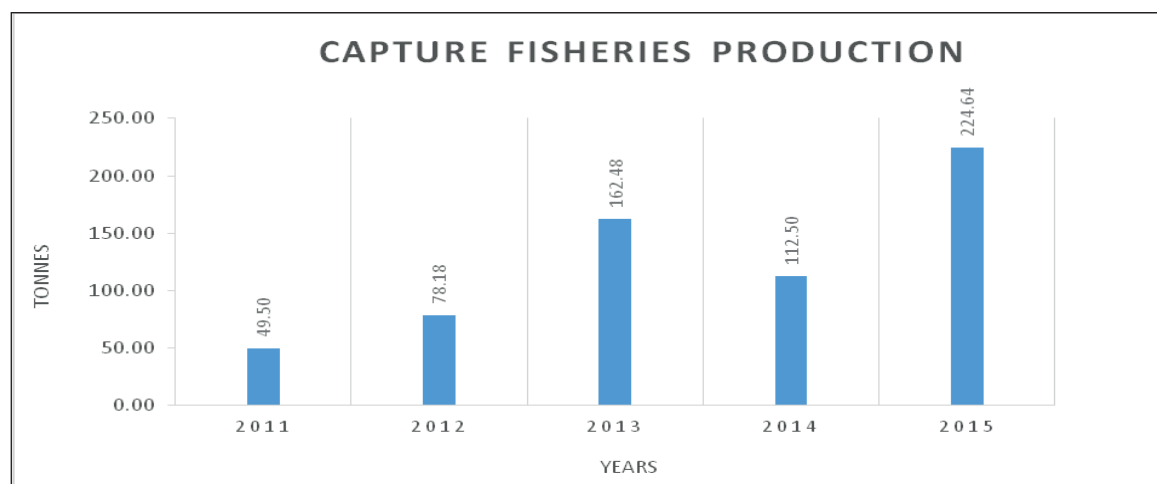


Figure 4.5 Capture Fish Production

Source: Kasinthula Satelite Research Station, 2017

The figure above shows that production from capture fisheries have been increasing in the past five years. The increase could be attributed to the proper management of the fishery resource.

However, the recovery in capture is still not enough to meet the per capita requirement of the fish for the growing population. The demand for fish is increasing in the district following increasing population growth. Promotion of fish farming at group and individual levels enables fish to be available to a number of residents.

Fishing Gears

A wide range of fishing gears are used to catch fish in Chikwawa. These gears include passive fish traps mainly the mono, gill nets, hooks, and cast nets. As of 2016, the district registered a total of 344 fishermen (crew members) of which 23 were females and 285 were males. The crafts and fishing gears accepted by fisheries regulations in order to conserve the fishery resource that were prevalent as of 2016 are summarized in the table below.

Table 4.18 Fishing Gear and Craft Statistics

Crafts		Gillnets			Hook and Line			Fish Trap	Other Gears	
Plankend Canoe	Dugout Canoe	Gillnet	Ngongongo	Usipa Seine	Longline	Handline	Chomanga	Mono	Scoop Net	Cast Net
43	97	11	403	5	30	104	8	2,488	48	87

Source: Frame survey in Lower Shire for small-scale fishers (gear owners) in Chikwawa, 2016

4.2.2.9 Fish Processing and Marketing

The main objectives of fish processing comes in to increase fish shelf life and improving quality to reduce post-harvest losses. The most practiced technologies in the Shire River of Chikwawa include sun drying and smoking. Most of the processing activities are conducted at the coasts and right in the waters on islands. Local traders stay for days at the chosen fishing grounds in the East Bank to buy and process the fish so that they accumulate more fish products of good quality to take them upland for sale. Most fishermen and fish

traders prefers smoking and sun drying the fish because type of fishing and fishing gears that are used by our local fishermen catch fish in partial. Photo4.2 below shows one of the fish processing.



Fish smoking on an island in Thedzi

Fish processing kiln on an island in Thedzi

Photo 4.1 Fish Smoking

Source: Fish smoking on an island in Thedzi- Fish processing kiln on an island in Thedzi-

4.2.2.10 Aquaculture for the District

The district has high potential for fish farming because of wetlands that are prevalent in the districts and high temperatures that is favourable for fish growth. Because of these two factors, Chikwawa district is ideal for commercial fish farming. However, Fish farming is still at its infancy stage among resource poor farmers who are a majority, but significant progress in terms of fish production have been observed among some other farmers. The district is divided into 6 Extension Planning Areas (EPAs) namely Mitole, Kalambo, Livunzu, Mbewe, Mikalango, and Dolo. Fish farming is done in all but Dolo EPA. Dolo EPA needs an assessment of potential areas of aquacultures because the EPA is generally too dry. Table 4.19 below provides number of farmers and ponds by EPA and Traditional Authority

Table 4.19 Number of Fish Ponds Per EPA

EPA	Traditional Authority	Number of Members		No. of Ponds	Pond Area (M ²)
		Males	Females		
Mitole	Kasisi, Katunga, Mlilima and Maseya	57	72	40	19620
Kalambo	Chapananga	20	47	9	5000
Livunzu	Makhuwira	60	76	16	5006
Mbewe	Lundu & Ndakwera	9	16	6	2535
Mikalango	Ngabu	7	3	4	2400
Dolo	Ngowe & Masache	0	0	0	0
TOTALS		153	214	75	34561

Source: Kasinthula Satelite Research Station, 2017

4.2.3.6. Fish Production from Aquaculture

The most cultured species in Chikwawa include Makakana, Nyungwitsale, Mlamba, and Common carp. The common culture facility in the district is the earthen fish pond of which some are plastic lined. The pro-

ductivity from different farmers shows that the current fish productivity in the district is 1ton per hectare. Many farmers in the district feed their fish less frequently using maize bran with little or no manuring. Chikwawa has potential for fish farming, that Government through different projects has been supporting fish farming activities in order to support in increasing of the per capital consumption in the district. The main objective of fisheries department is to increase fish production through promotion of small and large scale fish farming. The production from aquaculture for the past 5 years are as summarised in the figure below.

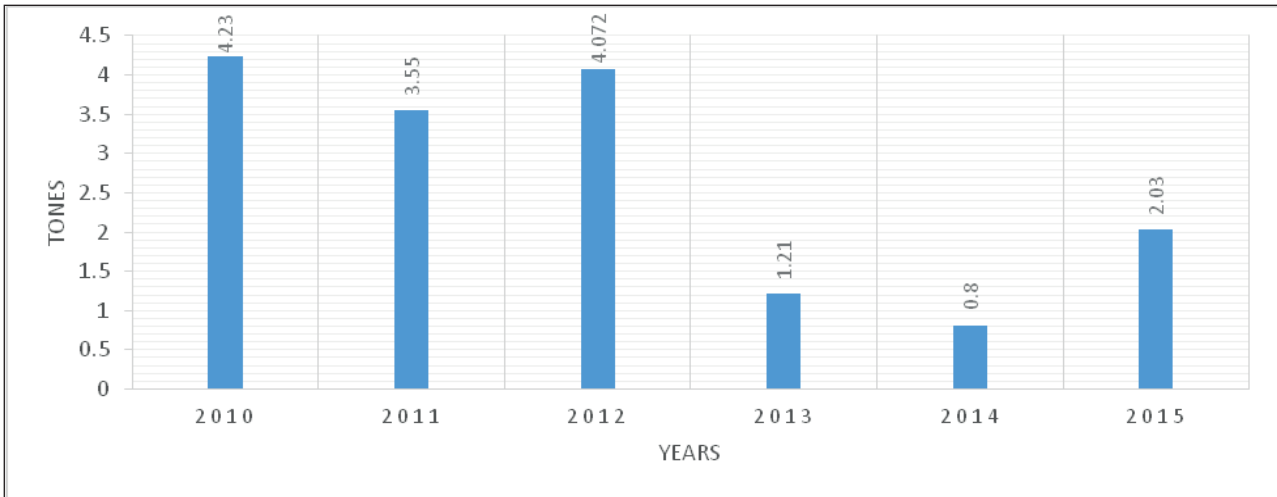


Figure 4.6 Fish Production by Number of Ponds

Source: Kasinthula satellite research station 2015

According to the figure above, fish production from aquaculture was relatively stable between the years 2010 to 2012. However, the yield significantly dropped from 4.072 tons in the year 2012 to 1.21 tons in the year 2013 and dropped further to 0.8 tons in 2014, due to drought which was later followed by the 2015 floods which swept out most of the ponds. Fish farming in the district responds to a wide range of weather conditions in Chikwawa including dry spells and floods which ends up silting of ponds or sweeping away the farmed fish. Hence variations in fish production from time to time are inevitable.

4.2.2.11 Fishery Services

The implementation of fisheries activities in the district is supported by Extension and Research. Chikwawa has a satellite fisheries research station of the National Aquaculture Centre called Kasinthula. The station supports with all research activities concerning fish farming of the lower Shire and its fish species suitable for fish farming. This is done through pluralistic extension services which are offered and supported by a number of players including government agencies and non-state actors. The extension services are controlled and coordinated by the District Council through its fisheries sector presided by the District Fisheries Officer. Under the DFO, there are Fisheries assistants who man the Extension Planning Areas and the two fishing minor stratum that is the East (11.2) and- west bank (11.1) where the 8 BVCs are located. Extension services offered by Chikwawa District Council through the DFO are as summarized in the table below.

Table 4.20 Distribution of Fisheries Extension Workers in the District

MINOR STRATA	BEACH/TA	EPA	STATUS
Westbank (11.1)	Mchere	Mikalango	Maned
Westbank (11.1)	Alumenda	Mikalango	Maned
Eastbank (11.2)	Lisuli	Mitole	Maned
Eastbank (11.2)	Yolodani	Mitole	Maned
Eastbank (11.2)	Gumbwa	Mitole	Maned
Eastbank (11.2)	Mitawi	Livunzu	Vacant
Eastbank (11.2)	Thedzi	livunzu	Vacant
Aquaculture extension	Lundu	Mbewe	Vacant
Aquaculture extension	Chapananga	Kalambo	Vacant
Aquaculture extension	Mgabu	doro	Vacant

Table 4.21 Summary For the Fishery Activities Being Carried in the District

Fish farming	Capture fisheries
training farmers in Best husbandry practices facilitating pond construction facilitating fish stocking facilitating fish harvesting Assessing potential areas for fish farmers Linking farmers to research and Markets Sensitisation of the different fish farming intervention to support capture fishery production Awareness on the conservation measures in order to achieve sustainable environmental resource	training fishing communities in best practices sensitizing communities on legality of fishing gears and licensing Formation and revamping BVCs Conducting enforcement patrols to curb illegal and destructive fishing practices (Mandatory) Conducting annual frame survey (Mandatory) Collecting Catch Assessment Survey Forms (mandatory)

4.2.2.12 Key Issues in the Fisheries Sector

Fish resources face challenges that threaten their sustainability. These challenges are caused by both man plus nature.

- High population increase and demand for fish resources has exerted pressure. Failure to comply with fish management regulations has resulted in use of illegal nets and using under meshed nets.
- Significant increase in number of fishermen, and fishing gears have exerted pressure on fish breeding and nursery grounds resulting in reduced fish recruitment.
- Inadequate financial and human resource affects effective operations of fishing activities.
- Inadequate means of transportation by extension workers to efficiently provide quality services to community i.e. unreliable and inadequate motorbikes.
- Non compliance of fisheries regulatory by Fishermen i.e. Increased number of fishermen using illegal gears of mosquito nets.
- Poor turn up of non governmental organisations to support fish farming, this leads to poor access fish farmers to fish farming inputs.

However opportunities exists for development of Aquaculture and Fisheries in Chikwawa.

4.2.2.13 Opportunities in the Fisheries Sector

- Availability of sites with high potential for aquaculture along the shire valley, Chapananga and many other sites.
- Availability of Rice schemes and increased number of Irrigation Schemes provides extra potential of fish farming in the district for Climate Smart Agriculture.
- Availability of Kasinthula Fisheries Research Station which produce low cost high quality fingerlings to farmers.
- Though fish farming in the district is in its early development stages, projects have shown their interest to support aquaculture activities.
- High Temperatures and Good alluvial soils facilitates high breeding rates and fish growth rates.
- Good co-management structures that ensures protection of the fishery resource.
- Potential of other fish farming interventions to increase fish production e.g pen and cage culture.
- Availability of water swaps which if utilised properly in terms of can help to increase fish production. All these are opportunities the district has.

4.2.3 Forestry

Chikwawa district forestry interventions are guided by the 2016 forestry policy overall goal which seeks to improve provision of forest goods and services to contribute towards sustainable development of Malawi through protection and conservation of forest resources. Furthermore the policy takes a holistic approach to sustainable forest management. It adequately addresses issues of forests and water; climate change; food security; HIV and AIDS; gender and equity; wealth creation; biodiversity and Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES); Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) and Clean Development Mechanisms (CDM). It is also guided the SDGs goal 7 on affordable and clean energy as well as goal 13 on climate change. Forest in Chikwawa covers about 35% of the district's land area of which 21,000 Hectares (Ha) and 482 Ha is natural woodland and communal plantations respectively while 158,700ha is protected area. A greater proportion of Chikwawa's natural forests are dominated by Miombo (*brachystegia* and have low growth rates not good enough for commercial purposes, hence are used by local people for firewood and charcoal.

Forest resource in Malawi is under threat due to increasing population. The two main threats to forestry are forest degradation and deforestation. Forestry in Chikwawa is faced with growing challenges that are a result of various forces emanating from both within and outside. The entire rural community and a large proportion of urban dwellers heavily depend on forest resources for provision of a wide range of their needs and requirements. About 93.5% of Malawi's population use biomass fuels [firewood and charcoal] for cooking and heating, National Statistics Office [1998]. This does not spare Chikwawa district hence putting a lot of pressure on the district's natural resources especially wood. The most common use of forests include household fuel wood, brick burning, curio making, tourist attraction, industrial fuel wood, and herbs. Land clearing for agriculture, fuel wood and charcoal making also accelerates deforestation in the district.



A Woman from garden heading fuelwood for domestic use

Wood used for brick burning on kiln

Of the 491,957 Ha of the total district's land area, 10% is woodland under customary land. Forests under customary land are relatively small to accommodate the forest resource needs for the growing population of the district. The main natural woodland on the customary land in the district covers Chikhwawa/Thyolo escarpment (about 21,000 ha.) in the eastern part of the district. The escarpment falls within Traditional Authorities Makhwira, Maseya, Katunga and Mulilima. This is a very important natural resource as it forms a watershed for a number of important rivers that feed into Shire River. The Department of Forestry initiated an Improved Forest Management for Sustainable Livelihood Programme (IFMSLP) working with communities to conserve the escarpment for socio-economic benefit of both the community and the nation.

Forest resources in forest reserves, game reserves and national parks have the function of conserving environment and biodiversity and provide refuge to wildlife. African Parks (Majete) has all the big five game and others (Lion, Elephant, Zebra, Leopard, Warthog, Black rhino, Eland, Impala, Buffalo, Sable antelope and Hartebeest). These animals are harbored by the vegetative material found within their habitat. Lengwe National Park, 887 Km² area, lies West of Chikwawa boma and has many grazers and some carnivores (Impala, Kudu, Nyala, Buffalo, Leopard, Warthog, Bush pig and Reedbucks).

4.2.3.1 Production Forests /Tree Plantation

The district has no state owned plantations. However, it has community plantations which are owned and managed by communities themselves. These were established by the Malawi government in partnership with Norwegian government as a donor. The establishment of these community plantations was aimed at afforestating the degraded part of Chikhwawa/Thyolo escarpment for both socio and economic benefit of the surrounding population by reducing siltation of Shire River. The figure below shows tree planting by communities from 2012 to 2016:

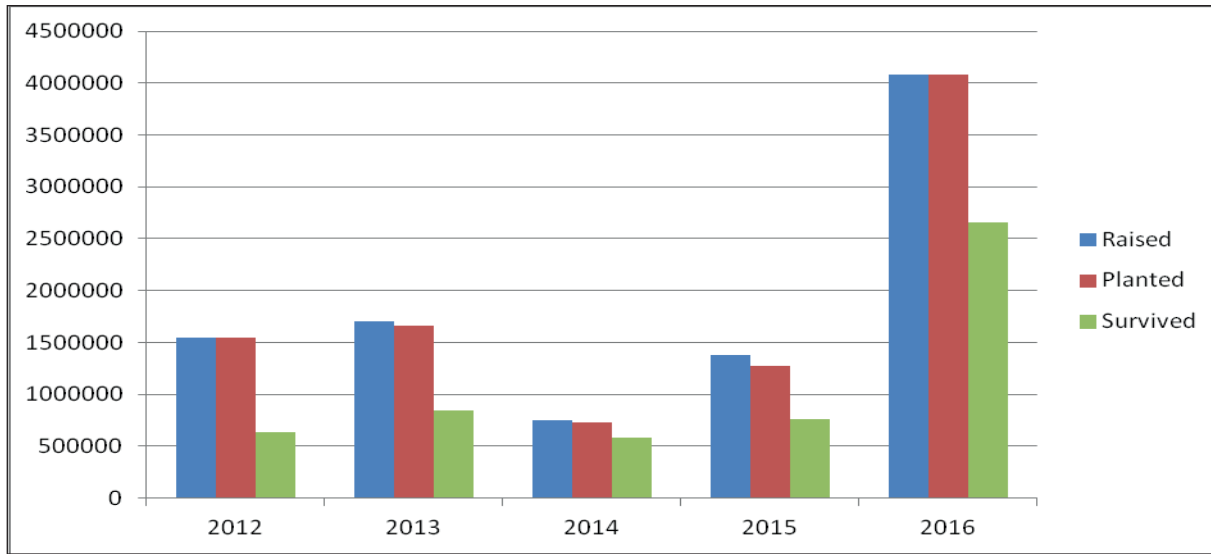


Figure 4.7 Community Tree Planting

Source: Chikwawa District Forestry Office, 2017

The figure above, shows that there was a decrease in number of seedlings raised, planted and survived in 2014 and 2015 because of the droughts and flooding that happened in these years. However, there was a boom in 2016 because the natural disaster effects were minimal.

4.2.3.2 Forestry Permits

Any transfer of forest produce is authenticated with the issuance of a conveyance certificate provided at the district. Each movement of forest produce attracts an amount of K2000. Table below shows how many travel permits were issued against money realised from conveyance certificates in the past four years:

Table 4.22 Forestry Permits Issued

Year	No of Permits	Amount Realised
2015	693	1,386,000
2016	630	1,260,000
2017	599	1,199,000

Source: Chikwa District forestry officer, 2017

From the table above depicts the no of permits that were issued from 2015 to 2017. These permits are issued for forestry products like non protected fuelwood, palm leaves and curios.

4.2.3.3 Forestry Services

Communal woodlots are scattered across the eleven Traditional Authorities. These woodlots are a reflection of the extension and the afforestation programmes in the district. Extension services are provided by the public, private organizations and non-governmental organizations. Services are mainly in form of technical advice especially targeting communal groups called Village Natural Resources Management Committees besides individual farmers, institutions and others. Tree planting is mainly advocated every year by the

Department of Forestry nationally through what is called National Forestry Season. Table 4.22 below shows number of extension workers per TA:

Table 4.23 Number of Forest Extension Workers by TA

No.	Traditional Authority	Forest Extension Workers		Staffing Gap
		Male	Female	
1	Chapananga	3	0	8
2	Lundu	1	0	6
3	Ngabu	2	1	7
4	Makhuwira	4	0	11
5	Katunga	1	0	7
6	Maseya	2	0	7
7	Kasisi	2	0	10
8	Mlilima	1	1	5
9	Ndakwera	1	0	7
10	Masache	0	0	8
11	Ngowe	0	0	8
TOTAL		17	2	84

Source: Chikhwawa District Forestry Office, 2017

From the table above, there is high vacancy rate for forest extension worker which translates to high forestry extension worker to population ratio of 1:25,740 against the ideal target of 1:2000. In other TAs like Masache and Ngowe there is no forestry extension worker. This hampers the provision of service delivery in the district.

4.2.3.4 Natural Resource Management Committee

Village Natural Resource Management Committee plays a vital role in forestry. Their roles are to regulate access to the village forest area, assist village head in the management of village woodlots and protected forests on public land, conduct reforestation programmes, issue permits for forest utilization, organise forest management work and keep financial records, organise fire patrols and fire fighting in and around the forest, enforce laws on conservation of forest resources and regulate utilization of forest products.

The number of functional Village Natural Resources Management Committees (VNRMC) in the 11 Traditional Authorities in Chikwawa is shown in the table below

Table 4.24 Village Natural Resource Management Committees by TAs

No.	Traditional Authority	Number of VNMRCs Formed	Number of VNMRCs Trained	Remarks
1	Chapananga	220	81	Existence of many NGOs facilitated the training of the VNRMCs
2	Lundu	6	2	
3	Ngabu	47	5	
4	Makhuwira	27	27	IFMSLP facilitated the training of the VNRMCs
5	Katunga	48	1	
6	Maseya	18	0	

No.	Traditional Authority	Number of VNMRCs Formed	Number of VNMRCs Trained	Remarks
7	Kasisi	31	1	
8	Mlilima	27	4	
9	Ndakwera	19	1	
10	Masache	27	0	
11	Ngowe	13	0	
	TOTAL	483	122	

Source: District Forestry Office 2017

Table 4.23 above shows that most VNRMCs are in Chapananga area as compared to the rest of the Traditional Authorities whilst the least in Lundu area. Only a few VNRMCs in TAs Katunga, Kasisi and Ndakwera received training but literally none in Maseya, Masache and Ngowe. This could be due to lack of partner’s support to facilitate training in the area. There is need for the assembly to ensure that the remaining VNMRCs are trained to ensure that they sustainably assist in forest management and conservation in the district.

The VNRMCs have been crucial in afforestation whereby most seedlings are being raised and planted out by VNRMCs and small holder farmers. This has been so because of the support by NGOs and companies rendered to the participating categories and this must be appreciated and encouraged. Photo 4.3 below shows tree planting efforts by communities



Community nursery at Makhuwira



Ndakwera Community during tree planting exercise



Tree planting success story – Nyakankhwiru community forest

Photo 4.2 Photo 4.3: Tree Planting by VNMRCs

4.2.3.5 Village Forest Areas

Forest extension does not target tree planting alone but also looks at the sustainable individual or communal conservation, management and utilization of the indigenous wood patches remaining on the customary land for the benefit of the community and the nation as a whole. This is done through the establishment of what are called *Village Forest Areas*. Currently there are about 302 VFA's which could be classified as either active or dormant. This is partly contributed by the amount of technical and financial support given coupled by the communities' willingness to sustainably conserve, manage and utilize the surrounding wood resources within their jurisdiction.

The chart below shows the current distribution of VFA's in the district. The most active communities managing these village forests are mainly found in Traditional Authorities Chapananga, Ngabu and Makhwira across the Shire because of the technical, financial and material support given to the communities by the then Improved Forest Management for sustainable Livelihood Programme (IFMSLP). This project phased out but its activities were handed over to ICRAF and World Vision who are currently sustaining the interventions. Figure 4.7 below shows the distribution of village forest areas in all 11 traditional authorities in Chikwawa.

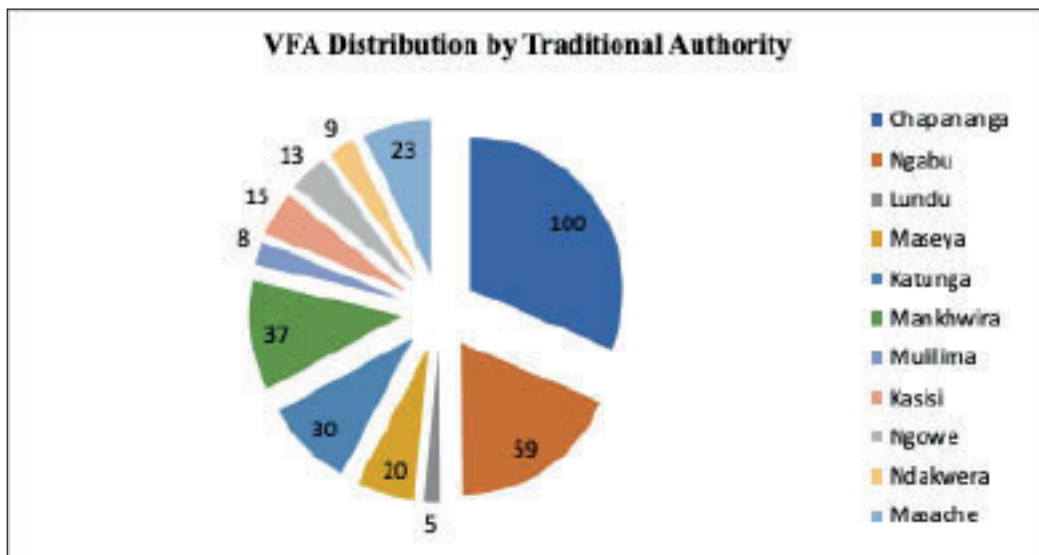


Figure 4.8 Distribution of Village Forest Areas by Traditional Authority

Source: Chikwawa District Forestry Office 2017

According to the figure above, TA Chapananga has more Village Forest Areas (VFAs), seconded by Ngabu and Makhwira comes third while the least in TA Lundu. TA Chapananga, Ngabu and Makhwira have most VNRMCs and VFAs because of the existence of a forestry based projects and partly because they have comparably higher number of extension workers in the district.

4.2.3.6 Challenges in the forestry Sector

Over 90% of the district's population, both urban and growing rural depends on biomass fuels [charcoal and firewood]. There is need to quickly enforce rules, identify alternative energy sources and where possible fuel cost effective technologies must be promoted.



Charcoal making and selling in TA Kasisi

Confiscated Charcoal being offloaded from the van at DFO

Figure 4.9 Undesirable Forest utilization technologies in Chikwawa

Selected tree species like *combretum imberbe* (Mtsimbiti) are at risk for curio-making because of its attractive appearance when carved that has created an over whelming demand for it. Ngabu, Nchalo. Nsangwe and Dyeratu are the main manufacturing curio centres where this business is illegally done. Due to the increasing demand for this species, it is gradually diminishing on customary land and there have been cases where such wood dealers have encroached into protected areas of Lengwe national park and Majete game reserve. Illegal timber sawing is also done on commonly found *cordyla Africana* (Mtondo).

4.2.4 Mining

Mining is almost non-existent in the district with some small scale mineral deposits, such as gemstone and blue agate in TA Ngabu. The mining is done by non certified people hence there is no much data on mining.

4.2.5 Commerce and Industry.

Commerce and Industry is one of the Key Priority Areas in the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS III) whose Strategy Development Goal is to end poverty in all its forms. There is a National Trade Policy that was formulated with the goal of making Malawi a globally competitive export- oriented economy, generating higher and sustainable livelihoods through trade that recognizes the role of MSMEs and the vulnerable groups. The purpose of trade policy is to address weak linkage between trade and overall development objective and binding constraints that have hindered Malawi’s ability to take full advantage of existing and emerging market access opportunity.

From the above stated goal and purpose, Chikwawa as a district, is also thriving to attain such market access opportunities to its population. There are several economic related activities that are carried out to improve individual as well as group income levels through various business structures. These structures are ranging from entrepreneurship up to large scale businesses.

4.2.5.1 Type and Size of Business Establishment

The commerce and industry sector in Chikwawa is characterized by a number of business undertakings both small and medium.

Small and Medium Enterprises and Co-operative Development

According to the Malawi Government through the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism, it defines Small and Medium Enterprises into two categories which are based on the number of employees available and on annual turn-over an enterprise realizes. Such category is clearly illustrated in the table below.

Table 4.25 Categories of Businesses in Malawi.

Category	No. of Employees	Annual turn-over (MK)
Micro	1 – 4	Up to 120,000.00
Small	5 – 20	120,001 to 4 million
Medium	21 – 100	Above 4 million to 10 million
Large	Above 100	Above 10 million

According to the 2017 Council's business register (which consist information about all registered businesses in the district collected from the Council's revenue collection sub offices), the large scale comprised Illovo, Kasinthula and Kapichira Hydro Power Station, Prescane, ADMARC cotton ginning and cattle ranches while medium scale businesses consisted of chipiku stores, filling stations and banks specifically operated by OIBM, National Bank, Standard Bank, New Building Bank and MSB. Table 4.25 below shows a summary of businesses that exist in different TAs:

Table 4.26 Summary of Businesses by TA and Scale of Business by 2017

Location	Small Scale	Medium Scale	Large Scale
T/A makhuwira	717	2	0
T/A Mlilima	484	1	0
T/A Kasisi	715	5	0
T/A Chapananga	825	0	0
T/A Katunga	358	0	1
T/A Maseya	340	2	0
T/A Lundu	1170	7	2
T/A Ngabu	670	4	2
T/A Ndakwera	239	0	0
T/A Ngowe	266	0	
T/A Masache	174	0	
Total	6486	14	5

Source: Chikwawa District Council, Business Register, 2017

The table above shows that, the majority of small businesses were operating in TA Lundu followed by TA Kasisi where the boma is situated, while the least were operating in TA Masache, the south most part of the country. The table below shows specific businesses per TA:

Table 4.27 Type of Businesses, by Scale by Traditional Authority

TA Business Type	Makhuwira			Mlilima			Kasisi			Chapananga			Katunga			Maseya			Lundu			Ndakwera			Ngabu			TNgowe			Masache			District		
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L
Bottle store	7	0	0	4	0	0	7	0	0	6	0	0	3	0	0	5	0	0	30	0	0	3	0	0	15	0	0	4	0	0	5	0	0	93	0	0
Barber shop	35	0	0	12	0	0	35	0	0	18	0	0	45	0	0	36	0	0	69	0	0	15	0	0	38	0	0	8	0	0	7	0	0	318	0	0
Carpentry	16	0	0	14	0	0	27	0	0	18	0	0	18	0	0	21	0	0	8	0	0	9	0	0	15	0	0	7	0	0	6	0	0	159	0	0
Cell phone repair	8	0	0	4	0	0	17	0	0	7	0	0	21	0	0	7	0	0	16	0	0	4	0	0	7	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	86	0	0
Grocery Retail	45	0	0	12	0	0	101	0	0	64	0	0	56	0	0	18	0	0	295	0	0	9	0	0	45	0	0	6	0	0	4	0	0	655	0	0
Hair saloon	7	0	0	4	0	0	11	0	0	5	0	0	5	0	0	8	0	0	10	0	0	2	0	0	8	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	66	0	0
Hall	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	0
Hardware	8	0	0	1	0	0	5	0	0	4	0	0	5	0	0	6	0	0	35	0	0	11	0	0	22	0	0	9	0	0	6	0	0	112	0	0
Maize mill	45	0	0	8	0	0	29	0	0	69	0	0	26	0	0	9	0	0	46	0	0	24	0	0	44	0	0	14	0	0	18	0	0	332	0	0
Maize sheller	21	0	0	3	0	0	14	0	0	22	0	0	13	0	0	13	0	0	19	0	0	5	0	0	11	0	0	6	0	0	4	0	0	131	0	0
Minishop	376	0	0	102	0	0	213	0	0	266	0	0	135	0	0	92	0	0	270	0	0	60	0	0	116	0	0	78	0	0	45	0	0	1753	0	0
Radio repair	14	0	0	4	0	0	8	0	0	12	0	0	9	0	0	7	0	0	3	0	0	4	0	0	6	0	0	7	0	0	7	0	0	82	0	0
Restaurant	18	0	0	4	0	0	12	0	0	6	0	0	15	0	0	6	0	0	17	0	0	8	0	0	16	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	0	111	0	0
Resthouse	4	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	4	0	0	11	0	0	1	0	0	14	0	0	2	0	0	9	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	58	0	0
Retail shop	10	0	0	12	0	0	4	0	0	9	0	0	6	0	0	41	0	0	190	0	0	12	0	0	78	0	0	39	0	0	16	0	0	417	0	0
Shabeen	7	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	36	0	0	9	0	0	23	0	0	7	0	0	10	0	0	106	0	0
Bicycle Taxis	59	0	0	262	0	0	430	0	0	70	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	318	0	0	29	0	0	106	0	0	45	0	0	11	0	0	1430	0	0
Tailoring	9	0	0	13	0	0	7	0	0	14	0	0	4	0	0	13	0	0	46	0	0	12	0	0	29	0	0	10	0	0	14	0	0	171	0	0
Video show	9	0	0	15	0	0	25	0	0	18	0	0	11	0	0	22	0	0	38	0	0	15	0	0	45	0	0	8	0	0	8	0	0	214	0	0
Welding	9	0	0	7	0	0	13	0	0	8	0	0	9	0	0	9	0	0	37	0	0	2	0	0	11	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	112	0	0
Wholesale	10	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	1	2	0	22	0	0	3	0	0	6	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	51	2	0
Curior Makers	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	
Bank		0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	3	0	
Bookshop	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	
Filling Station	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	0	
Pool	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	
District Total	717	0	484	0	715	1	0	825	1	358	0	340	0	1170	2	0	239	2	670	1	0	266	2	0	174	0	0	6486	7	0						

Note: S=small scale, M=medium scale, L=large scale businesses

Source: Chikwawa District Council, Business Licencing Report 2017

According to table 4.26 above indicate that, small shops (1753 dominat small scale businesses , then bicycle taxis 1430 and groceries 655 followed by the maize mills, 332 in total. Most of the bicycle taxi operators ply their business in TA Kasisi, Makhuwira, Lundu and Ngabu. As for the maize millers, the majority operate their businesses in TA Makhuwira and chapananga where 27 and 24 were registered respectively.

Cooperatives in Chikwawa

The district creates an enabling environment for empowering small and medium enterprises and co-operatives. Promoting the formation and development of SMES and cooperative societies enables the capability to produce high quality goods and services for both domestic and export markets. Table 4.27 below shows list of cooperatives in the district.

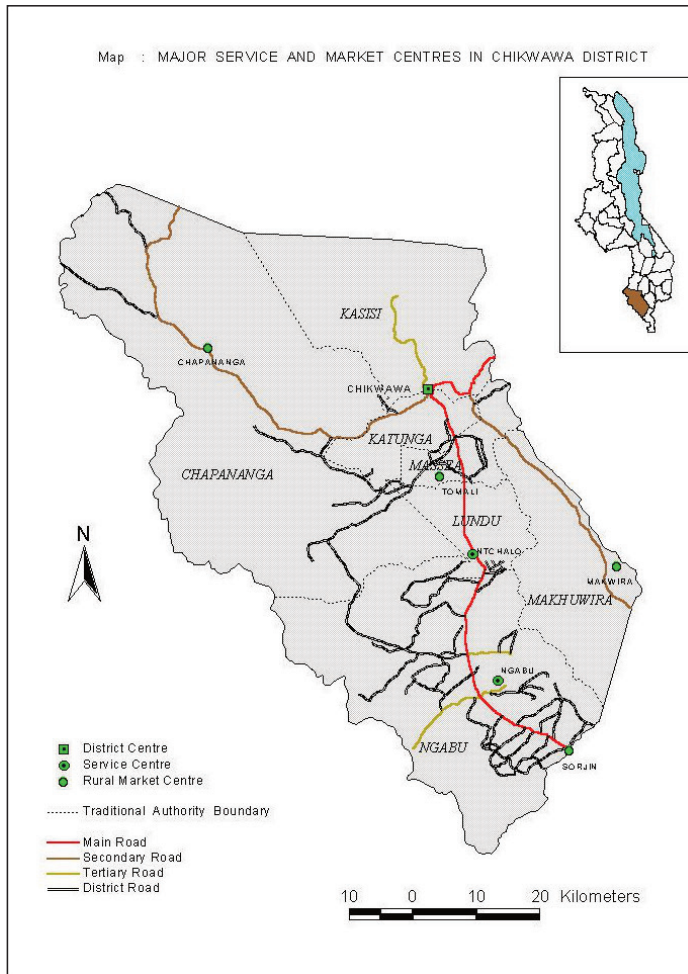
Table 4.28 List of Co-operatives in Chikwawa

TA	Primary Co-operatives	Secondary Cooperatives	Value Chain
Makhuwira	Zatonse, Chang'anima, Nkhate, Livunzu, Masenjere	Lowershire Rice	Rice, Legume
Mlilima	Dunwalili		Legume
Kasisi	Njereza, Mtadeya, Mitole		Fruits and Cotton
Chapananga	-		
Maseya	Phata		Sugarcane
Katunga	Khama		Sugarcane
Lundu	Nkombezi	Lowershire Rice	Rice
Ngabu	Linga, Nyasamba, Makala, Yadidi	MINYALI Cotton	Cotton and cereals
Masache	-		
Ngowe	-		
Ndakwera	Mandilade		Livestock

Source: District council co-operative data

Trading centres in the District

The key trading centres in the district are Mitondo, Livunzu and Nkhate located in the east bank in TA Makhuwira; Thabwa in TA Mlilima, Dyeratu in TA Kasisi, Nchalo and Bereu in TA Lundu, Ngabu in TA Ngabu and chapananga trading centres. The map below shows location on trading centres.



Map 4.1 Distribution of the key trading centres in the district

Banking and Credit Facilities

Banks play a big role in the economic growth in the district. They collect the savings of the individuals and lend them out to business people and manufacturers that are used to purchase raw materials and meet other business requirements such as working capital. It is safe to keep money in the banks where interest is earned and as a result it facilitates the desire to save money that is utilized to produce new capital assets. The banking system facilitates internal and international trade where a large part of it is done on credit and it is these banks that provide references and guarantees on behalf of their customers. Banks acts as advisers, counselors and agents of business and industrial organizations hence helping the development of trade and industry.

Furthermore, banks provide a range of credit facilities to the clients such as overdrafts, working capital loan, business revolving credit loans, commercial property loans, business term loans, medium term loans, personal loans and many more while financial lending institutions provide simple and fast loans and deposits to clients. Apart from banks, other lending institutions also operate in the district as shown in the table below:

Table 4.29 List of Banks and Financial Lending Institutions in Chikwawa

TA	Bank	Financial Lending Institution
Makhuwira	-	
Mlilima	-	
Kasisi	FDH	MARDEF, FINCA
Chapananga	-	
Maseya	-	
Katunga		SACCO
Lundu	FDH, NBS, NB, STD BANK, OIBM	
Ngabu		
Masache	-	
Ngowe	-	
Ndakwera	-	

Source: Chikwawa District Council Reports, 2017

In spite of being located in few TAs, these banks and lending institutions serve the entire district. Most of these banks are operating at medium scale and they employ staff of less than one hundred.

The bank interest rates that most of the financial institutions levied on loans in the district were the same as the ones that prevailed on the national financial market, because the financial institutions available in the district were mere agencies or representatives of those at national level.

The average interest rates that prevailed in the country as well as Chikwawa district between 2014 and 2017 are presented in the table below.

Table 4.30 Average Bank Interest Rates in Malawi

Indicator	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Bank Interest rates	46.01	44.29	32.33	24.63	23.75

Source: www.TheGlobalEconomy.com

Due to high interest rates coupled by collateral requirements on loans by the banks, individuals have resorted to forming informal banking groups (village banks) within their localities in which members pool savings and lend money to one another at agreed interest rates. The village banks are also known as Village Savings and Loans (VSL) groups or *BankiMkhonde*, and the interest on the loans obtained by the members has varied between 15 to 25% which is far much lower than the average interest rates prevailing in the formal banking sector. These VSLs are run by community grouping which are either clubs or co-operatives. Some notable cooperatives are COMSIP Co-operatives like Mandilade, Zimveke, Livunzu, Chang'amima, Nkhate among others.

4.2.5.2 Business Promotion Services

Business advisory services in the district are provided by government institutions and some NGOs. The main institutions providing such services are the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism and also through OVOP program within the same Ministry. The office of the DADO also provides services to farmer based businesses), the District Forestry Office coordinates all FBEs; The Community Development is responsible

for women empowerment and general business trainings and the Malawi Council for the Handicapped-MA-COHA provides advisory services to the disabled persons.

4.2.5.3 Contribution of Small and Medium Enterprise to the Local Economy

The importance of the SMEs to the local economy need not to be over-emphasized as it has contributed in the following areas:

- Creation of employment. The majority of people in the district have been employed by SMEs dealing in bicycle taxis, maize mills, retail shops, bottle stores, restaurants, lodges and manufacturing.
- Source of revenue for the District Council. Monthly and annually, the District Council collects a sizeable amount of revenue from the SMEs in forms of markets fees and business licenses respectively which is used to finance its operational costs such as salaries, and maintenance of council assets.
- Provision market access to farmers and other SMEs. The SMEs located at the boma and other key trading centres provides markets not only for small holder farmers where they sell farm produce and buy inputs, but also for other SMEs situated in more remote areas in the district which cannot afford to travel to major commercial centres such as Blantyre or Limbe.
- Provision of basic goods and services. Public and Private institutions rely on SMEs situated at the boma for most of their office supplies and services such as fuel and stationery for their day to day operations. Similarly, their employees also buy most of their basic household needs from the local SMEs.

4.2.5.4 Key Issues from Business Sector and Their Trends

There are a number of key issues that have affected growth of the business sector in the district and are as follows:

- Inadequate access to banking service which is provided by 5 banks being situated almost in one trade centre (Nchalo), affect the population of Chikwawa. The entire district has access to 5 ATM machines (4 in Nchalo and one at the Boma).
- Inadquate staff in the Department of Trade. Currently, the District does not have a substantive Trade Officer to conduct the sector services such as supervision, monitoring, trade inspections, advisory services and other trade related services. The Directorate of Commerce and Industry has also remained vacant in the council Secretariat thereby having no proper coordinating unit for the trade matters. This has forced the Council to utilize the locally generated revenue structures as trade promotion areas but filling the crucial vacancies will go a long way in assisting the district to fulfill its trade potential and contribute positively to the economic development of the country.
- The possible factors contributing to the status quo in the business sector in the district includes the following:
 - Unpredictable macroeconomic environment prevailing in the country intermingled with high inflation rates, unstable exchange rate and high interest rates have contributed to a stunted growth in the business sector in the district
 - Natural disasters in forms of floods and droughts have to a large extent derailed economic activities in the district due to damage and loss of property, agricultural land and livestock coupled with food shortages
 - Inadequate number of banks to provide wide range of services at competitive rates

Despite the constraints being faced, the business sector has a number of opportunities for growth and these include:

- Availability of expertise on informal banking initiatives such VSL which is provided for free by NGOs and Government departments
- Tarmac road between Blantyre and Nsanje boma provides easy access to better and competitive markets
- There is an increasing demand for goods and services emanating from increase in population in general and number of people being employed by Government and NGOs
- Availability of piped water and electricity at the boma and most of the key trading centres

4.2.6 Labour and Employment

Chikwawa District Council realizes labour and employment as a factor of production and a critical component of growth. The labour force that is productive contributes meaningfully to the economic growth and improved living standards. The policies that guide labour and employment include:

- Decent work policy.
- Freedom of association and protection of human rights.
- Labour inspection in all work places.
- Elimination of Worst forms of child labour.

All these policies are there to ensure the enforcement of legal provisions relating to conditions of work and protection of workers as well as create a conducive working environment that will accelerate meaningful economic growth.

4.2.6.1 Labour Force

There are two main groups and these are;

1. Formal which refers to the type of employment where one works in an organisation where he/she receives salary per fortnight or month end.

This is further divided into three and are,

- › Skilled: refers to those with professional certificate e.g. teachers, plumbers, nurses
 - › Semi skilled: refers to those that have the skill but not fully developed.
 - › Casual: refers to general workers and this group is the one with highest percentage at this group.
2. Informal refers to self employment where one works in his/her own entity e.g farmer, kabaza. This is the group where high percentage of employment is not registered.

Tables 4.30 and 4.31 below show work force distribution in government departments and private sector in the district.

Table 4.31 Work Force Distribution Government Departments

Department	Male	Female	Total
Education	1391	613	2004
Health	580	311	891
Council	81	12	93
Police	129	31	160
Water	18	-	18
Labour	4	1	5
Youth	3	-	3
Social	12	3	15
Information	3	1	4
NRB	3	5	8
Prison	43	14	57
Housing	4	-	4
Forestry	29	2	31
Fisheries	7	2	9
Immigration	4	2	6
Agriculture	159	35	194
Sports	-	1	1
Community Development	12	1	13

Source: Chikwawa District Labour Office, 2017

The distribution of work force in government departments indicates, Education has the biggest work force while sports and Youth have the least.

Table 4.32 Work Force Distribution in Private Sector

Name	Male	Female	Total
Illovo	4338	163	4501
Majete African Parks	119	5	124
Kasinthula	642	34	676
Phata Cooperative	236	74	310
Presscane	100	16	116
Kapichira EGENCO	73	9	82

Source: Chikwawa District Labour Office, 2017

For the private sector, Illovo Company is the biggest employer in the district followed by Kasinthula cane growers.

4.2.6.2 Skill development Centres

The district has four skills centres where different skills are developed, however only one is in operation and this is

- Mphungu that offer carpentry, brick laying, tailoring and design and motorbike repairing. They provide training only to level one

- Changoima was constructed by VALLEY LOGISTICS but has not yet opened for four years now. There are no machines, houses for instructors and start up materials.
- Chapananga, which is under TEVETA and planned to start with tailoring and design but has not yet started two years now.
- Galamukani this has also not started but some machine for welding and fabrication was taken to another centre outside Chikwawa.

Having the skills centres but not being operational is denying the rights of youth and also negatively affecting the attainment of MGDS III priority area of economic development and Industrial growth through skills development.

4.2.6.3 Trade Unions

There are four branches of trade unions in the district:-

- Sugar plantation and allied workers union (SPAWU). This union is composed of workers from Ill-ovo, Phata and Kasinthula cane plantations.
- Teachers union of Malawi (TUM), only teachers are members of this union and membership are all the teachers in the district.
- Transport and General workers union (TAGWU). This comprises all workers from Unitrans Malawi Limited.
- Civil Servants Trade Union (CSTU) in which all civil servants are members. In all the trade unions the membership is not well known hence we need to have meetings and revamp the union activities in the district.

4.2.6.4 Child Labour

The district experiences issues of child labour. Child labour means any activity that a child is engaged in which is detrimental to the health, safety and education of the child or is likely to cause harm to the morals and would affect the normal development of the child.

The Council through its Labour officers and Child Protection Workers is striving to mitigate child labour and possibly end the practice in the district. Virtually, there is no child labour at present in the formal sector like the sugarcane plantations and Ethanol Plants. This is due to intensified labour inspection in these work places by the Council and increased dissemination of information on resultant effects of child labour.

Basically, much of child labour in the district is practiced in the informal sector including the residences, SME where children are sent to sale goods of low value eg doughnuts. In fact, the Council has always had challenges to mitigate child labour in private homes as labour inspection services are restricted to these workplaces. As such, this has seen increased employment of children as domestic workers at the detriment of their health and education among others.

Child labour has also been worrisome in the informal sector especially in the small and medium enterprises (SMEs). Children are sources of cheap labour hence, employers in the SMEs prefer employing them to reduce business running expenses. In addition to this, children are easy to manage as compared to adults because they have no or fewer family responsibilities. Some employ children because they are not aware of the consequences of child labour and penalties the government attaches to such malpractice. As the informal sector is complex, enough resources are needed for the battle against child labour is to be won.

It is important that information on the effects of child labour be disseminated across the district in different forms possible. This has to be coupled with intensified labour inspections so that all employed children are withdrawn immediately. Apparently, the Council has always found it a challenge to find an alternative solution for children withdrawn from child labour. The Council believes that those withdrawn from workplaces should quickly find a lasting solution for them.

These children may be enrolled in school or provide them with vocational skills so that they would be reliable citizens in the future but we fail to realize it because we only have one skills centre which is in operation.

4.2.6.5 Conditions of Employment

The prevailing statutory minimum wage for the district is K962.00 per day, which on average translates to K25, 012 per month for employees who work for 26 days without any over time, while for a guard who works for 26 day and 72 hours per week its K31, 265. This minimum wage is set under section 53 of Employment Act 2000.

The council has established through labour inspections that most employers especially those in the Small and Medium enterprise, pay wages below the minimum wage. In other cases employers claim that they are paying below minimum wage because they provide accommodation and even food to the employees. Basically, the council mostly attributes this underpayment of wages to lack of information both by employers and workers. In addition some small scale enterprises are struggling financially.

Employment Act 2000 provides that normal working hours for a worker per week should not exceed 48 hours. The Act further stipulates that where a worker is made to work more than 48 hours in a week, over-time needs to be paid for all excessive hours. However, most workers in Chikwawa district work for 72 hours per week on average. It is unfortunate that most employers in the district do not compensate their workforce for working an extra mile beyond the normal working hours. Among all the categories of workers in the district, security guards and domestic workers are the most affected when it comes to working excessive hours without being duly compensated. It is important for the employers and employees to consider the three types of overtime as stipulated in the employment act for better compensation to the employees based on the type of over time

Employees who work for five days in a week have an entitlement of fifteen days ,while those who work six days in a week are entitled to eighteen days, however some employers fail to abide by the laws. Employers have to report accidents occurring at their work place so that those employees who are incapacitated have to be compensated. There are many violations taking place at work place but the challenge is mobility problem. Maternity leave was introduced to promote the health and safety of the mother and the child, but about 20 % of the employers in the district fail to comply to this Labour legislation.

4.2.6.6 Labour Inspections and Handling Labour related Complaints

Chikwawa District Council believes that a worker makes significant contribution towards the economy when the conditions he/she is employed in are decent. Essentially, decent employment entails employment that provides a fair income; security in the workplace and social protection for families; better prospects for personal development and social integration; freedom for people to express their concerns, organize and participate in the decisions that affect their lives; and equality of opportunity and treatment for all women and men. The Council through District Labour Office continues to conduct labour inspections in various workplaces with a purpose of ensuring that the labour force in the district has decent employment. These Labour inspections are usually routine and follow – up type of inspection.

The Council through District Labour Office continues to receive an increasing number of labour complaints. The increase is largely attributed to the fact that the knowledge about labour rights, both by employees and employers is becoming more wide spread. The District Labour Office plays an important part in this regard, as it continuously sensitises workers and employers about rights and regulations, ensuring a sound, productive and respectful relationship between employers and their employees. The Council believes that this informed and sound mutual relationship between the employers and their workers is able to enhance productivity and sustainability of economic activity within the District.

Due to inadequate resources allocated to Labour Sector and mobility challenges, the office is not able to adequately conduct inspections and also conduct sensitization meetings in all workplaces on labour related issues.

4.2.6.7 Key issues from labour sector and their trends

The main key issues of labour in the district are Non compliance to minimum standards such as:

- i) Minimum wage by employers. This is caused by the following reason; Low income levels of the employers in informal sectors, as a result they fear that their business could crumble if they pay more. Employers want to make more profits by paying employees low wages. The employers that are found to be involved in paying below minimum wage are not severe punished as a result they don't look at it as a serious offence.
- ii) Non compliance by employers to General labour Laws(employment act , labour relations act , pension act , occupation safety health and welfare act , workers compensation act). This is caused by the following reasons: Some organizations do not have Human Resource personnel who can interpret and apply the laws. The other reason is that there is lack of strong punitive measures against those who do not comply to these laws.
- iii) Inadequate knowledge on basic Labour laws to reduce labour related cases.

4.2.7 Tourism

4.2.7.1 Tourism Potential

Chikwawa has quite a number of potential sites for tourism development. Kapichira falls, Madziotenta spring, Diwa spring, Kapichira Hydro Electric Power Station offers good site seeing and all these sites are closer to Majete Wildlife Reserve another tourist attraction site. At Lengwe National Park, emphasis is on Phiri la Mtanda, and Mwala wa Sitolo. The viewing of the meandering of river shire as one descends Thyolo – Chikwawa escarpments on the way to Chikwawa Boma one can also experience the beauty of Chikwawa on a boat ride on river shire from Kamuzu Bridge.

4.2.7.2 Tourism Facilities

1. Parks and Wild Life

The district is also blessed with abundant Wild life in its three protected areas, Lengwe and Majete, and Nyala Park. Lengwe National Park covers an area of 887 sq kilometres. Common wildlife in the Park include; Antelopes, and Nyala, Buffaloes, Kudu, Livingstone Suni, Impala, Warthogs, Bush bucks and Bush Pigs, Grysbok, Common Duikers, Leopards, Hyenas, Civet (These are Cat

like looked animals resembling Leopards but not so harmful as Leopards are. Monkeys like Samango are also available in the Park. The Park is also a home to various types of attractive birds.

The Illovo Sugar Company also established Nyala Park for Tourism. Animals in this tourism facility include; Nyalas, Zebras, and Nswalas. Camels are also reared at this Park.

Majete Wildlife Reserve is in Chikwawa district, 70 kilometres, southwest of Blantyre and 17 kilometres from Chikwawa Boma. The reserve was gazetted as a protected area in 1955 and covers an area of 691 sq km. There is also Majete Hill, the tallest hill in the reserve that has a very good scenic beauty from which the reserve derives its name. It can be best exploited at the moment exclusively for viewing at well-spotted viewing points within the sanctuary of reserve. The reserve has a wide variety of animals ranging from the magnificent African Elephants, Buffaloes, Sable Antelopes, Zebra, Bushbucks, Kudu, Elands, Reedbucks, Waterbucks, Impala, Nyala, Hartebeests, Hippos, Warthogs, Bush Pigs, and Rhinos. All these animals are easily seen in the sanctuary that covers an area of 14 000 hectares. Most of the roads in the sanctuary are accessed through out the year.



Figure 4.10 Sable Antelopes Re-introduced into Majete Wildlife reserve

Source: DNPW and African Parks Majete Ltd, 2017

Majete also boasts an abundance of bird life with over 300 species of bird species including the rock pranticole that are unique to the areas they bred on the rocks of the Shire river. The vegetation of Majete is spectacular ranging from reverine forest to woodlands and thickets and an abundance of tree species. One of the commonest tree species is the marula trees and sterculias. Hippos are best seen from **Mvuu Spot** while at **Sunset spot** there is not only nice sunshine colours at sunset, but also good and unblocked view of the park.

Majete Game Reserve also offers visitors supporting activities such as bush walks, elephants tracking where a scout guides and offers security, game drive noiseless and camouflaged vehicle. More important, accommodation is also available at Thawale camp is a bush tented camp that offers top of the range accommodation in self contained tents. The tents have a balcony that overlooks a wa-

terhole that attracts animals during the day and night. The water is floodlit during the night. You can pay full board fees with full course meals and self-catering fees at very reasonable rates. Camping including most parts of the park has excellent celtel cell phone signal that keeps you in contact with families and friends. Accommodation facilities are also offered in Lengwe and Nyala Parks.

2. Rivers and Water Falls

Shire River is the longest river in Malawi that has a wide variety of fish species ranging from the sweet *Chambo* species, Tiger fish and Cat Fish. It also has a wide variety of riverine bird life ranging from the Fish Eagles to Kingfishers. Crocodiles and Hippos are also found in large numbers.

Kapichira falls on the shire river, just 500 metres from the main offices of Majete has a spectacular and breath taking view offering chalk-*white* running water splashing and gushing through the rocks.

3. Historical sites

Close to Kapichira Falls, there is a baobab tree where David Livingstone, the great Scottish missionary put up a camp after failing to cross the falls on his explorations. Just close by to Majete in Maganga village lies a grave of one of David Livingstone's servants, Thornton.

4. Monuments

Other Tourism attractions are Monuments of gravesites of some early white missionaries near Kamuzu Bridge at Julius Village in Traditional Authority Katunga. One notable Missionary is Rev. Scadmore

5. (v) Traditional Dances

Traditional dances are also part of tourism. In Chikwawa traditional dances include; Likhuba, which is mostly common at Tombondera in the area of TA Chapananga, *Masalimo*, famous at *Chapomoka* in TANgabu, *Chitsukulumwe* in TA Masache and Maseya. *Mangolongondo* (*Ulimba*) is another famous traditional dance popular in the areas of chiefs Ngabu and Kasisi, *Mabatcha* popular Dembo in Katunga's area. *Mafuwe* is famous in T.A Chapananga. Since most of the people are of the Mang'anja tribe, *gulewamkulu* is another spice of their dance.

6. (vi) Curios

Curios making is done mostly at Dyeratu Trading Centre and at the Boma where experts make their materials and send them to Blantyre and other districts and even to South Africa.

7. (vii) Lodges, Rest Houses, Bottle Stores and Motels

Chikwawa has a good number of rest houses, lodges and motels and most of them are registered by the Department of Tourism. There are 39 Rest Houses, Seven Motels which include: Matechanga and Milinyu at Dyeratu Trading Centre, Kukhala and Bentry Motel at Nchalo, Aonenji Motel at Ngabu. Lodges and guesthouses include: Ivyne at Nchalo, Nyala Lodge at Lengwe National Park, Thamps and Madongi Motel at Nchalo, Safari Camp at Majete. the district has also 90 Bottle Stores and 37 Restaurants.

4.2.7.3 Key issues in Tourism Sector

Majete Wildlife Reserve is a success story as it has booming wildlife and its tourism facilities due to the public-private partnership. The Lengwe National Park is inaccessible during the wet season and has inadequate facilities. Stray lions sometimes cross the international boundary from Mozambique into Lengwe.

Key challenges include vandalism in tourist attraction areas, poaching, poor road conditions and electric power network, floods, and inadequate human and financial resources to support sustainable development and maintenance of key tourist sites.

CHAPTER 5: SOCIAL SERVICES

5.1 HEALTH SERVICES

The Health sector in Malawi is guided by the National Health Policy (NHP March, 2018). The Policy provides policy direction on key issues that are central to the development and functioning of the health system in Malawi. Malawi's Health Care System has four delivery levels, namely: community, primary, secondary and tertiary, with inter-level referrals as required. For optimum and quality of health services delivery, the Health sector uses the Health Sector Strategic plan II (HSSPII) 2017-2022 which is a medium term strategic plan. Its Goal is to move towards universal health coverage of quality, equitable and affordable quality health care with the aim of improving health status, financial risk protection and client satisfaction. This is in line with Sustainable development Goal 3 and 6 and Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III, Key priority Area 5; Health and Population.

The health sector also uses the Malawi National Community Health Strategy 2017-2022. By 2022, the NCHS aims at contributing to achievement of two health outcome targets aligned with the HSSP II: a 25% decrease in the under-five mortality rate (U5MR) from 64 to 48 per 1,000 live births and a 20% reduction in the maternal mortality ratio (MMR) from 439 to 350 per 100,000 live births. This is in line with Sustainable development Goal 3 and 6.

The recently revised Memorandum of Understanding between Government and CHAM provides for provision of free preselected services not only based on the 8 km radius but also takes into account population and difficulties in geographical access in CHAM facilities with less than 8 km radius from a public facility.

5.1.1 Life Expectancy

Life expectancy in Chikwawa is 42 for males and 48 for females (Chikwawa Health Sector Plan 2013 - 2016).

5.1.2 Morbidity

Chikwawa district registers a lot of disease conditions as outpatient as well as inpatient. The leading causes of morbidity are Malaria, diarrhoea, Acute Respiratory Infections (including pneumonia), skin infections, common injuries and wounds, and sexually transmitted diseases (STIs) (ref. figure 16).

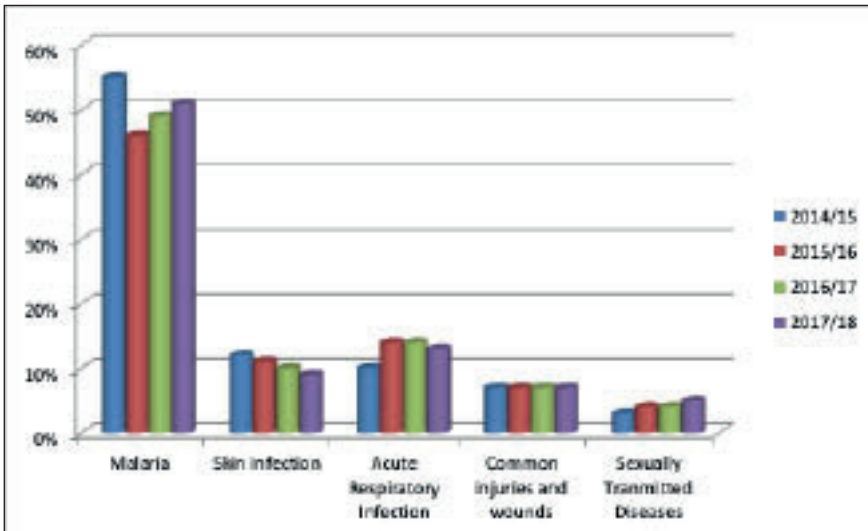


Figure 5.1 Major Causes of Morbidity(Top five)

Source: Chikwawa DHIS 2, 2017

The figure above shows that malaria is the leading cause of morbidity followed by Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI) and the least being Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STIs). Malaria is highest in 2014/15 because of presence of more mosquito breeding grounds created by 2014 floods and also because the district stopped Indoor Residual Spraying and lack of some malaria interventions such as larvaeciding. On the other hand STIs are the least because of sensitisation of medical seeking behaviour. It can also be observed that STIs graph is exponential because of presence of more prostitutes in around trading centres.

Under-Five Morbidity

The major causes of morbidity among Under Five children in the district are Malaria, ARI and Diarrhoea. The figure below shows most reported causes of under-five morbidity from 2013/2014 to 2016/2017.

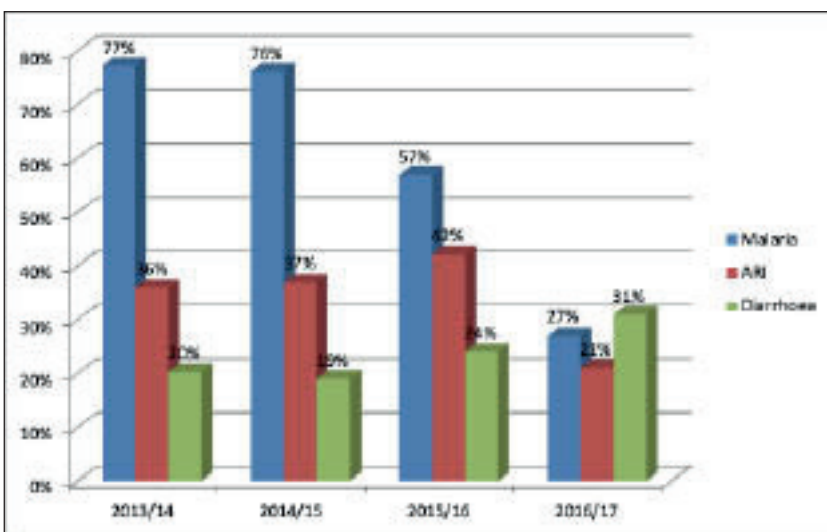


Figure 5.2 Under Five Morbidity Rates

Source: Chikwawa DHIS 2, 2017

According to the figure above shows that, On average, the highest cause of morbidity among under-five children is malaria seconded by ARI and then Diarrhoea. Highest malaria morbidity rates were in 2013/14 due to floods which resulted in many swampy places which were breeding ground for mosquitoes. There was a decline in Malaria cases in 2017/2018 mainly due to distribution and use of Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets.

5.1.3 Out Patient Department utilisation

This is a measure of the availability and quality of outpatient services as people are more likely to attend outpatient clinics when barriers to entry are limited in terms of cost, distance, availability of staff etc. According to the national standards the OPD utilisation must be equal or more than 1,100 visits. The OPD utilisation rate has varied over a four year period as shown below

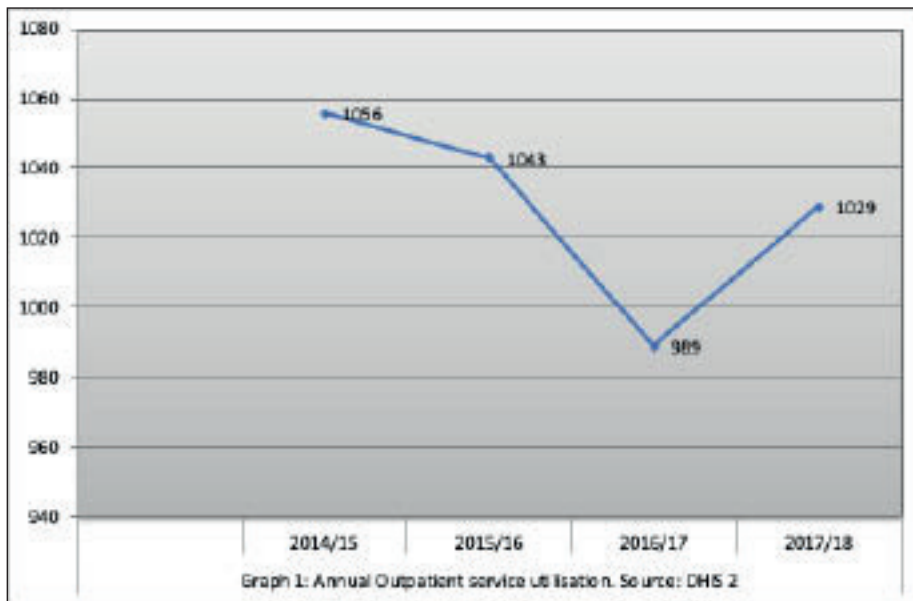


Figure 5.3 OPD utilisation per 1,000 Population

Source: Chikwawa DHIS 2, 2017

OPD utilisation was highest in 2014/2015 which was at 1056 per 1000 patients and the lowest was in 2016/2017 which was at 989 per 1000 patients. In 2017/18 the rate increased by 40 per 1000 patients. The preventive interventions including community sensitisation on medical seek behaviour were done properly in all years thus why OPD utilisation below the recommended standards.

On the other hand it can be because of poor data capturing or staff failed to capture due to staff shortage like Gola and Chang`ambika health centres etc. There is evidence that morbidity is still high in all ages especially in under -five children and consequently leading to high child mortality.

Despite this high OPD utilisation, the district Health sector has been facing challenges as the resources that were allocated for health services could not match with the disease burden that the health sector has to service.

5.1.4 Mortality

The District Crude Inpatient Death rate is estimated 2.5% but according to the graph below it is high almost in all years. The crude in patient death rate (excluding maternal deaths) is shown in figure below

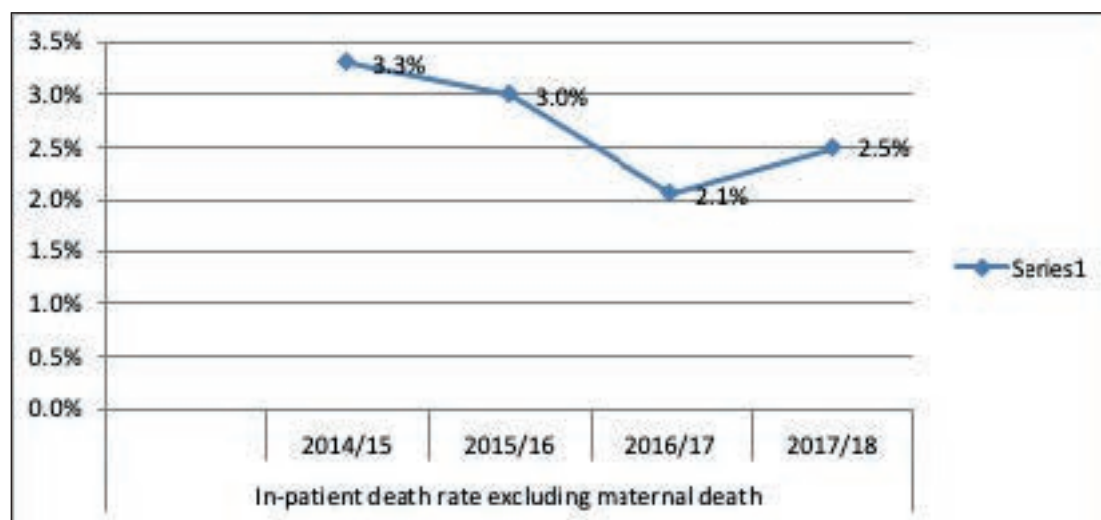


Figure 5.4 Crude In-Patient Death rate as a percentage of admissions

Source: Chikwawa DHIS 2, 2017

According to figure 5.4 above, death rate is high in 2014/15 and declines in 2016/17 and there is a slight increase from 2.1% to 2.5% in 2017/2018. Morbidity is high in the same years as in graph 19 above. In 2014 there were more patients suffering from malaria due to floods. In 2016/17 malaria also was the leading cause of morbidity followed by Acute Respiratory Infection and diarrhoea. It therefore can be deduced from graph 16 and 17 above that the prevalence of the diseases are the major causes of mortality.

5.1.4.1 Neonatal Deaths

A neonate is any child 0 to 28 days old. Neonatal death is another problem in the district. The common causes include neonatal sepsis (neonatal infection), asphyxia, and Respiratory Distress Syndrome (RDS). Prompt management of cases reduces neonatal deaths. However the indicator can be measured if Intergrated Household Survey (HIS) is done. The figure below shows crude figures of neonatal deaths in four years.

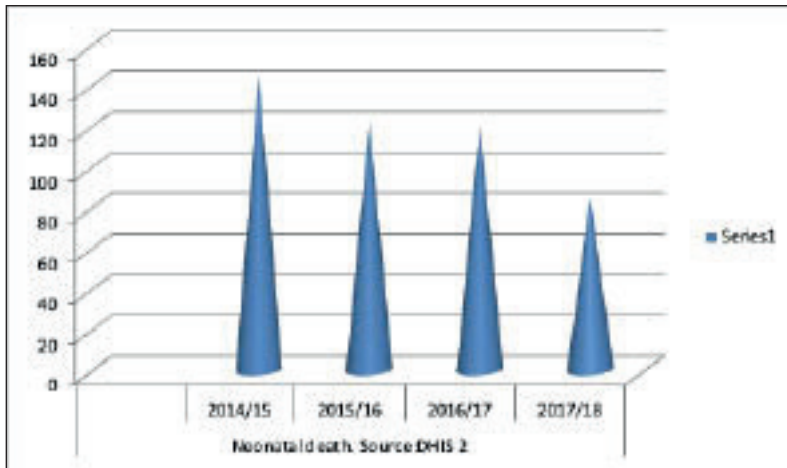


Figure 5.5 Institutional neonatal deaths.

Source: Chikwawa DHIS 2, 2018

the figure above shows a decline in number of cases from 144 in 2014/15 to 84 in 2017/18. This achievement is there because currently there is a nursery at the District Health Office with some basic equipment, capacity building to nurses and clinicians in essential care of sick neonates. In addition, there is an interrupted power supply (solar energy power) for oxygen supply and infection prevention committee to ensure good hygienic practices in labour ward to avoid sepsis and asphyxia. Ideally, neonatal data audit is supposed to be conducted monthly to identify gaps to prevent further occurrence of neonatal deaths, but this is in pipe line.

5.1.4.2 Under- five mortality

Under-five mortality is another problem in the district. The common causes include malaria, Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI), diarrhoea, HIV/AIDS and malnutrition. An environment that is free from pathogens; proper hygiene practices and prompt management of cases have an ability to reduce under-five deaths. The figure below shows institutional crude figures of under-five deaths:



Figure 5.6 Institutional under five mortality rate per 1000 live births

Source: Chikwawa DHIS 2, 2018

The figure above shows a constant pattern due to improper case definition of the causes of under-five deaths hence poor case management and shortage of staff. However, from the year 2016 to 2018 there is a declined in number of cases from 24 to 20 deaths per 1000 live births. This achievement is there because under-five children are being assessed for danger signs and treated or referred to the next level at community through Intergrated Community Case management (ICCM). In addition, triaging is being implemented in all health facilities which assist in preventing death. Preventive measures such as immunisations and distribution of Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLINs) also contribute to reduction of under-five death.

5.1.4.3 Maternal mortality

Maternal mortality pauses a threat to women`s life in the district. The common causes include haemorrhages caused by tear, tone, thrombin and trauma. Prompt management of cases reduces maternal deaths. The figure below therefore shows institutional maternal deaths per 100,000 live births.

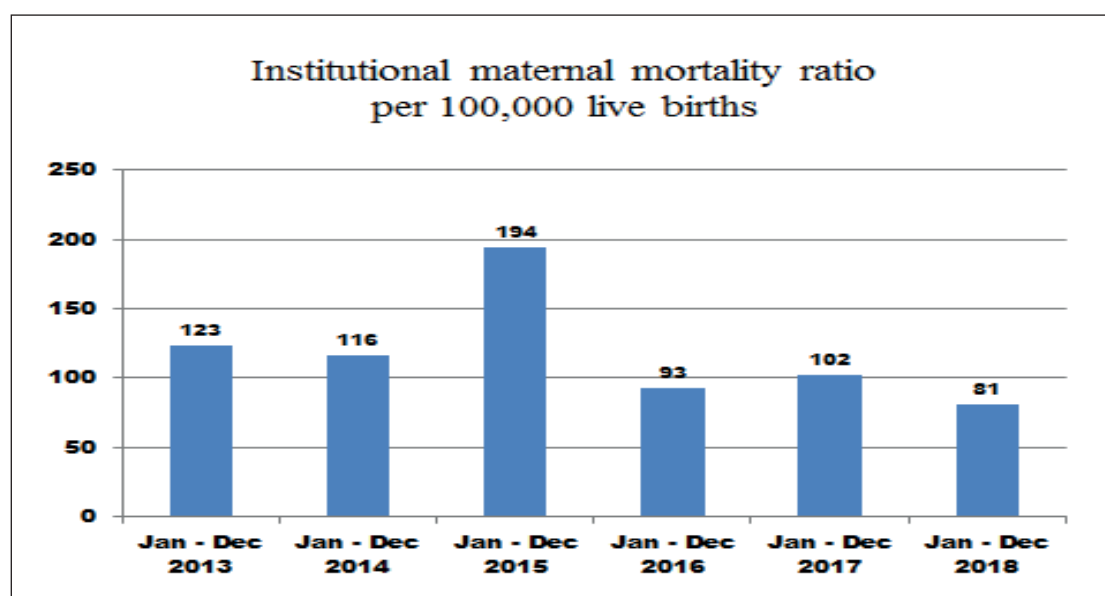


Figure 5.7 Institutional Maternal Mortality Rate per 100,000 live Births

Source: Chikwawa HMIS, 2018

The figure above shows that there was an increase in number of institutional maternal death from 2013 to 2015. Possible causes being delay in seeking care, delay in reaching health facilities due lack of transport and poor road conditions and also delay in receiving care at the facility due to shortage of staff.

The figure below also shows a decline in number of cases from 2015 to 2018. This has been contributed by high attendance of antenatal clinics (18% in 2017/18 as shown in the figure below) by expectant women.

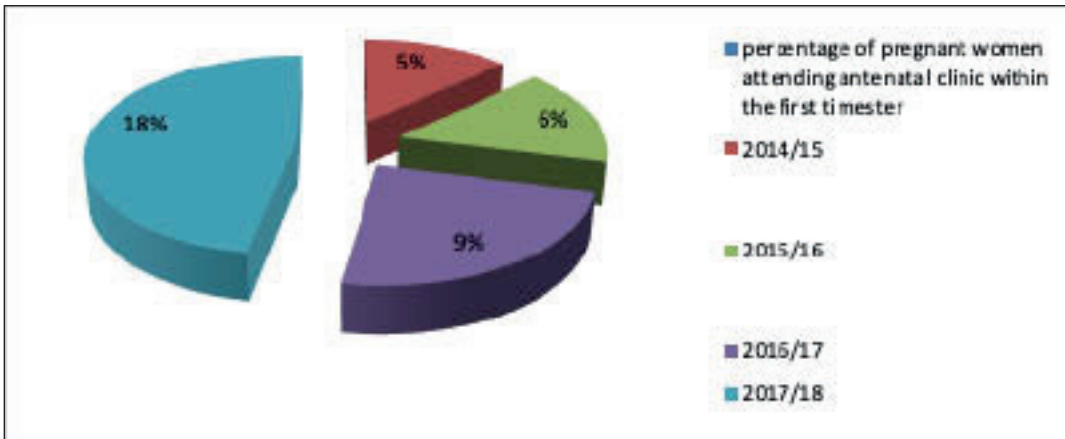


Figure 5.8 Percentage of pregnant women attending antenatal clinic within the first trimester

Source: Chikwawa HMIS, 2018

The figure above shows an increase in percentage of pregnant women attending antenatal clinics during the first trimester from 2014 to 2018. This increase is due to community sensitisation on importance of attending antenatal clinics. Local leaders’ participation in safe motherhood has also shown a positive impact.

In addition, the reduced mortality rate in 2018 can be attributed to a high number of women attended by skilled staff during deliveries as shown in the figure below. Therefore more skilled personnel are needed to reduce maternal complications and deaths because no woman is supposed to die of any pregnant related problem

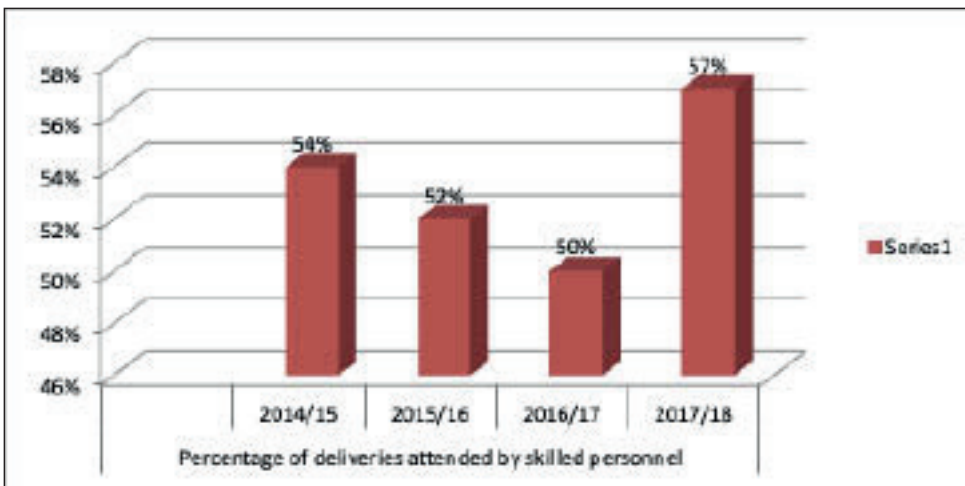


Figure 5.9 Percentage of deliveries attended by skilled personnel

Source: Chikwawa HMIS, 2018

The figure above shows that in general that the number of deliveries attended by skilled personnel decreased from 2014/15 to 2016/17 due to shortage of staff there after increased in 2017/18 due to availability of staff.

5.1.5 Health Facilities

Health services in the district are provided to the whole population through health posts, dispensaries, health centres and hospitals. Government, Christian Health Association of Malawi (CHAM), Companies, Non-Governmental Organizations and individual practitioners also provide services through their facilities. These are distributed throughout the district though some parts of the district are still under-served.

The health services provided include: Out patients, in patients, nutrition rehabilitation, antenatal, postnatal, ambulatory, referral, laundry, pharmacy, mortuary, eye care, dental therapy, x-ray, orthopaedics, psychiatry, theatre, nutrition rehabilitation, maternal and child health, maintenance, antenatal, postnatal, family planning, laboratory, Information Education and Communication (IEC), voluntary counselling and testing of HIV, skin clinics and several preventive health services.

5.1.5.1 Health Posts / Under Five Clinics

The health posts / Under five clinics in the district are manned by Health Surveillance Assistant (HSAs) who are mandated to offer the following services, immunization, treatment of minor ailments (Village Clinics) nutrition growth monitoring, disease surveillance, Information Education and Communication (IEC), outreach clinics for some health facilities during which antenatal, postnatal and family planning services are also offered by the visiting nurses or medical assistants. They also serve as treatment centres during cholera outbreaks. Table below shows details of health posts in the district:

Table 5.1 Health Posts by Traditional Authority and Distances

No.	Health Post	Location	Distance from nearest Health facility in KM
1	Mchacha	Makhwira	8
2	Mitondo	Makhwira	15
3	Matimati	Makhwira	20
4	Nkhate	Makhwira	12
5	Supuni	Katunga	13
6	Mpokonyola	Katunga	18
7	Kavalo	Kasisi	17
8	Bwalo	Kasisi	6
9	Pende	Kasisi	8
10	Mbande	Maseya	8
11	Thabwani	Maseya	10
12	Kajawo	Mlilima	15
13	Mandrade	Chapananga	7
14	Kanzimbi	Chapananga	8
15	Tombondera	Chapananga	5
16	Kubalalika	Chapananga	20
17	Paiva	Ngabu	9
18	Salubeni	Ngabu	8
19	Nyasa	Ngabu	12
20	Mphenza	Ngabu	8
21	Therere	Ngabu	7
22	Makala	Ngabu	9
23	Khokhwa	Ngabu	15

No.	Health Post	Location	Distance from nearest Health facility in KM
24	Nsomo	Ngabu	8
25	Saopa	Ngabu	12
26	Mwananjobvu	Ngabu	15
27	Thendo	Ngabu	10
28	Thimu	Chapananga	7
29	Bello	Mulilima	6
30	Kalima	Maseya	12

Source: HMIS

As depicted by table 5.1 above, the district has 30 structured health posts and 154 village clinics. According to National Community Health Strategy 2017/2022, 24% Malawians live out of the recommended 5 kilometres radius to the village clinic/health post and 8 kilometres radius to other health facilities. This denies the majority of under-five children and adults from accessing good health care delivery systems and consequently high mortality rates.

5.1.5.2 Dispensaries

There are five dispensaries in the district and these are; Gola, Kasinthula, Bereu, Kapichira (ESCOM clinic) and Hunger EPI centre in Nchalo, Gola and Kasinthula. Kasinthula operates as a health posts since it is being managed by HSAs only. It also operates as a bilharzia control office for the district.

5.1.5.3 Health Centres

There district has 15 Health centres manned by Medical Assistants, Nurses, and Health Surveillance Assistants (HSAs). The table below shows status of health centres, hospitals, dispensaries and clinics in the district:

Table 5.2 Status of Hospitals, Health Centres Dispensaries and Clinics in Chikwawa District

Health centre	Ownership	Location	Pop. Served	Average Distance from the community (KM)	No. of Beds
Makhwira health centre	MOH	Makhwira	59454	15	7
Maperera health centre	MOH	Makhwira	13648	10	10
Kakoma health centre	MOH	Chapananga	21806	10	10
Chapananga health centre	MOH	Chapananga	17123	9	10
Chang'ambika health centre	MOH	Chapananga	8602	12	8
Gaga health centre	MOH/DA	Chapananga	23664	15	8
Ndakwela health centre	MOH	Chapananga	34437	8	10
Misomali health centre	CHAM	Chapananga	9454	7	6
Dolo health centre	MOH	Ngabu	35876	15	10
Nkumaniza health centre	MOH	Ngabu	11436	13	11
Chipwaila health centre	MOH	Ngabu	38016	10	12
Ngabu Seventh day Adventest health centre	CHAM	Ngabu	Under Ngabu Rural Hospital	5	4
Ngabu Rural Hospital	MOHP	Ngabu	62158	15	35
Chithumba health centre	MOHP	Chapananga	9182	16	6

Health centre	Ownership	Location	Pop. Served	Average Distance from the community (KM)	No. of Beds
Majete I health centre	HUNGER	Chapananga	4000	7	10
Chikwawa District hospital	MOHP	Kasisi	49586	8	250
St Montfort hospital	CHAM	Lundu	66209	12	115
Illovo Factory clinics	Illovo	Lundu	1234	5	0 (Clinic)
Gola dispensary	MOHP	Chapananga	6,903	12	0
Kasinthula dispensary	MOHP	Katunga	11,264	7	0
Bereu dispensary	MOHP	Lundu	22,226	8	0
Hunger EPI centre	MOHP	Lundu	Under Nchalo	10	0
Kapichila dispensary	ESCOM	Kasisi	3,506	5	2

Source: Chikwawa HMIS 2017

According to Essential Health Care Package defined in the year 2000, the minimum distance is 8km radius. Referring to table above the district health delivery system is far away from that. Note here that some health facilities like Gola, Chithumba and others have communities who live in hard to reach areas because of topography.

5.1.5.4 Rural Hospitals

The District has only one Rural Hospital (Ngabu) located in T/A Ngabu. The facility is responsible for providing out patients, in patients, nutrition rehabilitation, antenatal, postnatal, other preventive health services and ambulatory services. It is referral facility for Dolo, Mkumaniza and Chipwaila health centres. Whenever necessary, it also refers cases to district hospital.

5.1.5.5 District Hospitals

Chikwawa has two hospitals namely: Chikwawa District Hospital and St Montfort Hospital. These are the main referral hospitals in the district. They also refer the patients to Queen Elizabeth Centre Hospital for further management if necessary. The facilities offer different types of services such as: Inpatient, outpatient, ambulatory, laundry, pharmacy, mortuary, eye care, dental therapy, x-ray, orthopaedics, psychiatry, theatre, nutrition rehabilitation, maternal and child health, maintenance, antenatal, postnatal, family planning, laboratory, voluntary counselling and testing of HIV, skin clinics and several preventive health services and others.

5.1.6 Health Sector Human Resources

The vacancy rate is very high indicating that there is under staffing in the district. This gap leads to low access to health delivery health services and consequently high maternal, child and general mortality rates. Tables 57 and 58 below shows staffing in health facilities:

Table 5.3 Human Resources Distribution by Facility

Health facility	Doctors	Nurses	Clinicians	EHOs/AE-HOs	HSAs	Laboratory	Radiography
Maperera	0	2	1	1	9	0	0
Chang'ambika	0	0	0	0	5	0	0
Chithumba	0	1	1	0	7	0	0
Chikwawa H	2	56	20	5	32	6	2
Nchalo PHO	0	0	0	1	36	0	0
Kapichira	0	2	1	0	7	0	0
Kasinthula	0	0	0	0	10	0	0
Misomali	0	1	1	0	4	0	0
Gola	0	0		0	3	0	0
Majete	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Hunger Projetc	0	3	1	0	0	0	0
Bereu	0	1	1	0	14	0	0
Ndakwera	0	2	1	0	14	0	0
Chipwaila	0	1	1	0	12	0	0
Mkumaniza	0	2	1	0	6	0	0
Ngabu	0	12	3	1	40	0	0
Dolo	0	1	1	0	17	0	0
Makhwira	0	2	2	1	26	0	0
Chapananga	0	2	1	0	8	0	0
Kakoma	0	1	1	0	14	0	0
Gaga	0	0	1	1	8	0	0
Mfera	0	3	2	0	15	0	0

Source: Chikwawa HMIS, 2017

Table 5.4 Table5. 4 Health Sector Vacancy Rate

Cadre	Establishment	Vacancy	% positions filled
Doctors	4	2	50
Nurses	372	281	24
Clinicians	155	109	28
Environmental Health Officers(EHOs)/Assistant Environmental Health Officers(AEHOs)	34	11	68
Health Surveillance Assistance	550	263	52
Laboratory	18	13	28
Radiography	5	3	40

Source: Chikwawa HMIS, 2017

5.1.7 Key Issues Under Health

The spatial distribution shows that some health facilities are located very far away from referral hospitals. For example, Mkumaniza, Gaga and Chang'ambi are located over 80 km from the district hospital. Of particular importance is the fact that Gaga and Chang'ambika are located in remote parts of the district in TA Chapananga and the road condition is very poor especially during the rainy season.

Secondly, the spatial distribution of population shows that there are some communities that do not have access to reliable health services within an acceptable radius. For example, parts of Gola do not have a health centre and are only served by a dispensary. Analysis of health facilities has revealed that there are deficits in some areas. On one hand, the available facilities are not adequate compared to the size of the population while on the other hand; some areas do not have a facility within the acceptable distance. Yet in some cases, the available facility is poorly staffed to handle medical conditions that are supposed to be managed at that level. The Ministry of Health and Christian Health Association of Malawi (CHAM) have a huge responsibility in ensuring that delivery of quality services is achieved. In addition, improvement in road network will also contribute towards movement of patients to access health services.

Specific Challenges

- The district receives more staff during deployment but most of them leave the district due to harsh weather and some ladies follow their husbands
- Floods affect health delivery systems and also lower some health related indicators
- Poor road conditions due to heavy rains
- Home maternal deliveries due to long distances to health facilities
- Cultural beliefs, for example, waiting for family decision members to allow family members to receiving health services
- Some religious members restrain family from receiving health services
- Early marriages contributing to high maternal deaths
- Minimal capacity building to some staff
- Low ambulatory, utility vehicle including motorcycles fleet

Solutions

- Provide conducive accommodation to retain staff
- Lobby with roads department to maintain key roads
- The Council should provide new settlement sites to flood prone victims
- The council should procure ambulances and utility vehicles
- Local leaders should be sensitised on importance of attending health delivery services
- The district Health and social services should build capacity to its staff
- Introduce sanitation marketing for communities to construct durable sanitary facilities.

Opportunities

- Availability of WASH partners
- Availability of health volunteers in the communities
- Availability of Village health committees, Community Action Groups

5.2

WATER AND SANITATION

5.2.1

Access to Safe Drinking Water

The vision of the water sector is “water for all always” and its policy goal is to achieve sustainable management and utilization of water resources, in order to provide water of acceptable quality and of sufficient quantities, and ensure availability of efficient and effective water and sanitation services that satisfy the basic requirements of every Malawian and for the enhancement of the country’s natural ecosystems (MoI-WD, 2007). This is directly linked to and feeds into the national development strategy – the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS III), whose key development goals are:

- To achieve sustainable water development that is adaptive to climate change, and enhances ecosystem services through increased access to water resources;
- To promote and enhance integrated management and development of water resources (MoIWD, 2017). This is further linked to and feeds into the international development agenda, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 6), which aims to achieve universal access to safe drinking water, and ensure its availability and sustainable management.
- In Chikwawa, the water sector aims to achieve the following:
 - Integrated management and development of water resources and supply systems that promotes availability, equitable access and sustainability of safe drinking water to all the people in Chikwawa at an affordable cost
 - Provision of safe drinking water that conforms to the national Water Quality (WQ) and per capita consumption standards for rural water supply services.
 - Effective community participation in the management of water supply systems, through promotion of community ownership and responsibility of water supply services
 - provision of water supply services that are equitably accessible to and used by individuals and entrepreneurs through establishment of urban, peri-urban and market centers water supply systems for socio-economic development

5.2.1.1 Main Sources and Condition of Water facilities

Provision of safe drinking water in Chikwawa district is through boreholes and gravity-fed piped water supply systems. Boreholes constitute 74% while taps from gravity-fed systems constitute 23% of the total number of existing water supply infrastructure in the district. The remaining 3% comprise unprotected sources such as open wells, rivers and springs. There are also a few shallow wells, which contribute but only a trace to the overall district's rural water supply system. Currently the district has a total of 2,912 water points (mWater Database, 2017).

Boreholes

There are 2,159 boreholes in the district. Table 5.5 shows the current borehole water supply status.

Table 5.5 Borehole Water Supply Status

T/A	Estimated Population	Total # BHs	Total # Functional	% Functional	Population Served	Coverage (%)
Chapananga	179287	644	574	89.1%	143,500	25.4
Kasisi	49975	173	160	92.5%	40,000	7.1
Mulilima	13743	47	44	93.6%	11,000	1.9
Ngowe	10620	41	34	82.9%	8,500	1.5
Masache	26549	102	85	83.3%	21,250	3.8
Makhwira	44665	157	143	91.1%	35,750	6.3
Lundu	12806	67	41	61.2%	10,250	1.8
Katunga	34670	120	111	92.5%	27,750	4.9
Maseya	23426	83	75	90.4%	18,750	3.3
Ndakwera	29361	113	94	83.2%	23,500	4.2
Ngabu	141180	612	452	73.9%	113,000	20.0
TOTAL	566283	2,159	1,813	84.0%	453,250	80.0

Source: Chikwawa District Water Office, 2017.

The borehole water supply status as depicted by table 5.5 above shows that out of the 2,159 boreholes, only 1,813 (84%) are functional, serving a population of 453,250 which is 80% of the total district population. There is need to meet the remaining 20% coverage in order to achieve SDG6 target by 2030.

There has been remarkable investment in the water infrastructure development through WASH development partners, which has raised the boreholes functionality from 74% in 2014 to the current 80%. This indicates an average annual functionality improvement of 1.4%. Water coverage has improved from 57% to 74% during the same period, with an average annual improvement of 3.4%. However, the rate of non-functionality still remains high. Existing national statistics still record that at any point of recorded functionality; at least 30% of the boreholes are non-functional (MoIWD, 2017). In order to achieve SDG6 target by 2030, the 1.4% annual functionality improved status must be increased to at least 2%. Non functionality rate must be reduced to less than 1% annually.

Rural Piped water supply

There are 753 taps constructed to run on six (6) piped water systems in Chikwawa. Five (5) of the systems are gravity-fed - Chapananga, Limphangwe, Livunzu, Mapelera, and Mmbadzi; while one (1) is a reticulated system run on two electric pumped boreholes. Table 5.6 below shows the piped water supply status.

Table 5.6 Piped Water Supply Status

	Name of Scheme	Total # Taps	Functional	Non Functional	% Functional	Population Served	Coverage (%)
1	Mapelera	79	30	49	38	3,600	0.6
2	Limphangwe	72	0	72	0	-	0.0
3	Livunzu	85	85	0	100	10,200	1.8
4	Mmbadzi	97	92	5	95	11,040	2.0
5	Chapananga	220	0	220	0	-	0.0
	Miseu 4	200	200	0	100	24,000	4.3
		753	407	346	54	48,840	8.6

Source: Chikwawa DWDO, 2017

The piped water supply status as depicted by table 5.6 above shows that out of the 753 taps installed, only 407 (54%) are functional, serving a population of 48,840. This population constitutes about 8.6% of the projected district total population of 566,283 (NSO, 2008). It is important to note that Livunzu and Miseu 4 water supply systems have registered 100% functionality. This is attributed to the fact that: (1) Livunzu had been newly rehabilitated by development partners, and (2) Miseu 4 is community managed using the WUA model, but with full establishment and functionality of the systems organizational structures.

It is also important to note that Limphangwe, Livunzu, Mapelera and Mmbadzi water supply systems are interconnected to form the East Bank Gravity-fed Piped Water Supply System. Like Miseu4, the management of the systems follows the Community Based Management (CBM) approach using the WUA model, but with over 90% of the systems organizational structures non-functional. Table 5.7 below shows the number of Water Users Associations established and trained.

Table 5.7 Water Users Associations Established

Name of WUA	Name of Water Scheme	Date Trained	Status	Remarks
1. Chikwawa Eastbank WUA	Mapelera Limphangwe Livunzu Mbadzi	2013	Inactive	Need restructuring and fresh training
2. Chapananga WUA	Chapananga	2013	Non-functional	Water supply scheme needs rehabilitation; WUA needs re-organization and fresh training.
3. Miseu4 Market centre WUA	Ngabu	2012	Functional	Need refresher training

Source: Chikwawa District Water office, 2017

This therefore indicates that there is potential to improve the systems to achieve the SDG6 target by 2030 if:

- The existing piped water supply systems are rehabilitated to full operational status, enabling every community to access safe drinking water
- The water systems management committees – Tap Committees, Scheme Committees and WUA Board are re-organized and restructured to allow for a more sustainable operation of the systems.
-



Rehabilitated Borehole in TA Ngabu, 2017



Mbadzi Water Treatment Works (2017)



Broken down tap in Mbadzi Scheme (2015)



Rehabilitated tap in Mbadzi Scheme (2017)

Photo 5.1 Water Systems in Chikwawa

Rehabilitated Borehole in TA Ngabu, 2017 Mmbadzi Water Treatment Works (2017)

Piped Water Supply Systems (Gravity-fed)

Broken down tap in Mmbadzi Scheme (2015) Rehabilitated tap in Mmbadzi Scheme (2017)

Water systems functionality trend

The figure below presents functionality trend for boreholes and piped water supply systems over the past 5 years.

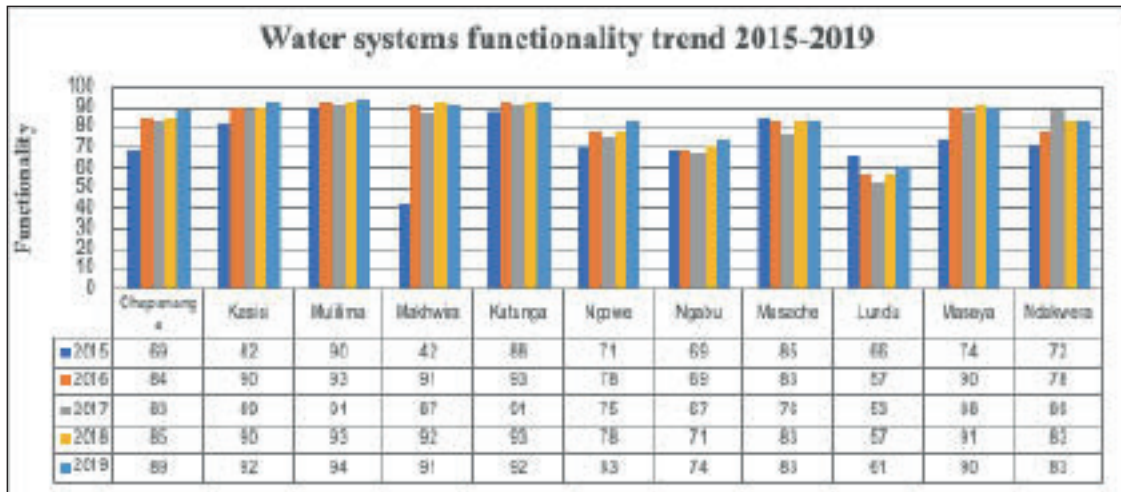


Figure 5.10 Water System Functionality Trend

Source: Chikwawa District Council, (2019).

In terms of functionality, the figure above indicates fluctuating functionality over the past 5 years, but with an average functionality rate of 76%. TA Lunda has the lowest average functionality of 58% owing to the high levels of groundwater salinity, which renders most boreholes abandoned. TA Mulilima has the highest average functionality rate of 92%, owing to its small size and fresh groundwater quality. However, there is an upward movement of the functionality rate in all the TAs over the five years, from 74% in 2014 to 76% in 2019. This shows an annual average functionality improvement of 2%. In order to achieve 100% functionality of water facilities and reach universal access to safe drinking water (SDG6), Chikwawa needs to improve the water systems functionality to an average improvement rate of not less than 2% per year.

5.2.2 Sanitation and hygiene

The Health sector implements issues of sanitation and hygiene following the National Sanitation Policy (NSP 2008) guide lines which is in line with sustainable development goals 3 and 6.

5.2.2.1 Sanitation coverage

Enhanced health and superior sanitation has an impact on the perfection of environmental value. On the other hand, deprived health undermines the capacity of the individuals to deal with the environment effectively leading to declination. Meager hygiene and sanitation standards as well as inadequate management of both solid and liquid wastes are the major contributors to serious health hazards and diseases in the dis-

trict. Notwithstanding the growing population, the state of infrastructure service provision in the district has been deficient.

The national sanitation statistics according to Ministry of Health report 2017/2018 show that the coverage of TAs that are Open Defecation Free(ODF) is at 38%, hand washing at 36.9%, hand washing with soap at 11%, pit latrines at 86.7%, improved latrines at 40.6% and basic latrines at 46.1%,

In most cases the available environmental sanitation facilities do not meet the required standards and the state of affairs is appalling. On environmental sanitation, 2.3 per cent of households in Chikwawa (from semi-urban) have flush latrines and 62 per cent have pit latrines and out of these, 14% are improved pit latrines and 86% are basic pit latrines. The ODF coverage for Traditional Authority is at 49% and for villages is at 46%. Hand washing practice is as low as 24% and hand washing with soap is at 2%.

There are gradual and long term disease conditions that affect general health and wellbeing. These do not only affect the social and economic life of the productive population but also in additional outlay on the district budget. Poor environmental hygiene and sanitation causes diseases such as Cholera, Malaria, Trachoma, scabies, schistosomiasis, tuberculosis etc. Air pollution due to fumes and smoke from automobiles, minute industries and households' leads to air borne respiratory infections e.g. Tuberculosis. These are predominant in the summer whilst water borne infections during the rain seasons.

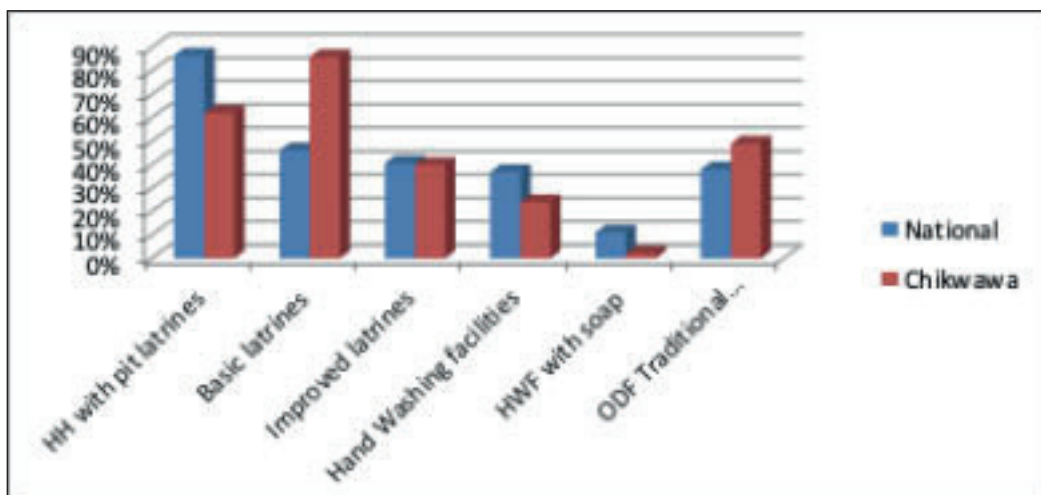


Figure 5.11 Sanitation status: National vs Chikwawa

Source: Chikwawa HMIS, 2017

The figure above shows that basic pit latrine and Open Defecation Free(ODF) coverage is high in Chikwawa because five Traditional Authorities, namely Mulilima, Masache, Chapananga, Ngowe and Makhwira are declared ODF while most districts in Malawi are still practising Open Defecation(OD). Hand washing facilities coverage in the district is low because of vandalism by livestock. To avert this, permanent “Tip Tap” hand washing facilities must be introduced.

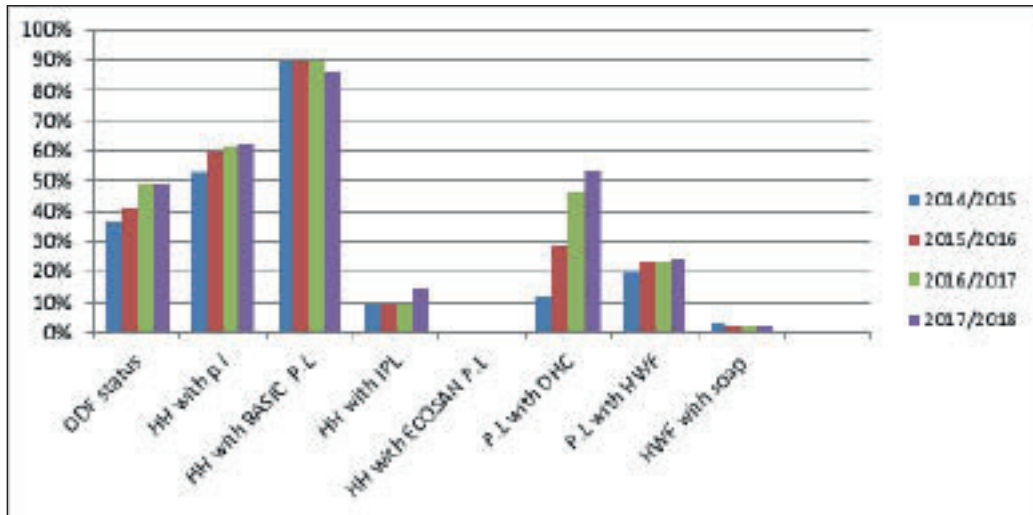


Figure 5.12 Sanitation coverage annual trends for the district

Source: Chikwawa HMIS, 2018

Figure 5.12 above presents the trend towards achieving good sanitation coverage. From 2014 all sanitation variables are increasing positively because of the Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) approach which started in 2011/2012. However, other variables like improved pit latrines, ecological pit latrines and hand washing practice are still lagging behind. This is due to expensiveness especially improved pit latrines. Hand washing coverage is low due to vandalism by animals. To avert this village sanitation banking/borehole banking and sanitation marketing must be introduced.

5.2.3 Methods of Waste Disposal

5.2.3.1 Solid Waste Management

Solid waste management is generally poor in Chikwawa District. According to the 2017 Integrated Household Survey, none of the households were using rubbish bins, 50% had access to rubbish pits, 15% were burning the waste while 30.7% had no any means of waste disposal. The District Council does not provide waste collection services for households; neither does it have a properly organized solid waste collection system and disposal facility. Periodically, the council collects waste from markets using funds that it generates through market fees. The council, however, is in the process of identifying a suitable site for solid waste disposal. In the meantime there are people who request for the waste after it has been collected to be used as manure in the fields/gardens. In other circumstances people get the solid waste in order to fill up gullies since gullies are a big problem in Chikwawa.

Apart from solid waste generated by households and businesses especially in major urban centres of Chikwawa, two companies, Illovo and Presscane also generate large quantities of solid waste which needs appropriate and sustainable management. According to management of Presscane, their dumping sites were all approved by the relevant authorities. Presscane generates about 13,000 tonnes of solid waste per month. The waste is transported through tippers to Fombe dump site. The main problems faced with solid waste include high costs of transporting the large volume of waste, relatively small land size for the dump site and lack of best practices by the community which leads to vandalism of the facility.

5.2.3.2 Liquid Waste Management

Chikwawa District has registered tremendous improvement in terms of access to modern toilets facilities. The District Council with support from non-governmental organizations has been working tirelessly to advocate for improved toilet facilities at household level, community as well as in market places. This partnership has proved to be fruitful as more people are now opting to build modern toilet facilities. Currently, the district does not have a centralized sewer system. Septic tanks are planned and constructed at the household level by private developers.

The council does not have a disposal site for sewer waste. In situations where septic tanks are full, residents engage the Blantyre City Council sewer collection vehicle to empty the tanks. In addition, individuals at the household level are only encouraged to utilize the waste for other uses like manure. However, in cases where waste is toxic and cannot be used, it is normally buried or left in ponds to evaporate. Both Presscane and Illovo also generate liquid waste. Presscane disposes all its liquid waste whose quantity is about 13,000 tonnes per month at Lauji Pond. The waste is transported through pipes to the licenced pond for evaporation. The main challenges faced in liquid management include, vandalism of property supporting the area, encroachment and general accumulation of waste. The liquid waste generated (vinassa) is an opportunity for the community since it can be used as manure.

About 17% of boreholes have their wastewaters well managed in terms of soak ways, French drains or used for watering crops like vegetables (permaculture) and for growing trees. This means that 83% of boreholes have their waste waters unmanaged and form a pool that can easily contaminate the underground waters or form a better environment for mosquito breeding. To deal with this problem, permaculture (Growing of vegetables and other crops to utilise waste water) or construction of french drains is necessary. At Illovo Sugar Company waste water from the plant is being profitably utilized for irrigation farming at Mwanakakula Irrigation Scheme.

5.2.3.3 Gaseous Waste Management

Gaseous waste produced at Presscane is released in the atmosphere without any form of treatment. This is contributing to increased levels of air pollution around Chikwawa District Headquarters. Carbon dioxide, a gaseous waste, is the main by-product in the production process. However, the CO_2 produced can be used in the manufacturing industry as part of carbonated soft drinks as a form of best practice to manage the environment.

5.2.4 Key Issues under Water and Sanitation

The district faces a number of challenges in the provision of safe drinking water to meet the district's overall policy goal. Some of the key challenges are as follows:

- High levels of groundwater salinity leading to abandonment of water points
- Natural disasters – floods and droughts leading to water points contamination and damage
- Rapid population growth leading to migration of people in search of new cultivation land
- Dwindling stream flow rates due to climate change effects
- Increased human activity degrading the water catchment areas;
- Vandalism and theft of water infrastructure components
- Inaccessibility of spare parts within the locality of the water users, and
- Inadequate district level support for effective and efficient system operation support
- Inadequate management and field level human resource

- Lack of community ownership, leading to ineffective water management. This leads to long-term system breakdowns and inadequate system financing.
- Poor waste disposal

Opportunities

- Presence of WASH partners

5.3 EDUCATION SERVICES

Chikwawa council considers education and skills development as key for socio-economic development; industrial growth and major source of economic empowerment for different groups of people especially women, the youth and disabled persons. Education has a strong impact on literacy; behavioural change in terms of reproductive, maternal and child health; and on knowledge of HIV and AIDS, gender issues and challenges of everyday life. According to MGDS III, building an educated and highly skilled population will contribute to an accelerated economic growth and development which will lead to the achievement of the Africa's 2063 agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) number 4, which states the need of equitable quality education and encouragement of lifelong learning.

Chikwawa education sector is sub-divided into 14 zones. Each zone consists of 10 to 15 primary schools. Each zone has its administration conducted from a central point called a Teacher Development Centre (TDC). However, Chikwawa district has 10 purposefully constructed TDC facilities while 4 zones use classrooms as TDCs which reduces learning space. Each zone is headed by a Primary Education Advisor (PEA). There are 179 public primary schools out of which 136 are full primary schools while 43 are junior primary schools. This establishment seeks to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the delivery of the education services in the district by improving the monitoring system as part of decentralisation system.

Decentralisation of the education system is assisting in the improvement of operations by improving the efficiency in the allocation and utilisation of the resources despite being inadequate. The system fastens identification of challenges and consequent search for solutions which are in line with the MGDS III's KPA 2 on education and skills development. and Sustainable Development Goal IV on quality education.

5.3.1 Education Indicators

5.3.1.1 Literacy rate

The table below shows literacy rates for Chikwawa district, Southern region and Malawi.

Table 5.8 Literacy Rate

Chikwawa	2016/17
Male	64
Female	51
Both sexes	59.9
Southern Region	
Male	70.7
Female	63.7
Both sexes	70.9
Malawi	

Chikwawa	2016/17
Male	80.9
Female	65.8
Both sexes	72.8

Source: Source; Integrated Household Survey 2016/17

According to the figure above shows that the district Literacy rate is at 59.9%. This is lower compared to the national rate 72.8% and that of the southern region 70.9%. The table indicates lower literacy levels for women compared to men at all levels and that Chikwawa literacy levels are lower than the regional and national levels. This calls for increased enrolment of all children in schools as lower literacy levels can have negative influence on adoption of new concepts in all development issues.

5.3.1.2 Total Number of Schools by level

The district has preschools, Primary and secondary schools as indicated in the table below:

Table 5.9 Total Number of Schools by Level

Level	Type	Public	Private	Total
Nusery ECD		120	23	143
Primary	Full	136	6	142
	Junior	43	12	55
Secondary schools	Conventional boarding	2	5	7
	Conventional day	2	8	10
	Community day	21	0	21
	Open day	8	0	8

Source: Chikwawa Education Office Report 2017

The district has 143 preschools, 197 government primary schools and 46 government secondary schools

5.3.2 Education Services

5.3.2.1 Primary

Enrolment

The increased awareness by parents on the need to educate their children coupled with the Free Primary Education policy has resulted in increased enrolment in primary schools. Enrolment has been increasing yearly because of the community sensitization by partners such as Mother Mary and by the traditional leaders who enforce the council by-laws. The growth of population and transfer-ins from other districts due to parents seeking employment in sugar plantations are some of the contributing factors to the increase in school enrolment especially in Nchalo zone.

The table below shows enrolment by Zone:

Table 5.10 Primary Enrolment Per Zone

NO	ZONE	Enronlment 2014			Enronlment 2015			Enronlment 2016			Enronlment 2017		
		BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
1.	BOMA	5527	5234	10761	5785	5642	11427	5837	5828	11665	6238	6184	12422
2.	CHANGOIMA	3883	3898	7781	4183	4254	8437	4206	4297	8503	4417	4340	8757
3.	CHIKONDE	5512	5249	10761	5925	5865	11790	6035	5973	12008	6468	6436	12904
4.	DOLO	3888	3618	7506	4452	4097	8549	5019	4617	9636	4836	4657	9493
5.	KAKOMA	3800	3577	7377	3905	3659	7564	3823	3539	7362	4431	4081	8512
6.	KALAMBO	5283	4470	9753	5183	4641	9824	5346	4598	9944	5734	5359	11093
7.	KONZERE	4210	3931	8141	4461	4068	8529	4832	4377	9209	4808	4633	9441
8.	LIVUNZU	6037	5648	11685	6189	5790	11979	6500	6197	12697	7089	6606	13695
9.	MAPERERA	4607	4527	9134	5030	5000	10030	4935	5153	10088	5127	5325	10452
10.	MBEWE	7159	6817	13976	7518	7281	14799	7688	7401	15089	8538	7982	16520
11.	NCHALO	11074	10709	21783	11278	10856	22134	12183	11530	23713	11139	10784	21923
12.	NGABU	7223	6833	14056	6777	6209	12986	6825	5871	12696	6549	6071	12620
13.	NKUMANIZA				1892	1993	3885	2111	2622	4733	3342	3377	6719
14.	NSENJERE	6092	5558	11650	6534	6185	12719	6603	6170	12773	6881	6564	13445
GRAND TOTAL		74295	70069	144364	79112	75540	154652	81943	78173	160116	85597	82399	167996

Source: District Education Management Information System, District Education Office (Academic year 2016-2017)

The table above shows that the district has realized growth in enrolment over the period from 2014 to 2017 by 16%. The number of boys increased by 15% in the period of 2014 to 2017 while that of girls increased by 18% during the same period. The large percentage increase in girl learner percentage can be attributed to a number of interventions that district had from various partners that encouraged retention of girls in schools such as Keeping Girls in Schools projects by CRECCOM and Save the Children fund and Malawi Education Sector Implementation Project (MESIP), CAMFED and Apatseni Mwayi Atsikana Aphunzire bursary projects among others.

The gender parity index (GPI) is almost 1.0 although the total number of boys is generally higher than that of girls in all the years because there is still higher girl drop out than boys in the senior classes. Early pregnancies / marriages and poverty are among the lead causes of girl dropout. Nchalo zone has the highest enrolment because it the zone with the highest number of schools in the district.

Net Enrolment Rate and Gross Enrolment Rate

Net Enrolment Rate (NER) is proportion of learners enrolled in school of the required school age against total number children of school going age in a particular area expressed as a percentage.

Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) is the total number of learners enrolment regardless of their age compared to the total number of children of the required school age in a particular area expressed as a percentage. The table below shows NER and GER for the district:

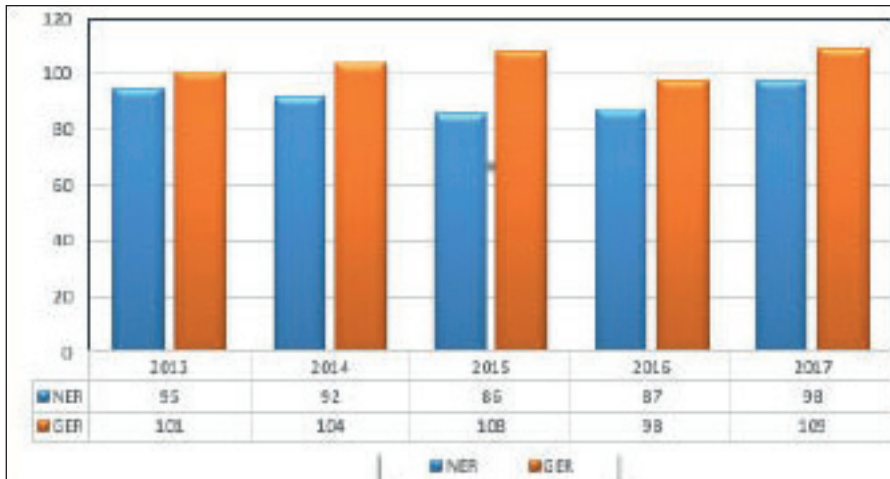


Figure 5.13 Net Enrolment Rate and Gross Enrolment Rate for Primary

Source: Chikwawa EMIS bulletins. 2013-17

The net enrolment rate (NER) has been improving over the past four years. This is due to awareness campaigns and advocacy initiatives to enrol children at an appropriate age. The district registered an increase in NER rate up to 98%. Gross enrolment rate (GER) is at 109% below the national rate of 120%. This is a good development and more efforts need to be continued to lower the gross enrolment rate. Gross enrolment is over 100% due to registration of under aged and over aged learners. The ideal situation is to have GER equal to NER and both should be at 100%. That will indicate that all children of school going age are enrolled in schools and that schools have no under aged or over aged learners.

Pass Rate by sex

The pass rate for boys is higher than girls in the district. The district has been putting in measures in collaboration with relevant stakeholders to improve pass rate for girls. The figure below shows the average district pass rate for Primary School Leaving Certificate Examinations (PSLCE) from 2013 to 2017 by sex.

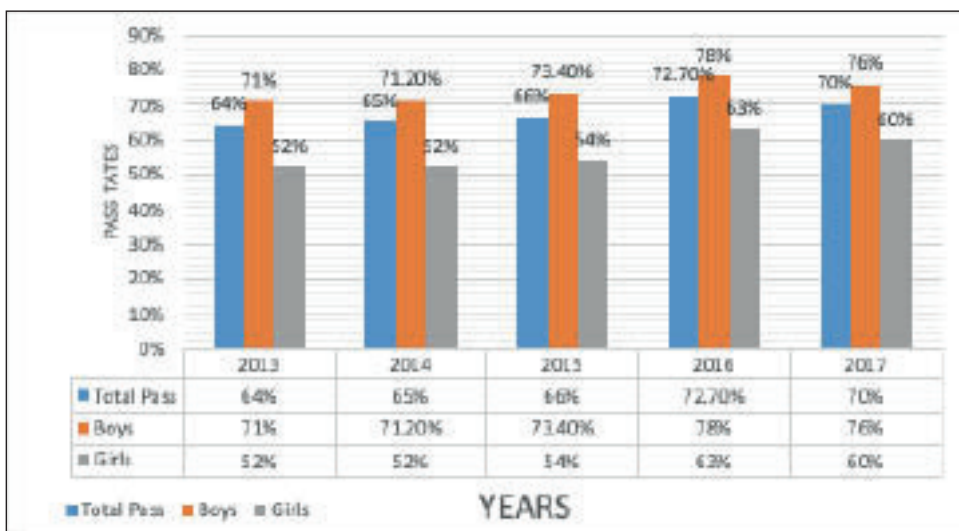


Figure 5.14 PSLCE pass rates by sex

Source: Source DEMIS Bulletins 2013-2017

The chart shows improved levels of pass rate over the four years but in 2017 pass rate decreased. This could be attributed to lack of interest by learners and teachers inadequate commitment to duty. Improvement of teachers living conditions such as provision of better institutional houses, introduction of teacher and learner rewards would probably motivate them to work hard.

The boys are doing better than girls over the years. Lack of role models, motivation from parents and guardians contribute to poor girl performance despite the interventions of partners support on a girl child.

Dropout rate

Pupils drop out of school because of various reasons, some of which are sickness, pregnancy, poor facilities especially for girls, lack of support, lack of interest by the learner, early marriages, traveling long distance to school, lack of fees, family responsibilities, violence at school, employment and inadequate teachers. The graph below shows drop out rate in Chikwawa

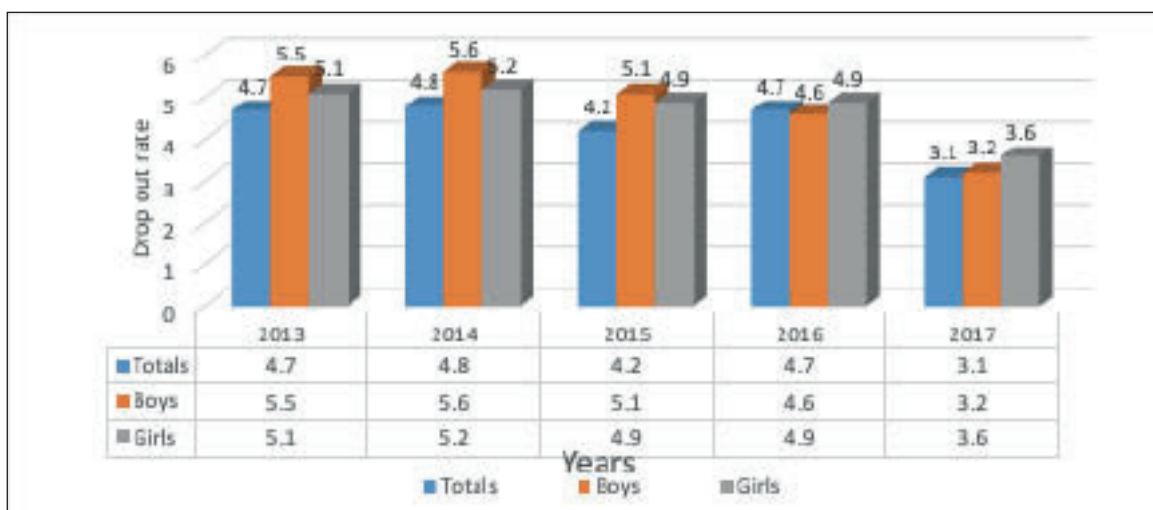


Figure 5.15 Primary Dropout rate by Sex

Source: DEMIS Bulletins 2013-2017

Figure 30 portrays that there was a tremendous decrease in dropout rate in 2017, this is as a result of increased sensitisation campaigns on importance of education by various organisations. The school feeding program by WFP and Mary’s meals have also contributed to lowering of dropout rate.

5.3.2.2 Secondary

Chikwawa district has three types of secondary schools namely public, Open and private secondary schools. Public schools are government supported schools some offer boarding facilities (Chikwawa and Ngabu) while others are day schools where learners commute from homes every day. Open day secondary schools on the other hand use public school premises and teachers in the afternoon after conventional school learners have knocked off. The Deputy Head teacher of the host school is the administrator of the open school. Learners pay school fees, which is shared among the volunteer teachers and the government through the Malawi College of Distance Education (MCDE) as subscription fee.

The private schools in the district are owned by religious (the Roman Catholic) and the individual proprietors. Figure below shows secondary schools in the district:

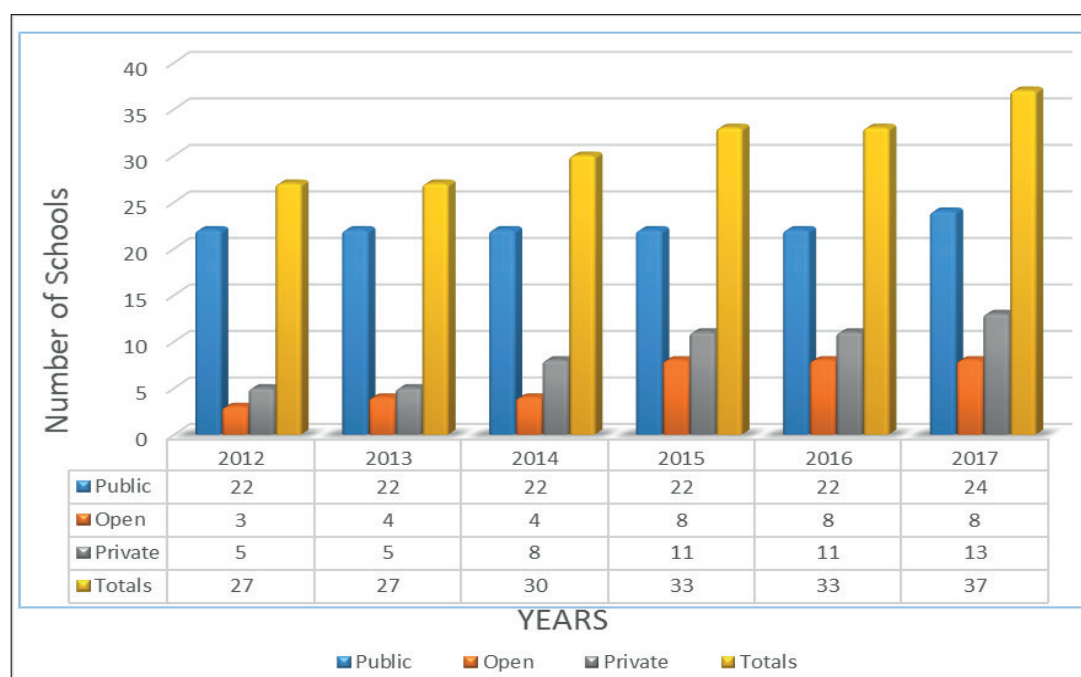


Figure 5.16 Number of Secondary Schools

Source: Chikwawa DEMIS Data bank.2017

The government is the main supplier of Secondary education through public schools. The number of public schools has only increased by two since 2013 which is 9% increase while the open schools doubled and private schools increased by 120%. The slow increase in public schools capacity leaves many primary school learners with little opportunity to progress in their education while a few who can afford the high cost of education enrol in open and private schools. The increase in number of open and private schools, indicates reduced capacity of the public sector in the provision secondary school education. This calls for the need by the council to construct more secondary schools through private public partnership support.

Secondary School enrolment

The table below shows secondary school enrolment for the past five years. There is high enrolment of boys than of girls.

Table 5.11 Enrolment in Secondary Schools

No	Zone	2014			2015			2016			2017		
		Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
1.	Boma	480	389	869	604	410	1014	537	436	973	567	407	974
2.	Changoima	139	85	224	164	114	278	175	125	300	111	107	218
3.	Chikonde	111	107	218	111	107	218	111	107	218	164	114	278
4.	Dolo	121	93	214	116	88	204	111	80	191	164	200	364
5.	Kakoma	136	84	220	103	81	184	103	81	184	567	307	874
6.	Kalambo	374	301	675	419	302	721	384	316	700	103	81	184
7.	Konzere	136	42	178	123	64	187	139	59	198	542	300	842
8.	Livunzu	362	180	542	332	178	510	332	178	510	464	200	664
9.	Maperera	159	91	250	189	111	300	189	111	300	364	300	664

No	Zone	2014			2015			2016			2017		
10.	Mbewe	462	354	816	503	404	907	512	425	937	103	81	184
11.	Nchalo	113	88	201	144	140	284	144	140	284	542	200	742
12.	Ngabu	403	366	769	380	353	733	380	353	733	464	100	564
13.	Nkumaniza	119	93	212	139	121	260	139	121	260	139	121	260
14.	Nsenjere	0	0	0	0	0	0	70	70	140	52	48	100
Grand Total		3115	2273	5388	3327	2473	5800	3326	2602	5928	4346	2566	6912

Source: Source. Chikwawa Demis 2017.

The table above shows enrolment of learners over four years and it shows that girls’ enrolment is less in all the years. This is a result of carry over effect from primary schools where the number of girl is less than that of boys in senior classes leading to lower completion rate. The pass rate for girls at PSLCE is also poor. Despite the 50:50 campaigns for male: female learner selection, the boarding space is less for girls than boys at Chikwawa and Ngabu secondary schools. There is need for construction of more girls’ hostels at the boarding institutions in order to increase the girl enrolment.

Net Enrolment

Net enrolment is proportion of learners enrolled in school against on school going children by given age. The figure below shows NET enrolment in secondary schools

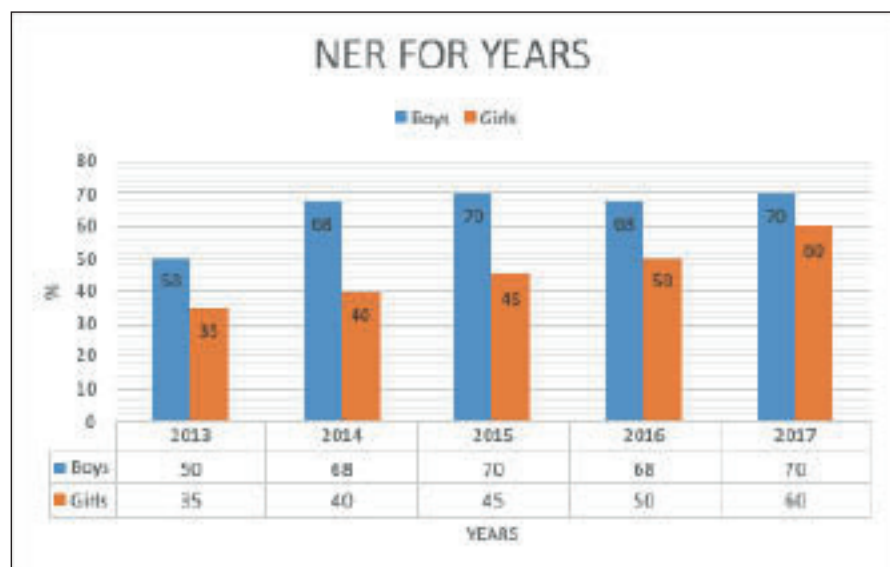


Figure 5.17 Secondary Schools Net Enrolment

Source: EMIS Bulletin 2013 – 2017 and School Return 2017

The figure above indicates an increase in girls’ enrolment rate in 2017. This is due to interventions by various organisations in educating a girl child but also the introduction of Chapananga Secondary which has a boarding facility for girls.

Technical/Vocational

Tertiary education remains the responsibility of central government as the function has not been devolved to Councils. However, Chikwawa has only one Village Polytechnic at Mphungu, which was built by government 2014. The structure is community managed and was intended to offer skills to youths in trades like

carpentry, bricklaying, tailoring, among others. However, lack of human resource and training materials has made the structure more of a white elephant. Efforts to link it with the Technical Entrepreneurial Vocational Educational Training Authority (TEVETA) have not yielded any fruits with the later promising to incorporate the institution in its Programme but this has not been the case.

It should also be mentioned that within the Malawi University Development Programme, Chikwawa District was allocated the Teacher Training College at Dyeratu to be responsible for production of more teachers. The project is in early implementation stages and is believed to be a 3 year project. Table 5.18 below shows enrolment at Mphungu village technical vocational centre

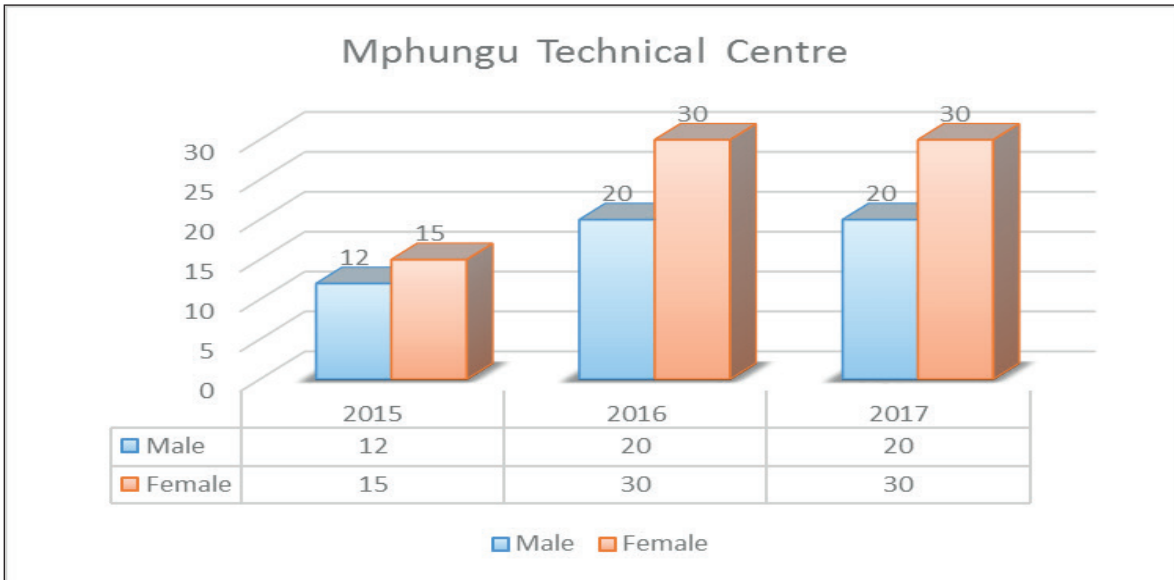


Figure 5.18 Enrolment at Mphungu Village Technical vocational centre

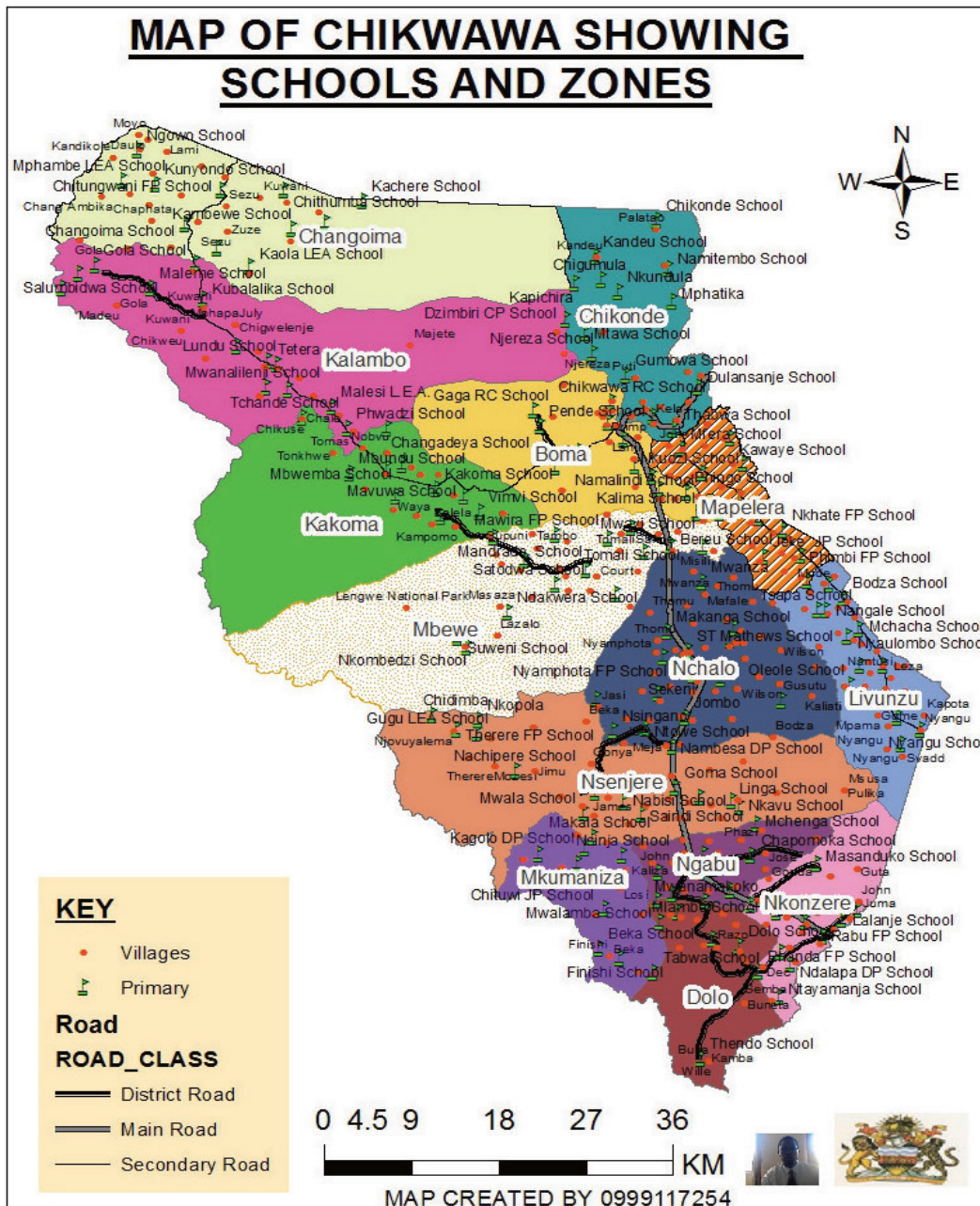
Source: Chikwawa DEMIS (2017)

The figure above shows that enrolment at the centre has increased from 2015 to 2017 with more females enrolling than males. However, district requires additional technical colleges and vocational centres to meet the growing demand of youths that have completed their secondary schools plus those that dropped out of school.

5.3.3 Education Facilities

5.3.3.1 Schools

The section will provide details of distribution of schools and ownership status. Map5.1 below shows distribution of Primary Schools in the district.



Map 5.1 Map of Chikwawa Showing Schools and Zones

Source: Chikwawa District education Office 2017.

The table below shows the total number of government and private primary and secondary schools in the district:

Table 5.12 Total Primary and Secondary Schools in the District by Zone

No	Zone	Full primary	Junior primary	Pvt primary	Secondary school	Pvt secondary	Total
1.	Boma	11	2	3	3	4	23
2.	Changoima	8	2	1	1	1	13
3.	Chikonde	11	5	0	1	0	17
4.	Dolo	10	3	0	1	0	14
5.	Kakoma	9	0	0	1	0	10
6.	Kalambo	12	2	0	2	0	16
7.	Konzere	9	3	0	1	1	14
8.	Livunzu	9	5	0	3	0	17
9.	Maperela	8	3	0	2	0	13
10.	Mbewe	11	3	1	3	1	19
11.	Nchalo	13	2	5	3	5	28
12.	Ngabu	9	3	12	5	2	31
13.	Nkumaniza	4	6	1	1	0	12
14.	Nsenjere	10	4	0	0	1	15
Grand Total		134	43	23	28	14	213

Source: Chikwawa DEMIS, 2017

The table above shows that there are more primary schools in Nchalo zone than the rest. A good number of these schools have some classes that operate in sub standard facilities like grass-thatched classrooms and under trees. The other problem these schools face is shortage of teachers. The total number of primary schools has increased over the years partly because of construction of new school blocks under Malawi Social Action Fund and currently, LDF, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), European Union (EU), and United Nations International Children Emergency Fund (UNICEF).

The district also has private primary schools. Currently, 10 are registered private schools and the rest are un-registered. Most of these private primary schools operate in sub-standard structures. Some private schools do not have adequate teaching and learning materials while the engagement of unqualified teachers is common.

Primary schools educational system faces problems like under staffing, inadequate infrastructure, Teaching and Learning materials and high dropout rate.

Ownership of schools

Proprietorship is categorized into three: Government, Religious Agency, and Private. Although, religious schools are categorized differently from government schools, their operation relies on government both for financial and technical support. In 2017, EMIS categorised school into two groups: Public, and Private. The table above shows that in Chikwawa, 203 schools (86%) are owned by Government, and 33 schools (13.9%) are privately owned.

Chikwawa has 24 public secondary schools which distributed unevenly across the district; some zones have more schools than the others. As of 2017 data base, all zones have atleast a secondary which is better compared to previous years.

5.3.3.2 Status of Primary Schools Classrooms in the District

Pupil to classroom ratio was at 124:1 by end of 2017. This is double the NESP target of 60 pupils per classroom. Traditional authorities Ngabu, Lundu, Chapananga and Ndakwera are the most affected areas. Table 5.13 below Shows number of classrooms in primary schools per zone:

Table 5.13 Status of Primary School Classroom by Zone

No	Zone	Class Room		
		Permanant	Temporary	Total
1.	Boma	143	0	143
2.	Changoima	107	8	115
3.	Chikonde	72	15	87
4.	Dolo	61	11	72
5.	Kakoma	72	1	73
6.	Kalambo	75	10	85
7.	Konzere	65	1	66
8.	Livunzu	103	19	122
9.	Maperera	62	9	71
10.	Mbewe	110	14	124
11.	Nchalo	171	4	175
12.	Ngabu	117	20	137
13.	Nkumaniza	33	25	58
14.	Nsenjere	11	13	24
Grand Total		1202	150	1352

Source: Source Chikwawa Education Office 2016

The temporary classrooms are used because of inadequate class rooms in the schools. Most classrooms are in bad state and they need maintenance. Most schools use School Improvement Grant (SIG) for rehabilitation of class room blocks; however the funds are not adequate to be used for major rehabilitation works.

The table below shows primary school pupil classroom, desk, teacher and house Ratios:

Table 5.14 Primary School Pupil Classroom, Desk, Teacher and House Ratios

Year	Pupil: Class Ratio	Pupil: Teacher Ratio	Pupil Desk Ratio	House: Teacher Ratio
2012	118	93	20	3
2013	130	77	19	4
2014	125	84	18	3
2015	126	76	17	4
2016	122	83	8	3
2017	124	87	9	3

Source: Chikwawa DEMIS, 2017

The table above shows that, Pupil to classroom ratio in the district is not stable. In 2012 it was at 118:1; in 2013 it was at 130:1 and in 2017 was at 124:1. This is double the national average 60 pupils per classroom. Traditional authorities Ngabu, Lundu, Chapananga and Ndakwera are the most affected areas. Pupil to teacher ratio in 2017 was at 83:1 which is above the national average of one teacher to 60 pupils. Pupil to Desk ratio is 8:1 which is also high when compared to national average. Equally, teacher to house ratio is double as much as one teacher to one house the recommended ratio. The most affected traditional authorities with housing shortage are Ngowe, Katunga, and Maseya. Therefore, almost all the requirements for conducive learning environment in primary schools is inadequate calling for government, donor agencies, and NGOs to play an active role in ensuring provision of school facilities.

5.3.3.3 Primary School Water and Sanitation

The proportion of schools with safe water is at 87% mainly due to breakdowns of some water points. Table 5.15 below shows safe water and toilet coverage in primary schools:

Table 5.15 Safe Water and Toilet Coverage in Primary Schools

Year	% Unsafe Schools	% Safe Water	Boys : Toilet Ratio	Girls : Toilet Ratio
2012	15	85	50	47
2013	14	86	49	45
2014	15	85	41	39
2015	16	84	38	36
2016	14	86	44	48
2017	13	87	43	46

Source: Chikwawa DEMIS, 2017

According to table 5.15 above shows Boys to toilet ratio is at 43:1 as at 2017 compared to 44:1 as of 2016, however this is still above the national recommended ratio of 25:1. On the other hand, girl pupil to toilet ratio is at 36:1 which is still above and beyond the national recommended 15:1. Water and sanitation problems are very high in TAs Ngowe, Chapananga and Ndakwera whilst Makhwira, Kasisi, Mulilima, and Maseya are well off.

5.3.3.4 Secondary Education Indicators

There are 28 government secondary schools in the district and data on selected indicators is presented in the table 5.16 below.

Table 5.16 Secondary Education Indicators

Year	Drop Out Rate (%)	Pupil Text Book Ratio	Repetition Rate
2012	2.1	3:1	22%
2013	3.1	5:1	23%
2014	4.0	5:1	13%
2015	3.8	4:1	14%
2016	4.4	3:1	16%
2017	3.1	4:1	19%

Source: Chikwawa District Education Office 2017 Data Base

According to table 5.16 above, drop was the highest i.e. 4.4%. Pupil: text book ratio in 2017 is at 4:1 which has a likely effect on learning of the learners.

In all 28 Secondary schools, only 4 have permanent working Laboratories. The rest of the schools have improvised Laboratories.

5.3.3.5 Junior Certificate Examination (JCE) and Malawi School Leaving Certificate Examination (MSCE) Pass rate

The JCE and MSCE pass rate has been increasing from 2012 to 2016. However, MSCE passing rate increase is not very significant. The tables 5.17 and 5.18 below show JCE and MSCE passing rates:

Table 5.17 Junior Certificate Examination Results

Year	JC Entered			JC Sat			JC Passed			JC Pass Rate%			JC Failed		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
2011	1952	1126	826	1849	1069	780	1386	863	523	75	81	67	512	241	271
2013	1939	1092	847	1922	1084	838	1527	910	617	79.4	84	73	412	182	230
2014	2068	1158	909	1969	1142	881	1564	923	640	79	81	73	504	235	269
2015	2093	1162	931	2093	1162	931	1663	995	668	79	86	72	470	187	283
2016	2180	1191	989	2093	1141	952	1782	1004	778	85	88	82	398	187	211

Source: Chikwawa District Education Office 2016 Data Base

The average JCE pass rate for the past three years is 79% while about 21% of the JCE candidates failed their examinations, and the pass rate seems to be improving over the years.

Table 5.18 Malawi School Certificate of Education Results

Year	MSCE Entered			MSCE Sat			MSCE Passed			MSCE Pass Rate%			MSCE Failed		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
2011	1126	742	384	1111	729	382	569	395	174	51	54	46	537	333	204
2012	1476	517	959	1474	959	515	688	498	190	47	52	37	773	451	322
2013	1733	1119	614	1696	1088	608	867	608	259	51	56	43	829	480	349
2014	1709	1098	611	1681	1079	602	798	541	257	48	50.1	42.7	883	538	345
2015	1803	1092	711	1775	1076	699	959	640	319	54.0	59.5	45.6	816	436	380
2016	2037	1178	859	2029	1174	855	1126	744	382	56	63	45	903	430	473

Source: Chikwawa District Education Office 2016 Data Base

According to table 5.18 above, the average MSCE pass rate for the past three years has been nearest 50% while 50% of the MSCE candidates failed their examinations. This would be due to inadequate number of qualified staff and learning facilities in the schools especially the Community Day Secondary Schools.

5.3.4 Education manpower

Chikwawa district education receives more teachers during deployment but most of them leave the district due to harsh weather and some ladies follow their husbands. Table 5.19 below shows how teachers are distributed across zones.

Table 5.19 Distribution of Teachers by Zone and Sex

Zone	Community Voluntary		All Teachers By Sex			Quliefield Teachers By Sex		
	M	F	M	F	Totals	M	F	Totals
BOMA	0	0	90	105	195	90	105	195
CHANGOIMA	2	1	69	10	79	67	9	76
CHIKONDE	0	0	95	55	150	95	55	150
DOLO	0	0	80	10	90	80	10	90
KAKOMA	0	0	72	11	83	72	11	83
KALAMBO	0	0	87	16	103	87	16	103
KONZERE	4	1	77	20	97	73	19	92
LIVUNZU	0	0	93	36	129	93	36	129
MAPERERA	0	0	84	31	115	84	31	115
MBEWE	0	0	144	43	187	144	43	187
NCHALO	0	0	123	168	291	123	168	291
NGABU	1	0	88	68	156	87	68	155
NKUMANIZA	6	0	50	6	56	44	6	50
NSENJERE	0	0	103	27	130	102	27	129
TOTAL	13	2	1255	606	1861	1241	604	1845

Source: Chikwawa District Education Office 2017 Data Base (2016)

Table 5.19 shows that, the district has more male teachers and 16 teachers are untrained teachers representing 0.8. Nchalo and Boma zones have more teachers due to business and government offices where most men work and ladies follow their spouses. The pupil: teacher ratio for the district is at 87:1 which is high than the required standard of 60:1.

5.3.5 Key issues from education sector and their trends

- Inadequate teachers' houses which force teachers rent very far from the institutions most of the times
- Inadequate Teaching and learning materials, desks and chairs
- Inadequate female teachers who would have acted as role models to female learners in school thereby reducing dropout in remote schools
- Early marriages and pre-arranged marriages
- Chikwawa District Education Office has no reliable vehicle for monitoring activities in schools.
- Inadequate number of classrooms and dilapidated classrooms resulting into many open air classes
- Inadequate Toilets / Pit-Latrines and bore holes or tap water in schools
- Lack of school libraries
- Inadequate support to the male needy students
- Lack of incentives for primary teachers in rural areas including teachers who declare their positive HIV status to reduce absenteeism
- Poor learning achievement /performance (e.g. pass rate, ability to read, write, and calculate)
- Inactive participation of most SMCs, mother groups and PTAs in school development activities and learner achievements

Possible Causes

- Lack of interest in some communities to advocate for female education.
- Inadequate teachers houses in schools encourages absenteeism and lack of punctuality by teachers who stay far away from the schools
- Increased enrolment that has put more demand of all resources including teaching learning materials
- It is so difficult to monitor school activities by Education Officers due to poor road network mainly in some school like Mphatika in Chikonde zone, Mamine in Changoima Zone during the rainy season while Mazongoza in Nchalo zone can only be accessed by boat.

Opportunities

- Availability of Private Investors such as PRESCANE, ILLOVO, African Parks
- Availability of Private schools
- Existence of partner assistance such UNICEF, Save the Children, CAMFED, WFP, Marys Meals
- The increase in enrolment in schools interpret that Chikwawa has parents willing to send children to school and children willing to be educated
- Availability of motor cycles that ease mobility of PEAs to primary schools.

5.4

SOCIAL WELFARE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

5.4.1

Social Welfare Services

The initial policy mandate for social welfare in Malawi is the 1965 Cabinet Paper which established the department of social welfare. A fresh mandate has been given through the enactment of the Child Care, Protection and Justice Act no 22 of 2010. Other Acts of Parliament where social welfare derives its mandates include: the Adoption Act, Chapter 26:01, Children and Young Persons Act, Chapter 26:03, Married Women Maintenance Act, Chapter 25:05, Wills and Inheritance Act, Chapter 10:02, Probation of Offenders Act, Chapter 9:01, just to mention a few.

Social Welfare Services cover a wide range of interventions that aim at alleviating the sufferings endured by those whose lives are adversely affected by external shocks and risks, like poverty, deprivation, marginalization, HIV and AIDS and any other social, economic and environmental events beyond their control. Some of the social welfare services currently being provided in Chikwawa include: Family and Child Welfare; Probation and Aftercare, Social Rehabilitation, School Social Work, Hospital Social Work, Disaster and Relief Management and Coordination of NGOs working with vulnerable groups. Key activities under the mentioned programmes are OVC/Orphan care, Early Childhood Development (ECD), Child Protection, Support to people with disabilities and the Elderly, Support to Destitutes, and Education support (Bursary Scheme).

5.4.1.1 Family and Child Welfare

The goal of this programme is to strengthen capacity of family and community to provide adequate care, protection and support to vulnerable and marginalised family members such as children and the aged and those affected by HIV/Aids. It prevents children from becoming innocent victims of family breakdowns. This is achieved through the following strategies: Foster Care, adoption and Child care institutions:

Foster Care

Foster care is a system in which a minor has been placed into a ward, group home, or private home of a state-certified caregiver, referred to as a “**foster parent**”. The placement of the child is normally arranged through the government or a social service agency. Reasons for placement are for care, protection and support so that the child can develop physically, mentally, socially, emotionally and spiritually and develop into a productive citizen.

Activities surrounding foster care include:

- Identification and training of foster parents
- Sensitizing community members on foster care
- Conduct social enquires to prospective foster care parents
- Placement and supervision / monitoring of children in foster homes

Adoption

Adoption is the permanent legal transfer of all parental rights from one person or couple to another person or couple. Adoptive parents have the same rights and responsibilities as biological parents, and *adopted* children have all of the emotional, social, legal and kinship benefits of biological children.

Activities surrounding adoption include:

- Identification and assessment of children to be adopted and would be adoptive parents
- Supervision of children in interim order.
- Facilitating the adoption process

Child Care Institutions

Although primary care and support for children lies with the family and community, there are times when depending on circumstances, alternative care is deemed as the last resort. It is in such contexts that Child Care institutions play a crucial role in taking care, support and protection of children. In Chikwawa, there are currently 18 child care institutions which are taking care of 908 children of which 595 are males while 313 are females.

The main challenges facing most of the Child Care Institutions in the district are:

- Inadequate provision of basic needs like food (not provided as required with six food groups).
- Most institutions operate without seeking permission for registration from Social Welfare Office as a result they recruit unskilled personnel who become incapacitated when caring the children
- No plans are set in place as regarding the reintegrating back of the children to their homes as they graduate from the Child Care Institutions
- Most Child Care Institutions have poor sanitary facilities while others do not have any sanitary facilities.

5.4.1.2 Elderly Persons and Supportive Services

The government has put a deliberate effort to streamline issues of disability in development programming. The disabled and the elderly have for a long time been left out in development activities hence impinging on their rights. The district therefore needs to put measures that in all developmental activities, issues of disability and elderly are mainstreamed. The district has a total of 5366 persons with disabilities and a total of 15261 elderly persons. Table 5.20 below shows the breakdown of the statistics for both dimensions and per T/A.

Table 5.20 Breakdown of Persons With Disabilities in the District

T/A	Disabled persons			Elderly persons		
	Male	Female	Total			
Lundu	570	340	910	545	582	1127
Kasisi	442	278	720	368	464	832
Chapananga	139	161	300	368	465	833
Masache	275	203	478	550	950	1500
Ngowe	69	58	127	267	379	646
Makhwira	67	51	118	1680	3686	5366
Ngabu	887	1038	1925	928	1522	2450
Katunga	123	108	231	321	402	723
Ndakwera	101	69	170	493	650	1143
Mulilima	137	92	229	224	211	435
Maseya	63	95	158	91	115	206
	2873	2493	5366	5835	9426	15261

Source: Chikwawa Social Welfare Office, 2017

From the table above, Makhwira has the highest number of the elderly while Ngabu has the highest number of the disabled. The elderly are mostly at risk since communities label the elderly as witches hence they are vulnerable to abuse. The elderly are also left out in many project activities because people look down on them in development initiatives. Due to this, the elderly are usually neglected with inadequate resources to meet basic needs

Challenges which the elderly persons face in the district are as follows:

- Being suspected of practicing witchcraft
- Suffers psychological problems due to deterioration of health status
- Being undermined in contributing towards the success of some projects
- Being subjected to corporal punishments in times of conflict and suspicion of witchcraft.
- Poverty as a result of deteriorating of energy for indulging in productive work which can assist them in cumulating finances for sustaining their livelihoods.
- Currently there are no NGOs in the district providing interventions / services for the Elderly people in the district apart from Social Protection Services such as Social Cash Transfers and LDF programmes.

There is a need to have deliberate efforts in developing interventions for the Elderly so can they can become resilient from the social pressures which comes in as a result of ageing. Our office would really love if those interventions can be considered at both the Council level and the national level.

5.4.1.3 Probation and Aftercare

This focuses at preventing child and youth crime and rehabilitation of those with problems of social adjustments, including drug and substance abuse. The work encompasses all issues relating to work with the courts such as assessing, supervising those in conflict with the law and facilitating access to social justice by providing reports to the courts. During 2012 to 2016 the department managed to handle children's cases totalling to 264. Table 5.21 below shows the breakdown of cases.

Table 5.21 Cases of Children in Conflict With the Law Handled

No.	Nature of Offences	Sex			Nature of Assistance	On-going cases	Closed/ Disposed
		Male	Female	Total			
	Committed						
1	Theft	75	01	76	Written CSR	12	64
2	Robbery with Violence	0	0	0			
3	House breaking & burglary	30	02	32	Counselling	30	2
4	Defilement	05	0	05	Writing of CSR	0	05
5	Murder	10	0	10	Written CSR	06	04
6	Vandalism	0	0	0			
7	Attempted murder	0	0	0			
8	Infanticide	0	0	0			
9	Attempted robbery with violence	0	0	0			
10	Arson	0	0	0			
11	Assault Occasioning actual bodily Harm	15	0	15	Counselling & written CSR	12	03
12	Burglary	10	02	12	Written CSR	0	12
13	Breaking into a building and committing a felony there in.	08	0	08	Written CSR	0	08
14	Conduct likely to breach of peace	07	0	07	Written CSR	0	07
15	Rape	0	0				
16	Attempted rape	0	0	0			
	Others:						
17	Use of insulting language	08	0	08	Counselling	0	08
	Theft of cattle	10	0	10	Written CSR	02	08
	Early marriage	15	15	30	Counselling	04	26
18	Children placed on Probation	23	0	23	Counselling	0	23
19	Children reintegrated in the community	09	0	09	Pss	0	09
20	Children supervised by Probation Officer	19	0	19	Counselling	0	19
Total Number of Cases		244	20	264		66	198

Source: Chikwawa Social Welfare Office, 2017

The table above shows that , theft cases are high 76, then House breaking & burglary 32 followed by Early marriage 30. This indicate that there an alarming rise in the number of children who becomes victims of sexual exploitation and abuse. However, more often cases of child rights violations are not reported as a result more children are becoming victims of violence. In some cases child abuse cases are in most cases withdrawn from court when perpetrators happens to be from within the child's lineage.

5.4.1.4 Child Protection

Child Protection is preventing and responding to specific situations where children are at risk of or subject to abuse, neglect, violence, exploitation, discrimination, or deprivation of parental or other family care, with a view to upholding and protecting their rights. Different child protection services are offered as follows

Community Victim Support Units

Through the department there are 11 Community Victim Support Units in the district which supports with prevention and mitigation of child abuses as well as gender based violence. The CVSUs are based at the traditional authority headquarters in the names of Maseya, Mulilima, Kasisi, Katunga, Ngowe, Ngabu, Ndakwera, Lundu, Chapananga, Makhwira and Masache. The composition of personnel working at the CVSU is made up of extension workers from various departments of Social Welfare, Health, Education and Police. The Officers involved are: Child Protection Workers, Health Surveillance Assistants, Police Officers and Primary Education Advisors. The cases handled ranges from Physical, Sexual, Psychological / Emotional, Neglect and Exploitation.

Early Childhood Development

Early Childhood Development (ECD) is a comprehensive approach to policies and programmes for children from birth to eight years, their parents, caregivers and community. It protects and promotes the rights of children to develop the cognitive, emotional, social, physical potential. Early Childhood Education is generally provided through Community Based Childcare Centers (CBCC) which are managed by Community Based Organizations at the community level. The program is sustained by the provision of quality early learning and stimulation by trained Caregivers under the supervision of Parent Committees. Among other things an ECD Centre has to provide Early Learning and Stimulation, Nutrition Services, Deworming and Under five services.

Status of CBCCs in the District

In the district, there are 325 CBCCs reaching out to 27,786 (12,955 males; 14831 females) children aged below six years. There are also 2,499 CBCC caregivers in the district of whom 96 have received basic caregivers training. The district has 63 permanent CBCC structures whose construction was supported by MASA-F, WFP and Community itself. Out of these 325 CBCCs only 20 CBCCs have child friendly toilets WFP is supporting 48 CBCCs with food items in terms of porridge flour. They also supported those CBCCs with cooking utensils and registers as well as weighing machines for the children. Some partners like Redcross are providing the CBCCs with food services on temporary basis.

Table 5.22 Distribution of Community Based Childcare Centres (CBCCs) by TA As At June 2017

NO	T/As	No. of CBOs and CBCCs		Children			Caregivers		
		CBOs	No. of CBCCs	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
1	Makhwira	14	42	1466	1718	3184	145	176	321
2	Lundu	7	26	740	1047	1787	82	135	217
3	Chapananga	14	59	2669	2839	5508	220	292	512
4	Ngabu	28	71	2950	2739	5689	114	156	270
5	Maseya	7	14	283	273	556	61	61	122
6	Kasisi	7	38	1052	1379	2431	123	136	259
7	Masache	8	24	1152	1244	2396	54	56	110
8	Mulilima	4	18	774	1271	2045	15	23	38
9	Ndakwera	13	10	891	1091	1982	55	107	162
10	Katunga	9	17	610	812	1422	46	83	129
11	Ngowe	3	6	368	418	786	194	165	359
	TOTALS	109	325	12955	14831	27786	1109	1390	2499

Source: Chikwawa Social Welfare Office, 2017

The provision of quality ECD services in the district is greatly hampered by increased caregiver turnover due to lack of incentives since they work on voluntary basis. Children's transition into primary school is not monitored/ tracked through links with each primary school due to resource constraint. There are also poor CBCC infrastructure, poor water sanitation and health facilities, inadequate porridge supply and inadequate support from communities.

Psychosocial Support

In addition to bursaries, OVCs in the district are also provided with psychosocial support activities. PSS is an ongoing process of meeting the physical, emotional, social, spiritual and mental needs of children particularly those who live in difficult circumstances in order to help them cope with life and ensure emotional stability. PSS is provided through Children's Corners or One Stop Centres where recreation, life skills, counselling and memory books are conducted as some of the activities. These structures are available in some communities of Chikwawa and they are meant for children from 6 to 18 years.

Children Corners

The district has 109 children corners from the whole district which reaches out to 27786 children whereby 12955 children are boys while 14831 children are girls. Efforts are being made to ensure that wherever there is a CBCC, there should also be a children corner to cater for elder children that cannot be cared at CBCCs. Table below shows childrens' corners in the district:

Table 5.23 Status of Childrens' Corner

TA/STA	CCs	Children			CC Counsellors			
		M	F	TOTAL	Total		Trained	
					M	F	M	F
Makhuwira	30	2044	2368	4412	58	68	1	1
Lundu	5	566	521	1087	14	15	0	0
Chapananga	4	663	871	1534	6	5	0	1
Ngabu	9	548	551	1099	15	22	0	0
Maseya	6	1434	700	2134	16	14	3	2
Kasisi	16	1773	1681	3454	29	36	3	1
Katunga	15	1198	1416	2614	75	75	0	0
Mulilima	9	942	848	1890	30	30	3	1
Masache	7	376	434	810	19	18	1	0
Ngowe	6	652	596	1248	15	15	0	0
Ndakwera	11	1123	1399	2522	25	28	1	0
TOTAL	118	5,255	11,385	22,804	305	326	12	6

Source: Chikwawa Social Welfare Office, 2017

The table above shows that 22,804 children patronised children corners in 2017 with more females than males. The district has 631 children corner counsellors but only 18 were trained. This compromises the quality of services offered at these children corners.

5.4.1.5 Orphans and other Vulnerable Children

The district has so far registered 44 079 orphans (19 785 males and 24 294 females) through community based organizations, faith based organizations and community Support Groups and Child Protection Workers. This is four times those registered in 2006. This has been possible with the increase of child protection workers from 6 in 2006 to 22 in 2013. TA Makhwira has the highest number (9515) while Ngowe has the lowest (211).

5.4.1.6 School Social Work

Educational Support: Bursaries

Education support interventions ensure access to quality education as a basic child right by facilitating timely school enrolment, regular attendance and good performance by vulnerable children and creating a conducive learning environment for them. This can include timely provision of direct school support (fees, levies, learning materials and uniforms) to children with insufficient financial resources. Activities include:

- Identifying vulnerable children in need of education support.
- Identifying barriers to education (school enrolment, attendance, performance and completion) by vulnerable children
- Addressing/removing barriers to education for vulnerable children
- Ensure regular school attendance, satisfactory performance and school completion by vulnerable children
- Strengthening existing collaboration between partners and other community structures in providing comprehensive education to vulnerable children.
- ACTIONS SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

A total of 2023 needy students whereby 619 are males while 1404 are females from various secondary schools within the district are supported by various organizations such as Camfed, NAC, Malawi Red Cross, African Parks Majete, Government, SWAM, Kids World, Timoteo, Unicef, Pursuit, Evangelical and some well wishers.

However, although there are a lot of providers of educational support in the district, the demand for bursaries is increasing due to poverty and increased vulnerability and orphan hood. In addition, most of the organizations do not meet the minimum package of education support as provided for in the Education Support guidelines. As such, the district needs more support from the government and other stakeholders to meet the ever increasing demand. Also despite more educational support prioritized and provided to our girls, a lot of these girls are dropping out of school in the process. There need to closely examine the root causes of this problem

5.4.1.7 Social Protection

This refers to public and private initiatives that provide income or consumption transfers to the poor, protect the vulnerable against livelihood risks and/ or enhance the social status and rights of the marginalized with the objective of reducing the economic and social vulnerability of the poor, vulnerable and marginalized groups. Currently Chikwawa has 10 680 households on social cash transfer programme.

5.4.1.8 NGO/CBO Coordination

This gives full responsibility for the office to provide technical guidance and policy oversight in the registration and operations of NGO's through the NGO Board and also CBOs tackling Protection Issues in the district. The district has 164 CBOs/CSGs. However 115 CBOs are active and have since renewed their registration status.

5.4.1.9 Social welfare Staffing

The district has two social workers who are all based at the district office. The number of staff is hugely insufficient considering the increased demand for social welfare services in the district. In addition, there are also 19 Community Child Protection Workers who are frontline staff in all matters relating to the protection of children. Ideally, each CCPW covers one GVH but currently, the available CCPWs cover vast areas (some even TAs). T.A Chapananga has the highest number of Child Protection Workers because they are mostly volunteers operating from their home areas as such they cannot be transferred to other areas. Of the 19 CCPWs, only 9 are on government payroll while the rest work as volunteers.

The main challenges facing CCPWs are; mobility, vast coverage areas and lack of incentives for those that are volunteers.

Additionally the department have two Social Support Services Officers who have been recruited in order to help in rolling out the Cash Transfer Scheme throughout the district.

5.4.1.10 Key Issues under Social Welfare in the district

Social Welfare Services cover a wide range of interventions that aim at alleviating the sufferings endured by those whose lives are adversely affected by external shocks and risks like poverty, unemployment, violence, abuse, delinquency, destitution, deprivation, marginalization, disease, social exclusion, HIV and AIDS and other social, economic and environmental events beyond their control.

The Social Welfare Sector plays a pivotal role in responding to these challenges. However, delivery of Social Welfare Services is marred by poor coordination among stakeholders, lack of a regulatory framework for the practice and inadequate resources. Furthermore, Social Welfare services are fragmented in various government ministries and departments.

These challenges require concerted efforts to ensure that everyone lives a dignified life. There are also increasing problems of crime, divorce, early marriages, child neglect and abandonment, drug and substance abuse, child labour, prostitution, domestic violence, destitution, increased number of orphans and humanitarian crises. Addressing these social problems require adequate resources.

5.4.2 Community Development Services

Community Development activities are guided by the Community Development policy being implemented by the Ministry of Civic Education, Culture and Community Development through the District Community Development Office. The Community Development policy vision is a self-reliant Malawi. Community development relies on the community members as the major resource and utilizes their resources and skills to propel development within their own communities i.e. Building active and sustainable communities basing on social justice and mutual respect by empowering communities to work on their own so as to improve their quality of life.

Community Development Policy goal

The policy goal of community development is to contribute towards effective and sustainable socio-economic development through a clearly defined, consistent and collaborative people centered approach. The Department operates three programmes that are Functional Adult Literacy, Community Capacity Building & Community Mobilisation, Economic Empowerment /Community Resilience, Livelihood and Nutrition.

5.4.2.1 Functional Adult Literacy Programme

Community Development Department runs Functional Literacy Programme. This aims at reducing adult illiteracy. There are 228 Chichewa literacy classes being run and there are 55 English classes/instructors 35males and 20females. There are 18 male and 7 female cluster supervisors. Currently there 522males and 4008 females registered learners. The district is now at 53% literacy rate. This programme faces a number of problems such as lack of literacy classes in some areas. Furthermore, existing classes operate under inadequate teaching and learning material. Table 5.24 below shows number of adult literacy instructors:

Table 5.24 Instructors Disaggregated Data by Gender

No	Category of Instructors	Male	Female	Total
1	Chichewa Instructors	118	110	228
2	English instructors	35	20	55
3	Cluster Supervisors	18	7	25

Source: Chikwawa District Community Development, 2017

The table below shows that the district has 228 instructors; however 102 literacy instructors are untrained. And those that were trained needs to be refreshed since they were trained some time back.

The table below shows number of Chichewa and English classes in each TA

Table 5.25 Chichewa Adult Literacy Classes by T/A

No	Traditional Authority	Number of Classes	Gap
1	Chapananga	13	30
2	Kasisi	15	15
3	Katunga	15	12
4	Lundu	9	20
5	Makhwira	20	15
6	Masache	16	10
7	Maseya	16	10
8	Mlilima	19	10
9	Ndakwera	15	12
10	Ngabu	75	10
11	Ngowe	15	10
	Total	228	142

Source: Chikwawa District Community Development Office, 2017

The district has 228 chichewa adult literacy classes with a gap of 142 classes. There is therefore need to increase the number of Chichewa adult classes to meet the increasing demand.

The status of English classes is shown in the table below:

Table 5.26 English Adult Literacy Classes by T/A

No	Traditional Authority	Number of Classes	Gap
1	Chapananga	4	35
2	Kasisi	7	25
3	Katunga	4	20
4	Lundu	4	20
5	Makhwira	5	25
6	Masache	4	15
7	Maseya	4	12
8	Mlilima	5	15
9	Ndakwera	4	15
10	Ngabu	10	35
11	Ngowe	4	15
	Total	55	242

Source: Chikwawa District Community Development Office, 2017

There is a large gap in English adult literacy classes due to inadequate English instructors. The sector has funding challenges to train the instructors to meet the need.

Adult classes Registered Learners

The table below shows number of adult literacy registered learners

Table 5.27 Adult Literacy Registered Learners

Year	Male	Female	Total
2015/2016	511	3485	3996
2016/2017	613	4086	4699
2017/2018	522	4008	4530

Source: Chikwawa District Community Development Office, 2017

According to the table above, the number of adult class learners has not increased much due to inadequate adult literacy classes and instructors in the communities. The district requires timely availability of teaching and learning materials and additional 100 literacy instructors in order to cover the remaining areas.

5.4.2.2 Community Capacity Building and Community Mobilisation

Community Development Department sensitises and mobilises communities in construction projects in the district. The department has played a great role in the implementation of Malawi Social Action Fund (MA-SAF), and District Development Fund (DDF) funded projects. The department also sensitises and mobilize communities to undertake self help projects such as school blocks and teachers houses among others. However, the department has inadequate resources for mobilisation and supervision. This affects the implementation of the project as some project committees tend to mismanage construction materials. As a result, some members of the communities are discouraged to take part in the implementation of the projects.

The Department has trained 80 literacy instructors with funding from Other recurrent Transactions (ORT and support from NGOs like Hunger Project, 40 of them are from the ministry while the remaining 36 instructors are from Hunger Project. 236 and 16 Water Point Committees and Project Management Committees have also been trained respectively under MASAF. 40 Functional Literacy Committees have been trained. There is high need to build capacities among communities through trainings but the only hiccup is lack of funding.

5.4.2.3 Community Development Office Staffing

The District Community Development Office has 12 members of staff; One District Community Development Officer, 5 Senior Community Development Assistants, 6 Community Development Assistants and 7 Community Development Assistant internees distributed in all traditional authorities in the district. The office has a gap of 12 Community Development Assistants and supporting staff like messenger, typist and guard. Table 5.28 below shows staffing under Community Development:

Table 5.28 Number of Community Development Staff by TA

No.	Traditional Authority	Community Development Assistants	Staffing Gap
1	Chapananga	2	1
2	Lundu	1	1
3	Ngabu	1	1
4	Makhuwira	1	1
5	Katunga	1	1
6	Maseya	1	1
7	Kasisi	1	1
8	Mlilima	1	1
9	Ndakwera	1	1
10	Masache	1	1
11	Ngowe	0	2
TOTAL		11	12

Source: Chikwawa District Community Development Office, 2017

5.4.3 Gender Affairs

Gender Affairs department has now trickled down to district level as at first it was comprised of members of staff at Headquarters level only. Its functions were being implemented by the Departments of Social Welfare and Community Development. Chikwawa is one of the districts where Gender Affairs department has started and the department has only one member of staff who is the District Gender and Development Officer but according to establishment, two more members are expected to be recruited.

5.4.3.1 Mandate, Mission Statement and Goal

Gender Affairs department is mandated to promote gender equality and safeguard the welfare and participation of women in social, political and economic development process. Its mission is to promote and facilitate the implementation of community-based programmes through the formulation of policies and regulations for social and economic empowerment of Malawians in order to enable them become self-reliant and active participants in the process of national development.

The goal of the sector is to reduce gender inequalities and enhanced participation of women, men, girls and boys in socio economic development processes. The goal is aimed at the fulfilment of the SDG 5 (Gender Equality) and 10 (Reduced Inequality) including the MGDS III under ODA 3 (Gender, Youth Development, Persons with Disability and Social Welfare).

Gender Based Violence

According to the National Gender Policy, Gender Based Violence, especially violence against women, girls and the vulnerable groups, has been recognized by the Malawi Government as a severe impediment to social well-being and poverty reduction. Eradication of Gender Based Violence is therefore critical for the attainment of national development. The Government has further recognized the impact of Gender Based Violence on the vulnerable groups in relation to the prevalence of the HIV and AIDS pandemic. The Figure below shows reported gender based violence cases:



Figure 5.19 Gender Based Violence Cases

Source: CAVWOC, CCJP and Police, 2017

The figure above depicts gender-based violence occurring among men, women, boys and girls more especially among women and girls in only six TAs (CAVWOC, CCJP works only in these six TAs) of Chikwawa district. In Chikwawa only few organizations and Institutions provide services related to gender based violence and are area specific as such, it is very difficult to quantify the exact extent of the problem, as record keeping for some areas is challenging. The trend in the four years for the six TAs shows that there is still great need for organizations to come in and compliment Governments efforts in advocating against GBV.

Community Victim Support Units

In order to address Gender Based Violence at community level, Community Victim Support Units were established as a primary institution where complaints may be made. The District has eleven Community Victim Support Units (CVSUs) in the eleven TAs to help in the fight against Gender Based Violence. The CVSUs which are composed of extension workers for the area, sensitize communities on gender issues, human rights, documents and keep records of gender based violence Acts and refer victims of GBV to service providers to get assistance.

Currently CVSUs are not very active due to the transfers from the area of key members who were trained on how best to provide the service. Secondly, since 2010 a number of laws regarding women rights as well

as recommendation from international bodies have been passed which the CVSU members have not had access to. Efforts are being made to conduct refresher courses and training of additional members to have a full CVSU team to carry out the duties effectively. Once refresher courses and trainings for the CVSUs are conducted, everything in form of record keeping will be put in place and follow-ups for the victims will not be a problem.

Key Issues under Gender Sector in the District

- Low representation of women in public positions and no representation of women in political positions
- Women having low or no access to productive resources
- Gender based violence is very rampant among men, women, boys and girls more especially among women and girls including other vulnerable groups.
- Most women in Chikwawa lack confidence in themselves thus fail to participate in challenging positions
- Inadequate economic assets that can help women to be self-reliant
- High illiteracy levels amongst women and girls
- Women and girls are overburdened by productive, reproductive and community roles which limit them to participate
- Boy children are told to take care of the flock instead of going to school
- Patriarchal systems hinder the rights of women and girls
- Harmful cultural practices put girls at risk of early pregnancies and marriages
- Adult literacy classes and business groups are dominated by women
- Women are more vulnerable to contracting HIV because sexual exploitation is high among girls and women and more perpetrators of gender based violence are men
- More boys retain in school as compared to girls and more boys who drop out of school tend to go back and register for school as compared to very few girls who go back to school
- Shortage of staff has caused reduced efforts in enforcing the legal instrument obtained such as occupation orders, tenancy orders and protection orders. Low access to Justice System by women resulting from long distances as well as financial constraints result in women suffering in silence.

Solutions

- To integrate gender issues in all national economic and development strategies and policies
- To ensure that gender is mainstreamed in national budget, plans, strategies and programs
- Special fund should be created to financially support women and other vulnerable groups in businesses
- Capacity building of women and other vulnerable groups should be enhanced
- Involvement of males in women economic empowerment should be promoted
- Gender related laws should be enforced and enacted
- Harmful cultural practices should be modified or eliminated
- Advocate for increased male involvement in reproductive health services

5.5

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND SPORTS

5.5.1

Youth Development

Youth activities taking place in the district are guided by the National Youth Policy that was launched in August 2013. This policy defines youth as all persons from age 10 to 35 years regardless of their sex, race, ed-

education, culture, and religion, economic, marital and physical status. It recognizes that youth is a definitive social entity that has its own specific problems, concerns, needs, and aspirations. It must be mentioned here that the definition of youth has continuously changed variably in response to political, economic and social perspectives. In this regard, this policy uses the word “youth” and “young people” interchangeably.

The policy envisions an educated, healthy, well trained, cultured, vibrant and productive youth that will be achieved through creating an enabling environment for all young people to develop to their full potential in order to contribute significantly to personal and sustainable national development. This translates to what MGDS III (*KPA 2: Education and skills development* and *ODA 7.3 Gender, Youth development Persons with disabilities and Social Welfare*) aims to achieve where the youth are core part of decision making, positive engagement in economic and other development initiatives. This is what SDG 1 (*No poverty*) and 8 (*Decent work and economic growth*) are fulfilling.

National Youth Policy is implemented by the Ministry of Labour, Youth, Sports and Manpower Development through the District Youth Office (DYO) with support from the DEC, other line ministries, donor agencies, NGOs, youth clubs, youth networks, and other key stakeholders.

5.5.1.1 Youth Population

Chikwawa has a total population of 566,283 of which **266,675** are youths representing **47%** of the total population. About **25% (138, 832)** of the total population are adolescents (**10 -19 years**) of which **69,776** are males and **69,086** are females. Young people **10 -24** years amounts to **34% (190,460)** of the population of which **96,198** are males and **94,622** are females (Source NSO Population Projection, 2008).

5.5.1.2 Youth Programmes and Activities

The department implements following programmes and activities in the district in collaboration with other departments at DEC level and other partners. The activities are implemented through youth structures at various level i.e, youth clubs at GVH level, youth networks at TA and District level and these structures are linked to local development structures VDCs and ADCs.

Youth Economic Empowerment

This programme aims at improving youths’ access to resources and support services such as counselling, entrepreneurship skills and access to micro-credit facilities. The activities captured in this programme include training youths in vocational, entrepreneurial, and technical skills, and linking youths to credit institutions for small scale businesses. There is need to create more economic empowerment avenues for the youth, namely creating more employment opportunities, first and foremost in the formal sector; improving the environment in the informal sector to promote growth and graduation of informal sector enterprises into the formal sector; and promoting youth entrepreneurship for self-employment. The agriculture sector with its diverse value chains offers particularly high opportunities for job creation compared to other sectors of the economy. Table 5.29 below shows youth economic empowerment data:

Table 5.29 Youth Economic Empowerment Data

CATEGORY	2015/16		2016/17	
	M	F	M	F
Entrepreneurship	61	63	159	161
Agribusiness	0	90	0	0
TOTAL	61	153	159	161

Source: Chikwawa District youth data 2017

According to table 5.29 above, there has been an increase in number of youth engaged in entrepreneurship from 124 youths in 2015/16 to 320 youths in 2016/2017. There were no youths engaged in agribusiness in 2016/17 which could be due to uncertainty of agribusiness due to climate change.

Sexual and Reproductive Health Education/ Family Life Education

Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity (WHO). Healthy and happy youth are better equipped to contribute to the development of their communities and the nation. Youth Health and SRH are therefore a function of, and a means to overall socio-economic development. Young people need to enjoy a health status that enables them to lead an economically and socially productive life. This means that information on health and SRH is made available and accessible to the youth. This notwithstanding, youth still remains vulnerable to many health risks such as Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) including HIV and AIDS, early pregnancies, drug and substance abuse, poor nutrition, other communicable and non-communicable diseases and psychological problems. NAC reports that of all the new HIV infections, more than 40% occur in the age group 15 to 49 and the youth form part of this group.

The programme aims at equipping youths with leadership skills through youth clubs, youth organizations and youth networks. This is envisaged to enable youths to participate in decision-making processes on issues that concern them and at all levels, and equipping youths with relevant knowledge on issues of adolescent growth, sex education, gender and gender issues, HIV and AIDS education, life skills education and dealing with peer pressure. Table 5.30 indicating sexual and reproductive health activities conducted by the office:

Table 5.30 Sexual and Reproductive Health Data

CATEGORY	2015/16		2016/17	
	M	F	M	F
Life skills Education	97	89	205	197
Sexual reproductive health	73	209	154	301
Peer Education	56	43	25	28
TOTAL	226	341	384	526

Source: Chikwawa District youth office, 2017

5.5.1.3 Youth Employment in the district

Youth unemployment is high in the district; under educated and under skilled young people are three times more likely than adults to be in the irregular employment market with low wages, no formal contract and unpredictable, irregular work. Statistics related to youth employment/ unemployment are somewhat con-

tradictory. According to the Malawi Labour Force Survey 2013, 77.0% of young people in the district are in some form of employment, 71.8% for females and 83.1% for males for ages 15-34 years. Young People aged 15-24 years have the lowest levels of labour force participation (formal and informal) in all of the economically active population (around 75% of 15-24 years compared to over 95% for older age groups) (**Malawi Youth Status Report, 2016**).

As such the district needs to come up with programmes such as training the youth in vocational skills as employment opportunities are very limited, There is a skills mismatch between what young people learn in school and labour market needs, opportunities for developing any entrepreneurial schemes are hampered by an absence of access to finance for young people, Vocational training does not exist for young people who need it (rural and hard to reach areas) and Links between adolescent work (defined as child labour for younger adolescents), education and future employment are complex, with many children working and studying at the same time.

More innovative start-up grants for new graduates, such as soft loans accompanied with financial management training and business advisory and guidance services, expansion of microfinance grants, and scaled up access to agribusiness for young people, through youth clubs. There is also to promote young people in-ternship programmes involving institutions that are business related, Initiatives to promote employment of young people with disability. Lastly, Community youth resource centres must be established in the district.

5.5.1.4 Drug and Alcohol Abuse among Youths

Drug use is on the youth is high because drugs are cheap and easily available and policies around alcohol and drug use amongst the young are very unclear. Whilst national policies, such as the National Youth Policy, draw attention to the concerns about drugs and alcohol, the good percentage of young people are involved in drug and alcohol abuse. This has resulted into the number of youth suffering from mental problems, high poor performance at school and high school dropout due to mental problems. Stronger investment in mental health promotion for young people and mental health services at district level. Review of current drugs policies, with participation of young people, followed by strict enforcement will help to curb the malpractice. The figure below shows youth tobacco users.

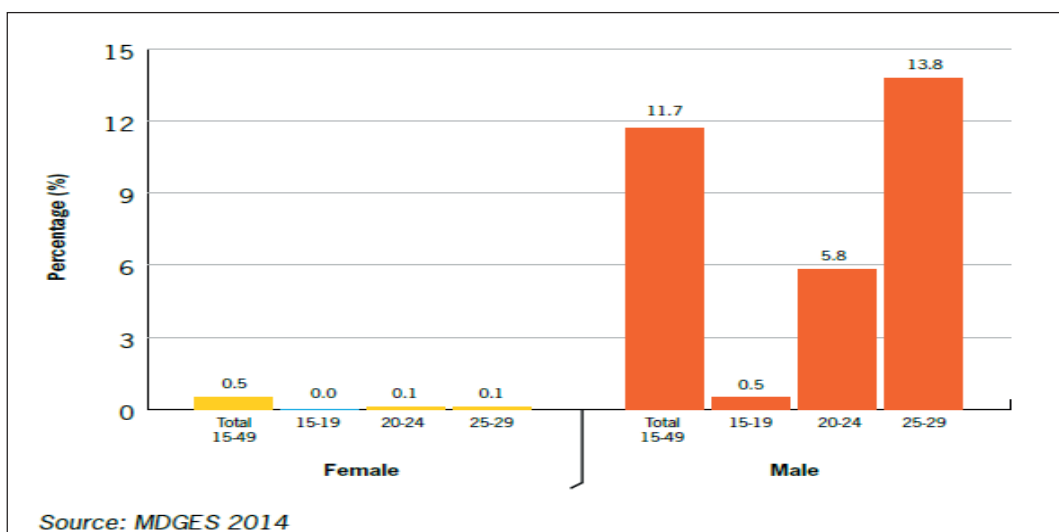


Figure 5.20 Percentage of Youth Tobacco Users

According to figure 5.20 about 11.7% youths smoke tobacco with 13.8% males of ages between 25-29 years.

5.5.1.5 Youth Participation and Leadership

It is common knowledge that youths are energetic, strong, industrious, innovative and healthy and constitute a significant proportion of the country's population. To ensure that issues affecting the youths and other target groups are adequately addressed, it is imperative that the youth themselves do not only actively participate in the key decision making processes but that they are also given leadership roles. This would ensure that the decisions made and programmes designed are in the final analysis reflective of the needs of the youth as seen from the perspective of the youth themselves. However empirical evidence shows that youth in some areas are not included in important decision making bodies. For instance, Government is currently following a district-focus approach to development where the Village Development Committees (VDCs) Area Development Committees (ADCs) and now due to constant engagement we have youth representatives in some of these structures.

There is need for engagement by government with young people that belong and are sanctioned by their respective youth clubs accredited/registered by DYO and NYCOM and also organise tailored youth leadership and participation training. All development structures and committees must comprise the representatives of young people such as from ADC and VDC levels.

5.5.1.6 Youths Structures

At district level, there are youth clubs which are based at Group Village level while at TA level, the department establishes Youth networks and Youth Action Committees (YACs) that oversee all youth club activities within a Traditional Authority. These committees are found in all Traditional Authorities in the district. Also there is a Youth and Sports Technical Working Committee (YSTWC) that oversees all youth activities at district level. The committee comprise of members of DEC, NGO representatives, DACC representatives and youth representatives.

In addition, the district has a total of 4 youth organisations registered with the National Youth Council namely; Fambauone Youth Organisation in TA Maseya, Khalanimaso Youth Organisation in TA Katunga, Arise Youth Organization in STA Ndakwera and Tiyamike Youth Organization in TA Kasisi. Table 5.32 below shows youth clubs per TA:

Table 5.31 Youths Clubs Per TA and Membership

T/A	No of Clubs	Total Members			Ages Category			Status of Club Members	
		M	F	Total	Oct-14	15-19	20-24	In School	Out Of School
Kasisi	14	121	111	232	54	100	78	94	138
Katunga	18	190	214	404	104	191	109	111	293
Chapananga	15	119	133	252	44	108	100	102	150
Lundu	15	166	115	281	81	99	101	90	191
Ndakwera	13	256	171	427	177	125	125	147	280
Makhwira	16	197	280	477	100	200	177	183	294
Ngabu	25	355	219	574	177	197	200	227	300
Maseya	16	281	194	475	200	99	176	191	284
Mlilima	12	199	119	318	88	120	110	175	300
Masache	25	314	291	605	201	200	204	215	390
Ngowe	6	75	50	125	35	50	40	55	70
DISTRICT	175	2273	1897	4170	1261	1353	1420	1540	2630

Source: Chikhwawa District Youth Office, 2017

The table above show that there are 4170 youths, in 175 out of school youth clubs with 1540 of the youth club members as school going whilst 2630 either had dropped out or never gone to school or finished their education. By gender, 2273 (55%) are males and 1897 (45%) females respectively. This shows that male participation is relatively high in the clubs (55%). The most dominant age group is within the age range of 20-24 years representing 34.05% compared to 10-14 years which is at 30% and 15-19 years with 32%. Interesting enough, about 6.1% of club members are above the youth national age limit of 35 years (**DYO, Youth Data Report, 2017**).

5.5.1.7 Key Issues under Youth Development Sector

There are however challenges youth are facing in the district such as unemployment, high illiteracy, high school dropout, HIV and AIDS, low targeting and empowerment of youths in developmental issues, early, forced and marriages, teenage pregnancies and inadequate vocational and technical skills provision, high juvenile delinquency, discrimination and marginalization, harmful cultural practices, drug, alcohol and substance abuse and growing prostitution especially among young girls.

Interventions that the department is working on to change and improve the youth situation are.

1. Provision of access to loans, business capacity development and offering vocational skills training.
2. Provision of functional literacy classes to adolescent girls, boys and teen mothers who are illiterate and semi illiterate.
3. Community engagement on importance of schooling children and the need for protection from harmful cultural and traditional practises that impinge education.
4. Continued HIV and AIDS awareness to most at risk youths and facilitation of service delivery of HIV and AIDS services by line ministries,
5. Continued engagement with Local Governance structures for increased youth involvement and participation in leadership and development planning.
6. Continued interface with cultural gatekeepers on importance of preventing child marriages.
7. Increased reach of youths with sexual reproductive health services to prevent possible pregnancies for young girls.
8. Increase informal vocational skills training provision to deserving youths in the district.
9. Facilitating provision of awareness on dangers of drug and substance abuse and provision of services to affected youth population and guardians.
10. Facilitate and lead multisectoral approach in preventing prostitution among young girls.
11. The office will at most enhance multi sectoral approach to serve the youth population through effective coordination with all stakeholders.

The Council, Donor agencies, NGOs, FBOs, CBOs should ensure that youth are involved in all developmental issues. As of now only UNICEF, AGLIT, UNFPA, SAVE THE CHILDREN, Concern World Wide, National Youth Council, One Community, Yoneco, PSI, Cawvoc, Cowlha, VOICES, Partners in Hope, Teveta, CAMFED, CRECCOM, CHRR, Red Cross, Development Initiative Network (DIN), Banja La Msogolo, Eagles Relief, Centre for Youth Empowerment for Civic Education (CEYECE), Malawi Girl Guide Association (MAGGA) are making substantial efforts to develop youths morally, financially and in kind (**DYO, Youth Data Report, 2017**)

There are no youth centres in the district, the ideal situation was to have one at Chikwawa boma and one at every Traditional Authority where young people can access services such as vocational skills, HTC services, library services, recreation services and various capacity building services.

Despite a lot of efforts being done by the above stakeholders to improve the living standards of young people in the district most of the programmes are biased towards Youth Health and Nutrition such as Sexually Reproductive Health (SRH) programmes. Not much is being done in Youth Economic Empowerment (YEE), Youth participation and leadership, Education for Youth, Social Services, Sports, Recreation and Culture and some TAs such as Ndakwera, Ngowe, Chapananga and Makhuwira are rarely reached with such programmes. In other ways, the number of youth being targeted is very low as compared to the population of the youth in the district (DYO, 2017).

As such there is need to do a thorough research on the needs of the youth in the district so as to implement programmes that will respond to the needs of the youth in the district. To do this, there is need to consult the youth themselves and find out what their needs are. This will help the district to avoid implementing programmes that are not responding to the needs of the youth. It should also be noted that most these programmes are implemented without collaboration and coordination. This is evidenced when Implementation done without the knowledge and involvement of the Youth Office, establishment of parallel structures, beneficiaries not identified from youth structures, no use of existing structures and no consultation of the youth and youth structures

In conclusion, it is important that stakeholders stick to what they present at DEC meetings. Most organisations during DEC meeting promise to work with line ministries but when it comes to implementation, they do contrary to what was promised at the DEC.

5.5.2 Sports development

Sports development is the promotion and controlling of all sporting activities to improve mass participation to have healthy and productive citizens. The department exists to promote the Malawian national identity and unity in diversity through youth empowerment, promotion and management of sports and recreational activities for educational, posterity and poverty reduction.

Sports in Malawi have all along been treated as non-developmental. With lack of remarkable career path in sports many people do not take sports seriously as a result it is taken as a pass time job. On the contrary, sport is for redevelopment that it can be used as a tool for addressing some of the challenges that arise in the society. For example, in Chikwawa sports can be used to address floods, climate change, drought and numerous healthy issues that can contribute positively to the life of an individual and development of the district although this depends on effective partnership and networking with the communities, government institutions, non-governmental institutions, local authorities and all service providers.

Sport is an activity involving physical exertion and skills in which an individual or a team competes against one another or others for entertainment. This is important as it does the following; Provides job opportunity, source of entertainment, huge market for country economy, improves physical health and fitness, provides a platform for social interaction, advocacy, lobbying and sensitizations about key issues affecting the society.

The following sports disciplines are performed in the district:

Football – The top most sport in the district whose patronage is almost in every village; Netball – Second most common sport; Volleyball- Isolated to schools; Boxing; Basket ball; Athletics, Special Olympics and Hand ball.

5.5.2.1 Sports Recreation Facilities in the district

The only standard infrastructure that the district has is Kalulu stadium which is privately owned by ILLO-VO and is very far from the boma as it is within the company's premises and it's not easily accessible. As a

district we surely need at least one standard stadium to host many sporting activities, to be owned by the government and located near the boma for easy accessibility to all.

Tables 5.33 and 5.34 below show recreation facilities per TA and school Zone:

Table 5.32 Sport Facilities Per TA

No	Name Of T/A	No.of Recreation Facilities			
		Football	Location	Netball	Location
1.	Chapananga	2	Water supply & Kakoma	1	Kakoma
2.	Ngabu	2	Ngabu community & Konzere	1	Ngabu community
3.	Makhuwira	1	Mkhate	0	–
4.	Katunga	1	Mitole	1	Police Mobile force
5.	Maseya	1	Mlomba	0	–
6.	ST/A Masache	0	–	0	–
7.	Mlilima	1	Belon’jigo	1	Mfera
8.	Kasisi	1	Chikwawa community	2	Chikwawa community & Kapichira
9.	Lundu	1	Kalulu Stadium	1	Nchalo area 3
10.	Ngowe	0	–	0	–
11.	ST/A Ndakwera	0	–	0	–
Total		11		7	

Source: Chikwawa District Sports Office, 2017

Table 5.33 shows that some TAs set aside land to be used as a community ground for different recreation activities. However, most communities rely on school based recreation facilities as shown in the table below:

Table 5.33 Recreation Facilities by Zone in the District

No.	Name of School Zone	No.of Recreation Facilities
1.	Boma	21
2.	Chikonde	14
3.	Changoima	12
4.	Dolo	10
5.	Kakoma	13
6.	Kalambo	13
7.	Konzere	14
8.	Livunzu	17
9.	Mapelera	12
10.	Mbewe	16
11.	Nchalo	20
12.	N’gaburu	25
13.	Nsenjere	14
	Total	201

Source: Chikwawa DSO & DEM, 2016

The district has 201 school based recreation facilities, however most of these facilities are in poor condition.

5.5.1.8 Key Issues in sports

- Lack of equipment for various sports disciplines
- People have little knowledge of other sports disciplines apart from football and netball.
- No standardised infrastructure for various sporting activities
- Inadequate trained personnel including coaches, umpires, referees, instructors and sports administrators
- Non-availability of specialised sports training institutions to train athletes, administrators, coaches, and technical officials
- Lack of incentives for sports persons
- Decline in the enforcement of physical education and sports programmes in schools and other institutions of learning
- Haphazard, unlinked sponsorship of sports programmes
- Lack of collaboration of the Sports Office with the private sectors and politicians
- Lack of mass participation and support from the community
- Inadequate sports sector funding to adequately support sporting activities
- Lack of reliable means of transport for the office to ease mobility for monitoring
- Lack of sponsorship for various teams and clubs. Lack of stakeholders' support in sport activities in the district

Possible causes of the problems

- Inadequate funds to meet all the required duties.
- Lack of knowledge on relevance of sports to community development.
- Lack of capacity for some sports personnel.
- Poor infrastructure to accommodate other sports disciplines.
- Natural disasters more especially floods (some grounds are turned into camps for victims)

Opportunities

- There is political will; the Government of Malawi has already shown interest to develop sports by deploying Sports Officers in district.
- The presence of District Sports Committee.
- Many young people have talent and skills, that if given a chance they can become national and international players.
- The presence of NGO's and Private Sector is an opportunity for sports to develop as they play a big role in funding youth related projects including sports. Also, the NGOs can use the sports as a vehicle for development using the "development through sport" approaches.
- Availability of companies like ILLOVO sugar company, Presscane, Kapichira, Majete Wildlife reserve and Lengwe National park who can help in developing sports infrastructure as their corporate responsibility in the District.

5.6 HIV AND AIDS

The implementation of HIV and AIDS activities in the district is guided by the 2011-2016 National HIV and AIDS policy, the 2015-2020 Malawi National Strategic Plan for HIV and AIDS and 2011-2016 Malawi Health Sector Strategic Plan. The main aim of the HIV and AIDS policy and strategic plan is to guide the HIV re-

sponse through: targeting the key drivers of the epidemic; addressing the emerging national and global issues; and achieve Zero new infections, Zero AIDS related death and Zero discrimination.

5.6.1 HIV and AIDS Situation

According to the Malawi Demographic and Health, the national HIV/AIDS prevalence among 15-49 years has decreased from 10.6 % in 2010 to 8.4 % in 2016. Chikwawa HIV prevalence decreased from 11.6 % to 7.5 % within the same period. Table 5.35 below shows the national, regional and Chikwaka HIV prevalence

Table 5.34 HIV and AIDS Situation

Region /Year	DHS 2004	2010	2016
Malawi	10.6 %	10.4%	8.8%
Southern	15%	-	12.8%
Chikwawa	13.6 %	11.6	7.5 %

Source: Malawi Population Based HIV Impact Assessment 2015-2016, MDHS 2016 and NAC Report 2015

As shown in the table above, the HIV prevalence for Chikwawa is lower than that of the Southern Region which is 12.8 % for the same period. The HIV prevalence in Chikwawa is higher for women (8.4%) than men (6.5%). This is in line with most reports that HIV prevalence is high in females than males. Women are at risk of contracting HIV due to cultural, society and economic barriers.

Sentinel surveys need to be encouraged as it provides a true reflection of HIV situation in a given community and would act as a quality control on HTS delivery. HTC results at Chikwawa DHO in 2016 shows 9 % positive clients, which is almost equal to the national average prevalence (8.8 %) obtained through surveys conducted in the same period.

The Local Council through DACC sub-committee of DEC should promote HIV and AIDS interventions in the district by creating a workable environment for CBOs, FBOs, NGOs, and private sector. Traditional leaders should be involved in both community mobilization towards the fight against the pandemic and cultural beliefs that expose communities especially women to HIV and AIDS.

5.6.2 Impact of HIV and AIDS

HIV/AIDS pandemic in Chikwawa is posing a big threat to the district population and development activities. The disease mostly affects the reproductive middle-aged groups of 15 – 49 years. The pandemic depletes household capital, and labour force, increases orphans and vulnerability, changes behaviours in decision making, and diverts man hours from developmental issues to attending to both the sick, and funerals. There are 29,922 registered orphans as of January 2016 straining household caring capacity.

5.6.3 Role of District Aids Coordinating Committee (DACC)

DACC is a subcommittee of District Executive Committee whose membership consists of 20 individuals selected from key sectors, Civil society, NGO's and Community representatives within the district. The role of DACC is to provide leadership and coordinate HIV & AIDS services implemented by CBO's, FBO's, NGO's, sectors and other stakeholders in the district.

¹ For Chikwawa, this is detection rate from HTC sites, absence of sentinel surveillance survey in the period makes it difficult to conclude prevalence rates

The committee has a secretariat at Assembly Headquarters which is District AIDS Coordinator's office who reports to the District Commissioner through the Directorate of Planning and Development.

5.6.4 HIV and AIDS Service Coverage

5.6.4.1 HIV Testing and Counselling Service

HIV testing and counselling is an essential component in the continuum of prevention, treatment, care and support. The service provides an opportunity for a person to learn HIV sero-status towards positive behavioural change. It also offers an opportunity to access care and support programmes, which include treatment of opportunistic infections, ART, and access to PMTCT programmes. HIV testing and counselling programme is now functional in 24 static sites offering HIV testing and counselling service as shown in the table below:

Table 5.35 HIV Testing and Counselling Sites

S/N	HIV Testing site	Type of site	Location
1	Chikwawa District Hospital	Static	TA Kasisi
2	Montfort Mission Hospital	Static	TA Lundu
3	Illovo clinic	Static	TA Lundu
4	Kapichila Clinic	Static	TA Kasisi
5	Mfera H/C	Static	TA Makhwira
6	Maperera H/C	Static	TA Makhwira
7	Makhwira H/C	Static	TA Makhwira
8	Ndakwera H/C	Static	TA Ndakwera
9	Chipwaila H/C	Static	TA Ngabu
10	Mkumaniza H/C	Static	TA Ngabu
11	Ngabu SDA Clinic	Static	TA Ngabu
12	Ngabu Rural Hospital	Static	TA Ngabu
13	Lengwe Clinic	Static	T/A Lundu
14	Mitondo Health Post	Static	T/A Makhwira
15	Kalulu Clinic	Static	T/A Lundu
16	Mwanza Clinic	Static	T/A Lundu
17	Alumenda Clinic	Static	T/A Ngabu
18	Misomali Health Centre	Static	T/A Chapananga
19	Kakoma Health Centre	Static	T/A Chapananga
20	Chapananga Health Centre	Static	T/A Chapananga
21	Chithumba Health Centre	Static	T/A Chapananga
22	Gaga Health Centre	Static	T/A Chapananga
23	Dolo Health Centre	Static	T/A Masache
24	Majete Health centre	Static	T/A Chapananga

Source: Chikwawa District Health Office 2016

It is however the wish of Chikwawa district to scale up HIV testing and counselling services to all health facilities, so that all people in the district can easily access the service. However there are inadequate number of trained HIV counsellors and lack of equipments in the health facilities which in turn limit HTS delivery in the district.

5.6.4.2 PMTCT and ARV Programme

Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission (PMTCT) and Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) programmes are not yet fully scaled up in the district. Currently, both PMTCT and ARV services are being offered at Chikwawa District Hospital, Mont Fort Mission Hospital, and Illovo Clinic, Hunger, Makhwira, Chapananga, Gaga, Mfera, Mapelera Health Centres and Ngabu Rural Hospital, among others. Ngabu SDA Clinic, and Ngabu SDA clinic also offers PMTCT. Service providers, donors should help scale up ARV centres to other facilities in the district in order to promote treatment, care and support. The assembly should still promote preventive interventions in order to save the uninfected population from contracting the virus.

The Council should ensure full participation of PLWAS in dissemination of HIV and AIDS in order not only to minimise discrimination but also promote a culture of testing in order for communities to know their sero-status. Meanwhile there are only 8 PLWA support groups in the district, calling for the need for the assembly should encourage reactive clients to either join or form PLWA support groups in order to fight stigma and discrimination.

5.6.4.3 Impact Mitigation Services

Besides PLWA Support groups there are 86 youth clubs and 56 active CBOs in the district. These organisations play a vital role in advocacy and community sensitisation on HIV and AIDS issues and fighting stigma and discrimination towards the infected and affected hence the need to strengthen their capacities through trainings. The CBO`s also play a very important role in the care and support to the ever increasing number of orphans resulting from death of parent with AIDS. NAC as of the year 2006 has financially assisted communities caring for orphans are assisted 29 organisations in order to reduce the caring burden of both orphans and vulnerable children.

5.6.4.4 Treatment, Care and Support

So far there is no treatment to HIV and AIDS morbidity and mortality. Community Home Based Care Program has been promoted in order to reduce overstay in hospital beds and also ensure quality life of PLWA and chronically ill. Volunteers from Community Based Organisation (CBO) provide care and support to chronically ill referred from the hospital for community home based care. Health workers should visit such patients occasionally to monitor their living progress. Twelve CBOs have so far received CBCC training in order to improve caring capacity and this should be promoted.

5.6.5 Key issues under HIV and AIDS

- Inadequate funding for HIV activities in the district
- Inadequate capacity of health personnel in upcoming HIV and AIDS guidelines
- Community Based Organisations are not active due to lack of funding
- Inadequate HTC centres
- Poor ART adherence by clients
- Increasing HIV incidences among adolescents.
- Cultural beliefs fueling the spread of HIV

5.6.6 Nutrition

Chikwawa is one of the 24 food insecure districts in Malawi, It has a total population of 566, 714, 119,206 are women of the Child bearing age, 90,731 accounts for under 5 and 26,686 are children under 1 of age. Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS) III recognizes nutrition as an essential component of the country’s human capital and economic growth and development.

The district implements both the Nutrition Sensitive and Nutrition Specific Interventions. Nutrition sensitive interventions address the underlying causes of fetal and child nutrition and development food security; adequate caregiving resources at the maternal, household and community levels; and access to health services and a safe and hygienic environment While Nutrition Specific Interventions address the immediate causes of foetal and child nutrition and development—adequate food and nutrient intake, feeding, caregiving and parenting practices, and low burden of infectious diseases.

5.6.7 under five Nutrition

The district suffers from both the over nutrition and under nutrition. Undernutrition is the most common whose causes include: Inadequate energy intake, inadequate amounts of vitamins or minerals, inefficient absorption of food consumed, and Excessive diarrhea. Malnutrition (over-nutrition) can also occur if a person is overweight as a result of the intake of too much energy.To determine the nutritional status of an individual, as a district the following 6 variables will be taken/measured:Age,Sex.,Weight.,Height/length,Bilateral edema.and MUAC. The figure below shows trends of malnutrition in the district:

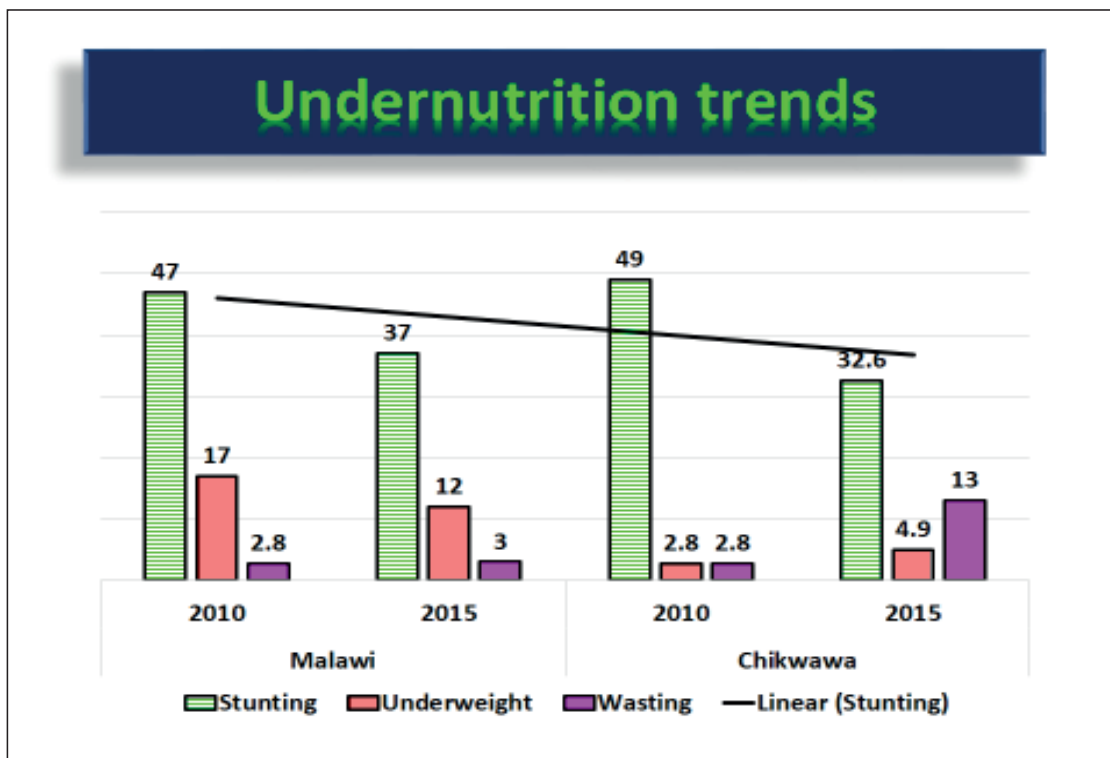


Figure 5.21 Underfive Undernutrition Trends

Source: MDHS, 2016

Figure 5.21 above shows that, there has been a tremendous decrease of stunting in underfive children both at national and district level. Stunting at district level reduced from 49% in 2010 to 32.6% in 2015 which is still in the high prevalence range according to World Health Organisation (WHO) standards. On the other hand, there is an increase in underweight and wasting among underfive children from 2.8% to 4.9% and 2.8% to 13% respectively. The WHO categories indicate that wasting above 10-14% is in the serious range. There is therefore need to intensify nutrition intervention in the district in order to avert the consequences related to nutrition among underfive children

Anaemia in Women and Children

Anaemia is a problem because it reduces the work capacity of individual, which may lead to serious economic consequences and obstacles to national development. The figure below is showing anaemia prevalence in the district.

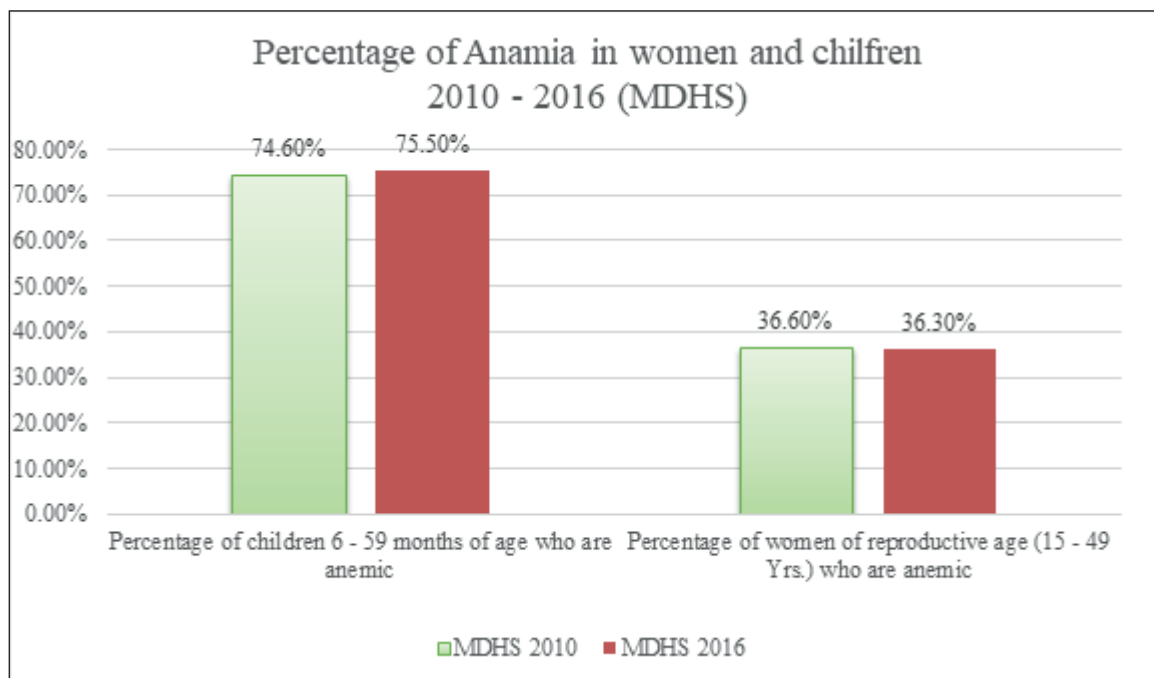


Figure 5.22 Anaemia in Women and Children

Source: MDHS 2010 - 2016

The figure above shows prevalence of anaemia in women, and children from 2010 to 2016. According to figure, prevalence of anaemia in children has increased slightly from 74.60% to 75.50%, while in women has slightly reduced from 36.60% in 2010 to 36.30% in 2016, The increase in the prevalence of anaemia in Children and insignificant reduction in women can be attributed to low knowledge of the six food groups leading to low uptake of micronutrients

5.6.8 Maternal Nutrition Situation

Maternal nutrition plays a big role in good nutrition of infants because has the ability to influence the physiological development of unborn child (during pregnancy)

The table below shows that statistics for women who are thin based on Body mass index(BMI) less than 18.

Table 5.36 Trends For Maternal Nutrition Outcome Indicators

Indicator	MDHS 2004	MDHS 2010	MDHS 2016	National	Source
Percentage of women of reproductive age (15 - 49 Yrs.) who are thin based on Body Mass Index (BMI<18.5)	9.3	9.3	9.8	7.2%	MDHS 2016
Percentage women of reproductive age 15–49 years who are obese or overweight	13.4	9.8	15.5	20.7%	MDHS 2016

Source: DHS 2004, 2010, 2016

The table above shows that there is slightly percentage increase in both obese and underweight or thin among women who are between 15-49 years. From the table percentage of women who are thin has increased from 9.3% to 9.8% while those who are obese has also increased from 13% in 2004, then drop significantly to 9.8% and in 2016 significantly increased to 15.5%. All these negative trends in the district can be attributed to low knowledge on eating balanced diet which has resulted from inadequate knowledge on six food groups.

5.6.9 Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM)

Chikwawa has CMAM programs that deal with Acute Malnutrition. This is a form of undernutrition caused by a decrease in food consumption and/or illness resulting in bilateral pitting oedema or sudden weight loss. The district has 28 health facilities, 29 SFP sites, 23 OTP sites, and 3 Nutrition Rehabilitation Unit (NRU).

For the period starting from January 2013 through December 2017, all the three CMAM programmes performed satisfactory in line with sphere standards. Cure rates for NRU, OTP as well as SFP remained above 75% cut off point; death rates were kept to a minimum at less than 10% except in 2015 where death rate gone up to 10.5%. The default rates were also kept below at 15% of all admissions. Continuous skills development through follow up and mentorship, improvements in supply of RUTF, CSB and routine drugs through the last mile delivery, in addition to efficient monitoring system as well as timely referral is some of the factors that contributed to this successful story and need to be sustained. Table 5.37 below

Table 5.37 Trends For CMAM Indicators

CMAM Programme	Indicators	Year				
		2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Outpatient Therapeutic Programme (OTP)	Total Admissions	940	950	1315	520	1852
	Cure Rate (%)	86.7	93.6	91.5	94.8	96.1
	Death Rate (%)	1.3	1.6	0.9	1.6	1.4
	Default Rate (%)	8.3	4.2	4.2	2.6	2.3
Nutrition Rehabilitation Unit (NRU)	Total Admissions	124	240	324	233	199
	Stabilized to OTP	85	191	245	185	160
	Cure Rate (%)	89.5	91.7	87.0	90.6	90.0
	Death Rate (%)	10.5	4.6	9.6	6.9	9.1
Supplementary Feeding Programme (SFP)	Total Admissions	3216	5549	6895	10085	12809
	Cure Rate (%)	83.6	87.0	85.3	94.3	92.2
	Death Rate (%)	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2
	Default Rate (%)	13.4	7.7	11.5	2.2	3.3

Source: Chikwawa DHO 2017 (DHS2 Reports)

Nutrition Behaviour Changes Integrated Homestead Farming

District has a total of 134,775 farming households of which 1,811 have been reached with nutrition sensitive agricultural practices and are practising integrated homestead farming.

Integrated homestead farming (IHF) is an approach to improve household food security and reduce micro-nutrient deficiencies through promoting production and consumption of micronutrient rich foods. It promotes household nutrition through diversified production and consumption of nutrient-dense crops and livestock. Integrated homestead farming approach is being promoted where by families are encouraged to have a vegetable garden, fruit trees and small livestock (and fish farming where possible) around the home for consumption. The approach has been actively introduced to farmers in Chikwawa since 2015. However, there has been slow rollout and adoption of integrated homestead farming due to knowledge gap amongst frontline workers

Infant Feeding Practices

Good infant feeding practice plays great role in the growth of the child in all domains (gross motor, fine motor, language and social). Good feeding practice starts the date of the birth of the child where a child must be initiated to breastfeeding within an hour and exclusively breastfed for six month. After six month a child should continue breastfed and given supplemently food. About 13% of the babies are born with low weight which demands special care in terms of feeding.

Currently, according to MES 2014, 70.2% of the children in the district were being exclusive breast fed and table 5.38 Shows infant and young children feeding outcomes

Table 5.38 Infant and Young Children Feeding Outcomes

Indicator	MDHS 2010	MDHS 2016
Percentage of Infants and Young Children (0 - < 24 Months) age who were put to the breast within one hour of birth	94.8	95.0
Percentage of Infants and Young Children (6 - < 24 Months) meeting the Minimum Dietary Diversity	13.5	25.3
Percentage of Infants and Young Children (6 - < 24 Months) meeting the Minimum Meal Frequency	41.9	25.7
Percentage of Infants and Young Children (6 - < 24 months) who receive the Minimum Acceptable Diet	9.1	8.6
Percentage of Infants and Young Children (6 - < 24 Months) who receive an iron-rich food or iron-fortified food that is specially designed for infants and young children, or that is fortified in the home	34.1	43.9

Source: DHS 2010, 2016

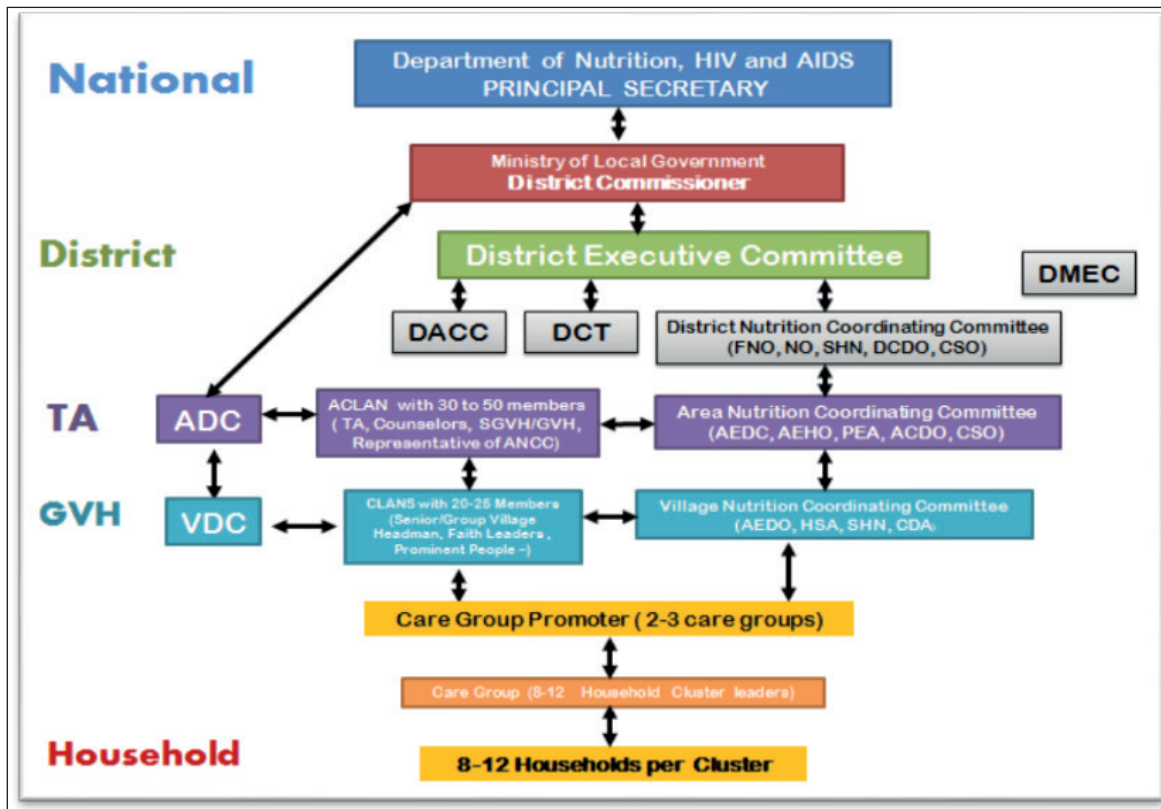
From the table above, shows that there is increase trend in all the indicators as listed above except meal frequency and acceptable diet from 41.9% to 25.7% respectively. The increase trend can be attributed to a number of programmes and projects which supported nutrition interventions in the district. The decrease in trend of the two indicators can be attributed to number of shock that hit the district in the recent past like floods and drought which affected the food basket of most affected people

5.6.10 Nutrition Coordination and Structures

Nutrition is multi-sectoral, and therefore requires coordinated efforts. At the national level, the Department of Nutrition and HIV/AIDS (DNHA) provides policy direction through the overall guidance of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Nutrition and HIV/AIDS.

At the district level, nutrition is coordinated by the District Nutrition Coordinating Committee (DNCC), which is a nutritional sub-committee of the DEC. The DNCC has 40 members who are mostly nutrition technical officers and desk officers from various government departments as well as NGOs implementing nutrition-related interventions in the district. The chairperson of the committee is the Director of Planning and Development with the Principle Nutrition HIV and AIDS Officer (PNHAO) as the secretariat. Nutrition interventions are coordinated by the Area Nutrition Coordinating Committee (ANCC) and Village Nutrition Coordinating Committee (VNCC) at the TA and GVH levels respectively. Figure 5.23 summarise the coordination structure

Figure 5.23 : Nutrition coordination structure



Source: District Nutrition Coordinating Committee (DNCC), 2017

The District has 11 Area Nutrition Coordination Committees (ANCC) in all the T/As but 5 are functional. ANCC is a technical arm of the ADC on nutrition issues and is comprising of AEDCs, AEHOs, PEAs, ACDOs, CSO representatives. There are 147 Village Nutrition Coordinating Committees (VNCC) of which 46 of them are functional. VNCC is a technical arm of the VDC comprising of AEDOs, HSAs, SHN Teachers, and CDAs. In addition there are 186 care groups which are functional, 147 CLAN, 11 Area Community Leaders Action group in Nutrition (ACLAN). ACLANs are led by Traditional Authority and comprised of Councilors, SGVH/GVH and representative of ANCC. The district has a total of 88 care group promoters.

CHAPTER 6: INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES

Physical infrastructure is a collective term referring to various goods and services that promote prosperity and contribute to quality of life, including their social well-being, health and safety of citizens and the quality of their environments (OECD, 2006). Electricity, water, transport and communication all fall into this broad term of infrastructure. World Bank categorized infrastructure into: Public utilities (power, telecommunication, piped water supply, sanitation, sewages, waste collection and disposal and piped gas); Public works (roads, dams and canal works); and other urban and rural transport facilities (railways, ports, waterways, airports). The assessment of infrastructure in the subsequent sections is in line with the above synopsis.

6.1 ROADS

The road network in Chikwawa is poor because most of the roads have black-cotton soil surface.

People have limited access to various parts in the district especially during the wet season as the roads become slippery, eroded, and many roads have either washed away bridge or broken bridges. This has an effect on people's access to different services/amenities such as health centres, schools and markets.

There are two main types of road surface finishes in the district: Bitumen and Earth roads. The bitumen road is a continuation of the road from Blantyre to Chikwawa – Bangula. The bitumen road covers 91.8 Km starting from Madziabango in Chikwawa to Sorgin -Chikwawa /Nsanje boundary.

The roads in Chikwawa district categorized into four:

- (a) Main Roads: main trunk roads
- (b) Secondary Roads: branching from main roads
- (c) District Roads: branching from secondary roads/main roads
- (d) Feeder Roads: branching from or leading to district roads

Table 6.1 below shows the roads in Chikwawa:

Table 6.1 Roads in the District

No.	Name of Road	Classification	Type of Surface	Wet Season Accessibility	Length	Bridges	Culverts	Drifts
A. Main Roads								
1	Madziabango- Sorgin	M1	Bitumen	Good	91Km	6	87	0
2	Mlomba- Tomali	Old M1	Earth	Fair	25Km	0	6	0
B. Secondary Roads								
1	Thabwa- Masenjere	S152	Earth	Good	44Km	1	71	43
2	Chikwawa-Chapananga	S136	Earth	Good	71Km	6	70	6
C. District Roads								
1	Chafudzika- Chikuse	D383	Earth	Fair	18Km	0	6	0
2	Miseu 4- Nsomo- Makande	D136	Earth	Fair	15Km	1	24	5
3	Nsangwe- Masanduko	D383	Earth	Fair	12Km	1	6	0
4	Sorgin- Nkhwangwa	D390	Earth	Good	21Km	2	24	4
5	Tsapa- Pende	D135	Earth	Fair	10Km	1	15	2

No.	Name of Road	Classification	Type of Surface	Wet Season Accessibility	Length	Bridges	Culverts	Drifts
6	Thudzu-Mwanawanjovu	D389	Earth	Good	9Km	0	0	2
7	Jombo- Mtowe	D386	Earth	Good	5Km	0	6	0
8	Changoima-Dzimphonje	D134	Earth	Fair	7.5Km	3	80	4
9	Jombo- Nkholongo	D386	Earth	Fair	20Km	1	0	0
10	Kapichira- Chavala	D329	Earth	Good	32Km	2	20	5
D. Feader Roads								
1	Miseu 4-Therere	T423	Earth	Good	20Km	1	20	4
2	Chikwawa-Kapichira	T416	Earth	Good	20Km	1	24	9
3	Ngabu-Kunyinda	T424	Earth	Good	20Km	4	16	2
4	Tomali-Ndakwera	T423	Earth	Fair	20Km	0	30	6
5	M1 Junction-Tomali	T423	Earth	Fair	13Km	0	6	0
6	M1 Junction-Lengwe	UD	Earth	Fair	5Km	0	7	0
7	Chapananga-Julayi	UD	Earth	Fair	12Km	1	12	3
8	Bereu-Biasoni	UD	Earth	Fair	12Km	0	6	3
9	Tomali-Supuni	UD	Earth	Fair	14Km	0	7	3
10	Dolo-Thendo	UD	Earth	Fair	25Km	0	7	3
11	Chipwaila-Mwala School	UD	Earth	Fair	15Km	1	0	0
12	Sande-Misili	UD	Earth	Fair	15Km	0	0	0
13	Kasisi-Chilala	UD	Earth	Fair	15Km	0	0	0
14	Mlomba-Bereu	UD	Earth	Fair	12Km	0	5	0
15	Changoima-Makandambidzi	UD	Earth	Good	10Km	2	14	0
16	Mikalango-Chiona-njiwa	UD	Earth	Fair	11Km	1	26	1
17	Semba-Khokhwa	UD	Earth	Fair	15Km	0	42	7
18	Pute-Liwonde	UD	Earth	Fair	10Km	0	12	3
19	Maperera-Lazaro	UD	Earth	Fair	10Km	0	14	0
20	Tomali-Chafudzika	UD	Earth	Good	36.5Km	0	12	2
21	Changoima-Mwanza	UD	Earth	Fair	9Km	1	12	2
22	3 Access Road –Lundu	UD	Earth	Fair	10Km	1	0	0
23	Bereu-Biason	UD	Earth	Fair	12Km	0	0	0
24	BT-Boundary-Gogo	UD	Earth	Fair	5Km	0	0	0
25	Chapasuka-Chang'ambika	UD	Earth	Good	14Km	1	0	0
26	Chilala-Kasisi	UD	Earth	Bad	5Km	0	0	0
27	Chizenga-Jojo-Paiva	UD	Earth	Bad	10Km	1	6	1
28	Dembo-Thambani-Dzimphutsi	UD	Earth	Fair	20Km	2	22	4
29	Fodya-Vulande	UD	Earth	Bad	5Km	0	0	0
30	Gaga-Njereza	UD	Earth	Good	11Km	0	10	5
31	Gola-Lundu	UD	Earth	Bad	6Km	0	0	0
32	Gola-Thendo	UD	Earth	Fair	10Km	0	0	0
33	Kamchewere-Nyankumba	UD	Earth	Bad	12Km	0	0	0
34	Kanjedza-Namiyala	UD	Earth	Bad	5Km	0	0	0
35	Kubalalika-Makalaundi-Nyambalo	UD	Earth	Bad	10Km	0	0	0
36	Livunzu-Tsapa	UD	Earth	Fair	11Km	80	8	6
37	Liwonde-Mitalala	UD	Earth	Fair	3Km	0	13	1
38	Lundu-Siyali	UD	Earth	Fair	10Km	0	0	0
39	Mafale-Jasi	UD	Earth	Fair	10Km	1	0	0
40	Maida-Changa	UD	Earth	Fair	22Km	0	0	0

No.	Name of Road	Classification	Type of Surface	Wet Season Accessibility	Length	Bridges	Culverts	Drifts
41	Maperera-Wizalamu	UD	Earth	Fair	5Km	0	0	0
42	Maperera-Lazalo	UD	Earth	Good	10Km	0	0	0
43	Mbenderana-Chikhambi	UD	Earth	Fair	5Km	0	10	1
44	Mwanaalirenji-Morgenji	UD	Earth	Bad	7Km	0	0	0
45	Mwiza-Dwanyanya	UD	Earth	Fair	5Km	0	0	0
46	Namatcha-Supuni-	UD	Earth	Fair	14Km	0	14	15
47	Namalindi-Chinangwa-Nedi	UD	Earth	Fair	10Km	0	0	0
48	Namilare-Gumbwa	UD	Earth	Bad	6Km	0	0	0
49	Nana-Kampani	UD	Earth	Fair	3Km	0	0	0
50	Nchalo-Chipwaila	UD	Earth	Fair	20Km	1	0	0
51	Ndakwera-Singano	UD	Earth	Bad	3Km	0	0	0
52	Ndakwera-Mphuka-Mankhokwe	UD	Earth	Fair	8Km	0	0	0
53	Nyangu-Ndombo	UD	Earth	Bad	13Km	0	0	0
54	Mkuluzado-Changambika	UD	Earth	Fair	15Km	0	0	0

Source: District Public Works Office (2017)

The table above shows that there are 68 roads in the district categorised into main roads, secondary roads, district roads, and feeder roads. Two are main roads, and secondary roads, 10 district roads, and 54 feeder roads. In terms of road condition, 62% are in fair condition, 22% good condition, while 16% in bad condition.

6.2

BRIDGES

Different bridges have been constructed in different areas as shown in the table below:

Table 6.2 Bridges in Chikwawa District

No	Name of Road	Name of Bridge	Construction Material	Length	Condition
1	Msangwe-Masanduko (D388)	Mlambala D389	IB	30 meters	Bad
2	Chafuzika-Chikuse (D383)	Katawala	Timber	30 meters	Bad
3	Miseu 4-Kalango	Mikalango	Concrete	40 meters	Bad
4	Thabwa-Masenjere (S152)	Mwamphadzi	Concrete	TBA	Good
5	Chikwawa-Chapananga	Mwanza Bridge	Timber	-	Washed away
6	Chikwawa-Chapananga	Belly Bridge	Belly	-	Washed away
7	Chikwawa-Chapananga	Kubalalika Bridge	Timber	12 meters	Bad
8	Chikwawa-Chapananga	Mthumba	Concrete	8 meters	Good
9	Chikwawa-Chapananga	Kakoma	Timber	IB	Good
10	Chikwawa-Chapananga	Phwazi	IB	80 meters	Good
11	Chikwawa-Chapananga	Kakoma	IB	30 meters	Good
12	Tonthola-Gola D134	Ngona Bridge	Concrete	20 meters	Good
13	Tonthola-Gola D134	Mleme Bridge	Timber	15 meters	Bad
14	M1 Junction-Tomali D423	Mwanza Bridge	Concrete	30 meters	Washed away
15	Chikwawa-Boma-Kapichira T416	Belly Bridge	Belly	20 meters	Good
16	Changoima-Makandambidzi	Mtangatanga	Timber	-	Bad
17	Changoima-Makandambidzi	Livunzu	Timber	-	Bad
18	Chiipwaila-Mwala school	Mwala	Timber	8 meters	Bad

No	Name of Road	Name of Bridge	Construction Material	Length	Condition
19	Mafale-Jasi	Mafale	Concrete	12 meters	Good
20	Phandazinja-Mtayamanja	Mafumu	Timber	10 meters	Bad
21	Tsapa-Pende	IB	IB	10 meters	Good
22	Jombo-Kholongo	Jombo	IB	-	Bad

Source: District Public Works Office

The table above shows that there are 22 major bridges in the district, and in terms of condition, 10 are in bad condition, 9 in good condition, and 3 were washed away due to flooding.

6.3

TRANSPORT AND TRANSPORT TERMINALS

6.3.1

Passenger Transport

The district depends mainly on road transport compared to water and air transport. Vehicles, motorcycles and peddling bicycles are used on the road while boats and canoes are used on the waters especially of Shire River. Air transport is not common except for Illovo Sugar Company mainly for monitoring farm activities. The main terminals in the district include; Chikwawa to Blantyre, Chikwawa to Nsanje, Chikwawa to Muona, Chikwawa to Chapananga, Kapichira to Makhanga, Chikwawa to Nkumaniza to Mozambique, and Chikwawa to Maperera to Nsanje.

The most reliable and fast forms of transport are minibuses and lorries on long distances. On short distances, bicycle hiring "Shapa" is common and reaches the remotest parts of the district. Canoes are also used to link communities across Shire River.

Currently, there are no bus or mini-bus depots in Chikwawa District. However, the Council is finalizing construction of Chapananga Bus Depot with funding from Central Government through Local Development Fund. The construction of Thabwa Market and Bus Depot has stalled. The next proposed major infrastructure in Chikwawa shall be a modern market and bus station at Dyeratu. Presently, passengers are picked and dropped in undesignated points along various roads. However, notable pick-up and drop-off points of passengers include Chikwawa District Headquarters/Dyeratu, Chapananga, Nchalo and Ngabu. No public buses pass through Chikwawa District.

6.3.2

Road Freight

There are two manufacturing companies in Chikwawa; Presscane and Illovo. These are complementary manufacturing companies because the former gets its raw materials from the latter. Therefore, there is frequent movement of cargo from Illovo to Presscane. Presscane is a company that specializes in production of ethanol. Their main product is called Anhydrous Alcohol (AA) and accounts for 80% of their products and Rectified Spirits (RS) takes the remaining 20%. The main raw materials are coal, and molasses which come in liquid form. The molasses are delivered by tankers from Illovo Sugar Company at Nchalo and some from Mozambique, while coal is brought by trucks from Mchenga Coal Mine in the Northern Region and some comes from Mozambique. The finished products such as the AA are collected by tankers to petroleum companies such as Total Malawi and Puma Depots where they are blended with the fuel. RS is collected in drums by individual customers. There are on average 22 and 4 trucks each day from the company during peak and off peak season respectively.

6.3.3 Railway Transport

Haulage of cargo is arguably cheaper through railway transport than other transport modes. However, Chikwawa District is not connected to the country's railway network. The nearest railway line to Chikwawa District is at Bangula in Nsanje, about 85 km south of Chikwawa Boma. The railway line that links Luchenza in Thyolo and Bangula in Nsanje is not functional because a bridge across Shire River at Chiromo was washed away by floods several years back. The National Transport Master Plan recommends extending the railway line from Nsanje to Tete-Beira line in Mozambique. Internally, the plan also proposes extending the railway line from Bangula to Chikwawa District. All these proposals however need complementary action on the existing Blantyre – Nsanje line. Substantial investment is required to realize this dream.

6.3.4 Key Issues under Roads and Bridges

The total length of all classified roads in Chikwawa is 2,656 km. The assessment of this road network shows that the majority of the roads in Chikwawa are earth surfaced. The total road length whose surface is bituminized is only about 109 km while the earth surfaced road network is about 2,547 km. All earth surfaced roads are in poor condition in the wet season and this renders movement of people and goods very difficult. An analysis of the spatial distribution of settlements and network of roads shows that most communities are accessible but the challenge is the tough climatic conditions associated with heavy rains over short period of time which results in washing away of roads and bridges making most of the roads impassable.

Some parts of the district are also inaccessible due to non-existence of feeder roads and poor conditions of bridges. There are no bus depots in Chikwawa and only public passenger travel is through mini-buses. Mini-buses pick passengers in undesignated points along all roads in the district. This causes traffic chaos and safety concerns at all major urban centres of Ngabu, Nchalo and Dyeratu (Chikwawa District Headquarters). The situation is worse during market days at all these centres where there is pedestrian, bicycle and vehicle conflict.

6.4 COMMUNICATION SERVICES

6.4.1 Postal Services

Malawi Postal Corporation (MPC) provides postal services, and there are four Post offices, and one postal agency in the district. The Post Offices are Chikwawa Boma, Nchalo, Ngabu and Chapananga. The only postal agency is at Makhwira in the Eastern Bank of Shire River. The relevance of postal services has diminished over the years because of the emergence of various communication technologies. Apart from selling stamps and mail delivery, post offices have diversified their operations to include courier, money transfers and sale of airtime. Almost all post office facilities in the district are in very poor condition. Photo 6.1 below shows Chapananga Post Office in its poor state.



Photo 6.1 *Chapananga Post Office*

6.4.2 Telecommunication System

Chikwawa is connected to all the major communication service providers. The dominant providers are Airtel, Telekom Networks Malawi (TNM) and Malawi Telecommunications Limited (MTL). All these are communication services that mainly use transmitters and are therefore wireless except MTL which relies on both underground and overhead cables. There is no specific data on number of customers for the mobile/cell phone networks. As for MTL, total number of customers in Chikwawa is 1237 for telephones and 21 for internet.

The existing communication infrastructure comprises mainly transmitter towers and some sales shops for both Airtel and TNM. Airtel has a total of 17 communication towers in Chikwawa District and each transmitter has an average radius of 20 km. Illovo alone has 4 transmitters while the rest are distributed in other parts of the district. The communication companies have entered into an agreement with each other for the purpose of sharing usage of transmitters. TNM has 15 communication towers whose radius is about 10km while MTL has 10. Some areas such as tomali and nyasa are still not able to access tnm network. On the other hand, MTL does not serve most parts of the east bank and chapananga. TNM main challenge is the poor condition of roads in some areas, especially during the wet season which makes it impossible to access their infrastructure. The main challenge for MTL is vandalism of cables which has resulted in the reduction of the coverage area.

6.4.3 Radio Net work

Chikwawa has several radio receptions including MBC Radio 1 and Radio 2 FM, Power 101 FM, Capital Radio 102.5 FM, Radio Islam, Radio Maria, Trans World Radio, British Broadcasting Corporation, Voice Of America , Zodiac , MIJ Radio , Joy radio, Star FM Radio, Medium and short wave stations. However, some radios have poor radio reception.

6.4.4 Publications

People in the District have access to several Newspapers that also reach the district in time. This can be attributed to the improved transport system between Blantyre and Chikwawa. Newspapers that reach the

district and are easily accessible include; Nation, Daily Times, Malawi News, Sunday Times, Boma Lathu (Free Chichewa Government Newspaper published by the Department of Information), Weekly News, and MASAF Newsletters though infrequently produced.

6.4.5 Internet Services

Chikwawa District is partially connected to the national information highway. This national information highway is the Government Wide Area Network (GWAN). GWAN uses the existing ESCOM power lines using optic fibre cables. Currently, it is only the office of the DC that is connected and the rest of the government departments are expected to be connected in the next phase. The only internet available in the district is through radio links by MTL. The company plans to expand their data network using radio system. The expansion will be done using Triangle links, Nano beams and hot spots especially in Nchalo.

6.4.6 Other Services

Besides telephones, facilities available some organisations have radio communications in use like: Police Station posts in the district, National Parks and Wildlife, District Health Office, Electricity Supply Commission of Malawi, G4 Securicor staff at Nchalo Sugar Estate, Press Cane Limited and Malawi Red Cross Society.

6.4.7 Key Issues under Communication

There is poor network especially in the eastern bank. The poor condition of roads affects delivery of services by all telecommunication providers. Also, TNM's network does not reach other parts of the district due to low radius of coverage of their transmitters. Airtel, on the other hand is also failing to cover the whole district because of absence of towers in some locations. The case of MTL is the same. Their main focus is offering internet services as opposed phone lines. Most of their communication infrastructure which was overhead and in some cases, underground cables has been heavily vandalized so as to render ground lines very difficult to access.

There were two telecentres in Chikwawa District; at Ngabu and the District Headquarters but both are not functioning due to various operational challenges.

6.5 HOUSING SERVICES

6.5.1 Rural Housing

The government of the Republic of Malawi provides houses to the rural masses of the district through loan disbursement in form of construction materials. There are 74 houses with about 8.1% collapsed mainly due to poor maintenance and flooding. The district faces a high shortage of both staff houses as well as good and habitable houses for the rural communities. This greatly affects staffing in the district due to scarcity of houses. Malawi Housing Corporation, apart from private owned houses, offers a high degree of accommodation within the district. There is a high opportunity for Rural Housing in the district manifested by high housing demand, and community contribution towards construction. The main hiccup to promotion of rural housing programmes in the district is donor retraction, low loan recovery mainly due to lack of transport for following up, and staff bottlenecks; currently there is only one officer and one watchman. There is need to beef up staffing as well as provision of motorcycles to address transport challenges. The Council should

lobby for more donor support to ensure that rural housing programmes address housing problems in the district.

6.5.2 Malawi Housing Corporation (MHC)

There are 64 houses under MHC in the district of which 62 are in good condition and occupied. The other 2 are in poor condition requiring maintenance. Housing in the district is generally a big challenge .

6.5.3 Institutional Houses

There are some institutional houses in the Works, Forestry, Community Development, Agriculture, Education, and Health Sectors that are not even enough to cater for staff. Companies like ILLOVO Sugar; PRES-CANE offers houses to their permanent staff.

6.5.4 Private Houses

There are uncountable private owned houses offering rental which change from time to time depending on the decision of the landlord.

6.6 POWER AND ENERGY GENERATION

6.6.1 Power Generation Plants and Sub-Stations

In Malawi, use of electricity is very low especially in rural areas. Chikwawa District which is predominantly rural in nature also has low connections to electricity. The 2016/17 Integrated Household Survey indicated that only 6.4% of households in Chikwawa have electricity in their dwellings, an increase from 1.4% in 2011. This access to electricity is however predominantly from the national electricity grid; Kapichila Hydro-Electric plant, which is located within the district. Kapichira whose overall production capacity is 128 megawatts was commissioned in the year 2000 and is located about 22km north of Chikwawa District Headquarters and is bordered with Majete Wildlife Reserve.

In Chikwawa District in particular, power transmission is done through a 132 kV power line and capacity of transmission lines is 345.5 amps. Associated support facilities include switchgear, substations, SCADA and metering equipment. Thereafter, power is distributed through 33kv and 400 V power lines (ESCOM, 2017). The major transmission power lines in Chikwawa District comprises of 702 km of 33 kV line and 800 km of 400 kV. In terms of consumption, the district's average annual consumption is 4,146 amps which supplies to about 4985 customers. Out of these, 4658 are domestic, 306 are commercial while industrial consumers are 21 (ESCOM, 2017).

Chikwawa District has also experienced an increase in off grid power generation, mainly from solar. Solar energy is also contributing positively towards irrigation farming in Chikwawa District. For instance, solar energy generates about 20,400 watts of power which is used to irrigate 20 ha of land where a variety of crops are grown at the Mbande Solar Powered Irrigation Scheme along the Old M1 Road from Mlomba to Tomali. This project is being implemented by Christian Aid in partnership with Evangelical Association of Malawi and Malawi Government, with funding from a consortium of donors.

6.6.2 Other Sources of Energy

6.6.2.1 Fuel

Fuel supplies in Chikwawa District are available through six retail outlets of PUMA (1), Total (2), Energem (1) and Mount Meru (2). These sell products such as engine oils, gasoline and diesel for motor vehicles and other engine propelled assets such as generators, concrete mixers and many more. Slowly, people are moving away from the use of paraffin for lighting and it is therefore, becoming a scarce commodity on the market.

6.6.2.2 Charcoal and Fuelwood

As seen in the 2016/17 Integrated Household Survey, about 85.8% and 13.6 % of the population in Chikwawa were using firewood and charcoal respectively for cooking. Further, 81.6%, 6.8% and 5.9% were using torches (dry cell batteries), firewood and electricity for lighting respectively. The results of this survey show that the majority of the people in Chikwawa District are using firewood and charcoal to meet their energy needs for cooking. The implication of these findings is seen in the rampant deforestation taking place in the district.

6.6.3 Key issues under Power and Energy Generation

Major problem associated with power supply in Chikwawa is the reliance on one 132kV transmission line because once there is damage to this line, the whole of Chikwawa and Nsanje have no supply. Another challenge is on encroachments and vandalism to the equipment. In some cases, wooded poles are not adequately and properly treated, thereby easily getting attacked by termites. In terms of distribution, areas of concern are on use of unqualified electrical contractors and also use of substandard electrical wiring materials.

Another challenge is the over-reliance on one source of power generation which is water (hydro). Escom gets its power from Kapichira, which is on the Shire River. Any disturbance to the flow of the river causes instability in power supply.

Over reliance on fuelwood and charcoal for cooking is putting a strain on the district's forestry resources. The rate of forestry depletion is not matching with the rate of natural resource regeneration and reforestation. Coupled with high population growth, the district is losing forests at a fast rate. Strong measures shall be put in place to compensate for formal loss of forest cover.

In terms of opportunities; Chikwawa District and the Lower Shire in general is very hot most of the year. The sunny and hot weather is ideal for generation of solar energy. Interviews with an officer responsible for Mandirade Solar Charge Centre revealed that most of the energy generated is being wasted as the community cannot use all of it. However, it was also noted that solar energy is expensive to access as the initial capital outlay is very high. It was revealed that a set of solar equipment comprising a 150 watts panel, battery, inverter, charge controller and electrical wiring would, on average cost a minimum of K1.0 million. This makes solar energy unaffordable to most rural communities.

CHAPTER 7: SECURITY SERVICES

7.1 CRIME

In 2016 the district recorded a total of 4370 criminal cases and 2511 statutory cases. Criminal cases ranged from unlawful wounding, theft, break-ins, robberies, murder, assaults and others. General thefts especially of livestock dominate the rest while the least is murder cases. Most of the crimes occur due to excessive beer drinking, smoking Chamba and petty quarrels between family members, while thefts and breakings can be attributed to high levels of poverty and unemployment. Males between 15 years to 35 years of age tend to commit most of the general thefts and other offences in the district as shown in the table below.

Table 7.1 Crime Cases Committed by Age Group, and Sex

Type of Crime	2015						2016						2017					
	<18		18-30		>30		<18		18-30		>30		<18		18-30		>30	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Homicide	2	0	6	1	7	1	1	0	9	1	8	0	2	0	5	1	9	2
Rape	5	0	6	0	2	0	2	0	11	0	1	0	0	0	0	6	7	0
Defilement	7	0	8	0	4	0	1	0	4	0	9	0	0	0	6	0	11	0
Indecent Assault	4	0	9	0	3	0	5	0	5	0	5	0	1	0	5	0	4	0
Armed Robbery	8	0	2	0	8	0	9	0	7	0	6	0	3	0	1	0	5	0
Robbery with Violence	18	0	21	0	9	0	16	0	16	0	15	0	11	0	14	0	8	0
B/I/B & Committing Felony There in	25	0	27	0	11	0	17	0	9	0	57	0	11	0	28	0	27	0
House Breaking and Theft	11	0	19	0	17	0	13	0	35	0	17	0	12	0	36	0	3	0
Burglary and Theft	17	0	17	0	10	0	1	0	15	0	8	0	19	0	16	0	4	0
Theft from Motor Vehicle	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	2	0	2	0
Theft of Motor Vehicle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	0
Theft of Cattle	33	0	54	0	26	0	87	0	78	0	37	0	24	0	70	0	9	0
Theft of Bicycle	34	0	35	0	25	0	46	0	58	1	34	0	29	0	39	15	23	0
Theft by Servant	19	2	11	0	8	1	23	0	26	0	1	1	12	0	8	1	11	1
General Thefts	136	10	115	3	98	5	145	1	159	4	119	3	79	2	162	1	58	6
Grievous Harm	11	7	7	1	8	1	9	1	9	4	6	2	5	1	4	0	5	2
Unlawful Wounding	39	5	48	2	23	0	30	4	60	4	13	2	35	4	45	3	15	2
A.O.A.B. Harm	16	16	27	3	21	4	34	6	8	4	13	2	11	0	17	3	4	1
Common Assault	12	5	17	6	4	4	20	4	12	6	10	1	8	0	15	2	6	2
Arson	7	3	4	0	8	2	5	0	7	3	9	2	5	2	4	3	3	6
Others	118	11	86	8	39	8	118	7	89	11	70	5	100	6	55	8	26	21

Table 7.2 Major Offences Committed

Offence	Period of the year 2017 (months)												Total
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	
Criminal	337	347	375	353	352	341	388	369	373	391	370	374	4370
Statutory	144	91	144	237	246	263	198	211	204	237	272	264	2511
Total	481	366	519	590	598	604	586	580	577	628	642	638	6881

Source: Chikwawa Police Records Office 2017

Statutory offences on the other hand, mainly result from traffic accidents, violation of game act and possession of Indian hemp.

7.2 SECURITY SERVICES

7.2.1 The Malawi Police Service

The Malawi Police Service is the main provider of security in Chikwawa District. There are several police facilities in the district and are in different categories. The district has 1 Police Station at the District Headquarters, 2 Police Posts at Nchalo and Ngabu, 8 Police Units at Chapananga, Gola, Changoima and Chapasuka in TA Chapananga, Goma, Thendo, Mkumaniza in T/A Ngabu, Makhwira in T/A Makhwira, Mbewe Headquarters in Paramount Chief Lundu; and 1 Police Mobile Unit camp (Mitole) situated within the District Headquarters. There are also buildings meant for Police Services at Bereu and Therere but they are not yet opened. Details of the police facilities, their locations and staffing levels are provided in the Table 7.3 below:

Table 7.3 Staffing Positions in Chikwawa Police Department

Police Formation	TA	Male Officers	Female Officers	Total
Chikwawa Police station	Kasisi	69	20	89
Nchalo Police post	Lundu	38	8	46
Ngabu Police post	Ngabu	26	6	32
Makhwira Police unit	Makhwira	4	0	4
Chapananga Police unit	Chapananga	3	0	3
Gola Police unit	Chapananga	2	0	2
Changoima Police unit	Chapananga	2	0	2
Chapasuka Police unit	Chapananga	1	0	1
Goma Police unit	Ngabu	2	0	2
Nkumaniza Police unit	Ngabu	2	0	2
Thendo Police unit	Ngabu	2	0	2
Police Mobile service	Katunga	24	0	24
Total		185	34	209

Source: Chikwawa Police records office, 2017

The table above shows that, there are 209 Police Officers in the district of which 34 (16%) are female Police Officers. Police to public ratio is 1:2933 which is about 5 times as much as the recommended 1: 600. This shows that the district is underserved in terms of security services. Poor housing conditions, staff bottlenecks, inadequate transport facilities, inadequate financial support contribute highly to the decline in security services. Government and Donor agencies should give equal priority to security services in terms of financial support just like Education, Health, and Agriculture sector to ensure complementarily of service delivery.

The table below shows housing gaps in police service:

Table 7.4 Housing Situation in Chikwawa Police Department

Police Formation	Strength	No.of Houses	No. of Officers Living Inside the Camp	No. of Officers Living Outside the Camp	Additional Houses to be Built
Chikwawa Police Station	89	46	44	27	30
Nchalo Police Post	46	12	12	34	34
Ngabu Police Post	32	29	12	13	16
Makhwira Police Unit	4	4	4	0	0
Chapananga Police Unit	3	5	4	1	0
Gola Police Unit	2	2	2	1	1
Changoima Police Unit	2	2	2	0	1
Chapasuka Police Unit	1	1	1	0	2
Goma Police Unit	2	2	2	0	2
Nkumaniza Police Unit	2	2	2	0	1
Thendo Police Unit	2	2	2	0	1
PMS Company	24	20	19	5	24
Total	209	127	106	81	112

Source: Chikwawa Police records office, 2017

The table above shows a big gap in housing of staff officer. Chikwawa police suffers a shortage of staff houses in the camp whereby most officers live far away outside the camp, hence the need to build more houses in all Police formations. The existing houses are in bad shape that they need immediate general maintenances.

There is also a need for new police units to be established, especially at Ndakwera and other areas. Almost all Police formations are supplied with radios for easy communication.

7.2.2 Private Security Companies

Chikwawa district has Group Four Security Company as the only recognized company that provides Private Security Services. It operates at ILLOVO and Presscane Companies, and has a total strength of 619 people.

7.2.3 Community Policing

The Malawi Police service introduced a new type of policing whereby the communities were sensitised on taking part/ assisting the police in policing their areas. Chikwawa Police Station is involved in this type of Policing, whereby Community policing structures were developed in all eleven T/A's (Community Policing Forum), 79 G.V.H (Crime Prevention Panel) and 593 V.H. levels (Crime Prevention Committee). Elected members at forum level were trained on concepts of community policing and told to elect and train similar structures at G/V and V/H levels. This programme is aimed at curbing crime, improving security in the district.

7.2.4 Victim Support Unit

This is a separate unit within the Malawi Police Service where issues of gender-based violence are secretly and amicably solved. The structures are supposed to be constructed in all police formations and at tra-

ditional authority level, but with the problem of inadequate funding the structures are only at the Boma, Nchalo and Ngabu only whereby limiting others to access its services.

7.3 JUDICIARY

7.3.1 Location of Courts

Chikwawa has five (5) magistrate courts located in different TAs as shown in figure below:

Table 7.5 Magistrate Courts

TA	Name of Court	Number of Magistrates		
		Male	Female	Total
Kasisi	Chikwawa Magistrate court	2	0	2
Makhwira	Ngwengwe magistrate Court	1	0	1
Chapananga	Chibisa magistrate Court	0	1	1
Lundu	Nchalo Magistrate Court	1	1	2
Ngabu	Makande magistrate Court	1	0	1
	Total	5	2	7

Source: Chikwawa magistrate Court, 2017

The table above shows that the district has 5 male magistrates and 2 magistrates in the 5 courts available in the district. The courts handle different crimes categorized into criminal and civil cases. These courts receive many cases due to rising crime in spite of inadequate magistrates to preside over the cases. Due to inadequate staff, some cases take time to be resolved. The table below shows case statistics for 2016 and 2017.

Table 7.6 Court Case Statistics (2016-2017)

Court	Category	2016			2017		
		Case registered	Case Completed	Case Pending	Case registered	Case Completed	Case Pending
Chikwawa Magistrate Court	Criminal	440	300	140	424	200	224
	Civil	360	180	180	433	210	223
Makande Magistrate Court	Criminal	200	150	50	370	215	55
	Civil	300	215	83	213	127	86
Nchalo Magistrate Court	Criminal	305	200	105	509	240	269
	Civil	400	280	120	355	300	55
Chibisa magistrate Court	Criminal	10	8	2	14	10	4
	Civil	112	70	42	200	150	50
Ngwengwe Magistrate Court	Criminal	17	14	3	31	1	28
	Civil	341	301	40	253	46	217
Total	Criminal	972	672	300	1348	668	680
	Civil	1513	1046	467	1454	833	621
	Total	2485	1718	767	2802	1501	1211

Source: Chikwawa Magistrate Court, 2017

The table above shows that most cases are highly committed in trading centres of Chikwawa, Ngabu and Nchalo due to high population in these areas. In addition, being trading centres, these are commercial areas which attract thieves. Most of these criminal and civil cases are due to smoking Chamba, beer drinking, poverty and shortage of land.

About 40% of the cases were on pending due to unavailability of witnesses, absconding bail once given bail by the court and witnesses not willing to testify

7.4 PRISON SERVICES

7.4.1 Staffing

Chikwawa district has one prison based at the Boma. In terms of staffing, it has a total of twenty -four officers and only three females; all are accommodated within the camp. The camp has a total of 29 staff houses, which are not enough, and needs immediate general maintenance.

Table 7.7 Staffing At Chikwawa Prison

Year	2014		2015		2016		2017	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Warder	20	3	20	3	17	1	17	3
Sergeant	3	1	4	0	0	0	0	0
Gaoler	0	0	2	1		1	0	1
Inspector	0	0	3	0	2	0	2	0
A/Supt	0	0	0	0	0		1	0
Supt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
S/Supt	0	0	0		1	0	0	0
Total	23	4	35	4	20	2	20	4

Source: Chikwawa Prison, 2017

7.4.2 Cell Capacity

Chikwawa Prison has one female cell, which always accommodate female suspects, and seven male cells and each cell has a capacity of 40 inmates. These cells are always over crowded more especially male cells since men are always prone to committing offences than females. The figure below shows number of convicts and remands from 2012 to 2016:



Figure 7.1 Number of Convicts and Remands (2012-2016)

Source: Chikwawa Prison, 2017

The figure above shows that district registered more inmates per cell in 2016 and the least in 2013. This may partly indicate that the number of major offences, worth imprisonment is increasing. By gender, males dominate the number of inmates than female inmates across the 5 years. Despite having the cell capacity 40 inmates, the district experience a maximum inmates at a given time was 57 per cell.

7.5

FIRE FIGHTING SERVICES

The district has an organised fire fighting team and equipments only at Illovo Sugar Company at Nchalo. The estate has a 24hrs standby team of about six people, a water bowser and several fire fighting equipments and also trains 5% of their permanent workers on basic fire fighting skills annually. Their services are only offered to estate compound area only, but they can as well assist near by villages if fire incidences occur. There is a need to establish fire-fighting squad at district head quarters level in order to help the local citizen. This can be complemented with the help of police officers who were also trained in basic fire fighting skills but only lack equipment. There is also a need to maintain already existing fire fighting equipments in schools and government buildings around the district.

7.6

IMMIGRATION SERVICES

The district is a sub-Regional Immigration office because it carters the whole of Lower Shire covering Chikwawa and Nsanje Districts. This is an Administrative office and is situated at Chikwawa District Assembly offices. It assists both Malawians and foreigners in the following aspects:

- Issuance of passport application forms to Malawian nationals.
- Collecting of documents after they have been processed and issued at Blantyre Headquarters office to reduce travel costs for applicants.
- Extension of visitors permits for foreigners residing in Chikwawa.

Over 800 applicants have collected their passports through this formation between 2004 and to 2017. Since the district shares boundary with Mozambique, there are many immigrants crossing points along the borders, some of which are Nkumaniza, Gola, Chapananga and Chikombe. Out of these crossing points only

Chikombe is manned by an Immigration Officer and the rest are controlled by police officers due to inadequate staff within the department. There is high influx of Mozambicans into Chikwawa without permission because of the refugees who have permanently settled all over the district making it difficult to identify illegal immigrants.

The majority of the immigrants pass through Nkumaniza border point between Malawi and Mozambique while the least passes through Gola, and Chapananga border points. There is need to deploy one Immigration Officer at Nkumaniza because of the highest registered immigrants passing by. In all the three consecutive years (2014-2016), the total number of immigrants has almost stagnated at around 9,000. It is envisaged that crime cases in the country would be minimised if immigrants are identified.

7.7

KEY ISSUES UNDER SECURITY SERVICES.

The prison faces a number of problems, which include; inadequate monthly funding, shortage Staff houses, staff shortage, lack of vehicles especially a lorry for ferrying fuel wood, and food shortages for inmates.

Chikwawa Police Services face a wide range of problems including inadequate monthly funding, lack of staff houses, vehicles, motorcycles, bicycles, and staff shortage. Chikwawa district covers about 4,755 sq km, yet the district has only three vehicles each stationed at Chikwawa Boma, Nchalo and Ngabu as a result incidences that are reported from far away the police are not responded in time. Not only vehicles could assist in perfect delivery of public police services even of motorcycles and bicycles in all formation can as well assist.

Under immigration, porous borders coupled with inadequate staffing make it difficult to control immigrants into the district.

CHAPTER 8: NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORKS

District planning system does not take place in isolation to the national development planning agenda. Since the government's main focus is to eradicate poverty through economic growth a deliberate effort has been done to link the district planning system to the national programmes. This is in recognition of the fact that implementation of the programmes is done at the district level. The linkage between the two (district planning and national planning systems) has been the main preoccupation/initiative of the decentralization policy.

Therefore, in order to be part and parcel of the national development programme, the district development system derives its objectives from the national key development instruments namely: The vision 2020; The Malawi Growth and Development Strategy 3 (MGDS 3); the national Decentralization Policy and United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

8.1 THE VISION 2020

The government of Malawi formulated the vision 2020 in 1997 as a long term agenda to eradicate poverty. The vision sets out the economic and social objectives of the nation to be attained by the year 2020. It expresses both hope and determination in ridding the nation of poverty and attaining a middle-income status by world standards. The vision 2020 states that:

'By the year 2020, Malawi as a God fearing nation will be secure, democratically mature, environmentary sustainable, self-reliant with equal opportunities for and active participation by all, having social services, vibrant cultural and religious and a technology driven middle-income economy.'

The vision 2020 outlines Malawi's development challenges as:

- Achieving good governance
- Achieving sustainable economic growth and development
- Achieving a vibrant culture
- Developing economic infrastructure
- Securing food security and nutrition
- Developing the social sector
- Achieving science and technology- led government.
- Achieving fair and equitable distribution of income
- The management of natural resources and the environment

8.2 MALAWI GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY III (MGDS)

The MGDS III is slightly different from the previous MGDS II since it has fewer priorities; and the emphasis is on flagship programmes and prioritised resource allocation for significant impact. The major theme of MGDS III is to build a Productive, Competitive and Resilient Nation. It is the last MTS for Vision 2020; it will therefore facilitate further envisioning, i.e. successor vision. MGDS 3 has been formulated at a time we are implementing several international development frameworks (IDF); thus need for systematic domestication. It focuses on six key priority areas (KPAs) as follows:

- Agriculture and Climate Change Management;

- Education and Skills Development;
- Energy, Industry and Tourism Development;
- Transport and ICT Infrastructure; and
- Health and Population.

The successful implementation of the strategy will depend on good governance environment within which there is a sound economic environment, high quality service delivery, effective institutions and rule of law, an efficient and effective public sector and reduction in corruption. It also recognizes the need to focus on infrastructure development to enable private sector operate effectively and efficiently in the economy. Protection and Disaster Management, Social Development, Infrastructure, Good Governance

8.3 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS)

The SDGs have been developed through a participatory approach as the peoples' agenda as the UN member states are committed to achieve the agenda 2030, and they constitute a plan of action for ending poverty in all its forms, inclusively and irreversibly everywhere. Malawi is therefore a signatory but also participated in the formulation process. The SDGs, comprising 17 goals, are to be implemented over the period ending in the year 2030.

The SDGs are a comprehensive and ambitious set of goals intended not only to spur growth but also ensure that such growth is equitably shared so as to leave no one behind. They are aimed at creating a just society where resources are sustainably utilized in such a way that the lives and well-being of all citizens are safeguarded. Unlike the MDGs where environment was represented by a single goal, the SDGs have taken environment as a core element with at least one target in each of the 17 goals and close to half of the 169 targets relate to the environment. It is therefore unlikely that the SDGs can be achieved without environmental sustainability. The SDGs bind all nations in a pact that ensures upward movement of all countries at the bottom of the ladder through partnerships among themselves and with other first world countries in the development process.

8.4 THE NATIONAL DECENTRALIZATION POLICY

The Government of Malawi is committed to the reduction of poverty which is rampant to both the rural and urban dwellers. Implementation of the Decentralization programme has been envisaged as the best strategy for tackling the wide spread poverty. The decentralization programme has been legally instituted through the formulation and the enactment of Decentralization policy in 1998 and Local government Act in 1998 respectively. The overall objective of this initiative is to devolve central government powers, functions and resources through local authorities called Councils. This is a move in order to make sure that there is popular participation and autonomy in decision making of the local masses on issues affecting their lives. Thus decentralization promotes good governance and sustainable national development.

Prioritised District Development Issues

The District Council has identified 13 development issues from a thorough situational analysis conducted in the district. The issues raised provide the basis for the district development objectives leading to the formulation of the District Development Plan. The following are the development issues in order of priority in Chikwawa District:

1. Food Insecurity
2. High risk to disaster
3. High Environmental Degradation

4. High morbidity and mortality Rates
5. Low access to safe water and good sanitation
6. High Illiteracy rate
7. Low household income
8. Poor telecommunication and road network infrastructure
9. Poor settlement patterns
10. High HIV Prevalence rate
11. Narrow locally generated revenue resource base
12. Gender based Violence and Vulnerability among Children, women and the Elderly
13. High crime rate

8.5

DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT PLAN FRAMEWORK

The following are development issues, causes, objectives and strategies identified in the conduct of the socio-economic profile and situational analysis:

Table 8.1 District Development Plan Framework

No.	ISSUE	CAUSES	DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES	IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVE	STRATEGIES	LINK TO MGDS III	LINK TO SDGs
1	Food Insecurity	Flooding.	To increase food security at household level from 70% to 90%.	To reduce flooding and mitigate its effects.	Promote integrated catchment management	KPA:1: Agriculture, Water Development and Climate Change Management	
		Flooding		To reduce flooding and mitigate its effects.	Promote resettlement of households from flood prone areas		SDG 1; No poverty, 2: Zero Hunger , 12: Responsible consumption and production and 13: Climate Action
		Flooding		To reduce flooding and mitigate its effects.	Construction of dykes.		
		Use of low yielding crops and livestock.		To increase use of high-yielding varieties of crops and livestock breeds.	Promote use of high yielding varieties and breeds		
		Limited use of Fertilizer and manure.		To increase use of Fertilizers and manure.	Promote use of Fertilizers and fertility improvement technologies		
		Low food crop diversification		To improve food diversification at household level	Intensify food and nutrition awareness campaigns to households.		
		Low and Unreliable rainfall.		To reduce dependence on rain fed Agriculture	Promote irrigated cropping through: Construction of new schemes, use of residual moisture, treadle pumps and watering cans		
		Inadequate Extension Services.		To reduce extension worker to farmer ratio from 1:2137 to 1:1000.	Lobby for more extension workers		

No.	ISSUE	CAUSES	DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES	IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVE	STRATEGIES	LINK TO MGDS III	LINK TO SDGs
					Intensify supervision of extension workers and service delivery		
		Excessive selling of food crops		To reduce excessive selling of food crops.	Promote Agri-business.		
		Excessive selling of food crops		To reduce excessive selling of food crops.	Promote diversification of food and cash crop		
					Promote market linkages.		
		Uncontrolled grazing.		To control grazing	Promote livestock management		
		Uncontrolled grazing.		To control grazing	Encourage stall feeding		
		Uncontrolled grazing.		To control grazing	Formulate and enforce livestock management and control through by-laws		
		Uncontrolled grazing.		To control grazing	Establish livestock management committees at both the community and district levels		
		Uncontrolled grazing.		To control grazing	To increase provision of livestock management extension services		
		Uncontrolled grazing.		To control grazing	Encourage pasture establishment.		
		Low Commodity Prices and unreliable markets for agriculture produce.		To strengthen linkages to reliable markets	Intensify formation of farmers' co-operatives and clubs		
				To strengthen linkages to reliable markets	Promote contract farming		
				To strengthen linkages to reliable markets	Increase farmers awareness in commodity pricing and market accessibility		
2	High Environmental Degradation	Deforestation and encroachment into protected areas	To reduce environmental degradation	To reduce deforestation	Promotion of use of other alternative energy sources	ODA 5: Environmental sustainability	Goal No. 13: Climate Action
		Deforestation and encroachment into protected areas		To reduce deforestation	Promote use of wood saving stoves		
		Deforestation and encroachment into protected areas		To reduce deforestation	Promote afforestation		
		Deforestation and encroachment into protected areas		To reduce deforestation	Introduction of IGAs		
		Deforestation and encroachment into protected areas		To reduce deforestation	Promotion of community management of forest resources		

No.	ISSUE	CAUSES	DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES	IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVE	STRATEGIES	LINK TO MGDS III	LINK TO SDGs
		Deforestation and encroachment into protected areas		To reduce deforestation	Enforcement of by laws		
		Population increase		To reduce population growth	Promotion of family planning practices		
		Uncontrolled bush fires		To reduce uncontrolled bushfires	Sensitization on dangers of bush fires		
		Uncontrolled bush fires		To reduce uncontrolled bushfires	Promotion of fire breaks		
		Brick making and sand mining		To control brick making and sand mining	Promote the use of cement blocks		
		Brick making and sand mining		To control brick making and sand mining	Promote the use of hydra form bricks		
		Brick making and sand mining		To control brick making and sand mining	Licensing of sand miners		
		Poor waste management		To improve waste management	Establish waste disposal sites in trading centre		
		Poor waste management		To improve waste management	Enforcement of waste management by-laws		
		Poor waste management		To improve waste management	Construct solid and liquid disposal sites for the district		
		Poor waste management		To improve waste management	Promote waste recycling technologies		
		Air and water pollution		To reduce water and air pollution	Enhance environmental monitoring system		
		Air and water pollution		To reduce water and air pollution	Encourage enforcement of environmental laws (implementation of ESIA recommendations)		
		Weak enforcement of legislation		To strengthen enforcement of legislation	Enforcement of the laws		
		Unplanned settlements		To Improve and control settlement management	Enforcement of planning standards		
		Unplanned settlements		To Improve and control settlement management	Development control of settlements		
		Flooding		To establish flood mitigation structures	Formulation of flood contingency plan		
		Inadequate capacity in environmental management		To Improve environmental management capacity	Enhance sensitisation on importance of environmental management		
		Inadequate capacity in environmental management		To Improve environmental management capacity	Improve extension services delivery to the community		

No.	ISSUE	CAUSES	DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES	IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVE	STRATEGIES	LINK TO MGDS III	LINK TO SDGs
		Inadequate capacity in environmental management		To Improve environmental management capacity	Capacity building on environmental management		
3	High Risk to disasters	Inadequate knowledge on DRR policies and plans	To reduce annual damage and losses due to disaster by 60% by 2022	To improve disaster preparedness, response and recovery	Capacity building of structures in disaster preparedness, response and recovery	ODA: 2 Disaster risk management and social support	SDG 13: Climate action
					Development and implementation of District Disaster Risk Management Plan and Contingency Plans		
					Enhance community awareness on DRR plans and policies		
		Environmental degradation			Promotion of integrated catchment management		
		Deforestation			Promotion of integrated catchment management		
		Settling along river banks and low lying areas			Reallocation of people from low lying area to upper area		
		Weak DRM structures		To strengthen DRM structures	Revamping and Train DRM structures at district and local level		
		Lack of disaster Planning documents		To develop and review district disaster planning Documents	Formulation and updating of annual contingency plans		
					Formulation of DDRMP		
4	High Morbidity and Mortality Rate	High prevalence rate of diseases and conditions like malaria, pneumonia, HIV/AIDS, TB, malnutrition etc	To reduce in patient Mortality rates from 2.5 to 2 and morbidity rate by 50%	To reduce prevalence rate of diseases such as malaria, pneumonia, HIV/AIDS, malnutrition and TB.	Intensify health education on preventative measures of killer diseases.	KPA5: Health and Population	SDG 3: good Health and well being and 6: Clean Water and sanitation
					Improve curative services		
		Shortage of health personnel		To increase number of health personnel	Lobby for revision of health sector establishment warrant		
					Lobby for more health personnel		
		Inadequate and dilapidated health facilities		To improve health facilities	Construct more health facilities and staff houses		
					Rehabilitate and maintain health facilities and staff houses		

No.	ISSUE	CAUSES	DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES	IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVE	STRATEGIES	LINK TO MGDS III	LINK TO SDGs
		Limited availability of social amenities e.g. water and electricity in Health facilities		To provide social amenities i.e. water, electricity	Lobby for support for provision of social amenities e.g. water and electricity		
		Poor hygiene and sanitation		To improve hygiene and sanitation standards	Provide health education on hygiene and sanitation		
5	Low Access to Safe Water and Sanitation	Flooding and Siltation	To increase accessibility to safe water from 67% to 90% and Sanitation from 61% to 90% by 2022	To mitigate effects of flooding and siltation	Promote integrated catchment management	KPA1: Agriculture, Water Development and Climate Change Management, and 5 Health and Population	SDGS 3: Good Health and well being, 4: Quality Education and 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
		Theft and vandalism of water resources		To reduce theft and vandalism	Intensification of civic education on vandalism		
					Promotion of community Policing		
		Inadequate number of water facilities		To increase number of boreholes	Drilling of boreholes.		
		Non-functionality of boreholes		Increase number of functional boreholes	Maintenance and rehabilitation of boreholes.		
					Lobby for service providers to improve maintenance of water points in local communities		
					Building capacity in maintenance and operation of water points		
		Inadequate and uneven distribution of existing water points		To improve distribution of water points	Provision of adequate water points		
					Promote water point mapping to determine water point allocation		
		Lack of ownership by communities of water points		To promote ownership of water points by the communities	Promotion of civic education on community ownership of water points		
					Strengthen collaboration and partnership		
		Salinity		To reduce salinity on water	Promote technologies to reduce water salinity		
6	High Illiteracy Rates	High school drop-out rate	To reduce illiteracy rate from 70% to 50% by 2022.	To reduce drop out rate by 15%	Institute and enforce by-Laws that discourage early marriages and teenage pregnancies	KPA2: Education and Skills Development.	SDG 4: Quality Education and growth
		Child labour		To reduce child Labour	Intensify civic education on child labour		growth

No.	ISSUE	CAUSES	DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES	IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVE	STRATEGIES	LINK TO MGDS III	LINK TO SDGs
		Cultural influence		To reduce cultural influence	Promote civic education and awareness		
		Low household income levels		To expand school feeding program	Promote home grown school feeding programs		
		Inadequate teaching and learning materials		To increase availability of teaching and learning materials	Encourage use of TALULAR		
					Lobby for increased supply of teaching and learning materials.		
		Understaffing		To increase number of staff	Lobby for the recruitment of well qualified teachers		
		Inadequate learning and staff infrastructure		To increase and improve learning and staff infrastructure	Provide adequate learning and staff infrastructures		
					Maintenance of existing infrastructures		
					Encourage participation of communities in school management		
		Inadequate sanitation facilities		To increase availability of sanitation facilities.	Provide adequate sanitary facilities.		
		Inadequate adult literacy services		To increase access to adult learning services	Provide adult literacy facilities		
					Capacity building of adult literacy instructors		
7	Low Household Income	Low pricing of cash crops	To increase household income by 25% by 2022	Improve pricing of cash crops	Lobby for higher prices of cash crops	MDGS ODA 1-financial services	SDGs 1 no poverty
		High unemployment		To reduce unemployment	Promote vocational training and other small scale business		
					Promote private sector investment		
		Low wage rate		To increase wage rate	Enforcement of the already existing minimum wage rate in the Government		
		Low access to credit facilities		To increase access to credit facilities	Provide innovative credit schemes		
					Promote saving and loan groups		
		Gender disparities within communities		Decrease gender disparity gap	Promote women empowerment programmes		

No.	ISSUE	CAUSES	DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES	IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVE	STRATEGIES	LINK TO MGDS III	LINK TO SDGs
8	Poor telecommunication and road network Infrastructure	Insufficient postal and telecommunication facilities	To improve telecommunication and road network infrastructure	To Increase and improve postal and telecommunication facilities	To lobby for provision of sufficient postal and telecommunication facilities	MGDS KPA 3: Transport and ICT infrastructure	SDG no 9: Industry innovation and infrasture
					Promote private sector investment in telecommunication facilities provision		
					Promote even distribution of telecommunication facilities		
		Natural disasters-Floods		To reduce the impacts of disasters	Promote resilience building techniques		
		Vandalism of telecommunication facilities		To reduce vandalism of telecommunication facilities	Sensitization on the importance of telecommunication facilities to the public		
					Strengthen community policing		
		Irregular maintenance of existing roads and bridges		To ensure regular maintenance of existing roads and bridges	Undertake routine road maintenance		
		Inadequate roads and bridges		To Increase number of roads and bridges	Provide adequate road network and bridges		
		Inadequate public and private transport services and infrastructure		To improve public and private transport services and infrastructure	Partnership and collaboration with private transport owners		
					Provision of transport services infrastructure i.e parking space and stands		
		Lack of ownership by community for roads and bridges		To increase community ownership of infrastructures	Build capacity of communities in maintenance of roads and bridges		
					Create awareness on community ownership		
9	Poor settlement patterns	Poor urban planning (absence of urban structure plan)	To develop growing trading centres into well planned urban centres	To Develop urban structure plan and enforce by laws	To prepare urban structure plans for all growing trading centres	ODA 4: Human settlement and physical planning	SDGs 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure and SDG 11: sustainable cities and communities
					To prepare urban layout plans for all land use zones in growing trading centres		
		Absence of necessary bye- laws and enforcement procedures			To develop and enforce bye- laws		

No.	ISSUE	CAUSES	DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES	IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVE	STRATEGIES	LINK TO MGDS III	LINK TO SDGs	
10	High Prevalence rate of HIV/AIDS	Harmful/unfavourable cultural and traditional practices	To reduce HIV/AIDS Prevalence rate from 7.5% to 5% by 2022	To discourage harmful cultural practices/ traditions that predispose women and children to HIV/AIDS	Promote awareness on dangerous cultural practices and traditions in HIV/AIDS	KPA 5: population and health ODA 6: HIV/AIDS management	SDGs 3: Good health well being	
		Risky sexual behaviours		To eliminate risky sexual behaviour	Promote safe sex behaviour and access to HTS			
		Gender disparity		To promote gender equality	Mainstream HIV/AIDS in both public and private core businesses			
						Promote economic independence among women.		
		Poor adherence to ART		To promote adherence to ART	Provide support to ART clients			
		High exposure to infection during disasters		To reduce exposure to infection during disasters	Promote provision of HIV/AIDS related services during disasters			
11	Low locally generated resource base	Absence of Local Revenue Enhancement Strategic Plan (LRESP)	To increase local revenue collection from 60million/year to 120 million/year by 2022	To increase local revenue base	Formulation of Local revenue enhancement strategic plan	ODA:7.1 Financial Services	SDG 1 no poverty	
		Poor and inadequate revenue generation facilities/infrastructures		To increase local revenue base	To construct and rehabilitate local revenue generation facilities e.g. markets			
		Poor revenue collection mechanisms			To strengthen revenue collection mechanisms			
		Outdated revenue generation bye-laws			Update and enforce bye-laws			
12	Gender based Violence and Vulnerability among Children, women and the Elderly	Inadequate knowledge on gender and human rights	Reduce GBV cases by 30%	To increase prevention, management and redress of gender based violence	Promote awareness on gender and human rights	ODA 3: Gender, youth, persons with disability and social welfare	SDG 5: Gender equality SDG 10: Reduced inequalities SDG 16: Peace, Justice and strong institution	
		Harmful/unfavourable cultural and traditional practices		To increase prevention, management and redress of gender based violence	Promote awareness of cultural and other practices that fuel gender based violence			
		Weak enforcement of laws and policies that protect rights of women		To increase prevention, management and redress of gender based violence	Strengthen structures and systems that protect women, girls and children from gender based violence			
		Inadequate women empowerment		To increase prevention, management and redress of gender based violence	Promote women empowerment programmes			

No.	ISSUE	CAUSES	DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES	IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVE	STRATEGIES	LINK TO MGDS III	LINK TO SDGs
		Inadequate Child Protection workers (CPWs).		Increase number of CPWs	Recruit and deploy 12 Child Protection Workers		
		Low knowledge on child rights and protection		Improve knowledge of community in child rights and protection	Equip community structures with knowledge in child rights and protection.		
		Inactive Child protection structures		Reactivate child protection structures	Revamp and train community child protection structures		
		Inadequate child friendly infrastructure		Increase child friendly toilets	Construct child friendly toilets in ECD/CBCCs		
		High vulnerability and social and economic risk among the vulnerable people		To reduce risks among the vulnerable population.	Promote social protection programs amongst the vulnerable population		
		Inadequate number of OVCs being supported with bursaries		Increase number of OVCs being supported with bursaries	Support 1000 Orphans and other Vulnerable children		
		Inadequate psychosocial support to the vulnerable population		To improve social protection of the elderly and physically challenged	Promote provision of psychosocial support to elderly and physically challenged persons.		
13	Rise in crime rate	Low community policing	To reduce the crime rate from 6,881 by 20% by 2022	To strengthen community policing structures	Promote vibrant community policing structures and awareness campaigns	MGDS: ODA 7.8: Peace and Security	SDG 16: Peace and justice
		Inadequate staff		To increase number of police officers	Lobby for more police personnel		
		Inadequate police units, stations and posts		To increase coverage of security services	Provision of police infrastructure		
					Rehabilitation of existing police structures		
		Inadequate transport facilities		To reduce mobility challenges	Provision of reliable and adequate vehicles and motorcycles		

With support rendered by the
United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), through the
Local Government Accountability and Performance (LGAP) project.