



Republic of Malawi

Dowa District Council

# SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE



## 2017 - 2022

SEPTEMBER 2020



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>FOREWORD</b>	<b>XVII</b>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</b>	<b>XVIII</b>
<b>LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS</b>	<b>XIX</b>
<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b>	<b>XXI</b>
<b>CHAPTER 1: GENERAL FEATURES</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION, LOCATION AND SIZE	1
1.1.1 Topography, Geology and Hydrology	1
1.1.2 Climate and Climate Change	4
1.1.3 Mechanism to Reduce Vulnerability:	7
1.1.4 Vegetation	8
1.2 ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURES AND LOCAL POLITICS	9
1.2.1 Local Government Systems, Functions and Structures	9
1.2.2 Politics	12
1.2.3 Informal Administrative Structure	13
1.2.4 Civil Society Organisations	14
1.3 THE PEOPLE OF DOWA	16
1.3.1 Tribes	16
1.3.2 Languages	16
1.3.3 Culture/Beliefs	16
1.3.4 Religion	17
1.4 DEMOGRAPHY AND SETTLEMENTS	17
1.4.1 Population size and characteristics	17
1.4.2 Population Density	19
1.4.3 Birth Rate, Death Rate and Life Expectancy	20
1.4.4 Migratory Patterns	21
1.4.5 Settlement Patterns	21
1.4.6 Urban Growth Patterns	21
1.4.7 Rural housing program	22
<b>CHAPTER 2: LAND USE</b>	<b>23</b>
2.1 INTRODUCTION	23
2.1.1 Land Tenure System	23
2.2 LAND USE SYSTEM	23
2.2.1 Plot Size	24
2.3 URBAN STRUCTURE PLANS/DETAILED LAYOUT PLANS IN MAJOR URBAN	24
2.3.1 Development Status at Dowa Boma	24

2.3.2	Incompatible Land Uses (Conflicts on Land Use)	24
2.3.3	Land related complaints received by Dowa District Lands Office	25
<b>CHAPTER 3:</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES</b>	<b>26</b>
3.1	INTRODUCTION	26
3.2	FOREST RESERVE AND WILD LIFE	26
3.2.1	Forest extension services	29
3.3	VILLAGE NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES (VNRMCS)	29
3.3.1	Tree planting	31
3.3.2	Area most affected by deforestation	33
3.3.3	Agriculture	34
3.3.4	Wood supply	34
3.3.5	None Wood Supply	34
3.3.6	Environmentally-Critical Areas	34
3.3.7	Waste and Sanitation	35
3.3.8	Sources of greenhouse gases	36
3.3.9	Common types of waste generated	36
3.3.10	Common waste collection methods	36
3.3.11	Common waste disposal methods	36
3.3.12	Key issues affecting the sector	36
3.3.13	Opportunities in the sector	37
3.4	BIODIVERSITY	37
3.4.1	Loss of biodiversity	37
3.4.2	Threats to Biodiversity	37
3.4.3	Disasters	38
<b>CHAPTER 4:</b>	<b>ECONOMY</b>	<b>40</b>
4.1	INCOME AND POVERTY INCIDENCE	40
4.1.1	Household Income	40
4.1.2	Household Expenditure	40
4.1.3	Poverty Incidences	41
4.2	LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	42
4.2.1	Agriculture	42
4.2.2	Vision and Policy goal	42
4.2.3	Key Constraints to Crop Production	44
4.3	AGRICULTURAL SERVICES	46
4.3.1	Agricultural Extension	46
4.3.2	Institutional Set-up	47
4.4	AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES	47



4.4.1	Soil and Water Conservation (S&WC) Agriculture	47
4.4.2	Area under Soil Fertility Improvement	48
4.4.3	Area under Conservation Agriculture	49
4.4.4	Mechanization Agriculture	50
4.4.5	Food Situation	50
4.4.6	Input Uptake	51
4.4.7	Agricultural Markets	52
4.4.8	livestock development	53
4.4.9	Livestock services available	53
4.4.10	Livestock uses	53
4.4.11	Main constraints in livestock production	54
4.4.12	Livestock production	54
4.4.13	Livestock Services	55
4.5	45 0	
	IRRIGATION	5 5
4.5.1	Irrigation Status/Trend	57
4.5.2	Irrigation Status by technology in each EPA	57
4.5.3	Issues in the Irrigation Sector	58
4.5.4	Existing Dams in the District and their Present Condition	59
4.5.5	Challenges to irrigation development	60
4.5.6	Opportunities	61
4.6	FISHERIES	6 1
4.6.1	Fishing Systems	61
4.6.2	Pond Culture System	61
4.6.3	Fish Production	63
4.6.4	Small Water Bodies	63
4.6.5	Riverine Fisheries	63
4.6.6	Fish Processing	64
4.6.7	Fisheries Economy	64
4.6.8	Aquatic Weeds	64
4.6.9	Fisheries Extension Services	64
4.7	47 0	
	FORESTRY	64
4.7.1	Production Forests/Tree Plantations	64
4.7.2	Forestry Services	65
4.7.3	Agro-forestry	65
4.7.4	Contribution of timber and non-timber products to the local economy	66

4.8	MINING	66
4.8.1	Mineral Deposits	66
4.8.2	Mining Activities and Production	66
4.8.3	Contributions of Mines to the Local Economy	66
4.8.4	Key Issues from the Mining Sector	66
4.9	COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY	67
4.9.1	Types and size of businesses establishment	67
4.9.2	Business sub sector classification, manufacturing trading	68
4.9.3	Banking and Credit facilities	68
4.9.4	Primary clients of lending institution and banks	69
4.9.5	Business Promotion Services	70
4.9.6	Types of Capacity Building trainings provided	70
4.9.7	Training facilities available	70
4.9.8	Contribution of Small Medium Enterprises to the Local Economy	70
4.9.9	Key issues from business sector	71
4.9.10	Opportunities	71
4.10	LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT	71
4.10.1	Labour force	71
4.10.2	Unskilled force	72
4.10.3	Sectoral distribution of labour	72
4.10.4	Conditions of employment	73
4.10.5	Wage, wage range and hours of work	73
4.10.6	Number of Organized Labour Unions	74
4.10.7	Labour complaints	74
4.10.8	Occupation/work place accidents	74
4.10.9	Child labour	75
4.10.10	Number of Children withdrawn from Child labour per T/A	75
4.10.11	Routine labour inspections	76
4.10.12	Key issues:	76
4.11	TOURISM	76
4.11.1	Tourism potential	77
4.11.2	Description of areas with high tourism potential	77
4.11.3	Historical site	77
4.12	CULTURE	77
4.12.1	Traditional Festivals	77
4.13	NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS	77
4.13.1	Madzialendo	77

4.13.2	Motels, Lodges and Rest houses	78
4.14	TOURISM INDUSTRY KEY ISSUES	78
4.14.1	Tourism business opportunities	79
4.14.2	Conferencing Facilities	79
4.14.3	Transportation	79
4.14.4	Cultural Tourism	79
4.14.5	Contribution of Tourism to the local economy	80
4.14.6	Key issues	80
<b>CHAPTER 5:</b>	<b>SOCIAL SERVICES</b>	<b>81</b>
5.1	HEALTH	81
5.1.1	Life Expectancy	81
5.2	MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY RATES	81
5.2.1	Health Facilities	88
5.2.2	Hospital Bed Capacity	88
5.2.3	Facilities Available at each Health Centre (electricity and water)	91
5.2.4	Health Human Resources	91
5.2.5	Family Planning	92
5.2.6	Finances	93
5.2.7	Drug Budget	93
5.2.8	Transport	93
5.2.9	Key Issues	94
5.2.10	Water and Sanitation	94
5.2.11	Safe Water Access	95
5.2.12	Distance to Improved Water Facilities by Households	96
5.2.13	Main Sources and Condition of Water Facilities	96
5.2.14	Population to Improved Water Point Ratio	97
5.2.15	Population/Functional Improved Water Facility Ratio	98
5.2.16	Distribution of Improved Water Facilities by Technology Type	99
5.2.17	Urban Water Supply	102
5.2.18	Access to Sanitary Latrines	102
5.2.19	5.2.6 Methods of Waste Disposal	104
5.3	EDUCATION	105
5.3.1	Literacy level	106
5.3.2	Education institutions	106
5.3.3	Enrolment	107
5.3.4	Primary Education Ownership	113

5.3.5	Primary Teacher House Ratio	113
5.3.6	Pupil: Desks ratio	114
5.3.7	Summary of issues	115
5.3.8	Students with Special Needs	122
5.4	SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES	1 2 3
5.4.1	Introduction	123
5.4.2	Early Child Development	124
5.4.3	Enrolment of children in ECD	124
5.4.4	ECD Caregivers	125
5.4.5	Parenting education in ECD	125
5.4.6	Status of Water, Sanitation and Hand Washing Facilities	126
5.4.7	Nutrition in ECD centres	126
5.4.8	Child Protection Program	127
5.4.9	Community Based Organization Coordination	128
5.4.10	Orphans and other Vulnerable Children	128
5.4.11	The plight of Orphans and other Vulnerable Children	129
5.4.12	Orphans and Other Vulnerable Children (OVC) Education Support	129
5.4.13	The Situation of Gender Based Violence	130
5.4.14	Probation and aftercare	130
5.4.15	Challenges to juvenile justice (probation and after care)	131
5.5	DISABILITY ISSUES	1 3 1
5.5.1	Malawi Council for the Handicapped – MACOHA	131
5.5.2	Key objectives that guide MACOHA's programs and services	132
5.5.3	Achievements	132
5.5.4	Strength	133
5.5.5	Challenge	133
5.5.6	Livelihood	133
5.5.7	Strength	134
5.5.8	Human Rights Issues	134
5.6	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	1 3 4
5.6.1	Introduction	134
5.6.2	Community Economic Empowerment	135
5.6.3	Savings and Loan	135
5.6.4	Village Savings and Loan	136
5.6.5	Community Mobilization	137
5.6.6	Community Capacity Building	137
5.6.7	Community Resilience, Nutrition and Livelihoods	138

5.6.8	Adult Literacy Programme	139
5.6.9	Adult Literacy Enrolment	139
5.6.10	Key Issues for the Department	142
5.7	YOUTH DEVELOPMENT	142
5.7.1	Youth Participation and Leadership	143
5.7.2	Youth Participation in Youth Clubs	144
5.7.3	Youth Networks	145
5.7.4	NGOs that Implement Youth Development	145
5.7.5	Youth Centers	146
5.7.6	Youth Reproductive Health	147
5.7.7	Youth Employment	148
5.7.8	Key Issues Affecting the Youths	148
5.7.9	Opportunities in Youth Sector	148
5.8	SPORTS	148
5.8.1	Policy guideline	148
5.8.2	Promotion of mass participation in all the sport disciplines:	150
5.9	HIV AND AIDS	153
5.9.1	Nutrition, HIV and AIDS	153
5.9.2	Coordinating Structures	153
5.9.3	HIV and AIDS Services Provided in the District	154
5.9.4	Key Drivers of the Epidemic in the District	155
5.9.5	Priority Areas of HIV and AIDS Interventions	155
5.9.6	HIV and AIDS Mainstreaming Issues	156
5.9.7	Percentage of Sexually Active Population (15 -49) Infected	156
5.9.8	Prevalence of HIV among pregnant women attending ANC	157
5.9.9	Percentage of infants born to HIV positive mothers who are infected	157
5.9.10	Percentage Age at First Sex among 18-24 year olds	158
5.10	NUTRITION	159
5.10.1	Facilities offering nutrition support	159
5.10.2	Under five Nutrition	159
5.10.3	Anaemia	160
5.10.4	Percent of low birth weight babies	160
5.10.5	Pregnant women receiving antenatal services in the first trimester	160
5.10.6	Nutrition Coordination and Structures	161
<b>CHAPTER 6: INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES</b>		<b>162</b>
6.1	TRANSPORT	162
6.1.1	Roads	162



6.1.2	Bridges	165
6.2	INFORMATION DEPARTMENT	170
6.2.1	Communication	170
6.2.2	Postal Services	170
6.2.3	Money Transfer	171
6.2.4	Mail Services and Retail Service	171
6.2.5	Postal Agencies	171
6.3	TELEPHONE NETWORKS	172
6.3.1	Access to Landlines Telephones	172
6.3.2	Cellular Networks	173
6.3.3	Radio and Television Networks	173
6.3.4	Television	174
6.3.5	National Publications	174
6.3.6	Internet Services	174
6.3.7	Other Telecommunication Services	175
6.4	ISSUES	175
<b>CHAPTER 7: SECURITY/ GOVERNANCE</b>		<b>176</b>
7.1	CRIME MANAGEMENT	176
7.1.1	Type of Cases Registered	176
7.1.2	Prosecution	177
7.2	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT	177
7.3	VICTIM SUPPORT UNIT	178
7.4	SECURITY SERVICES AVAILABLE	179
7.4.1	Police	179
7.4.2	Type and Number of Police transport	180
7.4.3	Type and Number of Police Communication facilities	180
7.4.4	Security Service Facilities	180
7.4.5	Number and Capacity of police cell	180
7.4.6	Issues from SEP	182
7.5	JUDICIARY	182
7.5.1	Distribution of courts	182
7.5.2	Criminal Cases	183
7.5.3	Criminal cases concluded per year by type	183
7.5.4	Criminal Pending Cases	184
7.5.5	Civil Cases	185
7.5.6	Civil Concluded Cases	185
7.5.7	Pending cases	186

7.5.8	Transport	187
7.5.9	staffing of magistrates	187
7.5.10	Distribution of clerks and court marshals per year	187
7.6	PRISON	188
7.7	FIRE	189
7.8	TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ISSUES	189
7.9	HUMAN RIGHTS	189
7.10	NATIONAL REGISTRATION BUREAU	190
7.10.1	Birth registration	190
7.10.2	Registration of adults	191
7.10.3	Death registration	191
7.10.4	Marriage registration	191
7.10.5	Summary of sector key issues	192
<b>CHAPTER 8:</b>	<b>GLOBAL AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES</b>	<b>194</b>
8.1	GLOBAL AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES	194
8.1.1	Sustainable Development Goals	194
8.2	NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES	195
8.2.1	Vision 2020	195
8.2.2	Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III	196
8.2.3	Decentralization Policy	198
8.2.4	The Decentralization Policy:	198
8.2.5	Objectives of the Policy	198
8.2.6	Local Government Act	198
8.2.7	The Role of Local Government in Development	199
8.2.8	District Potential	199
<b>CHAPTER 9:</b>	<b>DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT PLANNING FRAMEWORK</b>	<b>201</b>
9.1	PRIORITIZED DEVELOPMENT ISSUES	201
9.2	DDPF MATRIX	201

# LIST OF TABLES

Table 1.1	Monthly Average Temperatures for the Western Part	4
Table 1.2	Monthly Average Temperatures for the Eastern Part	4
Table 1.3	Rainfall data from Dowa Agriculture	5
Table 1.4	Rainfall data from Madisi Agriculture	5
Table 1.5	Rainfall data from Dowa West District Agriculture Office	6
Table 1.6	Rainfall data from Mvera Automatic Weather Station	6
Table 1.7	Wind Speed (m/s) from Mvera Automatic Weather Station	7
Table 1.8	ADC membership by Sex	11
Table 1.9	Traditional Authorities, GVHs and VDCs	12
Table 1.10	Dowa Constituencies	12
Table 1.11	Distribution of Ward Councilors	13
Table 1.12	Statutory Corporations and their Interventions	13
Table 1.13	NGO and CSOs Working in Dowa	14
Table 1.14	Population distribution by sex	19
Table 1.15	Population distribution by Age Group	19
Table 1.16	Population Densities by TA	20
Table 1.17	Projected population, births and deaths	20
Table 1.18	Life Expectance	20
Table 1.19	Projected Total Fertility Rate	21
Table 1.20	Population of Refugees in Dzaleka	21
Table 1.21	Urban Growth Points	22
Table 2.1	Major Land Uses in Dowa District	23
Table 2.2	Plot Size versus Purpose of Development (Economic Activity)	24
Table 2.3	showing land complaints received by Dowa District Lands office	25
Table 3.1	Forest Reserves	26
Table 3.2	VNRMCs Trained and untrained	30
Table 3.3	Tree planting by categories	32
Table 3.4	Forestry Issues, causes and possible solutions	33
Table 3.5	Deployment of Forestry extension staff per EPA	33
Table 3.6	Stakeholders in Disaster Risk Management	38
Table 4.1	Trend of Crop Production and Area Cultivated over the Past 5 years.	44
Table 4.2	Distribution of the Area and Farm Families by EPA	45
Table 4.3	Farm Families by EPA and Gender Category	46
Table 4.4	EPA Staff to Farmer Ratio	46
Table 4.5	Distribution of EPAs by T/As	47

Table 4.6	Targets and achievements on S&WC	48
Table 4.7	Manure making achievements	48
Table 4.8	Achievements on compost heaps	49
Table 4.9	Area under Conservation agriculture	49
Table 4.10	Area under Mulching	50
Table 4.11	Percentage of Farm Families without Food per Month per Year	50
Table 4.12	Input Uptake for Credit (Mt)	51
Table 4.13	Inputs Uptake on Subsidy in metric tones	52
Table 4.14	Input Uptake by Cash	52
Table 4.15	Notable Market Centres in the District	53
Table 4.16	Number of Animals Treated Against Various Diseases	54
Table 4.17	Population census of livestock	54
Table 4.18	Distribution of Dip Tanks in Dowa district	55
Table 4.19	Irrigation Status/Trend for Dowa District Over a 5-year Period	57
Table 4.20	Irrigation Status in Extension Planning Areas (EPAs) By Technology	58
Table 4.21	Number of Irrigation Sites and Beneficiaries Per Technology	58
Table 4.22	Existing Dams in the District	59
Table 4.23	Participation of Male and Female Farmers in Fish Farming	61
Table 4.24	Fish Production trend by species since 2012 in KGs	63
Table 4.25	Production Forests/Tree Plantations	65
Table 4.26	Staffing Levels at District Forestry office	65
Table 4.27	Minerals Deposits Available in the District	66
Table 4.28	business activities	67
Table 4.29	Cooperatives in Dowa	68
Table 4.30	Interest rate of financial institutions	69
Table 4.31	Credit institutions operating in the District	69
Table 4.32	services offered by different institution	70
Table 4.33	Number of skilled people per year by T/A.	72
Table 4.34	Number of unskilled people per year by T/A.	72
Table 4.35	Labour Distribution by Sector per Year	72
Table 4.36	Number of Civil Servants in the District	73
Table 4.37	wage range	74
Table 4.38	Labour Complaints Reported Per Year.	74
Table 4.39	Distribution of industrial accident occurred in the district per year.	74
Table 4.40	Type of Child labour per year.	75
Table 4.41	Children withdraws from labour per T/A	75
Table 4.42	Number of children withdrawn from child labour and sent back to school	76

Table 4.43	showing Number of inspections planned and carried out per year.	76
Table 4.44	State/Condition of Tourism Sites	79
Table 5.1	Number of patients registered for non-communicable diseases	82
Table 5.2	Number of patients registered with psychotic disorders in the district	83
Table 5.3	Main Causes of Morbidity in the District	83
Table 5.4	Bed Capacity for all health facilities	88
Table 5.5	Out-patient department (OPD) attendance for 22 health facilities	90
Table 5.6	facilities in hospitals (Electricity and water)	91
Table 5.7	shows Vacancy rate for the district	91
Table 5.8	shows transport system for the DHO	94
Table 5.9	Distribution of Improved Water Points by Population Distribution	96
Table 5.10	office ranks for education sector	105
Table 5.11	Enrolment for Primary Schools by T/A	107
Table 5.12	Number of Qualified Teachers per Year	108
Table 5.13	Number of classrooms per T/A	108
Table 5.14	Pupil Classroom Ratio (PCR)	109
Table 5.15	Number of permanent toilets	109
Table 5.16	Dropout by TA	110
Table 5.17	Repitition rate	111
Table 5.18	Primary School completion	112
Table 5.19	Number of Text books per year per TA	112
Table 5.20	Number of Libraries as per Traditional Authority	112
Table 5.21	Showing Ownership of primary schools	113
Table 5.22	Teachers Houses Ratio	114
Table 5.23	Pupil School Desk Ratio	114
Table 5.24	Secondary Schools by Proprietorship	115
Table 5.25	Enrolment per T/A	116
Table 5.26	Number of Permanent Classrooms	116
Table 5.27	Pupil-Classroom Ratio	117
Table 5.28	Pupil-Desk Ratio	117
Table 5.29	Teacher-House Ratio	118
Table 5.30	Student-Teacher Ratio (STR)	118
Table 5.31	Available Number of Usable Textbooks	119
Table 5.32	Available Libraries per T/A	119
Table 5.33	Distribution of Laboratories in secondary schools	120
Table 5.34	MSCE Pass Rate	120
Table 5.35	Dropout Rates	121



Table 5.36	Major Reasons for Dropouts	121
Table 5.37	Special Needs Students	122
Table 5.38	Pupil-Toilet Ratio	123
Table 5.39	Number of CBCC centers feeding program	126
Table 5.40	Recorded cases and the trend of child abuse	127
Table 5.41	Reported GBV Cases by Sex	130
Table 5.42	showing number of Children in conflict with the law	131
Table 5.43	Social welfare staffing	131
Table 5.44	Children with disabilities identified and have access to equitable, relevant and quality early childhood and primary education.	132
Table 5.45	Children with disabilities with access to education	133
Table 5.46	Livelihood activities done by people with disabilities	134
Table 5.47	Number of groups trained in business management	135
Table 5.48	Savings for COMSIP groups	136
Table 5.49	VSLAs implemented by partners	136
Table 5.50	Community Mobilization Meetings across T/As	137
Table 5.51	Number of men and women involved in Community Capacity Building	137
Table 5.52	Number of Beneficiaries in Community Nutrition Programme	138
Table 5.53	Enrollment of Adult Literacy Programme per T/A per Year	139
Table 5.54	Distribution of adult literacy instructors across the T/As	140
Table 5.55	Distribution of literacy classes per TA	141
Table 5.56	Youth clubs per traditional authority	143
Table 5.57	Youths in the District as per T/A	144
Table 5.58	NGOs that Implement Youth Development in the District	145
Table 5.59	Youth Trained in Vocational Skills	146
Table 5.60	Peer Educators in the District	147
Table 5.61	Sports Associations and Trophies/ Leagues operational in the district	150
Table 5.62	Number of Coaches, Referee and Umpires Trained from 2013-2017	151
Table 5.63	Number of Talent Identified	151
Table 5.64	shows Sports facilities per Zone/T/A	152
Table 5.65	HIV and AIDS Service and Service providers in the district	154
Table 5.66	Percentages Sexually Active Population (15 -49) Infected	156
Table 5.67	Prevalence of HIV among pregnant women attending ANC.	157
Table 5.68	Percentage of infants born to HIV positive mothers who are infected.	157
Table 5.69	% of sexually active populations who have ever been tested for HIV	158
Table 5.70	Other HIV and AIDS Indicators	159
Table 5.71	NRU (Nutrition Rehabilitation Unit)	160

Table 5.72	OTP (Outpatient Therapeutic Program)	161
Table 5.73	SFP (Supplementary Feeding Program)	161
Table 6.1	Main Roads in Dowa	162
Table 6.2	Secondary and Tertiary Roads in Dowa	163
Table 6.3	District Roads in Dowa	163
Table 6.4	Bridges in Dowa	165
Table 6.5	Trends in Road Maintenance	168
Table 6.6	Postal Facilities in Dowa district	170
Table 6.7	shows the Volume of Cash Transfer per Category	171
Table 6.8	Postal Agencies by T/A	172
Table 6.9	Phone and Data Density	172
Table 6.10	Radio Stations in the District	173
Table 6.11	List of publications and their frequencies	174
Table 6.12	Percentage of individuals using internet/year in Malawi	175
Table 7.1	Breakdown of Cases Reported by gender of offenders	176
Table 7.2	Cases Dealt With	177
Table 7.3	Cases Completed	177
Table 7.4	Traffic Cases Reported	178
Table 7.5	Offences Handled by Victim Support Unit	178
Table 7.6	Area Served by Each Police Station	179
Table 7.7	Police Units per T/A	180
Table 7.8	Number of police personnel	181
Table 7.9	Distribution of police officers by rank	181
Table 7.10	Number of Police Personnel and ratio to population	181
Table 7.11	Distribution of court by TA	182
Table 7.12	criminal cases registered by type	183
Table 7.13	criminal cases registered by type	184
Table 7.14	below will show pending cases per year by type.	184
Table 7.15	Civil Cases Registered per year by Type	185
Table 7.16	civil cases by type concluded by type by year	185
Table 7.17	Pending cases per year by type	186
Table 7.18	number of court clerk and court marshal per court by year	187
Table 7.19	Ratio of Magistrate to population per T/A	187
Table 7.20	Health facilities where birth registration is taking place	190
Table 8.1	Mapping of MGDS III Key Priority Areas to the SDGs and Agenda 2063	197
Table 8.2	Resources and Potentials in the District	199
Table 9.1	DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT PLANNING FRAMEWORK	201

# LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1	Map of Malawi showing location of Dowa district	1
Figure 1.2	Dowa East Landscape	2
Figure 1.3	Topography and Drainage System of Dowa District	2
Figure 1.4	Topography and geology of the district	3
Figure 1.5	Distribution of soil types	3
Figure 1.6	Topography and Drainage in Dowa District	4
Figure 1.7	Typical Dowa vegetation	9
Figure 1.8	Dowa District Council Secretariat Office	10
Figure 1.9	Gule Wamkulu	16
Figure 1.10	Percentage Distribution of Religions in Dowa	17
Figure 1.11	Population over years	18
Figure 1.12	Population per TA	18
Figure 3.1	Land use Map Showing Forest Reserves and Plantations	27
Figure 3.2	Area (Ha) Destroyed through fire per year	27
Figure 3.3	Area destroyed by cutting and charcoal burning	28
Figure 3.4	Forest Extension Services	29
Figure 3.5	Number of Village Forest Area (VFA) per TA	30
Figure 3.6	Area (HA) of Village Forest Area (VFA) per TA	31
Figure 3.7	Indigenous trees planted and survived	31
Figure 3.8	Exotic trees planted and survived	32
Figure 3.9	MASAF Micro Catchment Distribution	35
Figure 3.10	Gully in Chisepo EPA	38
Figure 4.1	Average Annual HH Income by Income Source	40
Figure 4.2	Annual House Hold Expenditure by Type	41
Figure 4.3	Poverty and Ultra Poverty Rates	42
Figure 4.4	Hips of manure	49
Figure 4.5	Developed Irrigation Area versus Potential Irrigation Area	56
Figure 4.6	The magnificent Kang'ona Dam in Madisi EPA, TA Chakhaza	60
Figure 4.7	Participation on fish farming by gender	62
Figure 4.8	Number of fish ponds per TA in Dowa	62
Figure 5.1	Top most causes of Morbidity in children of less than 5years	82
Figure 5.2	Proportion of deaths per 10, 000 in the district	85
Figure 5.3	Fully immunization coverage for under ones	86
Figure 5.4	Figure 35 shows the common main causes of deaths in under-fives in the district	86
Figure 5.5	Number maternal deaths in the district	87

Figure 5.6	Number of Neonatal deaths in the district	88
Figure 5.7	Figure 38 shows drug budget for fiscal years 2016/17 and 2017/18	93
Figure 5.8	Proportion of HH population with access to improved drinking water	95
Figure 5.9	Population to Improved Water Facility Ratio	97
Figure 5.10	Operational Status of Improved Water Facilities by T/A	98
Figure 5.11	Ratio of Population to One Functional Improved Water Facility by T/A	99
Figure 5.12	Distribution of Boreholes by T/A	100
Figure 5.13	Operational Status of Boreholes by Traditional Authority	100
Figure 5.14	Operational Status of Protected Shallow Wells and Stand Pipes By T/A	101
Figure 5.15	Proportion of HH Population with Access to Sanitation and Hygiene	104
Figure 5.16	Percentage Distribution Household Population by Type of Waste Disposal	104
Figure 5.17	Distribution of Primary Schools by Traditional Authorities	106
Figure 5.18	Number of primary schools per T/A	107
Figure 5.19	The Total Distribution Of Passes.	110
Figure 5.20	Graph showing dropout rate per TA over 5 years.	111
Figure 5.21	CBCC building by type and year	124
Figure 5.22	Caregivers Data by Year	125
Figure 5.23	Sanitary facilities in CBCC Centers	126
Figure 5.24	Figure 54 Distribution of CBO	128
Figure 5.25	Child Headed houses by TA	129
Figure 5.26	Distribution of savings groups per T/A	136
Figure 5.27	Percentage of English classes per T/A in 2017	141
Figure 5.28	Trend of Sexually Active Population (15-49) Infected	156
Figure 5.29	Prevalence of HIV among pregnant women attending ANC.	157
Figure 5.30	Percentage of infants born to HIV positive mothers who are infected.	158
Figure 5.31	Rates of Stunting, wasting and underweight	159
Figure 5.32	Trend of SFP Admissions, cure rate and default	161
Figure 6.1	Road Constructed Under the IGPWP & Irish Bridge	169
Figure 6.2	A Make Shift Bridge	169

# FOREWORD

Dowa district council is one of the local authorities in Malawi established under section 146 of the Republican Constitution of Malawi. Through the decentralization Policy and the Local Government Act of 1998, Malawi Government has devolved certain functions to local authorities whose responsibility is to promote infrastructural and economic development through formulation and execution of local development plans e.g. Social Economic Profile (SEP) SEP and District Development Planning Framework (DDPF).

Dowa district council's mission is to provide social economic services through active participation of all stakeholders in order to empower the communities and their quality of life in the district. Dowa district council vision is to become a reliable public service provider.

SEP presents the current socio-economic status of Dowa district and future DDPF in priority order for the next five years. This profile is meant to provide data and information for use by the District Council and its development partners in development planning, management, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The last SEP for the district expired in 2013 and due to financial constraints, the council has not been able to formulate another one.

The preparation of this SEP adopted a participatory process whereby government departments and civil society organizations actively participated in the drafting process by providing data, information, and general comments. Councilors, Extension Workers and Village Development Committee (VDC) members facilitated the Village Action Planning (VAP) process which provided vital primary data.

I am therefore, hopeful that all development partners will find information in this profile very useful. Above all, it is hoped that all development actors will mutually support the implementation of district development priorities set in this profile.

**Martin Luka Phiri**  
**Council Chairperson**



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many committed individuals and organisations participated in the shaping of this Socio-Economic Profile otherwise this document would not have been completed. Thanks are therefore due to the District Socio Economic Profile Task Force which was led by the Acting Director of Planning and Development, Mr Yusuf Laki and the following members: Oscar Kumwenda (Director of Public Works-DPW), Malla Zimba (Assistant District Registrar), Timothy Banda (District Water Officer-DWO), Debora Mushali (District Forestry Officer-DFO), Esan Kalele (Monitoring and Evaluation Officer-M&EO), Noel Banda (Senior Systems Analyst), Kassam Hillier (Community Development), Eric Kamanga (District Labour Officer-DLO), Monica Neba (District Youth Officer-DYO), E. Washington Kampaliro (Data Clerk), Jackson. Manda -District Irrigation officer (DIO), H Twaibu (HMIS Officer), J. Lwasha-(EHO), R. Banda (ADADO), D. Soko (School Inspector), Timothy Makalichi (DEMIS officer), Frank. Damalekani (DSWO), Billy Maupa (Coordinator-MA-COHA) Ms Verdiana Chitawo (Dowa Magistrate Court Administrator), Nancy Munthali (Police -Planning), M. Kadutsa (CSOs Chairperson) and F Sidira (District Fisheries Officer-DFO). All DEC members and other individuals not mentioned who contributed to the outcome of the document in one way or the other deserve our profound gratitude (See attached list in Annex 1).

Particular mention should also be made to the following organisations and sectors who made financial contribution towards the production of this document; WVM, MHRRC, and District Agriculture Development Office, District Community Development Office, District Education Office, District Forestry Office, District Water Development Office and District Health Office. Special thanks to the Local Government officials, Mr Walusungu Kayira (Deputy Director), Moses Aaron Zuze (Principal Economist) and Flemings Nyirenda (Chief Economist) for their technical input and policy guidance.

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.

# LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ADC	Area Development Committee
ADMARC	Agriculture Development and Marketing Corporation
CADECOM	Catholic Development Commission
CARD	Church Aid in Relief and Development
CBR	Crude Birth Rate
CCJP	Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace
CDA	Community Development Assistant
CDR	Crude Death Rate
CDSS	Community Day Secondary School
CLW	Community Literacy Workers
CMAM	Community Management of Acute Malnutrition
COMSIP	Community Savings and Investment Promotion
CRWB	Central Region Water Board
CU	Concern Universal
DEM	District Education Manager
DHMIS	District Health Management System
DoDMA	Department of Disaster Management Affairs
EPA	Extension Plan Area
ESCOM	Electricity Supply Commission of Malawi
ESWAP	Education Sector Wide Approach Programme
FISD	Foundation for Irrigation and Sustainable Development
FPAM	Family Planning Association of Malawi
IGA	Income Generated Activity
IHS3	Integrated Household Survey 3
MACOHA	Malawi Council for the Handicapped
MAICC	Mponela Aids Information and Counselling Centre
MARYEDEF	Malawi Rural and Youth Enterprise Development Fund
MATAMA	Mineral and Appropriate Technology Applicable in Malawi
MDHS	Malawi Demographic Health Survey
MHC	Malawi Housing Corporation
MHRRC	Malawi Human Rights Resource Centre
MPTC	Malawi Post and Telecommunication Corporation
MRCS	Malawi Red Cross Society
NAC	National AIDS Commission
NAPHAM	National Association of People Living with HIV Aids in Malawi

NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NICE	National Initiative for Civic Education
NSTAP	Nutrition Support to Adults and Adolescents Program
OSSEDI	Organization for Sustainable Socio – Economic Development Initiative
OTP	Outpatient Therapeutic Program
PLHIV	People Living with HIV
RIDP	Rural Infrastructure Development Programme
SDIG	Skills Development and Income Generation
SFP	Supplementary Feeding Programme
SMEDI	Small and Medium Enterprise Development Institute
SWB	Small Water Body
T/A	Traditional Authority
TAPP	Trustees for Agriculture Programmed Promotion
TFR	Total Fertility Rate
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VCPC	Village Civil Protection Committee
VDC	Village Development Committee
VFA	Village Forest Area
VNRMC	Village Natural Resources Management Committees
VSL	Village Savings and Loans
VSO	Volunteer Services Overseas
VSU	Victim Support Units
WADO	Women in Agriculture Development Organization
WFP	World Food Programme
WVI	World Vision International
WVM	World Vision Malawi
YEDEF	Youth Enterprise Development Fund

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This SEP provides information of the social economic status of Dowa district and covers a period from 2017 to 2022 and is divided into two parts. The first part has seven chapters which outlines the general profile of the district. Chapter one present physical description of the district in terms of location and size, background of the people and administrative structures for governance. It also outlines the demographic and settlement patterns of the district. Chapter two outlines land use and categories found in the district. It also highlights physical planning status of the district. Chapter three outlines environment, climate change and natural resources found in the district and environmental hot spots which need attention.

Chapter four outlines the status of poverty incidence and the economic activities. This is the key to development as it entails what is involved in the Agriculture sector, Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources, Labour, Mining, and Commerce and Industry services including locally generated revenue. Chapter five discuss social service delivery. It highlights essential services to the community and includes sectors like Health, Water and Sanitation related activities, Education, Community Development, Social Welfare, HIV and AIDS and Disability related services.

Chapter six outlines infrastructure development services and includes Telecommunication facilities, availability of Road network, Housing and Energy Power. In Chapter seven, the document highlight issues of security and Governance The chapter presents the status of the security situation in the district. It presents information from the Police, Prison and Judiciary

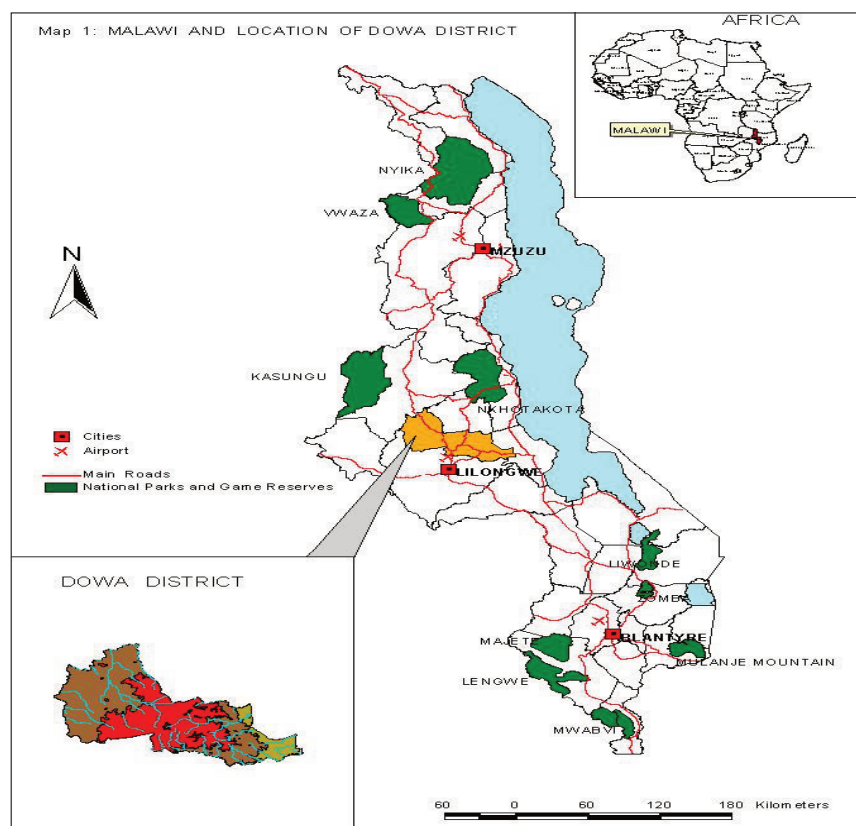
which include security issues, justice, transparency and accountability, and human rights.

Part Two of the SEP contains two chapters. Chapter eight highlights global, national and district development frameworks. It highlights national vision, district vision and mission. It also gives out the linkages among the global, national and district goals. Chapter nine sets out objectives and strategies for development for a period of five years based on social economic issues revealed in the preceding chapters. This chapter also provides solutions meant to bridge the social economic gap in order for the district to realize its development goals. The chapter elucidates the district development objectives and strategies in relation to national set development standards as explained in the Malawi Growth and Development Strategies III (MGDS III). The chapter provides a District Development Planning Framework (DDPF) which is the basis for the District Development Plan (DDP). It is hoped that the reader will have a thorough reading of the whole document and appreciate the district agenda for development. This document provides a key to all development partners in order to have concerted effort towards unified development for the district.

# CHAPTER 1: GENERAL FEATURES

## 1.1 PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION, LOCATION AND SIZE

Dowa district lies roughly between 33° 20' east and 34° 10' east and between 13° 20' south and 13° 40' south in the Central region of Malawi. It is bordered by Lilongwe to the South and South West, Kasungu to the North West, Ntchisi to the North, and Salima to the East. The total land area is roughly 3041 Km<sup>2</sup> and constitutes 3.2 percent of the total size of the country. The district ranks 7<sup>th</sup> out of 9 districts in the region in terms of size and has population density of 210 people per km<sup>2</sup>. The administrative Centre is situated at the northern base of Dowa Hills and is 52 Km north of Lilongwe city. The Boma is also about 26Km from Kamuzu International Airport in Lilongwe Map 1 below indicates the location of Dowa district on Map of Malawi.



**Figure 1.1** Map of Malawi showing location of Dowa district

### 1.1.1 Topography, Geology and Hydrology

#### 1.1.1.1 Topography

The district altitude varies from 1,036 m to 4,000 m above sea level and is topographically divided into two zones. The eastern part is predominantly hilly (Refer figure 2) while the western part is low and open to agriculture. The eastern part is also well drained by rivers most of which originate from the hills. The hilly part of the district is suitable for *dimba* crops such as bananas, beans, vegetables, sugar cane, and citrus fruits while the west is open to extensive maize, tobacco, groundnuts growing and animal farming. The western

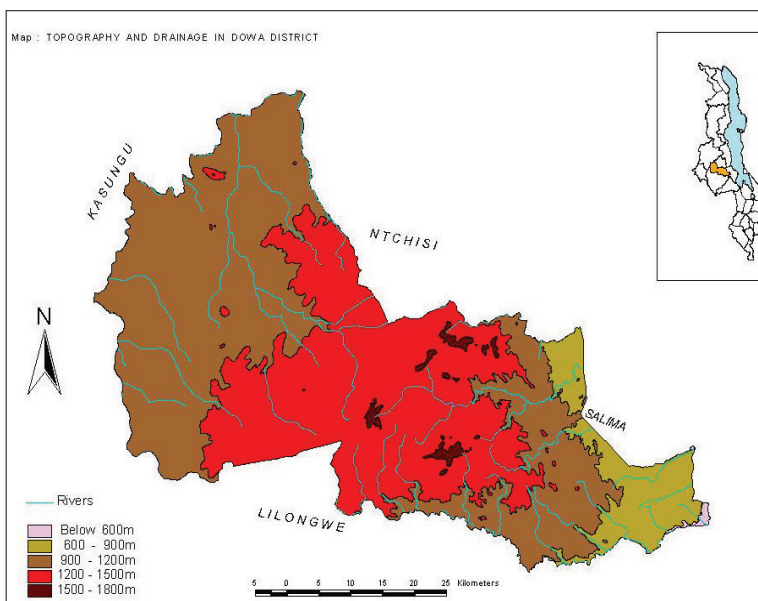


part, on the other hand, is fairly drained by Kasangadzi River, draining the big plain into Bua River which forms the boundary between Dowa and Kasungu districts.



**Figure 1.2** Dowa East Landscape

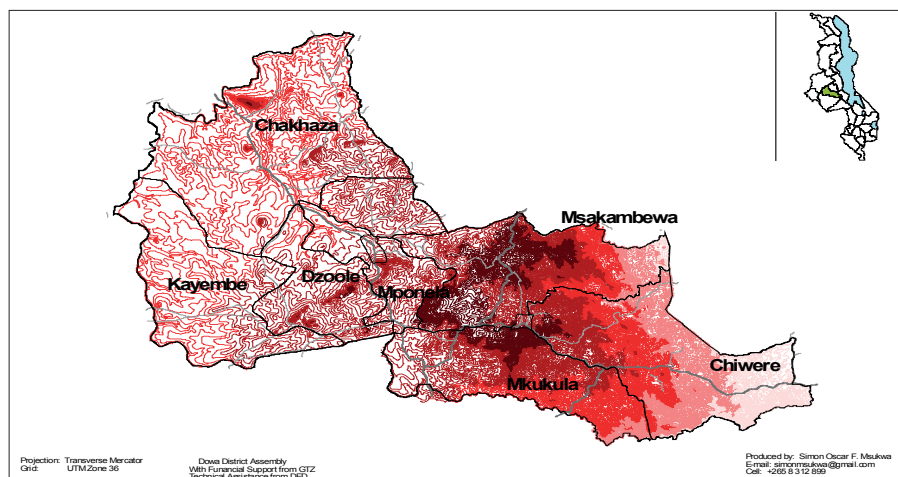
The highest point in the district is Dowa Hill which lies at 1,698 meters above sea level. The district is further divided into two climatic zones – the cold high east and the warm low west. The east, however, influences most of the district's weather, so that Dowa is generally a cold district. The peak cold months are May, June, and July while the rain season is from mid-November to mid-March with high average falls in February.



**Figure 1.3** Topography and Drainage System of Dowa District

### 1.1.1.2 Geology

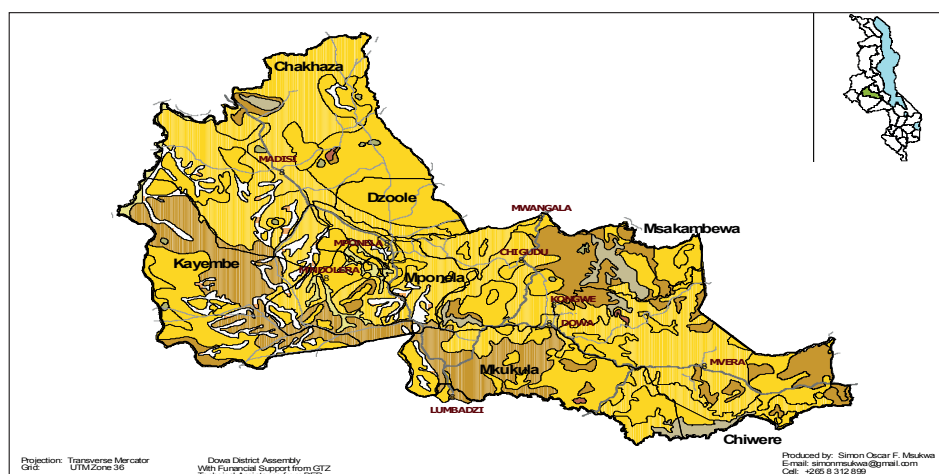
The district is mostly underlain by metamorphic rocks collectively known as the “Malawi Basement Complex”. Bio tide and Hornblende Gneisses are the most abundant rocks. Granitic complexes are located in the basement complex especially in the center of the district. Schistose gneisses with micas and commonly graphite is also locally extensive. Alluvial, colluvial, and residual sediments dominate the western part of the district. Figure 3 is a Map showing topography and geology of the district.



**Figure 1.4** Topography and geology of the district

### 1.1.1.3 Soil

The soils on the hilly east are sticky laterite, and erosion is noticeable. On the western plain, the soils are a mixture of sand and clay and thus erosion is almost nonexistent. According to different types of sediments and rocks, a wide variety of soils have developed that vary from area to area. The following are the different kinds of soils: Weathered ferrallitic soils/Latosols, Lithosols and undifferentiated Lathosols, Alluvial soils, often calcimorphic soil, Lithosols and Gleys. In simplified categories the most predominant type throughout the district is loamy sand followed by sandy loam with noticeable patches of sandy clay loam soils. Map 4 depicts the distribution of the soil types in the district.

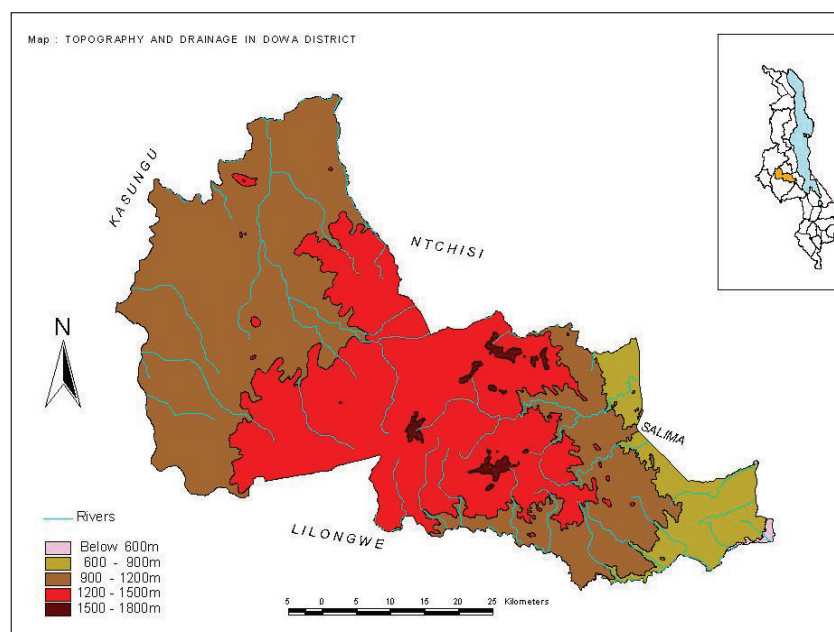


**Figure 1.5** Distribution of soil types

## 1.1.2 Climate and Climate Change

### 1.1.2.1 Climate

Weather and climate patterns of a locality depend much on factors like altitude and vegetative cover. Dowa has an altitude ranging from 1,036 to 4,000 metres above mean sea level-see map below:



**Figure 1.6** Topography and Drainage in Dowa District

The climate is of two distinct types due to the difference in altitude i.e. the eastern half and that to the west. The eastern part being very low above mean sea level, has a considerably higher temperature range than the Western part. Tables 1 and 2 below illustrates this:

**Table 1.1** Monthly Average Temperatures for the Western Part

Month/Range	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Mean
(max °c)	26	27	26	26	25	23	23	24	27	29	29	27	26
(min °c)	18	18	17	16	12	10	9	11	13	16	18	18	15

**Source:** Department of Climate Change & Meteorological Services, 2017

**Table 1.2** Monthly Average Temperatures for the Eastern Part

Month/Range	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Mean
(max °c)	28	27	27	27	26	25	24	26	29	31	31	29	28
(min °c)	19	20	19	18	16	15	14	16	18	21	21	20	18

**Source:** Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services, 2017

The two tables above show that there is a slightly different in temperature value between the eastern and the western parts. The temperatures shown on the table are from Nachisaka EPA at Dowa Boma (Table 1) and Mvera EPA (Table 2)

Both tables show that averaged annual records have the highest record of 29°C during the months of October and November for the uplands and 31°C in the same months for the Eastern part. The lowest values are 10°C and 9°C in June and July respectively for the high lying areas, with 15°C and 14°C IN June and July again for low areas to the east of the District. Rainfall is another important parameter when it comes to weather of an area. In Dowa, there were many rainfall recording stations strategically position across, to date only three have updated data to 2015/16 rainfall season. These are Madisi, Mponela and Mvera while Dowa has data updated to 2013/14. Below are the figures as from 2000/01 season.

**Table 1.3** Rainfall data from Dowa Agriculture

YEAR/MONTH	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
2007/08	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.0	45.6	267.5	425.9	224.4	43.2	20.0	0.0	0.0	1030.6
2008/09	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.2	189.1	314.4	131.5	48.3	33.3	0.0	0.0	732.8
2009/10	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	90.4	54.0	233.1	301.	151.5	27.9	0.0	0.0	858.0
2010/11	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	74.5	187.8	194.6	79.0	111.8	28.9	2.0	0.0	678.6
2011/12	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	62.0	203.1	266.3	108.4	130.5	49.0	0.0	0.0	821.1
2012/13	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.2	0.0	158.0	278.4	124.9	77.1	6.5	0.0	0.0	650.1
2013/14	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	26.7	157.6	239.2	174.8	106.4	22.6	0.0	0.0	727.3
2014/15	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.2	18.6	111.4	168.5	150.9	9.6	40.0	0.0	0.0	514.8
2015/16	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9	20.7	75.1	198.9	157.5	125.7	44.1	0.0	0.0	623.9
2016/17	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.5	3	250.8	234.9	201.5	198.6	14	0.0	0.0	906.3

**Source:** Department of Climate Change & Meteorological Services- National Data Bank, 2017.

**Table 1.4** Rainfall data from Madisi Agriculture

YEAR/MONTH	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
2000/01	0.0	0.0	0.0	26.1	116.1	92.6	253.6	125.7	92.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	706.5
2001/02	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	28.5	144.5	246.5	172.9	35.6	16.6	0.0	4.8	651.8
2002/03	0.0	2.4	11.9	0.0	28.5	215.6	305.7	225.2	315.2	71	0.0	0.0	1111.6
2003/04	2.4	0.0	2.4	0.0	14.2	182.5	208.5	196.7	78.3	52.1	0.0	0.0	737.1
2004/05	2.4	0.0	0.0	11.8	68.8	346.0	199.5	174.0	12.5	25.7	0.0	2.0	842.7
2005/06	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.2	168.6	251.0	58.3	167.8	25.9	0.0	0.0	674.8
2006/07	0.0	0.5	0.0	56.8	56.8	149.2	276.9	250.5	105.8	8.3	0.0	0.0	904.8
2007/08	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5	27.4	266.2	189.1	131.3	47.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	662.6
2008/09	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	26.7	202.2	248.0	144.0	140.0	30.0	0.0	0.0	791.9
2009/10	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	107.5	129.6	220.1	259.4	138.5	2.0	0.0	0.0	857.1
2010/11	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	43.0	176.0	201.1	209.0	107.4	8.0	12.0	0.0	756.5
2011/12	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.9	76.0	72.1	277.8	87.3	140.3	68.5	0.0	0.0	725.9
2012/13	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	29.5	143.8	195.7	171.1	64.1	79.7	0.0	0.0	683.9
2013/14	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	27.9	106.8	142.0	328.9	49.4	60.0	0.0	0.0	715.0
2014/15	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.5	26.2	91.5	295.0	203.0	80.0	15.0	0.0	0.0	720.2
2015/16	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	161.3	187.5	92.1	37.0	21.9	0.0	0.0	503.8
2016/17	0	0	0	5	3.5	92.8	229.4	0	0	0	0	0	330.7

**Source:** Department of Climate Change & Meteorological Services- National Data Bank.2018.



**Table 1.5** Rainfall data from Dowa West District Agriculture Office

Year/Month	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
2000/01	0.0	0.0	0.0	28.5	92.5	102.0	303.3	215.7	161.1	9.5	0.0	0.0	912.6
2001/02	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.8	35.6	149.3	277.3	222.7	54.5	21.3	0.0	2.4	767.9
2002/03	0.0	0.0	11.9	4.7	28.4	241.7	386.3	239.4	289.1	19.0	0.0	0.0	1220.5
2003/04	0.0	2.4	0.0	2.4	30.8	232.3	220.4	170.6	106.6	59.2	0.0	0.0	824.7
2004/05	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.2	73.5	310.5	156.0	170.5	42.7	2.4	0.6	2.4	772.8
2005/06	0.2	0.0	2.5	0.2	90.2	165.1	229.0	147.3	213.3	30.8	0.4	0.0	879.0
2006/07	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.1	101.9	166.7	288.5	187.0	107.0	28.9	0.0	0.0	881.1
2007/08	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.3	335.5	370.5	229.5	59.0	4.0	0.0	0.0	1011.8
2008/09	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	14.0	202.0	278.4	141.5	125.0	16.5	0.0	0.0	778.4
2009/10	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	110.0	113.5	133.5	254.0	333.0	18.0	0.0	0.0	962.0
2010/11	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	51.0	122.5	202.0	157.5	150.5	0.0	12.0	0.0	695.5
2011/12	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	92.0	57.5	290.3	109.0	151.0	68.0	0.0	0.0	767.8
2012/13	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.7	14.0	94.2	275.0	180.6	88.9	0.5	0.0	0.0	667.9
2013/14	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	29.3	121.5	325.3	215.6	34.0	14.0	0.0	0.0	739.7
2014/15	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	52.8	113.0	220.0	180.1	18.2	0	0	0	580.2
2015/16	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.1	2.6	252.6	104	117.7	56.7	18.2	0	0	559.9
2016/17	0.0	00.0	0.00	0.00	3.4	27.2	157.9	30.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	219.1

**Source:** Department of Climate Change & Meteorological Services- National Data Bank, 2017.

As rainfall is a very variable parameter, the tables above have figures that are showing different values from one season to another. From one station, one can read a very huge difference between the highest and its lowest value. Like Dowa has its highest recorded during the 2000/01 season as 1184.2mm, while the lowest within the covered period was 645.5mm in the 2003/04 season. With Madisi, the highest was 111.6mm during 2002/03 and lowest as 503.8 during 2015/16. On the same Mponela recorded the highest figure in 2002/03 as 1220.5mm and the least rainfall amount in a season was 667.9mm during 2012/13 season.

In 2015, Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services, installed a fully Automatic Weather Station at Mvera Agriculture which is able to collect data on parameters like temperatures, wind direction and speed, sunshine hours and rainfall automatically. According to the data that has been collected since its installation in August, 2015, it is shown that part of the District has so far recorded the least figures of rainfall (see table 6 below):

**Table 1.6** Rainfall data from Mvera Automatic Weather Station

Season	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
2015/16	-	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.0	53.6	120.2	152.0	117.8	17.2	0.0	0.0	471.8
2016/17	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	5.0	238.8	305.8	277.0	139.2	4.4	0.8	0.2	971.6
2017/18	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	25.8	229.0	179.6	170.8	194.4	65.0	5.6	0.0	871.8

**Source:** Department of Climate Change & Meteorological Services- National Data Bank, 2017

Mvera had its lowest rainfall record in the 2015/16 season as only 471.8mm against the highest of 871.8mm in the 2017/18 season. From the data shown in table 6, the lower eastern part of the District received less rains over the years than the higher grounds. Official rainfall season in Malawi starts from October to April but according to the data in the above tables, most areas expect rains from December to March.

Winds also have a bearing on the climate of an area, as they have influence on temperature and agriculture production. The data retrieved from Mvera Automatic Weather Station shows some variability with the seasons (see the table 7 below)

**Table 1.7** Wind Speed (m/s) from Mvera Automatic Weather Station

Season	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Mean
2015/16	-	1.4	1.8	2.0	2.2	1.6	1.4	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.4
2016/17	1.2	1.5	1.7	2.1	2.2	1.6	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.4
2017/18	1.1	1.4	1.6	2.1	2.1	1.5	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.3
Mean	1.1	1.4	1.7	2.1	2.2	1.6	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.3

**Source:** Department of Climate Change & Meteorological Services- National Data Bank, 2017

The data in table 7 shows wind speed values within the range of 0.9m/s to 2.2m/s (2.9 km/h to 7.1km/h). Highest values are recorded October /November with least being in march/April. The figures are averaged but they do go beyond in time of storms and Mwera (Chipironi) season in the country.

### 1.1.2.2 Climate Change

Climate change is considered to be the departure from normal trends of the weather patterns that have negatively affected life and economy across. The information given in the tables above shows the trends of climatic parameters in respect of their occurrences. The weather pattern has substantially changed with rainy seasons starting late and ending early.

The trends depict a lot of changes in climate patterns, which demand specific approaches to manage and mitigate the causes and effects of changing climate and variations. The changes have come about due to some activities like unwanted gasses released into the atmosphere from industries, leading to accumulation of greenhouse gases, excess use of fossil fuels, depletion of ozone layer due to use of aerosols, wanton depletion of vegetative cover and use of chemicals in activities like farming.

In general, temperatures are slowly rising due excess heating of bare grounds caused by increased rate of vegetative (canopy) depletion cover. Excess heating of the ground also influences high intensity rate of thunderstorms. Evapotranspiration rate is also increasing because of high rate of deforestation and rain-fall patterns are becoming more erratic than before. There are also general increases in surface wind speed which is caused by depleted canopy cover which in turn, reduce wind shields hence putting life and property at risk. Portable water is becoming a resource not readily available in most areas due to high evaporation rates from the bare grounds and high run-off rates when it is raining. In general, the occurrences above are posing threats to life in the sense that there are a lot of extreme climate hazards that are weather or climate related due to the changes in the climate patterns.

### 1.1.3 Mechanism to Reduce Vulnerability:

Reduction of vulnerability, when there are such occurrences needs a multi-sectoral approach for instance from. both government sectors and civil society organisations responsible should come together on the drawing table and come up with strategies as follows:

1. Formulation of civil protection committees at all levels, i.e. District, Area, Village.
2. Develop a contingency plan for quick response at District Council.

3. Identify the hot spots in the district.
4. Mobilization of resources into one basket.
5. **Early Warning System:** There is not much done in terms of early warning system. However, District Civil Protection Committees and Area Civil protection committees have been trained and weather-related information is available from radios and newspapers.
6. **Indigenous Knowledge:** Some individuals have indigenous knowledge of weather occurrences and their effects, but still the information does not go very far in terms of dissemination. We need to incorporate the information into the modern techniques. Some can tell when to expect rains, the occurrence of thunderstorms and how much rain can cause floods.
7. **Adaptation:** In an attempt to cushion the district from the negative effect of climate change, the following measures are being used:
  - › Encourage reforestation to replenish the depleted canopy cover.
  - › Encourage the use of drought tolerant crops.
  - › Intensify the use of short maturing crops.
  - › Increase knowledge of disease resistant crops and encourage their use.
  - › Impart knowledge on how to harvest rain water for future use.
8. **Mitigation:** Although we don't contribute much to the causes of climate change, there is still a need for our effort to reduce the causes. These are some of the measures that can be applied:
  - › Encourage the practice of planting more trees to improve carbon sinks.
  - › Reduce the use of chemical fertilizer and encourage the use of manure.
  - › Discourage the practice of using plastics and their burning.

#### 1.1.4 Vegetation

Most of the areas in the district constitute an open canopy of woodland of hills and scarps where thin and stony soils occur. The woodlands are dominated by *Brachystegia* species, notably *B. boehimini* and a degraded form of *Uapac kirkiana*. The lakeshore plain north of Dowa is largely cultivated but with isolated trees and small patches of relict woodland with baobab (*Adansonia digitata*) and palm (*Hyphanene ventricosa*) being common. Figure 7 presents a typical Dowa vegetation.





**Figure 1.7** Typical Dowa vegetation

## **1.2 ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURES AND LOCAL POLITICS**

### **1.2.1 Local Government Systems, Functions and Structures**

#### **1.2.1.1 The District Council**

The District Council is composed of 14 elected Councilors of which 2 are females 12 are males, 7 elected Members of Parliament of which 1 is female and 6 are males, 7 Traditional Authorities (ex-official) of which 1 is female and 6 are males, 5 members of interest groups (ex-officio) representing women, orphans, disabled, youth, and the business community. The District Commissioner is the secretary of the District Council. The District Executive Committee (DEC) is a technical arm of the council. The District Commissioner chairperson of DEC.

The District Council's main function is policy making, coordination, and supervision of development activities in the district. It reviews, approves or rejects proposed projects identified by the communities. The District Council makes resolutions regarding implementation of management functions of the secretariat. The Chairperson of the Council is elected from among the Councilors to head the Council for a period of one year. The council works through service committees. Dowa District Council has seven service Committees namely: Finance and Audit, Development, Education, Works, Health and Environment, Agriculture and Natural Resource, and Human Resource.

#### **1.2.1.2 District Council Secretariat**

The secretariat's function is to implement the resolutions and policies of the Council and to coordinate sector development programmes and manage council resources. The District Commissioner (DC) is the head of the secretariat and is assisted by directors namely: Finance; Planning and Development; Administration; Public Works, Health and Social Services; Education, Youth and Sports and Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources.



**Figure 1.8** Dowa District Council Secretariat Office

### 1.2.1.3 The District Executive Committee (DEC)

The District Executive Committee is composed of all heads of department, line ministries, statutory corporations, and Non-Governmental Organizations working in the district. DEC is the technical arm of the District Council. It facilitates development planning, capacity building and formation of the decentralized lower level planning institutions namely: Area Development Committee (ADC) and Area Executive Committee (AEC). It also harmonizes district level policies and activities with national level policies and activities.

The District Commissioner chairs the DEC and the Directorate of Planning and Development provides secretarial services. It has 50 members of which 8 are females (District Forestry Officer, OVOP Officer, Assistant District Registrar, District Information Officer, District Youth Officer, District Sports Officer, District Agriculture Development Officer, Principal Nutrition and HIV/AIDS Officer). Women representation still remains low in decision making structures at district. However, the number of female members varies, depending on representatives from CSOs/NGOs.

### 1.2.1.4 Area Development Committee (ADC)

The Area Development Committee (ADC) is a representative body of all VDCs under the jurisdiction of a Traditional Authority (TA) and besides, the TA has also various roles such as custodian of culture, act as an entry point of all development activities/projects, administration of primary justice in their areas of jurisdiction and mobilize subjects to participate in projects.

The ADC is comprised of: Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons and Secretaries of Village Development Committees (VDC), Ward Councilors, representatives of religious faiths, representatives of youth and women groups in the area, representatives from the business community and chairperson of the AEC. The ADC co-opts maximum of four representatives from interest groups such as representatives of people liv-

ing with HIV and AIDS, people with disability. The main functions of ADCs are to assist in the identification, prioritization, and preparation of community projects and to submit project proposals to DEC. ADCs supervise, monitor, and evaluate implementation of projects at traditional authority level. The term of office of an ADC is 5 years.

According to table 4, there are more males than females in all the ADCs and this is due to low participation in decision making position, male dominance and inferiority complex among women influenced by cultural beliefs. Women comprise of 36 percent of all ADC members which is below the 50:50 recommended women representation in decision making bodies. Dowa has 10 ADCs, however, due to resource constraints, all ADCs have not been trained on their roles and responsibilities hence leaving a very big gap for them to champion development activities in the district.

**Table 1.8** ADC membership by Sex

No.	Name of ADC	T/A	Membership by Sex		Total	Functional Yes/No
			Male	Female		
1	Chakhaza A	Chakhaza	24	12	36	Yes
2	Chakhaza B	Chakhaza	39	16	55	Yes
3	Chiwere	Chiwere	43	43	86	Yes
4	Dzoole A	Dzoole	60	36	96	Yes
5	Dzoole B	Dzoole	31	25	56	Yes
6	Kayembe	Kayembe	61	27	88	Yes
7	Mkukula A	Mkukula	38	34	72	Yes
8	Mkukula B	Mkukula	38	18	36	Yes
9	Mponela	Mponela	30	18	48	Yes
10	Msakambewa	Msakambewa	57	24	81	Yes
Total			421	253	654	

**Source:** DCDO 2017

### 1.2.1.5 Area Executive Committee (AEC)

Area Executive Committee (AEC) is the representative body of all extension workers of government ministries, non-governmental organizations and statutory corporations working within a Traditional Authority. The AEC advises the ADC in identification, assessment, formulation and preparation of project proposals. It is also responsible for capacity building in development planning for all the Village Development Committees in the area. There are 10 Area Executive Committees as per ADCs. However, due to financial constraints, these AECs were not trained or organized for them to facilitate effectively and efficiently at community level.

### 1.2.1.6 The Village Development Committee (VDC)

This is the representative body of villages which is responsible for facilitating planning and development at the village level. It is composed of elected members from each village within the VDCs, the village heads from each village within the VDC, Ward Councilors, four women representatives nominated by people within the VDC and elected extension workers. The VDC shall co-opt a maximum of four representatives from interest groups such as representatives of people living with HIV and AIDS and people with disability.

The main functions of VDCs are identification, prioritization and preparation of community needs and submit the same to ADCs. Village Development Committees also mobilize communities for local resources and popular participation. The term of office for a VDC is 5 years. Dowa has 282 VDCs up from 236 in 2015. An increase in the number of VDCs was due to promotion of new Group Village Heads. However, all the VDCs have not been trained on their roles and responsibilities. Table below presents Traditional Authorities, GVHs and VDCs in the district.

**Table 1.9** Traditional Authorities, GVHs and VDCs

Serial No.	Traditional Authority	No. of villages 2012	No. of VDCs/GVHs 2012	No. of Villages 2014	No. of VDCs/ GVHs 2014
1	Chakhaza	275	32	198	31
2	Chiwere	213	17	184	36
3	Dzoole	302	43	333	40
4	Kayembe	278	29	212	29
5	Mkukula	202	24	198	45
6	Mponela	120	19	122	17
7	Msakambewa	202	23	184	38
	Total	1591	187	1431	236

**Source:** DCDO 2017

## 1.2.2 Politics

### 1.2.2.1 Political Parties

The District has seven constituencies. Table 10 below shows constituencies in the district and party representing the constituencies.

**Table 1.10** Dowa Constituencies

Name of constituency	Location	Party Holding the Constituency
Dowa Ngala	TA Chakhaza	Independent
Dowa North	TA Chakhaza	MCP
Dowa East	T/A Chiwere	MCP
Dowa South East	T/A Mkukula	MCP
Dowa North East	T/A Msakambewa	MCP
Dowa Central	T/A Dzoole, TA Mponela	MCP
Dowa West	T/A Dzoole, T/A Kayembe	MCP

**Source:** MEC, 2017

The dominant political parties in the District are the Malawi Congress Party (MCP), the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), the United Democratic Front (UDF), and the Peoples' Party (PP). Six members of Parliament are from the Malawi Congress Party and one is independent. The district has one female Member of Parliament.



### 1.2.2.2 Distribution of Ward Councillors

The district has 14 ward Councillors, all of them belong to Malawi Congress Party (MCP). Table 11 below shows that Kayembe ward has the highest number of registered voters followed by Mponela ward. Msakambewa East has the least number of registered voters followed by Dzoole north ward.

**Table 1.11** Distribution of Ward Councilors

Traditional Authority/ADC	Constituency	Ward	2010 Reg	2013 Reg
Msakambewa	Dowa North East	Msakambewa East	11,979	14,767
		Msakambewa West	21,731	24,958
Mkukula	Dowa South East	Mkukula East	15,549	18,503
		Mkukula West	20,753	25,457
Chiwere	Dowa East	Chiwere North	15,385	18,670
		Chiwere East	24,021	29,087
Mponela	Dowa Central	Mponela Ward	30,371	37,255
Dzoole		Dzoole North	13,231	15,361
Dzoole	Dowa West	Dzoole South	16,775	21,917
Kayembe		Kayembe	42,926	48,918
Chakhaza	Dowa Ngala	Chakhaza South-West	15,039	17,313
Chakhaza	Dowa Ngala	Chakhaza North-West	22,087	24,343
Chakhaza	Dowa North	Chakhaza North	20,433	22,283
Chakhaza	Dowa North	Chakhaza South	28,277	30,836

**Source:** MEC, 2014

### 1.2.3 Informal Administrative Structure

#### 1.2.6.1 National Government Sectors and Statutory organizations

Dowa has various government ministries and departments represented in the district. These are Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development, Ministry of Education Science and Technology, Department of Forestry, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Home Affairs and Internal Security, Treasury, Office of the President and Cabinet, Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability, Elderly and Social Welfare, Department of Rural Housing, Department of Water and Development, Department of Information, Judiciary Department, Ministry of Labour, Youth and Manpower Development, Department of Sports. Ministry of Natural Resources, Mines and Environment, Department of Irrigation, Fisheries Department. The following statutory corporations also operate in the district as outlined in Table 12 below.

**Table 1.12** Statutory Corporations and their Interventions

Statutory Corporation	Functions/Responsibilities
ADMARC	Buys and sells agriculture produce; supplies agricultural inputs
MHC	Provides houses for rent
Central Region Water Board	Provides water to residents of Dowa, Mponela and Madisi Areas
ESCOM	Supplies electricity to homes and institutions in a number of areas in District
SMEDI	Provides training in micro enterprises
MPTC	Provides Postal and Telecommunications Services

Statutory Corporation	Functions/Responsibilities
MARYEDEF	Provision of small loans
MACOHA	Provision of assistance to the vulnerable and people with disabilities

**Source:** District Council Data Bank 2017

## 1.2.4 Civil Society Organisations

There are a number of Civil Society Organisation and Non-Governmental Organisation operating in the district complementing government efforts in alleviating poverty. Table 11 provides location and activities these organisations are doing; There are over 31 registered Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) that are working in the District. From the table 13 most of the NGOs are concentrating in Chakhaza, Kayembe and Dzoole because of the geographical position as areas are flat and easy to reach. This leaves a gap in terms of development as the eastern part of the district which is mostly hilly and hard to reach is deprived of development.

**Table 1.13** NGO and CSOs Working in Dowa

No	Organization	Type	Period of Work to Date (Yrs)	Catchment Areas(T/A)	Target Pop	Focus Areas
1	CADECOM	FBO	10	Chakhaza and Mkukula	vulnerable farm families	Agriculture, WASH, Gender, HIV&AIDS and Environment
2	CARD	FBO	9	Msakambewa and Mkukula	Women farmers	Agriculture
3	CARE MA-LAWI	NGO	21	Kayembe and Dzoole	Children under 5, pregnant & lactating women, adolescent girls, people with HIV and women in vulnerable, chronically food insecure, rural smallholder households.	Women & girls' empowerment. Food & Nutrition Security. Agri. Climate change adoption & Disaster risk reduction. Maternal, Sexual and reproductive health/ HIV. WASH. Health system strengthening. Livelihood. Participatory governance. Economic Development, Girls Education.
4	CCJP	CSO	13	Kayembe and Dzoole	All Ages	Governance
5	Concern Universal	NGO	15	Chakhaza, Dzoole and Kayembe	All ages	Water and Sanitation
6	PASSION FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN	NGO	13	Ta Dzoole and Mponela	Children under 5, children without parental care	HIV & aids, education support, child protection, early childhood & development
7	FEED THE CHILDREN	NGO	4	Dzoole, Chakhaza, Mponela, Mkukula, Msakambewa and Chiwere	Under 5 Children, pregnant women and Lactating mothers	Food and Nutrition, Health and water and Education and Livelihood
8	FISD	NGO	1	Dzoole, Mponela, Chiwere	Under five and school going children	Nutrition, agriculture and education
9	FPAM	NGO	8	Chiwere, Mponela, Msakambewa and Mkukula	Adults and Young people (aged 10-24)	Maternal and child health and HIV (SRH)
10	LIBERTY ARMS COMMUNION	FBO	1	Mkukula	Children and women	All apply

No	Organization	Type	Period of Work to Date (Yrs)	Catchment Areas(T/A)	Target Pop	Focus Areas
11	MAICC	LNGO	22	Chakhaza, Dzooole, Kayembe, Msakambewa Mponela, Mkukula	U5 children, adolescents, women of reproductive age, pregnant. Women, men, duty bearers	MNH, HIV, nutrition, agriculture and child protection
12	MATAMA	NGO	5	Mponela	Adults and Children	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
13	MINISTRY OF HOPE	NGO	10	Msakambewa and Mponela	Orphans, widows physically challenged,	Child development and economic empowerment
14	NICE	TRUST	19	All t/as	480,000	Democracy and good governance
15	OSSEDI MW	NGO	14	Dzoole, Chakhaza, Mponela Mkukula	All age groups in those areas (30,000)	HIV, nutrition, education, maternal and child health, child protection, agriculture and climate change
16	RED CROSS SOCIETY	NGO	9	Chiwere	PLWHIVA	HIV
17	RHEMA	NGO	12	Mkukula, Dzoole, Kayembe	All age groups	HIV, nutrition, water and sanitation, agriculture, microfinance, climate change etc.
18	WADO	NGO	-	Mponela	Women of reproductive age	AGRICULTURE
19	WVI	NGO	30	Kayembe and Chakhaza	Under- 5 children, adolescents, pregnant and lactating mothers and youths.	Maternal & Child Health & Nutritional. Child Literacy. Child Protection and Advocacy.
20	ZOE MINISTRY	CSO	6	Chakhaza and Mponela	Orphans, vulnerable children (OVC), community	Education, agriculture, sanitation, income generating activities and constricting homes
21	Feed the Children	NGO	9	Chakhaza and Msakambewa		Nutrition, sanitation, income generating activities
22	Tawina	NGO	8	Mkukula	Girls and women	Women Economic Empowerment, Governance
23	Winrock	NGO	4	Kayembe, Dzoole	All	Child development and economic empowerment
24	Hope House Orphan Care	FBO	11	Mkukula, Chiwere, Msakambewa areas/villages	Children under 5/Babies, Adolescents, Elderly people/widows	Service Delivery
25	PACHI	NGO	3	TA Msakambewa and TA Chiwere	U-5 Children, WCBA and adolescents	Social accountability
27	Kasalika	NGO	14	MPONERA MSAKAMBEWA, CHIWERE, MKUKULA	U-5 CHILDREN ADOLESCENTS, WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE, PREGNANT WOMEN, MEN, YOUTH.	ADVOCACY
28	MALAWI COUNCIL OF CHURCHES	FBO	2	Chiwere, Msakambewa	All MCC 25 member churches communities across the T/As across ages and gender	Advocacy and civic education
29	Archdiocese of Lilongwe Health Commission	FBO	8	Chiwere	U5 children, Pregnant women and adolescents	Advocacy and service delivery
30	When the Saints Ministries(WtS).	FBO	2	Dzoole	Only girls 5-18 years old.	Counselling.
31	TAPP	NGO		Chiwere, Mkukula	Farming households	Agriculture
32	Inter Aide	NGO	9	All TAs	Dowa population	Service Delivery

**Source:** District data base, 2017



## 1.3

## THE PEOPLE OF DOWA

## 1.3.1

## Tribes

The common ethnic groups in the district are the Chewa followed by the Ngoni. The western and northern parts of the district are predominantly Chewa while central south and eastern parts have more Ngoni's than other tribes.

## 1.3.2

## Languages

Chichewa is the main language widely spoken in the district. The Ngoni's and other tribes living in the District all speak Chichewa. The official language of the district is English just as it is in all districts of the country.

## 1.3.3

## Culture/Beliefs

People in Dowa predominantly follow matrilineal type of marriages where children are attached more to their mothers than their fathers. Chieftaincy inheritance amongst the Chewa follows the mothers' lineage while the Ngoni's follows their fathers' lineage. The Chewas of the District have maintained their culture to the extent that local establishments such as chieftaincy and traditional dances are well recognized. The family institutions are also maintained. There is also a culture of initiation amongst the Chewas. This is the "Gule Wamkulu" dance for the boys. Polygamy is also practiced by the Chewa of the district though on a very small scale.

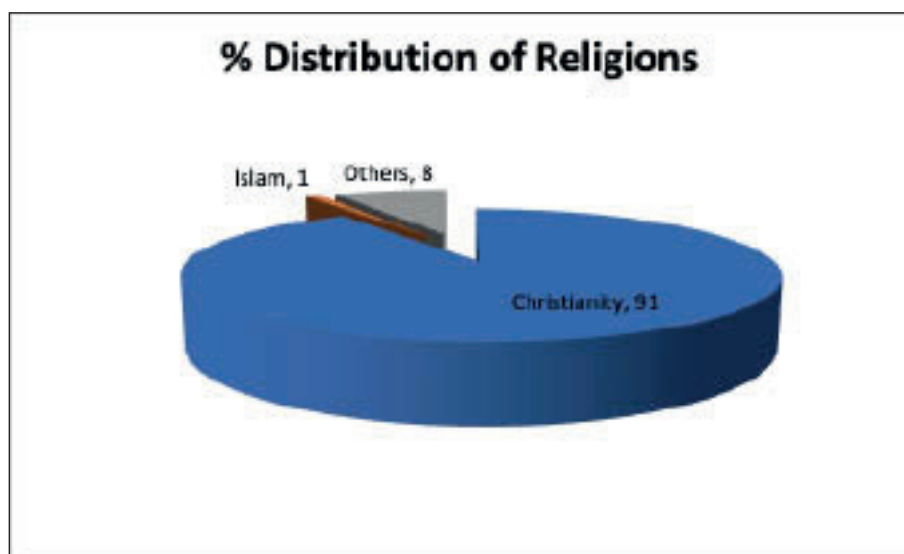


**Figure 1.9** Gule Wamkulu

The most common belief among the Chewa is *kulowa Gule Wamkulu* meaning becoming a member of *Nyau* dancers. This is where boys are said to be taught good manners. Anybody who does not become a member is regarded as young no matter how old one may be in age. During this initiation, the boys come to know different types of *Nyau* dances like *Makanja*, *Chilembwe*, *Maria*, *Kang'wing'wi*, *Njobvu*, *Kasinja*, *Lende*, *Gologolo* and many more. Besides Gule waMkulu, people in Dowa also perform various dances like *Chisamba*, *Khunju*, *Chimitali*, *Mganda* and *Chiterera*. Gule Wamkulu dancers are as shown in the figure below.

### 1.3.4 Religion

There are a number of religions in the district and the most notable ones are; Christianity and Islam. Table 10 below illustrates the distribution of religions in the district.



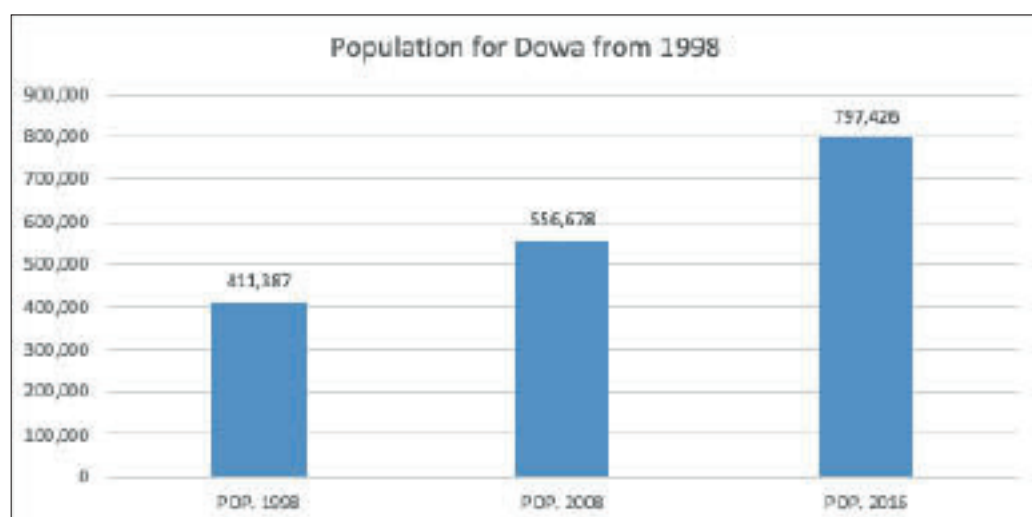
**Figure 1.10** Percentage Distribution of Religions in Dowa

The widely followed religious beliefs in district are Christianity (91 percent), Islam (1 percent) and others at 8 percent (NSO 2008). To a very small extent, animism is practiced during times of stress such as drought.

## 1.4 DEMOGRAPHY AND SETTLEMENTS

### 1.4.1 Population size and characteristics

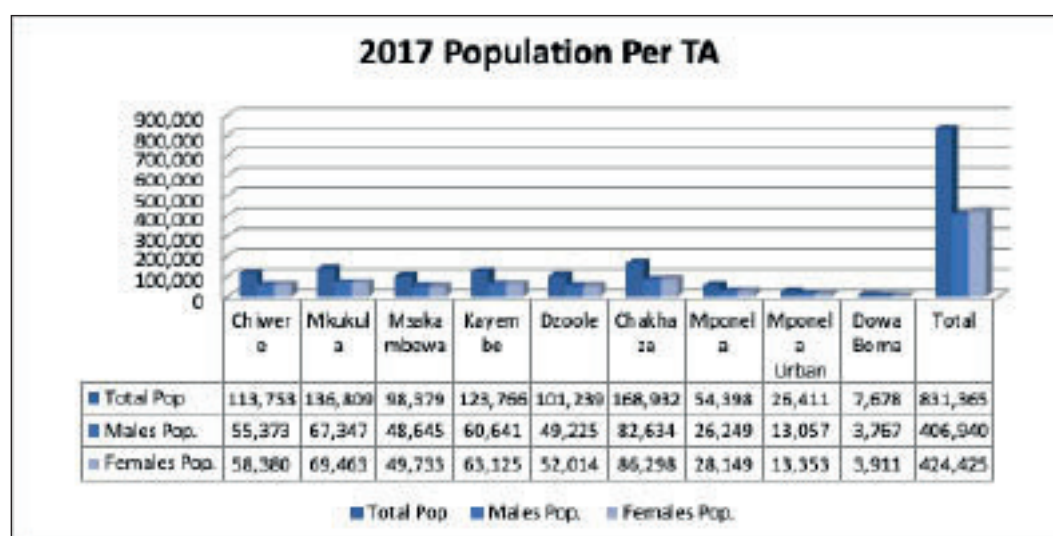
According to IHS4 report, the population of Dowa district indicates at 797,426 in 2016, which is about 4.74 of the national population. Out of this, 49 percent is male and 51 percent is female. Between 1998 and 2008 the population of the district has increased by 38.9% representing an inter censal growth rate of 3.4% per annum. The average annual population growth rate from 2008 to 2016 is estimated at 4.23 percent which is higher than the national growth rate of 3.16 percent. The figure below shows population for Dowa district for the years 1998, 2008 and 2016.



**Figure 1.11** Population over years

**Source:** NSO, 1998 and IHS 4

At Traditional Authority level (See figure 11), the largest population was enumerated in T/A Chakhaza which holds 20% of the district population followed by Traditional Authorities Mkukula and Kayembe. However, from the previous census year, in terms of population increase, T/A Mkukula has a high population growth of 79% followed by T/As Mponela which have grown by 63% then TA Msakambewa grown by 53 %. Figure 12 shows the distribution of the district population by Sex per TA by while the Table 15 shows the distribution of district population by age group as projected in the PHC (NSO 2008), Population Projection Report.



**Figure 1.12** Population per TA

**Source:** NSO PHC, 2008.

**Table 1.14** Population distribution by sex

Traditional Authority	Total Pop.	Males Pop.	Females Pop.	Total Pop.	Males Pop.	Females Pop.
	2008	-2008	-2008	-2017	-2017	-2017
Chiwere	81,851	39,605	42,246	113,753	55,373	58,380
Mkukula	76,225	37,578	38,647	136,809	67,347	69,463
Msakambewa	64,300	31,671	32,629	98,379	48,645	49,733
Kayembe	83,180	40,807	42,373	123,766	60,641	63,125
Dzoole	74,855	36,429	38,426	101,239	49,225	52,014
Chakhaza	120,690	59,561	61,129	168,932	82,634	86,298
Mponela	35,214	17,054	18,160	54,398	26,249	28,149
Mponela Urban	14,322	7,136	7,186	26,411	13,057	13,353
Dowa Boma	6,041	2,891	3,150	7,678	3,767	3,911
Total	556,678.00	272,732.00	283,946.00	831,365	406,940	424,425

PHC (NSO 2008), Population Projection Report

**Table 1.15** Population distribution by Age Group

AGE	Dowa 2008			Dowa 2017		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
TOTAL	559951	274674	285277	831364	413345	418019
0-4	97373	48490	48883	163139	82645	80494
5-9	82649	40727	41922	132075	66566	65509
10-14	71804	34913	36891	93900	46676	47224
15-19	62491	30807	31684	81641	40174	41467
20-24	51026	25385	25641	72238	35223	37015
25-29	40262	20068	20194	63410	31529	31881
30-34	34634	16560	18074	51643	26099	25544
35-39	28196	13854	14342	40504	20248	20256
40-44	21201	10594	10607	34390	16503	17887
45-49	17214	8756	8458	27211	13459	13752
50-54	13100	6348	6752	20166	10108	10058
55-59	10173	4982	5191	15775	7923	7852
60-64	8090	3753	4337	11484	5468	6016
65-69	7201	3286	3915	8430	4035	4395
70-74	5620	2350	3270	6183	2818	3365
75-79	4162	1818	2344	4672	2085	2587
80+	4755	1983	2772	4503	1786	2717

PHC (NSO 2008), Population Projection Report

### 1.4.2 Population Density

The population density for Dowa District stands at 210 people per square kilometres based on the NSO (2008) projected figures. According to Table 16 at TA and Township level, Mponela urban has the highest density of 3301.4 followed by Dowa Boma with 590.6. Among the Traditional Authorities Dzoole has the highest density followed by Mponela while Chakhaza has a comparatively lowest density in the district. At

Mponela trading centre and Dowa Boma the trend shows that the density dropped in 1998 and picked up in 2008 this could be a result of migration in the 1990s either inter district or urban to rural in response to urban economic hardships while a resuscitated rural to urban migration of the period after 1998 census has led to the increase of density in 2008 in the stated centres.

**Table 1.16** Population Densities by TA

Traditional Authority	Area Sq. km	2017	2008	1998
Mkukula	404	338.6	188.7	130
Chiwere	531	214.2	154.1	116
Kayembe	453	273.2	183.6	135
Dzoole	254	398.6	294.7	212
Mponela	153	355.5	230.2	166
Msakambewa	363	271.0	177.1	133
Chakhaza	857	197.1	140.8	109
Mponela Urban	8	3301.4	1790.3	701
Dowa Boma	13	590.6	464.7	208
Dowa	3036	273.8	183.4	135

**Source:** PHC (NSO 2008), Population Projection Report

### 1.4.3 Birth Rate, Death Rate and Life Expectancy

Crude Birth Rate (CBR) is defined as the number of births that occurred in a particular calendar year per 1000 population. It is used as a simple measure for fertility rate. For Dowa, as of 2017, the Crude Birth Rate (CBR) is projected at 44.11 births per 1000 people. This rate is higher than the national 41.97 births per 1000 population re PHC (NSO 2008), Population Projection Report indicates that the CDR was placed at 5.99 deaths per 1,000 populations in 2016 and table 17 show the changes in CDR from 2012 to 2017. The life expectancy for the years 2007, 2010 and 2015.

**Table 1.17** Projected population, births and deaths

Year	Population	Births	CBR	Deaths	CDR
2012	671,075	31870	47.45	4711	7.01
2013	701,225	32893	46.84	4733	6.75
2014	732,343	33900	46.20	4752	6.48
2015	764,414	34889	45.53	4772	6.23
2016	797,426	35850	44.82	4793	5.99
2017	831,365	36795	44.11	4817	5.77

**Source:** NSO PHC, PHC (NSO 2008), Population Projection Report

**Table 1.18** Life Expectance

Year	2007	2010	2015
Male	49.48	52.33	56.80
Female	51.37	53.60	58.4



This is a number of births a woman has if she survived to the end of her child bearing age which ranges from 15-49. Total Fertility Rate (TFR) in Dowa is higher than the national rate. According to the PHC (NSO 2008), Population Projection Report, the TFR for the district has been decreasing as indicated from the year 2007 to the year 2015 (Table 18). The household size for the district is the same as the national average which is at 4.6.

**Table 1.19** Projected Total Fertility Rate

Year	2007	2010	2015
TFR	6.50	6.32	6.03

#### 1.4.4 Migratory Patterns

Dowa district is the main national Centre of all refugees in Malawi. As of 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2014. Dzaleka Refugee Camp is harboring 19,983 refugees mainly from Burundi, Rwanda, Somalia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, Ethiopia, Belgium, Kenya, Zambia, Brazil, Tanzania and Angola (see table 20).

**Table 1.20** Population of Refugees in Dzaleka

Country	Household	Population
Somalia	38	78
DRC	5872	11975
Burundi	1675	6405
Rwanda	1369	5887
Sudan	1	5
Ethiopia	29	28
Belgium	1	5
Kenya	1	1
Zambia	3	7
Brazil	1	2
Tanzania	1	1
Angola	3	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8994</b>	<b>24398</b>

**Source:** UNHCR Dzaleka Refugee Camp, 2014

#### 1.4.5 Settlement Patterns

The major categories of housing within urban setting fall under high density to medium. Highest densities are found at Dzaleka refugee camp and places like Mdzikometsa at Dowa Boma and Kalinde in Mponela. These places are almost slams. Most of the housing in trading centres fall under medium, though with pressure on land they are close to high density. Most of the housing in rural areas is nucleated.

#### 1.4.6 Urban Growth Patterns

Urbanization is growing at a faster rate in urban centers of Mponela, Dowa Boma, Lumbadzi, Mvera, Mad-isi, Nambuma and Chezi. Table 21 highlights growing urban centres by T/A and level of growth.

### 1.4.7 Rural housing program

The table below analyses urban centres and level of growth.

**Table 1.21** Urban Growth Points

T/A	Urban Centre	Level of Growth	Remarks
Msakambewa	Dowa Boma	Medium	
Chakhaza	Madisi	Static	Most inhabitants are indigenous who are not development conscious
Mponela	Mponela	Fastest	It is along the M1 road, near Lilongwe.
Mkukula	Lumbadzi	Fast	It is along the M1 road, near Lilongwe.
Chiwere	Mvera	Static	
	Chezi	Fast	
Kayembe	Nambuma	Fast	It is a Rural growth centre and tobacco farming is high



# CHAPTER 2: LAND USE

## 2.1 INTRODUCTION

### 2.1.1 Land Tenure System

According to land Act 2016, land tenure system in Dowa falls into three main categories namely: customary, public and private land.

#### 2.1.1.1 Customary land

The land act 1965 (cap 57:01) defines customary land as all land owned, held occupied or used under customary law but does not include any public or private land. Most of the land in Dowa falls under customary ownership. This land is owned and controlled by chiefs on behalf of the government

#### 2.1.1.2 Public Land

Public land is all land occupied, used or acquired by the government including communal and unallocated customary land falling within the jurisdiction of a Traditional authority as well as all land vested in government as a result of uncertain ownership or abandonment. Facilities on public land include forest reserves, public buildings and roads among others. Responsible managing authorities for public land include central government, local government as well as a traditional authority.

#### 2.1.1.3 Private Land

This is all land owned, held or occupied under a freehold title, leasehold title or as a customary estate which is registered as private land under the Registered Land Act 2016. Freehold title is the free mode of holding property and usually is of indefinite duration. Leasehold title is a contract which grants the lessee rights in land or property for a limited period of time. This period in Dowa is usually 99 years for residential plots. For industrial or commercial plots and farms, the period is less than 99 years e.g. 21 years for estates. Customary estate is any customary land owned as private land which is registered under the registered land Act 2016. A small portion of land which belongs to Malawi Housing Co-operation falls under private lease holding.

## 2.2 LAND USE SYSTEM

**Table 2.1** Major Land Uses in Dowa District

Land Use Category	Land Area (sq.km)	% of total District Land Area
Agriculture intensive	17728	64
Agriculture extensive	470	17
Natural physical constraints or Vacant land (woodland and cattle feed)	193.8	7
Nature Conservation (Forest Reserves, Swamps)	110.8	4
Major Infrastructure	55.4	2
Nucleated Human Settlement	166.2	6
<b>Total Land Area</b>	<b>2770.0</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source:** Dowa SEP 2008-2012

About 81% of the district's land is used for rain-fed cultivation. In this segment 64% is under intensive agriculture while 17% is under extensive farming. About 4% of the land comprises forest reserves whereas 7% is composed of natural physical constraints or vacant land (woodland, grasslands and cattle feeding). 6 % is used for nucleated human settlement while about 2% is used by main infrastructure.

### 2.2.1 Plot Size

In Dowa District plot sizes given to developers vary according to Malawi Planning Guidelines and Standards (2011) depending on the purpose of development activity.

**Table 2.2** Plot Size versus Purpose of Development (Economic Activity)

Plot Size	Purpose of Development
25m x15m	Residential (High Density)
40m x25m	Residential (Medium Density)
50m x30m	Residential (low Density)
30m x7.5m	Commercial
40m x30m	Industrial (light)

**Source:** Malawi Planning Guidelines and Standards (2011)

## 2.3 URBAN STRUCTURE PLANS/DETAILED LAYOUT PLANS IN MAJOR URBAN

Major urban centres in Dowa include Lumbadzi Trading centre, Mponela Trading Centre, Nambuma Trading centre, Mwangala Trading centre, Mvera Trading Centre, Madisi Trading Centre and Dowa Boma. It is very unfortunate that these urban centres do not have urban structure plans and detailed layout plans in place except Mponela. Dowa Boma has only an urban structure plan which is not yet at advanced stage due to constraint of financial resources. The plans are important as they help in planning for orderly, coordinated and compatible development. It is the wish for Dowa District Council to have these plans for all its major urban centres however; the Council lacks financial resources to carry out this exercise.

### 2.3.1 Development Status at Dowa Boma

The only Bank existing at Dowa Boma is FDH Bank. Clients of other Banks travel out to Mponela Trading centre and Lilongwe Town to access Bank services. Dowa Boma also lacks presence of big shops, High quality restaurants, public toilets, Bus Depot and a stadium. Unavailability of these facilities is a deterrent to some investors who may wish to come to Dowa Boma for investment. Since long time ago Dowa Boma had been accessible by a dusty road till the year 2019 when construction of Lumbadzi-Dowa-Chezi tarmac road got completed. The council expects that this road will at least motivate interest of some investors to invest at Dowa Boma.

### 2.3.2 Incompatible Land Uses (Conflicts on Land Use)

Incompatible land uses are dominating especially in urban centres of Dowa Boma, Mponela Trading centre and Lumbadzi Trading Centre just to mention a few. The common incompatible land uses in these urban

centres include a saloon/barber shop being located adjacent to a restaurant. Lands Office plans to closely work with Market Committees to resolve the problem of incompatible land uses.

### 2.3.3 Land related complaints received by Dowa District Lands Office

**Table 2.3** showing land complaints received by Dowa District Lands office

T. A	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Msakambewa	2	2	4	2	3
Mponela	9	3	4	6	4
Dzoole	5	6	6	3	3
Chiwere	5	4	4	8	3
Mkukula	8	6	5	3	3
Kayembe	5	10	5	4	2
Chakhaza	8	6	5	5	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>21</b>

# CHAPTER 3: ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

## 3.1 INTRODUCTION

The overall goal of the National Forest Policy (2016) is to improve the provision of forest goods and services to contribute towards sustainable development of Malawi through protection and conservation of forest resources. The policy aspires to control deforestation and forest degradation. The policy promotes strategies that will contribute to increased forest cover by 2% from the current 28% to 30% by 2021, and sustainable management of existing forest resources. This response to MGDS III key priority area number 1 and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) number 13 and 15 of climate action and life on land correspondingly. So, the mandate of the District Forestry Office is to carry out activities that constitutes and promote forestry management matters in forest reserves, plantations and extension planning areas of the district

## 3.2 FOREST RESERVE AND WILD LIFE

Dowa district has 3 forest reserves: Dowa Hills, Ngala and Kongwe as shown in table 22 below. These reserves are conserved to ensure their sustainability and utilization of forest produce. These forest reserves provide poles, building materials, medicines, fuel wood, water and food for livestock, wildlife and human beings. There is Miombo woodland in the reserve with species like *Brachystegia boehmii* and *Brachystegia glaucescens*. The district council in collaboration with other stakeholders is implementing afforestation programmes around the reserve with communities aimed at conserving the reserves. These stakeholders are TLC, CICOD, Ministry of Hope, Cadecom, Concern Universal, TAP, Alliance One, Limbe Leaf and Japan Tobacco Industry (JTI). They are embarking on afforestation campaigns to encourage tree planting on both communal and individual woodlands.

**Table 3.1** Forest Reserves

Name of Forest Reserve	Ownership	Area (Ha)	Status/Condition	Year Gazetted	Location
Dowa Hills	Central Government	2,036.4	Encroachment and illegal cutting of trees	1974	Southern Dowa (T/A Mkukula)
Ngala	Central Government	1104.86	High illegal cutting of trees	1958	Western Dowa (T/A Chakha-za)
Kongwe	Central Government	1,813	Illegal cutting of trees and encroached area has been reclaimed.	1926	North Eastern Dowa (T/A Msakambewa)
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>4,954.26</b>			

**Source:** Dowa Forestry Office, 2017

The total area of forest reserves under gazette represents 1.6% of the district total land area. Dowa is one of least forested districts in the country with 4% forest cover (FAO, 2017). The forest reserves and plantations are shown in the Map below:

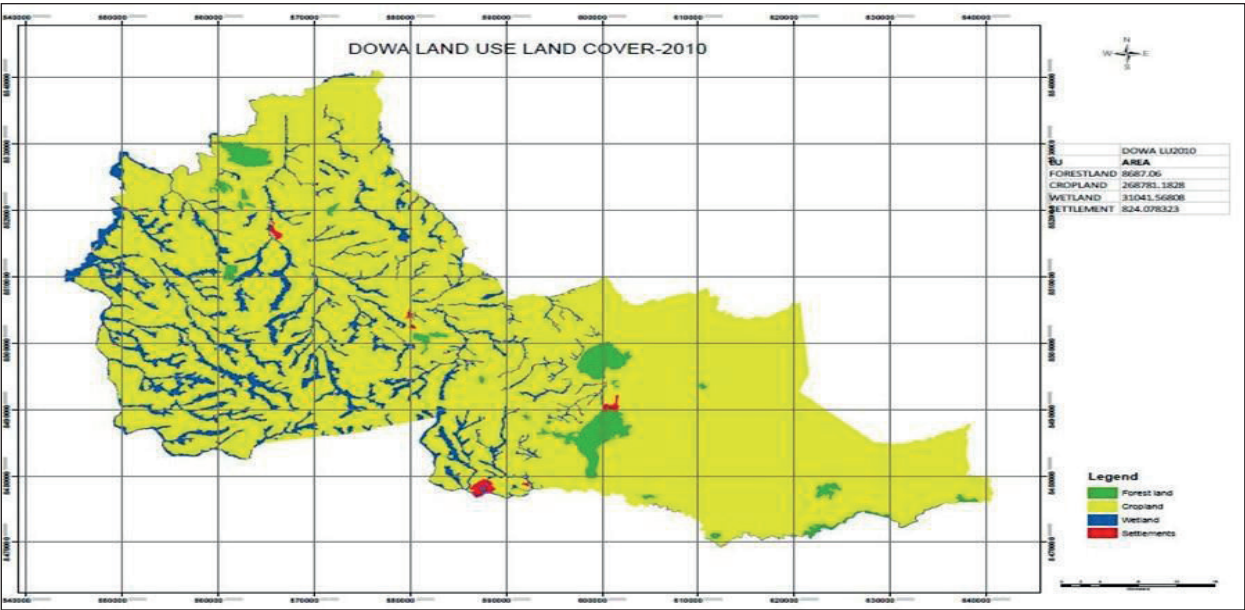


Figure 3.1 Land use Map Showing Forest Reserves and Plantations

Source: Department of Forestry, 2017

The conserved forest reserves and surrounding hills serve as catchment areas. For instance, Uzami and Mn-delya streams have their sources in Kongwe Forest Reserve. Themba and Nanthomba streams start from Dowa hills. These are tributaries of Lingadzi River which empties into Lake Malawi. However, these reserves experience problems like illegal cutting of trees, charcoal burning, encroachment and wild fires as shown the figures below. This has resulted into the creation of bare land in the reserves.

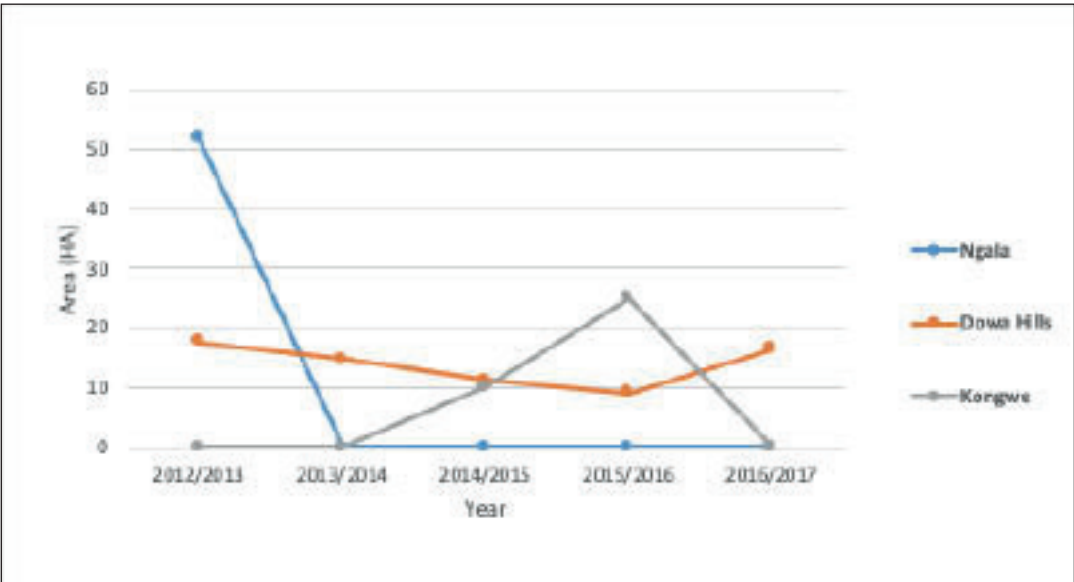
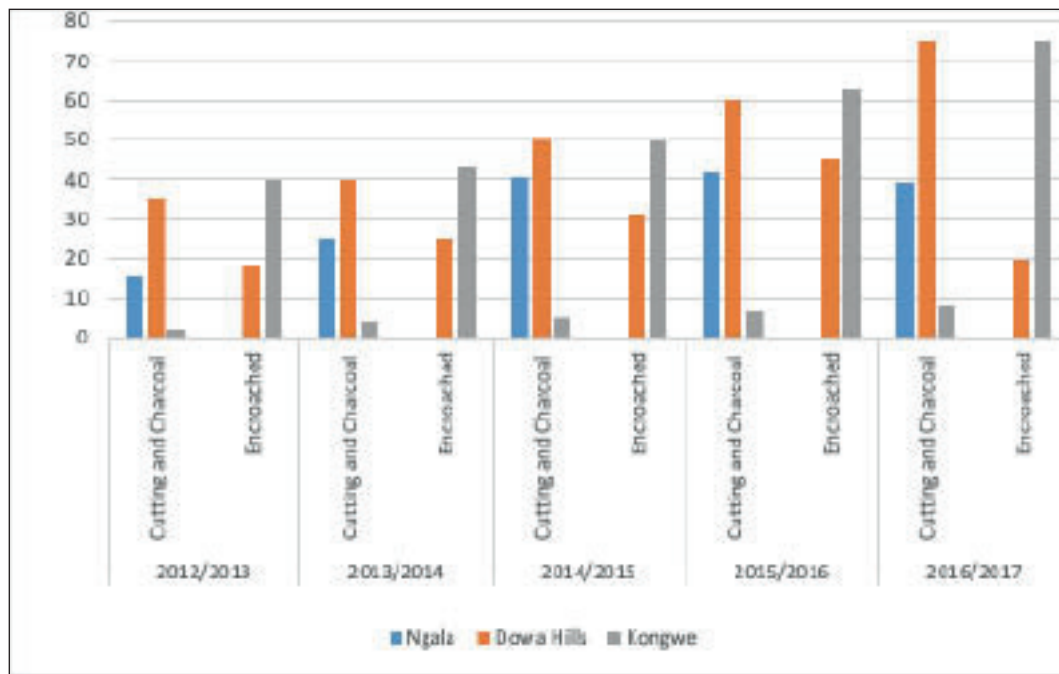


Figure 3.2 Area (Ha) Destroyed through fire per year

Source: Dowa Forestry Office, 2017

As shown in figures 14 above, the frequency of wild fire occurrence in the Ngala Forest Reserve was high in 2012/13 than other years due to low management to weed and slash of tall grass in the reserve and sensitization meetings with the communities around forest reserve. In Kongwe, there was high occurrence of fire in 2015/16 due to conflicts between encroached and the office pertaining to eviction. In Dowa hills, the occurrence decreased from 2012 to 2015 due to sensitisation meetings but it raised because of dry spells occurred in 2016.



**Figure 3.3** Area destroyed by cutting and charcoal burning

**Source:** Dowa Forestry Office, 2017

Figure 15 above shows that area destroyed through cutting down of trees for poles, charcoal burning and firewood has been on the increase in Dowa hills compared to Ngala and Kongwe due to increase in the number of refugees at Dzaleka Camp and urbanization around Dowa Boma. Tobacco farming has also contributed to deforestation especially in the western part of Dowa. That is reason there an increase also in Ngala forest reserve

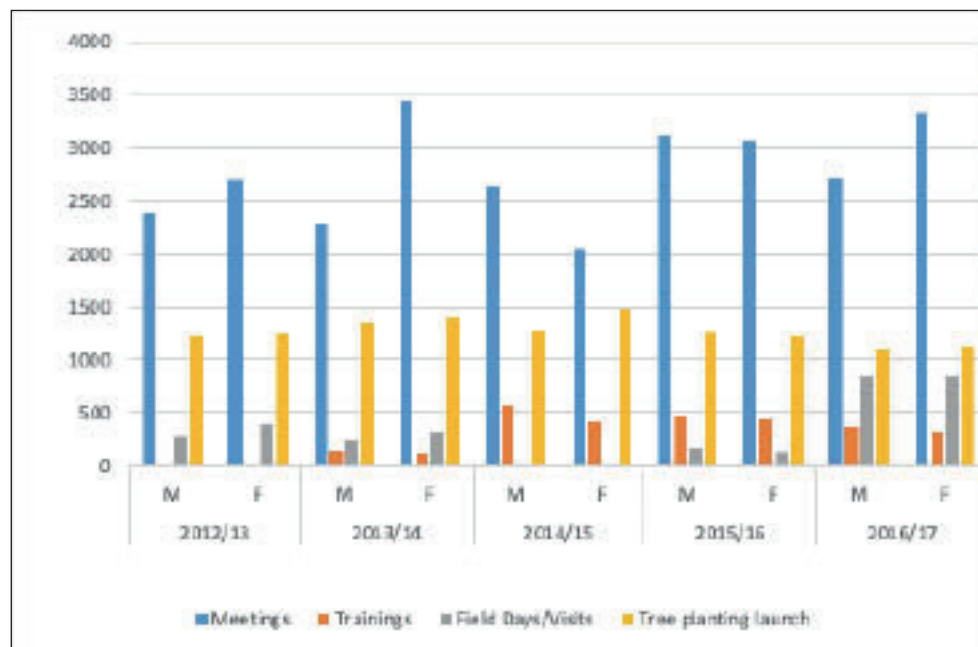
Kongwe is mostly destroyed through encroachment especially in the eastern and northern side. The tread increased because of the irrigation component as the reserve has a perennial source of streams and rivers whereas encroachment in Dowa Hills Forest Reserve was high in 2015/16 in western, southern and eastern part, as highlighted in figure below. From 2016 to 2017, there has been a drop in encroachment due to sensitization meetings and crop slashing which was used to evict the encroachers. Ngala Forest Reserve remains fairly intact as a result of permanent boundaries like estates, rivers and roads.

Generally, in all reserves the trend of illegal activities has been rising due to inadequate staff in forestry department to undertake intensive patrol. Therefore, patrol and sensitization meetings need to work hand in hand in terms of management strategy due to dynamic changes of human beings.

Kongwe forest reserves have been fairly intact due to good collaboration with the communities surrounding the reserves. Likewise, it is sometimes used as a training ground for soldiers, hence illegal activities are reduced while Ngala when training is over the communities inter in reserves without fear

### 3.2.1 Forest extension services

Forest extension services convey ways and guidance in the implementation of the National Forestry policy through communication and advocacy, capacity building and regulatory services as shown in the figure 16 below.



**Figure 3.4** Forest Extension Services

**Source:** Dowa Forestry Office, 2017

The trend of farmers participating during meetings was higher for female because they are affected directly with scarcity of forest produce like fuel wood. During training more males outnumber females because they dominate in committees and leadership positions. On the other hand, it has been observed that activities that have immediate financial benefits are mostly dominated by males than females.

Communities in all 10 EPAs identified bare and degraded area to prepare and carry out tree planting exercises. These activities are being supported by Government and NGOs like, TLC, Cadecom, Concern Universal, Alliance One, Limbe Leaf and Japan Tobacco Industry (JTI), Ministry of Hope, CICOD. Furthermore, Individuals have been planting trees in their homesteads and around their farm (Agroforestry). Conservation measures are undertaken in terms of management of regenerants and institutionalization of Village Forest Areas (VFA) through Village Natural Resources Management Committees (VNRMC). To strengthen that the communities come up with bylaws and forest management plans. These documents are legally binding as per Forestry Act 1997 and policy of 2016 that empowers the communities to manage their own forest resources.

## 3.3 VILLAGE NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES (VNRMCs)

Village Natural Resources Management Committees conduct sensitizations to civic educate the people on the effects of deforestation. Village forest areas established through tree planting and natural regeneration are managed by VNRMC on customary land. Table 26 below shows trained and untrained VNRMCs.

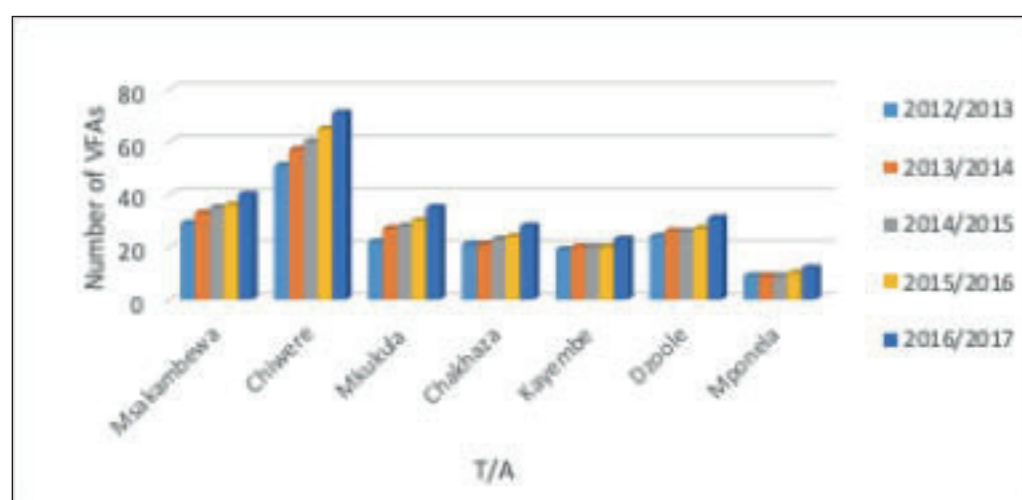


**Table 3.2** VNRMCs Trained and untrained

	Trained					Not Trained				
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Msakambewa	0	0	2	1	3	16	21	29	32	36
Chiwere	0	0	5	2	4	20	25	31	35	47
Mkukula	0	0	2	0	2	7	15	26	28	37
Chakhaza	5	0	1	4	5	16	24	28	32	39
Kayembe	5	0	1	4	2	17	20	29	36	41
Dzoole	5	0	2	2	3	15	27	30	35	43
Mponela	0	1	0	0	4	20	26	32	39	46
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>289</b>

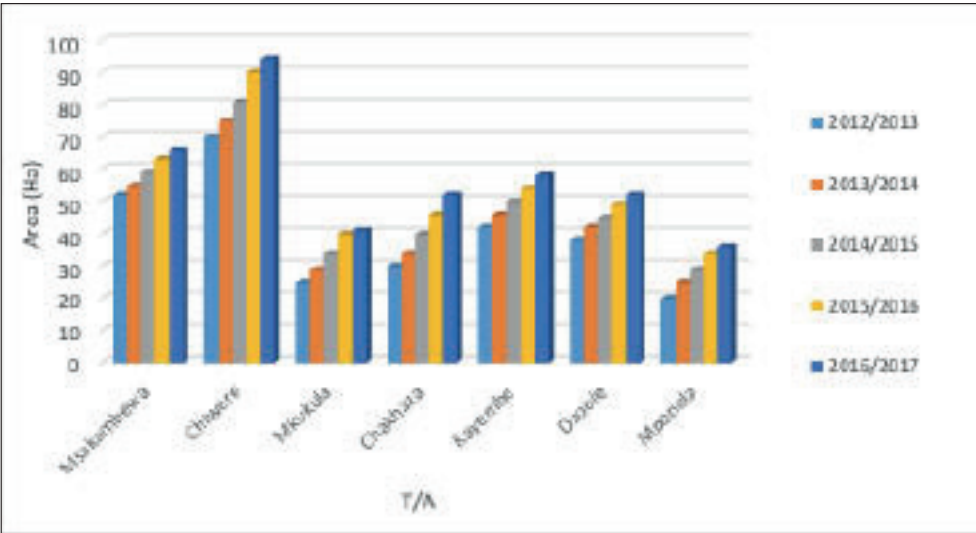
**Source:** Dowa Forestry Office, 2017

Currently there are 289 VNRMCs of which only 65 under the period of 5 Years are trained because of lack of resources and partners to support the district in forest management. However, VNRMCs have been increasing over the period and this can be attributed to public works programme which made many communities establish the committees. This will result to more illegal activities in the Village Forest area as the Village Natural Resources Management Committees are trained in forest management, Woodlot Establishment, Natural Regeneration Management and Utilization and Development of by-laws and Action Plan. Table 26 above shows that more VNRMCs are untrained than those trained.

**Figure 3.5** Number of Village Forest Area (VFA) per T/A

**Source:** Dowa Forestry Office, 2017

T/A Chiwere has the highest number of VFAs as compared to other T/As (See figure 17 above). On the other hand, in all T/As the number of VFAs has significantly increased with time because of tobacco farming which requires stakes, poles and firewood for curing has been minimised due to quota production of tobacco.



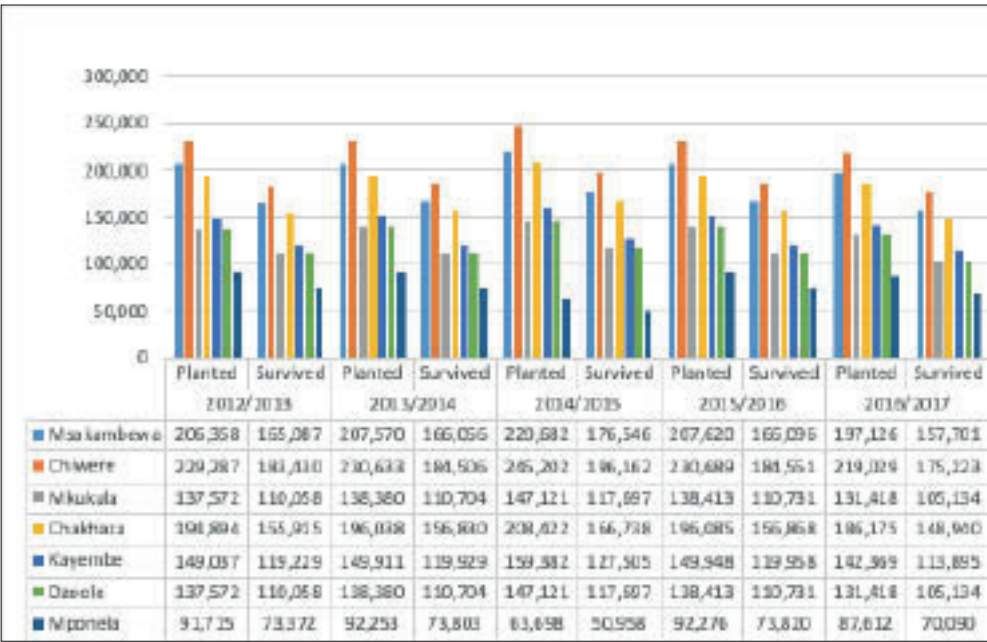
**Figure 3.6** Area (HA) of Village Forest Area (VFA) per TA

**Source:** Dowa Forestry Office, 2017

Figure 18 above shows the area of Village Forest Areas per T/A. As it can be seen from the figure, the area has been increasing overtime due promotions of natural regeneration campaigns as a fast way of increasing forest cover on bare land.

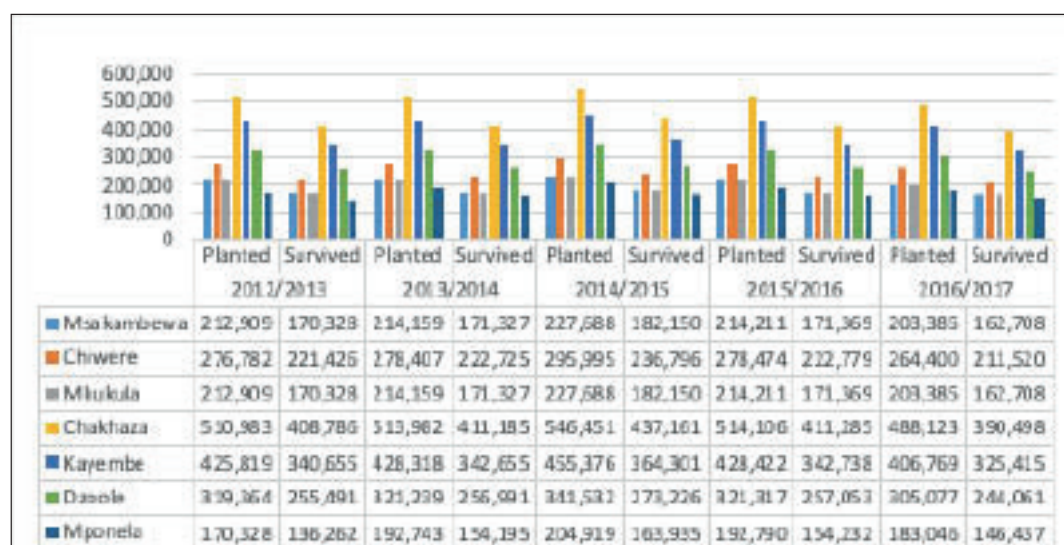
### 3.3.1 Tree planting

The other way of increasing forest cover is tree planting. One of the strategies to avert the situation is planting indigenous and exotic trees in the district.



**Figure 3.7** Indigenous trees planted and survived

**Source:** Dowa Forestry Office, 2017



**Figure 3.8** Exotic trees planted and survived

**Source:** Dowa Forestry Office, 2017

Figures above present indigenous and exotic trees planted and survived over years. The number of trees planted has been increasing over the years. However, survival rate has been very low due to poor management and dry spells the district has been experiencing. Specifically, more Indigenous trees are planted in T/As Chiwere and Msakambewa because the area is hilly and the suitable species are Mkhukhu and Mthethe while exotic trees are planted in T/A Chakhaza, Kayembe and Dzoole as there are more tobacco companies that use the trees for the production of stalks.

The tree planting is facilitated by field staff who provide technical advice to communities and institutions on how to plant and manage trees. Tree species which are suitable in Dowa are *Lebbeck*, *SennaSiamea*, *SennaSpectabilis*, *-Acacia Polyacantha Khayaanthotheca* (m'bawa). Homestead tree planting is being promoted, and use of energy saving stoves is also encouraged in order to minimize demand for fuel wood.

**Table 3.3** Tree planting by categories

	2012/2013		2013/2014		2014/2015		2015/2016		2016/2017	
	# of trees planted	Area planted (Ha)	# of trees planted	Area planted (Ha)	# of trees planted	Area planted (Ha)	# of trees planted	Area planted (Ha)	# of trees planted	Area planted (Ha)
<b>Small-holder Farmer</b>	975,335	304.8	897,936	280.6	976,572	305.2	1,071,336	334.8	1,596,053	498.8
<b>VNRMCs</b>	720,335	225.1	988,639	308.9	894,323	279.5	719,796	224.9	551,764	174.3
<b>Estates</b>	325,000	90	359,300	112.3	1,045,233	326.6	832,440	332.9	490,000	196
<b>Government</b>	686,000	274.4	455,179	182.1	222,308	88.9	45,622	18.2	47,452	18.9
<b>Schools</b>	183,232	73.3	157,701	63.1	73000	29.2	75,957	30.4	31,492	12.6
<b>Women Group</b>	13,622	5.4	22,561	9	31759	12.7	0	0	0	0
<b>Farmers Club</b>	293,700	91.8	327,501	102.3	233,500	72.9	495,610	154.8	404,245	126.3

	2012/2013		2013/2014		2014/2015		2015/2016		2016/2017	
<b>Churches</b>	51,330	20.5	53,569	21.4	23000	9.2	20,750	8.1	5,670	2.3
<b>Youth Clubs</b>	11,976	4.8	17,976	5.6	3197	1.3	25,863	8.1	15	0
<b>Herbalists</b>	15,000	6	14,394	5.8	0	0	8,180	3.3	2,302	0.9
	3,275,530		3,294,756		3,502,892		3,295,554		3,128,993	

**Source:** Dowa Forestry Office, 2017

Highest number of trees was planted in the district in 2015/2016 because of participation of NGOs and tobacco companies. Involvement of NGOs and other stakeholders shows that climate change has been taken as a crosscutting issue. 2016/2017 registered the lowest numbers of tree planted because of inadequate inputs to the communities as shown in table above.

### 3.3.2 Area most affected by deforestation

The most affected part in terms of deforestation is the threat in reserve. However, the eastern part of Dowa needs intervention as the pressure of cutting and charcoal burning is becoming high.

**Table 3.4** Forestry Issues, causes and possible solutions

No	Issue	Causes	Possible Solution
1	Deforestation	-Wild fire -Cutting of trees and charcoal production -Encroachment	-To undertake Sensitisation meetings with the communities -Engaging tobacco companies in forestry activities -Intensifying alternative energy source -To evict encroachers in the forest reserve and VFAs -Encouraging the communities on intensive and modern farming
2	Forest degradation	-Cutting and charcoal production	-Sensitization meeting with the communities -Intensify Formulation of VNRMCS and establishment of VFAs through tree planting and natural regeneration -Training of VNRMCS on Forest management -To Formulate and strengthen bylaw and management plans
3	Inadequate of staff	-Retirements -Deaths	- There is need to recruit more staff - To provide required skills to deliver the services

**Source:** Dowa Forestry Office 2007

**Table 3.5** Deployment of Forestry extension staff per EPA

NO	EPA	Population Per Household (2018)	No of Foresters			No of Forestry Assistant			No of Forestry Guard / Patrol staff		
			T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
1	Nachisaka	33279	2	1	1	-	-	-	12	10	2
2	Mvera	31355	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	5	1
3	Nalunga	11208	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	0
4	Mponela	30498	-	-	-	1		1	7	5	2
5	Madisi	24552	-	-	-	1	-	1	5	5	0
6	Bowe	26005	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	0
7	Chisepo	24981	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	2
8	Nambuma	12119	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	0

NO	EPA	Population Per Household (2018)	No of Foresters			No of Forestry Assistant			No of Forestry Guard / Patrol staff		
			T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
9	Chibvala	26558	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	2	4
10	Mdolera	17556	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	0
	<b>Total</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>11</b>

### 3.7.1 Opportunities in Forestry

#### 3.3.3 Agriculture

Trees are grown on farms for soil and water conservation, and for fodder. Trees play a vital role in improving soil texture and structure. Agro-forestry tree species are grown on farms in almost all EPAs for the above purposes. Tree species commonly grown in these areas include *Faidherba Albida* (Msangu), *Gliricidia Sepium* and *Tephrosia Vogellii*. Almost all the forest reserves in the district are sources of water used for irrigation in adjacent communities.

#### 3.3.4 Wood supply

Forest reserves and customary estate forests are a source of wood which has many uses in the district. These include construction poles, timber, and cooking, heating and burning bricks. Various tree species are used differently by various social groups

#### 3.3.5 None Wood Supply

Forest reserves and customary estate forests are a source of non-timber forest products that include mushrooms, beekeeping, soil and sand, insects, fibres, caterpillars, thatching grass, and wildlife. Communities utilize these non-forest products for food and income. There are non-timber-based enterprises in various areas in the district. One example is the Katengeza in Mvera EPA that is very famous in production of Thuma cane furniture. The communities around this area collect bamboo from Thuma Forest Reserve. The presence of NGOs which are doing forestry activities offers a good opportunity for Dowa to improve on its forestry status.

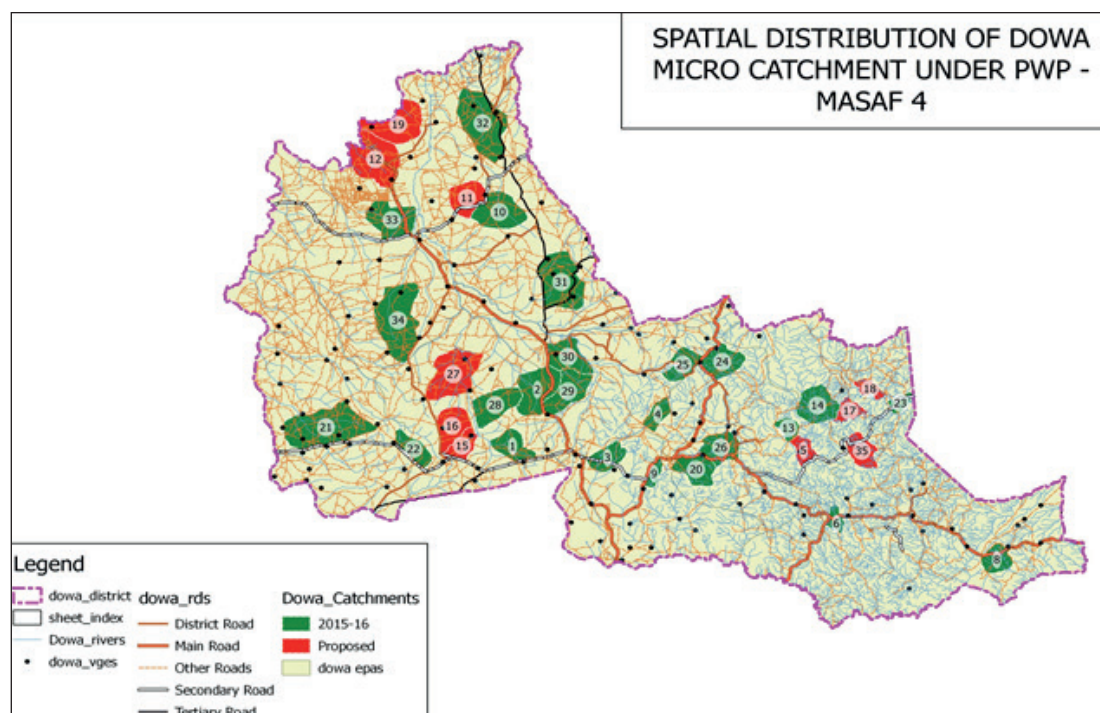
#### 3.3.6 Environmentally-Critical Areas

The environmental district office draws its mandate from the Environmental Management Act and the National Environmental Policy. The National Environmental Policy seeks to promote sustainable social economic development through sound management of the environment in the country. The Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III recognizes that degradation of the environment and natural resources continue to be a major threat to the socio-economic development of Malawi.

Dowa District is one of the districts in Malawi that face environmental challenges of varying magnitude and intensity. Environmental critical areas in the district are identified based on notable prevalence of crucial environmental problems as identified by the National State of the Environment and Outlook Report that include Deforestation, Soil Erosion, Water Resources Degradation, Loss of Biodiversity, Waste Management, Air Pollution and Climate Change.



The map below shows spatial distribution of micro catchment under public works program. The identification of the catchments was based on degree of environmental degradation. These are hotspots in the district with regards to degree of environmental degradation.



**Figure 3.9** MASAF Micro Catchment Distribution

**Source:** Dowa District Council (EDO) 2016

As the map shows, more degraded areas are located to the west side of Dowa. This area has four TAs; Kayembe, Chakhaza, Dzoole and Mponela. These are T/As with highest population densities in the district.

### 3.3.7 Waste and Sanitation

There has been unprecedented growth of businesses and population in most areas in Dowa District. This has resulted into increased generation of solid and liquid wastes surpassing the capacity of businesses and government to properly manage the wastes. The United Nations recognizes the role of proper waste management in achieving goal number six of clean water and sanitation. Dowa District Council has been grappling with improving waste management mostly in major trading centers of Madisi, Mponela, Lumbadzi, Boma and Chezi. Majority of the markets (70%) have no reliable means of storing their solid waste before final disposal. Waste is usually stored in the open as heaps of garbage.

Solid waste mostly from trading centers is managed through the simple collection and disposal method. However, the rate of waste generation is usually higher than the collection rate of these wastes. The result is that most waste is left in the open spaces and drains of roads and pavements that end up clogging of water ways and impairing the drainage system. Poor waste management leads to breeding of diseases, water contamination and also contributes to climate change due to methane generation.

Beside the low collection rate of solid waste, the district uses open landfills to dump its waste. This method encourages scavenging therefore bringing back the waste into the market that poses health risk to the surrounding communities and the general public.



### **3.3.8 Sources of greenhouse gases**

Sources of greenhouse gases in Dowa include; Mount Meru Oil factory, vehicles, bush fires, domestic use of firewood, agriculture practices and landfills. These sources mostly produce carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxides and methane. Currently, the amount of greenhouse gases released is not known due to lack of equipment.

### **3.3.9 Common types of waste generated**

#### **3.3.9.1 Solid Waste**

Solid waste can be classified into different types depending on source. For example, house hold, hotel services and construction work.

#### **3.3.9.2 Liquid**

Liquid waste is mostly generated from factories that produce liquid products like cooking oils, soap manufactures where the effluents are in liquid form.

#### **3.3.9.3 Electronic waste**

The type of waste is generated from electronics during manufacturing or repairing. Electronic repair shops are in most trading centers and waste is just being piled in the repair places, a situation that is hazardous.

### **3.3.10 Common waste collection methods**

Wastes from different parts of Dowa are collected using wheelbarrows and open vehicles. The collection of waste in both public places and homesteads is however erratic. This leads to accumulation of solid waste in undesignated places posing health hazard to surrounding communities. The methods used are also not environmentally suitable as they sometimes lead to spilling of waste in transit.

### **3.3.11 Common waste disposal methods**

Waste is mostly disposed of through open dumping in landfills. Some small fraction of waste is disposed of through composting and incineration. However, there is no substantive data on waste generated, collected and disposed in Dowa district. Liquid waste is commonly managed through simple technologies such as soak ways that are not adequate enough in capacity and quantity to handle complex waste from growing trading centers and institutions.

### **3.3.12 Key issues affecting the sector**

Major issues affecting the sector include:

1. Low community participation in environmental management activities
2. Weak sectoral collaboration in environmental management activities

### **3.3.13 Opportunities in the sector**

Despite numerous challenges the sector is facing, it has the following opportunities:

1. Enabling potential and legal frame work
2. Availability of coordination structures at district and community.

## **3.4 BIODIVERSITY**

Biological diversity comprises the variability among living organisms and the ecological complex of which they are part; this includes diversity within species and ecosystem. Dowa district is endowed with natural rivers and a wide selection of forests both planted and natural. The forests have created favorable habitats for survival of different flora and fauna like Ngala Forest which is 1104.86 Ha, Dowa Hills which has 2036.36 Ha and Kongwe Forest which has 1813 Ha. Many agricultural activities have led to loss of primary forests.

### **3.4.1 Loss of biodiversity**

Over the years, wildlife in the forest reserve has dwindled to extinction due to hunting and encroachment into the reserves. Wildlife is no longer a common sight in the mornings and evenings. Similarly, deforestation has chased the wildlife due to loss of their habitat. Due to wild bush fires in the forest reserves set by the surrounding communities, a lot of biodiversity has been lost. Other endangered species have become extinct completely. The communities complain that they are failing to get the benefit from the forest reserves that used to be their ancestral land. Most rivers which had a lot of fish species in the past have lost a lot of good species because of over fishing and destruction of river catchments. Most of these rivers are Bua, Lingazi, Mtiti, Lumbazi, Nambuma and Chilwa.

### **3.4.2 Threats to Biodiversity**

#### **3.4.2.1 Depletion and degradation of fish resources**

This is one of the pressing environmental issues of the people of Dowa because of the important role fish play in their lives. As a food security item, fish accounts for about 60-70% of the total animal protein intake at the household level. Important fish sources in Dowa are Small Water Bodies and Riverine like Bua and Nambuma. 3.10.2 Depletion of water resources. Dowa district has suffered a lot of losses in terms of rivers drying up due to destruction of catchment areas of all the rivers. This has caused reduction in irrigation farming and other species of fish which are dependent on pond fish farming; there is a reduction in ponds being formed due to loss of water resources. The other major factors affecting fish resources include sediments, habitat degradation and alterations of water courses.

#### **3.4.2.2 Depletion of Forests**

Most forest species have been depleted due to deforestation. For instance, the refugees who are based at Dzaleka mostly depend on charcoal for cooking.

### 3.4.2.3 Soil Erosion

The soils in Dowa are usually very deep, well drained, red or reddish brown, and medium over fine textured. Poorly drained, regularly inundated soils occur in a few areas of the district. The structure of most cultivated top soils is poor due to poor cultural practices, which results in disintegration of soil crumbs. These soils are therefore highly erodible, and both sheet and gully erosion is rife in many areas of the district especially those areas with high elevation: - Nambuma EPA, Mvera and Chisepo are some of the EPAs where soil erosion has been very rampant. Erodibility is therefore a major factor that is accelerating the rate of soil loss in Dowa.



*The clearing of pieces of land for Agriculture purposes or cultural clearing for accessibility is aggravating the problem as depicted in the figure 22.*

**Figure 3.10** Gully in Chisepo EPA

### 3.4.3 Disasters

The most common disasters that occur in the district are due to natural hazards which include drought, heavy rains and wind (storms) and fire in that order. Occurrence of these hazards has increased in magnitude, intensity and frequency due to climate change. Initial assessments have shown that the eastern side of the district is the most vulnerable to flush floods due to its hilly terrain which encourages excessive water run-off. The western side is generally prone to strong winds. This can be attributed to lack of trees to act as wind break in the area. There are both state and non-state actors in the district which contribute to disaster risk management. Mitigation and Response are common forms of intervention as indicated in table 30:

**Table 3.6** Stakeholders in Disaster Risk Management

Area of intervention	Stakeholder
Mitigation	Agriculture Sector, Forestry sector, Health Sector, Catholic Development Commission, Concern Universal, DAPP, Total Land Care, Care Malawi, World Vision, Kusamala
Response	Health Sector, Agriculture Sector, CADECOM, CU, World Vision, DoDMA, Zokonda Amayi Group, Council, Police, WFP

**Source:** District Council Office, 2017

The district has few Village Civil Protection Committees (VCPCs) to manage disasters and their related impacts. There are only 6 VCPCs in T/A Chiwere, this results into poor disaster preparedness, response and recovery at community level. The District Civil Protection Committee is not active due to inadequate resources to support coordination activities. Table 31 presents the distribution, severity of disaster in the district and the number of households affected over the year

T/A	Chiwere			Chakhaza			Dzoole			Mponela			Mkukula			Kayembe			Msakambewa		
Hazard/Yr.	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Drought	0	1656	0	0	3610	0	0	338	0	0	0	0	0	338	3061	0	0	3496	0	0	717
Storm	-	45	108	-	0	49	-	0	0	-	20	68	-	37	103	-	0	0	-	38	79
Fire	-	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-		1	-	0	0	-	3	0
Total	0	1701	108	0	3610	49	0	338	0	0	20	68	0	375	3165	0	0	3496	0	41	796

**Source:** Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Reports and DC office, 2017

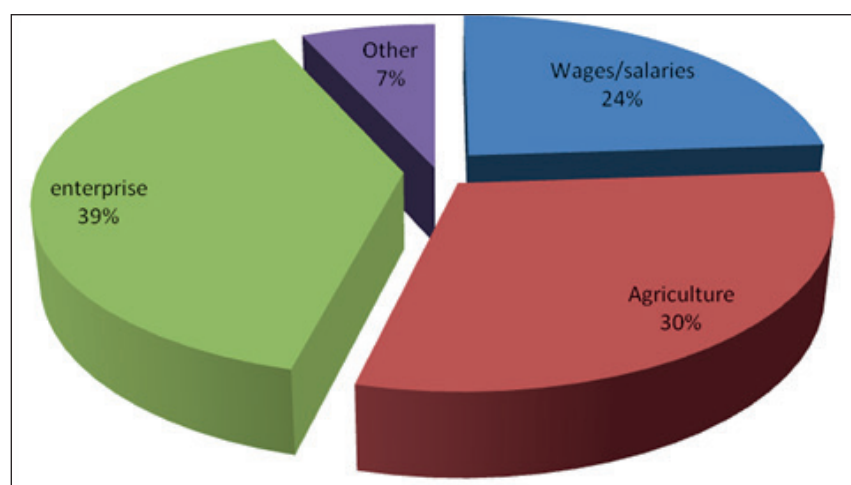
# CHAPTER 4: ECONOMY

## 4.1 INCOME AND POVERTY INCIDENCE

### 4.1.1 Household Income

The average annual household income for Dowa is MK67, 626.30 which is higher than the national and regional averages of MK50, 904.40 and MK 64, 466.70 respectively (IHS3). Figure 23 below depicts income sources and the percentage that each source contributes.

**Figure 4.1** Average Annual HH Income by Income Source

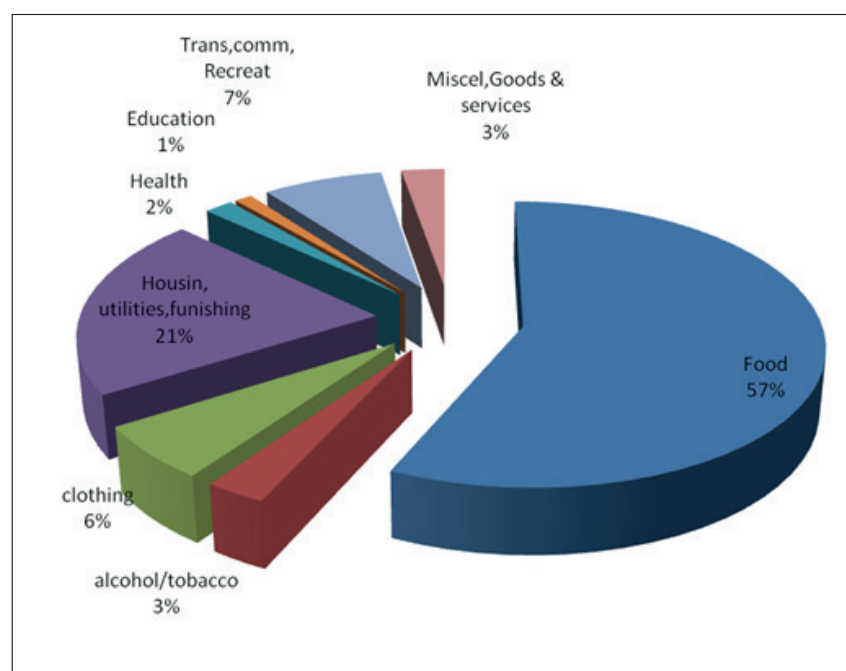


**Source:** IHS3, 2017

According to figure 23 above, 39 percent of the income is derived from enterprises, 30 percent from Agriculture, 24 percent from wages and 7 percent from other sources.

### 4.1.2 Household Expenditure

The expenditure pattern reveals areas of priority of people. The expenditure pattern of this income is illustrated in figure 19 where 57 percent of the income is used to buy food, 21 percent is used for housing, furnishing and utilities while 6 percent is used for clothing and 7 percent is for transport, communication and recreation. However, expenditure on health and education seems to receive little attention as revealed by low expenditure in these areas but, expenditure on tobacco and alcohol is higher than that of health and education.



**Figure 4.2** Annual House Hold Expenditure by Type

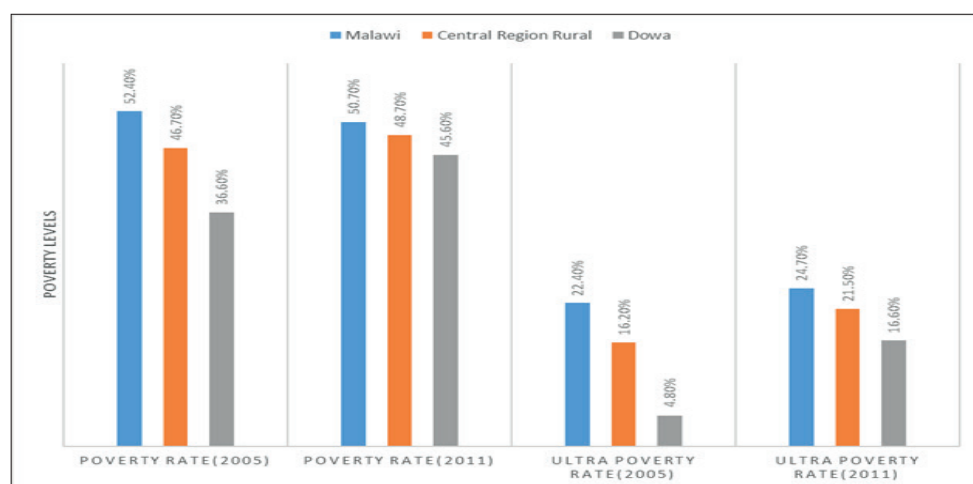
**Source:** IHS3, 2017

The mean per capita annual household expenditure is MK30, 115.5 against the national and regional mean annual household expenditure of MK 26,058.6 and MK 29739.3 respectively. That's a general picture of a better off district is portrayed for Dowa in as far as household income is concerned.

### 4.1.3 Poverty Incidences

According to IHS3 conducted by NSO, 45.6 percent of the people in Dowa live in poverty. This is slightly below the regional and national rates of 48.7 percent and 50 percent respectively. The head count of the ultra-poor in the district is 16.6 percent against the regional and national rates of 21.5 percent and 24.7 percent respectively. However, according to IHSs (2005 and 2011) in the period between 2005 and 2011 the poverty levels for Dowa district increased from 36.6 percent to 45 percent. Figure 25 presents the comparative analysis.





**Figure 4.3** Poverty and Ultra Poverty Rates

**Source:** Source NSO IHS2, 2005, IHS3, 2013

In Dowa district commerce and industry is one of the sectors that contribute to the district economy through trade. The goal of national trade policy is to make Malawi a globally competitive export- oriented economy, generating higher and sustainable livelihoods through trade. This trade policy is aligned with MGDIII, KPA number 3 of Energy, Industry and Tourism development outcome number 5; increased production and export of manufactured products. Furthermore, the trade policy is in line with SDGS 9; Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation. This goal explains that by 2030 there must be markets and opportunities for value addition as well as non-farm employment.

## 4.2 LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### 4.2.1 Agriculture

Agriculture plays an important role for sustainable livelihood in Malawi. It currently accounts for 39 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), employing about 80% of the workforce and contributes over 80% of foreign exchange earnings.

### 4.2.2 Vision and Policy goal

The Ministry's vision is to have a nation that enjoys food security and sustainable agricultural growth and development. The policy goal is to contribute to the attainment of national food security, poverty reduction and national economic development objectives. Implementation of the National Agriculture Policy is based on the following thematic areas:

- Inputs use and markets
- Agricultural production
- Agricultural markets development
- Gender, HIV and AIDS and agricultural development
- Climate change and environment issues

Agriculture provides the mainstay of people in Dowa employing about 90% of the work force. The District has 291,266.66 ha available land comprised of 250,991.00ha of cultivatable land representing 68%, 34,952ha of irrigable customary representing 12%, 34,737 ha of Estate sector representing 5% and 43,690 ha of forestry reserve representing 15%.

The main crops grown in the district are: *maize, tobacco, cotton, cassava, sweet potatoes, groundnuts, soybeans, and other pulses*. Dominant livestock include: *cattle, goats, pigs, sheep, poultry, rabbits and guinea fowls*. Currently, about 77% of the cultivatable land is under use both by Estates and Small holders farmers. Most of the commercial agriculture is mainly done by small holder farmers through contract farming with companies. However, high cost of farm inputs, inadequate extension workers, erratic rainfall, low commodity market price and lack of capital have been detrimental to achieving desirable successes in agricultural production. Currently, the Government is trying to increase farmers' access to inputs through Farm Input Subsidy Programme (FISP).

The district agriculture office's objective is to increase agriculture production through intensification of soil fertility management, livestock and crop diversification and promote organized produce marketing system for improved and sustainable food security and incomes at household level.

### **4.2.2.1 Agricultural Production**

#### **MAJOR CROPS**

##### **Food Crops**

Major food crops produced in the district are maize, cassava, sweet potatoes, Irish potatoes, groundnuts and pulses.

##### **Cash Crops**

The main cash crops in the district are tobacco, paprika, and legumes. Maize, cassava, soya and sweet potatoes are sometimes used as cash crops. Fruits like bananas, oranges, tangerines and some vegetables such as Onions, Chinese cabbage, cabbage, mustard (*Mpiru*) and tomatoes are also good sources of cash.

### **4.2.2.2 Trend of Crop Production**

Crop production has ever been increasing in the district. Significant increases in crop production has been realized due to programs like FISP, Malawi Disaster and Risk Management Project (MDRP), MASAF 4, LDF, contract farming with tobacco companies and general increase in area under production. In addition, NGOs and projects have scaled up their support to crop production over the years. The district experienced food insecurity ranging from 8 – 12 % over the years. Table 11 highlights some of these situations.

**Table 4.1** Trend of Crop Production and Area Cultivated over the Past 5 years.

	2012/2013		2013/2014		2014/2015		2015/2016		2016/2017	
	Prod	Ha	Prod (MT)	Ha	Prod (MT)	Ha	Prod (MT)	Ha	Ha	Prod (MT)
Maize	207830	86991	257,979	91,393	140,143	97,887	140,989	73,416	73,416	215,134
G/Nuts	35738	24138	42557	34,840	24,948	34,764	23,007	35898	35898	40223
Soya	6803	6143	9392	10,285	6,872	12,287	8,079	15344	15344	14762
Beans	1011	1263	10633	23,800	8,295	26,206	6,283	25024	25024	10022
Burley	14963020	16639	6571	14299	12,412,235	12,200	11,068,092	8446	8446	9674375
Flue cured	663888	1012	799	497	698,499	516	812,323	469	469	763979
NDDF	727822	444	668	389	174,229	262	132,978	118	118	77747
Cassava	125515	6293	132062	7,216	162,113	8,143	174,867	8125	8125	185318
S/Potatoes	190603	8736	205586	13,831	285,425	15,368	334,416	16252	16252	394931
Tomatoes	53421	2318	64162	3195	68,646	3072	63,058	3255	3255	66619
Cabbages	28789	1075	31619	1332	29,168	1360	24,858	1421	1421	28609
Potato	35005	1748	36123	2,496	46,374	2,575	40,122	2423	2423	46754
Paprika	166	291	188	283	136	262	89	262	262	128
Onion	12142	485	12200	618	14,516	628	13,537	660	660	14703
Cowpeas	483	1003	495	1136	426	1056	301	1301	1301	549
Cotton	688	2130	289	1342	576	1243	342	1165	1165	1023

**Source:** Dowa DAO Agriculture Estimates reports 2017

Area and production for maize have been fluctuating due to fluctuation in maize prices and weather. This demonstrates that the district has a high agricultural potential but weather and incentives remain a detrimental factor to agricultural production. The district requires 338,598 metric tonnes of maize per year for self-food sufficiency but the production from the above table 1 has been lower from year 2012 up to 2017. Area and production of g/nuts, soya beans, and onion have been increasing over the years. Sweet potato, vegetables and potato are increasingly becoming a cash crops in the district because of the readily available market. Almost all the tobacco categories area and production have been fluctuating since 2013/14 season due to poor prices and withdraw of support by stakeholders.

#### 4.2.2.3 Minor Crops

Farmers in Dowa grow a number of minor crops which are also categorized into food and Cash Crops.

#### 4.2.2.4 Food Crops

Minor food crops grown are cowpeas, sorghum, fruits, onions, tomatoes and cabbage.

#### 4.2.2.5 Cash Crops

Minor cash crops grown are Northern Dark Fired Tobacco, some fruits and paprika.

### 4.2.3 Key Constraints to Crop Production

There are a number of problems that affect crop production in the district. These include; use of unimproved varieties, high cost of farm inputs, lack of organized markets for agriculture commodities, low use

of fertilizers and manure, low adoption of improved technologies, incidence of Natural disasters line wash-away, high prevalence of pests and diseases and low-price incentives especially for tobacco.

#### 4.2.3.1 Farm Holding

#### 4.2.3.2 4411 Estates

The district has 12 estates covering 34,737 hectares of the land. Most of the estates are actively growing tobacco, maize, groundnuts, beans and soya beans on commercial basis. Total area of estate covers 13.9 % of the cultivatable land. Some of the estates includes Nkhonde estate by Mr. A.K. Banda (606 ha), Nyagala estate by Balon 1002 ha and Mpale estate 1034ha by Press. Just to mention a few.

#### 4.2.3.3 Small Holder Production

Small holder farmers constitute the majority of the farming community in Dowa. Small holder farmers mainly grow food crops especially maize, beans, soya beans and common beans (*phaseolus*). However, there is no significant cash cropping among farmers. Common cash crops are tobacco, groundnuts, fruits and vegetables, cotton, roots and tuber crops, paprika and chilies. There is need for smallholder farmers to get organized into proper and profitable marketing system.

#### 4.2.3.4 Land Distribution

The average land holding size per farm family is 1.0 ha. In terms of share by EPA of the cultivable land, Mvera, Mponela, Bowe and Nachisaka EPAs have the larger share compared to the rest. The EPA that has the least share is Nalunga probably owing to the nature of its terrain which is predominantly mountainous. Table 32 presents the land distribution and number of farm families per EPA.

**Table 4.2** Distribution of the Area and Farm Families by EPA

EPA	Total Ha.	Actual cultivated land	Smallholder cultivable land	Proportion of cultivable land	Farming families	Av. Land holding size
Bowe	40,222.96	21001	24230	86	25904	0.9
Madisi	35,787.33	21879	23925	91	24452	1.0
Chisepo	31,779.25	19717	21638	91	27439	0.8
Mndolera	18,697.05	11711	2	95	17270	0.8
Mponela	32,460.62	27121	29232	92	30498	0.9
Nambu-ma	1506.95	9399	10339	91	12119	0.8
Nachisaka	38,178.00	23670	24193	97	31,350	0.8
Chibvala	24,988.00	23197	24100	96	26,513	0.9
Mvera	33,136.00	30748	31500	97	29,948	1.1
Nalunga	20,956.00	13463	15360	87	10,572	1.5
<b>RDP Total</b>	<b>291,266.66</b>	<b>201,906.00</b>	<b>216,254.00</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>236,065</b>	<b>1.0</b>

**Source:** Dowa RDP, 2014

**Table 4.3** Farm Families by EPA and Gender Category

EPA	FF	MHH	FHH	CHH
Bowe	25904	18615	7253	36
Madisi	24452	17571	6847	34
Chisepo	27439	19718	7683	38
Mndolera	17270	12410	4836	24
Mponela	30498	21916	8539	42
Nambuma	12119	8709	3393	17
Nachisaka	31,350	22528	8778	44
Chibvala	26,513	19053	7424	37
Mvera	29,948	21521	8385	42
Nalunga	10,572	7597	2960	15
District Totals	236,065	169,639	66098	328

**Source:** DADO, 2014

The District has a total of **236,065** farm households. Of these, **169,639** are male headed households, **66098** are female headed and **328** are child headed respectively. As per EPAs, the largest number of farm families is in Nachisaka EPA and the least number is recorded at Nalunga EPA.

## 4.3 AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

### 4.3.1 Agricultural Extension

The channel of agricultural messages in the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development (MoAIWD) is known as Block Extension System (BES). This is done in the district through the District Agriculture Office (DAO), Extension Planning Area Offices, Sectional Agriculture Extension Development Officers (AEDO's) and Blocks through the established groups of farmers. All the small holder farmers in the District are covered by this system.

There are 10EPAs with 127 sections and 1016 blocks. Currently, only 74 sections are filled with frontline staff and the vacant sections are taken care by the already existing staff and some lead farmers. While the use of lead farmers is appreciated, they lack adequate skills as they are not fully formally trained due to lack of resources. Table 34 summarizes staff distribution across the district.

**Table 4.4** EPA Staff to Farmer Ratio

EPA	Farm families	Number of AEDOs	No. of vacant sections	Staff/farmer ratio
Bowe	25904	7	4	1:3711
Madisi	24452	7	8	1:3493
Chisepo	27439	7	4	1:3920
Mndolera	17270	7	2	1:2467
Mponela	30498	7	10	1:4357
Nambuma	12119	5	2	1:2424
Nachisaka	<b>31,350</b>	13	3	1:2412
Chibvala	<b>26,513</b>	9	2	1:2946
Mvera	<b>29,948</b>	10	8	1:2995

EPA	Farm families	Number of AEDOs	No. of vacant sections	Staff/farmer ratio
Nalunga	10,572	5	2	1:2114
<b>Totals</b>	<b>236,065</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>1:3046</b>

**Source:** DADO, 2014

The average Extension worker to farmer ratio for the district is 1:3046 which is very high as compared to the recommended ratio of 1 AEDO to 700 farmers. This poses a serious problem when it comes to quality of extension service delivery due to increased workload by the frontline staff. There is no replacement of frontline staff following deaths, retirements as well as resignation of some officers. Some farmers are not reached with agriculture extension services because of this inadequate frontline staff.

### 4.3.2 Institutional Set-up

The District Agriculture Office headed by District Agriculture Development Officer (DADO) and is under the jurisdiction of Kasungu Agriculture Development Division (ADD). In terms of administration, the district has two DADOs, one responsible for the Eastern part and the other responsible for the western part based at Dowa Boma and Mponela trading centre respectively. The district has a total of 10 EPAs namely; Bowe, Madisi, Chisepo, Mndolera, Mponela, Nambuma, Nachisaka, Chivala, Mvera and Nalunga. Each EPA is headed by Agricultural Extension Development Coordinator (AEDC) and each EPA is subdivided into sections and then blocks. A section is manned by an AEDO and it is further demarcated into 8 blocks. The AEDO makes his/her visitation schedule on block basis. Farmers are therefore grouped under block system.

**Table 4.5** Distribution of EPAs by T/As

EPA	Traditional Authority
Bowe	Chakhaza, part of Dzoole
Madisi	Chakhaza and part of Dzoole
Chisepo	Kayembe
Mndolera	Dzoole and part of Kayembe
Mponela	Mponela, Dzoole, Msakambewa and part of Chakhaza
Nachisaka	Msakambewa, Chiwere and Mkukula
Chivala	Mkukula and part of Msakambewa and Mponela
Mvera	Chiwere and part of Mkukula
Nalunga	Chiwere and part of Msakambewa

**Source:** DADO 2017

## 4.4 AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES

### 4.4.1 Soil and Water Conservation (S&WC) Agriculture

Over the past five years the district has among its core functions continued to encourage farmers to adopt various soil and water conservation technologies in order to control soil losses and improve agricultural productivity. The major technologies implemented included marker ridge construction, establishment of vetiver hedgerows, gully reclamation and stream bank protection.



**Table 4.6** Targets and achievements on S&WC

PERIOD	TARGET(Area conserved)	ACHIEVEMENT(ha)
2012/2013	750	497
2013/2014	800	616
2014/2015	800	596
2015/2016	800	420
2016/2017	1000	671

**Source:** DADO 2017

The table shows targets and achievements that were realized the past five years. Higher achievements (>50%) over the past two years were attributed due to support from other projects such as IRLADP, FIDP, RIDP and other NGOs such as TLC and TAPP. The district need putting to put effort on gully reclamation especially on the eastern regions where these gullies are more prominent. Some of the ideas include: training more lead farmers in soil and water conservation technologies, train frontline staff who will in turn train farmers.

#### 4.4.2 Area under Soil Fertility Improvement

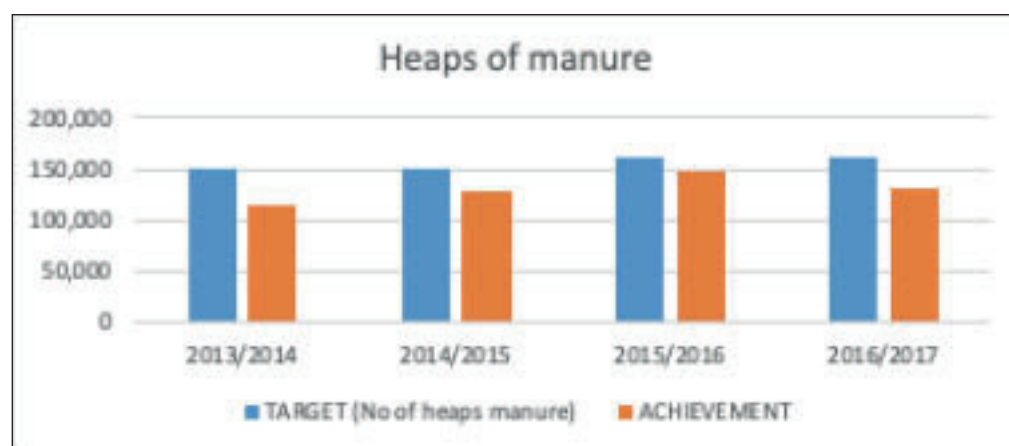
The major activities implemented under this section were manure making and utilization and agro forestry. In 2015/16 farming season, Dowa registered the highest number of heaps/pits of manure made over the period under review (2015/ 2016) as explained in the table below:

The increase was attributed to sound extension campaigns on importance of manure making and utilization through demonstrations in all the Extension Planning Areas (EPAs). During the 2015/16 period more manure heaps were made and also utilization was high as opposed to other seasons see table below. Campaigns on manure making and utilization need to be continuously intensified at all levels in order to increase resilience of field crops against impacts of climate change which have heavily affected agricultural production systems globally and Malawi is not exceptional. Figure 37 below shows the trend in manure making and utilization over the past five years.

**Table 4.7** Manure making achievements

PERIOD	TARGET (No of heaps manure)	ACHIEVEMENT
2012/2013	150,000	115,648
2013/2014	150,000	114,542
2014/2015	150,000	128,290
2015/2016	160,000	148,835
2016/2017	160,000	132,114

The trend has been fluctuating over the years. For instance, lowest achievement was recorded in 2013/2014 season because there were few interventions implemented to improve manure making. Highest achievements were recorded in the year 2015/2016 due to the efforts done through the above mentioned partners.



**Figure 4.4** Hips of manure

The total number of compost heaps have been achieved due to sound extension system and also due to availability of stakeholders involved in land resources conservation activities.

**Table 4.8** Achievements on compost heaps

PERIOD	TARGET (Area applied manure)	ACHIEVEMENT
2012/2014	25000	18945
2013/2014	30,000	23,613
2014/2015	30,500	23,633
2015/2016	32,000	40,059
2016/2017	32,000	19,828

**Source:** DADO, 2017

The area applied by manure increased in the year 2015/2016 season due good extension system and collaboration of stakeholders involved in the land resources conservation activities.

#### 4.4.3 Area under Conservation Agriculture

The table below shows areas under conservation agriculture in the district.

**Table 4.9** Area under Conservation agriculture

PERIOD	TARGET (Area under CA)	ACHIEVEMENT
20/12/2013	50	41
2013/2014	50	57
2014/2015	50	48
2015/2016	50	63
2016/2017	50	45

**Table 4.10** Area under Mulching

PERIOD	TARGET (Area mulched)	ACHIEVEMENT
2013/2014	200	198
2013/2014	200	206
2014/2015	200	214
2015/2016	250	1041
2016/2017	250	215

**Source:** DADO, 2017

There has been an increase in area under conservation agriculture practices over the past years as compared to the planned target (see figure 40 above). This higher achievement was attributed to immense awareness campaigns through On Farm Demonstrations and field days. At the same time these practices are deemed to yield quick returns in terms of water retention and soil fertility improvement hence preferred by most farmers

#### 4.4.4 Mechanization Agriculture

On average, Dowa farmers have not benefited much from tractor hire scheme as the available implements are not in good condition. Approximately 10 % of the farm families have mechanized their farms using simple implements like farm carts, sprayers, ploughs, ridges, cultivators, bale jacks, wheelbarrows, shellers, treadle pumps, motorized pumps and tractors. The low level of mechanization should not be surprising, especially considering limitation of capital amongst most of the small holder farmers.

The district was supported by two tractors to be used on a hire scheme by the farmers. Publicity of the scheme has been very good over the five years which has resulted in relatively high demand for the scheme. Farmers in the district are getting used to cultivating with tractors. In 2013/14 season 115 Ha of land was ploughed and in 2017/18 a total of 285 Ha of land was ploughed using a tractor. Out of 285 ha, 243ha by private sectors while 42 ha by government. Currently these tractors are off the road and farmers are struggling to get the services. Some farmers are being assisted using tractors from Kasungu ADD while others hire private ones.

#### 4.4.5 Food Situation

The district over the years has not experienced alarming food insecurity apart from 2008/09 where there was acute food shortage from November to April. This was due to a prolonged dry spell which affected crop production in the previous season. Table 41 shows the trend of the food situation.

**Table 4.11** Percentage of Farm Families without Food per Month per Year

Month	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
July	1.3	2.6	3.0	3.1	1.0
August	1.6	3.9	3.7	4.3	1.5
September	2.1	4.1	3.7	4.2	1.5
October	1.9	4.1	4.0	4.6	1.5
November	2.3	4.7	4.8	5.0	1.8
December	3.7	4.8	5.0	5.5	2.0

Month	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
January	5.6	11.3	12.1	12.3	2.0
February	7.2	12.1	11.6	12.0	1.7
March	4.2	5.6	6.0	6.7	1.5
April	1.1	1.1	1.7	2.5	1.1
May	1.0	0.8	2.0	3.0	1.2
June	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2

**Source:** DADO, 2017

The district food situation was not bad to cause any alarm to last agricultural season. This is because farmers have been increasing access to improved farm inputs from FISP, FLIP, MDRRP and other projects including those by various stakeholders. If these programmes are discontinued, there will be a continued threat on food situation as most farmers still rely on such programmes and projects to access improved inputs than on their own.

#### 4.4.6 Input Uptake

There has been an increase in input uptake by the farmers over the years. This has been witnessed due to increased support by government through FISP, FILP and special projects and NGOs efforts. Some of the inputs are either on credit or free or heavily subsidised while some are bought on cash.

However, there is still limited access to agricultural credit by farmers from financial and other service providers. Mostly farmers access the credit through contract farming especially the Tobacco farmers with NGOs like JTI, Limbe Leaf and Alliance One.

In general, the credits are more directed towards farmers with high value crops like Tobacco than the rest. Tables below show trends of inputs uptake of farmers over the past five years on credit, subsidy and cash respectively.

**Table 4.12** Input Uptake for Credit (Mt)

Type of input	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
23:21:0 + 4S	1312.5	2779.06	337.05	734.7	712.3
Urea	423.1	1976.65	1000.25	1194.9	1088.3
CAN	516.5	853.15	618.05	1006.2	976.4
D-compound	0	0	0	0	103.2
S/D	1112.3	2406.06	1988.82	2392.5	2013.1
Hybrid seed	92.4	131.81	78.22	66.22	69.13
OPV	124.6	285.5	0	0	0

**Source:** Dowa DADO, 2017

From table 42, it is noted that there was a variation in uptake of inputs from 2012/13 season to 2016/17 season. Variation of inputs uptake is due to variation of prices of some produce. This is the period where contract farming blossomed significantly in the district.

**Table 4.13** Inputs Uptake on Subsidy in metric tones

Type of input	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
23:21:0 + 4S	17,543	4,150	4,330	4,330	1,555.85
Urea	26,314	4,150	4,330	4,330	1,555.85
CAN	0	0	0	0	0
D-compound	0	0	0	0	0
S/D	0	0	0	0	0
Hybrid seed	3,509	270	345	371.46	141.49
OPV	221	158.1	46.6	113.2	14.1

**Source:** Dowa DADO, 2017

The inputs on subsidy are provided by the government through its FISP. This started in 2005/06 farming season up to date. The programme is a major contributor towards increased access to improved farm inputs by smallholder farmers.

**Table 4.14** Input Uptake by Cash

Type of input	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
23:21:0 + 4S	1,514.8	2,135.2	632.09	697.59	899.92
Urea	2,236.1	1,480.75	974.8	759.3	783.4
CAN	1,081.8	816.4	266.1	227.9	218.7
D – compound	1,409.1	491.85	30.02	40.00	67.2
S/D	23.2	1,130.3	18.2	23.7	37.3
Hybrid seed	180.7	245.5	188.48	239.79	386.3
OPV	47.6	72.8	45.3	70.9	224.5

**Source:** Dowa DADO, 2017

Most of the farmers buying on cash are the commercial farmers. There was a remarkable increase in inputs uptake especially for fertilizer from 2011 to 2013 due to promising produce prices at the auction floors for tobacco.

## 4.4.7 Agricultural Markets

### 4.4.7.1 Marketing Agricultural Products

Traditionally, people in the district used to rely on ADMARC markets for buying food, inputs and selling their produce. Due to the incapacitation of ADMARC over the past years and market liberalization systems, individuals are free to obtain the above mentioned items from any organized market. On the other hand, small holder farmers in the district are making progress in trying to organize themselves into farmer organizations. So far, market associations and cooperatives have emerged in the district and farmers are using these groups to access markets outside their borders.

There has also been a proliferation of middle men who set and dictate their own desired prices for agricultural produce at the expense of farmers' profits. There are a number of trading centers in the district where agricultural produce marketing is conducted. Table 14 is a list of notable Market Centers in the District.

**Table 4.15** Notable Market Centres in the District

Name Of Market	EPA	T/A	Grade
Mbala	Bowe	Chakhaza	Perennial
Chitedze	Bowe	Chakhaza	Perennial
Bowe	Bowe	Chakhaza	Perennial
Chinkhwiri	Bowe	Chakhaza	Perennial
Madisi	Madisi	Chakhaza	Perennial
Kalonga	Madisi	Chakhaza	Perennial
Chisepo	Chisepo	Kayembe	Perennial
Kasuntha	Chisepo	Kayembe	Perennial
Nambuma	Mndolera	Kayembe	Perennial
Lipiri	Mndolera	Kayembe	Perennial
Mponela	Mponela	Mponela	Perennial
Pembasaka	Mponela	Msakambewa	Perennial
Golong'oji	Nachisaka	Msakambewa	Perennial
Mwangala	Nachisaka	Msakambewa	Perennial
Nachisaka Pa Boma	Nachisaka	Msakambewa	Perennial
Matekenya	Nalunga	Chiwere	Perennial
Nalunga	Nalunga	Chiwere	Perennial
Chezi	Mvera	Mkukula	Perennial
Mvera	Mvera	Chiwere	Perennial
Lumbadzi	Chivala	Mkukula	Perennial
Thambwe	Chibvala	Mkukula	Perennial
Mtengowanthenga	Chivala	Mkukula	Perennial
Chimwaza	Chivala	Mponela	Perennial
Njere East	Mvera	Chiwere	Seasonal

**Source:** Dowa DADO, 2017

#### 4.4.8 livestock development

Livestock has been a major source of income to local communities after sales. They are a source of manure for field crops to boost production. It is a source of food in form of milk, meat and eggs. They are used as draught power for transportation and ploughing.

#### 4.4.9 Livestock services available

Livestock services available in the district are cattle marketing which takes place at Mponela trading centre fortnightly, meat inspection, disease surveillance, treatments and vaccinations of animals, castration of male animals, training of farmers in management of animals, control of movements of animals (issuing of movements permit)

#### 4.4.10 Livestock uses

The following are some of the uses of livestock; source of protein in form of meat, milk and eggs, source of income, source of manure for crop production, used for draught power and for coping up mechanism in times of food scarcity. 3% of livestock is used for dairy, 12.1% is used for meat and 7.3% is used for transport. Animal products like manure is used for boosting production, hides for making drums, mats, bed making and rituals activities. Feathers used for traditional dances



#### 4.4.11 Main constraints in livestock production

The following are some of the constraints; disease outbreaks like Newcastle in chickens, African swine fever in pigs and Tick borne diseases in cattle, high cost of drugs, low productivity due to poor management, low genetic potential of the breeding stock, low prices prevailing at livestock markets, few trained staff with large area coverage with no support of mobility, little or no resources to support livestock activities timely.

**Table 4.16** Number of Animals Treated Against Various Diseases

Species	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/2016	2016/17
Cattle	931	816	1,349	2,877	5,975
Goats	2,348	1,394	2,824	1,980	15,927
Sheep	127	83	119	165	432
Poultry	4,734	3,672	4,969	4,344	12,090
Pigs	2,612	1,734	2,571	1,859	5,079
Dogs	240	127	118	264	351
Cats	23	11	6	10	50

**Source:** Dowa DADO 2017

#### 4.4.12 Livestock production

Since 2010 livestock numbers of the main species have been increasing. The main contributing factors include support by MDRR Project (Government Organization) and also by NGOs such as CADECOM, FIDP, World Vision Malawi, TAPP, DAPP, MAICC just to mention a few and increase in number of farmers participating in livestock keeping. The other contributing factor is extension coverage and routine disease control practices. Table 2 shows the types and population.

Some of the diseases that affect livestock production are: Rabies, milk fever, anaplasmosis, East coast fever, African swine fever, avian colyza.

**Table 4.17** Population census of livestock

YEAR	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Cattle	43,334	45,316	45,876	46,557	44,274
Goats	269,521	391,406	404,368	437,995	383,041
Sheep	1,047	1,246	1,6321	1,665	1,468
Pigs	188,439	159,979	200,342	206,111	166,782
Chickens	1,622,644	1,156,741	1,417,423	1,618,553	827,972

**Source:** Dowa DADO 2017

Table 47 above shows that in 2016/2017 livestock production decreased in all species due to drought which the district experienced. Livestock were also affected by Farm-Household food situation.

### 4.4.13 Livestock Services

#### 4.4.13.1 Dip tanks

The Following is the list of Dip tanks available per T/A (see table 42) of which some are not functional.

**Table 4.18** Distribution of Dip Tanks in Dowa district

NO	EPA	TA	VET CENTRE	FUNCTIONAL	REASONS
1	Bowe	Chakhaza	Makalani	None	High cost of Arcaricides
			Katambo		
			M'biya		
2	Madisi		Madisi		
			Kabwinja		
			Makombwa		
3	Mponela	Mponela	Mponela		
			Namwiri		
4	Mndolera	Dzoole	Khwema		
			Dzoole		
5	Chisepo	Kayembe	Chisepo		
6	Nambuma		Chioza		
			Mdika		
7	Chivala	Mkukula	Lumbadzi		
			Majiga		
			Kalisha		
8	Nachisaka	Msakambewa	Msakambewa		
			Moya		
		Chiwere	Chimangamsasa		
9	Mvera	Mkukula	Simakumi		
10	Nalunga	Chiwere	Nalunga		

**Source:** Dowa DADO 2017

#### 4.4.13.2 Challenges facing livestock sector in the district

- Some dip tanks are in poor state due to vandalism.
- Encroachment by surrounding communities.
- Inadequate veterinary staff.

## 4.5 450 IRRIGATION

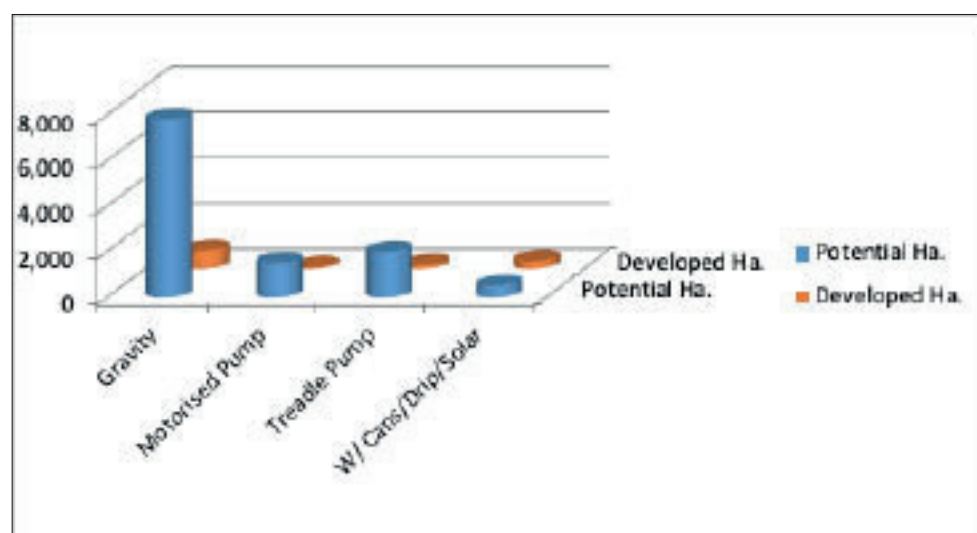
The Irrigation Department is mandated to facilitate the increase and stabilization of agricultural production, through mobilization of small and large scale irrigation projects with human and financial resources provision from beneficiaries, the private sector, NGOs and the public sector; with full participation of the beneficiaries and ample observance of environmental aspects to ensure sustained productivity and, equitable involvement across all gender lines, for food security, effective poverty alleviation, and national economic development.

The MGDS III recognises that the country is highly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change and extreme weather events. This situation is exacerbated by increasing population pressure on a limited land resource base, land degradation arising from agricultural expansion and the cultivation of marginal lands, and increasing deforestation to meet the increasing demands for energy, food and construction.

The purpose of the Department of Irrigation is to provide, develop and set up irrigation systems to irrigatable fields. The district would therefore like to realize this through the advancement of numerous irrigation technologies with due attention to efficient utilization of water resources. Phase I (2015-2020) of irrigation master plan for the nation is targeting to develop 20,000 hectares and Dowa district will contribute 2,000 hectares. Some of the technologies that are being promoted for smallholder irrigation include: Use of treadle pumps, motorized pumps, small earth dams, river diversion, drip and solar irrigation.

The potential land for Irrigation farming in Dowa is 11,800 ha. The land can be categorized as follows; 1500 hectares for motorized pump, 2000 hectares for treadle pump-based Irrigation, 7800 hectares for river diversion (gravity fed) based irrigation and 500 hectares for watering can irrigation. The total area developed is 1,346.3 hectares (representing 11.4 % of potential area) in 375 irrigation sites utilized as follows: 794.3 hectares under river diversion, 284.2 hectares under watering can, and 156 hectares under treadle pump-based irrigation and 65.3 hectares motorized pump irrigation.

Recently, the district has intensified promoting modern irrigation technologies like Drip contributing 5 hectares and Solar Powered Irrigation contributing 41.5 hectares to the total developed irrigation area in the district. This is achieved by working with other stakeholders/NGOs like World Vision Malawi, CICOD, CADECOM, CARD, TAPP, and Care Malawi among others. The developed irrigation area is benefiting a total of 9,913 farmers (6,651 males, 3,262 females). However, there is still 10,453.7 hectares available potential land for irrigation in the district. The major crops that are grown under irrigation include maize, tomatoes, onions, Irish potatoes, green peas, cabbage, leafy vegetables, beans, water melon and paprika. Figure below shows the area developed over the period in comparison to potential area per technology



**Figure 4.5** Developed Irrigation Area versus Potential Irrigation Area

From the graph above, it is seen that gravity fed Irrigation system is the dominantly used technology. Treadle pump and motorized pump technologies are the least used technologies in the district. This is so because farmers find it easier to operate gravity fed irrigation schemes other than treadle pump and motorized pump irrigation schemes. And also that most of the available treadle pumps are not user friendly to many women farmers that they fail to effectively operate besides do require enough energy to pedal the treadles. While

motorized pumps require fuel to operate that needs to be purchased while gravity fed irrigation schemes just need minimal man power to operate. Besides, maintenance costs for motorized pumps are incurred frequently other than that of gravity fed irrigation systems. However, though gravity fed irrigation system is dominantly used it is underutilized taking into account its potential area. The reasons for underutilization range from that of: 1. Irrigation development is a capital intensive investment but the district on its own cannot manage to fund, 2. in some instances the water bodies, more especially in the eastern part of the district where gravity fed irrigation is commonly used dry up due to the negative effects of climate change like siltation, 3. lack of farmers' capacity in operation & maintenance of irrigation facilities. Hence there is need to address all these issues in order to increase irrigation area in the district.

### 4.5.1 Irrigation Status/Trend

The irrigation status/trend in the district in actual figures is provided in terms of technology type, number of schemes/sites per year, hectareage per year and number of farmers involved per year over a 5-year period as presented in table 49 below.

**Table 4.19** Irrigation Status/Trend for Dowa District Over a 5-year Period

Type of Irrigation	Number of sites available per year					Area (Ha.) per year					Number of farmers per year				
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Gravity	235	237	239	244	248	731	747	759	773	794.3	6752	6756	6760	6765	6769
Watering can	58	59	62	63	65	256	262	274	279	284.3	1495	1507	1554	1652	1684
Motorized Pumps	16	17	18	19	21	39	41	53	59.3	65.3	372	374	377	379	382
Treadle Pumps	19	23	27	31	33	93	105	143	152	156	557	562	569	712	783
Drip	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	15	40
Solar	0	0	0	2	6	0	0	0	10	41.5	0	0	0	125	255

**Source:** Dowa Irrigation Office 2017

From table 49 above, it is seen in the past 5 years that there was an increase in the area developed both under gravity fed and Treadle Pump Irrigation with a 63-hectare increase in each of the technologies respectively. The motorized irrigation technology was the least utilized. In the past 5 years there has been an increase in the use of treadle pump irrigation due to the introduction of Money Maker Treadle Pump by Total Land Care which is user friendly as opposed to the old type though accessed at a higher cost.

Some few free money maker treadle pumps about 125 were also accessed by farmers through a Government owned project, Malawi Drought Recovery and Resilience Project (MDRRP) towards the end of the period. For motorized pumps, there are still fewer farmers that are practicing irrigation under the technology. These are mostly individual farmers that can afford to service the pumps and purchase fuel. It is also seen that more farmers participated in Treadle Pump Irrigation technology compared to all other technologies in the past years and least number participated in motorized pump irrigation technology.

### 4.5.2 Irrigation Status by technology in each EPA

There are several irrigation technologies utilised in the ten (10) Extension Planning Areas in the district. Table 46 below depicts each irrigation technology status per EPA.

**Table 4.20** Irrigation Status in Extension Planning Areas (EPAs) By Technology

EPA	Technology							
	Motorized pump		Treadle pump		River diversion		watering can	
	Potential area	Actual area	Potential area	Actual area	Potential area	Actual area	Potential area	Actual area
Bowe	500	27.0	250	13.2	0	0	70	57.13
Madisi	250	12.7	250	14.2	0	0	60	19.92
Chisepo	300	5.4	300	15.4	0	0	80	48.45
Mndolera	200	9.0	300	31.4	50	0.5	70	39.8
Mponela	150	2.3	200	26.1	300	57.0	80	52.50
Nambuma	200	2.2	150	5.1	0	0	40	15.5
Chibvala	200	1.5	150	15.5	2000	167.2	20	6.5
Nachisaka	300	4.5	150	24.4	2650	244.17	40	20.6
Nalunga	100	0.5	100	5.0	1300	171.23	10	2.7
Mvera	150	0.2	150	5.7	1500	154.2	40	21.1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>65.3</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>7,800</b>	<b>794.3</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>284.2</b>

Dowa District Irrigation Office-2017

From the table above, it is seen that overall there is underutilisation of potential irrigation land in the EPAs across all technologies. Therefore, there is a great need to intensify irrigation development in the EPAs. This can be achieved only if several partners and stakeholders at local level join hands by pooling resources together as irrigation is a capital-intensive investment. And there is also need in intensifying farmer capacity building in irrigation development at EPA level

**Table 4.21** Number of Irrigation Sites and Beneficiaries Per Technology

Technology	Number of sites	Gross Area	Total area developed, ha	Actual area under irrigation	Male	Female	Total
Gravity fed	248	7,800	794.3	773.4	4,404	2,365	6,769
Motorized pump	21	1,500	65.3	64.5	311	71	382
Treadle pump	33	2,000	156	148	543	240	783
Water can	73	500	330.7	284.2	1,218	466	1,684
Drip	2	-	5	5	25	15	40
Solar	6	-	41.5	41.5	150	105	255
<b>Total</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>11,800</b>	<b>1,346.3</b>	<b>1,270.1</b>	<b>6,651</b>	<b>3,262</b>	<b>9,913</b>

From table 51 above it is seen that women participation in irrigation development is above 50 % in Solar Irrigation technology. However, overall, across all the technologies the women participation is below 50 at 33%. Therefore, there is need for women capacity building in irrigation development.

### 4.5.3 Issues in the Irrigation Sector

- Land tenure issues which are seen as critical to success and sustainability
- Ensuring that women and men participate in decision making
- Difficulty in changing the mind set of subsistence-oriented farmers
- Difficulty in accessing financial services in rural areas
- Lack of financial management skills of farmers and farmer organizations

- Inadequate funding of government support services
- Marketing and transport issues
- Degradation of water resources catchments

All these issues make irrigation development unsustainable and require addressing. It has also been observed that large scale irrigation developments yield a great impact. It has been found that successful irrigation development is much more than just designing and constructing schemes. It requires an approach which addresses diverse and often complex legal, institutional, technical, marketing, social and economic issues in a balanced and holistic manner (*Irrigation Master Plan and Investment Framework; 2014*)

#### 4.5.4 Existing Dams in the District and their Present Condition

There are a number of dams in the district which can support irrigation development if managed properly. Below is a table of the existing dams in the district;

**Table 4.22** Existing Dams in the District

ID	NAME OF DAM	EPA	TA	CONDITION OF DAM	WORKS REQUIRED
1	Kang'ona	Madisi		Partially breached spillway	Rehabilitation of the partially breached spillway
2	Chikwawe			Heavily silted & breached masonry weir	Desilting & rehabilitation of the breached spillway
3	Mafubvu			Embankment lowering & breached	Embankment raising & rehabilitation
4	Nkhafi			existing canal fails to supply water to command area	Canal needs to be raised & outlet pipe to be raised too
5	Bokosala			Breached & lowered embankment	Rehabilitation & raising of embankment
6	Nambamba			Breached & lowered embankment	Rehabilitation & raising of embankment
7	Chawawa			Washed away embankment & spillway	Embankment & spillway rehab and desilting
8	Mweziwowala	Bowe	Chakhaza	Heavily silted	Desilting
9	Kakubwi			Heavily breached embankment & spillway	Embankment & Spillway rehabilitation
10	Chinanzale			Breached embankment & Spillway	Embankment & Spillway rehabilitation
11	Chimbewa			Siltation	Desilting
12	Mupa			Breached Embankment & Siltation	Embankment rehabilitation & Desilting
13	Sese			Breached spillway & partial embankment	Spillway & embankment rehabilitation
14	Mthirakuwiri			Breached embankment & lowering	Embankment rehabilitation & raising
15	Kamphambale			Breached embankment	Embankment rehabilitation
16	Chinkhwiri			Breached & lowered embankment	Embankment rehabilitation & raising
17	Chikhobwe			Breached & lowered embankment	Embankment rehabilitation & raising
18	Chimungu		Dzoole	Minor breached spillway & slightly silted	Minor spillway rehabilitation & desilting
19	Kalinda	Mponela Breached & lowered embankment		Lowered embankment & seepage	Embankment raising & heavy compaction
20	Machentche			Embankment rehabilitation & raising	
21	Chiudza	Nambuma		Seepage	Embankment compaction
22	Champhande			Breached embankment & Spillway	Embankment & spillway rehabilitation
23	Makuwira	Chisepo	Kayembe	Slightly spillway breach	Spillway minor rehabilitation
24	Chasa	Chisepo		Breached Spillway & embankment	Spillway & embankment rehabilitation
25	Katete			Breached embankment	Embankment rehabilitation



ID	NAME OF DAM	EPA	TA	CONDITION OF DAM	WORKS REQUIRED
26	Mengwe	Nachisaka	Mkukula	Heavy siltation & spillway breach plus low-ered embankment	Desilting, spillway rehabilitation and embankment
27	Chaliwa		Msakambewa	Seepage	Embankment compaction

**Source:** Irrigation Office-Dowa 2017

From table 53 above it can be concluded that Dowa district has several dams that need to be rehabilitated. Due to the recent negative effects of Climate Change dam rehabilitation and construction in the district could assist in mitigating the shortage of water for irrigation development and also recharging ground water for borehole water extraction. Dams would conserve some of the rain water that could all run off into Dowa rivers and eventually into Lake Malawi, then River Shire & River Zambezi and finally into Indian Ocean leaving out Dowa with no enough water for irrigation. Besides the above listed dams there are some areas that require construction of new dams and also rehabilitation of several other existing small earth dams. Figure below depicts one of the dams that require rehabilitation of the breached spillway and embankment.



**Figure 4.6** The magnificent Kang'ona Dam in Madisi EPA, TA Chakhaza

#### 4.5.5 Challenges to irrigation development

Poor investment in the sector.

Reduced water levels in water sources due to unreliable rainfall and catchment degradation. This is attributed to less amount of rainfall and farmers do not preserve the catchment area, they cultivate up to the river banks and molding of bricks on the river banks. This may also be attributed to lack of integrated approaches to development and management of irrigation schemes in the district.

Farmer institutional weaknesses hence lack of sustainability.

- Lack of reliable markets for farmers' produce
- Dependency syndrome amongst farmers

- Limited collaboration and coordination with Non-governmental sectors and private sectors

### 4.5.6 Opportunities

Despite the challenges and the weaknesses that exist at the district level there are still opportunities which can be worked on;

- National and sectoral policy settings are favourable for development of irrigated agriculture.
- There is still potential land for irrigation development in the district
- There are already organized farmer's structures in some irrigation sites which just need capacity building.
- There is willingness from Local NGOs working in the district to invest in irrigation potential for irrigation development.

## 4.6 FISHERIES

The goal of the policy is to promote sustainable fisheries resource utilization and aquaculture development in order to contribute to food and nutrition security and economic growth of the country. The main objective of this policy is to sustainably increase fisheries and aquaculture productivity for accessible nutritious food and increased contribution to economic growth which is in line with MGDS III Key priority area no. 1, Agriculture water Development and Climate Change Management and address SDG no 1 on End hunger and Food security.

### 4.6.1 Fishing Systems

There are three major Fisheries grounds in Malawi, Capture Fisheries, Riverine Fisheries and Aquaculture Fisheries. Dowa as an upland district is mostly dependent on Aquaculture Fisheries through Pond Fish Culture system, Small Water Bodies (SWB) and Riverine fisheries. There are currently 414 fish ponds in the district covering a total area of 21.3 Ha with 297 fish farmers of which 26 are females and 271 males. Fish provides a major source of protein supply estimated at approximately 70% of animal proteins and 40% of the total protein intake by the majority of the rural poor. The main goal for Fisheries sector is to increase and sustain fish production from smallholder and large-scale fish farming operations in order to improve fish supply in the District.

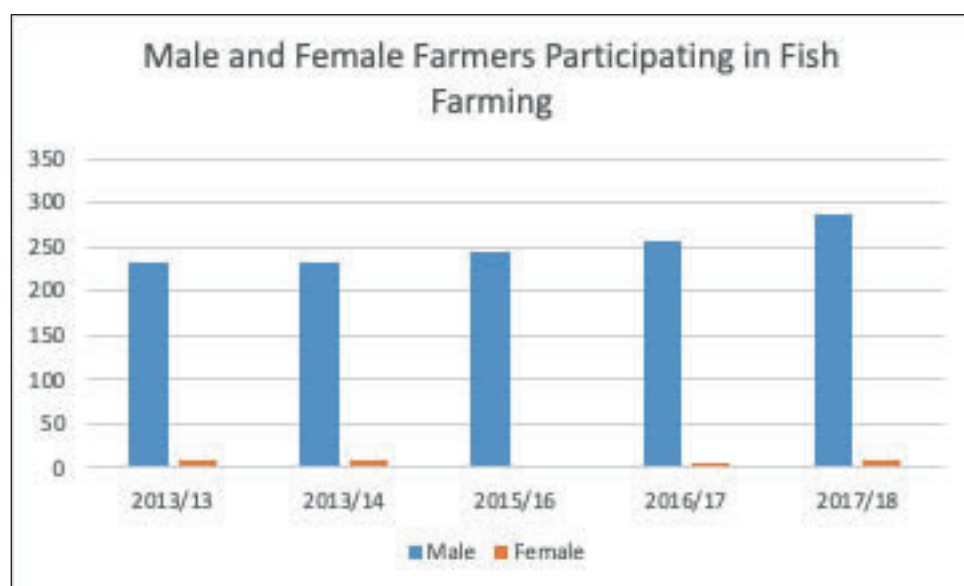
### 4.6.2 Pond Culture System

Pond culture is a fish farming system where earth ponds are constructed in the ground to allow water retention where fish is being cultured for a period of not less than four months. As already stated in the preamble above there are currently 414 fish ponds in the district which belong to different Male and Female individual farmers.

**Table 4.23** Participation of Male and Female Farmers in Fish Farming

2012/13		2013/14		2015/16		2016/17		2017/18	
Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
233	8	233	8	246	2	258	7	288	9

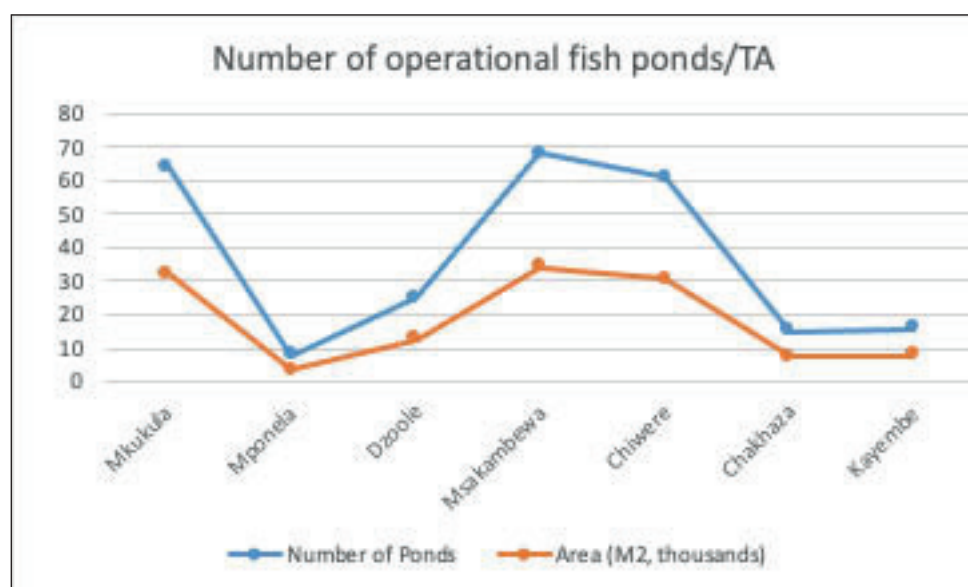
**Source:** Dowa Fisheries Office 2017



**Figure 4.7** Participation on fish farming by gender

Male Farmers are dominating in Fish Farming than Female Farmers

The number of fish farmers has been increasing over the years (though at a slow pace) because of the increasing number of stakeholders and some government projects initiated through Local Development Fund and MDRRP. Some of the NGOs participating in aquaculture are Trustees of Agricultural Promotion Programme (TAPP), CICOD, and Ministry of Hope. The number of ponds have increased from 250 in 2012 to 414 in 2018. However, some of the ponds dried up due to dry spells in some of the TAs like Chiwere, Mponela and Chakhaza.



**Figure 4.8** Number of fish ponds per TA in Dowa

The number of fish ponds differs per TA due to potential of the area. The highest potential area for fish farming in the district is Msakambewa with 68 ponds seconded by Mkukula with 64 ponds. The third TA with a number of good ponds is Chiwere while the rest TAs have got very low potential.

### 4.6.3 Fish Production

It is estimated that over 70 Ha. of land in the district has a potential for fish farming, a bigger portion of all the district's potential lies in the eastern part, in Chiwere, Msakambewa and Mkukula T/As. There is also but limited potential in Mponela, Chakhaza, Kayembe and Dzoole. The most common fish species grown in the district are *Oreochromis shirranas* (Makumba), *Tilapia rendalli* (Chilunguni), and *Clarias gariepinus* (Mlamba). The district has registered an increase in fish production over the years since 2012. Production recording was done mainly from Aquaculture Fisheries through fish pond farming, Riverine Fisheries and Small Water Bodies.

**Table 4.24** Fish Production trend by species since 2012 in KGs

Years	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
O. Shiranus	102	0	619.2	1625.7	1861.5	2126.6
T. Rendalli	41	0	206.2	542	620.5	708.9
Fish Sold	98	0	725.9	1994.7	2166	2577.5
consumption	45	0	105.3	173	316	258
Total production	143	0	825.7	2167.7	2482	2835.5
Revenue (MK)	98,000.00	0	1,238,550.00	3,947,300.00	4,595,000.00	5,671,000.00

**Source:** Dowa Fisheries office 2017

Table 54 above shows fish production trends since 2011 while there was a gap in 2012/13 because of the unavailability of a fisheries officer for the District. It seems farmers are more interested in selling the fish produced than consumption which can be attributed to the fact that more males are engaged in fish farming than females. The increase in females' fish farmers would focus more on feeding households rather than selling hence increasing the nutritional status of households.

### 4.6.4 Small Water Bodies

Small Water Bodies (SWB) are manmade dams or natural reservoirs and Dowa has got many Small Water Bodies with a total area of 140 ha. "Department of Irrigation, Dowa" This is far much more than the fish farming total hectares currently at 21.3 Ha. The Small Water Bodies and Reservoirs represent a substantial aquatic resource in the district. Current fish production from Small Water Bodies (SWB) is estimated at 0.05 tonnes of fish/ha/yr. (about 7 tonnes of fish). The common fish species raised and found in small Water Bodies are Chilunguni, (*Tilapia rendalli*), Makumba (*Oreochromis Shirannas*), Mlamba or Cat fish (*Clarius gariepinus*) and *barbus* species. Some of the Dams found in the District are Chikwawe and Nkhafi Dams in Madisi EPA, Katambo and Sese Dams in Bowe EPA, Chimungu Dam in Mponela EPA

### 4.6.5 Riverine Fisheries

Riverine Fisheries refers to catching of fish from Natural Rivers, Dowa District has got a lot of Rivers that are used for fishing. The main Rivers utilized for such a purpose in Dowa are Bua, Nambuma, Kasangadzi, Lingazi, Chilua, Mtiti, Kaula, Lumbazi and Kaweluwelu.

However, not much is known about fishing activities in these rivers but basically the types of fishery gear in these rivers include use of: Gillnets, Hand lines, and fishing Traps. Other villagers use a poisonous plant called *Tephrosia vogelli* to kill the fish but the system is illegal as it is punishable by law. Bua River is leading

in production estimates though there are no proper records for riverine fisheries production in Dowa as at now. The main fish riverine species found in these rivers are Matemba (*Barbus trimaculas* and *Barbus paludinosus*), Makwale (*Astatotilapia caliptera*), Ntchira (*Labeo mesops*), Ningwi (*Labeo cylindricus*) and Mlamba (*Clarius gariepinus*)

#### **4.6.6 Fish Processing**

There are three systems of fish processing methods in the district which are:

1. Cooking: Fish is being cooked or boiled as it is still fresh.
2. Sun drying; Fish is dried on fish drying racks which are raised above the ground at a height of 1 meter. This is usually suitable for small fish species.
3. Smoking: Fish is being smoked by use of fire wood or charcoal.
4. Icing; Fresh fish is treated with ice in boxes or ice bags to maintain its freshness and quality.

#### **4.6.7 Fisheries Economy**

The fisheries sector is important in contributing substantially to food and nutritional security, livelihoods of the rural population and economic growth of the country as it contributes 4% to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Fish has been providing 70% of animal protein intake of the Malawian population and 40% of total protein supply of the country. The per capita fish consumption in Malawi has subsequently fallen by more than 60% from 14kg per person per year in the 1970s to about 8 kg in 2015 (National Aquaculture and fisheries Policy, 2015).

#### **4.6.8 Aquatic Weeds**

There are two main common Aquatic Weeds found in Dowa which are Water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*), Red Water Fern (*Azolla filiculoides*) recently there has been discovered another very dangerous invasive weed called Water Hyacinth which has been discovered in Madisi EPA in TA Chakhaza. Aquatic weeds can reduce water levels within very short time, the weeds cover the surface area as a result dissolved oxygen is reduced making it difficult for aquatic life.

#### **4.6.9 Fisheries Extension Services**

Fisheries extension services are headed by a district fisheries officer and his assistant. The two are the main actors in delivering of extension services while Agriculture Extension Development Officers who are situated in the Extension Planning Areas (EPA) are the front line officers who assist in delivering the messages that are organized from the district office.

### **4.7 47 0 FORESTRY**

#### **4.7.1 Production Forests/Tree Plantations**

Dowa district has two plantations which are managed centrally representing 0.5% of the total land of the district as shown in table 55. Forest department provides tree seeds, polythene tubes, and equipment like rakes, watering can, and wheelbarrow through its field staff to establish the nurseries for tree planting.



**Table 4.25** Production Forests/Tree Plantations

Tree Plan-tation	Area of For-est (Ha)	Species	State/Condition	Location
Dowa Hills	383.6	<i>Polycantha Khaya anthotheca</i> (mbawa). <i>Eucalyptus</i> like <i>Camadulensis</i> , <i>maidnii</i> , <i>tereticornis</i> , <i>Gyamalian arborea</i> <i>Pinus</i> like <i>patula</i>	Encroachment and illegal cutting of trees	TA Mkukula
Ngala	1150.14	<i>Eucalyptus</i> like <i>Camadulensis</i> , <i>maidnii</i> , <i>tereticornis</i> , <i>Gyamalian arborea</i> , <i>Pinus</i> like <i>patula</i>	High illegal cutting of trees	TA Chakhaza
<b>Total</b>	<b>1533.74</b>			

**Source:** DFO, 2014

These tree plantations experience problems like illegal cutting, charcoal burning, encroachment and wild-fire.

### 4.7.2 Forestry Services

The Forestry department offers various forest extension services to the communities through extension workers based at EPA office. These services are in form of trainings, field tour, and field days. The office provides advisory services to the communities through the Village Natural Resource Management Committees (VNRMCs). These committees encourage farmers to establish communal woodlots.

The district has only 61 forestry extension workers against the population of 732,343. Thus represents a ratio of 1:12,006 which is above the recommended ratio of 1:1500. Currently, the district has 1 District Forestry Officer and 3 Forest Assistant as presented in table 41. The number of extension workers has decreased because of deaths, retirements and transfers. Each EPA is supposed to have one forest assistant but in Dowa 1 forest assistant is working in 3 EPAs. The number of forest guards decreased from 61 (2009/10) to 51 (2013/14). This is negatively affecting service delivery in the district which results into increased deforestation.

**Table 4.26** Staffing Levels at District Forestry office

Position	Establishments	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
District Forestry Officer	1	1	1	1	1	1
Forest Assistance	20	4	4	3	3	3
Forest Guard	72	61	59	58	56	51
<b>Total</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>55</b>

**Source:** DFO, 2014

### 4.7.3 Agro-forestry

This is a branch of forestry which deals with the co-relation of agriculture such as crops or livestock and forest to enhance productivity and variation among different species. Species like *Grecidia Sepium*, *Acacia Polycantha*, *Fidebia Albida*, *Sesbania Sesban*, *Senna Spectabillis* and *Teflozia* are encouraged in agroforestry. The district forestry office in collaboration with other stakeholders provides support by supplying agro-forestry seeds and seedlings to farmers.



#### 4.7.4 Contribution of timber and non-timber products to the local economy

Forest provides a wide range of economic and social benefits to communities. Wood which is the main fuel in Dowa is becoming scarce. Most homes use firewood or charcoal for cooking. Forest has prompted communities to have opportunities to do business of forest products like honey, timber, firewood and cane furniture. Despite that there is depletion of natural resources which is follow-on deforestation, the money communities generate from forest products sales assist them to get through their daily cost in living. This means that the communities cannot stay without natural resources since it contributes more to their livelihoods at any level.

### 4.8 MINING

#### 4.8.1 Mineral Deposits

The following types of minerals are available in the district, see table 42.

**Table 4.27** Minerals Deposits Available in the District

License No.	Company Name	Minerals	Estimated Size	Area
EPL0355R	McCourt Mining PTY Limited	Graphite And Kaolinitic Clays	Data not available	Dowa-Ntchisi
EPL0410	Zasco International Limited	Graphite, and Associated Minerals	Data not available	Lilongwe-Dowa
EPL0429	Volantis Mining Company Limited	Lead And Graphite	Data not available	Mponela
EPL0432	Apule Traders	Sulphides	Data not available	Chisepo
MC0430	Ackam Limunga	Tourmaline	Data not available	Dowa
MC0453	Chavi Cooperative	Gypsum.	Data not available	Dowa
MC0454	Umesh Patel	Tourmaline	Data not available	Dowa

**Source:** Department of Mines, 2014

#### 4.8.2 Mining Activities and Production

In the district, there are two types of mineral rights namely Mining Claim (MC) and Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL). Mining Claim license is issued to small scale miners and gives the holder an exclusive right to mine a particular mineral. This is valid for one year and is renewable and maximum area size is 6 ha. Exclusive Prospecting License is issued to large/medium scale mining companies. The holder of EPL has an exclusive right to carry out exploration activities i.e. trenching, pitting, exploration drilling, refer table 42

#### 4.8.3 Contributions of Mines to the Local Economy

The main contributions of mines to the local economy are basically source of employment and income to the locals. However, social corporate responsibility remains the problem as most of the mining production are not well known to the council because information is not available at council level.

#### 4.8.4 Key Issues from the Mining Sector

The main issue in this sector is centralization of the mining ministry. As a result, most of the issues concerning mining are not known to the council. There is also lack of awareness on mining issues among the com-

munities. Some of the opportunities that exist in the district include the availability of untapped mineral deposits and the proximity of the market for these minerals.

## 4.9 COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

In Dowa district commerce and industry is one of the sectors that contribute to the district economy through trade. The goal of national trade policy is to make Malawi a globally competitive export- oriented economy, generating higher and sustainable livelihoods **through trade**. This trade policy is aligned with MGDIII, KPA number 3 of Energy, Industry and Tourism development outcome number 5; increased production and export of manufactured products. Furthermore, the trade policy is in line with SDGS 9; Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.

This goal explains that by 2030 there must be markets and opportunities for value addition as well as non-farm employment. In Dowa district most of the businesses are medium and small businesses. The district has only one industrial company, Mount Meru which produces cooking oil. Despite having more small businesses the district has some few commercial enterprises which are Chipiku stores, Kulima Gold, Farmers World, Fuel Stations, Wholesalers, Export Trading Company and Smallholder Farmers Revolving Fund. The district has future demand of land for commercial industrial companies in our major trading centers for example at Lumbadzi, Chezi and Mponela.

### 4.9.1 Types and size of businesses establishment

The major business economic activities available in the district are categorized into small, medium and large scale. There are 2659 registered businesses entities in the district. Table 58 shows that there are more small scale businesses followed by medium and large.

**Table 4.28** business activities

Business Categorical	Chakhaza	Mponela	Mkukula	Chiwere	Msakambewa	Dzoole	Kayembe	Total
Small	186	237	105	173	193	50	187	1131
Medium	139	129	89	67	89	29	168	710
Large	73	281	104	163	95	37	65	818
<b>Total</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>647</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>2659</b>

#### Business Register 2014

As depicted in the Table 58, small businesses in the district are more in all T/As compared to medium and large businesses. This is so because small businesses have low business license fee and the starter up capital is very less as result people conduct small businesses than medium or large businesses. As shown in the table, in T/A Mponela small businesses registered 237 and large businesses registered 281 higher than in all T/As. The result of these higher numbers is because the trading is along the M1road and urbanization is growing too fast which is resulting to migration of people to the area. The table further indicates that in T/A Dzoole there is low registration of small, medium and large businesses compared to all T/As in the district. Low registration of all the categories of business in Dzoole is because the area has poor roads network and vendors at Dzoole prefer selling their produce at Mponela Trading center because Mponela is along MI road.

Small scale businesses constitute; Hawkers, carpentry, restaurant, barbershop, tailoring, bicycle repair butchery, saloon, video show, bicycle /motor cycle hire, shoe repair, radio repair watch repair herbalist and

others. Medium constitute: Chipiku stores, Kulima Gold, Farmers World, Fuel Stations, Wholesalers, Export Trading Company and Smallholder Farmers Revolving Fund bars. Large scale business constitutes of Mount meru.

#### 4.9.2 Business sub sector classification, manufacturing trading

Apart from individual small businesses some people work in cooperatives. These cooperatives are categorized into two; the producers and some who does value addition. These include a Matamangwe, Chimwankhuku and Mthethe cooperative that produces sunflower cooking oil in traditional authority Mkukula. In T/A Kayembe there is Nambuma association which manufactures Moringa powder, Moringa soap, and lemon glass tea. While in Chakhaza there is Madisiagro-processing cooperative which produce sunflower cooking oil. Though there are number of active cooperatives in the district these cooperatives encounter so many challenges. These challenges include lack of reliable markets, inadequate working capital, blackouts of electricity, frequency breakdown of production machinery, lack of business management skills

**Table 4.29** Cooperatives in Dowa

Name of cooperative	Male	Female
Matamangwe	96	138
Chimwankhuku	3	105
Mthethe	5	209
Kanamzeka	55	37
Nambuma	80	281
Madisi	107	682
Katengeza cane cooperative	55	0
Chawawa cooperative	20	10
Mgwilizano cooperative	146	96
Mponela dairy	37	73
Namwili dairy	47	56
Tsogolo cooperative	37	50
Chiyambi cooperative	85	53

**Source:** Trade office 2017

Table 59 above shows that females participation in cooperatives is higher than males'; this is so because females show interest to participate in financial savings groups unlike men who has other sources of income. In addition, the number of males in cooperatives is low because they like vending and running small scale shops like hawkers, groceries etc.

#### 4.9.3 Banking and Credit facilities

The district has so many commercial banks in which most of them are allocated at Mponela trading center. These banks include; first capital bank, National bank, New finance bank, First discount house, and FDH bank. FDH has agencies at Dowa Boma and Mponela, while New finance bank has two agencies at Dzaleka camp and Mponela, most of the banks are concentrated in Mponela which deprive the majority of the people in the district of banking services. The banks also offer loans based on collateral (savings, bank balance and physical assets). The lending rates (Interest on loan) of these banks are different based on the type of loan in question and the base lending rate as required by the Reserve Bank of Malawi.

**Table 4.30** Interest rate of financial institutions

Name of financial institutions	Interest rate
FDH	25
NBM	25
FCB	23
STD bank	23.9
NBS	26
NFB	26

**Source:** Reserve Banks, 2017

As presented in the Table 60 First Capital Bank has the lowest interest rate of 23% followed by Standard Bank which has 23.9%. Low interest rates have a great impact on businesses because people access loans for boosting their businesses as a result there is an increase of socio-economic growth at the district level as well as high household income. The table also shows that both NBS and NFB have higher interest rate of 26%. Higher interest rates significantly affect small scale businesses as a result the probability of traders who participates on the market is very low. In addition, higher interest rates hinder people from accessing loans for boosting their businesses as a result the council is unable to increase its local revenue collection base which further leads to low development and economic growth in the district.

#### 4.9.4 Primary clients of lending institution and banks

In Dowa district all the lending institutions are willing to provide loans to all people regardless of their sex provided they are capable of repaying back their loans and meet requirement. There are few lending institutions in the district which provide loan facilities to different business in the district. The most notable ones are vision fund, MEDF, FINCA, Micro loan foundation, NASFARM, get bulks etc. Despite availability of this lending institutions farmers organizations fail to access financial assistance because of conditions which these lending organization demand.

**Table 4.31** Credit institutions operating in the District

Credit institution	Types of credit	Location
NASFAM	Farm input loans	Kayembe Chakhaza Mponela
Micro loan foundation	Cash loan	Mponela
FINCA	Cash loan	The whole district
MEDF	Cash loan	Dowa east RDP
SACCO	Cash loan	Dowa east RDP
VISION FUND	Cash loan	Mponela

**Source:** District Trade office, 2017

The table shows that NASFAM differs from all credit institutions in types of credit they provide. NASFAM provides only farm input loans for example seeds. These help the farmers to have a starter capital of their farm production. While the least credit institutions provide cash loans to people to start small business, this promotes people to engage themselves into trade as a result there is an increase base of revenue collection.

### 4.9.5 Business Promotion Services

Dowa district carries out a number of interventions aimed at promoting business in the district, these include conducting district fair where small scale participates and exhibit at international trade fairs, local and international fairs, provisions of short term cooperative trainings in financial management and marketing, construction of factories in places where raw materials are locally available for easy marketing and value addition training in business management and entrepreneurship. The institutions which help to promote businesses include department of Community development, Ministry of Trade, agriculture, and SMED.

### 4.9.6 Types of Capacity Building trainings provided

The district conducts so many trainings through different departments of government and stakeholders to build the capacity of business groups (See table 62 below)

### 4.9.7 Training facilities available

**Table 4.32** services offered by different institution

Institution	Service/Trainings offered
Mponela technical college	Vocational training
Theres hope	Vocational training
Ministry of Trade	Cooperative management
Community Development department	Business management, Financial Education, Savings and Loan management
Ministry of Agriculture	Crop production, livestock production, and fish production
SMED	Bakery, welding and business management

Table above shows that, both Mponela technical college and There is Hope provides professional trainings to the youths. These professional trainings include plumbing, welding and tailoring. These vocational trainings have a great impact on development because it creates self-employment. Ministry of trade and Ministry of Gender through the department of Community Development provides business management trainings, and these includes entrepreneurship to male and females as well as the disability people. Ministry of Agriculture provides trainings in crop, livestock and fish production to both males and females. The agricultural trainings increase farmers to participate in marketing which increases revenue collection by the district council.

### 4.9.8 Contribution of Small Medium Enterprises to the Local Economy

The presence of SME in the district has a great significant to the local economy in the following ways:

- Provides self-employment opportunities to people which improves living standards of people in the district
- Increases revenue collection for Dowa District Council as well as tax base by the central government, market fees, license fees
- Reduction of rural urban migration.

### 4.9.9 Key issues from business sector

The sector is faced with different challenges over the period of 2012 to 2017 most of the cooperatives encounter similar challenges stating from low startup capital which made them to harvest little and another one is lack of processing machinery which made their produce go at a giveaway price another challenge is limited skills on export markets lack of ware house where they can store their produce while searching for viable markets.

- Lack of structured and reliable markets; most vendors sell their produce on bare ground
- Lack of start-up capital
- Lack of business management skills in most commercial producers
- Poor leadership in some group businesses
- Lack of accreditation certificates from Malawi Bureau of Standards

### 4.9.10 Opportunities

The following are some of the opportunities in Dowa district

1. Good climate which makes farm crops to be grown in excess for example tomato, ground nuts, soya beans, Irish potatoes, maize, etc.
2. Availability of more commercial banks and other micro loans institutions which increases the probability of individuals to access loans
3. Easy access to capital city Lilongwe where farmers can sell their produce at large factories, this reduces transportation costs
4. Availability of large scale factory Mount Meru which buy farmers produce soya and sunflower from farmers.

## 4.10 LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

Dowa District Labour Office is mandated to protect and develop the labour force in order to contribute to the socio-economic development of the district. In line with Sustainable Development Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all and MGDS 3 Education and Skills Development. The labour office is responsible for providing a number of services including conducting routine labour inspection, promoting public employment services, settling labour disputes and complaints, processing workers compensation and eliminating child labour.

### 4.10.1 Labour force

Employment rate is at 20% for the District including self-employed employees. However, there are limited establishments and work places. The district avails various forms of labour and labour related activities which are broadly categorized into skilled and unskilled labour and office workers.

Skilled force is comprised of people who went for training on certain trades like welding, carpentry, brick laying, mechanics, plumbing, tailoring, painting & decoration. The number of skilled people has been increasing overtime because of interventions by Community Technical Colleges and partners such as TEVET, World Vision, and private technical colleges such as There is Hope, ZOE and Glory Technical College. However, the figures are still low compared to the number of youths in the district as evidenced in table below:



**Table 4.33** Number of skilled people per year by T/A.

T/A	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Msakambewa	5	9	9	13	9
Chiwere	2	1	1	1	3
Mkukula	2	2	1	1	4
Dzoole	3	3	1	1	2
Kayembe	3	0	1	5	4
Chakhaza	4	2	6	2	5
Mponela	16	21	19	23	18
<b>District</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>45</b>

**Source:** Dowa labour Office, 2017

## 4.10.2 Unskilled force

Unskilled force is comprised of individuals who did not attend any training but they know their work through practice, the table below shows the number of unskilled people per year per T/A.

**Table 4.34** Number of unskilled people per year by T/A.

T/A	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Msakambewa	20	26	29	32	24
Chiwere	15	24	18	39	21
Mkukula	9	17	14	26	19
Mponela	23	39	46	43	47
Dzoole	35	40	54	69	54
Kayembe	76	97	80	73	83
Chakhaza	84	71	92	90	95
<b>District</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>343</b>

**Source:** Dowa Labour Office, 2017

Table 64 above shows that number of unskilled labour registered were increasing in the years but decreased in 2015/16 because the number of the projects in the period under review decreased.

## 4.10.3 Sectoral distribution of labour

The table below shows distribution of labour by sector per year.

**Table 4.35** Labour Distribution by Sector per Year

Sector	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Industry	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Self employed	107	167	213	301	353
Civil Servants	3214	3236	4056	4759	4798
Manufacturing	12	16	18	22	39

**Source:** Dowa labour Office, 2017

The civil Service accounts for the largest share of employment followed by self-employed and manufacturing, however as depicted on the table above there are huge gaps which affect the service delivery in the district with health sector having highest gap followed by education, forestry and Agriculture. 31% of civil servants are females.

**Table 4.36** Number of Civil Servants in the District

SECTOR	ESTABLISHMENT	FILLED			GAPS
		T	M	F	
Agriculture	445	376	295	81	69
Health	1554	459	587	373	594
Forest	188	100	82	18	88
Local Government	52	29	28	1	23
Education	3135	2902	1912	941	233
Labour	5	3	3	0	2
Community	40	18	122	6	22
Social welfare	27	18	15	2	9
Information	5	4	3	1	1
Youth	3	3	1	0	3
Sports	2	2	0	1	1
Fisheries	4	1	1	0	4
Environment	3	1	1	0	3
Water	14	7	6	1	14
Public works	6	6	6	0	0
Judiciary	72	62	46	16	10
Treasury	6	6	5	1	0
NRB	21	21	2	1	18
OPC(NIB)	8	8	1	0	7
Police	300	227	182	45	7
Lands	3	3	2	0	0
Irrigation	5	4	3	1	3
Rural housing	6	2	2	0	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>5910</b>	<b>4795</b>	<b>3306</b>	<b>1489</b>	<b>1115</b>

Dowa Labour Office, 2017

#### 4.10.4 Conditions of employment

Conditions of employment mainly focuses on wage, wage range and hours of working.

#### 4.10.5 Wage, wage range and hours of work

Dowa wage and wage range are the same as the national wage and wage range, however the domestic wages are far below the national minimum wage range. On the other hand, working hours varies but the formal working hours remains 8.5 just like national working hours (table 67 below)

**Table 4.37** wage range

Employment condition	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Minimum wage	K66.50	K95.45	K178.25	K317.00	K687.70
Existing wage ranges	K66.50	K95.45	K178.25	K317.00	K687.70
Working hours range	8.5HRS	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5hrs

Source Dowa Labour Office, 2017

#### 4.10.6 Number of Organized Labour Unions

Organized Labour Unions are combination of persons whether temporary or permanent, primarily for the purpose of regulating the relations between workers and employers and its aims are to protect and improve the terms and conditions of employment (Labour Relations Act, 1996) Therefore in Dowa District there are a number of organized Trade Unions like Civil Service Trade Union, central region Water Board Trade Union, Mbolembole Trade union and, Linde Trade union.

#### 4.10.7 Labour complaints

Labour complaints comes about as a result of disagreement between employers and workers regarding wages and condition of employment at a given establishment. The main causes of which in most cases are Non-payment of wages, Non-payment of overtime claim, No-payment of end of service benefits. The district labour officers are charged with the task of administering all labour problems arising in their station, in Dowa there have been fluctuations in terms of number of labour complaints registered per each year that had been due to fluctuation of tobacco prices, below the table are labour complaints reported per year.

**Table 4.38** Labour Complaints Reported Per Year.

Type of violation	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Non-payment of wages, Notice pay, Severance pay And Over time claims.	156	136	318	149	217
<b>TOTAL</b>	156	136	318	149	217

Source: Dowa Labour Office, 2017

#### 4.10.8 Occupation/work place accidents

This refers to every accident or death arising out of and in the course of employment. In case of Dowa district, road accident and cuts by objects in the office, falling down resulting into some fractures (the table and graph below illustrates)

**Table 4.39** Distribution of industrial accident occurred in the district per year.

Type of accident	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Road, Office Accidents and	4	6	3	3	8
Fire accident,	20	19	15	20	26
<b>TOTAL</b>	24	25	18	23	34

Source: Dowa labour Office, 2017

### 4.10.9 Child labour

Child Labour refers to work which is mentally, physically or morally harmful to children which can negatively affect their mental, physical or social development and interferes with their schooling by depriving them of the opportunity to attend school. Child labour is high in the district because of tobacco farming and domestic work.

Child labour is high in the district because of the following: - Tobacco plantation where by children are employed in various categories of work like, Tobacco gardening, Domestic workers and Brick molding. Children have no time to attend school or skill development sessions. Child labour therefore refers to work which is mentally, physically or morally harmful to children which can negatively affect their mental physical or social development and interferes with their schooling by depriving them of the opportunity to attend school. The table down here is shows type of child labour per year.

**Table 4.40** Type of Child labour per year.

Type of Child labour	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Domestic workers	23	15	40	19	10
Farming (seasonal Workers and Tenants)	80	65	27	20	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>27</b>

**Source:** Dowa labour Office, 2017

### 4.10.10 Number of Children withdrawn from Child labour per T/A

Withdrawn children refer to children who were found working at any establishment or workplaces and were discharged from work. The table below also shows the number of children withdrawn from work per Traditional Authority.

**Table 4.41** Children withdraws from labour per T/A

T/A	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Mponela	5	6	2	5	3
Msakambewa	13	10	5	3	5
Kayembe	10	13	17	4	5
Dzoole	18	15	11	6	4
Chakhaza	34	15	11	6	4
Mkukula	11	8	3	4	3
Chiwere	7	4	3	9	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>27</b>

**Source:** Dowa labour Office, 2017

Table 71 above shows that in 2012/2013, highest number of children were withdrawn from child labour and the trend has been decreasing over the years due to intervention by several actors aimed at reducing cases of child labour in the district.

**Table 4.42** Number of children withdrawn from child labour and sent back to school

T/A	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Msakambewa	13	10	5	3	4
Chiwere	7	4	3	9	1
Mkukula	11	8	3	4	2
Mponela	5	6	2	5	4
Chakhaza	29	3	15	8	5
Dzoole	18	15	11	6	3
Kayembe	10	13	7	4	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>22</b>

**Source:** Dowa Labour Office, 2017

#### 4.10.11 Routine labour inspections

Labour inspection is an institutional function of ministry of labour which is carried out by labour officers (professionally known's as labour inspectors) in work place with the purpose of enforcing legal employment provisions with a view of providing security of employment through visits to work establishments. As a process of industrial relations, Labour inspection is an effective means of solving or minimizing labour disputes that would have eventually arisen between employers and workers.

**Table 4.43** showing Number of inspections planned and carried out per year.

	Number of Inspection									
	2012/13		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17	
Type of Inspection	Planned	Carried out	Planned	Carried Out	Planned	Carried Out	Planned	Carried out	Planned	Carried out
Routine Labour Inspection	120	90	120	80	120	95	120	70	120	100
Child labour Inspection	50	30	50	35	50	25	50	45	50	40

Source: Dowa Labour Office, 2017

#### 4.10.12 Key issues:

Key issues in the sector include unemployment and child labour, the major causes of unemployment are limited job opportunity, lack of entrepreneurship skills, inadequate skills development centres and inadequate access to startup capital. The possible causes of child labour include, orphan hood, high incidences of poverty, cultural practices like rearing livestock given to children.

### 4.11 TOURISM

The National Tourism Policy (NTP) of Malawi stipulates the need for creating an enabling environment for the development, regulation and promotion of a sustainable tourism sector which enhances tourist experiences and satisfaction, whilst improving the socio-economic wellbeing and maintaining cultural identity of the local communities. Tourism is featured as one of the key priority areas (KPA's) in the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III – Energy, Industry and Tourism. The tourism sector contributes a lot to the

national economy. For instance, it contributed 7% of the GDP and accounted for 6.2% of total employment in 2016.

#### **4.11.1 Tourism potential**

The tourism industry in the district is in its growing stage with a potential to deliver a number of economic benefits. It accrues many economic benefits in areas of job creation, income generation at individual, family and Council levels.

#### **4.11.2 Description of areas with high tourism potential**

The district's main areas of high tourism potential include historical sites, Forest Reserve areas, Culture, Natural Environment and Tourism facilities, however some of these needs to be explored, upgraded and rehabilitated. The following are the potential tourism sites in the district.

#### **4.11.3 Historical site**

##### **4.11.3.1 Kongwe and Mvera Missions**

These are historical places because it's where early missionaries first settled in the district, and the central region. It is said that the hills had thick forest in those years and provided cool weather which provided a favorable environment for the white settlers. At Kongwe, the early missionaries established Kongwe Mission, a Primary School and Robert Blake Secondary school. At Mvera, they established Mvera Mission and a girl's secondary school. These structures still stand today and tourists can visit the areas to appreciate what their colleagues went through in the late 1800 and early 1900.

##### **4.11.3.2 The Forest Reserves**

Dowa hills and Kongwe Forest Reserve are another potential tourist attraction sites. These sites contain different species of indigenous trees, and natural vegetation. The place, which is hilly with different shapes and types of rocks, can be used for research mainly by students pursuing Forestry and Natural Resources Courses.

### **4.12 CULTURE**

#### **4.12.1 Traditional Festivals**

This is an emerging tourism product which has not been tapped. It offers high business prospects in areas of cultural tourism. Opportunity investment is in the area of cultural festivals.

### **4.13 NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS**

#### **4.13.1 Madzialendo**

This is a natural spring situated about 5 km east of the Dowa Boma along the Dowa Chezi road. The name Madzialendo means *water for the visitors*. The place situated on a road side is covered with natural trees on a



slope of rocks where cold water comes out. It is reported that the early Europeans and travelers used to stop at the place for safe and pure drinking water. There are also many springs in Traditional Authorities (TAs) Chiwere and Msakambewa that need to be explored and conserved.

#### **4.13.2 Motels, Lodges and Rest houses**

The district has a number of tourism facilities that offers a wide range of services. These include accommodation facilities and Restaurants. Many of these facilities are located at Mponela trading centre which is one to the fastest growing centres in the district. Some of the Motels and Lodges, e.g., Linde Motel can accommodate up to 500 guests at reasonable rates.

### **4.14 TOURISM INDUSTRY KEY ISSUES**

Despite the industry making great strides in contributing to the district economy it has a number of challenges slowing its development, growth and promotion. Some of the challenges are as follows:

#### **(a) Transportation**

The district can be accessed by different modes of transport such as road and rail, but currently only utilizes the road transport. The type of transport being used is public transport and this is very unreliable.

#### **(b) Limited Tourism Product Development**

The district tourism product comprises of all the various elements that contribute to a destination's experience which includes physical aspects such as natural resource areas accommodation, festivals and entertainments, public infrastructure, utilities and attractions including the observation aspects such as activities, shopping and dining experience and the community events, especially in Mponela.

The district's tourism product also has the emotional component that comprise of diversity, history and the spirit of a place and its people. The significant issue however is the lack of new product development skills. This has been due to lack of industry knowledge, identification and development. Absence of research, developmental planning and proper information is also a contributing factor to nonexistence of product innovations among the indigenous people.

#### **(c) Limited Marketing Activity and Lack of Value Creation for the Destination**

The tourism industry in the district has the limited tourism marketing activities that promote its products. This has led to poor or low quality tourism infrastructure, especially at the Boma. This is coupled with lack of proper marketing knowledge by individual tourism operators.

#### **(d) No Tourism Research and Planning**

The industry lacks ongoing research at district level that could provide it with proper information to be used in identifying and understanding the impacts and benefits of emerging trends and developments. This has contributed to lack of tourism development plans at both local and governance structural levels.

**(e) Lack of Participation by Local Communities**

Tourism is taken as a luxury activity, by the local communities, despite its economic benefits. The economic importance of the tourism industry has so far not been well promoted amongst local people though surrounded with vast tourism opportunities in their landscapes. There is lack of understanding about tourism and how it works; hence, the communities do not strive for inclusion of their ideas in any tourism related development.

**(f) Poor Quality Services Delivery**

The success of tourism industry depends on attractiveness of the destination and quality of its services provided to tourists. Local hospitality training programs can be effective for improving knowledge of services and attractions as well as the ability to properly understand the industry standards for quality services delivery.

**4.14.1 Tourism business opportunities**

The district tourism sector provides business opportunities in the areas of cultural experience and historical sites visits by tourist.

**4.14.2 Conferencing Facilities**

Despite low in number of those facilities offering Meeting, Incentives, Conferences and Events (MICE) services in the district, aggressive investment in the segment and promotion of its services could produce high prospects of business opportunities.

**4.14.3 Transportation**

In addition to road transport, an opportunity in other modes of transport like rail has prospects.

**4.14.4 Cultural Tourism**

Aimed at creating and conserving the traditional cultural diversity and the heritage in the district, there is great investment opportunities in historical and cultural heritage. Opportunity investment include: cultural villages, arts and cultural festivals, museums and historical monuments.

**Table 4.44** State/Condition of Tourism Sites

Tourism Site	Status	Potential
Mponela Trading Centre	Developing	High
Dowa Hills	Undeveloped	Medium
Kongwe Forest Reserve	Undeveloped	High
Kongwe Mission	Unknown	Medium
Mvera Mission	Unknown	Medium
Madzialendo	Undeveloped	Medium

**Source:** Dowa District Council

#### **4.14.5 Contribution of Tourism to the local economy**

Tourism contributes to the local economy through creating jobs, increasing buying power or enhancing business and increasing Council revenue.

#### **4.14.6 Key issues**

Low patronage is the major issue in the tourism sector. Some of the possible causes include poor terrain, inadequate information on tourism and low investment in Motels and Lodges, especially at Dowa Boma and Mvera. The district has the potential to improve the tourism sector as most of the sites have not been fully explored. There is also need for more information on the availability of the sites through different means such as Magazines, radio and Television Documentaries and other means. Again, Mponela, for instance has more land that can allow further construction of more Lodges and Motels and currently new and spacious Lodges are under construction.

# CHAPTER 5: SOCIAL SERVICES

## 5.1 HEALTH

The Malawi National Health Policy goal is to improve the health status of all the people of Malawi by reducing the risk of ill health and the occurrence of premature deaths. This is in line with the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MDGS) III key priority area number 5 which is health and population, to improve health and quality of the population for sustainable socio-economic development. The national health policy responds to the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) goal number 3 which emphasizes on good health and wellbeing for all, that is to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

Dowa District Health Office serves a population of 772,569 (Population Housing Census, 2018.) Out of this 177,691 are women of child bearing age and 131,337 are under-five children. The district has a vision to achieve a state of health for all the individuals, family and community to lead quality and productive life. This vision will contribute to the National Health Policy stated above. All health activities are headed by the Director of Health and Social Services (DHSS). The DHSS works with the Health and Environmental Committee (HEC). The HEC enhances community ownership and promotes participation from the grass root to district level (Local Government Act Chapter 22:02 and Local Government Act of 1998)

### 5.1.1 Life Expectancy

Malawi has a projected life expectancy of 60.2 years and 64.3 years for males and females respectively. Dowa district has the projection of life expectancies for males and females of 68 and 71 years respectively (NSO, 2018)

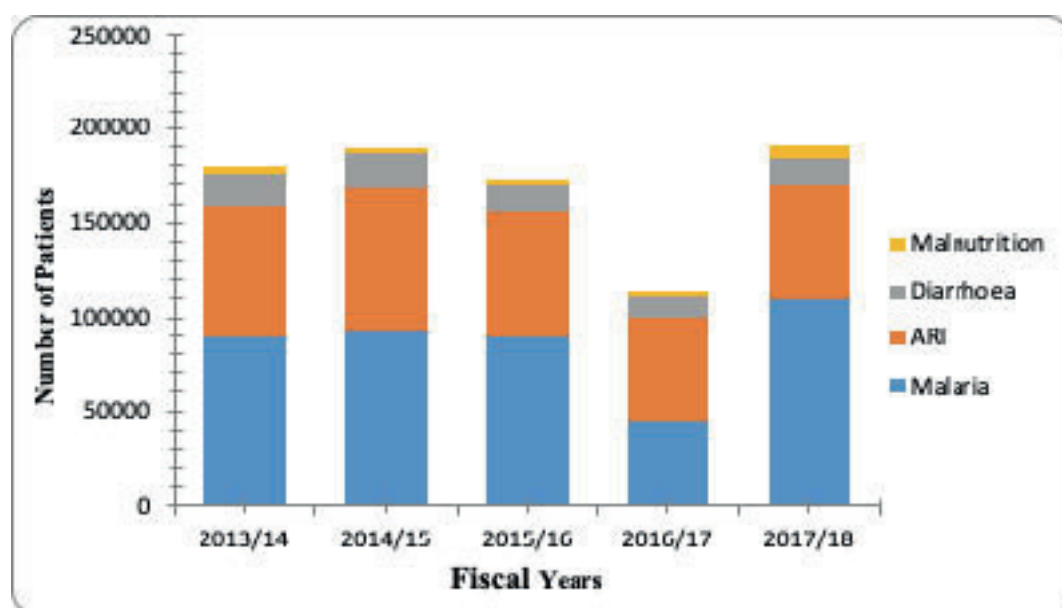
## 5.2 MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY RATES

### (a) Morbidity in the District

Morbidity is defined as a state of being sick or diseased. The district is affected by both communicable and non-communicable diseases. The common communicable diseases are malaria, pneumonia and diarrhea. These diseases affect young as well as old population. Apart from the above diseases, there are dysentery, cholera, common wounds, injuries and fractures, oral conditions, eye infections, sexually infected diseases, tuberculosis, skin conditions and HIV/AIDS.

### (b) Morbidity in under-five children

Under-five morbidity is the sickness in children under the age of five years of birth. The main common diseases that the under-fives suffered from were malaria, acute respiratory infections (ARI), diarrhea and malnutrition. Figure 32 below shows the diseases in each fiscal year. The figure indicates the diseases in under-fives suffered from the fiscal years 2013/14 to 2017/18 who reported at outpatient department in the district.



**Figure 5.1** Top most causes of Morbidity in children of less than 5 years

**Source:** DHIS2 2017

In figure 32 above, malaria still registered the highest of all the diseases. The possible contributing factor is that low bed net use due to beliefs of attracting bed bugs. In addition, malaria is endemic almost everywhere in the district. There is need for community sensitization to spell out such beliefs and promote net use all year round.

### (c) Maternal Morbidity

Maternal morbidity has been defined as any health condition attributed to and/or aggravated by pregnancy and childbirth that has a negative impact on the woman's health (Chou et, all, 2013). Mothers usually suffer from serious complications during pregnancy, labour, delivery and after delivery. The main identified obstetric complications that affected mothers in the district were ante partum and postpartum hemorrhage, anemia and puerperal sepsis.

**Table 5.1** Number of patients registered for non-communicable diseases

Fiscal Years/Disease~	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
BP	72	58	60	87	104
Stroke	-	-	-	-	-
Diabetes	15	10	21	18	19
Cancer	-	-	-	-	-
Asthma	-	-	-	-	7

**Source:** Dowa DHO Non-communicable registers 2017

PPH registered the highest of all. The possible contributing factors were grand multiparity (90%), prolonged labour, retained placenta. The district promotes on the following: family planning, early ANC attendance, hospital delivery and monitoring of labour. There is need for mentorship on delivery skills to reduce complications. On a special note, there has been a rise in non-communicable diseases (NCD) among adults.

The ones commonly registered at the district health facility only were as follows: Hypertension (high blood pressure), cancer, diabetes, stroke and asthma. Although the diseases claim lives of many productive people but are preventable.

The main gaps experienced by the district had been lack of data in DHIS2. This has delayed advocacy on the non-communicable diseases for community awareness on the preventive measures.

The number of patients suffering from hypertension is increasing steadily from 2012/13 to 2016/17 fiscal year. The possible contributing factor is poor health life style. To the district, this is an iceberg phenomenon since other health facilities in the district are not reporting on non-communicable diseases. There is need for DHO through HMIS officer to facilitate for reports on NCDs to appreciate the burden that is secretly killing the people.

Apart from the above NCDs, the district hospital treats patients suffering from mental illness. Any complicated cases are referred to Bwaila Psychiatric Unit in Lilongwe District for further management.

**Table 5.2** Number of patients registered with psychotic disorders in the district

Fiscal Years/Diseases	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Stress	0	0	0	0	0
Depression	0	3	1	0	19
Anxiety	0	0	0	0	3
Schizophrenia	0	21	8	10	136
Mania	0	0	0	0	7

**Source:** Dowa DHO Psychiatric Register 2017

Table 76 shows dominance in psychotic disorder of schizophrenia that has been very high in 2016/17 The possible contributing factors are use of substance abuse such as alcohol and cannabis. In any cases are social issues such as divorce in women and poverty in men. Apart from having psychiatric nurses in health facilities, prevention is better than cure.

There is need for community awareness on dangers of substance abuse and non-violent communication skills by all stakeholders. Table 77 below shows the ten main causes of morbidity in the district among all ages for the five past fiscal years. Among the list are malaria, acute respiratory infection, skin infection, common injuries and wounds, oral conditions, diarrhea non-bloody, malnutrition, eye infections, ear infection, sexually transmitted infections and HIV confirmed cases.

**Table 5.3** Main Causes of Morbidity in the District

Ranking of Cases	2012/13		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17	
	Name of Disease	No of Cases	Name of Disease	No of Cases	Name of Disease	No of Cases	Name of Disease	No of Cases	Name of Disease	No of Cases
	Malaria	106,642	Malaria	111,875	Malaria	118,649	Malaria	58,395	Malaria	162,787
	ARI	66,392	ARI	76,946	ARI	66,049	ARI	55,865	ARI	59,115
	Skin infections	28,458	Skin infections	32,764	Skin infections	33,298	Skin infections	27,000	Skin infections	32,513
	Common wounds and injury	19,830	Diarrhoea	17,799	Common wounds and injury	17,766	Common wounds and injury	16,373	Diarrhoea	15,030



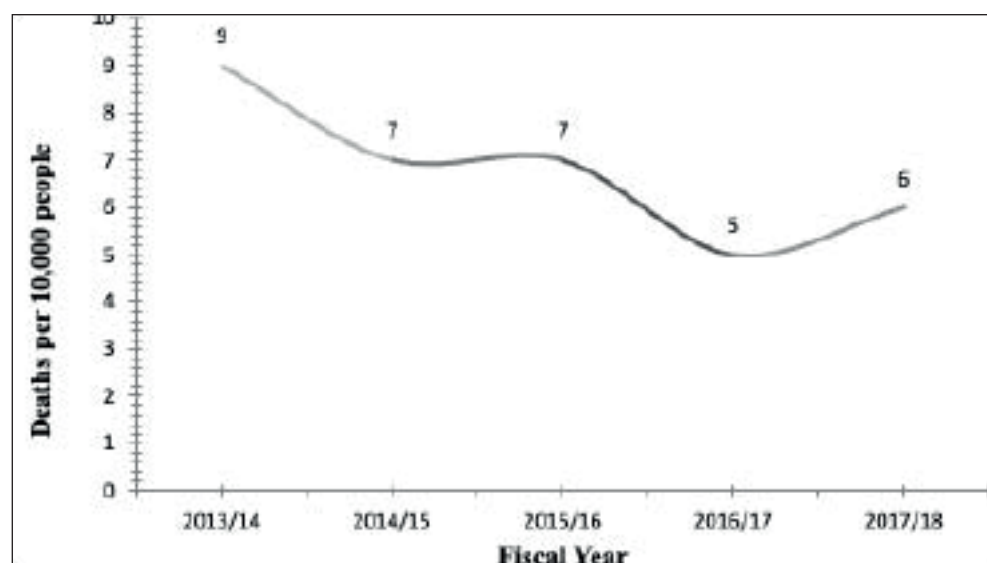
Ranking of Cases	2012/13		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17	
	Name of Disease	No of Cases	Name of Disease	No of Cases	Name of Disease	No of Cases	Name of Disease	No of Cases	Name of Disease	No of Cases
	Diarrhea	17,292	Common wounds and injury	17,105	Diarrhea	14,595	Diarrhea	11,149	Common injuries and wounds	12,161
	Eye Infections	12,382	Eye Infections	11,842	Oral conditions	11,138	Oral conditions	8,703	Eye Infections	7,144
	Oral Conditions	10,808	Oral Conditions	11,366	Eye infections	10,726	Eye Infections	8,661	STI	7,036
	STI	6,493	STI	6,417	STI	5,950	STI	6,861	Oral conditions	6,248
	Malnutrition	4,232	Ear Infections	3,646	Malnutrition	3,342	Malnutrition	3,687	Malnutrition	6,167
	Ear infections	4,106	HIV Confirmed positive	3,145	Ear infections	3,187	Ear infections	2,880	Ear infections	4,031

**Source:** Source: DHIS2, 2017

The highest cause of morbidity in the district is malaria. The possible contributing factor is low net utilization among community members. This was revealed during Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) campaign in traditional authority Mkukula, and Dzoole. There is strong belief that bed nets that the government through MoH freely distributed bring bed bugs in houses. This belief has led many not using it hence contract malaria through mosquito bites. There is need for district SBCC campaign to promote bed net use to reduce malaria burden. In all the past five years, the top three diseases had been malaria, acute respiratory infections and skin infections. The skin conditions have displaced Diarrhoea which had been high in past.

#### (d) Mortality in the district

Mortality refers to the state or condition of being subject to death. In Dowa many people die as a result of sickness. The major causes of deaths in all ages in the past years were malaria, acute respiratory infections and Diarrhoea. The figure indicates number of deaths per 10,000 people in fiscal years from 2013/14 to 2017/18



**Figure 5.2** Proportion of deaths per 10, 000 in the district

**Source:** DHIS2, 2017

There had been a steady drop in death rates from fiscal year 2013/14 to 2015/16. The possible contributing factor for the lowest deaths rate in 2014/15 may be due to mass net use following mass distribution in 2014/15 as a district. In 2016/17 deaths went up again as a result of malaria and NCDs. The district has to implement many activities to fight against malaria and NCDs.

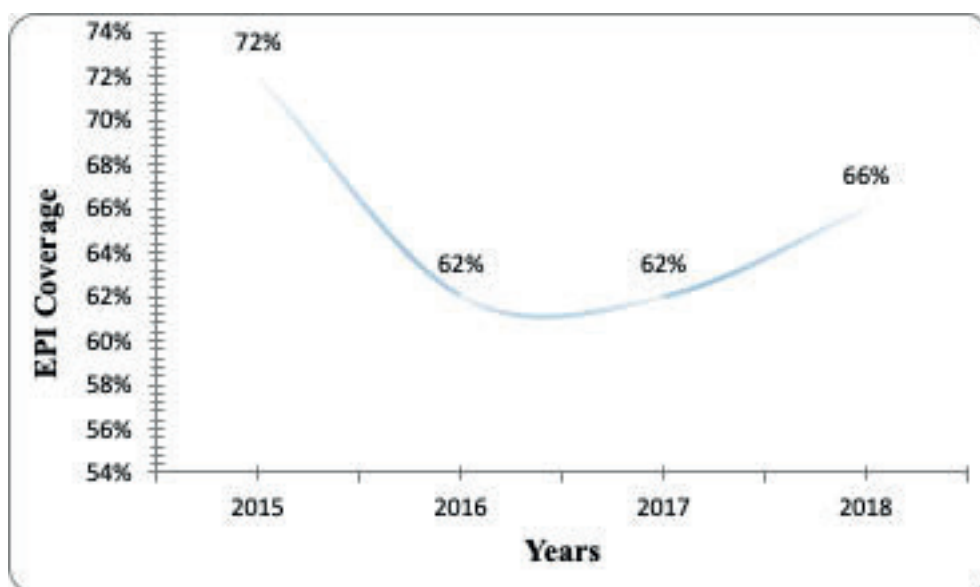
### (e) Under-five Mortality

The MDHS (2015-16) defines under-five mortality as the probability of a child dying between birth and before reaching the fifth birthday. These have declined in the country from 112 to 64 deaths per 1,000 live births in the past five years.

Malawi adopted the Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses (IMCI) approach since 1998 for comprehensive and integrated management of common childhood illnesses. All health facilities in the district offer basic child health interventions using the IMCI approach. At community level, child hood illnesses are managed through the integrated community case management (iCCM) approach by health surveillance assistants (H.S.As) (HSSP 2, 2017 – 2022). There are 313 hard to reach areas with 257 functional village clinics. The program fails not as expected. The following are setbacks: Lack of supervision due to shortage of resources, shortage of essential drugs like Amoxicillin, Oral Rehydration Salts and Zinc, but also low reporting late which delays decision making

Children are immunized from childhood killer diseases such tuberculosis, diphtheria, whooping cough, diarrhoea, tetanus, meningitis and hepatitis. The coverage of most childhood interventions has always been high and national immunization coverage of most antigens is over 85%. The 2010 MDHS report shows that 81% of children aged 12-23 months were fully immunized, but this has declined to 71.3% in 2016. Therefore, a renewed move forward for full immunization coverage is required to improve the coverage (HSSP 2, 2017 – 2022). The WHO recommends a target of 80% that ensured herd immunity.

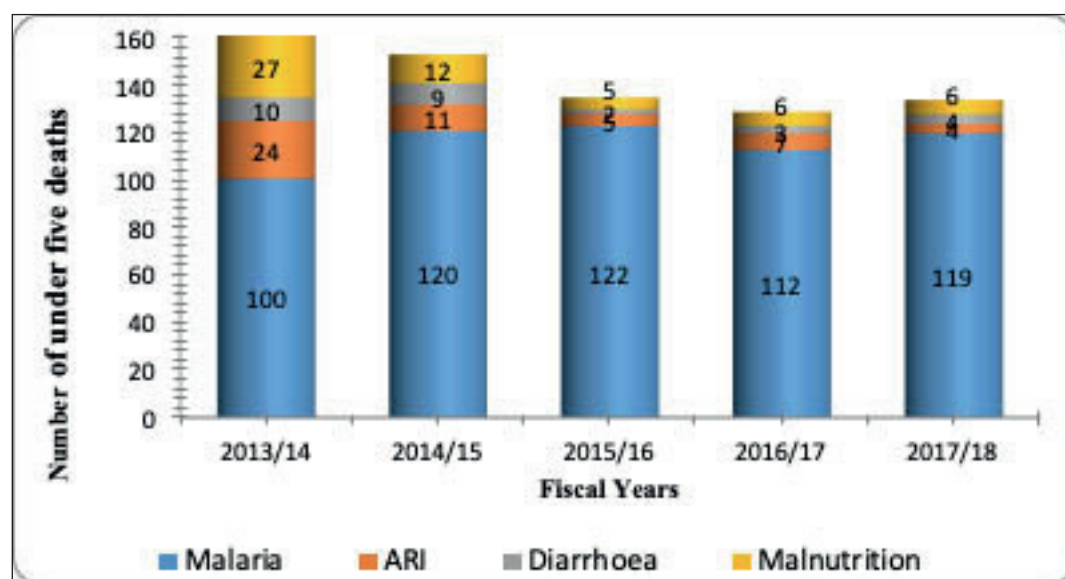
The possible contributing factors include: poor documentation of registers characterized by incompleteness of data (no documentation of all children vaccinated, no use of data at levels of care and no default tracing).



**Figure 5.3** Fully immunization coverage for under ones

**Source:** District Vaccine Data Management Tool (DVDMT) 2017

In 2018, the district registered improvement due to increased number of HSAs manning under-five clinics from less than four to four, promotion of data use at health facility level for decision making and default tracing were done. There is need to maintain such solutions in order to reach 80% target.



**Figure 5.4** Figure 35 shows the common main causes of deaths in under-fives in the district

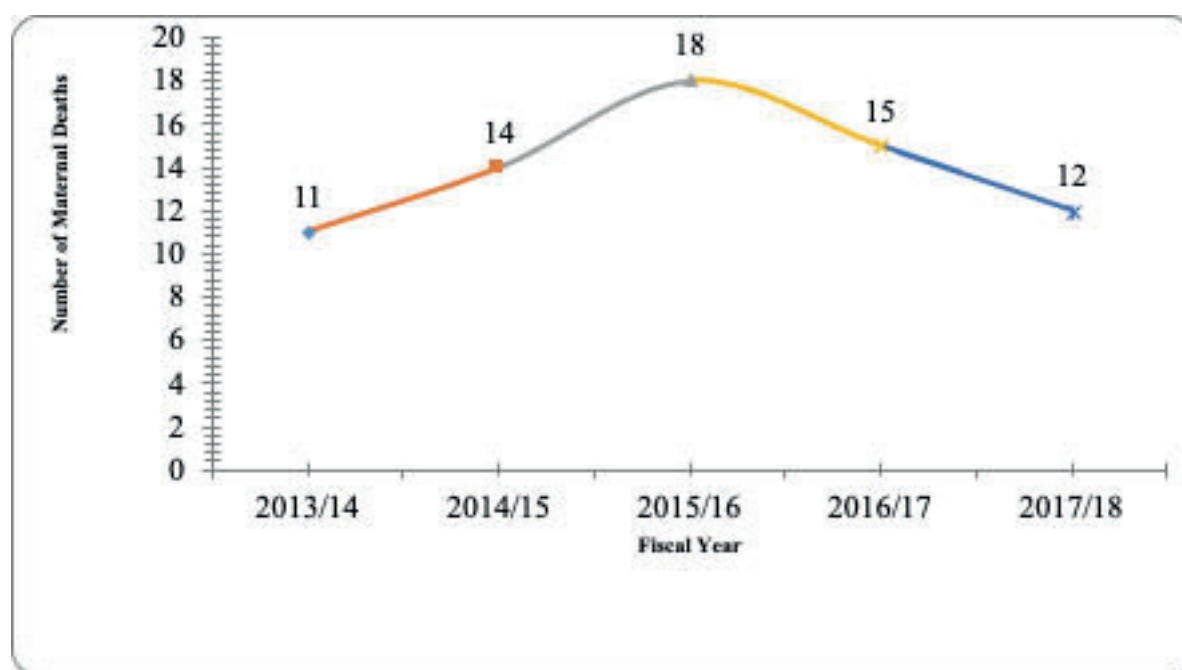
**Source:** Data source: DHIS2, 2017

Figure 35 shows malaria having highest number of deaths among the four causes. The deaths due to malaria had been almost the same in each fiscal year. The possible contributing factors may be poor utilization bed nets and poor health seeking behaviour among communities. There is need to promote net use in all communities.

**(f) Maternal and Neonatal Mortality**

National Health Indicators Handbook for Malawi defines maternal death as death in a given year due to pregnancy related causes during pregnancy or within 42 days of child birth. Such deaths can be prevented by increasing access and quality of maternal care and antenatal coverage during the first trimester. Neonatal death is the death of a neonate within 28 days of life

In addition, early detection of high risk and other pregnancy-related problems are crucial for preventing maternal morbidity and mortality. Maternal and neonatal deaths have been registered to be high in the district. The three leading causes of maternal deaths had been haemorrhage (ante partum/postpartum haemorrhage) and puerperal sepsis.

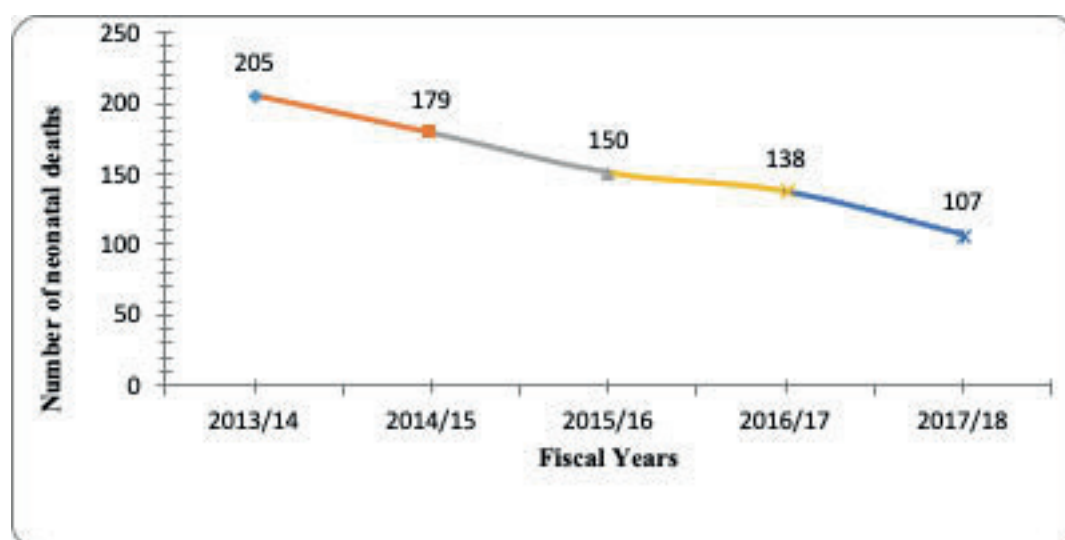


**Figure 5.5** Number maternal deaths in the district

**Source:** DHIS2, 2017

The number of maternal deaths increased in 2015/16, the possible contributing factors were poor referral system due to few ambulances, increased home deliveries in which mothers reported at facility with complications, delays in decision making at all levels that resulted in late referral of cases. The other possible contributing factor was slackening of by-laws by traditional leaders. For example, some mothers wait for the husband to make decision. If he is away the mother waits until he comes. At the facility, midwives take time to make timely decisions in cases of prolonged labour. There is need to lobby for 6 additional ambulances, community sensitization on dangers of delays and home deliveries. Traditional leaders should revamp by-laws reinforce hospital deliveries. In addition, need for 1 BEmONC facility, possibly Msakambewa

The numbers of health facilities that provide full package of comprehensive and basic emergency obstetric and neonatal care (BEmONC) services are 4 out of 21 health facilities namely Mbingwa, Bowe, Mponela & Chankhungu. These are not enough hence need for 1 more, Msakambewa in particular. The CEmONC facilities are 3, these are hospitals of Dowa, Madisi and Mtengowanthena.

**(g) Neonatal Mortality****Figure 5.6** Number of Neonatal deaths in the district**Source:** DHIS2, 2017

The number of neonates dying is decreasing as shown in figure above. The major possible contributing factors are asphyxia and prematurity. The issue of asphyxia comes as a result of inadequate monitoring of mothers in labour, delay in decision making at all levels. In the case of prematurity are inconsistent availability of drugs like dexamethasone and inadequate heaters in the nursery ward. It is recommended that the facilities of Dowa and Mponela should have 2 resuscitators, mentorship of midwives on delivery skills, constant availability of drugs e.g. dexamethasone.

**5.2.1 Health Facilities**

The district is divided into 6 clusters. The health facilities are categorized into Christian Health Association of Malawi (CHAM), Ministry of Health (MoH), Malawi Defense Force (MDF) and Private. The main referral facility is Dowa District Hospital. This facility is very old and need major maintenance.

**5.2.2 Hospital Bed Capacity**

The number of beds which a hospital has been designed and constructed to contain or the number of beds set up and staffed for use. This may include total hospital beds for long-term and acute care, maternity beds and pediatric beds, but not delivery beds (Table 78)

**Table 5.4** Bed Capacity for all health facilities

Number of Health Facilities	Health Facilities (list them)	Bed Capacity in 2016/17
	Bowe	8
	Chakhaza	8
	Chankhungu	8
	Chezi	62
	Chinkhwiri	8
	Chisepo	5

Number of Health Facilities	Health Facilities (list them)	Bed Capacity in 2016/17
	Chizolowondo	8
	Dowa	196
	Dzaleka	28
	Dzoole	8
	Kasese	8
	Kayembe	8
	Madisi	129
	Mbingwa	8
	Mponela	74
	Msakambewa	8
	Mtengowanthena	101
	Mvera mission	21
	Mvera support battalion	4
	Mwangala	5
	Nalunga	8
	Thonje	8

**Source:** DHIS2, 2017

The facilities of Dowa, Madisi and Mtengowanthena have high bed capacity because they are secondary health facilities.

No	Traditional Authority	Number. of Health Facilities per T/A	Population	Health Facility	Type	Distance from referral hospital in Km (Dowa)	Sponsoring Agency
1	Chakhaza	6	42,445	Bowe	Health Centre	96	MoH
			58,037	Chakhaza	Health Centre	64	MoH
			33,783	Chinkhwiri	Health Centre	72	MoH
			37,247	Chizolowondo	Health Centre	85	MoH
			34,649	Kasese	Health Centre	72	Orand Charities
			43,311	Madisi	Hospital	64	CHAM
2	Chiwere	4	17,324	Mvera Mission	Health Centre	25	CHAM
			25,987	Mvera Army	Health Centre	30	MOD
			18,191	Nalunga	Health Centre	26	MOH
			25,987	Thonje	Health Centre	41	MOH
3	Dzoole	1	59,769	Dzoole	Health Centre	64	MOH
4	Kayembe	3	37,247	Kayembe	Health Centre	69	MOH
			43,311	Chisepo	Health Centre	85	MoH
			42,445	Mbingwa	Health Centre	94	MoH
5	Mkukula	4	26,853	Chankhungu	Health Centre	22	MOH
			39,074	Chezi	Health Centre	16	CHAM
			39,074	Dzaleka	Health Centre	10	UNHCR
			82,291	Mtengowanthena	Community hospital	30	CHAM
6	Mponela	1	83,157	Mponela	Rural Hospital	48	MOH



No	Traditional Authority	Number. of Health Facilities per T/A	Population	Health Facility	Type	Distance from referral hospital in Km (Dowa)	Sponsoring Agency
7	Msakambewa	3	60,635	Dowa	District Hospital	0	MOH
			43,311	Msakambewa	Health Centre	15	MoH
			18,191	Mwangala	Health Centre	27	MOH

**Source:** NSO projections 2017

The table above shows that the Traditional Authority Chakhaza has highest number of health facilities of all T/As. Among all health facilities, Mponela registers highest population while Mvera Mission has least. Bowe health facility is located farthest from Dowa DHO, about 96 km away. Among the 22 health facilities, almost all of them are located more than 60 km away from Dowa DHO. This means reliable referral system is very paramount to ferry very sick people for further management

**Table 5.5** Out-patient department (OPD) attendance for 22 health facilities

No	Organization unit	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
	Bowe	30755	35108	28813	24212	24147
	Chakhaza	24754	36530	37206	31089	33022
	Chankhungu	20311	23804	27221	18869	26624
	Chezi	43954	44591	48540	32160	36241
	Chinkhwiri	14345	21291	20082	18484	8485
	Chisepo	20043	21315	18698	15966	14854
	Chizolowondo	22064	24320	24599	21938	31804
	Dowa Hospital	68241	78247	129132	120235	103171
	Dzaleka	79608	81515	64211	57934	89079
	Dzoole	26155	26409	28301	21713	24805
	Kasese	22051	18997	31390	34150	52638
	Kayembe	13465	18325	17675	18381	20110
	Madisi Hospital	11753	10432	11571	7632	7465
	Mbingwa	18682	14897	22600	11445	21066
	Mponela	105,338	124,662	115,529	82,529	125,376
	Msakambewa	23420	25530	27387	15429	12128
	Mtengowanthenga	27335	32745	36362	32540	46712
	Mvera Mission	9027	8934	8451	7136	9678
	Mvera Support	14276	26717	23489	21465	9017
	Mwangala	20646	24505	26162	20736	27968
	Nalunga	19435	18977	13269	18845	24432
	Thonje	11715	20896	21786	17818	24931

**Source:** DHIS2, 2017

Mponela records high OPD cases for the past five years, the cases have been fluctuating over the years but still remains high among the other health centres. Mponela population is rapidly increasing hence the increase in OPD cases. There is need to pay much attention to Mponela in order to meet health needs.

### 5.2.3 Facilities Available at each Health Centre (electricity and water)

Attention is on government health facilities. To ensure smooth service delivery, potable running water and electricity are necessary to both patients and health workers.

**Table 5.6** facilities in hospitals (Electricity and water)

No	Organization unit	Electricity	Solar	Running Water
	Bowe		X	
	Chakhaza	x		
	Chankhungu	X		
	Chinkhwiri	X		
	Chisepo		X	
	Chizolowondo		X	
	Dowa Hospital		X	
	Dzoole	X		
	Kayembe		X	
	Mbingwa		X	
	Mponela		X	
	Msakambewa		X	
	Mwangala		X	
	Nalunga	X		
	Thonje		X	

**Source:** Dowa DHO Administration Records 2017

All the government facilities have potable running water with few still using solar energy. The solar installed health facilities are Chakhaza, Chankhungu, Chinkhwiri, Dzoole and Nalunga. In all these areas except Chakhaza, ESCOM line are just close by and what remains is initiative to power connections.

### 5.2.4 Health Human Resources

HSSP 2 (2017 – 2022) highlighted that improved availability; retention, performance and motivation of human resources for health are important ingredients to yield effective, efficient and equitable health service delivery. In trying to retain staff, the DHO made promotions of 6 nurses from grade J to I, 38 nurses from grade K to J. In addition, the DHO sent 5 MA to school on government scholarship. There is need to recruit additional staff in nursing and drivers to meet the priority.

**Table 5.7** shows Vacancy rate for the district

Cadre (at District Hospital)	Established posts	Filled Posts						% vacancy rates currently
		2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	
Medical Doctors	6	0	1	1	4	4	3	50
Nurses	294	-	-	-	-	-	85	71
Community Nurses	30	2	2	4	4	4	6	80
clinical technicians	29	8	8	9	9	8	13	55
Medical Assistants	24	11	11	11	10	12	13	45
clinical officers /ophthalmic	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	100

Cadre (at District Hospital)	Established posts	Filled Posts						% vacancy rates currently
		2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	
clinical officers/Anesthesia	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Clinical Officers/Orthopedic	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0
Dental Therapist	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0
Clinical officers	13	4	4	4	4	4	3	77
Physiotherapist	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	50
Laboratory Officers	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	0
Laboratory Technicians	14	2	2	2	3	3	5	64
Laboratory Assistants	14	0	0	1	1	2	2	86
Radiographers	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Radiography Technicians	2	0	1	1	1	1	2	0
Pharmacist	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Pharmacy Technicians	15	1	1	1	1	2	3	80
Pharmacy Assistants	24	2	2	2	3	4	6	75
PEHO	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0
SEHO	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Environmental Health Officer	3	1	1	2	2	2	3	0
SAEHO	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	67
Disease Control Officer	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Community Health Officer	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Assistant Community Health Officer	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Drivers	23	-	-	-	-	-	6	74
HSAs	426	-	-	-	-	-	379	11

Source: Dowa DHO Human Resource, 2017

The table shows a number of vacancies the district needs to fill but the priorities are in nursing and drivers. Later it will look into other cadres as well. The staff establishment for nurses is 294 but as of now, only 87 have been recruited. There is a need to recruit more nurses to minimize the nurse to patient ratio. Drivers also play a vital role to ferry people from healthy centres to referral hospital as such there is a need to recruit more drivers to meet the demand for their services. The staff establishment for the drivers is 23 but currently there are only 6 of them.

### 5.2.5 Family Planning

Family planning by definition and in practice helps individuals and couple to decide on how many children to have and when to avoid unnecessary pregnancies and pregnancy death related. (MDHS 2015/16). Attempts have been made to offset early pregnancies and the subsequent high population growth rate. The contraceptive prevalence rate (CPR) has significantly increased, from 42% in 2010 to 58% in 2016 against national which was 60%. The CPR is still low in the district.

Family planning is a high impact intervention to reduce the risk of maternal and neonatal deaths. The contraceptive prevalence rate for the district is 58% with fertility rate of 4.4 lower than the national target of 65%. This contributes to high fertility rate of 5.6 since the majority of women are not using family planning methods. (MDHS, 2015/16).

In order to increase CPR as a district, family planning services should be available at all levels of health service delivery including in communities through HSAs and community based distributing agents (CBDAs).

5.2.6 Finances

The objective of health financing is to increase overall financial resources and allocate them efficiently and equitably.

5.2.7 Drug Budget

The health sector relies on drugs for sound functionality. It is the expectation of communities when sick to visit health care centres for medical care. If drugs are out of stock, communities lose confidence in the health staff and the entire MoH

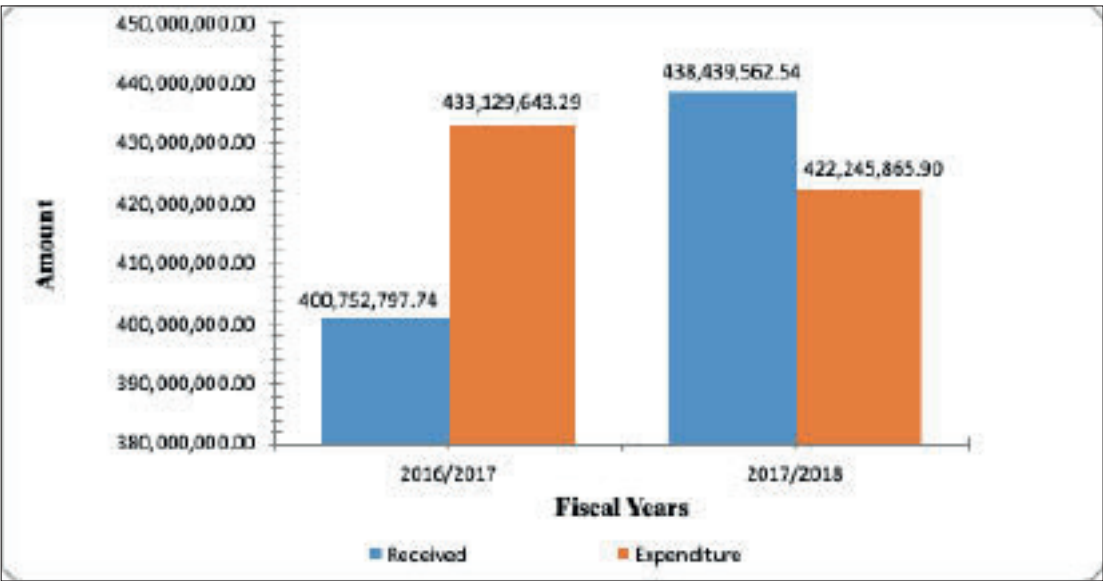


Figure 5.7 Figure 38 shows drug budget for fiscal years 2016/17 and 2017/18

Source: Data source: Dowa DHO Pharmacy Report, 2017

The figure indicates that sometime the amount received is not directly proportional to amount spent on drugs. That means care should be observed managing such. The only positive part is that each year the DHO is allocated money for drugs though not enough. The partners working in the district should complement on drugs as used to do in other activities.

5.2.8 Transport

Transport system is crucial part in any institution. For instance, the health sector needs ambulances and utility vehicles. The ambulances are used for referrals from one facility to another. Dowa DHO has few ambulances hence referral is not done as expected. It is expected to have 12 ambulances to meet its referral demands. The table shows what has been available in5 past fiscal years.

**Table 5.8** shows transport system for the DHO

Ambulances	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Required	12	12	12	12	12
Available	3	3	6	6	6
Functioning	3	2	4	5	5
%age Functional against required	25%	17%	33%	42%	42%

**Source Data: Dowa DHO Administration Records, 2017**

The table above shows that throughout in the past five years, the district has been facing problem of inadequate ambulances. In 2013, the required number of ambulances was 12 but only 3 were available and functioning while in 2017 the number of available ambulances increased to 6 but only 5 were functional hence difficulties in referring patients in time. Despite the increase in ambulances, the number required has not been attained. This costs lives of patients. There is need for 6 additional ambulances to be allocated in strategic clusters for prompt referrals

### 5.2.9 Key Issues

There are several issues that the DHO is facing currently but the following are the priorities e.g.

1. High maternal death rate where the district stands at 95 deaths per 100,000 livebirths (**proxy**)
2. High malaria burden of 211 per 1,000 people (21% of OIPD cases in 2018)
3. Low EPI fully immunized of 66%
4. High vacancy rate in nursing (71%) and drivers (74%) (as DHO priority)
5. Low referral system of 42% functional ambulances against the required 12

### 5.2.10 Water and Sanitation

The water and sanitation sector ideally strives to ensure the realization of the rights of children, women and the communities at large to clean and safe water and sanitation services in the district. As one of the sectors with devolved functions, it is principally committed to translating the national vision, “Water and Sanitation for All, Always,” into actuality by ensuring that every community member in Dowa district has equitable access to water sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services for sustainable socio-economic development and enhancement of the natural ecosystems. The sector realises the intrinsically crucial role that access to clean and safe water and sanitation plays in the prevention of contraction of water and sanitation related diseases such as diarrhoea, cholera, dysentery and typhoid. To ensure effective and efficient service provision, the sector is in a close and complementary working relationship with related sectors of the council and non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

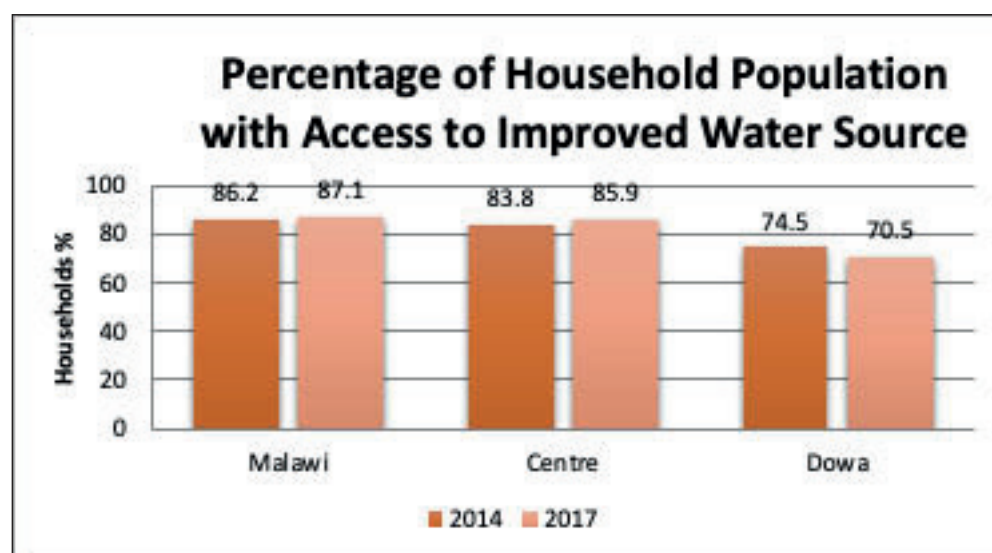
The District Water Office (DWO) is the overall overseer of rural water supply facilities and services in the district. Among others, it assists communities to plan and manage their water supply facilities. It plays a pivotal role on the District Coordination Team (DCT) on water supply and sanitation-related issues. The District Water Office prepares development plans, sensitises, trains and supports communities in sustainable management of new infrastructure development and provides technical guidance as well as policy direction to partners.

In line with the decentralisation policy (1998), virtually all rural water supply and sanitation facilities in the district are owned, operated and maintained by the community members largely by way of such structures as Water Point Committees (WPCs) and Village Health and Water Committees (VHWCs). Water point committees ensure that the water points remain functional at all times through mobilization of resources from water point users. These committees also ensure that the water point sanitation and hygiene is maintained. To effectively execute this crucial role, these WPCs are supposed to go through community based management trainings organised by District Water Office in collaboration with other sectors, partners and stakeholders in the water and sanitation arena. Water point maintenance issues that are beyond the capacity of the WPCs are supposed to be referred to the Area Mechanics.

Area Mechanics (AMs) are strategically placed in the communities to complement the strenuous efforts of Water Monitoring Assistants (WMAs) who are largely too few to effectively address all the operation and maintenance issues particularly in the face of considerably lean funding the sector receives. Each AM is supposed to serve 50 community water points. There are a total of 34 AMs in the district. Area Mechanics install, maintain and repair pumps, undertake inspections based on the nature of contracts they sign with WPCs and help link WPCs with spare parts shops. This is a group of entrepreneurs with the ability to carry out high level maintenance of water facilities and charge communities for such services. They are supervised by and report to the WMAs and field workers from NGO partners active in the water point maintenance field.

### 5.2.11 Safe Water Access

Proportion of People with Access to Improved Water Sources is explained in table 41 below.



**Figure 5.8** Proportion of HH population with access to improved drinking water

**Source:** NSO (MES, 2014 & IHS, 2017)

According to NSO (IHS, 2017), 70.5% of the total household population in Dowa District has access to improved drinking water sources. As depicted in figure 39, there has largely been a decrease in access of at least 4% from 2014 to 2017. In both cases, however, the average proportion of households accessing improved drinking water in Dowa is lower than both the national and central region average. As improved water sources and population are not evenly distributed in the district, there are some traditional authorities/



ADCs and localities that are even worse off in terms of access (See section below). To this end, an aggregate of 24.5% of the households in the district use such unsafe sources as unprotected springs, unprotected dug wells and surface water as main sources of drinking water (WMS, 2014). There is, thus, great need for concerted effort to accelerate works aimed at improving access to safe water supply in order to achieve equitable access throughout the district.

### 5.2.12 Distance to Improved Water Facilities by Households

On average, 30.8% of the household population using improved drinking water source in the district take 30 minutes or more to collect water while the standard maximum round-trip time to improved water source is less than 30 minutes (MES, 2014). Although this is better than at national level whereby 41.2% of the household population take 30 minutes or more, it remains a precarious situation as it implies a considerable number of households hardly collect potable water of adequate quantities. This further suggests more than 30% of the household population in Dowa still travel more than the recommended 500 meters to reach an improved water source. More investments in the provision of new water facilities are, therefore, still needed in order to ensure that these communities have access to enough potable water at all times.

### 5.2.13 Main Sources and Condition of Water Facilities

Dowa district has a total of 2,060 Improved Community Water Points (ICWPs) of which approximately 83.3% are boreholes, 13.4% are shallow wells and 5% are communal taps/standpipes. Urban and peri-urban areas are served by piped water schemes under Central Region Water Board (CRWB) and even Lilongwe Water Board (LWB). Communal taps are mainly under CRWB water supply schemes and small-scale rural water supply reticulation systems in some localities. Efforts of the council in this sector are mainly complemented by NGO partners such as UNICEF, World Vision, Concern Universal Purpose, Inter-aide, Catholic Development Commission (CADECOM), and Mineral and Appropriate Technology Applicable in Malawi (MATAMA).

As depicted in Table 84, these improved water facilities are largely not equitably distributed among the seven Traditional Authorities. Specifically, the distribution of these facilities is not corresponding to population distribution.

**Table 5.9** Distribution of Improved Water Points by Population Distribution

T/A	2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17	
	Population	Water Points	Population	Water Points	Population	Water Points	Population	Water Points
Chakhaza	166,288	350	173,470	396	180,853	459	188,435	499
Msakambewa	88,294	281	92,107	285	96,028	286	100,054	307
Mkukula	102,453	249	106,877	290	111,426	291	116,097	297
Chiwere	112,394	248	117,248	256	122,238	260	127,362	267
Kayembe	117,515	212	122,590	271	127,808	288	133,166	292
Mponela	68,130	139	71,073	173	94,097	174	77,204	182
Dzoole	102,823	163	107,263	208	111,829	212	116,517	216
Dowa	757,897	1,642	790,628	1,879	844,279	1,970	858,835	2,060

Source: District Water Office, 2017

The table 84 shows that Chakhaza has the highest number of improved water points seconded by Msakambewa. However, Msakambewa is among the least populated areas while Chakhaza is by far the most pop-

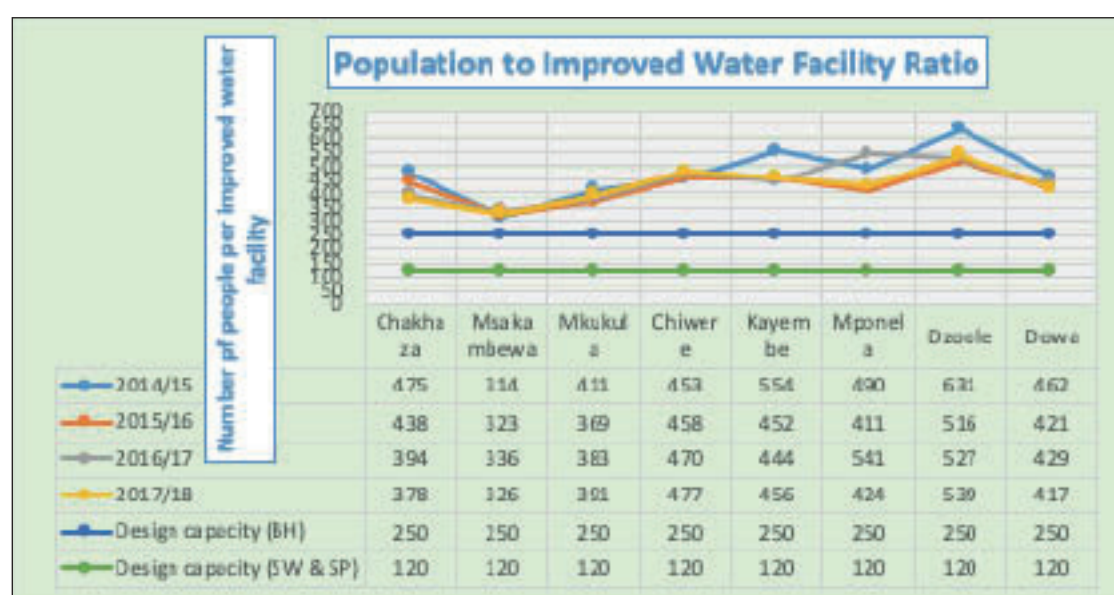
ulated area in the district. Besides, Kayembe which has the second highest population in the district has a smaller number of improved water points than Msakambewa. This should suggest Msakambewa is comparatively better served than both Chakhaza and Kayembe.

The relatively better situation in Msakambewa can be attributed to past interventions by Action Aid. Mponela, on the other hand, has the lowest number of improved water facilities probably because it is the smallest in the district and a considerable part of it is within an urban setting hence served with piped water from Mponela Scheme of CRWB.

As further depicted in the table<sup>75</sup> there has largely been an increase in the number of improved water points in the district with an average percentage increase of approximately 9% over the past three to years. Nonetheless, when this increase is compared with the population, a backlog of work that remains undone is unearthed as further portrayed below.

### 5.2.14 Population to Improved Water Point Ratio

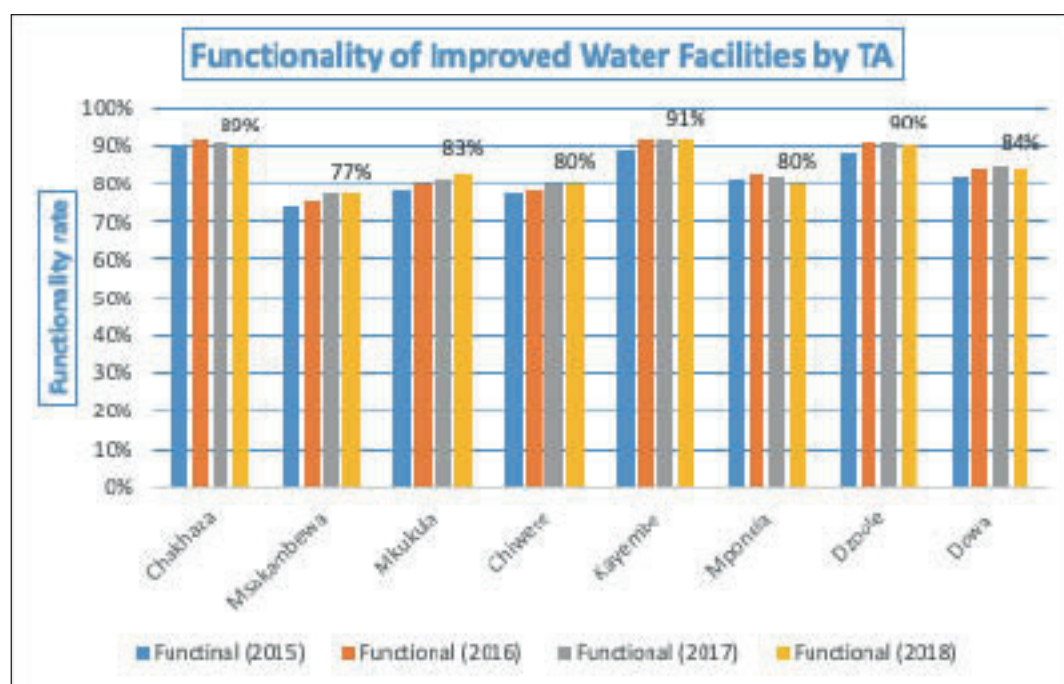
The ratio of population to water point is higher than design capacity of any improved water point technology type and has been even higher over the preceding three consecutive years in the entire district. To this end, figure 42 shows that the current average ratio is 417 people to one improved water facility which represents a slight improvement compared with the previous years but still suggesting a poor access to safe water even before the issue of functionality of water facilities is factored in.



**Figure 5.9** Population to Improved Water Facility Ratio

**Source:** District Water Office, 2017

Figure 40 underscores that Msakambewa is comparatively well served followed by Chakhaza while Dzoole is the least served followed by Kayembe. Due to increased service provision, there has been a reduction in the population to improved water facility ratio in most TAs between 2015 and 2018. On the whole, however, the progress has been largely thereby depicting a scenario where the rate of service provision has been outpaced by that of population growth in virtually all parts of the district. Figure 43 below depicts the distribution of Improved Water Facilities by Operational Status.



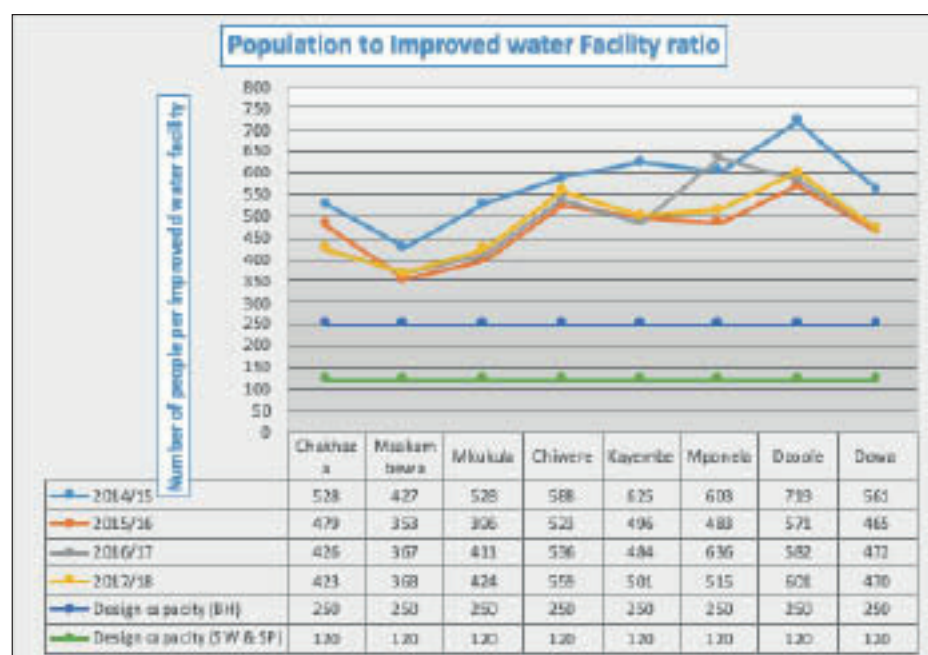
**Figure 5.10** Operational Status of Improved Water Facilities by T/A

**Source:** District Water Office, 2017

As shown in figure 41, the overall functionality rate of improved water facilities is 84%. There are noticeable variations in functionality rates from T/A to T/A with Kayembe and Msakambewa registering the highest and lowest functionality rates respectively. During this period, generally there has been an improvement in functionality rates with 1% as the average percentage change. Aside from activeness of WPCs and vandalism/theft of water facilities, the common technology type of the water facilities in an area may somehow have a bearing on the functionality rate variations. A greater part of the improvement in functionality rates can be attributed to the construction of new boreholes, borehole rehabilitation projects as well as improved Area Mechanic services and operation and maintenance system in general.

### 5.2.15 Population/Functional Improved Water Facility Ratio

Despite witnessing a slight improvement during the past three successive years, the ratio of people to one functioning improved water facility remains at 470, which is almost two times the design capacity of a borehole (250 people) and four times the design capacity of either a protected shallow well or stand pipe (120 people), a thing which is considerably alarming as depicted in figure 42.



**Figure 5.11** Ratio of Population to One Functional Improved Water Facility by T/A

**Source:** District Water Office, 2017

With respect to people per functional water facility, Dzoole and Chiwere are the least served in 2018 compared to the rest (Figure 42). As the water facilities are (in reality) not evenly distributed within each of the TAs, there are areas that are much worse off in terms of access to potable water. In any case, this calls for the provision of more and more new water facilities each successive year coupled with increased investment in the sustainable operation and maintenance of the existing facilities in order to be in tandem with largely high population growth rates.

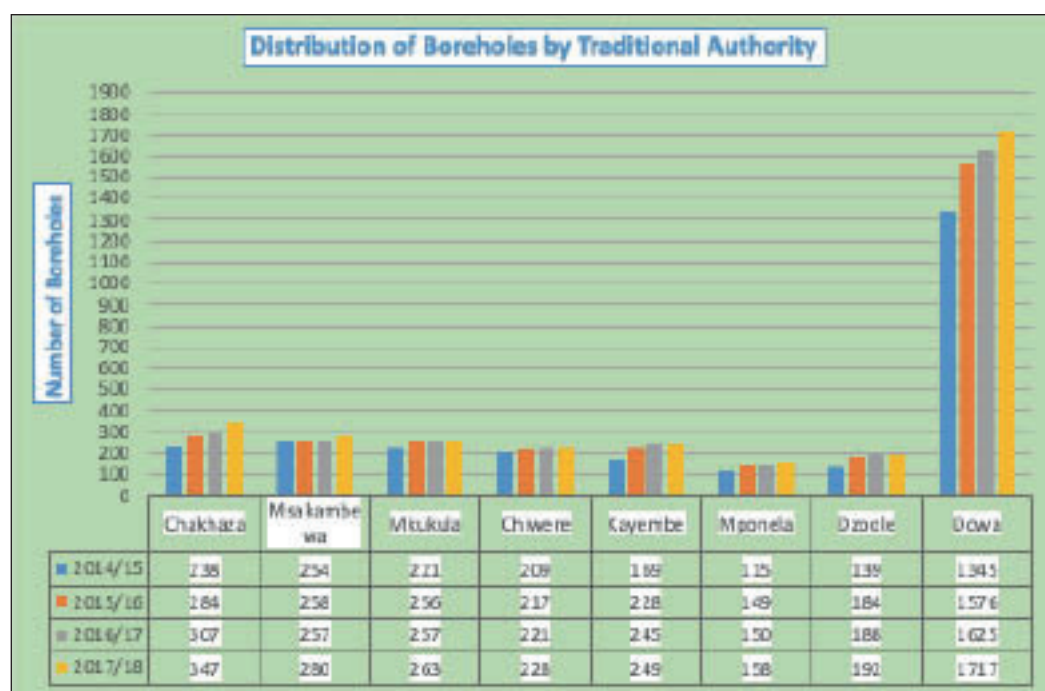
### 5.2.16 Distribution of Improved Water Facilities by Technology Type

Currently, ground water is the principal source of potable water in the district much as surface water also has great potential. The main technology types employed in the abstraction are borehole, protected shallow well and piped system (stand pipes).

#### 5.2.16.1 Boreholes

There are a total of 1,717 boreholes representing approximately 83.3% of the total number of Improved water facilities in the district. Virtually all of these boreholes were mechanically drilled and are equipped with Afridev and Malda which are hand pumps recommended by the Government of Malawi. These are VLOM (Village Level Operation and Maintenance) pumps and hence can easily be sustainably managed by community members. Approximately 61.5% of the households in the district use boreholes as their main sources of potable water (WMS, 2014). By design capacity, a borehole is supposed to serve a population of 250 people, but on average most boreholes in the district serve more than twice this design capacity as alluded to in figures 41 and 42 above.

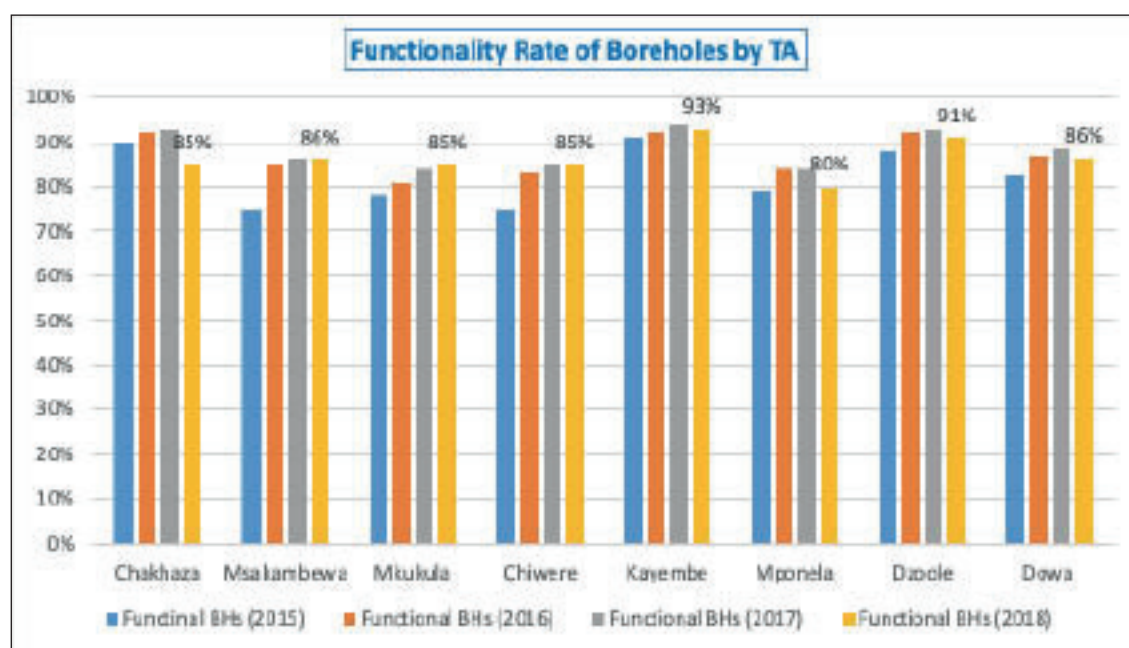




**Figure 5.12** Distribution of Boreholes by T/A

**Source:** District Water Office data base, 2017

Figure 43 shows the distribution trend is not even throughout the district with some T/As Chakhaza having the highest number of boreholes as earlier observed. Although there has been an increase in the number of boreholes in the district over the period in question, the rate of increase is largely insignificant hence the entire district remains underserved.



**Figure 5.13** Operational Status of Boreholes by Traditional Authority

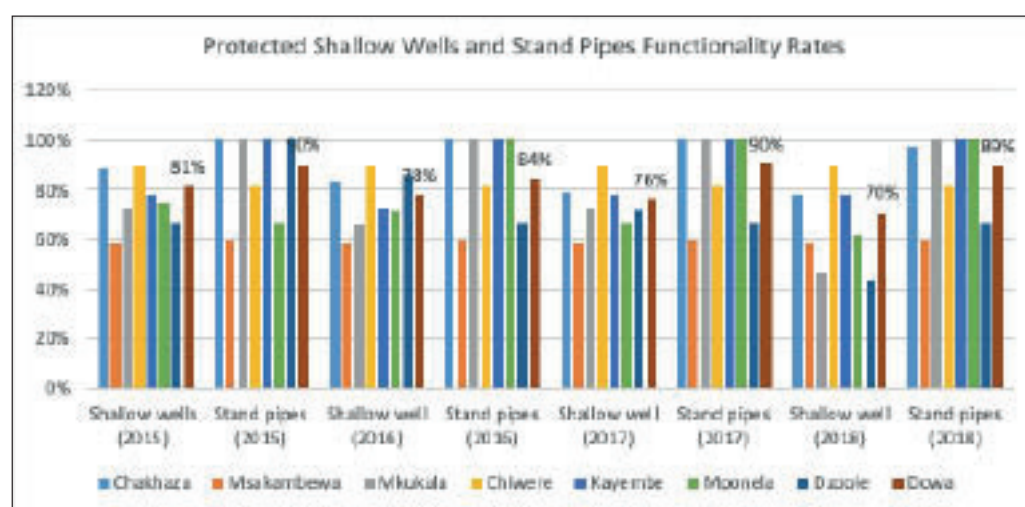
**Source:** District Water Office data base, 2018

There are also variations in functionality of boreholes from one T/A to another over the period at hand. a slight improvement has been registered (see figure 45). The reality that approximately 14% of the boreholes are still not in working condition should suggest a perpetual great pressure being exerted on the already inadequate functional boreholes particularly in the face of ever increasing population in the district. Currently, the district through WASH programme is carrying out rehabilitation of non-functional boreholes, training of communities and area mechanics in operation and maintenance.

### 5.2.16.2 Protected Shallow Wells and Stand Pipes

According to NSO (WMS, 2014), 0.7% of the households use communal taps/stand pipes while 9.5% of the household's use protected shallow wells as main sources of drinking water. One shallow well or stand pipe is supposed to serve a population of 120 people. The district has a total of 277 protected shallow wells and 103 communal taps/stand pipes representing 13.4% and 5% of total number of improved water points respectively (figure 48). The shallow wells are mostly hand dug lined and fitted with Afridev and Malda hand pumps. There are, however, others which are equipped with non-conventional pumps like Mack V which have proved to be hard to maintain at community level due to lack of spare parts and the related capacity issues. Standpipes/communal taps are largely part of piped water schemes or small reticulation systems where submersible pumps powered by solar, fuel or electricity are used to abstract ground water.

Figure 45 shows the operational status of protected shallow wells and communal taps/stand pipes between 2014/15 and 2017/18 period. The average functionality rate of protected shallow wells and stand pipes in the district is 70% and 89% respectively.



**Figure 5.14** Operational Status of Protected Shallow Wells and Stand Pipes By T/A

**Source:** District Water Office Data Base, 2018

Most shallow wells are in the western part of the district in such TAs as Chakhaza, Kayembe, Mponela and Dzoole. This could partly be explained by geographical determinants aside the fact that these areas had NGOs dealing with shallow wells like Nkhoma Relief and Development (NR&D). In this respect, these T/As have more localities characterized unwholesome ground water due to high mineral content where shallow wells yield more palatable water than boreholes making users shun the latter for the former as is the case in GVH Khosi in the southern part of Chakhaza.



### 5.2.16.3 Water Associations Organized and Trained

Water Point Committees (WPCs), water user's associations and the related committees at community level are very vital for the sustainability of improved community water facilities. They facilitate the active participation of communities within the threshold of each and every water facility in the sustainable operation and maintenance of the water facilities. Approximately, 1,300 committees for sustainable management of water facilities are existent in the district. In principle, virtually all the functional improved water facilities in the district have a committee of some sort in place. However, a considerable number of these committees comprise members that have not undergone CBM trainings and are, thus, not adequately empowered to ensure that the water facilities remain functional at all times. This is a product of a wide variety of issues at community as well as at district level as follows:

Some service providers are not putting emphasis on and/or allocating resources for software components (like pre/post drilling and construction trainings) when providing new or rehabilitating broken down water facilities leaving the committees of such facilities untrained hence mostly unable to facilitate sustainable operation and maintenance of the pumps.

Turnovers of members of trained water point committees whereby the entrants have to start from the scratch in the absence of any relevant document on sustainable management of water facility to refer to inadequate resources which make it hardly possible for the water office to adequately monitor all the WPCs and help address a wide range of operation and maintenance issues in the district.

#### 5.2.17 Urban Water Supply

In the major trading centers of the district such as Dowa district headquarters, Mponela, Madisi and Lumbadzi there are piped water supply schemes. Save for Lumbadzi which is supplied by Lilongwe Water Board (LWB), all these centers are under Central Region Water Board. Mponela Trading Centre, as one of the fastest growing centers in Malawi has now been gazetted as water area hence the mandate to supply safe water rests with CRWB only. Mponela scheme also underwent rehabilitation and expansion. The major source of water for the schemes is ground water whereby boreholes are sunk and water abstracted using submersible pumps powered largely by electricity.

The total population in the aforementioned supply areas of these water boards is over 35,000 people or approximately 5.3% of the total household population in the district. The households in the thresholds of these schemes are served through communal taps/kiosks and individual/private connections. The proportion of households with piped water into dwelling plot or yard is approximately 3.6% (NSO, WMS 2014). These schemes face a wide range of challenges in their attempt to supply safe water to more and more in their catchment areas. Some of the challenges include; degradation of the water resources, encroachment on the water source points by residents, frequent power failure thereby affecting pumping at the treatment plant, non-revenue water, high demand for water due to increased number of consumers in the trading centres and non-payment of water bills leading to frequent disconnection and inability to settle ESCOM bills.

#### 5.2.18 Access to Sanitary Latrines

In recognition of the strong linkages between inadequate disposal of excreta and personal hygiene on one hand and incidence of a wide range of diseases including diarrhoeal diseases on the other, the district focuses its efforts on increasing and sustaining people's access to adequate sanitation facilities.

Among other approaches, the district employs Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) and School Led Total Sanitation (SLTS) to achieve and sustain Open Defecation Free (ODF) status in communities and schools as well as sanitation marketing to increase the proportion of households moving up the sanitation ladder from using basic to improved sanitation facilities.

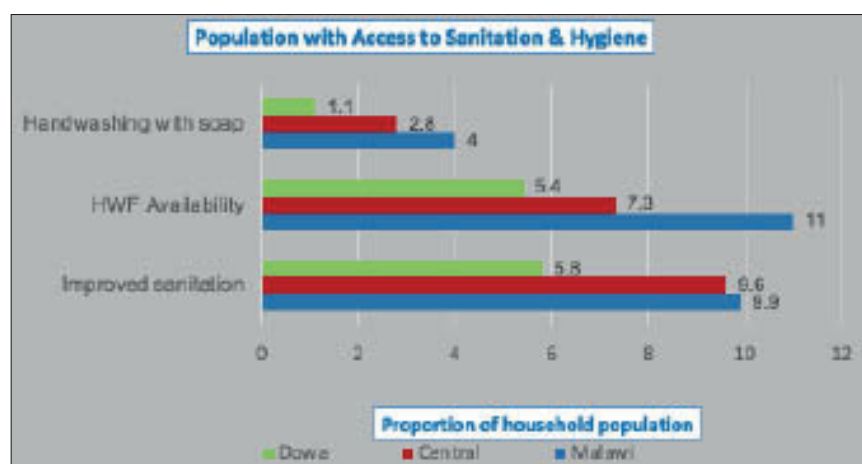
Basic sanitation facilities include latrines with permeable floor and with or without drop hole cover and latrine with impermeable floor but without drop hole cover. Latrines with such hygienic features as impermeable floor and drop-hole cover and ecological sanitation (ecosan)/composting latrine as well as flush toilets fall under improved sanitation facilities.

Since the inception of UNICEF-supported WASH project the has been making remarkable strides in the sanitation and hygiene arena, by training extension workers in CLTS and SLTS and triggering villages and institutions in order to achieve district level ODF status. Between 2014 and 2017 there was increased momentum and reinvigorated efforts by the District Council in collaboration with Concern Universal, World Vision, CADECOM, OSSEDI and other WASH partners focusing on the triggering of entire TAs in CLTS leading to in the attainment of level one district ODF status in 2017.

Dowa was the second district to achieve district level ODF in Malawi and this grand achievement was celebrated in 2018 at TA Chiwere headquarters. In this respect approximately 98.5% of the household population have access to basic latrines. Since this is level one ODF status, there is still need for programmes on triggering schools, markets, churches and other institutions most of which are yet to attain ODF status as we focus on avoiding slippage back to OD status and moving up the sanitation ladder.

According to NSO (MES, 2014), only 5.8% of the total household population in the district has access to improved sanitation facilities which is lower than the central region and national averages of 9.6 and 9.9% respectively (figure 48). There is, therefore, need to step up efforts to create more demand for improved sanitation facilities through Sanitation Marketing approach.

Among other things, sanitation marketing involves the training of masons/sanitation marketing entrepreneurs in a wide range of improved sanitation technological options/products which they sell to households using basic sanitation facilities so that they move up the sanitation ladder from basic to permanent/durable improved sanitation facilities. With support from UNICEF and other WASH partners, the district has trained Sanitation Marketing entrepreneurs to pilot Sanitation Marketing in various parts of the district. There is, thus, need to scale-up Sanitation Marketing to ensure increased access to improved sanitation and accelerate progress towards universal access to safely managed improved sanitation in line with SDGs.



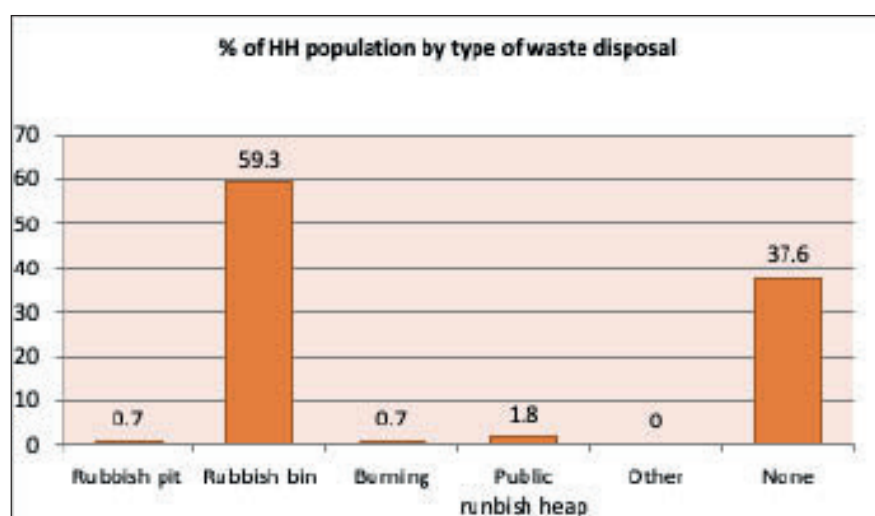
**Figure 5.15** Proportion of HH Population with Access to Sanitation and Hygiene

**Source:** NSO (MES, 2014)

As depicted in figure 46, approximately 5.4% of households in the district have access to hand washing facility which is still lower than the regional and the national proportions which stand at 7.3% and 11% respectively without considering the availability of water and soap or any other cleansing agent (NSO, MES 2014). The situation is even worse when it comes to hand washing with soap coverage which NSO (MES, 2014) reports to be as low as 1.1% with the regional one at 2.8% and the national at 4%. Although updated comprehensive surveys are yet to be conducted, this calls for increased efforts in hygiene promotion interventions to increase the adoption and automation of key hygiene practices in order to prevent a wide variety of poor health indicators associated with poor hygiene in the district.

### 5.2.19 5.2.6 Methods of Waste Disposal

There are several ways of waste disposal, figure 47 below shows percentage distribution of household population by type of waste disposal.



**Figure 5.16** Percentage Distribution Household Population by Type of Waste Disposal

**Source:** NSO (IHS4, 2017)

Most households use burning, open pits, bins and gardens to dispose of their waste. According to NSO (HIS, 2017), 59.3% of the households in Dowa use bins as refuse disposal facilities while 37.6% do not use any waste disposal facility suggesting they throw their refuse anyhow (figure 49). Despite efforts of the council and NGO partners implementing urban WASH programmes like MATAMA, in most of the trading centres and urban areas in the district, the disposal of solid waste generated is largely adhoc and unsystematic as no proper waste disposal system is in place. Aside from using latrines, flush toilets and the related sanitation facilities, all urban areas and trading centres are devoid of sewerage systems for safe disposal of effluent/liquid waste. With increased urbanization, this remains a health risk now and in future.

## 5.3 EDUCATION

The free primary education policy was developed to promote equitable access, relevance and improved governance and management of the sector which will ultimately contribute to socio-economic development. The quality is there by decreasing dropout rates, repetition rates and increasing transition, pass and completion rates from one class to another and one level to another.

The key role of the Education Sector is to improve quality of education offered to the people of the district through deployment of competent and committed highly motivated gender sensitive teachers, and other support staff served by adequate infrastructure and enhanced partnerships with all key stakeholders in education. The sector provides services in line with Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS) III, KPA 2 Education and skills development which ensures that there is an improvement of quality and relevant education and skills for all and SDG 4 which ensures inclusive and equitable quality education and promotes lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Dowa district has 302 schools of which 238 are public primary school, 8 private primary schools, 56 secondary schools and 19 private secondary schools. Private secondary schools are composed of open day secondary schools and real instated structures. Primary education services are coordinated by the District Education Manager (DEM) while Secondary services are manned by the Education Division Manager (EDM). Table 85 below gives details of office establishment in the office of the DEM

**Table 5.10** office ranks for education sector

NO	OFFICE/RANKs	GRADE	ESTB POST	FILLED	VACANT
1	District Education Manager	P5	1	-	1
2	Deputy District Education Manager	P6	1	-	1
3	Principal Human Resource Management Officer	P7	1	1	-
4	Principal Account	P7	1	-	1
5	Principal Primary Inspector of schools	P7	1	-	1
6	Senior Inspector of Schools	P8	4	-	4
7	Senior Primary Education Advisor	P8	1	-	1
8	Primary Head Teacher	P8	40	8	32
9	Primary Education Advisors	PO/CEO	19	1	18
10	Chief Primary School Teacher	PT1	127	24	103
11	Accountant	PO/CEO	1	1	-
12	Human Resource Management Officer	PO/CEO	1	1	-
13	Home Economics Advisor	SEO	1	-	1
14	Principal Primary School Teacher	PT2	366	250	116
15	Senior Assistant Accountant	SEO	1	-	1

NO	OFFICE/RANKs	GRADE	ESTB POST	FILLED	VACANT
16	Senior Primary School Teacher	PT3	600	484	116
17	Assistant Accountant	EO	4	3	1
18	Assistant Human Resource Management Officer	EO	4	4	-
19	Primary School Teacher	PT4	2500	2140	360
20	Senior Clerical Officer	SCO	2	1	1
21	Senior Accounts Assistant	SCO	1	-	1
22	Accounts Assistant	CO	4	2	2
23	Clerical Officer	CO	4	2	2
24	Stores Clerk	CO	1	-	1
25	Copy Typist	D8/D7/D6	2	1	1
26	PBX Operator	SCII	1	-	1
27	Messenger	SCIV	2	2	-
28	Security Guard	SCIV	3	2	1
29	Driver	F4/3/2/1	3	1	2

**Source:** DEM office, 2017

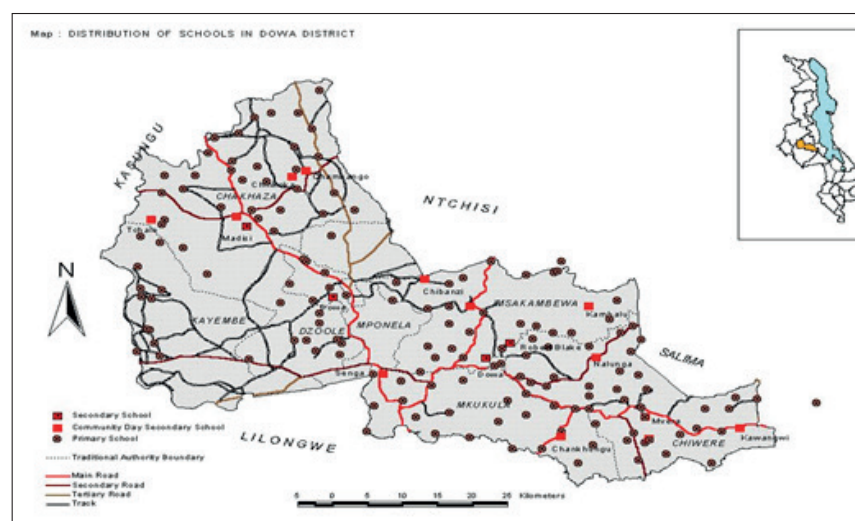
As can be observed from the table above, the office has inadequate staff which is one of the likely causes of low education performance in the district. Filling the Vacant positions are therefore one of the immediate needs of the office.

### 5.3.1 Literacy level

According to Integrated Household Survey of 2014-2015 by NSO, Dowa District literacy rate levels stands at 72 %. However, the literacy levels were not quantified by gender.

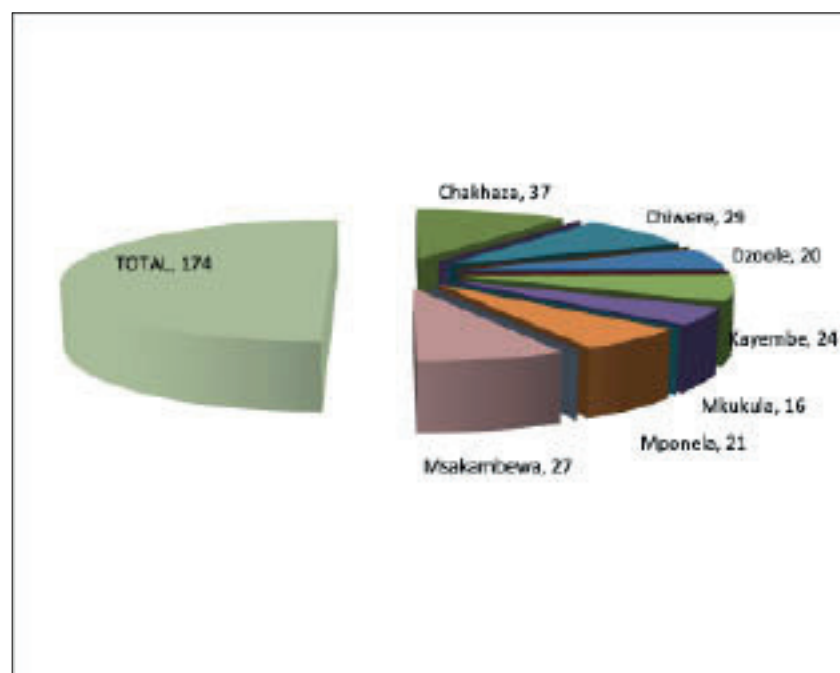
### 5.3.2 Education institutions

Map of Dowa District showing distribution of education institutions



**Figure 5.17** Distribution of Primary Schools by Traditional Authorities

**Source:** DEM office, 2017



**Figure 5.18** Number of primary schools per T/A

**Source:** EMIS 2017

According to figure 49 above, TA Chakhaza has the highest number of primary schools in the district. This is because the TA has vast area hence covers a wider population of the district. Many schools have been built there than in any other area. Oppositely TA Mponela has the smallest land despite large population around Mponela Trading Centre. Few schools have been built in the area. However, these schools are highly enrolled because of urbanization factor.

### 5.3.3 Enrolment

Primary school enrolment in the district has been increasing. This has been partly due to school feeding programmes in a number of schools see table 87 below.

**Table 5.11** Enrolment for Primary Schools by T/A

TA Name	2012/13		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Chakhaza	18852	19030	20179	20534	22384	22706	22848	23456	22910	23794
Chiwere	13292	13615	12108	12184	13118	13661	13935	14376	13674	14436
Dzoole	13080	13973	12812	13370	11542	12109	11620	12281	12540	12998
Kayembe	13962	14655	14166	14919	14321	15431	15257	15598	14738	15570
Mkukula	11899	12393	12385	12825	14274	14717	11501	11960	12702	13153
Mponela	9484	10008	10572	10657	9413	9339	10369	10561	11316	11847
Msakambewa	14419	14443	15389	15848	15206	15615	16000	16008	16522	16446
Grand Total	94988	98117	97611	100337	100258	103578	101530	104240	104402	108244

Source: DEMIS 2017



Out of the total enrolment in 2017/18, 104,402 were boys and 108,244 were girls representing 49% and 51% respectively. Girls' enrolment is commonly higher than boys' in the lower classes and begins to drop as we go up the higher classes. However, this increase in enrolment has not been matched with a corresponding number of teachers and classrooms.

The information in table 87 above shows some variations in enrolment amongst Traditional Authority. For instance, in TA Chakhaza and Kayembe enrolment for girls has been constantly increasing due to interventions by supporting partners such as GENET, world vision and every child who were working there. These NGOs sensitized and empowered girls with knowledge and skills that helped them cope up with their day today challenges and continue with primary education through trainings with female teachers who also acted as role models. Enrolment in some TAs fluctuated each year because of tobacco farming. Learners who come from such farming families move to other districts with their parents for better conditions as tenants each growing season.

**Table 5.12** Number of Qualified Teachers per Year

TA	2012/13		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		Totals
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
CHAKHAZA	389	145	417	154	456	178	455	202	497	253	750
CHIWERE	302	173	283	152	263	142	281	162	297	196	493
DZOOLE	296	143	172	148	213	90	243	101	222	98	320
KAYEMBE	273	71	285	65	245	73	243	74	288	110	398
MKUKULA	224	129	231	130	199	140	211	171	239	199	438
MPONELA	167	164	153	186	182	206	204	243	171	250	421
MSAKAMBEWA	317	133	321	170	303	137	128	163	344	167	511
TOTALS	1968	958	1962	1005	1861	966	965	1116	2058	1273	3331

Source: DEMIS 2017

The table above indicates that the district has more male teachers than female teachers in all T/As. However, T/A Chakhaza, Mponela, Mkukula and Chiwere have more female teachers than others. This is because are within M1 and M5 roads which have semi – urban Centres. Schools in these semi – urban areas have more teachers than those in rural areas. This adversely affects the performance of the learners such that pass rate in PSLCE is lower in rural schools than urban sector like Mponela. The district should consider building modern houses in rural areas to attract lady teachers once posted there. By the end of 2016/17, school session in the district had a pupil teacher ratio of 64:1. This ratio was likely to fluctuate with time due to increase in enrolment and decrease in number of teachers by phenomena like death, retirements and postings especially for lady teachers who move out following their husbands.

**Table 5.13** Number of classrooms per T/A

TA	2012/13		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17	
	P	T	P	T	P	T	P	T	P	T
CHAKHAZA	317	86	322	67	353	58	360	92	366	97
CHIWERE	230	38	215	60	258	37	261	51	256	47
DZOOLE	186	56	184	35	180	35	175	25	178	38
KAYEMBE	216	51	209	58	199	23	194	60	199	55
MKUKULA	161	23	165	28	181	15	177	19	192	37

TA	2012/13		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17	
	P	T	P	T	P	T	P	T	P	T
MPONELA	159	31	145	22	153	6	151	16	170	26
MSAKAMBEWA	242	63	273	35	233	19	267	46	273	45
TOTAL	1511	348	1513	305	1557	193	1585	309	1634	345

Source: DEMIS 2017

According to the table 89 above the district still experiences short falls in number of classrooms. The increase in each TA is very minimal. There is need for government and NGOs to construct additional classrooms in all T/As. The situation is worse in TA Dzoole and Kayembe where the number of permanent structures is reducing over time because many school blocks are very old and in a dilapidated state as of now.

**Table 5.14** Pupil Classroom Ratio (PCR)

T/A	Average number of pupils	Average number of classrooms	Classroom-pupil ratio
CHAKHAZA	43338	343	126
CHIWERE	26879	244	110
DZOOLE	25265	180	140
KAYEMBE	29723	203	146
MKUKULA	25561	175	146
MPONELA	20713	155	133
MSAKAMBEWA	31179	257	121
TOTAL	202658	1557	130

**Source:** DEMIS 2017

Based on table 90 above, Pupil Classroom Ratio per T/A was worked out as summarized in the table 90 above. It shows that there is still an acute shortage of classrooms across the district as the current PCR is 130: 1 against the national requirement of 60: 1. This compromises the learning atmosphere of the students across the district. It is important that government and other donor partners should prioritize construction of school blocks in the district.

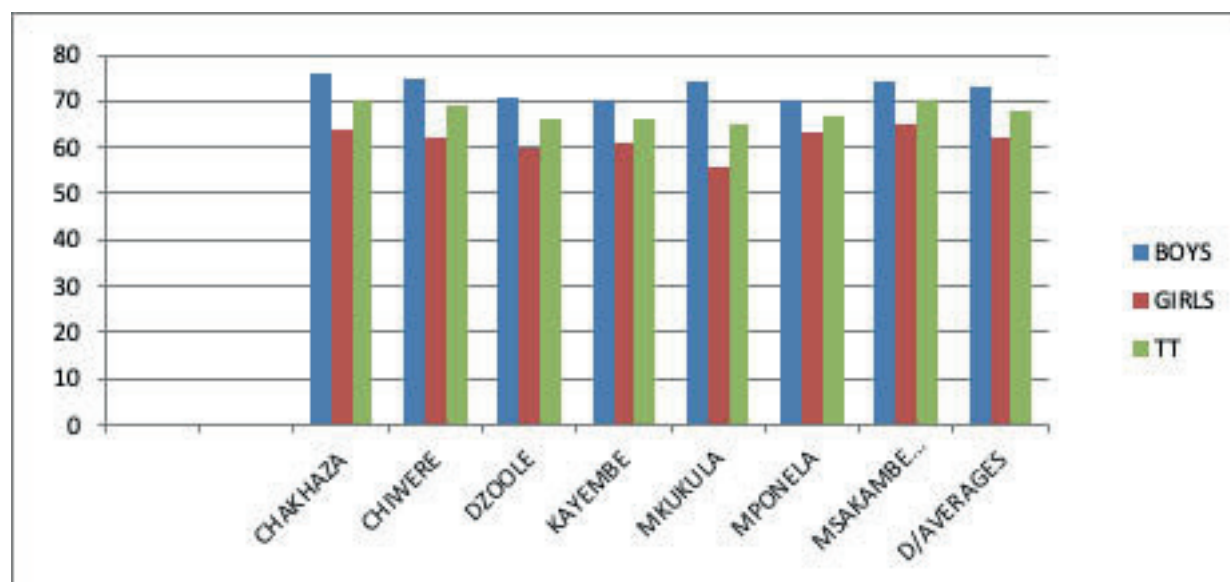
**Table 5.15** Number of permanent toilets

TA	2012/13		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		number of toilets	Enrolment /TA	Toilet-pupil ratio
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls			
CHAKHAZA	180	165	209	190	215	220	275	245	319	286	605	46704	77
CHIWERE	112	95	127	128	167	169	184	192	198	210	408	28110	69
DZOOLE	86	96	94	104	97	113	118	127	125	145	270	25538	95
KAYEMBE	89	77	92	87	104	97	115	110	131	134	265	30308	114
MKUKULA	79	85	97	105	117	136	122	142	137	154	291	25855	89
MPONELA	56	63	64	71	73	75	94	110	101	126	227	23163	102
MSAKAMBEWA	102	132	117	146	126	174	144	186	160	208	368	32968	89
TOTAL	704	713	800	831	899	984	1052	1110	1171	1263	2434	184536	76

DEMIS 2017

The number of toilets has been increasing in all T/As due to support by development partners such as World Vision and UNICEF supported through WASH project in the recent past. However due to ever increasing number of learners, the ratios as shown in the table above do not meet the national ratio of 10:1 for girls and 25:1 for boys. This shows that there is still need for continued support from the donor partners. Community stakeholders should also take initiative to construct latrines from School Improvement Grant funded by government each year.

The total distribution of passes is shown in the graph below.



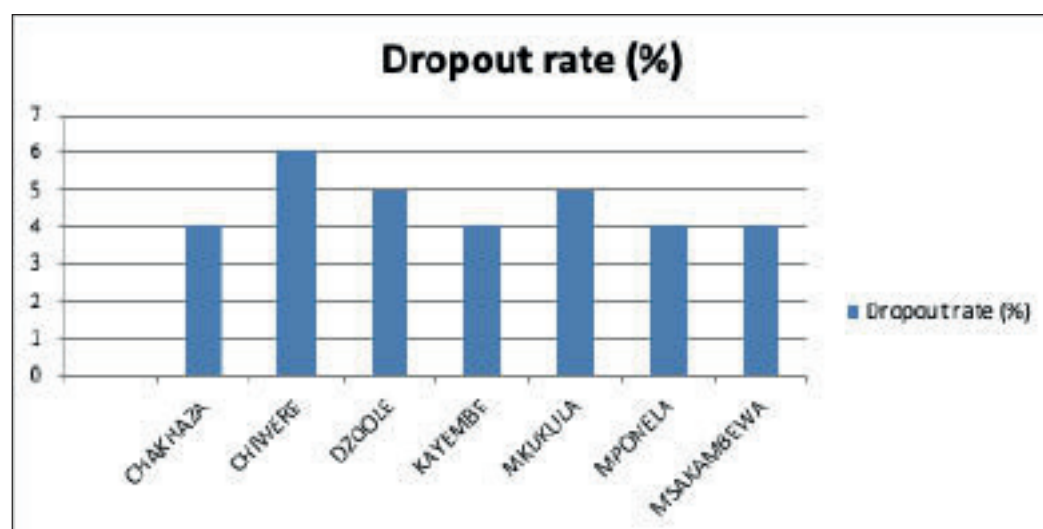
**Figure 5.19** The Total Distribution Of Passes.

**Source:** DEM office, 2017

Figure 92 above shows that boys performed well than girls in PSLCE across the years. Boys in TA Chakhaza surpassed the rest while girls in TA Mkukula were the least. It has been noted that TA Mkukula does not have supportive interventions from NGOs to motivate girls in their education. This negatively affects their performance. The district has to see to it that the NGOs that support girl education are evenly allocated.

**Table 5.16** Dropout by TA

Number of Drop-outs	2012/13		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		Average Drop Outs		
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Total number of dropout final year	Enrollment final year	Dropout rate (%)
CHAKHAZA	930	1042	1095	1193	946	1015	790	881	815	878	1693	46704	4
CHIWERE	695	704	718	728	723	800	847	907	874	924	1798	28110	6
DZOOLE	606	616	630	565	534	524	561	526	621	612	1233	25538	5
KAYEMBE	620	639	594	576	522	528	526	629	577	747	1324	30308	4
MKUKULA	504	609	677	610	596	496	744	741	687	734	1421	25855	5
MPONELA	624	702	563	507	325	374	321	347	452	438	890	23163	4
MSAKAMBEWA	556	581	720	706	638	718	659	713	706	755	1461	32968	4



**Figure 5.20** Graph showing dropout rate per TA over 5 years.

**Source:** Source of Data DEMIS 2018

The graph and the table above indicates that T/A Chiwere had the highest dropout rate where girls surpassed boys for the first 4 years. TA Chiwere had been in this situation because learners engage themselves in small scale businesses usually done during market days. In addition, the area is geographically disadvantaged due to its terrain which prevents learners from going to schools during rainy season. Government should construct more bridges in the area so that students cross the rivers without many hiccups.

**Table 5.17** Repetition rate

TA	2012/13		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		Boys%	Girls%
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls		
Chakhaza	20	19	22	19	24	22	22	21	22	20	22	20
Chiwere	23	21	23	23	26	25	27	25	27	27	25	20
Dzoole	23	22	21	20	26	24	27	23	23	23	24	16
Kayembe	19	19	20	19	21	19	22	22	21	20	21	12
Mkukula	25	23	23	22	26	26	27	28	27	25	25	14
Mponela	20	19	20	19	24	22	23	21	23	21	22	10
Msakambewa	17	16	19	18	20	20	27	26	24	24	21	9

Source: DEMIS Office 2017

Repetition rate for boys is very high in TA Chiwere and T/A Mkukula and relatively high for girls in T/A Chiwere and Chakhaza. Schools in these TAs are adversely affected by understaffing which compromises curriculum coverage and learner performance. In addition, schools in T/A Chiwere are geographically hard to reach. Students attend school in first and third terms with a break in the second term when rains are at peak and Students find it hard to progress from one class to another. This denies them access to their education. Government should construct bridges to connect surrounding villages to their nearby schools in order to ease mobility of students throughout the year.

**Table 5.18** Primary School completion

TA	2012/13		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
CHAKHAZA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CHIWERE	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
DZOOLE	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
KAYEMBE	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MKUKULA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MPONELA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MSAKAMBEWA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

**Source:** DEMIS Office 2017

Basically completion has not been tracked in each year. Cohort tracking started in the year 2012 hence district EMIS to start calculating this indicator in 2020.

**Table 5.19** Number of Text books per year per TA

TA	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Average number of books	Average enrolment	Pupil-Book ratio
CHAKHAZA	128740	85658	127998	157900	77403	577699	216693	3:1
CHIWERE	72211	51057	69812	81437	38738	313255	134399	2:1
DZOOLE	62013	36209	53691	62401	33019	247333	126325	2:1
KAYEMBE	95887	63808	84833	105500	48398	398426	148617	3:1
MKUKULA	66410	40676	48761	60226	24271	240344	127809	2:1
MPONELA	54802	32350	30748	36030	15830	169760	103566	2:1
MSAKAMBEWA	67739	43034	67239	79948	45605	303565	155896	2:1
TOTAL	547802	352792	483082	583442	283264	2250382	1013305	2:1

**Source:** DEMIS Office 2017

The situation of text books is relatively good because a learner is having at least one book although the situation may vary from one kind of text book to another. However, most books in senior classes are not in good condition such that some learning areas have very few at each school. Government should procure new text books and distribute them to schools within short time frames.

**Table 5.20** Number of Libraries as per Traditional Authority

TA	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Total Number of Libraries
CHAKHAZA	4	4	4	4	4	20
CHIWERE	3	3	3	3	3	15
DZOOLE	2	2	2	2	2	10
KAYEMBE	2	2	2	2	2	10
MKUKULA	3	3	3	3	3	15
MPONELA	3	3	3	3	3	15
MSAKAMBEWA	3	3	3	3	3	15
TOTAL	20	20	20	20	20	100

**Source:** DEMIS Office 2017

Traditional Authority Chakhaza has more number of libraries and the least are Traditional Authority Dz-oole and Kayembe. Libraries are not increasing in number in all the TAs over the period of five years since there is no support in construction of additional ones. Moreover, number of books is decreasing in each center due to lack of maintenance culture and decreased donor supply. This may gradually diminish the reading culture amongst the youths in the district. Government should provide more libraries in the schools to maintain learner's interest in reading.

### 5.3.4 Primary Education Ownership

Number of government Primary schools has increased in these three consecutive years due to establishment of new ones while private primary schools have declined over the three years due to closure of sub-standard schools following implementation of Education Act guidelines for 2013. This is a recommendable development towards achieving government requirement that schools should be within a radius of 3km from each other. This will provide an opportunity to many students to have access to primary education services in the district.

**Table 5.21** Showing Ownership of primary schools

TA	2012/13			2013/14			2014/15			2015/16			2016/17		
	PUB-LIC	PRI-VATE	TO-TALs	PUB-LIC	PRI-VATE	TO-TALs	PUB-LIC	PRI-VATE	TO-TALs	PUB-LIC	PRI-VATE	TO-TALs	PUB-LIC	PRI-VATE	TO-TALs
CHAKHAZA	56	3	59	56	3	59	56	3	59	57	3	60	57	3	60
CHIWERE	38	0	38	38	0	38	41	2	43	41	2	43	41	2	43
DZOOLE	27	0	27	27	0	27	27	0	27	27	0	27	27	0	27
KAYEMBE	34	0	34	34	0	34	34	0	34	34	0	34	34	0	34
MKUKULA	25	0	25	25	0	25	25	0	25	25	0	25	25	0	25
MPONELA	19	2	21	19	2	21	19	2	21	19	2	21	19	2	21
MSAKAM-BEWA	35	1	36	35	1	36	35	1	36	35	1	36	35	1	36
TOTAL	227	6	240	234	6	240	237	8	245	238	8	246	238	8	246

**Source:** DEM office, 2017

### 5.3.5 Primary Teacher House Ratio

Teachers houses ratio decreased in 2012/13 and increased in subsequent years as presented in table above. The increase could be attributed to non maintenance of the houses. Traditional Authority Chakhaza, Msakambewa and Mponela have higher Teacher House Ratio whilst Chiwere, Dzooole, Mkukula and Kayembe respectively have the least record. The increase of teachers houses in the recent years is due to projects under Local Development Fund (LDF), with support from World bank and other NGOs. Some community stakeholders should also be recommended for constructing these houses on self help basis. Table 99 below shows primary teacher house ratio in the district.



**Table 5.22** Teachers Houses Ratio

	2012/13			2013/14			2014/15			2015/16			2016/17		
	Num-ber Of Teach-ers	Num-ber Of Hous-es	Teach-er House Ratio	Num-ber Of Teach-ers	Num-ber Of Hous-es	Teach-er House Ratio	Num-ber Of Teach-ers	Num-ber Of Hous-es	Teach-er House Ratio	Num-ber Of Teach-ers	Num-ber Of Hous-es	Teach-er House Ratio	Num-ber Of Teach-ers	Num-ber Of Hous-es	Teach-er House Ratio
Chakha-za	534	233	2	571	250	2	634	355	2	657	284	2	755	404	2
Chiwere	475	152	3	431	268	2	405	333	1	443	262	2	493	253	2
Dzoole	439	190	2	420	262	2	303	245	1	344	313	1	320	161	2
Kayembe	344	172	2	350	150	2	318	241	1	317	286	1	398	215	2
Mkukula	353	110	3	361	283	1	339	213	2	382	285	1	438	190	2
Mponela	331	78	4	339	200	2	388	210	2	447	214	2	421	259	2
Msakam-bewa	450	188	2	491	462	1	440	250	2	491	250	2	511	258	2
Total	2926	1056	3	2963	1960	2	2827	1847	2	3081	1894	2	3336	1740	2

**Source:** DEMIS ASC, 2017

District average number of Teacher House Ratio is at 2:1 while Government standard ratio is 1:1. This shows that there is still critical shortage of teachers houses in the district. Sometimes permanent teachers houses turn to temporary due to heavy rains and heavy winds which blow off roofs and this worsens the situation in the district. Government should consider increasing SIG funds allocated to each school so that part is used for maintenance of these structures.

### 5.3.6 Pupil: Desks ratio

The table below shows pupil School Desk Ratio.

**Table 5.23** Pupil School Desk Ratio

	2012/13			2013/14			2014/15			2015/16			2016/17		
Total	Enrol-ment	# of Desks	Pupil/Desk Ratio	Enrol-ment	# of Desks	Pupil/Desk Ratio	Enrol-ment	# of Desks	Pupil/Desk Ratio	Enrol-ment	# of Desks	Pupil/Desk Ratio	Enrol-ment	# of Desks	Pupil/Desk Ratio
Chakhaza	37882	4375	9	40713	3676	11	46250	2663	17	46304	4547	10	46704	5952	8
Chiwere	26907	2593	10	24292	2143	11	23119	1482	16	28311	2877	10	28110	4275	7
Dzoole	27053	2946	9	26182	2341	11	20990	1464	14	23901	1506	16	25538	1271	20
Kayembe	28617	2965	10	29085	2560	11	28911	1910	15	30855	1904	16	30308	2320	13
Mkukula	24292	1717	14	25210	1398	18	29439	1570	19	23461	1456	16	25855	1742	15
Mponela	19492	2078	9	21229	1960	11	18872	1195	16	20930	1074	19	23163	1813	13
Msakam-bewa	28862	3709	8	31237	1772	18	36255	1677	22	32008	3225	10	32968	3315	10
Total	193105	20383	9	197948	15850	12	203836	11961	17	205770	16589	12	212646	20688	10

**Source:** EMIS ASCQ, 2017

Pupil to School Desk ratio for the district stands at 8: 1 which is far much above the recommended national standard of 2:1. T.A Mponela has the highest with 9:1 followed by Dzoole, Kayembe, Chiwere and Msakam-bewa. (See Table 100). Over the years the condition has been worsening because of non-maintenance of

existing ones, inadequate supply from central government, and increase in enrollment that does not match with the number of desks supplied.

This situation is not health for adolescent girls who are forced to sit flat on the floor. The central supplier's unit should procure and provide desks to all schools to alleviate the challenges.

### 5.3.7 Summary of issues

#### 1. quality and relevance

- › Inadequate female teachers in rural primary schools.
- › Inadequate teacher's houses in both rural and semi urban settings as teacher house ratio stands at 2: 1 in the district.
- › Shortage of libraries and inadequate books which is affecting the quality of education.
- › Low students' performance in PSLCE

#### 2. Access and equity

- › Inadequate classrooms.
- › Inadequate desks in schools
- › High repetition rate in schools
- › Inadequate latrines.
- › High dropout rate for girls

#### 3. Governance and management

- › Inadequate technical capacity in maintenance

### 5.3.7.1 Secondary Education

The district has 56 secondary schools graded under day, community day, boarding, open schools, grant aided and private. Most secondary schools are in T/A Msakambewa, Chakhaza and Mponela. However, the number of schools per T/A do not match the population needs leaving most of the primary school graduates without space for secondary education.

**Table 5.24** Secondary Schools by Proprietorship

T/A	Proprietor							Total
	Government				Grant Aided	Private		
	Day	Boarding	CDSS approved	Open school		Registered	Not Registered	
Chakhaza	0	1	6	1	0	2	1	11
Chiwere	0	0	5	2	0	1	0	8
Dzoole	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4
Kayembe	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	5
Mkukula	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	5
Mponela	0	1	3	2	0	4	0	10
Msakambewa	0	1	6	4	1	0	1	12
Total	1	3	31	10	1	8	2	56

**Source:** DEMIS, 2017

The table above shows that most of the schools are community day. In some cases, students commute 10 km to and from the destinations. This forces some students to be on self-boarding due to fatigue. These students are prone to social friendships that lead to early pregnancies and eventually dropout of school. In some circumstances those that survive the risks still perform badly in national examinations. Government should consider building more boarding schools in the district.

The district should also consider opening up additional CDSS in some TAs to meet the high demand for secondary space.

### 5.3.7.2 Enrolment

**Table 5.25** Enrolment per T/A

T/A	2012/2013			2013/2014			2014/2015			2015/2016			2016/2017		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
Chakhaza	543	379	922	1472	1051	2523	1522	1323	2845	1625	1389	3014	1670	1596	3266
Chiwere	583	908	1491	553	576	1129	1065	825	1890	1135	963	2098	661	864	1525
Dzoole	535	531	1066	696	583	1279	714	610	1324	873	698	1571	457	467	924
Kayembe	224	172	396	519	421	940	449	368	817	598	421	1019	593	463	1056
Mkukula	569	583	1152	575	591	1166	721	684	1405	866	869	1735	714	668	1382
Mponela	1081	1164	2245	1099	778	1877	1252	1365	2617	1398	1414	2812	1994	1746	3740
Msakambewa	1777	1040	2817	1406	1236	2642	1450	1556	3006	1521	1426	2947	1926	1310	3236
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5312</b>	<b>4776</b>	<b>10088</b>	<b>6320</b>	<b>4739</b>	<b>11059</b>	<b>7373</b>	<b>6831</b>	<b>14204</b>	<b>8016</b>	<b>7180</b>	<b>15196</b>	<b>8,015</b>	<b>7,114</b>	<b>15,129</b>

**Source:** DEMIS, 2017

Enrolment in secondary schools has been increasing over the years as presented in table 93. Boys are more than girls in six Traditional Authorities Girl's enrollment continuously reduces as they attain senior classes. This is because they experience some challenges which they fail to cope with. All education stakeholders should take initiative to help the girl child complete with education.

### 5.3.7.3 Conditions of Secondary Schools per TA

**Table 5.26** Number of Permanent Classrooms

T/A	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	Totals
Chakhaza	36	37	43	52	64	232
Chiwere	22	29	30	36	46	163
Dzoole	11	16	24	27	32	110
Kayembe	12	14	19	23	28	96
Mkukula	11	26	26	29	34	126
Mponela	28	30	30	32	35	155
Msakambewa	50	51	51	54	58	264
<b>Total</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>1146</b>

**Source:** DEMIS, 2017

There are 1146 classrooms available in secondary schools (see table 94). The number of classrooms has gradually been increasing overtime because of new ones being established. Most of the classrooms have been built by community members themselves on self-help basis hence are of poor quality though permanent in nature. District council should provide technical support to all stakeholders that intend to construct additional school blocks to maintain standard and quality.

### 5.3.7.4 Pupil-Classroom Ratio

**Table 5.27** Pupil-Classroom Ratio

T/A	Enrolment	Permanent Number of classrooms	Average Pupil to Classroom Ratio
Chakhaza	3266	54	60
Chiwere	1525	33	46
Dzoole	924	29	32
Kayembe	1056	18	59
Mkukula	1382	30	46
Mponela	3740	51	73
Msakambewa	3236	64	51
<b>Total</b>	<b>15129</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>55</b>

**Source:** DEMIS, 2017

The Pupil-Classroom Ratio stands at 55:1 which is over national requirement of 40:1 (see table 104). Schools in T/A Mponela, Chakhaza and Kayembe experience the worse ratio. This indicates that there is critical shortage of classrooms. Practically, most public secondary schools especially Community Day register a lot of learners resulting in congestion in classes. This creates unhealthy situation that results in low quality education. Generally, Private schools register low enrolment due to high fees charged by the proprietors such that only well to do people manage to send their children there.

### 5.3.7.5 Desks

The district also experiences great shortage of desks in these Secondary Schools. While the national average ratio is 1:2 some of the schools like those in Dzoole and Mponela have the average ratio of 1:8 and 1:3 respectively. There is need for government to supply additional desks to all schools to match with the increasing enrolment.

**Table 5.28** Pupil-Desk Ratio

T/A	2012/2013			2013/2014			2014/2015			2015/2016			2016/2017		
	En-roll-ment	Desks	Pupil to Desks Ratio	En-roll-ment	Desks	Pupil to Desks Ratio	En-roll-ment	Desks	Pupil to Desks Ratio	En-roll-ment	Desks	Pupil to Desks Ratio	En-roll-ment	Desks	Pupil to Desks Ratio
Chakhaza	922	1122	2	2523	1914	3	2845	1946	3	3014	3556	922	3266	1578	2
Chiwere	1491	1711	2	1129	1473	2	1890	1106	3	2098	1709	1491	1525	629	2
Dzoole	1066	958	2	1279	1003	3	1324	1021	3	1571	1766	1066	924	136	8
Kayembe	396	457	2	940	644	3	817	675	2	1019	2015	396	1056	601	2
Mkukula	1152	2029	1	1166	1003	2	1405	1552	2	1735	1051	1152	1382	699	2
Mponela	2245	744	6	1877	1244	3	2617	1611	3	2812	1040	2245	3740	1244	3

T/A	2012/2013			2013/2014			2014/2015			2015/2016			2016/2017		
	En-roll-ment	Desks	Pupil to Desks Ratio	En-roll-ment	Desks	Pupil to Desks Ratio	En-roll-ment	Desks	Pupil to Desks Ratio	En-roll-ment	Desks	Pupil to Desks Ratio	En-roll-ment	Desks	Pupil to Desks Ratio
Msakambewa	2817	1226	5	2642	1362	4	3006	1626	4	2947	1569	2817	3236	1608	2

**Source:** DEMIS, 2017

### 5.3.7.6 Teachers' Houses

**Table 5.29** Teacher-House Ratio

T/A	Number of Teachers	Number of Houses	Teacher to House Ratio
Chakhaza	134	46	3
Chiwere	77	41	2
Dzoole	46	21	2
Kayembe	61	19	3
Mkukula	57	24	2
Mponela	146	25	6
Msakambewa	91	52	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>612</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>3</b>

**Source:** DEMIS, 2017

According to table 106 above, the district also experiences critical shortage of teacher's houses with a teacher house ratio of 3:1. This forces teachers to live in rented houses crippling them further of their lean salaries. This demotivates teachers and affects their welfare and performance. Government and donor partners should construct more houses to meet the increasing need in schools.

### 5.3.7.7 Student-Teacher Ratio

**Table 5.30** Student-Teacher Ratio (STR)

T/A	2012/2013			2013/2014			2014/2015			2015/2016			2016/2017			
	Enroll-ment	Teach-ers	STR	Enroll-ment	Teach-ers	STR	Enroll-ment	Teach-ers	STR	Enroll-ment	Teach-ers	STR	Enroll-ment	Teach-ers	STR	Average STR
Chakhaza	922	56	16	2523	59	43	2845	62	46	3014	65	46	3266	134	24	35
Chiwere	1491	62	24	1129	57	20	1890	60	32	2098	60	35	1525	77	20	26
Dzoole	1066	45	24	1279	38	34	1324	36	37	1571	37	42	924	46	20	31
Kayembe	396	34	12	940	31	30	817	31	26	1019	33	31	1056	61	17	23
Mkukula	1152	48	24	1166	48	24	1405	49	29	1735	46	38	1382	57	24	28
Mponela	2245	84	27	1877	81	23	2617	85	31	2812	88	32	3740	146	26	28
Msakambewa	2817	69	41	2642	73	36	3006	70	43	2947	69	43	3236	91	36	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>10088</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>11059</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>14204</b>	<b>393</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>15196</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>15129</b>	<b>612</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>31</b>

Source: DEMIS, 2017

The district average Student-Teacher Ratio (STR) stands at 31:1 which is below government average requirement of 40:1. This is a better stand for the district. However, the challenge remains that most of these teachers are under qualified, especially in CDSS where many of them are simply deployed from primary sector hence performance of students is greatly compromised. This is direct cause for dwindled quality of education in Secondary Schools. Government should open more upgrading opportunities for these teachers for them to improve in their performance over time.

### 5.3.7.8 Textbooks

**Table 5.31** Available Number of Usable Textbooks

	Chichewa	Maths	Eng	Chemistry	Bio	H/Economic	cumulative Books	Enrolment	Pupil Textbook Ratio
CHAKHAZA	2194	2065	3067	1484	1366	563	10739	3266	3
CHIWERE	665	481	762	368	531	44	2851	1525	2
DZOOLE	2859	2546	3829	1852	1897	607	13590	924	15
KAYEMBE	5718	5092	7658	3704	3794	1214	27180	1056	26
MKUKULA	11436	10184	15316	7408	7588	2428	54360	1382	39
MPONELA	719	869	952	294	572	0	3406	3740	1
MSAKAMBEWA	3024	2981	4856	1990	2376	251	15478	3236	5
Total	26615	24218	36440	17100	18124	5107	127604	15129	91

**Source:** DEMIS 2018

Text books availability is an issue in all the schools. Table 108 shows that most text books are insufficient except for mathematics. This affects teaching, learning and performance in most of the schools. Government should see to it that all schools have adequate text books for all subjects.

### 5.3.7.9 Libraries

**Table 5.32** Available Libraries per T/A

	Libraries per T/A				
T/A	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017
Chakhaza	2	2	2	2	5
Mkukula	1	1	1	1	1
Kayembe	0	0	0	0	1
Mponela	2	2	2	2	6
Chiwere	1	1	1	1	5
Msakambewa	2	2	2	2	6
Dzooole	2	2	2	2	1
Total	10	10	10	10	25

**Source:** DEMIS, 2018

There are only 25 libraries across the 56 secondary schools in the district as tabulated in table 25 below. This shows that more than half of the schools do not have libraries. This affects the quality of teaching and learning as students do not have adequate reference materials. Government and donor partners should consider



of building more libraries so that at least each school has one and stock them with enough books to promote reading culture in students.

### 5.3.7.10 Laboratories

**Table 5.33** Distribution of Laboratories in secondary schools

T/A	2012/2013				2013/2014				2014/2015				2015/2016				2016/2017								
	Biology	Physical Science	French	Home economic laboratory	Computer laboratory	Biology Laboratory	Physical Science laboratory	French laboratory	Home economic laboratory	Computer laboratory	Biology Laboratory	Physical S. laboratory	French laboratory	Home economic laboratory	Computer laboratory	Biology Laboratory	Physical Science laboratory	French laboratory	Home economic laboratory	Computer laboratory	Biology Laboratory	Physical Science laboratory	French laboratory	Home economic laboratory	Computer laboratory
Chakhaza	2	2	0	1	1	2	2	0	1	1	2	2	0	1	1	2	2	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1
Mkukula	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1
Kayembe	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1
Mponela	2	2	0	0	2	2	2	0	0	2	2	2	0	0	2	2	2	0	0	2	4	4	0	4	4
Chiwere	2	2	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	1
Msakambewa	3	3	2	0	1	3	3	2	0	1	3	3	2	0	1	3	3	2	0	1	3	3	2	0	1
Dzoole	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0

**Source:** DEMIS 2017

A fully fledged secondary school is supposed to have 5 laboratories for Physical science, Biology, French, Computer and Home Economics. Table 26 shows distribution of laboratories in the district. There are very few laboratories in all T/As. Most of these are found in boarding secondary schools like Robert Blake, Madisi and Dowa. As a result, there is poor performance in science subjects in community Day and some Private Schools because students have no chance to practice in science. Government should see that community day secondary schools are equally considered in its development plans when providing educational resources to the nation so that all youths have same access to them.

### 5.3.7.11 Pass Rate; Malawi School Certificate Examination

Average pass rate for MSCE for the district in past 5 years was 63%. The pass rate trend shows that boys' performance is always higher than girls. Over the years, girls' stood at an average of 56% pass rate as indicated in table 102.

**Table 5.34** MSCE Pass Rate

	2012/2013		2013/2014		2014/2015		2015/2016		2016/2017	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Sat	1290	1120	1295	1061	1195	1089	1201	1022	2825	2159
Passed	715	612	826	614	758	643	787	587	2033	1150

	2012/2013		2013/2014		2014/2015		2015/2016		2016/2017	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Pass rate	55	55	64	58	63	59	66	57	72	53

**Source:** DEMIS, 2017

The poor pass rate for the district can be attributed to under qualified teachers, inadequate teaching and learning resources, inadequate laboratories, few libraries, long distances from homes to school, poor infrastructure and few boarding schools. All education stakeholders should join forces to work on these challenges if the district is to attain better results.

### 5.3.7.12 Dropout Rate

**Table 5.35** Dropout Rates

T/A	2012/2013			2013/2014			2014/2015			2015/2016			2016/2017		
	Total Drop-out	En-roll-ment	Drop-out rate	Total Drop-out	En-roll-ment	Drop-out rate	Total Drop-out	Enroll-ment	Drop-out rate	Total Drop-out	En-roll-ment	Drop-out rate	Total Drop-out	En-roll-ment	Drop-out rate
Chakhaza	162	922	18	165	2523	7	80	2845	3	100	3014	3	223	3266	7
Chiwere	103	1491	7	89	1129	8	83	1890	4	103	2098	5	63	1525	4
Dzoole	70	1066	7	115	1279	9	94	1324	7	114	1571	7	81	924	9
Kayembe	53	396	13	83	940	9	88	817	11	108	1019	11	55	1056	5
Mkukula	27	1152	2	97	1166	8	69	1405	5	68	1735	4	110	1382	8
Mponela	213	2245	9	110	1877	6	115	2617	4	135	2812	5	268	3740	7
Msakambewa	163	2817	6	192	2642	7	191	3006	6	261	2947	9	166	3236	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>791</b>	<b>10088</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>851</b>	<b>11059</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>14204</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>15196</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>976</b>	<b>15129</b>	<b>6</b>

**Source:** DEMIS, 2017

Average dropout rate at secondary school is 6%. Table 29 shows that Dzoole has the highest dropout rate of 9% and least is Chiwere with 4%.

### 5.3.7.13 Reasons for Dropout

**Table 5.36** Major Reasons for Dropouts

Reasons	2012/2013		2013/2014		2014/2015		2015/2016		2016/2017		Totals
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
Death	4	0	1	1	7	3	1	0	3	2	22
Pregnancy	0	47	1	30	1	71	2	13	0	6	171
Married	5	43	15	41	11	48	14	24	12	15	228
Tuition fee	148	159	148	168	193	162	121	112	145	162	1518
Employment	2	1	10	3	3	0	3	4	2	2	30
Sickness	2	2	10	24	4	5	4	4	3	2	60
Family Responsibility	14	7	19	31	39	45	11	15	9	17	207
Dismissed	11	2	13	7	35	3	7	11	9	6	104

Reasons	2012/2013		2013/2014		2014/2015		2015/2016		2016/2017		Totals
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
Total	186	261	217	305	293	337	163	183	183	212	2340

**Source:** DEMIS, 2017

The table above records that 1518 students (representing 65%) of the total 2340 learners in secondary schools dropped out in the 5-year period due to lack of school fees, out of this, 50.26% were girls and 49.74% were boys. This is generally the case because most families in the district rely on small scale farming as a means of earning a living and they do not have enough money for school fees, especially for girls. Other major contributing factors include; pregnancies, early marriages, sickness and family responsibility as tabulated in the table above. Mostly, girls get impregnated by outsiders rather than by schoolmates. However, boys who have made girls pregnant are also withdrawn. Council should lobby for more funds to assist needy students with bursaries.

### 5.3.8 Students with Special Needs

**Table 5.37** Special Needs Students

TA	2012/2013		2013/2014		2014/2015		2015/2016		2016/2017	
	B	G	B	G	B	G	B	G	B	G
Chakhaza	10	13	42	15	19	10	16	19	58	58
Chiwere	13	20	13	12	14	15	10	12	3	7
Dzoole	2	0	3	8	3	12	4	3	30	28
Kayembe	15	23	11	18	21	9	12	13	32	33
Mkukula	5	6	8	9	12	9	9	11	0	9
Mponela	13	23	9	11	10	12	15	9	43	27
Msakambewa	10	12	32	18	29	19	21	18	84	81
Total	68	97	118	91	108	86	87	85	250	243

**Source:** Source: DEMIS, 2017

Some students in the district require special support to aid their learning. The data above shows the number of such students per T/A. It can be concluded that the situation is now worsening as shown by the figures for 2017. schools reported many students with challenges in areas of low vision, physical impairment and partial deaf.

Unfortunately, all schools have no facilities to support these students in their learning processes. Further, there are very few specialist teachers with expertise to handle these students such that most of them are not closely attended to during lessons. Government should seriously consider training and deploying specialist teachers of both sexes and providing necessary learning resources to these students to solve the problem in all schools.

### 5.3.8.1 Toilets

**Table 5.38** Pupil-Toilet Ratio

T/A	Enrolment	Toilets	Pupil Toilet Rate
Chakhaza	3266	78	42
Mkukula	1382	51	27
Kayembe	1056	57	19
Mponela	3740	119	31
Chiwere	1525	60	25
Msakambewa	3236	116	28
Dzoole	924	36	26

**Source:** DEMIS 2017

Number of toilets in secondary schools has been increasing for the period under review. However, there has been lower number of girl's toilets than boys over the years as shown in table above. Kayembe has the highest number of toilets with a ratio of 19:1 seconded by Chiwere having 25:1 because they both have moderate enrolment than Chakhaza and Mponela with highest enrolment and high Toilet Student Ratio of 31:1 and 42: 1 respectively. However, most of them do not have supplementary sanitary materials for girls. Donor partners should continue constructing additional modern toilets in all schools to meet the national Standard ratio of 10:1 and 25:1 for girls and boys respectively over time.

### 5.3.8.2 Education Manpower

Number of teachers had remained constant over the period of 4 years and drastically changed in the year 2017/18 because government deployed additional teachers after their training. However, the district has very few female teachers to act as role models and inspire girl students in the district. Government should consider training more female teachers in colleges and deploy them to such rural schools.

## 5.4 SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES

### 5.4.1 Introduction

The Social Welfare department falls under the Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social welfare. The Ministry has several departments namely: Gender, Social Welfare, Child affairs, Elderly and Disability affairs. The core functions of social welfare fall under the following thematic areas; early childhood development, child protection, Non-Governmental and community based organizations coordination, family and child welfare, probation and aftercare services, social support services, Public Assistance and gender based violence prevention and response.

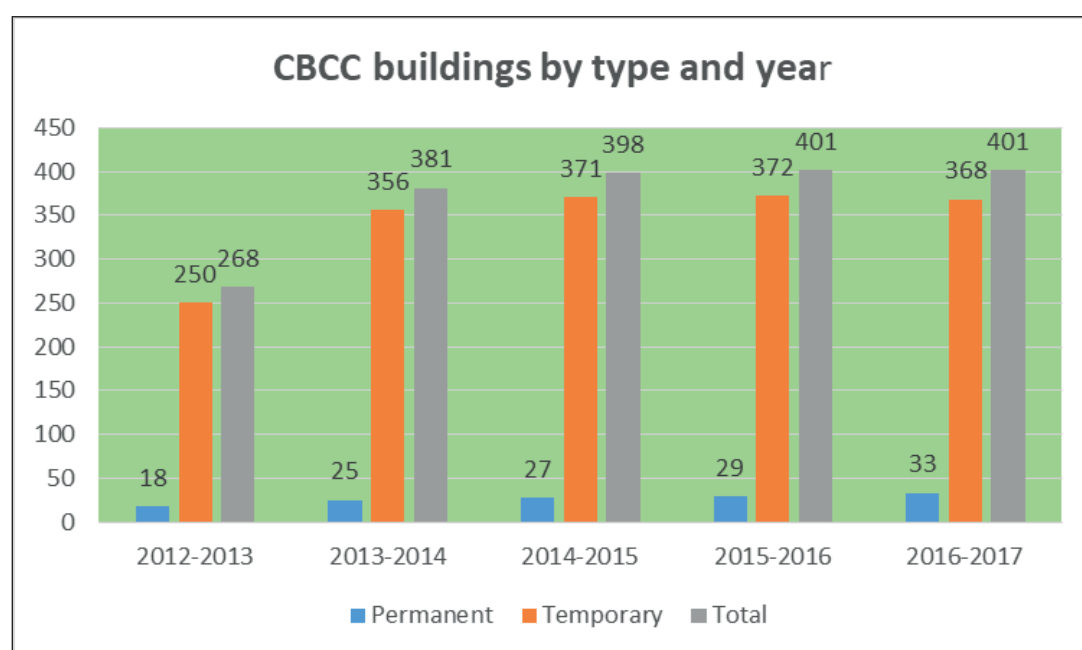
The Goal of the National Social Welfare Policy is to contribute to the promotion of access to social justice and improved wellbeing of the vulnerable and disadvantaged groups of people using an integrated, well-coordinated and regulated social welfare services delivery system. This is in line with the MGDS key priority number five which is about health and population. It further corresponds to SDG numbers 3 and 10. In order to achieve this, the sector has a number of activities within the core functions that facilitate realization of the overall objective.

### 5.4.2 Early Child Development

The early childhood development program aims at promoting the physical, emotional, cognitive, spiritual, social and moral development of children. It focuses on children from conception to eight years of age. The major form of early child development service provided in the district is the Community Based Child Care (CBCC). There has been a growing trend of children enrolled for the period under review due to continued sensitization meetings and the NGO support for the program that has made the communities take initiatives for opening up CBCC centers. The department of social welfare is mandated to coordinate ECD services through registration, supervision, monitoring and provision of policy implementation direction to all ECD service providers. There are 401 CBCCs in the district and these are not adequate comparing to number of villages in the district.

### 5.4.3 Enrolment of children in ECD

Most CBCC activities take place in temporary shelters and in buildings like churches and club houses. This is due to the fact that the construction of permanent classroom has been receiving little support from government, NGOs and other development partners. permanent ECD structures are quite a few in the district. However, the number of CBCCs has been increasing over the years. This is probably due to increased awareness and support from ECD partners. Some of the NGOs working in ECD with CBCCs include World Vision in Chakhaza and Kayembe. Moravian Church in TA Msakambewa and Mkukula, Jesuits Refugees Services in Dzaleka Camp, DAPP TCC in TA Msakambewa and parts of Mkukula, Grace Alliance in TA Chiwere, PRDO in Dzoole, Mponela Chiwere.



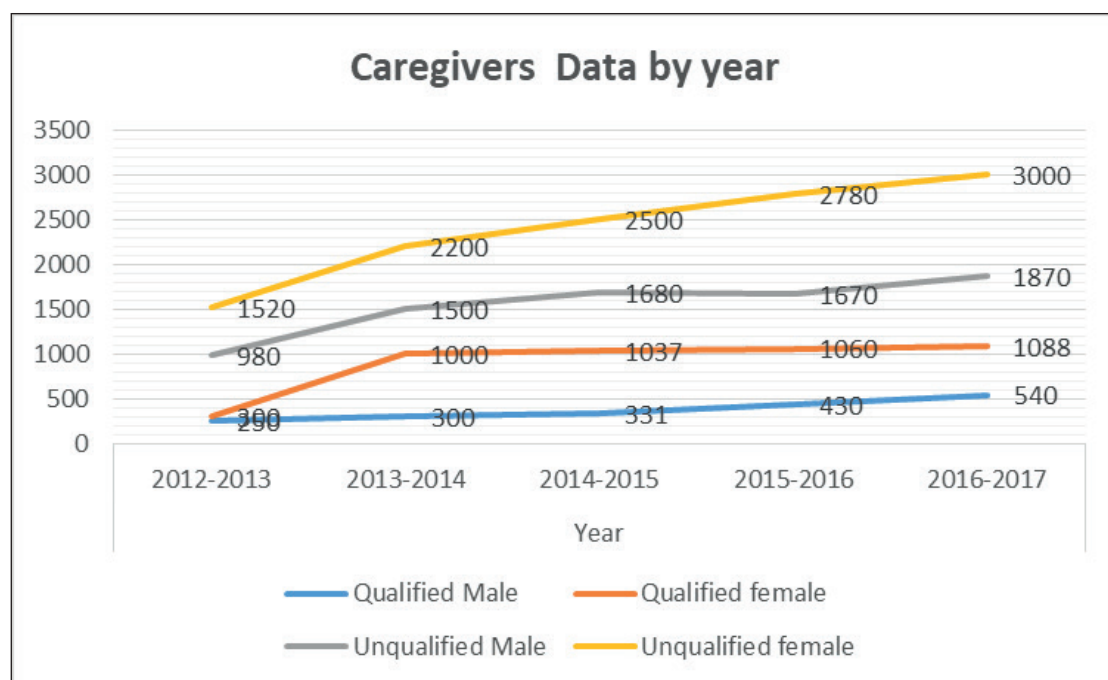
**Figure 5.21** CBCC building by type and year

**Source:** social welfare office 2017

The district has only 33 permanent structures representing 8% of all ECD centers in the district. The rest of the centers have temporary structures like churches and even some can meet under trees and borrowed structures.

#### 5.4.4 ECD Caregivers

Caregivers are key players in the provision of quality early childhood services. They play multiple roles at an early childhood development center including child minding, teaching, providing care and protecting children from abuses. Quality ECD service largely depends on qualified caregivers. The number of unqualified caregivers is large because most caregivers have not been trained. NGOs like World vision, Moravian Church and Grace Alliance have been able to support ECD trainings in their impact areas only. Caregivers from places where there is no child development NGO, capacity building has not taken place due to funding challenges.



**Figure 5.22** Caregivers Data by Year

**Source:** Social welfare office 2017

The number of caregivers for both male and female keeps increasing. However, females unlike males volunteer themselves so much for caring of children in CBCCs. This reflects the cultural understanding of gender roles amongst females and males. Females are considered as the right category to care for children hence a rise in their numbers than in that of males. As observed, most care givers are not trained and their education standards are also lower. This is so because, most people who are educated do not find it worthy doing as caregiving as done on voluntary basis. As such people tend to seek greener pastures elsewhere HBCC having a lot of caregivers with low education levels.

It is therefore recommended that it's high time the government should look into investing in early years but adding honoraria package for caregivers. This can enhance ECD services in the district and a country at large.

#### 5.4.5 Parenting education in ECD

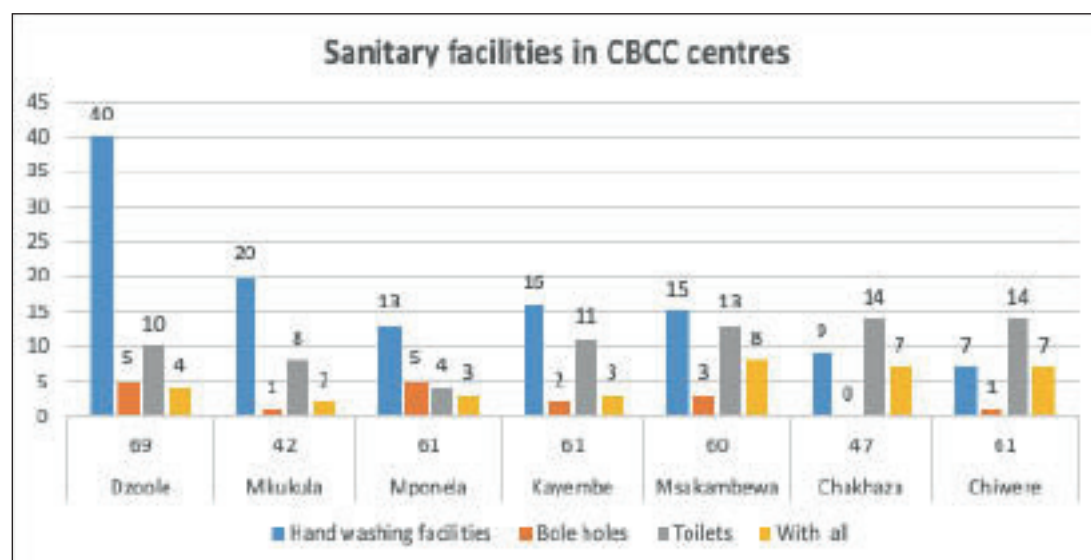
Parenting education is another service within ECD program that focuses on children from conception to age two. This is aimed at strengthening the skills of parents and caregivers in caring for children. The par-



enting skills and attitudes foster pro social behavior and encourage adherence to values and attitudes in disciplining the children while eliminating harsh and in effective discipline- control strategies

#### 5.4.6 Status of Water, Sanitation and Hand Washing Facilities

Out of 401 CBCCs, only 11 have access to potable water, 146 have hand washing facilities and only 32 have sanitary facilities (toilets) within their premises.



**Figure 5.23** Sanitary facilities in CBCC Centers

**Source:** Social welfare office 2017

Table 54 shows that there are more CBCCs with hand washing facilities in Dzoole and Msakambewa. This can be attributed to the support NGOs have provided in their catchment areas.

#### 5.4.7 Nutrition in ECD centres

To ensure children grow and thrive a health life, there is need for good food and nutrition. The CBCCs provide porridge to children. The National Policy on ECD encourages communities to contribute food for their centers unlike just receiving from well-wishers. However, Dowa for some years has been receiving vitameal from Feed the Children through Tiwalere project. The project which lasted for five years was operating in TA Dzoole, Chiwere, and Msakambewa, Mkukula and Mponela but in Tiwalere 2 it is only operating in TA Chakhaza and Msakambewa providing vitameal to 100 ECD centers reaching out to 4642 boys and 5412 girls.

**Table 5.39** Number of CBCC centers feeding program

T/A	Total number of CBCCs per T	Total number of CBCCs doing feeding program			
		with communal garden	Food contribution	Receiving vitameal	None
Dzoole	47	13	11	0	23
Mkukula	42	10	20	0	12
Mponela	61	19	16	0	26

T/A	Total number of CBCCs per T	Total number of CBCCs doing feeding program			
		with communal garden	Food contribution	Receiving vitameal	None
Kayembe	61	14	24	2	21
Msakambewa	67	9	22	36	0
Chakhaza	69	2	3	64	0
Chiwere	54	15	24	0	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>97</b>

**Source:** Social welfare office 2017

As illustrated table 116, very few centers in Chakhaza have communal gardens but are the most benefiting from vitameal supplied by Feed the Children. Also most centers that do not benefit from the project have taken an initiative to either have a communal garden or make food contributions for their children (See attached list of centers and the number of children benefiting).

### 5.4.8 Child Protection Program

Child protection program involves preventing and responding to specific situations where children are at risk of, subject to abuse, violence, torture, armed conflict, physical, sexual, mental and emotional abuse, exploitation, discrimination, persecution, exclusion, neglect or deprivation of parental or other family care with a view to ending the abuse, neglect or removing children from the abusive situation and securing those children's full integration or re-integration to their families and communities or as a last resort, other protective environments where all their rights can be met and protected.

The district has registered a number of child abuse cases under this program and figure below shows the number of male and female children involved in child abuse cases over the years. The number of abuses has been increasing over the years. The most common form of child abuse has been child labor. There are also cases of forced early marriages, rape, defilement, baby dumping and child neglect among others. Major causes of child abuses are poverty and orphan hood. More boys have been involved in child abuse particularly child labor than girls. The most common forms of child labour for boys have been cattle rearing and working on farms.

**Table 5.40** Recorded cases and the trend of child abuse

Type of Child Abuse	Number of clients by sex									
	2012-2013		2013-2014		2014-2015		2015-2016		2016-2017	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Child labour	500	38	700	60	650	46	360	70	490	52
Forced early marriages	3	8	3	6	7	11	9	15	13	21
Defilement	0	9	0	4	0	5	0	50	0	40
Baby Dumping	0	4	0	2	2	3	1	3	5	3
Child neglect	2	1	1	2	10	6	7	5	6	9

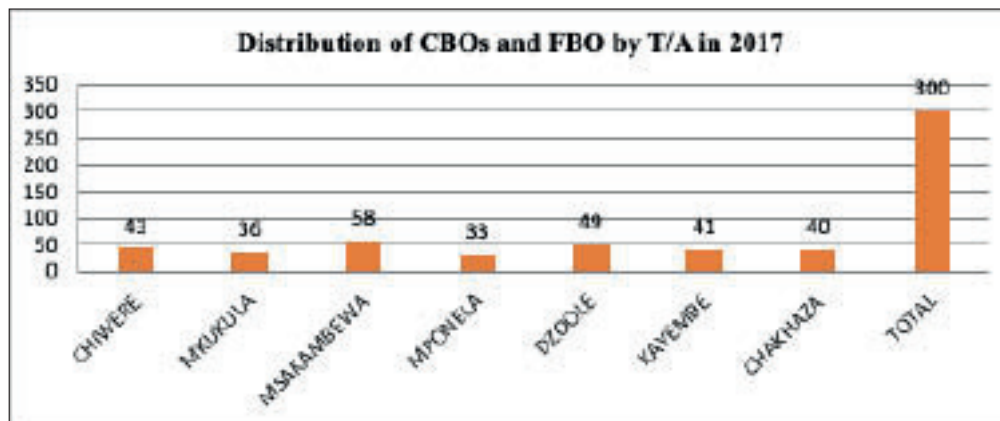
**Source:** Social welfare office 2017

Child labor is one of the outstanding recorded cases because of tobacco industries in the district and despite all efforts to deal with most of abuse cases the numbers keeps growing. This is attributed to low literacy levels. However, over 85% of these cases were resolved to completion while some were referred to other rele-

vant agencies. It was observed that defilement cases were highly reported in the years of 2016 and 2017 this is attributed to efforts made during sensitization on the dangers and reporting of abuse cases. This however indicates that there were a lot of unreported cases before hence the previous years had low numbers of reported cases.

#### 5.4.9 Community Based Organization Coordination

A Community Based Organization (CBO) is a development structure formed by a group of people permanently residing in a particular community or impact area and accepted by the community to address common problems affecting that particular community. CBOs are key in the provision of social welfare services in the district. These community structures are important entry points to interventions that respond to the problems affecting the vulnerable and marginalized people. They are formed at Group Village level, they also act as agents or medium to other community based interventions by other state and non-state actors. The district has 300 registered CBOs and these are not adequate to cover all VDCs. The social welfare department is mandated to facilitate the establishment, registration and monitoring of CBOs and Faith Based Organizations (FBOs). The figure below shows how the CBOs and FBOs are distributed per TA.

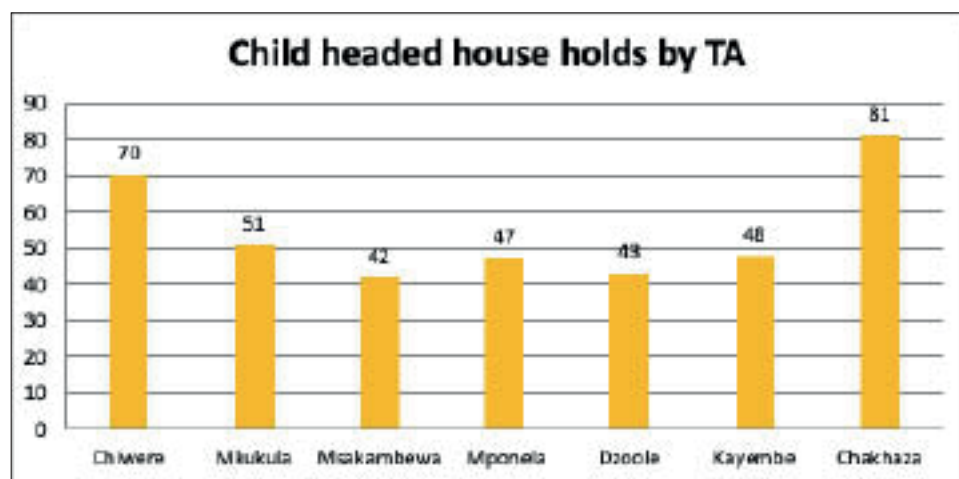


**Figure 5.24** Figure 54 Distribution of CBO

**Source:** Social welfare office 2017

#### 5.4.10 Orphans and other Vulnerable Children

Dowa is one of the districts that has been over the years seriously affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic. The epidemic has significantly increased the number of vulnerable children in the district. Many children have been deprived of biological care as they have been orphaned and / or live with chronically ill parents / carers. The estimated number of vulnerable children in Dowa district is 43,412 of which 12,621 are registered orphans. The number of vulnerable children is approximately 6 % of the population of the district. It is estimated that 4,058 children live with parents / carers who are chronically ill, 2,376 live with parents / carers who are sick, 1,622 live in child headed households and 7,106 live in elderly headed households. There are 382 child headed household in the district as shown in the figure below.



**Figure 5.25** Child Headed houses by TA

**Source:** Social welfare office 2017.

#### 5.4.11 The plight of Orphans and other Vulnerable Children

The HIV/AIDS pandemic in Dowa district continues to put children at risk physically, emotionally and economically. The crisis has had a negative impact on the caring capacities of families and communities. Some Children have become orphaned due to losing one or both parents and others are being cared for by the chronically / terminally ill, the elderly or in child headed households.

The vulnerability of children in Dowa district has significantly increased due to the HIV/AIDS crisis. The pandemic has created a situation in which many children have to assume household responsibilities, withdraw from their education and start work at an early age.

Children have become more at risk of abuse and exploitation. Some children are subject to and at risk of harm from familial abuse and neglect, domestic violence, child labor, abduction, trafficking, sexual abuse, and harmful cultural practices. Children deprived of biological care are particularly vulnerable to abuse and exploitation. The orphans and other vulnerable children (OVC) program is therefore aimed at strengthening household and community care of children who have lost one or both parents or vulnerable children whose parents or guardians are not able to provide them with quality care.

#### 5.4.12 Orphans and Other Vulnerable Children (OVC) Education Support

The OVC in secondary schools have been lacking tuition and other fees to enable them

Continue with their education. Some OVC have been accessing bursaries from National AIDS Commission (NAC) through the district council and others from NGOs. Over the years, number of supported children by NAC has been going down due to lack of financial support and a change in focus as its emphasis is **no** longer on impact mitigation but rather other pillars. Organizations that are doing education support in the district are Circle of Hope, Girls empowerment network, there is Hope, ZOE Ministries, Orland Charity and FISD. Through Ort the department of social welfare has been support also a small number of students since 2015.

### 5.4.13 The Situation of Gender Based Violence

Gender Based Violence (GBV) is any unlawful act perpetrated by a person against another person on the basis of their sex that causes suffering on the part of the victim and results in among others physical, psychological and emotional harm or economic deprivation. It can also take the form of violence against women in the domestic arena. Reporting of GBV cases is one of the most critical activities under this program. People have been experiencing physical, sexual, emotional and economical abuses.

**Table 5.41** Reported GBV Cases by Sex

Type of GBV	Number of clients by sex									
	2012-2013		2013-2014		2014-2015		2015-2016		2016-2017	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Physical	4	9	6	17	9	19	0	11	1	20
Emotional	20	36	24	33	19	27	17	40	16	30
Economical	60	200	55	70	40	67	30	48	36	39
Sexual	1	11	0	8	0	13	2	10	0	9

**Source:** Social welfare office 2017

According to table above, there have been more cases on economical abuse compared to the rest in the district. This can be attributed to the fact that most disputes arise over the management of proceeds from the sales of tobacco and other cash crops leading to economic related violence. The other fact some of the men abuse money realized from VSL to which most women are members. This is misuse of power as household heads. Cases of emotional abuse come as a result of various reasons like early marriages especially to girl child affecting them. The other notable issue from the figure is the fact that more women report their cases than men. In order to promote men to report GBV cases, the district has facilitated formation of men to men groups to speak out on issues of violence to various structures such as Victim Support Unit.

### 5.4.14 Probation and aftercare

The overall purpose is to prevent crime committed by children and rehabilitate children who are in conflict with the law. The following are Key activities:

- Prevention of children indulging in ant- social behaviors
- Rehabilitate and reintegrate children with anti-social behavior problems
- Carry out social inquiries on cases of children in conflict and in contact with the law
- Compile Court Social enquiry (both in contact and in conflict with the law) reports and present in court
- Supervision of probationers
- Inspect cases of children in conflict with the law in police custody

The number of cases handled by the office varies each year however, 75% of all the cases are from Mponela. The trading center is registering a very high crimes rate committed by children

**Table 5.42** showing number of Children in conflict with the law

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017
No Children in conflict with Law	57	49	50	46

**Source:** Dowa Police Station 2017

### 5.4.15 Challenges to juvenile justice (probation and after care)

Increased cases of children in conflict with the law.

Inadequate resources for rehabilitation and reintegration of reformed children into their homes/communities when released from reformatory centers. This is also due to negative attitude of the families concerned and the entire community.

Lack of adequate number of gazetted probation officers in the district. This delays

justice for children. The sector has only 3 gazetted probation officers to handle all cases of children in conflict with law and present court social reports against four Magistrate courts and two police stations in the district.

Lack of funds to carry out Juvenile justice activities. This program has not been funded for so many years. There is also no any organization in the district implementing juvenile justice projects.

#### 5.3.14 Staff

The council uses the social welfare officers who are based at the district office and Mponela sub office. The staffing position is as follows:

**Table 5.43** Social welfare staffing

Title	Total	Male	Female
District Social Welfare Officer	1	1	0
Principal Social welfare Officer	1	0	1
Assistant Social Welfare Officer	3	3	0
Social Welfare Assistants	3	2	1
Community Child Protection Workers	12	9	3
Drivers	2	2	0
Assistant accountant	1	1	0

**Source:** Social Welfare Office 2017

## 5.5 DISABILITY ISSUES

### 5.5.1 Malawi Council for the Handicapped – MACOHA

MACOHA was established by an Act of Parliament, The Handicapped Persons Act of 1971 Cap. 33: 02 as a statutory body. This Act empowers MACOHA to deal with disability issues. The 1994 constitution of Malawi explicitly and implicitly recognized the rights of persons with disability; sections 30 specifically talk about supporting persons with disabilities through:



1. Greater access to public places.
2. Fair opportunities in employment.
3. The fullest possible participation in all spheres of Malawi society

Malawi Council for the Handicapped – MACOHA Dowa CBR project carries out its activities basing on the 5 Community Based Rehabilitation – CBR components which are:

4. Education
5. Livelihood
6. Health
7. Increased functioning
8. Empowerment

It is the mandate of MACOHA to make sure that all sectors mainstream disability issues in their developmental activities as disability issues are crossing cutting.

### 5.5.2 Key objectives that guide MACOHA's programs and services

1. Facilitate voluntary registration and maintain a register of persons with disabilities.
2. Provide placement services for persons with disabilities into open employment or Council's own production units.
3. Provide counselling services to persons with disabilities.
4. Provide or facilitate medical rehabilitation services to persons with disabilities whose disabilities require medical intervention to improve mobility and functional capacities.
5. Provide appropriate and required vocational training to persons with disabilities both at MACOHA's training institutions and within the community through the Community Based Rehabilitation programme.
6. Encourage and facilitate the formation of business groups of individual self-employment undertakings.
7. Provide education sponsorship to needy and deserving school going persons with disabilities.
8. Improve the skills of volunteers and encourage/strengthen community participation in the Community Based Rehabilitation programs.
9. Promote attitude change towards persons with disabilities through public awareness.

### 5.5.3 Achievements

#### 5.5.3.1 Education

**Table 5.44** Children with disabilities identified and have access to equitable, relevant and quality early childhood and primary education.

ACTIVITIES	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1. Identification of youth with disabilities for vocational skills training	29	16	37	19	25	14	43	27	33	31
2. Train youth with disabilities in appropriate marketable skills i.e. carpentry and tailoring	3	4	1	2	0	0	10	5	3	5
3. Provide resettlement packages to the trained youth with disabilities	3	4	0	0	5	3	0	0	0	0

ACTIVITIES	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
4. Lobby T/As, Village headmen, ADCs, VDCs, Ward Councillors, in inclusion of people with disabilities in safety net programmes	69	41	71	53	81	67	117	95	51	55
5. Lobby TEVETA District training selection committee and other institutions to increase number of persons with disabilities in their Training opportunities.	2	1	0	0	3	1	4	1	6	2

**Table 5.45** Children with disabilities with access to education

Children with disabilities	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Facilitate the enrollment of children identified to ECD	31	43	32	29	51	45	43	36	27	26
Facilitate the enrollment of children to primary school	35	41	44	37	49	38	41	34	40	39
Conduct 3 days training of 20 ECD facilitators in inclusive education.	7	13	0	0	0	0	6	10	0	0
Orientation of regular teachers in inclusive education	22	8	0	0	0	0	17	8	61	35
Facilitated the construction of ramps at primary schools.	31 ramps constructed in 15 schools		23 ramps in 11 schools		46 ramps constructed in 21 schools		49 ramps in 19 schools		62 ramps constructed in 42 schools	
Orientation of school committees and DEM's office	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	7	0	0
Support clients with school fees	7	5	7	5	8	4	8	4	8	5

**Source:** MACOHA report 2017

## 5.5.4 Strength

Some learners are being supported with school fees at Mua school for Hearing Impairment, Chayamba, Madisi, Dowa and Kabwinja secondary schools.

Good corroboration with other stake holders Some learners with mobility challenges have been provided with wheel chairs through MAP, and other stake holders like World Vision Malawi.

## 5.5.5 Challenge

1. Reduction of financial support to education component which deprives clients from furthering their secondary education.
2. Limited resources for training of regular school teachers in inclusive education which resulted in students/pupils not professionally assisted as only few teachers were oriented.
3. Some of the identified learners with disabilities are not enrolled in schools due to mobility challenges – they need wheel chairs and or tricycles.
4. Shortage of special needs teachers.
5. Increase in school dropout due to school fees in special schools and secondary

## 5.5.6 Livelihood

Men and women with disabilities and their families/guardians are engaged in sustainable livelihood activities.

**Table 5.46** Livelihood activities done by people with disabilities

ACTIVITIES	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1. Identification of youth with disabilities for vocational skills training	29	16	37	19	25	14	43	27	33	31
2. Train youth with disabilities in appropriate marketable skills i.e. carpentry and tailoring	3	4	1	2	0	0	10	5	3	5
3. Provide resettlement packages to the trained youth with disabilities	3	4	0	0	5	3	0	0	0	0
4. Lobby T/As, Village headmen, ADCs, VDCs, Ward Councillors, in inclusion of people with disabilities in safety net programmes	69	41	71	53	81	67	117	95	51	55
5. Lobby TEVETA District training selection committee and other institutions to increase number of persons with disabilities in their Training opportunities.	2	1	0	0	3	1	4	1	6	2

**Source:** MACOHA report 2017

### 5.5.7 Strength

Good number of PWD's included in safety net programmes

Clients attached to a local artisan are doing very fine in training

### 5.5.8 Human Rights Issues

The sector is also responsible for promotion of human rights. As human rights issues are multi-sectoral, it is expected to be implemented by all service users. The message that cuts across is that all players should recognize the rights of their service users.

However, the sector in its interventions make deliberate efforts to discuss with service users on knowledge about their rights and also how they can protect their rights. Service users who have knowledge of their rights are more responsible on protection and can become very useful tools to enhancing other people's rights. Statistically the district human rights knowledge keeps growing due to availability of more human rights players in the district.

## 5.6 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### 5.6.1 Introduction

The Community Development (CD) department provides guidance to stakeholders and implements community development initiatives in the district with a view to promoting full engagement and participation of all stakeholders particularly communities themselves in the development process. The department's policy will contribute to the implementation and achievement of the MGDS III (2017-2022) KPA II which talks about Education and Skills Development through promotion of community based approaches which are instrumental to the participation and involvement of communities in the realization of their developmental goals of poverty reduction and social development.

The CD policy is aligned to SDGs 1 which aims at ending extreme poverty in all forms by 2030 through CD's Economic Empowerment Program. The CD department also pursues SDG 2 to improved nutrition through Community Resilience, Nutrition and Livelihoods. CD also has adult literacy programme which is closely

aligned to SDG 4 which aims at ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for both men and women.

### 5.6.2 Community Economic Empowerment

Community Economic Empowerment programme aims at promoting small and medium scale businesses at both individual and group level with the purpose of increasing income levels for men, women, boys and girls. The program also promotes income saving culture among its members. According to HIS 2016-2017, in Dowa district, 42 percent have insufficient income hence the need for them to save income for future use and business investment. Businesses provide employment to the youth and unemployed women and men. Women that are economically empowered are able to make well informed decisions about their own lives, less likely to be abused by their spouses and are more likely to provide financial support to their families. Ideally, individuals are organized to form Savings and Investment Groups (SIGs) and Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA). The groups receive trainings in Financial Literacy (FL), Business Management (BM) and Appropriate Technologies (AT) over the past years as presented in table 123 below.

**Table 5.47** Number of groups trained in business management

Activity	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
FL	280	700	695	1120	499	888	377	1140	691	1370
BM	280	700	742	1120	499	888	370	1134	552	1370
AT	20	100	83	207	208	303	301	579	389	680
<b>Totals</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>1500</b>	<b>1520</b>	<b>2447</b>	<b>1206</b>	<b>2079</b>	<b>1048</b>	<b>2853</b>	<b>1632</b>	<b>3420</b>

**Source:** Source: Community Development office, 2017

Table above shows that women represents 70 percent of the people trained in FL, BM and AT compared to men's participation which is at 30 percent. This is due to women economic empowerment programmes done by different NGOs and the government. In the previous years, lack of funding towards economic empowerment programme affected the provision of training to business groups hence there was low coverage and patronage to the groups. Over the years, men's involvement has increased due to efforts by different players to incorporate men in business groups thereby increasing the number of beneficiaries in the programme. Of recently, funding from Community Savings and Investment Promotion (COMSIP) has increased number of men and women trained in FL, BM and ATs. In Dowa, 9 groups are engaged in ATs, for instance 5 bakeries in Kayembe, 1 bakery in Msakambewa 1 piggery in Mponela and 2 piggeries in Chiwere. Recently COMSIP has granted funds to 4 groups to be used in livestock production and this will increase the number of groups involved in ATs.

### 5.6.3 Savings and Loan

Savings and Loan Groups (SLGs) such as COMSIP and VSLAs encourage members to save their money through mandatory and voluntary savings. The lending process promotes members to invest in productive businesses and investments. Table 124 below summarizes the savings done over the years.

**Table 5.48** Savings for COMSIP groups

Type of Savings	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
	K	K	K	K	K
Voluntary	6,685,485	9,327,650	11,969,815	9,611,980	19,896,310
Mandatory	4,692,109	7,534,620	10,377,131	13,219,642	18,904,664
Share	6,975,890	7,234,409	9,774,928	11,674,447	15,473,485
Welfare	2,738,000	2,192,000	3,646,000	3,100,000	4,008,000
On lending	6,732,020	14,023,970	16,315,920	18,607,870	25,191,770
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,823,504</b>	<b>40,312,649</b>	<b>52,083,794</b>	<b>56,213,939</b>	<b>83,474,229</b>

**Source:** Source: Community Development office, 2017

Table 124 shows that savings in these groups have increasing over the years. This can be attributed to interventions done through public works programme and the newly established Social Cash Transfer COMSIP groups which encourage members to form groups and save money. There are 215 savings groups in the district and only 71 groups have undergone formal training and received training grants from COMSIP, 75 groups have been formed through Public Works programme and 140 were self-formed.

**Figure 5.26** Distribution of savings groups per T/A

**Source:** CD Office 2017

Figure 57 shows that Kayembe has most groups formed because the groups in Kayembe sustain themselves as compared to Dzoole which has the least number of COMSIP groups.

## 5.6.4 Village Savings and Loan

A VSLA is a group of people who save together and take small loans from those savings. The activities of the group run in cycles of one year, after which the accumulated savings and loan profits are distributed back to members. Each group is composed of 15 to 25 self-selected individuals. Below is the number VSLAs implemented by various partners. Women face more limitations in accessing formal savings and credit facilities than men hence finding VSLAs as an informal option that give them the chance to build up assets and develop income generating activities

**Table 5.49** VSLAs implemented by partners

No.	Implementing Organization	N. of Groups	Membership			T/A
			M	F	T	
3	World Vision	375	1133	5409	6542	Chakhaza, Kayembe
4	CARE	287	2676	2917	5593	Dzoole, Kayembe
5	CADECOM	40	360	600	960	Dzoole, Chakhaza
6	Total Land Care	60	543	1052	1595	Msakambewa
7	World Relief	212	1728	2300	4028	Mkukula
8	Feed the Children	411	722	7916	8638	Msakambewa, Chakhaza
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1385</b>	<b>7162</b>	<b>20194</b>	<b>27356</b>	

**Source:** Source: Community Development office, 2017

Table 125 shows that VSLAs are dominated by female members due to their willingness to participate and improve social economic status of their families. Table 3 shows that Feed the Children has the highest number of groups because they trained about 82 village agents who in return trained 411 VSL groups covering larger areas. On the other hand, CADECOM had the lowest number of groups because they covered a small impact area.

### 5.6.5 Community Mobilization

Under Community Mobilization programme the department carries out sensitizations of communities so that they become aware of the problems specific to their areas and assist them in problem solving through proper planning, implementation and monitoring of identified interventions. Inadequate funding towards this programme affects the implementation of community mobilization initiatives in the district. Table 126 below outlines community mobilization sessions conducted.

**Table 5.50** Community Mobilization Meetings across T/As

T/A	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		Total		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Chakhaza	223	217	850	412	425	745	965	1085	1405	1025	3868	3484	7352
Chiwere	682	670	1291	888	792	1106	1040	1164	888	2312	4693	6140	10833
Dzooole	762	507	1250	876	825	1109	761	1051	761	1151	4359	4694	9053
Mkukula	672	910	1102	468	625	688	805	146	925	746	4129	2958	7087
Mponela	1139	2625	650	950	1002	900	730	400	840	1119	4361	5994	10355
Msakambewa	854	330	1078	672	282	2172	1420	612	920	512	4554	4298	8852
Kayembe	951	1251	210	310	215	298	200	111	191	111	1767	2081	3848
<b>Total</b>	<b>5283</b>	<b>6510</b>	<b>6431</b>	<b>4576</b>	<b>4166</b>	<b>7018</b>	<b>5921</b>	<b>4569</b>	<b>5930</b>	<b>6976</b>	<b>27731</b>	<b>29649</b>	<b>57380</b>

**Source:** Source: Community Development office, 2017

Table 126 shows that Msakambewa has the highest number of both females and males that were mobilized while Kayembe has the least figures. This can be attributed to support provided by NGOs working in TA Msakambewa towards mobilization and sensitization meetings on various development aspects.

### 5.6.6 Community Capacity Building

The department through this programme strengthens the community leadership structures to enable them develop their capacity knowledge and skills in project identification, basic project management, initiation and management of socio-economic activities at the community level.

**Table 5.51** Number of men and women involved in Community Capacity Building

T/A	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Mponela	743	965	717	619	431	553	875	597	519	241
Kayembe	38	433	228	123	518	413	908	503	798	993
Msakambewa	114	284	454	624	794	964	1093	1304	474	164
Chakhaza	330	161	1017	466	610	786	900	831	502	761
Mkukula	645	141	95	49	366	431	889	135	181	227



T/A	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Dzoole	259	241	334	652	441	241	741	541	441	641
Chiwere	274	128	226	324	422	520	618	716	814	512
<b>Total</b>	<b>2403</b>	<b>2353</b>	<b>3071</b>	<b>2857</b>	<b>3582</b>	<b>3908</b>	<b>6024</b>	<b>4627</b>	<b>3729</b>	<b>3539</b>

**Source:** Source: Community Development office, 2017

Table 127 clarifies that from the year 2014 to 2017, more people were trained in Chakhaza while Mkukula has the least. The number has been significantly increasing in Chakhaza due to interventions by partners like WVM, MHRRC, Concern Universal and CADECOM while Mkukula had few partners to support capacity building. It has been noted that the trainings have brought a positive impact on the community leaders such that they are able to initiate and manage self-help projects. Community participation and self-reliance spirit it has also been enhanced.

### 5.6.7 Community Resilience, Nutrition and Livelihoods

This programme involves promotion of nutrition, hygiene and proper resource management amongst individuals.

**Table 5.52** Number of Beneficiaries in Community Nutrition Programme

	2012/13		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		Total		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Chiwere	42	58	74	90	10	122	13	154	70	186	209	610	819
Chakhaza	47	72	37	22	47	72	47	222	47	272	225	660	885
Msakambewa	53	82	11	144	16	199	22	567	85	314	187	1306	1493
Dzoole	35	73	11	149	18	225	26	301	33	377	123	1125	1248
Mkukula	51	68	85	102	11	136	15	170	18	204	180	680	860
Kayembe	64	92	12	146	17	204	23	260	28	316	144	1018	1162
Mponela	34	56	16	100	12	144	16	188	21	232	99	720	819
<b>Total</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>501</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>1102</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>1862</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>1901</b>	<b>1167</b>	<b>6119</b>	<b>7286</b>

**Source:** Source: Community Development office, 2017

Table 128 shows that there were fewer men involved in nutrition and home management activities than women. Culturally men do not participate in Nutrition and home management issues because nutrition related issues are regarded as women issues. However, effort is being done to promote men participation through awareness and sensitizations.

Table 128 above; show that it is women who mostly participate in economic activities in the District than their male counterparts. This however contradicts statistics that indicate women to be the most vulnerable to economic hardships in the District. Ironically, despite being active players in economic activities, women do not have access to, and control over resources that would make the businesses successful. It also shows that they are not controlling the income from the businesses so undertaken.

### 5.6.8 Adult Literacy Programme

The programme aims at providing skills of reading, writing and numeracy to adult learners who were unable to attend school when they were young. The skills are meant to be functional to the learners such that they should have a bearing in their day to day life. Illiteracy rate for the district stands at 26.7% which is below national rate of 27.2 (IHS4). Adult Literacy Programme is greatly connected to SDG 4 that ensures inclusive and equitable quality education and promotes lifelong learning opportunities for all. Dowa district has 378 adult literacy classes and this number is not enough against the growing demand for the programme.

### 5.6.9 Adult Literacy Enrolment

The district managed to enrol 26454 people from the year 2013 to 2017 under Adult Literacy programme and 79% of those were female.

**Table 5.53** Enrollment of Adult Literacy Programme per T/A per Year

TA	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		Total		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	T
Mponela	112	440	85	190	85	215	161	489	117	645	560	1979	2539
Chakhaza	83	536	78	367	126	881	136	521	92	206	515	2511	3026
Kayembe	36	643	160	612	291	793	265	822	79	436	831	3306	4137
Dzoole	72	411	110	500	102	476	177	557	99	617	560	2561	3121
Msakambewa	273	186	312	1166	263	1093	264	781	58	715	1170	3941	5111
Mkukula	269	397	100	409	141	733	153	699	45	391	708	2629	3337
Chiwere	323	1012	142	600	130	500	280	906	132	1158	1007	4176	5183
<b>Total</b>	<b>1168</b>	<b>3625</b>	<b>987</b>	<b>3844</b>	<b>1138</b>	<b>4691</b>	<b>1436</b>	<b>4775</b>	<b>622</b>	<b>4168</b>	<b>5351</b>	<b>21103</b>	<b>26454</b>

**Source:** Source: Community Development office, 2017

The poor enrolment and inconsistency of men, participation in adult literacy classes is predominantly due to the fact that most of them were ashamed to attend adult literacy classes. Chiwere area registered the highest number of enrolment at 20% and this can be attributed to high illiteracy rate in the area and support from Mponela Aids Information and Counselling Centre in adult literacy programmes in Chiwere. On the other hand, Mponela had the least number of enrolments at 10% because there was low demand for the same programme as compared to the areas that registered high enrolments.

#### 5.6.9.1 Adult Literacy Instructors

In adult literacy programme, the department facilitates formation of adult literacy classes. It also conducts training of Adult Literacy Instructors and Adult Literacy committees before classes open. The table below shows distribution of adult literacy instructors across the T/A.

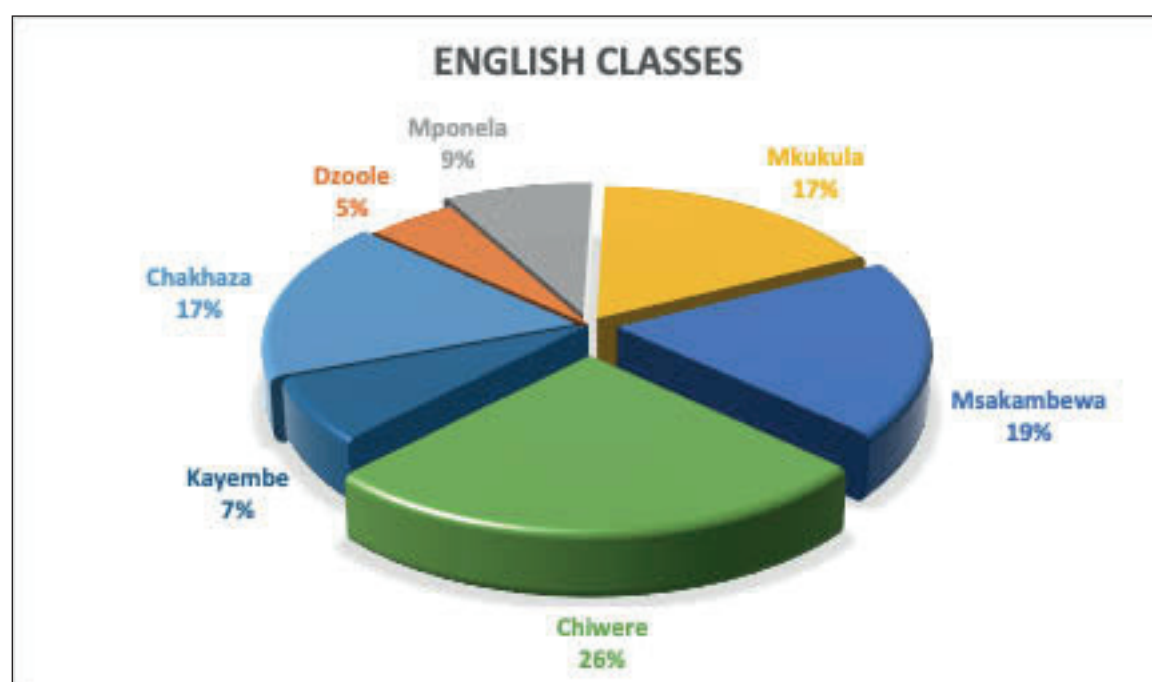
**Table 5.54** Distribution of adult literacy instructors across the T/As

TA	2013				2014				2015				2016				2017			
	Qualified		Unquali- fied		Qualified		Unquali- fied		Qualified		Unqualified		Qualified		Unqualified		Qualified		Unquali- fied	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Mponela	15	5	2	2	13	5	0	0	13	5	0	0	12	4	1	1	12	5	8	9
Dzoole	38	6	4	6	38	6	4	3	38	6	5	2	38	6	4	3	12	8	24	6
Kayembe	17	7	6	2	18	10	5	3	18	8	7	3	18	8	7	3	10	8	8	8
Chiwere	25	5	4	0	28	7	1	0	28	7	1	0	26	7	0	0	14	5	18	12
Chakhaza	28	8	6	2	30	9	0	0	30	9	0	0	28	8	2	1	13	7	17	21
Msakambe- wa	25	8	8	2	26	8	1	0	26	8	1	0	25	8	1	1	13	2	7	5
Mkukula	27	11	23	9	29	11	18	15	29	11	18	15	27	11	20	15	10	6	9	11
Total	175	50	53	23	182	56	29	21	182	54	32	20	174	52	35	24	84	41	91	72

**Source:** Community Development office, 2017

The district has 288 Chichewa teaching and 58 English teaching instructors and 32 cluster supervisors. Out of 288 Chichewa teaching instructors, 125 were qualified and 163 were unqualified as presented in table 109. Out of the qualified instructors, 37% were female. The number of instructors has been declining due to little honoraria which is K1, 000.00 per month, and late payment of honoraria. However, from September, 2017 honoraria were raised from 1,000 to 15,000 per month. Inadequate teaching and learning materials is one of the problems facing the programme. The district has 6 literacy classes for development partners table above shows the number of adult literacy instructors per T/A and year.

As the table shows, Dzoole has got more trained instructors than any other TA. The department has limited resources to formally train the instructors and because of that formal trainings are offered by the CDAs during recurrent meetings to impart teaching skills to the adult literacy instructors. The table also shows that there are more male Instructors than female because literacy level is high among women than their male counterparts hence more men meet the minimum requirement of Junior Certificate to be selected as instructors.



**Figure 5.27** Percentage of English classes per T/A in 2017

Figure 58 indicates that T/A Chiwere has the highest number of English literacy classes because there was high demand for the English lessons from Chichewa adult literacy graduates. The figure also shows that Dzoole has the least number of English classes (1 class in Dzoole B and 2 classes in Dzoole A) because the classes discontinued since instructors dropped out. The table below shows the number of Chichewa teaching classes per TA

**Table 5.55** Distribution of literacy classes per TA

Traditional Authority	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Mponela	21	20	23	23	18
Mkukula	42	36	42	42	42
Dzoole	39	35	35	35	35
Chakhaza	58	38	32	32	32
Kayembe	44	40	43	43	43
Msakambewa	48	48	46	46	46
Chiwere	50	40	67	67	67
Total	302	257	288	288	283

**Source:** Community Development office, 2017

Table 131 above shows that from the year 2013, T/A Dzoole has the least number of literacy classes due to regular drop out of CLW leading to a decrease in number of adult literacy centres as shown in the figure 124. On the other hand, T/A Chiwere has the highest number of classes due to partners such as MAICC which supported the opening of more adult literacy classes and this is also attributed to the presence of 3 Extension Workers and 8 Cluster Supervisors to man the enormous area. Each CDA is supposed to manage 20 Community Literacy Workers (CLW) according to Mass Literacy Programme, (2010) many areas still lack adult literacy classes but the CD department is restricted to maintain the current number of classes due to

inadequate resources to support the much needed adult literacy classes. However, some T/As have less than 20 CLW while others have more than 20 because they demanded for more adult literacy classes.

### 5.6.9.2 Adult Literacy Assessment

Adult literacy Assessment exercise carried out in the past five years has shown that a significant proportion of learners were able to read and write and these were declared literate. Figure 11 below shows number of adult learners declared literate in the year 2017.

Chakhaza had the highest number of adult learners declared literate (351 females and 61 males) because the classes in the area retained a good number of learners as compared to other areas which registered high dropout rates. It is therefore expected that more people in this area will be able to participate in different developmental activities more effectively since they are now able to read write and numerate

### 5.6.10 Key Issues for the Department

1. Low savings culture among men, women, boys and girls
2. Inadequate support towards functional literacy activities
3. Low men participation in literacy program
4. Lack of training resources for savings groups
5. Lack of reliable mobility for frontline staff to monitor and supervise CD activities
6. Inadequate number of CDAs in the district to provide effective extension services
7. Lack of district data bank for economic empowerment activities

#### 5.6.10.1 Opportunities

1. Increased number of people willing to save money in groups
2. Capacitated community development assistants in all T/As who coordinates adult literacy, community resilient, nutrition and livelihoods and community mobilization programs.

## 5.7 YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Youth development seeks to achieve excellence in development in the district. According to the National Youth Policy, a youth is defined as any person aged 10 to 35 years (Malawi National youth policy 2013). During the reporting period, there were 374,950 young people in the district representing 46% of the total population. Out of these, 51% were females while 49% were males and 83% were in school while 17% were out of school [Population and housing census, 2008, NSO]. Out of school youths include those that dropped out and those that graduated. Thus, for the district to fully develop there is need to prioritize youth development. Youth policy is aligned with MGDs111, KPA number 3 of gender, youth Development, persons with disability and social welfare, outcome number 6; Increased representation of women and youth in decision making structures and politics and Increased sporting activities and training in other life skills. SDG Goal number 4; ensuring that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes.

The youths in Dowa face a lot of challenges some of which are poverty, unemployment which is at 80% (labour office 2017) and under employment, early marriages and teenage pregnancies, high fertility rate among the 15-19-year old's, smoking, drug and alcohol abuse, inadequate technical and vocational skills [youth and

children analytical report, 2008, NSO]. To curb these, there is need to have a comprehensive youth development in the district.

In youth development, the focus areas are youth participation and leadership, youth economic empowerment, education for youth, youth health and nutrition, youth in science, technology and environment, social services, sports, recreation and culture and national youth service [National youth policy 2013]. With these functions, the department seeks to foster youth development by:

1. Improving livelihood
2. Improving youth participation in development initiatives
3. Improving youth health and have productive young people
4. Improving and develop youth infrastructures
5. Promoting policy utilization; programme planning, analysis and implementation for youth development.

### 5.7.1 Youth Participation and Leadership

Youth participation and leadership activities are implemented through structures such as youth clubs, youth networks and NGOs. The following activities are carried out in different youth clubs: HIV and AIDS prevention, vocational skills, recreation activities, education on health issues affecting the youth, agriculture, environmental conservation, fisheries and bee keeping.

There is a gap in terms of youth participation. Some of the challenges that hinder the youth from active participation and leadership in Dowa are: lack of information on the importance of involving the youth in development initiatives which is evidenced by no or less involvement of the youth in development structures such as VDC's and ADC's, lack of parental guidance evidenced by minimal numbers of young people involved in youth clubs, lack of guidance and counselling to the youth evidenced by less youth initiatives in development, leaders having negative attitudes towards the youth evidenced by the leaders minimal or lack of youth involvement.

Thus, our goal is to improve youth participation and leadership through a collective approach. Leaders, parents, gate keepers NGO's and government sectors should start involving the youth at all levels of development. All affirmative policies in the district are there to enhance active participation of the youths. Let us remember that 46% of the population is youthful [Population and housing census, 2008, NSO].

These are leaders of today and tomorrow as such nothing for them without them. Involving them will ensure sustainability and development.

#### 5.7.1.1 Youth clubs

**Table 5.56** Youth clubs per traditional authority

	Msakambewa	Mkukula	Mponela	Dzoole	Chiwere	Kayembe	Chakhaza	Total
2013 – 2014	47	31	9	19	47	26	28	207
2015 – 2016	36	25	14	13	34	41	35	198
2017	36	25	14	13	34	41	35	198

**Source:** youth office 2017



The district has 198 youth clubs with 3618 members, 1811 male and 1807 female, some are out of school youth clubs while others are in school youth clubs. Some of the school youth clubs are commonly known as *Edzi Toto Clubs* while others are simply youth clubs. The trend of youth clubs has been changing over the years. Figure xxx shows the trend of youth clubs per T/A. The number of active youth clubs in Mponela has been declining and this can be attributed to the non existence of Youth NGOs while as for Msakambewa youth clubs, the number has been increasing due to the availability of Youth NGOs programmes e.g. WORLEC. Inadequate funds allocated to Youth sector limits supervision of these youth clubs hence inactiveness in many cases. This also calls for NGOs and government to put in place sustainable mechanisms to ensure that these youth clubs are active throughout.

These youth clubs are tools to enhance youth participation and leadership in the district. In the youth clubs, youths teach each other means and ways of tackling life's problems. It is a place where they can be easily reached with business, agricultural expertise, technologies and economic empowerment initiatives. It is in youth clubs where the youth take lessons on several issues including reproductive health and HIV/AIDS. It is here that they can work as a group in development initiatives and peer educators are more effective in this environment.

Four of the youth clubs have developed into youth nongovernmental organizations that are helping in their communities. Reaching this far, we can say that youth clubs are effective tools of enhancing youth participation and leadership in the district. It is therefore of paramount importance that state actors, non-state actors and communities must consider youth participation as a tool for development.

**Table 5.57** Youths in the District as per T/A

T/A	2013-2014			2014-2015			2015			2016			2017			Total
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	
Msakambewa	731	435	1166	731	480	1211	388	260	648	422	290	712	437	311	748	4485
Mkukula	523	347	870	524	360	884	297	240	537	302	266	568	326	375	701	3560
Chiwere	809	579	1388	809	590	1399	532	420	952	534	502	1036	529	618	1147	5922
Mponela	0	0	0	90	31	121	123	80	203	256	159	415	270	236	506	1245
Dzoole	310	93	403	347	199	546	353	144	497	351	201	552	361	327	688	2686
Chakhaza	491	297	788	513	300	813	523	355	878	560	488	1048	574	640	1214	4741
Kayembe	277	217	494	280	224	504	285	211	496	319	280	599	335	360	695	2788
<b>Total</b>	<b>3141</b>	<b>1968</b>	<b>5109</b>	<b>3294</b>	<b>2184</b>	<b>5478</b>	<b>2501</b>	<b>1710</b>	<b>4211</b>	<b>2744</b>	<b>2186</b>	<b>4930</b>	<b>2832</b>	<b>2867</b>	<b>5699</b>	<b>8566</b>

**Source:** Source: Youth office, 2017

## 5.7.2 Youth Participation in Youth Clubs

Participation of youths in youth clubs has been changing over the years as shown in the table above. This can be attributed to declining support from partners such as NAC and exiting of Action Aid which were supporting these clubs. However, in 2013/2014, the district has registered increased participation of youths because of new partners who supported the council such as Malawi Red Cross Society, FPAM and World Vision. From 2016 to 2017, there is increase in participation due to the coming in of other partners like Network for youth Development in T/A Chiwere and Mkukula.

The number of youths patronizing youth clubs is very low. This affects youth development in the district because most young people who do not patronize such clubs are the ones that can not competently articulate youth development issues. From the table xxx, the following issues have emerged: firstly, low

girls' participation in youth clubs due to culture and beliefs, lack of parental awareness of the importance of girl participation in youth clubs and early marriages. Secondly, there are more youth clubs in the rural than urban areas due to impact areas of partners which are in rural settings and lack of specialized youth facilities in the urban areas such as youth centers. Lastly, small number of youths patronizing the clubs against the total population of young people in the district due to the same reasons as discussed above [Youth and children analytical report, 2008, NSO].

### 5.7.3 Youth Networks

The district has 13 youth networks. The networks are there to coordinate and share information on youth activities in their areas. Its membership is composed of two members from each youth club within their areas. The following are the networks in the district; Msakambewa A, Msakambewa B, Chiwere A, Chiwere B, Mkukula A, Mkukula B, Mponela, Dzoole A, Dzoole B, Kayembe A, Kayembe B, Chakhaza A and Chakhaza B.

**Table 5.58** NGOs that Implement Youth Development in the District

No	NGO	T/A	Activities
01	World Vision Malawi	Kayembe and Chakhaza	Child Protection, Vocational skills, Youth participation and leadership, Youth health
02	There is hope	Msakambewa	Carpentry and Joinery, Welding and fabrication, Tailoring, plumbing, Bricklaying
03	MAICC	Mponela, Dzoole, Kayembe, Chiwere	Youth health and nutrition
04	ZOE Ministries	Chakhaza	Vocational skills, Economic empowerment (VSLA)
05	Kafulu Youth Org	Kayembe	Child protection, Youth participation and leadership, Vocational skills training
06	CADECOM	Dzoole	Child protection, Youth participation and leadership, Youth health
07	DAPP	Msakambewa, Mkukula, Mponela, Chiwere, Dzoole, Kayembe, Chakhaza	Vocational skills, Entrepreneurship
08	WORLEC	Msakambewa, Kayembe	Youth participation
09	ONSE	Kayembe, Msakambewa, Chakhaza, Dzoole, Mkukula, Mponela, and Chiwere	Sexual reproductive health
10	Mponela Technical College	Kayembe, Chakhaza, Mponela, Msakambewa, Dzoole, Chiwere, Mkukula.	Vocational skills, Entrepreneurship
11	Malawi Red Cross	Kayembe, Msakambewa, Chakhaza, Dzoole, Mkukula, Mponela, Chiwere	Youth in decision making, Youth and the Environment, Youth in business & entrepreneurship, Solidarity and Youth hood, Supporting needy people
12	Network for Youth Development	Chiwere and Mkukula	Income generating activities, Advocacy, Youth participation and leadership

**Source:** Youth office, 2017

### 5.7.4 NGOs that Implement Youth Development

Table 134 presents the NGOs working in the district per T/A. From the table, there are a few NGOs implementing youth development activities in the district and other state and non-state actors are not mainstreaming youth issues, hence a gap in implementation of most of the programmes.

**5.7.5****Youth Centers**

These are centers where youths access several services such as sexual reproductive health, recreation activities, information on different issues and vocational skills among others. The district has only two centers; Dowa Youth Life Centre [FPAM] and Dzoole Youth Centre. It is recommended that every T/A should have a youth center [Youth Development and sports strategic plan, revised 2007-2012, MOYDS].

**5.7.5.1 Youth Economic Empowerment**

To achieve this thematic area, the sector implements the following activities; vocational skills training, youth enterprise development fund and youth farming.

**Table 5.59** Youth Trained in Vocational Skills

T/A	2013/2014		2015/2016		2017	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
Msakambewa	30	7	11	71	34	84
Dzoole	8	7	5	4	7	3
Chakhaza	19	3	7	16	6	4
Kayembe	7	10	9	12	4	2
Mponela	6	2	10	7	13	16
Mkukula	2	3	21	27	17	29
Chiwere	16	6	6	8	9	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>153</b>

**Source:** Source: District Youth office, 2017

**5.7.5.2 Vocational skills**

Over the period under review, the district trained 574 young people in vocational skills, refer to table the above. However, the trainings have not been consistent over the years due to lack of financial support, no reporting by partners and inadequate support from partners in vocational skills.

**5.7.5.3 Youth Farming**

Most youth clubs in the district depend on agriculture as one way of sustaining their clubs. However, these clubs were doing this at a small scale and they lack important information on modern agriculture. Although some of them have gone further to rear livestock for pass on programs among themselves, they need such expertise to succeed. The livestock they are keeping are chickens, pigs and goats. There are five clubs doing chicken rearing, two clubs doing pig rearing and three clubs doing goat rearing. Livestock pass on programmer assist the youth to have money after sales which improves their economic base. It is also a source of employment for the youth and provides good nutrition to them and their families. In this case, the office recommends close work relationship with concerned government stakeholders and non-state actors to improve this component.

In seed farming, the youth are involved in groundnut farming to produce seeds. In 2013 to 2014 rainy season, they produced seed to share. From 2014 to 2015, subsequently they will sell as source of money and

make sure that good groundnut seed is available to the fellow youth. There are eleven clubs that are doing groundnut seed production.

**Table 5.60** Peer Educators in the District

T/A	2013/2014		2016/17	
	M	F	M	F
Msakambewa	10	6	1	0
Dzoole A	13	9	1	0
Dzoole B			1	0
Chakhaza A	8	3	1	0
Chakhaza B	10	7	0	1
Kayembe	18	12	3	0
Mponela	5	4	0	1
Mkukula A	18	8		
Mkukula B	24	19	1	2
Chiwere	67	40	1	1
Total	173	108	9	5

**Source:** Source: District Youth office, 2017

### 5.7.6 Youth Reproductive Health

Over the years, there has been a decrease in number of peer educators in terms of their participation (see table above). This can be attributed to several factors which include; inadequate funding from both government and other stakeholders, some youth peer educators have grown up thereby abandoning peer education activities and inadequate youth friendly health services in most health institutions of the district.

Youth reproductive health is affected by challenges such as the provision of inadequate and inappropriate services to young people, poor client and provider relationship at health facilities, limited information available to young people regarding sex and sexuality, and services provided at the youth friendly health services, inadequate human, material and financial resource to scale up effective youth friendly health services interventions and inadequate peer counsellors and educators.

The department has trained twenty-five peer educators and some are being trained by FPAM and Malawi Red Cross. However, this does not suffice looking at the expanse of the district and the populace which is comprised of 46% of young people. The problem is made worse with the incoming of Dzaleka Refugee Camp which has increased the population of young people who need care and support.

There is need to train more youth friendly health service providers, peer counsellors, parents, local leaders, peer educators and provide material support.

There is need to sensitize the youth more about sex and sexuality, because; according to NSO 2016, Dowa key findings report only less than half of women aged 15-24 understand how to correctly prevent sexually transmission of HIV for them to make informed choices in life. Deliberate effort must be made to provide the youth with the much needed information. All stakeholders must work in collaboration and share notes in order to make an impact in this field.

### 5.7.7 Youth Employment

The youth have very limited employment opportunities [Youth and children analytical report, 2008, NSO,]. It is stated that the youth are not employed due to lacking education and in other cases lacking experience. The youth are deemed underqualified for white collar jobs. It is only 3% of the 15-19 year olds that find employment in farming, house work and livestock production and 2% of the 20-35 year olds are employed. The percentages are on the lower side. Nevertheless, there are opportunities in farming and vocational skills training in different fields. Young people can venture in these to have self-employment and possibly employ others in due course.

### 5.7.8 Key Issues Affecting the Youths

The following are the major issues affecting the youths in the district;

1. Drug and alcohol abuse (mainly sachets beer and *kachasu*),
2. Unemployment;
3. Child labour,
4. Early marriages,
5. High school dropout,
6. Early pregnancies,
7. Lack of technical and vocational training centres,
8. Inadequate access to tertiary and secondary school education,
9. HIV/AIDS and STIs,
10. Low funding to the youth sector

### 5.7.9 Opportunities in Youth Sector

The major opportunities in district include presence of organized youth clubs, partners in the district, community technical colleges by government and NGOs and thriving agriculture activities in which the youth can be engaged in.

## 5.8 SPORTS

### 5.8.1 Policy guideline

The Department of Sports is under the ministry of Youth, Sports and cultural. The department is mandated to provide leadership and oversight in sports development through planning, coordination, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of sports programs in order to have healthy and productive citizens. This is in line with the National sports policy which encompasses both high performance sport and mass sport, and is formulated on the rationale that such activities form an integral part of the overall development efforts of the government directed towards the entire population and this is in line with MGDS III of other developmental areas on gender, youth development, persons with disability and social welfare where the strategy is to enhance the development and quality of sports in Malawi among all ages with specific focus on the youth which is addressing SDG III of good health and wellbeing.

The National Sports Policy embraces the concept of “Sports for All” and encompasses mass and high performance sports.

The main goals are:

1. Promoting development and evaluation of all kinds of sports to make it a self-supporting social economic activity.
2. Creation of a helpful environment for individual and private sector investment in sports.
3. Making sports a tool for poverty reduction, national identity, unity, development, prestige and international development.

This policy recognizes the importance of the collaboration of various government departments, institutions and non-governmental organizations (NGO's) for the effective development and the delivery of sports services.

#### **5.8.1.1 Role of District council in sports**

District councils have a role to play in sports development in liaison with the ministry responsible for sports.

The following are the roles:

1. Develop, provide and maintain sports and recreation facilities.
2. Manage facilities and infrastructure
3. Allocate adequate funds in their annual budget for the development of sports and recreation infrastructure.
4. Mobilize financial resources from government and private sector for sports development and recreation
5. Employ & train sports officers
6. Allocate land for sports and recreation infrastructure.

#### **5.8.1.2 Role of Education in Sports**

Education and training are important in the development, management, organization of physical education and sports in learning institutions. Therefore, the most in collaboration with the ministry responsible for sports are to do the following:

1. Maintain and strengthen discipline at all levels of the education system (primary, secondary and tertiary) during sporting activities.
2. Ensure that extra-curricular sports activities take place in all learning institutions through regular sports competition & festivals.
3. Support learning institution in the development and maintenance of their sports equipment and infrastructure.
4. Increase the number and status of physical teachers in all learning institutions
5. Provide the youth with appropriate physical and sports programmes for their enjoyment and health.

#### **5.8.1.3 Role of private sector**

The private sector has a very important role to play in the development of sports. It also has a social obligation to the employees and the general public, in as far as provision of social amenities are concerned.

The following are the role:



1. Fund/sponsor sporting activities
2. Provide recreational infrastructure for the employees and the general public
3. Monitor activities of the sponsored organization institutions.

#### 5.8.1.4 Areas of priority

Sports department is involved in a number of activities that are aimed at promoting and developing sports in all sport disciplines. There are a number of sports programs that are out lined aiming to achieve the vision,

The programs are:

1. Promotion of mass participation in all the sport disciplines
2. Talent identification and development
3. Development of sports facilities
4. Capacity building to sports personnel

#### 5.8.2 Promotion of mass participation in all the sport disciplines:

The district conducts sports festivals in all sport disciplines. Competitions which target the disabled athletes are also conducted in the district. These festivals are done at Zone level and district level. Some of these activities are starter pack for major school sport activities. This leads to physical and mental development benefits and contribute a lot to holistic sport development. This enhances participation and unity among the youths and the entire community. Sport is a cloud puller and it is also an effective tool for disseminating information to the community.

The District Sports Office in collaboration with Sports Associations and other stakeholders are also responsible for planning and organizing trainings in all the sports disciplines. The training courses are refereeing, umpiring and coaching. Qualified coaches are the ones who facilitate these courses. These are being done to strengthen capacity at grass root level.

#### 5.8.2.1 Sports Festivals Zone

In 2015 only two zones managed to conduct sports Festival 2 from Boma zone and 4 from Kanyenje zone while same zones had no sports festival because of lack of sponsorship like Chibwata, Chigudu, Chimungu, Chinkhwiri, Chisepo, Dzoole, Kabwinja, Kafumphe, Kaphenga, Kapita, Kazembe and Madisi zone. In 2016 Mponela zone had 1 sports festival and while Mvera zone had zero sports festival and in 2017 Nalunga zone had 1 sports festival and zero sports festival from Senga zone.

All this information above, there is need for more support from stakeholders so that many sports festivals can take place in all the zones. During these sports festivals messages of, VMMC and HIV/AIDS are taught.

**Table 5.61** Sports Associations and Trophies/ Leagues operational in the district

SPORT ASSOCIATION	SPORT DISCIPLINE	TROPHY/LEAGUE 2013/14	TROPHY/LEAGUE 2015/16/17
Malawi School Sports Association (MASSA)	Football, Netball	Airtel Rising Stars, Coca-Cola Trophy,	Coca-Cola Tournament,
Dowa Netball committee	Netball	Airtel netball tournament, Presidential Cup	Presidential Cup
Athletics Association	Athletics	-	-

SPORT ASSOCIATION	SPORT DISCIPLINE	TROPHY/LEAGUE 2013/14	TROPHY/LEAGUE 2015/16/17
Dowa District Football	Football	Presidential Cup, FMB Trophy	Under 15 FIFA/FAM League, Presidential Cup, FMB Trophy
Dowa District Women Football committee	Women football	Presidential Cup	Presidential Cup
Judo committee	Judo	Judo for peace	Judo cup

**Source:** District Sports office 2016

As can be seen in the table above the leagues and trophies which are being sponsored by different stakeholders in the district are not enough. Most of the stakeholder's sponsor football; Netball. Judo and other sports have no permanent sponsor for the past years; however, the above table further shows that women football & athletics has no permanent trophy or league. It is being neglected by most stakeholders. The Athletics Association conducts competitions which are sponsored by the Government through sports council. Hence the need to have sponsors in all the sports disciplines including athletics.

**Table 5.62** Number of Coaches, Referee and Umpires Trained from 2013-2017

YEAR	REFEREES	UMPIRES	COACHES
2013	0	0	0
2014	0	15	0
2015	15	0	0
2016	0		54
2017	20	0	0

**Source:** District Sports Office 2016

Table above shows that there is an acute shortage of professional coaches, referees and umpires in different sport disciplines in the district, leading to failure to offer effective coaching to the athletes in all the sport disciplines that is affecting the entire community in sports development, as a result it leads to poor performance in different sport competitions. The year 2016 there was an increase in number of coaches trained because we had FAM instructor in the district

In summary, there is need to have more trained personnel's in sports programmers' at grass root level in order to develop sports.

### 5.8.2.2 Talent Identification

Talent identification exercise is done to identify talents. These athletes are identified during competitions in different sport disciplines. The identified athletes represent Dowa District in different regional, national as well as international competition, and many other football players are playing in different teams in super league of Malawi

**Table 5.63** Number of Talent Identified

SPORT DISCIPLINE	TALENT IDENTIFIED
Football	25
Netball	5

SPORT DISCIPLINE	TALENT IDENTIFIED
Judo	8
Women football	0

**Source:** District Sports Office 2016

The table above shows that only four sports disciplines are popular in the district and had at least funding to carry its day to day activities, hence there is need for more support from the stakeholders so that all sports disciplines can be targeted and have more talents identified.

### 5.8.2.3 Development of Sport Facilities

The District Sports Office in collaboration with the council are responsible for rehabilitation of sport facilities in all zones, depending on the availability of funds. The sports facilities are in poor condition and below standard, in both schools and communities. The overall objective of this is to have international recognized sports facilities. The beneficiaries of these interventions are athletes, youths and the entire community. Sport is a crowd puller, so these facilities provide revenue, entertainment to the masses and also supporting economic activities of the communities. There is need to rehabilitate most of the sports facilities in almost all zones.

**Table 5.64** shows Sports facilities per Zone/T/A

ZONE	STADIUMS	COMMUNITY GROUNDS
Msakambewa TA, Boma and Nalunga	0	2
Mponela TA	0	1
Mkukula TA Chankhungu	0	1
Dzoole TA	0	1
Chiwere TA	0	1
Kayembe Nambuma	1	0

**Source:** Sports office 2015

According to table above, there is an increase in the number of sports facilities at community though not in good condition which shows that people are taking part in sports activities though there is no stadium at the district level. There is need to construct a stadium. The stadium will also improve council revenue collections to sustain sports activities through gate collections. However, Sports standards depict a deteriorating trend. Deteriorating standards likely have negative effects such as violence, corruption, hooliganism, vandalism, doping and fraud.

### 5.8.2.4 Staffing Levels:

**Table 139: Staffing Levels at the District Sports Office**

Officer	Establishment	Availability
Senior Sports Development Officer	1	-
Assistant Sports Development Officer	1	Available

**Source:** District Sports Office 2015

### 5.8.2.5 Challenges/ Issues

1. Lack of community stadium
2. Lack of qualified personnel
3. Inadequate resources
4. Lack of partners that implement sports programs
5. Decline in the enforcement of physical education and sports programs in learning institutions

### 5.8.2.6 Opportunities in sports

1. Rising interest of the communities in sports since it is a platform for young athletes and is used as a tool for socio economic development as well as a tool for disseminating information
2. Economic benefits. Most communities use local materials like sacks and plastic sheet to cover the ground and are able to generate funds through gate revenue.
3. Availability of trained sports personnel in the district and other technical officials is an opportunity for sports in the district to flourish.
4. The availability of trophies which creates a good platform for mass participation and Talent identification

## 5.9 HIV AND AIDS

### 5.9.1 Nutrition, HIV and AIDS

The national HIV/AIDS policy goal is to prevent the further spread of HIV infection, promote access to treatment for PLHIV and mitigate the health, social-economic and psychosocial impact of HIV and AIDS on individuals, families, communities and the nation. The HIV policy is connected to MDGS III as other development areas 6 on HIV & AIDS management, which is also linked to SDG 3; good health and wellbeing. The district has a prevalence rate of 3.6% of HIV and AIDS according to MDHS 2015-16 which is lower than the National rate of 8.8% among the sexually active population of 15 – 49 years. People living with HIV are declaring their HIV status. There are 3463 People living with HIV in the District according to HMIS 2017 report.

### 5.9.2 Coordinating Structures

HIV and AIDS response at district level is coordinated by the District Aids Coordinating Committee (DACC). This body has various subcommittees and these include Behavioral Change interventions, Youth, Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC), Community Home Based Care (CHBC), Workplace Programmes Coordination Committee, Condom Programming Committee, Proposal Review Committee, and District Interfaith Aids Committee (DIAC). Most of these structures are inactive due to inadequacy of resources. Community Aids Committees (CACs) are not in existence as such community HIV interventions are coordinated through ten CBO Networks which are Msakambewa, Chiwere, Mkukula A, Mkukula B, Kayembe, Mponela, Dzoole A, Dzoole B, Chakhaza A and Chakhaza B. There are also support groups in Each T/A in that add up to 82 with a Membership of 3210 people consisting of 963 males 2247 females (NAPHAM 2017).

## 5.9.3

## HIV and AIDS Services Provided in the District

The District Council together with various stakeholders embark on several interventions in the fight against HIV and AIDS. These interventions include, HIV Testing and Counseling (HTC) services, Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) services, Anti-retroviral Therapy (ART) services, Voluntary Male Medical Circumcision (VMMC) services, Behavioral Change Interventions (BCI), Impact mitigation interventions, Condom Distribution and Nutrition Support Services. Table 142 below shows the names of service providers against each service.

**Table 5.65** HIV and AIDS Service and Service providers in the district

Serial	Service	Provider(s)
1	HTC services	<b>District Health Office Sites</b> Dowa Hospital, Mponela Hospital, Msakambewa, Mwangala, Nalunga, Thonje, Chankhungu, Mvera Army, Dzaleka, Chisepo, Kayembe, Mbingwa, Chinkhwiri, Chakhaza, Bowe, Chizolowondo, Kasese, Dzoole <b>CHAM sites</b> Mvera Mission, Chezi, Mtengowanthena, Madisi <b>Other Sites</b> Byzazi, FPAM, MAICC, Banja La Mtsogolo, WVI, DREAM
2	PMTCT services	<b>District Health Office Sites</b> Dowa Hospital, Mponela Hospital, Msakambewa, Mwangala, Nalunga, Thonje, Chankhungu, Mvera Army, Dzaleka, Chisepo, Kayembe, Mbingwa, Chinkhwiri, Bowe, Chakhaza, Chizolowondo, Dzoole, Kasese <b>CHAM sites</b> Mvera Mission, Mtengowanthena, Madisi, WVI
3	ART services	<b>District Health Office Sites</b> Dowa Hospital, Mponela Hospital, Msakambewa, Mwangala, Nalunga, Thonje, Chankhungu, Mvera Army, Dzaleka, Chisepo, Kayembe, Mbingwa, Chinkhwiri, Bowe, Chakhaza, Chizolowondo, Dzoole, Kasese <b>CHAM sites</b> Mvera Mission, Mtengowanthena, Madisi, Chezi, DREAM
4	BCI	Dowa District Council, CHAM Sites, MAICC, Every Child, BLM, FPAM, NAPHAM, World Vision, Feed the Children, Malawi Red Cross, Zoe Ministries, Evangelical Lutheran Development Services, Kasalika Community Development, Plan Malawi, DAPP, Kafulu Youth Organization, CBOs, FBOs, and Youth Clubs
5	Impact Mitigation	Dowa District Council, Zoe Ministries, Feed the Children, Malawi Red Cross Society, Circle of Hope, Every Child, MAICC, Plan Malawi, CBOs, FBOs
6	Condom Distribution	<b>District Health Office Sites</b> Dowa Hospital, Mponela Hospital, Msakambewa, Mwangala, Nalunga, Thonje, Chankhungu, Mvera Army, Dzaleka, Chisepo, Kayembe, Mbingwa, Chinkhwiri, Bowe, Chakhaza, Chizolowondo, Kasese, Dzoole <b>CHAM sites</b> Mvera Mission, Chezi, Mtengowanthena, Madisi <b>Other Sites</b> Bzyazi, FPAM, MAICC, Banja la Mtsogolo, NAPHAM, CBOs, Youth clubs and PAWOC
7	VMMC Services	Male circumcisions are done at Dowa, Mponela and Madisi Hospitals and BLM Wound healing and check-up services are provided at All DHO and CHAM health facilities and BLM
8	Nutrition Support Services	<b>District Health Office Sites</b> Dowa Hospital, Mponela Hospital, Msakambewa, Mwangala, Nalunga, Thonje, Chankhungu, Mvera Army, Dzaleka, Chisepo, Kayembe, Mbingwa, Chinkhwiri, Bowe, Chakhaza, Chizolowondo, Kasese, Dzoole <b>CHAM sites</b> Mvera Mission, Chezi, Mtengowanthena, Madisi <b>NGOs and institutions</b> DAPP, PAWOC, COWHLA, DREAM, Feed the Children, MAICC, Malawi Red Cross Society, Every Child, FBOs, CBOs and Support Groups.

**Source:** HMIS, 2017

### 5.9.4 Key Drivers of the Epidemic in the District

HIV infection is continually spreading in the district. The key drivers for the epidemic arranged according to importance and their contribution in percentage are as follows; poverty 40%, multiple and concurrent sexual partnerships 25%, gender imbalance and associated gender based violence 10%, excessive beer drinking 10%, incorrect and inconsistent use of condoms 5%, influx of intermediate traders during tobacco selling season 5%, harmful cultural traditions and practices like Fisi 3% and use of herbs especially by women during sex 1% with less than or equal to 1% can be attributed to careless contact with body fluids of PLHIV.

### 5.9.5 Priority Areas of HIV and AIDS Interventions

The following are the priority areas for HIV and AIDS interventions in line with the key drivers of the epidemic in order of priority; prevention (behavior change), treatment, care and support, protection, participation and empowerment of PLHIV and other vulnerable populations, impact mitigation, capacity building and mainstreaming and linkages.

On HIV prevention and behaviour change, the district council aims at reducing HIV transmission through universal and targeted HIV Testing and Counselling, increased provision of ART to all PLHIV, increased uptake of Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision (VMMC) services, reduced transmission of Sexually Transmitted Diseases, increased uptake of male and female condoms, increased uptake of prevention of mother to child transmission and maintained low level blood-borne transmission. The key populations include; couples, youths (especially young women) aged 10-24 and female sex workers.

HIV treatment, care and support has two main components. These are Anti-retroviral Therapy (ART) and Nutrition components. ART provision though it is a biomedical HIV prevention strategy, it is the only HIV treatment in the district provided for free in eighteen DHO sites and three CHAM sites aiming at achieving the 90 of all PLHIV diagnosed, 90 % of all people with diagnosed HIV infection on ART treatment and 90% of all PLHIV on ART treatment have viral suppression. Nutrition component aims at complementing the medical treatment. Most of nutrition support programmes targeting PLHIV adults have been thwarted due to lack of resources. Community home based care (CHBC) and psychosocial support mostly offered by Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and Faith Based Organizations (FBOs) also forms part of this priority.

The district sets protection, participation and empowerment of PLHIV and other vulnerable populations and impact mitigation as priorities. The main focus is on sensitizing the communities on the rights of PLHIV and other vulnerable populations so as to protect their lives and promote their participation in the development of the district. The other focus of the district is in building community (especially PLHIV and OVC households) resilience to various shocks through economic empowerment and OVC education support.

Capacity building and mainstreaming and linkages is another priority in the district. It aims at building capacity of all development players to play a role in the fight against the pandemic. The main thinking behind this is that it is possible to reach everyone with HIV and AIDS services in a mainstreamed response as people acquire services than in a standalone response. It also aims at enhancing a collaborated effort. The main target for capacity building is CBOs, FBOs and local government community structures (VDCs, AECs and ADCs).



### 5.9.6 HIV and AIDS Mainstreaming Issues

The district is implementing the Mainstreamed HIV and AIDS district response which is done in two faces which are; workplace programs (internal mainstreaming) and within the communities of institutions impact (external mainstreaming). Currently the internal mainstreaming in the government departments is being implemented using a minimum of 2% of Other Recurrent Transaction (ORT) budget and other social protection programs like public works.

Within HIV and AIDS mainstreaming, gender and human rights issues are also taken on board. At the period of this review the Workplace Policy was not in place to guide the implementation of the HIV and AIDS district response. Thus, there is no proper coordination and monitoring of the response. Almost all HIV and AIDS focal persons have never been trained in HIV and AIDS mainstreaming creating a lot of capacity gaps.

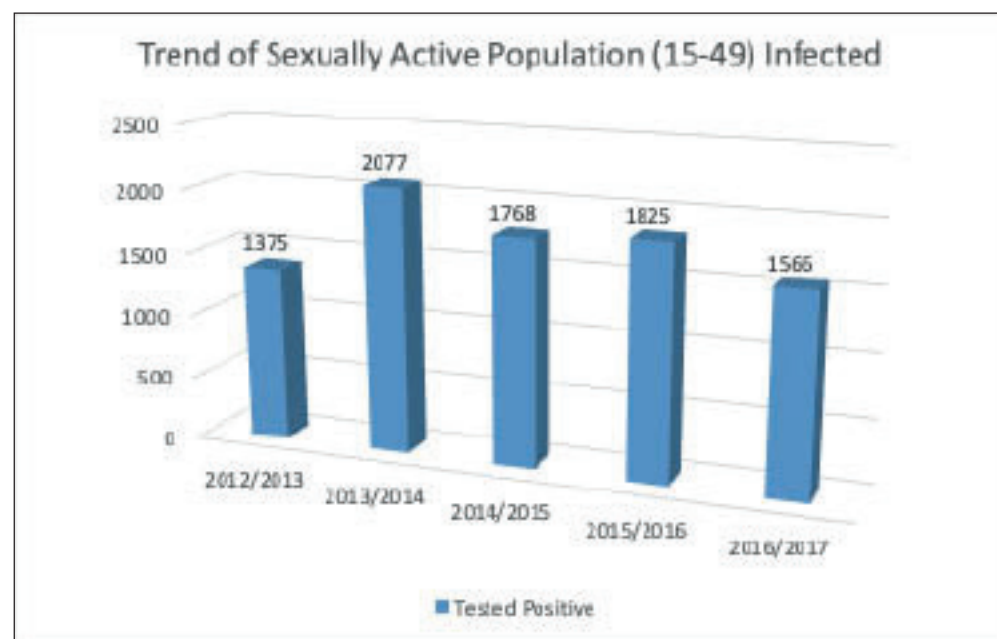
### 5.9.7 Percentage of Sexually Active Population (15 -49) Infected

Table 143 below shows percentage of sexually active population in the district.

**Table 5.66** Percentages Sexually Active Population (15 -49) Infected

Category	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017
Tested Positive	1375	2077	1768	1825	1566
Total Population (sexually active group)	283,993	290,611	300,266	310,326	320,712
Percentage	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5

**Source:** DEMIS, 2017



**Figure 5.28** Trend of Sexually Active Population (15-49) Infected

**Source:** DHMIS, 2017

Table 143 and figure 60 above show that new infections of HIV among the sexually active population are still on the rise. The percentages raised in 2013 was because the number of new positives in that year were high. However, the percentage of new infections within the group picked up from 2012/2013 and is still increasing as shown in the figure 143.

The reasons include unprotected sex, poverty among young females and low provision of youth friendly health services. This is likely to contribute to increase in HIV and AIDS prevalence in the district.

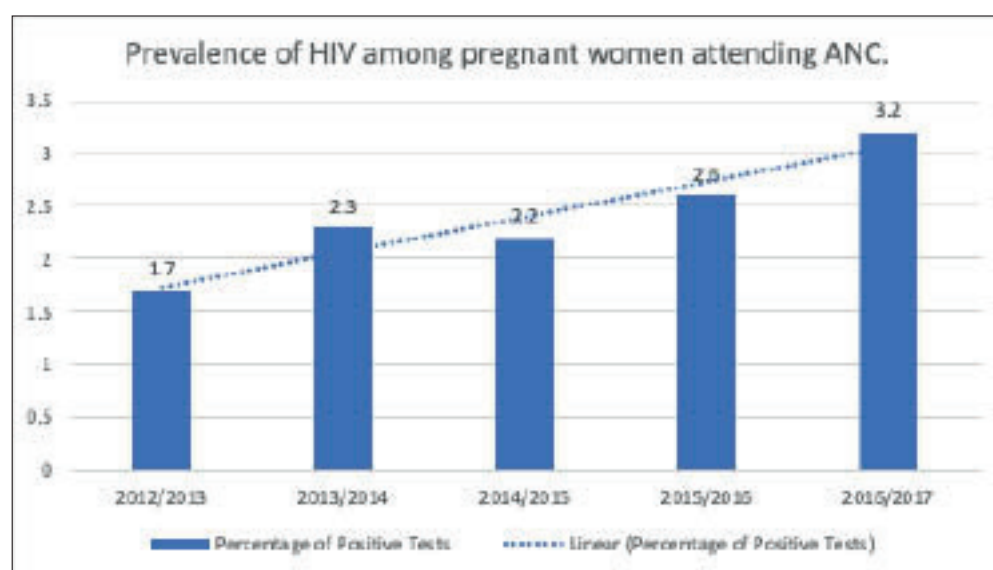
### 5.9.8 Prevalence of HIV among pregnant women attending ANC

Table 144 below summarizes the prevalence of HIV among pregnant women attending ANC.

**Table 5.67** Prevalence of HIV among pregnant women attending ANC.

Category	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017
Total Women who went for ANC	10383	22129	21501	23242	21576
Total HIV Tests	6063	16432	17512	21809	19938
Tested Positive	176	504	476	596	692
Percentage of Total Tests	58.4	74.3	81.4	93.8	92.4
Percentage of Positive Tests	1.7	2.3	2.2	2.6	3.2

**Source:** DHMIS, 2017



**Figure 5.29** Prevalence of HIV among pregnant women attending ANC.

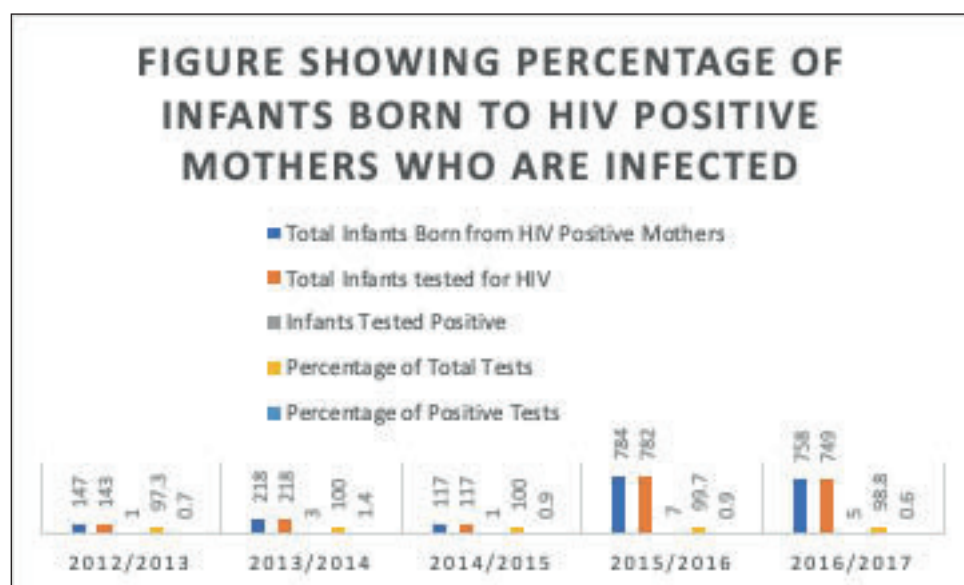
### 5.9.9 Percentage of infants born to HIV positive mothers who are infected

**Table 5.68** Percentage of infants born to HIV positive mothers who are infected.

Category	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Total Infants Born from HIV Positive Mothers	147	218	117	784	758
Total Infants tested for HIV	143	218	117	782	749

Category	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Infants Tested Positive	1	3	1	7	5
Percentage of Total Tests	97.3	100	100	99.7	98.8
Percentage of Positive Tests	0.7	1.4	0.9	0.9	0.6

**Source:** DHMIS, 2017



**Figure 5.30** Percentage of infants born to HIV positive mothers who are infected.

**Table 5.69** % of sexually active populations who have ever been tested for HIV

Category	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017
Total Population	671,075	701,225	732,343	764,414	797,426
Total Tested	35037	42117	51492	52637	59066
Total Tested population that received results	35037	42117	51492	52637	59066
Percentage of population tested	5.2	6	7	6.9	7.4
Percentage of population tested that received results	100	100	100	100	100

**Source:** DHMIS, 2017

Table 146 above shows that the sexually active population has low uptake of HTC services evidenced by low number of total tests against the total population. Some of the reasons contributing to this include lack of awareness of the importance of HIV testing, discrimination, few and sparsely located HTC facilities and availability of HTC kits. From the same table, there is a drop from 2010 to 2012 in the proportion of the sexually active population tested due to scarcity of the test kits which was rampant in most HTC centers.

### 5.9.10 Percentage Age at First Sex among 18-24 year olds

Dowa percentage age at first sex for 18-24-year-old Women is 37.1 and for men it is 47.4 against a national percentage of 59.0 for women and 53.2 for men, according to MDHS 2015/16. This shows that in the districts youths delay their sexual debut compared to youths at national level who start sexual intercourse earlier.

**Table 5.70** Other HIV and AIDS Indicators

Indicator	Percentage	Source
The percentage of young people aged 20-49 who both correctly identify ways of preventing the sexual transmission of HIV and who reject major misconceptions		This is according to MDHS 2015/2016
OVCs receiving education support	28	Social Welfare Office, 2017

## 5.10 NUTRITION

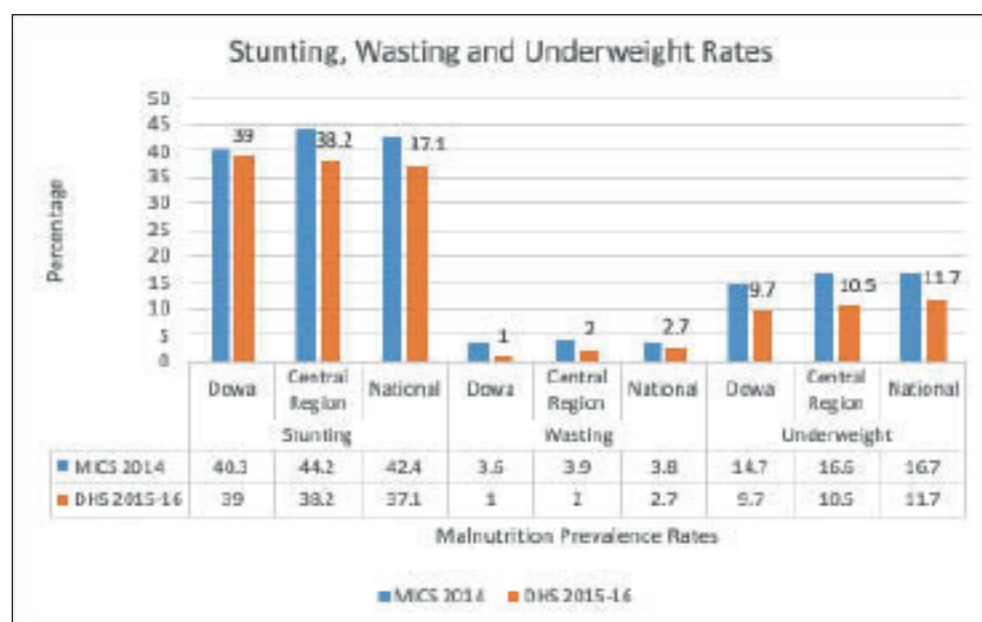
Good nutrition refers to an adequate, well balanced diet combined with regular physical activity. Poor nutrition can lead to reduced immunity, increased susceptibility to disease, impaired physical and mental development and reduced productivity. Nutrition programs aim at averting the disorders associated with food intake. Dowa subscribes to the National Nutrition Policy goal which aims at establishing a well-nourished Malawian population that effectively contributes to the economic growth and prosperity of the country. It is linked to MGDS III, ODA 7 on nutrition which also aligns to SDG number 2: end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.

### 5.10.1 Facilities offering nutrition support

There are several nutritional programs offered in the district that range from long to short term. UNICEF has been the main source of funds for most nutritional programmes implemented in the district. Facilities that provide nutrition services include all government and CHAM health facilities in the district.

### 5.10.2 Under five Nutrition

Figure 63 below shows rates of stunting, wasting and underweight.

**Figure 5.31** Rates of Stunting, wasting and underweight

The prevalence rate of stunting for Dowa is 39% in 2015-16 (DHS 2015-16) a drop from 40.3% in 2014 (MICS 2014) but above both regional at 38% and national 37% (DHS 2015-16). Wasting (Global Acute Malnutrition

-GAM) prevalence rate is at 1% according to MICS 2014 and DHS 2015-16. The prevalence rate of under-weight is at 9.7%(DHS 2015-16).

### 5.10.3 Anaemia

The prevalence rate of Anaemia among children aged 6-59 months is higher at 65.6% for Dowa according to MICS 2014 against 61.7% for Central Region in 2014 and increased to 68.6% in 2015-16 according to DHS 2015-16.

### 5.10.4 Percent of low birth weight babies

Exclusive Breastfeeding is at 89.9% according to 2014 MICS results against the national prevalence rate of 61 %(DHS 2016). Blood hemoglobin cut-offs to below 11.0 g/dl (in pregnant women and children) and below 12.0 g/dl in non-pregnant women results in Anemia. In Dowa the prevalence rate of Anaemia among women between 15-49 years is at 30% (MDHS 2015/16).

### 5.10.5 Pregnant women receiving antenatal services in the first trimester

Antenatal care aids to track advancement toward improving maternal health like managing of Anaemia, sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and maternal deaths. Other interventions can help improve the nutritional status and infections during pregnancy.

According to Dowa 2018 LQAS results, 54.20% of pregnant women receive antenatal services in the first trimester of their pregnancy. 51.58% coverage for at least 4 ANC visits. According to MICS 2014 report, antenatal care coverage is very high (96 percent). It also indicates that antenatal care increases with increasing education of the mother; only 95 percent of women with no education receive antenatal care compared with almost all women with secondary or more education. The majority of antenatal care is provided by nurses or midwives (79 percent) followed by medical doctors (14 percent) while the proportion of women attended by a traditional birth attendant is almost negligible. About two percent of women age 15-49 do not receive antenatal care.

**CMAM** is being implemented in 4 Nutrition Rehabilitation Units (NRUs), 23 Outpatient Therapeutic Programme (OTP) sites, 9 Nutrition Care Support and Treatment (NCST) sites and 23 Supplementary Feeding Programme (SFP) sites. CMAM facilities in the district are; MOH, UNICEF, WFP and other partnerOs.

**Table 5.71** NRU (Nutrition Rehabilitation Unit)

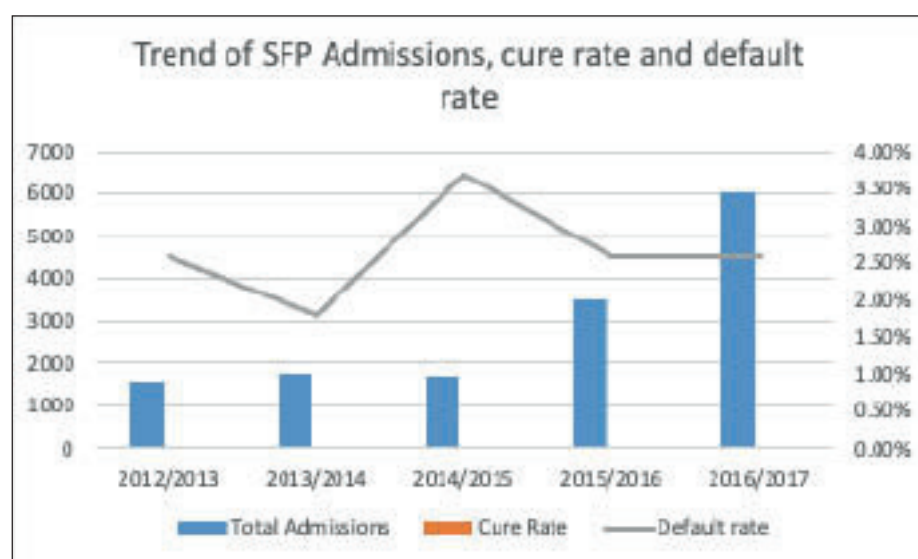
	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017
Total Admissions	287	256	260	189	144
Total Discharges	315	145	105	183	33
Cured	12	11	10	16	15
Default	7	6	7	7	7
Cure Rate	4.2%	4.2%	3.8%	8.5%	10.4%
Default rate	2.4%	2.3%	2.7%	3.7%	4.9%

**Table 5.72** OTP (Outpatient Therapeutic Program)

	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017
Total Admissions	737	1088	1072	467	826
Total Discharges	926	1036	992	511	893
Cured	857	929	850	461	847
Default	14	12	12	9	8
Cure Rate	116%	85.3%	79.2%	98.7%	102.5
Default rate	1.9%	1.1%	1.1%	1.9%	1.0%

**Table 5.73** SFP (Supplementary Feeding Program)

	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017
Total Admissions	1591	1736	1681	3526	6025
Total Discharges	1685	1595	1733	3521	5639
Cured	1558	1495	1565	3279	5202
Default	42	31	62	90	158
Cure Rate	98%	86%	93%	93%	86.3%
Default rate	2.6%	1.8%	3.7%	2.6%	2.6%

**Figure 5.32** Trend of SFP Admissions, cure rate and default

### 5.10.6 Nutrition Coordination and Structures

The district has a functional District Nutrition Coordinating Committee (DNCC) which meets every last Tuesday of the month before the District Executive Committee meeting. The DNCC comprises all the sectors and Non-Governmental Organizations that implement nutrition activities in the district. Currently, it is being chaired by the Director of Planning and Development (DPD). Below the DNCC, there is the Area Nutrition Coordinating Committee (ANCC) and in the Villages there is the Village Coordinating Committee (VNCC) which coordinates nutrition activities in the villages. The DNCC is supported by 10 ANCC and 10 ACLANs which provide overall oversight, Coordination and monitoring of nutrition programs at Area level. There 68 VNCC and 68 CLAN working at village level that's Msakambewa 12, Chakhaza 15, Mponela 8, Mkukula 14, Chiwere 4, Kayembe 15 and Dzoole that are working hand in hand with 1155 Care groups.



# CHAPTER 6: INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES

## 6.1 TRANSPORT

### 6.1.1 Roads

The district has 1147.4 km of roads network, of which 11% is tarmacked, 6% is gravel, and 83% is earth roads. The road network is largely poor as the majority of the roads are earth. Most of the earth roads become impassable during rainy season. The terrain in Dowa East makes matters worse – the roads in this area are in very bad condition especially during rainy season. There is also a common problem with bridges and culvert wash-aways. The roads in the district are designated as follows M= Main Road, S = Secondary Road, T= Tertiary Road and UD = Undesignated Road as presented in table 135.

#### 6.1.1.1 Main Roads

There are four main roads in the district, and these are listed in table 135. The M1 road passes through the district, and the district shares the section from Bua river to Lumbadzi river, which is about 68 Km long. The shoulders of this road section are all heavily eaten up and are in need of rehabilitation. M07 runs from Dowa Turn-off, branching from the main road (M1) up to Mwangala. The section from Dowa turn-off to Dzaleka is bituminized but the section from Dzaleka to Mwangala is gravel. The road has a total length of 40 km. M14 road runs from Lumbadzi Trading Centre, off the M1, to Kalikokha and the road is gravel. M16 main road runs from Dzaleka to Chezi and is the road that goes up to Dowa District headquarters.

**Table 6.1** Main Roads in Dowa

Road Designation	Length Km	Destination and Surface type	Road Condition During rainy season
M01	67.8	Bua River /Lumbadzi River(Bitumen)	Passable
M07	40.5	Thambwe (M1)/ Mwangala(Gravel)	Passable
M14	45.6	Lumbadzi River/ Kalikokha (Gravel)	Slippery and partially passable
M16	23.4	Dzaleka (M1)/ Chezi(Gravel)	Passable

**Source:** Public Works office, 2014

#### 6.1.1.2 Secondary Roads and Tertiary roads

Table 152 shows the list of secondary roads, the lengths, and their condition especially during rainy season. As most of these roads are gravel or earth, they are difficult to pass during rainy season. T350 road runs from Mponela Trading Centre and goes up to Ntchisi Boma. This road is bituminized.

**Table 6.2** Secondary and Tertiary Roads in Dowa

Road Designation	Length Km	Destination and Surface type	Road Condition During rainy season
S115	50.2	Zidunge(M07)/ Chisepo (Gravel)	Fairly passable
S116	26.2	Chigoma/ Bowe TC (Gravel/ Earth)	Fairly passable
S119	28.6	Kantepa (M16)/ Chimwanjati (Gravel/ Earth)	Fairly passable
T339	39.9	Nyongani (T350)/ Chisoso (Gravel/ Earth)	Fairly passable
T347	10.1	Dangalilo/Nambuma TC (Gravel/Earth)	Fairly passable
T348	30.9	Kayembe Hq/ Mponela (M1) (Gravel/ Earth)	Fairly passable
T349	38.4	Kabwinja (M10/ Nkulumimba (S115) (Gravel/ Earth)	Fairly passable
T350	16.2	Mponela (M1)/ Kansonga T/Off.-Bitumen	Passable
T356	8.6	Kanyenyeva (M14)/ Chitala River (Dowa/ Salima Boundary) (Gravel/ Earth)	Fairly passable
<b>Total</b>	<b>426.4</b>		

**Source:** Public Works office, 2014

### 6.1.1.3 District Roads

Table 153 shows the list of district roads, their lengths and condition during rainy season. The routine road maintenance programme targets these roads. Where the roads are under routine maintenance programme, the roads are fairly passable during rainy season. However, where the routine road maintenance programme is not available, the roads are impassable.

**Table 6.3** District Roads in Dowa

Road Designation	Length Km	Destination and Surface type	Road Condition During rainy season
D103	10.8	Kasangadzi(T350)/ Mpalo (Dowa/Ntchisi Boundary)- Earth	Impassable
D119	8.3	Kapemphero Hill(S115)/Nambuma Cath. Mission -Earth	Impassable
D120	25.5	Mtiti (M1)/Mkwinda (S115)-Earth	Impassable
D121	10.0	Bua River(m1)/Kasangadzi River - Earth	Impassable
D122	6.5	Kasangadzi River/Chimkoka Sch-S116 Earth	Impassable
D123	14.1	Chakhaza T/Off (M1)/ Chatewa-T339 - Earth	Impassable
D124	25.5	Msakambewa(M7)/Mponela(M1)-Earth	Impassable
D125	10.5	Nanthomba(M16)/Mwerelo(M7)	Passable
D126	3.4	Boma(M16)/Robert Blake Sch.	Passable
D127	9.1	Dowa Hospital (D126)/ James Vge.-Earth	Passable
D128	7.4	Mtata (M7)/ Chadza Dip Tank-Earth	Passable
D129	18.1	Nalunga(S119)/ Mvera TC (M14)-Earth	Impassable
D140	12.0	Chipala(M14)/ Banga -Earth	Impassable
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>161.2</b>		

**Source:** Public Works office, 2014

### 6.1.1.4 Feeder Roads

Most of the feeder roads are undesignated. They are mainly earth roads and are hardly passable during rainy season. Some of these roads are under the Routine Maintenance Programme and are thus passable throughout the year. Total road length 1147.4 Km. Table 154 shows the list of feeder roads in Dowa District.

**Table 152 Shows the List of Feeder Roads**

Road Designation	Length Km	Destination and Surface type	Road Condition During rainy season
UD	21.0	Mndunje to Kachulu-Earth	Impassable
UD	13.9	Kambulu / Michulu-Earth	Impassable
UD	16.9	Chigoma / Bua River	Impassable
UD	14.3	Kadiwa / Ngombende	Impassable
UD	14.0	Lipiri /Mbingwa	Impassable
UD	7.5	Mdzinga Transmitter(M14)/ Chidzuma	Impassable
UD	4.8	Dowa Admarc(D125)/ Mndunje	Impassable
UD	8.5	Njale (M1) / Saika-Lumbadzi	Impassable
UD	16.2	Msakambewa (D124)/ Chipembere(D124)	Impassable
UD	9.0	Chankhungu (M14)/Nsaderela	Impassable
UD	29.0	Fandani (M14)/Lumbadzi (M1)	Impassable
UD	8.6	Kanyenje/Mpozera(S119)	Impassable
UD	8.0	Nkhuyu(PRXI)/Kabwinja(T349)	Impassable
UD	12.0	Chiwayu,Chimwanjati to Ntengenji	Impassable
UD	7.0	Wenera to Kongwe	Impassable
UD	11.0	Ntalimanja to Mondwe	Impassable
UD		Chakhaza,Jowelo to Katalima	Impassable
UD	12.5	Kachala to Gudyu	Impassable
UD	11.0	Lavu to Chiwere	Impassable
UD		Nthesa to Lipiri	Impassable
UD	8.0	Mpatsa to Simbi	Impassable
UD	6.3	James to Nyang'amire	Impassable
UD	12.5	Kafumphe to Kainja	Impassable
UD	6.0	Chikuse to Ntayafuko	Impassable
UD	7.5	Imfaiwawa to Mpala	Impassable
UD	10.7	Kapida to Dowa Sec. School	Impassable
UD	3.0	Chimpeni to Pomphe	Impassable
UD	9.6	Kapida to Dzoole	Impassable
UD	12.8	Mpale to Chinkhwiri	Passable
UD	10.0	Chifukula to Chimungu	Impassable
UD	10.0	Chimungu to Nkhamanga	Impassable
UD	12.0	Senga to Nkutuma	Impassable
UD	9.0	Kapatamoyo to Mndunje	Passable
UD	8.7	Kayembe to Ng'ombe	Passable
UD	11.0	Kasuntha to Chisepo	Passable
UD	9.6	Nambamba to Simbi	Impassable
UD	5.0	Kachila to Mambala(Bua)	Impassable
UD	7.5	Kalinyengo to Chitala	Impassable
UD	18.0	Nanthomba CDSS to Mwelero	Impassable

Road Designation	Length Km	Destination and Surface type	Road Condition During rainy season
UD	8.0	Mvera Army to Kalewa	Impassable
UD	11.0	Kanyenje to Nkhalanjoka	Impassable
UD	13.8	Mlangali to Mbingwa	Impassable
UD	12.0	Jowelo to Katalima	Impassable
UD	9.6	Malobvu to Nkulera	Impassable
UD	12.0	Lirambwe to Ntengowanthena	Impassable
UD	4.5	Chimangamsasa to Chimombo	Impassable
UD	4.7	Bowe to Lichele	Impassable
UD	12.5	Tiopaizi to Likotima	Impassable
UD/B	4.7	Bowe TC/ Chinkoka Sch.	Passable
UD/C	2.0	Nambuma TC /D119	Passable
UD/D	9.2	D119 To Mkwichi Sch.	Passable
DD/F	6..9	Msopa(D103)/Pakuya Dip Tank	Passable
UD/G	6.3	Kabwinja Estate(T349)/Chigoma-S116	Passable
PR/A	43.3	Mwangala TC(M7) /Kantayeni Vge. (D127)-Earth	Passable
PR/1	9.1	Mkwichi Sch./Chisepo TC-Earth	Passable
PR/3	3.6	D120/T349 Link	Passable
PR/4	10.7	Bowe TC / Nkalaro River-Earth	Passable
PR/X1	8.6	Mbingwa (T39)/Kafulu Agric.1Station - Earth	Passable
PR/X2	2.9	PR/X1 To Kafulu 2 Agric. Station -Earth	Passable

**Source:** Public Works office, 2014

## 6.1.2 Bridges

There are a number of bridges in the district as presented in table 139.

**Table 6.4** Bridges in Dowa

Crossing Name & Type	Span	Length (M)
-Bua River – RCD	5	56.3
-Mtiti River -RCD	2	20.0
-Kawelawela River RCD	1	8.25
-Lingadzi River Bailey	1	13.0
-Kalikokha Rail underpass- RCD	1	6.5
-Katengeza Rail underpass - RCD	1	6.5
-Chipala Rail underpass	1	6.5
Lumbadzi River- RCD	2	25.0
Themba River - TD	1	8.0
Nanthomba River -RCD	1	6.0
Namwiri River- Bailey	1	9.0
Naliomba River -TD	1	3.0
Tovi River - TD	1	11.3
Nambuma River RCD	2	20.0
Kasangadzi River RCD	4	29.8
Linthembwe River Irish bridge		

Crossing Name & Type	Span	Length (M)
Lipimbi River Drift	1	4.0
Bozi River- Bailey	1	9.0
Katsitsi River TD	2	10.0
Machentche River -Irish Bridge	1	15.0
Dirilo River-Irish Bridge	1	1.50
Mtiti River- Irish Bridge	2	24.0
Livuno River –RCD		17.0
Kang'ona River –RCD	2	18.0
Kawelawela Irish Bridge	2	15.0
Namutsanje River Irish Bridge		12.0
Kasangadzi River Bailey	2	24.0
Mkhathwe River		
Namanda 1 River RCD	2	25.0
Namanda 2 River RCD	1	4.0
Chitala River- Bailey	1	36.4
Nambuma River RCD	1	7.0
Kasangadzi River RCD	4	55.9
Kasangadzi River RCD	4	24.0
Linthembwe River RCD	1	10.0
Kanyungu River RCD	2	8.1
Lingadzi River RCD	2	12.0
Themba River RCD	2	12.0
Themba River RCD	2	12.0
Kapipi River TD	1	4.0
Nafisi River RCD	1	4.0
Nkhondodwe River RCD	2	8.5
Madimba River RCD	1	7.6
Lipimbi River RCD	3	18.7
Lufe River Irish Bridge		
Navulu River RCD	2	10.6
Chiluwa River RCD		
Katope Bailey	1	9.0
Mgoma River	1	9.0
Chiluwa River Irish Bridge	1	9.0
Namgoma River TD	1	6.8
Mterela River RCD	1	7.8
Katete River RCD	2	18.6
Lingadzi River RCD	4	24.8
Choma River IB		
Nkalaro River RCD	3	27.0
Chaliwa River TD	1	8.0
Lingadzi River TD	2	16.0
Kanyungu River TD	2	18.0
Nakase River TD	1	7.0
Bwandiya River TD	2	18.0
Madzo River TD	1	7.5
Mafubvu River TD	1	7.5
Uzami River 1 RCD	2	15.4
Uzami River 2 RCD	2	13.0

Crossing Name & Type	Span	Length (M)
Kang'ona River	1	
Kawande River Irish Bridge	1	
Naneno River TD	1	8.0
Tatalonga TD	3	21.0
Lumbdzi River RCD	3	24.0
Thawi River RCD	1	7.0
Chisambo River RCD	1	8.0
Chiwolewole RCD	1	6.5
Kanjiwa River RCD	1	9.0
Fumbwe River RCD	3	15.0
Thiwo River RCD		8.0
Njewe River RCD		16.0
Nabinga River -0		15.0
Chiona River -0		15.0
Nkhondodwe River RCD	3	
Bzyanzi River RCD		
Lipimbi River RCD	3	24.0
Seko River		
Kang'ona River RCD	2	16.0
Unfinished		
Lingadzi TD	2	18.0
Themba RCD	2	12.0
Kasangadzi RCD		
Thindi RCD	1	8.0
Mtiti TD	3.	16.4
Mtiti RCD	3	24.0
Nkokolorazonse RCD	3	18.0
Kakule RCD	1	8.0
Lngadzi TD	3	24.0
Nansunje RCD	1	8.0
Namperu RCD	1	8.0
Njewe No Structure		
Kanyungu RCD	1	11.0
Kasangadzi RCD	2	20
Khoswe RCD	1	9.0
Lingadzi TD	1	10.5
Chaliwa RCD	1	10.5
Tatalonga RCD	2	18.0
Chaakazi RCD	2	16.0
Lowi RCD	2	20.0
Lufe RCD	1	8.0
Changa RCD	1	8.0
Kang'ona RCD	2	18.0
Kasangadzi RCD	2	20.0
Tovi RCD	4	32.0
Lipimbi RCD	2	18.0
Uzami RCD	2	16.0
Katete TD	1	8.0



Crossing Name & Type	Span	Length (M)
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>1531.25 m</b>

**Source:** Public Works office, 2014

**TD = Timber Decked**

**RCD = Reinforced Concrete Deck**

Most of the timber decked bridges in table 154 require regular maintenance. Most roads also still require more bridges to be constructed across them.

### 6.1.2.1 Roads and Bridge Maintenance

Road maintenance has been increasing since 2010/2011 as seen in table 140. This increase can be attributed to Local Development Fund, PW programme, Rural Infrastructure Development Programme and Roads Authority Fuel Levy Fund support. However, in 2013/2014, the trend decreased because of inadequate funding and that from mid-2014, no roads were put on Routine Road Maintenance as RIDP did not pay the road maintenance clubs since December, 2013.

**Table 6.5** Trends in Road Maintenance

Category	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014
Kilometers Graded (Machine)	10	-	-	35	4
Kilometers Rehabilitated (Hand Reshaping)	-	45	57	96	65
Kilometers on Routine Road Maintenance (Clubs)	-	44	45	102	102
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>171</b>

**Source:** Public Works office, 2016

Routine road maintenance is an EU funded programme run by RIDP. All roads rehabilitated under the programme are immediately put on RRM after rehabilitation completion. Roads under public works programme are not taken into consideration as the effectiveness of the maintenance is negligible. Several roads have been constructed or rehabilitated under EU funded Rural Infrastructure Development (RIDP). After the rehabilitation, these roads are put on the Routine Road Maintenance (RRM). The RRM system is implemented through Road Maintenance Clubs where a single person is in-charge of maintaining a kilometer of the road (Length Man System).

The maintenance clubs are gradually handed over to the District Council and the Council utilizes the Roads Authority Funded Community Road Maintenance Programme (CRMP) as seen in figure 65. Most of the feeder roads are maintained through the public works programme, funded by the Local Development Fund (LDF)



**Figure 6.1** *Road Constructed Under the IGPWP & Irish Bridge*

Main road, Secondary roads and tertiary roads are under the jurisdiction of the Roads Authority. Figure 68 shows road constructed as well as an Irish bridge constructed under the IGPWP and figure 69 shows a make shift bridge.



**Figure 6.2** *A Make Shift Bridge*

### 6.1.2.2 Land Transport

Public transport in the district is not well organized. There are regular buses and minibuses serving the two main roads M1 and M7. For the road leading to the Boma headquarters, there are also several minibuses and saloon cars that transport the people on the road. However, there is no bus that travels on this route. Apart from motor vehicles, more people use motor cycles and bicycles as a means of transport. Motor cycles and bicycles also serve as public transport in rural area where there are no motor vehicles.

### 6.1.2.3 Transport Terminals

There is one bus terminal at Nambuma trading centre that is not operational. The terminal can serve a maximum of ten buses at any one time.

### 6.1.2.4 Water Transport

There is no water transport for the district as there is no large water body.

### 6.1.2.5 Air Transport

The district has no airport. However, the main airport in Malawi, Kamuzu International

Airport (KIA) is just 30 km from the district headquarters.

## 6.2 INFORMATION DEPARTMENT

Dowa district information department is under the Ministry of Information Civic Education and Communications Technology. According to the Information policy it is mandated to provide policy guidance and direction in all matters concerning the media access to public information, broadcasting, telecommunication, postal services, and civic education information communication technology.

### 6.2.1 Communication

Communication is featured as one of the key priority areas (KPAs) in the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III – Transport and ICT infrastructure. Goal number nine also stipulates on the industry innovation and infrastructure. Against this backdrop the communication section remains a vital part of Dowa district as it helps the people to connect and share information. The district has different forms of communication facilities, and these include: Postal services, Radio and Television, Telephone, Internet services, Cellular networks, National publication and Radio communication.

### 6.2.2 Postal Services

The district has six post offices that are in operational and they provide money transfer, mail services and retail services. Table below shows the name of postal offices by Traditional Authority, and services they offer. Table 157 below shows distribution postal service providers in the district.

**Table 6.6** Postal Facilities in Dowa district

T/A	Name of postal facility	Service provided
Mkukula	Dowa	Money Transfer, Mail service, Retail service
Chakhaza	Madisi	Money Transfer, Mail service, Retail service
Chiwere	Mvera	Money Transfer, Mail service, Retail service
Kayembe	Nambuma	Money Transfer, Mail service, Retail service
Mkukula	Lumbadzi	Money Transfer, Mail service, Retail service
Mponela	Mponela	Money Transfer, Mail service, Retail service

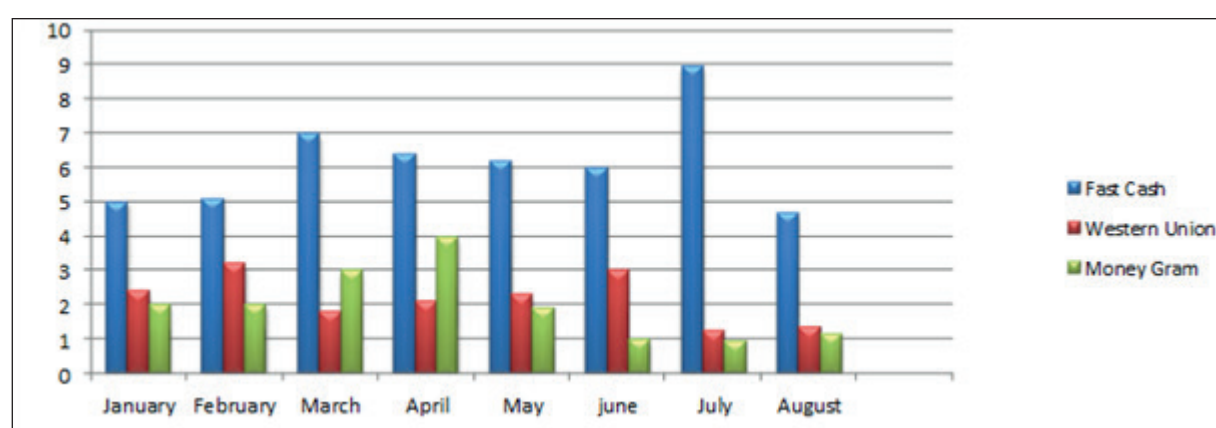
**Source:** Dowa Post office, 2017

Five out of the seven T/As have post offices leaving out T/A Dzoole and Msakambewa. Most mailboxes and private bags are not being paid for as a result of people not using letters as a form of communication making Malawi Post Corporation to stop establishing other post offices in rural areas. However, Courier service is one of the most reliable way of sending parcels and bulk mail. Malawi Postal Corporation (MPC) has its courier service available at its main Post Office in Dowa.

### 6.2.3 Money Transfer

Money transfer is divided into two; domestic and international cash transfer. Domestic services offered include; Fast Cash, Money Order and Postal Orders while international services include Money Gram, Western vash Transfer per Category.

**Table 6.7** shows the Volume of Cash Transfer per Category



**Scale 1: 100 (1 representing a frequency of 100 services offered)**

**Source:** Malawi Postal Services, 2017

Figure 158 above shows that Fast Cash ranks highest and on average serves about 500 customers in a month for the district. Money transfer is highest during the harvesting period because in Dowa a lot of people's main source of money is through farming. The amount of money realized through these services.

However, the utilization increases during the harvesting period according to available data which also gets back to the issue of source of fund which is from farming.

### 6.2.4 Mail Services and Retail Service

Express, Registered, Parcel and Ordinary are the four categories of mail services offered in the district. The only retail service available is the selling of TNM, Airtel, MTL and ESCOM airtime.

### 6.2.5 Postal Agencies

Besides the existing post offices, there are also post agencies which are supposed to operate in areas where there are no post offices. There are seven post agencies but none is operational. Table below presents the post agencies in the district.

**Table 6.8** Postal Agencies by T/A

T/A	Name of Agency	Status
Msakambewa	Mwangala	Inactive
Kayembe	Chisepo	Inactive
	Lipiri	Inactive
Chiwere	Nalunga	Inactive
	Kanyenyeva	Inactive
Chakhaza	Bowe	Inactive
Mkukula	Chankhungu	Inactive

**Source:** Malawi Postal Services, 2017

The noted issue is that the culture of writing letters has significantly died out as a few individuals use letters to communicate due to availability of other sources of information sharing such as mobile phones.

## 6.3 TELEPHONE NETWORKS

### 6.3.1 Access to Landlines Telephones

Integrated Household Survey 3 (IHS3) indicated that 0.6 percent of the total population have access to landlines telephones in the district. Malawi Telecommunications Limited (MTL) remains the main service provider for landline telephones

Malawi Telecommunications Limited is a parastatal organization that provides telephone services ranging from underground phone lines, mobile phones and data services (Internet). For the past years, Dowa MTL office had been using analogue systems until August 2014 when they adopted digital system which gave birth to mobile phones and wireless data services. This means that all their offices at Boma, Mvera, Mponela and Madisi have automatic exchange and also have transceivers (which send and receive data and other services) at Chezi, Dowa Hill, Dangaliro, Mpanda and Madisi.

The number of telephone lines in service changes according to different factors. At the time of reporting, 213 lines of both data and voice were in service. This number has decreased from that of previous years due to vandalism of MTL materials, unpaid bills and others. Among the active 213 lines, 204 were voice subscribers and 9 were data ADSL service subscriber. The mobile phone service was installed in August 2014. This led to increased number of customers such that over 400 people had this mobile service in less than a month. Phone density is as follows: 400 underground phone, 45 ADSL data service, 400 mobile phone service and 7 public calling booths. Table 160 presents the breakdown in terms of their density and activeness.

**Table 6.9** Phone and Data Density

Type of Service	Frequency		Total
	Active	Inactive	
Underground Lines	204	196	400
Mobile Phones	600+	----	600
Public Calling Booths	7	20+	27
Data Service	4	3	9

**Source:** MTL Offices, 2016



## 6.3.2 Cellular Networks

According to (HIS 3) access to mobile phones for the district stands at 37.3 percent. This is an increase from 1 percent as per IHS2. The district has three cellular networks, Telecom Networks Malawi (TNM), Airtel Malawi and Malawi Telecommunications Limited (MTL). From the year 2004, the district had two networks, TNM and Airtel. However, MTL mobile service was introduced in the year 2014 increasing the number to three. Airtel and TNM have their booster transceivers at Mvera, Dowa Hills, Mpanda, Madisi, Mponela, and Dzaleka. Nevertheless, there are many places within the district which have poor networks such as Matekenya, Dzoole, Chuzu and part of Chakhaza and Chiwere.

## 6.3.3 Radio and Television Networks

### 6.3.3.1 Radio

According to IHS3, only 45.5% of the population owns a radio which is at par with the national average of 45.5%. The district is divided in two blocs that is western and eastern bloc. The west is a flat area and has more radio frequency receivers than the east which is hilly and hard to reach. As such, in the eastern bloc, there are few radios as compared to the west. In general, the district has a number of radio stations as summarized in table 161.

**Table 6.10** Radio Stations in the District

2014 Radio Coverage	2018 Radio Coverage	Frequency	Signal Strength
Zodiak broadcasting station	Zodiak broadcasting station	92.9MHz	Strong
Radio Maria	Radio Maria	94.0 MHz	Strong
Radio Alinafe	Radio Alinafe	96.8 MHz	Poor
MBC Radio 1	MBC Radio 1	100.5 MHz	Fair
MBC Radio 2	MBC Radio 2	102.8 MHz	Fair
Trans world Radio	Trans world Radio	106.5 MHz	Fair
African Bible College	African Bible College	88.3 MHz	Fair
BBC	BBC		Strong
Channel for All Nations	Channel for All Nations	101.5 MHz	Poor
Nkhotakota	Nkhotakota	95.0 MHz	Fair
-	101 FM Radio	97.9 MHz	Poor
-	Capital FM	90.0 MHz	Poor
-	Galaxy FM	82.7 MHz	Fair
-	Joy FM	99.9 MHz	Poor
-	YONECO Radio	85.9 MHz	Strong
-	Radio Islam	89.7 MHz	Strong
-	Maziko Radio	86.3 MHz	Fair
-	Beyond FM	91.1 MHz	Fair

**Source:** Dowa District Information office, 2017

In table 161, signals for ZBS can be easily accessed even when there is a power failure unlike for MBC 1 and 2 where when power is not available the signals are not transmitted. The other radio stations like Radio Maria and Trans World have poor signal, however Radio Islam is better among the two.



There has been significant increase in number of radio frequencies received between 2014 and 2018 giving a chance to people to access information easily. The establishment of radio listening clubs by some implementing partners like CRECOM, PACHI and YONECO in some parts of the district has also contributed to people accessing information. However, the district needs community owned radio that will cover the whole district. This has been a problem for some time because of resources though some partners have showed interest in opening one.

### 6.3.4 Television

Only 8.9% of the population owns a television in the district (IHS3) which is higher than the national average of 8.7%. MBC is the only television station and can be accessed using VSH antenna and 99% of people with TV screen watch MBC but it is also on Digital Satellite. A small number of the population has digital satellite television because it is beyond their affordability and this limits population access to variety of information.

Those who access TV stations like MBCT, Times, Zodiak and other local Television stations use satellite television. Multichoice, Zuku, Starsat and Azam satellite TVs make it possible for people in Dowa to access local TVs and other international TV stations. The Malawi Digital Broadcast Network Limited is currently in the process of switching off entirely the analogue broadcasting network in the country. This will make sure that people are able to have digital terrestrial network with better signals.

### 6.3.5 National Publications

The main national publications in the district are; Daily Times, Sunday Times, Malawi News, The Nation, Weekend Nation, Boma Lathu and Police Magazine. However, these publications are not evenly distributed as seen in table 162. In addition, most of these publications do not reach most of the rural areas and some commercial publications are unaffordable for most of the people.

**Table 6.11** List of publications and their frequencies

PUBLICATION	FREQUENCY
Nation Newspaper	Daily (Monday –Friday)
Daily Times	Daily (Monday –Friday)
Weekend Nation	Weekly (Saturdays only)
Nation on Sunday	Weekly (Sundays only)
Sunday Times	Weekly (Sundays only)
Malawi News	Daily (Monday – Friday)

**Source:** District Information office, 2018

The numbers of readers vary from publication to publication either because it is commercial or supplied in low quantity. For example, FUKO and Boma Lathu news has a better reach than most dailies because these offered freely and in local language and it is a pass on paper hence less than 10 percent read these publications.

### 6.3.6 Internet Services

District based data on access to internet remains a challenge since no survey has been conducted on the same specifically for Dowa district. However, at national level 2014 Survey on Access and Usage of ICT ser-

vices in Malawi indicates that the creative use of ICTs, particularly the Internet, in the areas of health care, education, and in other developmentally important fields can substantially contribute to the advancement of developing societies (NSO ICT Survey report 2014). Table 6.12 below shows statistics in percentages of individuals using internet in Malawi.

**Table 6.12** Percentage of individuals using internet/year in Malawi

Year	Percentage of individuals using internet
2017	13.78%
2016	11.47%
2015	5.3%
2014	5.83%
2013	5.05%

**Source:** Internet World Statistics, 2017

The table above gives information on the internet penetration in Malawi from the year 2013 to 2017. In 2017, 13.78 percent of the population accessed the internet, up from 0.05% percent in 2013. Despite the increase in penetration over the years, Malawi's statistics of access to internet as of 2017 is low comparing to other countries in Africa.

### 6.3.7 Other Telecommunication Services

There is also a means of communication through radio that is of low band and medium band. In the district, the department of Wildlife and Forestry, Malawi Police Services, Malawi Defense Force and Electricity Supply Corporation of Malawi Limited (ESCOM) have their radio communications. Police service and ESCOM have their transmitters installed at Dowa hills while department of Forestry and Malawi Defense Force have their transmitters behind their offices.

## 6.4 ISSUES

1. Digital illiteracy
2. Low access to digital media
3. Intermittent telecommunication network coverage
4. No district radio and news letters

# CHAPTER 7: SECURITY/ GOVERNANCE

The Vision statement of the Malawi Police service is “**creating a safe and secure Malawi**” and the Mission statement states that the Malawi Police services working in partnership with the community shall provide quality internal security services for all bymgds 16)

## 7.1 CRIME MANAGEMENT

The district has two police stations, one post and eleven police units that serve the people of Dowa, the stations have registered various cases in the past five years.

Cases reported and registered have decreased over the period due to different factors and initiatives adopted in coordination with various stakeholders. These services include community policing, intensified patrols, setting up of road blocks, one stop centre establishment. The main stakeholders are DHO, judiciary, forestry, District Council, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). Even though the crime shows a decrease, in actual sense the levels of crime are still considered high. Most crimes are organized in nature and cross border crime. This has contributed to dismissals of army, police and other security personnel and influx of refugees.

### 7.1.1 Type of Cases Registered

Major cases reported in the district over the period are tabulated in table 164. Generally, theft cases are high, but unlawful wounding is also one of the cases that are high in the district. Even though there is an increase in number of cases reported, some offences such as murder have been decreased as shown in table 137. Some of the causes of the crimes are drug and alcohol abuse, unequal sharing of agricultural products and poverty.

**Table 7.1** Breakdown of Cases Reported by gender of offenders

Description	2012/2013		2013/2014		2014/2015		2015/2016		2016/2017	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Murder	18	0	15	0	20	0	11	0	20	0
Rape	1	0	10	0	6	0	7	0	5	0
Defilement	25	0	30	0	10	0	14	0	27	0
Indecent Assault	5	0	20	1	4	6	12	5	5	0
Armed Robbery	12	0	10	0	5	0	5	0	10	0
Robbery/Violence	15	0	15	0	4	0	18	0	12	0
Breaking into a building and Committing Felony Therein (B/I/B/C/F/THEREIN)	48	0	18	0	15	0	32	0	30	0
House Breaking/Theft	20	14	30	0	7	2	20	0	35	0
Burglary/Theft	51	0	25	0	10	0	35	0	40	0
General Theft	180	60	120	50	32	5	200	12	210	8
Theft of Bicycle	33	0	15	0	8	0	5	0	10	0
Grievous Harm	9	6	12	2	7	2	8	0	20	0
Unlawful Wounding	30	68	150	10	90	8	150	16	180	30
Common Assault	14	7	20	3	30	5	28	2	35	2
Assault Occasioning to Cause Actual Bodily Harm (A.O.A.B.H)	40	22	32	8	15	6	40	5	60	2

Description	2012/2013		2013/2014		2014/2015		2015/2016		2016/2017	
Arson	7	5	8	0	8	0	4	0	10	0
Theft of Cattle	10	0	10	0	8	0	5	0	15	0
Theft of Goat	7	0	12	0	5	0	12	0	25	0
Theft From M/Vehicle	0	0	0	0	6	0	2	0	10	0
Theft Of M/Vehicle	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Other criminal Offences	150	80	260	50	205	60	110	140	170	90
<b>Total</b>	<b>675</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>814</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>995</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>918</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>924</b>	<b>262</b>

**Source:** Dowa and Mponela Police station, 2017

### 7.1.2 Prosecution

Cases registered have to be prosecuted after a proper and thorough investigation has been conducted. There are different reasons why a case cannot be prosecuted even though registered. Among the reasons include when an accused person is insane, when the complainant does not want a case to continue and when there is insufficient evidence. Table 168 shows how some of the cases have been dealt with. Out of the total registered cases, 41% of the cases were completed with some criminals convicted or acquitted.

**Table 7.2** Cases Dealt With

Year	Case Reported	Cases Taken to Court	Completed	Convicted	Withdrawn	Acquitted	Discharged	Not completed
2012/2013	937	571	474	396	55	14	64	27
2013/2014	1610	720	370	759	68	22	120	28
2014/2015	1300	700	600	580	80	33	75	40
2015/2016	900	400	360	490	120	40	60	20
2016/2017	1000	600	575	800	125	28	70	35
<b>Total</b>	<b>5747</b>	<b>2991</b>	<b>2379</b>	<b>3025</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>150</b>

**Source:** Dowa and Mponela Police station, 2017

**Table 7.3** Cases Completed

Year	Case Reported	Cases completed	Completion Rate
2012/2013	937	474	51
2013/2014	1610	370	23
2014/2015	1300	600	46
2015/2016	900	360	40
2016/2017	1000	575	58
<b>Total</b>	<b>5747</b>	<b>2379</b>	<b>41</b>

**Source:** Dowa and Mponela Police station, 2017

## 7.2 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

In the past five years, Dowa district registered a number of traffic accidents as shown in table 139. Number of traffic cases has been increasing over the years and the highest was recorded in 2017/2018 as compared

to the previous period under review. The main causes of road accidents are, poor roads, careless driving, un-roadworthy vehicles, over speeding, incompetence cyclist.

**Table 7.4** Traffic Cases Reported

Year	Fatal	Serious	Minor	Damages	Total
2012/2013	35	24	29	6	94
2013/2014	30	32	31	27	120
2014/2015	54	68	56	23	201
2015/2016	117	51	51	09	228
2016/2017	98	99	69	26	292

**Source:** Dowa and Mponela Police station, 2017

## 7.3 VICTIM SUPPORT UNIT

The district has two main victim support units based at its main police stations, 23 community Victim Support Units (VSUs) and one stop center unit at Dowa District Hospital.

**Table 7.5** Offences Handled by Victim Support Unit

Offences	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	Total
Failing to Provide Necessities	40	30	25	40	50	185
Property Grabbing	10	12	18	16	15	71
Child Labor	16	18	16	10	9	69
Wife Rejection	29	32	38	40	20	159
Conflicts With Parents	7	10	20	17	15	69
Child Neglect	5	7	14	16	12	54
Family Neglect	16	26	30	28	16	116
Family Desertion	16	3	7	25	18	69
Extra Marital Affairs	11	22	35	35	20	123
Adultery	6	8	25	6	3	48
	12	14	22	16	18	82
Early Marriage	15	18	15	10	8	66
Family Abandonment	10	20	18	11	7	66
Denial of Conjugal Rights	7	13	18	15	17	70
Illegal Divorce	9	12	20	15	14	70
Injury Child	31	6	10	5	2	54
Land Disputes	1	2	4	1	2	10
Concealing Birth	-	-	0	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>1381</b>

**Source:** Dowa and Mponela Police station, 2017

From the table 168 above, number of victims reporting to VSUs had been increased over the years. This was attributed to increased awareness through the police formations (police stations, posts and units) and stakeholders. NGOs like NICE, CCJP and Plan Malawi assisted in advocacy, primary justice and child pro-

tection. However significant number of cases that were recorded included failure to provide assistance to partners, extra marital affairs, wife rejection, child labor, property grabbing, family abandonment and early marriages.

## 7.4 SECURITY SERVICES AVAILABLE

Security to the district is provided by mainly; Malawi Police Service and private security companies. The private security companies are domiciled in Lilongwe and provide security mainly to the banks at Mponela and Dowa Boma. These companies include, G4S and KK Security Company. Major statutory corporation, like Electricity Supply Commission of Malawi (ESCOM), Agricultural Development and Marketing Corporation (ADMARC), Central Region Water Board (CRWB) provide their own security. Other government ministries, departments and agencies employ their own security personnel/staff.

### 7.4.1 Police

The Malawi Police Service is an independent organization delivering its mandate from the Malawi Republic constitution section 152 and 153 which centers its emphasis on safety and protection of life and rights. The district has two independent police stations with police units under their command, namely Dowa Police Station based at Dowa Boma and Mponela Police Station based at Mponela trading centre. These stations provide security in all T/As in the district as demarcated in table 135.

**Table 7.6** Area Served by Each Police Station

Police Station	T/A Served
Dowa Police Station	Msakambewa
	Mkukula
	Chiwere
Mponela Police Station	Mponela
	Chakhaza
	Kayembe
	Dzoole

**Source:** Dowa and Mponela Police station, 2018

The district has a number of police units and posts across the district as summarized in table 169. However, there are many places which are hard to reach with police services causing challenges to investigate cases, because delays in reaching crime scenes sometimes culminates into tampering with evidence by suspects. Police visibility in communities psychologically negates crimes, as such few police units increases rate of crimes. According to problems highlighted in the Village Action Plans, Police has involved the community in establishing 16 community policing forums, 1,856 community policing committees, 15 child protection committees, 39 youth crime prevention committees, 9 anti-livestock theft committees and pedal cycle, businessmen and watchmen associations to fill the gap. However, the community forums are not adequate and lack support as well as equipment to carry out their functions effectively.



**Table 7.7** Police Units per T/A

T/A	Police Unit/Police Posts	Number of Police units
Kayembe	Chisepo, Mbingwa	2
Msakambewa	Mwangala,	1
Chiwere	Mvera, Chezi, Nalunga	3
Mkukula	Mat owe	1
Mkukula	Dzaleka	1
Chakhaza	Bowe and Madisi	2
Msakambewa	Chibanzi	1
Mponela	Mtengowanthenga	1
<b>TOTAL POLICE UNITS</b>		<b>12</b>

**Source:** Dowa and Mponela Police station, 2018

### 7.4.2 Type and Number of Police transport

The stations have got three motor vehicles. Two vehicles for Dowa police and one for Mponela police station. The two stations have seven motor cycles, of which three motor cycles are for Dowa police station only one is in condition the other two are non-runners. Mponela police station has four motor cycles. This situation causes difficulties to reach some areas on time. Community Policing Forums are supposed to be given bicycles but due to lack of funds only few forums were able to receive bicycles. Instead some members use their own bicycles to carry out operations. Non availability of basic transport like bicycles causes delays to report cases to police for necessary action.

### 7.4.3 Type and Number of Police Communication facilities

In most police formation there is a base radio and pack set used for communication, nevertheless, in some police units there are no any means of communication.

### 7.4.4 Security Service Facilities

The district has 71 staff houses against 300 officers giving a ratio of 1 staff house to 3 officers. The district has inadequate houses and most of these houses have no electricity and are in dilapidated state such that most officers live in rented houses. The most affected police formations in the district are Chezi, Madisi, Mtengowanthenga, Mvera and Bowe. Inadequate institutional houses coupled with expensive and scarce houses in the district negatively affect the welfare and security of the police officers.

### 7.4.5 Number and Capacity of police cell

A police cell is a small room at a police station where suspects are detained pending investigations/trial. Generally, a police station has two main cells to accommodate both male and female suspects with the capacity of 10 suspects each. Whenever these cells are full, females and juveniles are kept in the corridors. This poses a threat to the security of police officers on duty and office equipment.

Another challenge is that in all the police formations, there are no special cells for juveniles and that existing cells are not adequate to accommodate the growing number of suspects. In almost all the police units, they

have no cells, hence; rooms are improvised as cells. Table 171 below shows the number of police officers by sex per year

**Table 7.8** Number of police personnel

YEAR	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
2013	159	40	199
2014	90	42	132
2015	153	90	243
2016	212	75	287
2017	210	95	305

**Source:** (Dowa Police Station, 2017)

Generally, the recruitment process of the Malawi Police Service recruits more men than women initially the Malawi Police Service was not recruiting females until in the 1980's when the females were first recruited resulting in few female officers in the service though gradually the number of female police officers is increasing the service in the next coming years the number is expected to rise.

**Table 7.9** Distribution of police officers by rank

YEAR/RANK	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
DCP	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
ACP	2	0	2	0	2	0	1	1	0	0
S/SUPT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
SUPT	3	0	2	0	2	0	2	1	3	1
A/SUPT	2	0	1	1	2	0	2	1	2	1
INSP	2	0	3	1	5	2	6	4	4	2
S/INSP	34	10	12	7	28	14	46	18	48	20
SGT	48	20	30	10	48	37	63	30	66	31
CONST	58	20	42	23	62	38	79	32	80	33

**Source:** Source: (Dowa Police Station, 2017)

A considerable number of female police officers are promoted to various decision making positions, However, most of the female police officers are still on the operational level positions.

**Table 7.10** Number of Police Personnel and ratio to population

Year	No of Police Officers	Total District Population	Police to Population ratio
2013	199	671,075	1:3,372
2014	132	701,223	1:5,312
2015	243	732,343	1:3,013
2016	287	797,426	1:2,778
2017	305	831,365	1:2,725

**Source:** Dowa Police Station, 2017

The general trend was that 1 police officer served 3,533 people. However, in 2014 the ratio was increased to 1: 5,312 because most of the police officers were transferred, dismissed, deaths and retirements. The reduction affected service delivery because police officers were overloaded and fewer cases were concluded.

#### 7.4.6 Issues from SEP

1. Understaffing
2. Ignorance
3. Poverty
4. Inadequate office space
5. Early marriages
6. Unemployment
7. Land disputes
8. Hunger

### 7.5 JUDICIARY

Judiciary is an arm of the government that is independent its mission is to provide independent and impartial justice and also providing judicial services that are efficient and that earn respect, trust and confidence of the society. This is in line with MDGs no 16; **Peace, Justice and Strong institution**

#### 7.5.1 Distribution of courts

Table 154 below will show courts per Traditional Authority.

**Table 7.11** Distribution of court by TA

Court	T/A	Status	Distance to power line	Access to water supply
Dowa F.G M Court	Mkukula	operational	Has electricity	Supplied with water
Mkukula F.G.M Court	Mkukula	operational	20 meters	0.5 km
Mponela F.G.M Court	Mponela	Operational	2.6 km	2.6 km
Msongandeu T.G.M Court	Chiwere	Operational	50 meters	350 meters
Thindi T.G. M Court	Chakhaza	Operational	2km	5km
Kaufa T.G.M Court	Kayembe	not operational	200 meters	70 meters

**Source:** Judiciary Dowa, 2017

As seen on the table above it is only T/A Mkukula who have two courts, one located at the Boma and the other 28 KM from the Boma. T/A Mponela, Chiwere, Chakhaza and Kayembe have one court allocated to each of them. T/A Msakambewa do not have a court of its own and the people of this area come to Dowa Court which is in the area of T/A Mkukula. The people of these areas walk long distances of more than 28 KM places. These places include Matekenya, Mwangala, and Nalunga just to mention a few places. This problem has great impact on the work output of the Dowa Court as other cases take very long time to be concluded. At least if court can be built at T/A Msakambewa this problem can be solved.

T/A Dzoole do not have a court of its own. Their people are served by the Court in Mponela creating a higher work load, others go to T/A Kayembe and T/A Chakhaza. Dowa First Grade Magistrate (F.G.M) court is the only court that has electricity and water supply. Mponela F.G.M can access water supply at about 2.6 km as

well as electricity this is a burden to the staff working here and also clients for the court. However, a new court building is being built at Mponela trading centre which will be more user friendly, supplied with water and electricity.

### 7.5.2 Criminal Cases

Most criminal cases are registered at Mkukula First Grade Magistrate (FGM), Mponela FGM, and Dowa due to urbanization. Table 174 below shows cases registered per year by type and not per T/A. This information is as it is from 2013/2014 up to 2016/1017.

**Table 7.12** criminal cases registered by type

Type	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Theft	528	242	280	529	442
Assaults	372	268	187	294	216
Other		128	206	360	276
Burglary	238	68	90	228	263
Road Traffic		09	14	26	38
Malicious Damage		26	38	87	88
Robbery		08	35	69	44
Defilement	39	34	30	39	60
Rape	15	07	07	15	11
Sexual Assault		13	03	17	18
Murder		13	22	23	17
Conduct		18	21	30	15
Indian Hemp		25	38	36	23
Being Idle & Disorderly		21	62	130	33
<b>Total</b>	<b>1862</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>1033</b>	<b>1883</b>	<b>1544</b>

**Source:** Judiciary –Dowa 2017

The number of cases has been fluctuating over the years more particularly theft (528’ 242 280 529 and 442), assaults (372,268, 187,294 and 216) burglary 238, 68, 90, 228 263) because of the intervention of the police through their community police forums. However, defilement case has been rising from 39 in 2013 to 60 in 2017 defilement cases because of cultural beliefs and poverty.

The total number of cases is also very high because Mkukula Magistrate court also serves part of Lilongwe, more particularly Kanengo Industrial area. The offence of being idle and Disorderly rose up to 130 in 2016 from 62 in 2014 due to the sweeping exercise that was done at Kanengo Industrial area during Christmas season. The following year 2017 there was a sharp fall due to the abolition of part of the offence which deals with this subsection of “Rogue and vagabond”.

### 7.5.3 Criminal cases concluded per year by type

The table below shows number of criminal cases concluded per type. The table will show cases completed per year by type from 2013 up to 2017.

**Table 7.13** criminal cases registered by type

Type	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Theft	248	216	213	387	358
Assaults	284	155	159	190	173
Burglary	100	58	72	131	220
Other	230	107	165	327	270
Road Traffic	12	08	07	23	23
Malicious Damage	26	24	21	74	62
Robbery	25	08	29	55	19
Defilement	17	14	23	25	45
Sexual Assault	06	13	05	14	02
Conduct	24	17	21	28	15
Rape	4	07	04	10	11
Being Idle and Disorderly	0	21	55	72	23
Indian Hemp	13	24	35	16	22
Murder	0	13	22	23	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>989</b>	<b>685</b>	<b>831</b>	<b>1375</b>	<b>1260</b>

**Source:** Judiciary –Dowa 2017

There was a decrease in the number of concluded case in the year 2014 due to the death of the first Grade Magistrate at Mponela in 2014. Things went to normal when a new magistrate was deployed at Mponela hence a steady increase until 2016. The number decreased in 2017 because, The First Grade at Mkukula was sick for three months.

## 7.5.4 Criminal Pending Cases

**Table 7.14** below will show pending cases per year by type.

TYPE	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Theft	272	26	68	142	82
Assault	88	113	30	104	43
Robbery	25	0	06	14	07
Other	254	21	41	33	41
Road Traffic	09	01	03	03	12
Malicious damage	31	02	17	13	19
Burglary	148	10	18	97	43
Murder	0	0	0	0	0
Defilement	22	10	07	14	15
Sexual assault	02	0	01	03	12
Rape	11	0	03	05	02
Conduct	06	01	0	2	0
Indian Hemp	05	01	03	20	01
Being idle and Disorderly	0	0	05	58	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>873</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>318</b>

**Source:** Judiciary –Dowa 2016

The number of pending cases has been increasing over the years due to shortage of staff. In some instances, some cases fail to proceed due to lack of witnesses, and shortage of court rooms especially in court centers where there are two magistrates.

### 7.5.5 Civil Cases

These are cases where individual persons sue each other for the conflicts that they have failed to resolve their own. This table will show the number of cases registered per year by type.

**Table 7.15** Civil Cases Registered per year by Type

Type	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Divorce	425	320	455	449	382
Debt	152	115	195	193	306
Other	73	94	123	132	191
Impregnation	108	62	82	93	96
Adultery	55	31	45	53	48
Land	125	82	164	178	220
Elopement	54	19	33	23	36
Decease Estate	18	25	29	20	34
Animal Trespass	48	22	21	32	25
Defamation	21	06	14	23	17
Contract	07	03	11	04	02
Employment	0	0	04	0	0
Maintenance	20	14	29	46	60
<b>Total</b>	<b>1106</b>	<b>793</b>	<b>1212</b>	<b>1243</b>	<b>1417</b>

**Source:** Judiciary –Dowa 2017

The number of concluded cases dropped in 2014 due to the death of a magistrate at Mponela.

The number of registered has been increasing over the years more especially divorce cases because of early marriages. Most divorce cases were for young couples of aged between 18ys to 25ys, mostly their issues were to do with their maturity. Land matters were also increasing due to shortage of land. It has been observed that most people preferred to have their cases handled by the court than using the village heard men since most often they are bias and very expensive. The impregnation cases were also on the rise since our youth engage themselves in unprotected sex. Most of these cases were of young girl who are drop out of school.

### 7.5.6 Civil Concluded Cases

This table shows the number of cases concluded per year by type as of 2017

**Table 7.16** civil cases by type concluded by type by year

Type	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Divorce	288	201	354	328	262
Debt	135	83	123	182	198
Other	48	73	92	112	142



Type	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Impregnation	73	35	73	82	71
Adultery	41	21	28	44	36
Land	96	61	122	147	179
Elopement	43	18	32	21	28
Decease Estate	16	17	27	19	32
Animal Trespass	26	14	10	29	23
Defamation	16	03	09	16	19
Maintenance	15	06	20	32	32
Employment	04	07	0	0	0
Contract	21	0	06	01	02
<b>Total</b>	<b>837</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>896</b>	<b>1013</b>	<b>1024</b>

**Source:** Judiciary –Dowa 2017

As seen on the table divorce cases has been rising over the years because most people enter into marriage while they are still young and settling disputes amongst them is a big change hence most marriages break-down. Some marriages also break due to domestic violence, the common types being emotional, physical and financial abuses. The other case is that of Debt this case rose from 135 to 198 in 2017 because of poverty. People were borrowing money due to poverty but they could not afford to pay back the money.

Land issues were also on the rise from 96 in 2013 to 179 in 2018. The contributing factor being scarcity of land since the population has always been rising and land remains the same.

### 7.5.7 Pending cases

Table 179 below shows civil cases pending as of 2017.

**Table 7.17** Pending cases per year by type

Type	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Divorce	107	119	101	121	164
Debt	31	32	36	11	63
Impregnation	18	22	09	11	23
Decease Estate	02	03	02	01	04
Adultery	14	10	17	09	12
Defamation	05	03	05	07	02
Elopement	11	09	01	02	08
Employment	0	0	04	0	02
Land	21	19	42	31	41
Animal Trespass	22	08	11	03	02
Maintenance	05	08	09	14	28
Other	32	21	43	20	41
<b>Total</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>393</b>

**Source:** Judiciary –Dowa 2017

The number of pending cases especially divorce cases keeps on increasing because the complainants do not come to court for their case to proceed. Some just come to register their cases and they do not come again on

hearing date. This is so because when the defendants are served with summons they try their best to plead with the complainant to stop coming to court. Some times when the court feels that there is room for reconciliation the parties are given a period to observe each and they don't come to report to court for the court to dispose the case hence most cases are on pending. There also not enough court rooms as such Magistrates wait for the court room as such work for the day is delayed or fail despite being available for work.

### 7.5.8 Transport

The only type of transport that is used is motor cycle. All the six courts rely on two motor cycles which are located at the Boma. One is used for community service officer who is responsible to supervise convicts who are serving community service in the district. The other motor cycle is used by the magistrate when conducting mobile courts and daily operation of the courts. This is a big challenge as it has impact on the work output. During rainy season it is even harder since because you cannot ride when it is raining. Even when it starts raining when you are on the road you cannot proceed to do your work it is health risking.

### 7.5.9 staffing of magistrates

There are nine magistrates in Dowa who are offering court services ranging from First Grade, Second Grade and Third Grade Magistrate courts. There are three first Grade magistrate, two are male and one is female. There is one Male Second Grade Magistrate and six are Third Grade Magistrate; four males and two females.

### 7.5.10 Distribution of clerks and court marshals per year

**Table 7.18** number of court clerk and court marshal per court by year

Year	2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/2017		2017/18	
Name of Court	Clerk	Marshal	Clerk	Marshal	Clerk	Marshal	Clerk	Marshal	clerk	Marshal
Dowa	8	7	8	7	5	7	5	3	8	4
Mkukula	3	8	2	9	4	7	3	7	4	6
Mponela	1	6	1	5	1	5	1	5	3	5
Msongandeu	1	4	1	4	1	4	1	6	1	6
Thindi	1	4	1	4	1	4	0	4	0	4
Kaufa	1	4	1	4	1	4	1	4	1	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>29</b>

**Source:** Dowa Judiciary 2017

Mponela first grade magistrate had one court clerks despite the court being a very busy centre there creating too much work for one person. This was had an impact on service delivery as clients needed to wait for long time before they could be served. Court magistrates to population ratio

**Table 7.19** Ratio of Magistrate to population per T/A

T/A	No. of Magistrates	Population	Ratio
Mkukula	4	127,134	1:31,783
Msakambewa	0	91,421	0:91,421
Dzoole	0	94,079	0:94,079
Kayembe	1	115,013	1:115,013

T/A	No. of Magistrates	Population	Ratio
Chiwere	1	105,708	1:105,708
Chakhaza	1	156,985	1:156,985
Mponela	2	75,094	1:37,547
Total	9	772,569	1:85,841

**Source:** Judiciary –Dowa 2017

The table above shows the ratio of Magistrates against the population. As seen above T/A Dzoole and Msakambewa have problems in accessing Justice since they do not have their own Magistrate as such they have to walk longer distances to get to a nearby court. They have no choice but suffer in silence.

T/A Chakhaza despite having their own Magistrate have a very high population and is a very big area and still more people walk long distances to get to their court.

T/A Mkukula is better served since it has a lower ratio because it has two courts but still the number is big. The court is overwhelmed by the work load since these courts must also serve part of Lilongwe (Kanengo) and Msakambewa and Chiwere at the Boma. There is need to have additional number of courts in the district to reduce distance to the court and also work load. A lot of people fail to seek legal redress just by looking at the distance they will have to travel. It is even worse for the elderly people and the people with disabilities.

### 7.5.10.1 Issues

#### 1. Shortage of staff

There is shortage of staff in terms of judicial officer in our court and also shortage of judicial officers with higher jurisdiction. This affects the delivery of justice since court like Msongandeu Thindi and Kaufa are not fully served. In some instances, cases which require a magistrate take time to be concluded since there are usually no funds for court circuits.

#### 2. Shortage of working space –court rooms

There is shortage of working space almost in all court centres. The extreme being Mponela and Mkukula F.G.M which have two magistrates but have one court room. In these courts they register very high number of cases but unfortunately they have to give turns to each there by affecting the system of justice delivery. There is one registry in all the courts which caters for both criminal and civil registry and accounts office. There are no child friendly spaces in court and we only improvise in order to accommodate children needs. This is a great challenge for child victims. Our buildings are not disability user friendly there by posing a great challenge to people with mobility problems in accessing the justice system in all our courts.

#### 3. Access to court – Distance

Long distances to court this affect access to court as people. People walk long distance to court and mostly when a case is adjourned they do not come again for the conclusion of their cases. Transportation is also a challenge especially in hard to reach areas like Matekenya.

## 7.6 PRISON

The district has only a Juvenile Prison Reformation Centre at Byazi in Mkukula with a capacity of 100 inmates. The prison has only male inmates since it has no structure for females.

**7.7****FIRE**

There is no fire station at the district headquarters. The district depends on Lilongwe City Council and Kamuzu International Airport which are 56 km and 30 km away from the district respectively.

**7.8****TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ISSUES**

The district has a council which oversees accountability issues through various service committees. The council has also finance and audit committee which internally audits the accounts of the council. The council also conducts participatory budgeting, planning and monitoring to enhance transparency and accountability.

Various committees such as DEC, ADCs, VDCs and PMCs play an important role to ensure that programmes, projects, and activities are implemented in transparent and accountable manner and report to each other. Interface meetings are also conducted regularly with the communities where information on programmes and projects is shared with communities on programmes and get their feedback. Besides the above mentioned committees, there is also an Internal Integrity Committee to oversee audit issues. The council is accountable to Parliamentary Committee of Finance and Accounts.

**7.9****HUMAN RIGHTS**

Human rights are moral principles or norms that describe certain standards of human behavior and are regularly protected by law. Malawi is a signatory to many international and regional human rights treaties that aim at ensuring that the people's rights are respected, safeguarded and fulfilled. These include the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) and Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995). It is also guided by the Constitution of the Republic of Malawi (1995).

Dowa District Council offers its residents an opportunity to enjoy their rights as enshrined in the constitution of the Republic of Malawi and the afore mentioned human rights treaties. The Council takes it upon itself to ensure that human rights for its residents are not violated and are protected all the time. The council recognizes that its citizens should enjoy all types of rights including economic, political and civil rights such as:

1. Right to education
2. Right to food
3. Right to life
4. Right to health
5. Right to religion and conscience
6. Right to privacy
7. The council also strives to ensure that its residents enjoy all freedoms as provided for in the constitution of the Republic as follows:
8. Freedom of association
9. Freedom of movement
10. Freedom of expression

As a way of ensuring and promoting the fulfillment of rights and freedoms of its citizens, Dowa district carries out a number of interventions. In promoting and safeguarding these rights and freedoms, the council aims to strengthen security systems by undertaking renovations and construction of old and new police units and court rooms respectively and also lobby for recruitment of additional police officers and court

staff. Right to health will be promoted through improving health systems by lobbying for recruitment of additional staff and renovation and construction of health centers as well as through provision of portable water via taps and boreholes. Right to food will be promoted through improving agricultural systems by promoting modern methods of farming and lobbying for recruitment of additional extension staff. The right to education will be promoted through improvement of teacher: pupil and pupil: classroom ratios by deploying more teachers to rural schools and undertaking renovations and construction of school blocks respectively. Freedom to movement will be promoted through maintenance and construction of old and new roads respectively.

## 7.10 NATIONAL REGISTRATION BUREAU

National Registration Bureau (NRB) is one of the sectors under the Ministry of home land security whose aim is to address problems associated with lack of universal and compulsory registration through promoting national registration among Malawian and strengthening national vital registration systems which is in line with MGDs III in Other Development Areas particularly on peace and security and priority number 5 on Health and population and also it is in line with SGDs addressing goal number 16 on Peace and Justice and strong institution.

In Dowa district, national registration bureau is there to achieve the national strategy in line with MGDS III and SGDs through registration of birth, adults, death and marriages with the aim of providing birth certificate, death certificate, marriage registration certificate and national ID cards to Malawian citizens aged 16 years and above.

### 7.10.1 Birth registration

Birth registration is the permanent and official record of a child's existence. The child who is not registered at birth is in danger of being denied the right to an official identity, a recognized name and nationality. Therefore, in Dowa district, birth registration was rolled out in November 2016 in all 21 health facilities with Maternity wing, with the aim of facilitating continuous capture of demographic data through compulsory birth registration. Below is the table showing these health facilities:

**Table 7.20** Health facilities where birth registration is taking place

NO	HEALTH FACILITIES	HEALTH FACILITIES
1	Dowa District Hospital	12. Nalunga Health center
2	Mtengowanthenga/ St. Palau Mission Hospital	13. Dzaleka Health Center
3	Madisi Mission Hospital	14. Chinkhwiri Health Centre
4	Mponela Rural Hospital	15. Bowe Health Centre
5	Dzaleka Health Center	16. Kasese Mission Hospital
6	Msakambewa Health Center	17. Dzoole Health Centre
7	Mwangala Health Center	18. Kayembe Health Centre
8	Chankhungu Health Center	19. Mbingwa Health Centre
9	Mvera Mission Health center	20. Chizolowondo Health Centre
10	Mvera Army Health Center	21. Chisepo Health Centre
11	Thonje Health center	

In 2017 only 2,370 births were registered while the actual live births at the health facilities were 11140 with the difference of 8770. This is due to understaffing at Health facilities and lack of adequate information on

the importance of birth registration which has also resulted into low birth certificates issued in the year 2017. Adding from that, in 2016, only 94 births were registered while live birth at H/F shows 17256 with huge difference because birth Registration had just rolled out late 2016 (May) and had a lot of network connectivity problems.

### **7.10.2 Registration of adults**

Adults are registered with the aim of being issued with National Identity cards. Identity Card gives pride and is a claim to citizenship and facilitates the delivery of national development and planning, it improves service delivery, it helps the government to deal with ghost workers and improves democracy and good governance by supporting the electoral process as requirement for voting which will enhance voter list generation. Registration of adults and issuing of national ID Cards started in 2016 in the district where Dowa was among districts under proof of concept. Kawere village in TA Mponela and Ngozi Village in TA Chiwere were the two areas where piloting was done. This was followed by mass registration for the whole district in 2017 where citizens 16 years and above were captured for national registration.

In 2016, 215 applicants were registered for National ID during proof of concept and all of them were issued with national IDs were collected representing 100%. While in 2017, 425,313 applicants were registered for National IDs and 384,217 National IDs were issued representing almost 90%. This show that, some applicants are reluctant to collect their IDs due to lack of information on the importance of National IDs and the myth that is circulating that IDs are attached to 666. Another reason is because of long distances from applicant's place of resident to NRB district office where IDs are kept, this has made the office to remain with uncollected National IDs.

### **7.10.3 Death registration**

Death registration is the process of registering every death that occurs in the country, and the bereaved families are issued with death certificate. Death certificate is a permanent legal record of the fact of death; it provides family members with documentation which helps them to process the needed benefits. Above all, registration of death is vital for national planning because death registration records the cause of death which helps the government to pinpoint the diseases and injuries that are cutting the lives of people and also informs the government about the out breaks in an area and come up with possible intervention. Dowa district council started registering death and issuing death certificates on demand in 2015.

Only 7 deaths were registered in 2015, 39 in 2016 and 59 deaths were registered in 2017. This is so because death registration has not been rolled out in the district and deaths are registered on demand therefore, people are not aware of the benefits attached to death registration.

### **7.10.4 Marriage registration**

Marriage registration is the process of registering celebrated marriages in the district in order to be issued with marriage registration certificates. In the last five years Dowa registered 89 marriages. Most of registered marriages are for refugees from Dzaleka. Because marriage registration has not yet been rolled out in the district.



### 7.10.5 Summary of sector key issues

1. High number of uncollected birth certificate (BC) due to lack of information on the importance of BC and poor distribution method.
2. Reduced number of national ID cards collected due to 666 myths and lack of knowledge on the importance of National ID card.
3. High number of unregistered birth due to inadequate health personnel at health facilities and unstable electronic birth registration system at the district.
4. There is high number of unregistered deaths and marriages because they have not yet been rolled out in the district.
5. Inadequate funds to cater for all registration activities in the district.

## PART II

**PART II OF THE SEP COMPRISES GLOBAL AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES AND DETAILED DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT PLANNING FRAMEWORK (DDPF) AS GIVEN BELOW:**

# CHAPTER 8: GLOBAL AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

The development agenda of Dowa District Council is informed by the global, continental and national policy frameworks. Major policy frameworks include:

## 8.1 GLOBAL AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

As a member of international and regional development frameworks, Malawi is a signatory to a number of treaties and protocols that guide various efforts to develop the country. The past fifteen years (2000-2015) saw Malawi implementing the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Since then, Malawi has participated in the development of the successor goals known as the 2030 agenda on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which were adopted by the United Nations (UN) member states in September 2015 and made commitment to implement them at national level. The Malawi's development process until 2030 and beyond will therefore be anchored on these SDGs and a number of other international treaties whose aspirations and objectives are summarised below.

### 8.1.1 Sustainable Development Goals

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.

#### 8.1.1.1 Other International Treaties

1. The Agenda 2063; The Agenda 2063 is a Pan-African long-term set of seven aspirations for the "Africa We Want" by the year 2063. In all, Agenda 2063 is made up of seven aspirations as follows:
  - › A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development;
  - › An integrated continent, politically united and based on the ideals of Pan Africanism and the vision of Africa's renaissance;
  - › An Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law;
  - › A peaceful and secure Africa;
  - › An Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, values and ethics;

- › An Africa where development is people driven, unleashing the potential of its women and youth; and
  - › Africa as a strong, united and influential global player and partner.
- 2. The Vienna Programme of Action (VPoA) 2014 to 2024.
- 3. The Istanbul Programme of Action: The major objective of the Least Developed Countries (LDC) IV Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA) agreed upon in 2011 is that by the end of the decade (2011 to 2020), the number of countries categorized as LDCs should be halved from 48 to 24.
- 4. The SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan; The RISDP rests on four pillars, namely:
  - › Industrial Development and Market integration;
  - › Infrastructure in support of regional integration;
  - › Peace and security cooperation; and
  - › Special programmes of regional dimension.
- 5. COMESA Treaty; The aims and objectives of creating the Common Market are summarized as:
  - › To attain sustainable growth and development of member states by promoting a more balanced and harmonious development of production and marketing structures;
  - › To promote joint development in all fields of economic activity and the joint adoption of macroeconomic policies;
  - › To cooperate in the creation of an enabling environment for foreign, cross-border and domestic investment;
  - › To cooperate in the promotion of peace, security and stability among member states;
  - › To cooperate in strengthening the relations between the Common Market and the rest of the world and the adoption of common positions in international fora; and
  - › To contribute towards the establishment, progress and the realization of the objectives of the African Economic Community.

The various protocols to which Malawi is a member and signatory have common threads in that they are aimed at generating inclusive and sustained growth of the member countries. They are also aimed at increasing production, productivity and competitiveness of Africa and its member states. These are also the tenets upon which MGDS III is designed.

## 8.2 NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

Malawi launched the Vision 2020 in March 1998 and three medium term national development strategies have been implemented to operationalise this vision. These include Malawi Poverty Reduction Strategy (MPRS), MGDS I and MGDS II. The MGDS III, therefore, becomes the fourth national development strategy. It translates the goals and objectives that emerged from a nation-wide consultation process as reflected in Vision 2020.

### 8.2.1 Vision 2020

Malawi Vision 2020 is a policy framework that sets out a long-term development perspective for Malawi. It emphasizes long term strategic thinking, shared vision and visionary leadership, participation by the population, strategic management and national learning. The Vision 2020 states that “*by the year 2020 Malawi as a God-fearing nation, will be secure, democratically mature, environmentally sustainable, self-reliant with equal*

*opportunities for and active participation by all, having social services, vibrant cultural and religious values and a technologically driven middle-income economy*". Its implementation is being done through five-year medium-term strategies.

### **8.2.2 Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III**

The MGDS III concentrates on five development areas as opposed to the previous development strategy frameworks, namely MGDS I and II. The is motivated by the need to maximize social and economic benefits of all the investments that will be undertaken during the MGDS III period of 2017-22. The MGDS III is designed to create a platform for sustainable economic development by putting much emphasis on development areas that have more impact.

The choice of the five priority areas as articulated was based on the linkages and impacts they have on the three sustainable development pillars of environment, social and economic. They were arrived at through the national wide consultations, recommendation from MGDS II comprehensive review, impact analysis, sector interlinkages and modelling exercises. The key priority areas of MGDS III include:

Agriculture, Water Development and Climate Change Management, with the main goal of achieving sustainable agricultural transformation that is adaptive to climate change and enhances ecosystem services;

Education and Skills Development, with the goal of improving quality and relevant education and skills for all;

Energy, Industry and Tourism Development having the main goal of providing sufficient sustainable energy for industrial and socio-economic development;

Transport and ICT Infrastructure, with the main goal of developing a safe, affordable, reliable, equitable and sustainable transport and ICT infrastructure;

Health and Population, with the goal of improving health and quality of the population for sustainable socio-economic development;

Other development areas which include: Financial Services; Vulnerability, Disaster Management and Social Support; Gender, Youth Development, Persons with Disability and Social Welfare; Human Settlement and Physical Planning; Environmental Sustainability; HIV and AIDS Management; and Peace and Security and Integrated Rural Development

It is envisaged that effective implementation of the key priority areas will translate into integrated impacts which will positively affect other sectors through positively reinforcing multiple loops.

**Table 8.1** Mapping of MGDS III Key Priority Areas to the SDGs and Agenda 2063

MGDS KPAs	SDGs	Agenda 2063
Agriculture, Water Development and Climate Change Management	1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all 11. Make cities and human settlements, inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts	1. A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development 2. An integrated continent, politically united and based on the ideals of Pan Africanism and the vision of Africa's Renaissance 6. An Africa where development is people-driven, unleashing the potential of its women and youth 7. Africa as a strong, united and influential global player and partner.
Education and Skills Development	4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all 5. Achieve gender equality and empower women and girls 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation	1. A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development 2. An integrated continent, politically united and based on the ideals of Pan-Africanism and the vision of Africa's Renaissance 3. An Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law 6. An Africa where development is people-driven, unleashing the potential of its women and youth 7. Africa as a strong, united and influential global player and partner.
Transport and ICT infrastructure	1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation	1. A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development 2. An integrated continent, politically united and based on the ideals of Pan-Africanism and the vision of Africa's Renaissance 6. An Africa where development is people-driven, unleashing the potential of its women and youth 7. Africa as a strong, united and influential global player and partner.
Energy, Industry and tourism Development	1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all 9. promote resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation	1. A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development 2. An integrated continent, politically united and based on the ideals of Pan-Africanism and the vision of Africa's Renaissance 6. An Africa where development is people-driven, unleashing the potential of its women and youth 7. Africa as a strong, united and influential global player and partner.
Health and Population Management	End poverty in all its forms everywhere Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all	1. A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development 6. An Africa where development is people-driven, unleashing the potential of its women and youth 7. Africa as a strong, united and influential global player and partner.



### 8.2.3 Decentralization Policy

The decentralization policy was approved by Cabinet in October, 1998 and the Parliament passed the local government act in 1998 enshrining the decentralization policy.

### 8.2.4 The Decentralization Policy:

1. Devolves administrative and political authority to the district level;
2. Integrates government agencies at the district and local level into one administrative unit, through the processes of institutional integration, manpower absorption, composite budgeting, and provision of funds for the decentralized services.
3. Diverts the centre of implementation responsibilities and transfers these to the districts;
4. Assigns functions and responsibilities to the various levels of government; and
5. Promotes popular participation in the governance of development of districts.

### 8.2.5 Objectives of the Policy

1. To create democratic environment and institutions in Malawi for good governance and development; at the local level this will facilitate the participation of the grassroots in decision making.
2. To eliminate dual administrations (field administration and local government) at district level with the aim of making public service more efficient, more economical and cost effective.
3. To promote accountability and good governance at the local level in order to help government reduce poverty; and
4. To mobilize the masses for socio-economic development at the local level.

The District planning process has done using the decentralization policy as the driving principle. The village action plans have been incorporated in the processes of coming up with the development programmes and strategies for the district.

### 8.2.6 Local Government Act

The new Local Government Act was passed by Parliament in 1998. The new Local Government Act enshrined the Decentralization Policy. The paragraph 6 (1) of the Local Government Act outlines the functions of the District Council as:

1. Make policy and decisions on local governance and development for the local government area;
2. Consolidate and promote local democratic institutions and democratic participation;
3. Promote infrastructure and economic development through the formulation, approval and execution of district development plans;
4. Mobilize resources within the local government area for governance and development;
5. Maintain peace and security in the local government area in conjunction with the Malawi police service;
6. Make by-laws for the good governance of the local government area;

The District Councils are thus empowered by the local government act, to formulate socio-economic profiles (SEPs) and district development plans (DDPs), the DDPs are formulated on the principles of decentralization of devolution type which includes popular participation in the development of the DDPs. Through the village action planning (VAP) process the grassroots have participated in the process to come up with

the medium term DDP for Dowa as mandated by the Local Government Act (1998). The participation of the grassroots is vital for ownership and sustainability of the programmes contained in the DDP.

### 8.2.7 The Role of Local Government in Development

The role of Local Government in development is well stipulated in the Local Government act (1998). The District Councils are mandated to promote infrastructure and economic development through the formulation, approval and execution of district development plans. The Local Government Act enshrines the Decentralization Policy of the devolution type which amongst other attributes promotes popular participation in the governance and development of districts. The local masses are no longer passive players in the development process, but should rather be involved at levels of the programmes/projects from planning, implementation, monitoring to evaluation.

The District Councils have powers to create committees at area, ward or village level for the purposes of facilitating participation of the people in the Council's decision making. The various sectoral ministries have various other committees which solicit active participation of the local people in the formulation and implementation, monitoring and evaluation of development programmes and strategies in the district. The village development committees (VDCs), the area development committees (ADCs) are the umbra bodies at the village and area levels respectively. The programmes, strategies consolidated from the VDC level are pushed to the ADC level where they are consolidated to feed into the district programmes/projects and strategic framework. The District Councils are required to ensure that the programmes and projects are harmonized with the national policy and strategies.

The central government is responsible for the formulation of policy and strategies that must provide the framework within which the District Councils operate to achieve sustainable economic growth and poverty alleviation amongst other national goals. One such policies and strategies are the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDSs) and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

### 8.2.8 District Potential

Dowa district has the potential resource to catalyse the district to achieve the aspiration outlined in the medium-term Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS III) and Sustainable Development Goals. The District has got various resources which could potentially spur social and economic development in the district. Table 183 below outline the district resources.

**Table 8.2** Resources and Potentials in the District

Type of resource	Department	Location	Remarks
Land	Lands	T/As Kayembe, Chakhaza, Dzoole	Good for agriculture
Water Springs	Water	T/As Msakambewa, Chiwere	Potential for irrigated farming
Livestock (dairy cows)	Agriculture	T/As Kayembe, Chakhaza	Availability of grazing area
Rivers	Agriculture, Energy	T/A Chakhaza, Kayembe	Potential for mini hydro power
Mountains, Forests, Tea plantation Rivers (Water Falls)	Tourism	T/As Msakambewa, Chakhaza and Mkukula	High biodiversity
Skilled Human Resource	Human Resource	Government sectors	Poorly motivated

Type of resource	Department	Location	Remarks
Capital Assets: Available land and existing infrastructure/buildings.	Public Works, and Rural Housing	T/A Mponela	Land developed through urban structure plan
Financial Resources: LDF, DDF, CDF, COMSEP, District Council locally generated revenue, ORT, Public Works, Rural Housing and Development partners	Ministry of Finance	District Council	Funding mechanism

**Source:** Dowa District Council, 2017

# CHAPTER 9: DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT PLANNING FRAMEWORK

## 9.1 PRIORITIZED DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

Dowa District council in consultation with the communities has identified the following issues which have been prioritized accordingly:

1. Low access to potable water
2. High Illiteracy rate
3. Poor roads and ICT infrastructure
4. Low income levels
5. Food Insecurity
6. High level of environmental degradation
7. Poor sports development
8. High Mortality rate
9. High incidences of GBV
10. Poor settlement conditions
11. High incidence of malnutrition
12. Poor access to justice and high crime rate
13. High incidence of child labour
14. Increased incidence of illegal mining

## 9.2 DDPF MATRIX

The following are developmental issues, causes identified in the district as well as the developed objectives, Immediate Objectives, strategies and Linkage to MGDS III, and Linkage to SGDS)

**Table 9.1** DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT PLANNING FRAMEWORK

Development Issue 1: Low access to potable water					
District Development objective: To increase access to potable water from 70.5% to 80% by 2022 and improve sanitation and hygiene					
Sector: Water					
Causes	District Development Objective	Immediate objective	Strategies	Linkage to MGDS III	Linkage to SDGs

Inadequate improved water sources	To increase access to potable water from 70.5% to 80% by 2022 and improve sanitation and hygiene	To increase number of people with access to improved water supply 20%	Promote construction of new improved water facilities	KPA 1: Agriculture, water development and Climate Change	Goal 6. Clean water and sanitation
Poor maintenance of water facilities		To reduce number of non-functional water points by 16%.	Promote rehabilitation and extension of existing non-functional water supply facilities and systems in both rural and urban areas		
			Strengthen operation and maintenance system including capacity building/empowerment of WPCs, WUAs, AMs etc		
Dwindling water resources		To increase number of integrated catchment/ water resources management initiatives	Promoting community based Integrated catchment/ water resources management, artificial ground water recharge technologies and rain water harvesting.		
1.1.4 Vandalism of water facilities		To increase number of trained water point committees and Area Mechanic	Promote installation of pump guards/locking systems		
1.1.5 Salinity of ground water resources		1.1.5 To increase alternative sources and technological options for potable water.	.15 a) Promote alternative water supply options, wind/ solar-powered reticulated water supply systems.		
			Promote alternative bore-hole drilling techniques		
Lack of awareness on low cost improved sanitation technological options		To increase number of sanitation marketing entrepreneurs and other post ODF initiatives	Scale-up Community/School Led Total Sanitation in institutions (market centres, schools, religious institutions)		
			Scale-up sanitation marketing and adoption of low cost improved sanitation technological options like corbelled and sand bag technologies		
Limited awareness on safe hygiene practices		To increase adoption and use of three key hygiene practices (3KHPs) and menstrual	Promote 3KHPs and MHM trainings, orientations and awareness campaigns.		
Inadequate usable sanitation facilities in public places	Promote construction/rehabilitation of improved sanitation facilities public places				
	Promote privatization of public toilets/latrines				
Poor waste management facilities	Facilitate formulation and implementation of waste management master plan				
poor topography and bad access roads	Improve road infrastructure				
Development Issue 2: High Illiteracy rate					
District Development objective: To reduce Illiteracy from 28% to 24% by 2022					
Sector: Education					
Causes	District Development Objective	Immediate objective	Strategies	Linkage to MGDS III	Linkage to SDGs

Inadequate classrooms	To reduce Illiteracy from 28% to 24% by 2022	Increase number of classrooms by 2000	Construct additional classrooms	KPA2: Education and Skills Development	Goal 4: Quality Education
Inadequate teachers' houses		Increase number of teachers' houses by 2000	Construct teachers houses		
Inadequate teachers		To increase the number of teachers	Lobby for recruitment of teachers		
Inequitable distribution of teachers		To deploy teachers equitably	Lobby for adherence to staff establishment		
Inadequate teaching and learning materials		Increase supply of teaching and learning materials from 27% to 55%	Encouraging use of TAL-LULAR as a method of generating materials		
Inadequate desks		To increase number of desks from 53,234 to 78,234	Procure and distribute teaching/learning materials		
Poor condition of infrastructure		Improve quality of infrastructure	Lobby for increase of school improvement grants		
			Procure and distribute desks to schools		
			Encourage school management structures to maintain damaged desks		
	Provision of regular infrastructure maintenance				
Lack of boarding facilities in CDSSs'	To increase number of hostels	Construct girls' hostels			
Inadequate libraries	Increase number of libraries	Construct libraries			
Development Issue 3: Poor roads and inadequate ICT infrastructure					
District Development objective: Improving access to social economic services through infrastructural development by 2022					
Sector: Public works, Transport, Communication					
Causes	District Development Objective	Immediate objective	Strategies	Linkage to MGDS III	Linkage to SDGs
Poor road maintenance	Improving access to social economic services through infrastructural development	To increase kilometres of roads maintained	Upgrade 600 km of various major rural roads to gravel	KPA 4: Transport and ICT Infrastructure	Goal 9: Industry innovation and Infrastructure Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and communities
Floods wash away the road during the rainy season		Upgrading some of the existing earth roads to tarmac	To upgrade 3 strategic town-location roads to tarmac with proper drainage		
Poor workmanship by some contractors		Identifying reliable contractors	To strengthen the processes of identifying contractors to enhance the quality of works.		
Inadequate ICT infrastructure		To improve access to ICT infrastructure	To construct 7 inclusive telecommunication centres and 7 community halls in major rural growth centres.		
	Design and develop district website for information dissemination				
Development Issue 4: Low household income levels					
District Development objective: To increase average household income levels by 5% by 2022					
Sector: Community Development					
Causes	District Development Objective	Immediate objective	Strategies	Linkage to MGDS III	Linkage to SDGs



Lack of reliable agricultural markets	To increase average household income levels from by 5% by 2022	To create linkages to reliable markets	Formation of agricultural cooperatives and business management trainings	ODA 1: Financial Services; ODA 9: Integrated rural development	Goal 1: No poverty
Lack of entrepreneurial skills		To impart business skills, financial literacy and business skills development targeting vulnerable groups	Promotion of business groups, savings and loan groups		
Lack of value addition skills		To increase the capacity of farmers/ business groups in value addition	capacity building on value addition		
Lack of employment opportunities		To create employment opportunities	vocational skills training		

## Development Issue 5: Food Insecurity

District Development objective: To increase food security at household level from 69% to 95% by 2022 (currently 35% of HH's are food insecure during the month of November-March)

## Sector: Agriculture

Causes	District Development Objective	Immediate objective	Strategies	Linkage to MGDS III	Linkage to SDGs
Low crop production	To increase food security at household level from 69% to 95% by 2022 (currently 35% of HH's are food insecure during the month of November-March)	To improve crop production	Promote soil and water conservation technologies	KPA 1: Agriculture, Water Development and Climate change	Goal 1: No poverty Goal 2: Zero hunger Goal 3: Good Health & well being Goal 12: Responsible consumption & production
			Promote irrigation and dambo farming		
			Promote crop production		
			Promote use of pre and post-harvest technologies		
Inadequate agriculture frontline extension staff		To reduce vacancy rate of frontline extension staff to enhance extension services	Lobby for more frontline staff from central government		
			Identify more lead farmers		
Low women participation in decision making		To improve women participation in decision making from production up to utilisation	Promote women participation in decision making		
Over selling of produce		To improve proper utilisation of produce	Promote food budgeting		
Poor prices of produce		To improve pricing of the produce	Promote value chain		
Low animal production		To promote animal production	Promote production of improved livestock breeds		
			Promote good animal health		
			Promote stud breeding		
Low fish production		To improve fish production	Promote production of improved fish species		
			Strengthen extension service delivery		
			Promote use of improved fish farming technologies		
			Establishment of river village committees		

## Development Issue 6: High level of environmental degradation

District Development objective: To reduce environmental degradation by 10% by 2022

## Sector: Environment

Causes	District Development Objective	Immediate objective	Strategies	Linkage to MGDS III	Linkage to SDGs
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Population pressure	To reduce environmental degradation by 10% by 2022	Reduce population growth rate	Promoting use of family planning practices	KPA 1: Agriculture, Water Development and Climate Change	Goal 3: Good health and wellbeing ; Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation; Goal 13: Climate Action
Unregulated developments/ construction works		Increase the percentage of development projects adhering to environmental and social standard	Conducting continuous Enforcing existing policies, laws and environmental and social standards on constructions and professional development		
Weak adherence to environmental legislation		To ensure that environmental and natural resources management pieces of legislation are being adhered to by public	Building capacity to law enforcers on environmental laws and issues		
Poor waste management		Increase the percentage of markets and institutions with waste management facilities	Increase public awareness on environmental laws and issues		
Limited access to alternative energy sources		Increase adoption rate for alternative energy technologies	Promote alternative energy sources		
Water pollution		Increase the percentage of communities in the district adopting and practicing smart interventions and technologies	Increase number of farmers using organic farming technologies		
Air pollution		Increase the percentage of communities in the district adopting and practicing smart interventions and technologies	Increase the no of people using environmental friendly technologies		
Deforestation		To promote afforestation and conservation	Promote tree planting and natural regeneration on bare land in homesteads, farms, community land, along river banks, water points, bare hills and steep slopes		
Settling and farming in ecologically fragile areas (unplanned settlements)		To reduce settling and cultivating in ecologically fragile area	Undertake Sensitisation meetings with the communities		
Development Issue 7: Poor sports development					
District Development objective: To promote and develop sporting activities					
Sector: Sports					
Causes	District Development Objective	Immediate objective	Strategies	Linkage to MGDS III	Linkage to SDGs

In availability of standard sports infrastructures in rural communities where communities and District Councils could be generating revenue through gate collections	To promote and develop sporting activities	Increase the number of stadiums and other sporting infrastructures	Construction of one sports infrastructure in every T/A, so that communities could be motivated in sport enterprises	ODA 7: Gender, Social welfare, and youth development	Goal I: No poverty
Inadequate trained sports practitioners		Increase number of trained sports practitioners	To train sports personnel in coaching ,umpiring , refereeing and sports administration in all the sports disciplines		
Lack of reinforcement of education and sports programs in schools and other institutions of learning		Provide P/E sporting programs	Reinforcement by holding meetings with PEAs, Head Teachers and sports teachers		
Non availability of specialized sports training institutions to train athletes ,administrators and coaches		To increase the number of sports training institutions	Establishment of sports academies		
Poor and dilapidated sports facilities in schools and communities		To increase the number of standard sport facilities	Liaise with institutions of higher learning to introduce PE and sports programmes		
Inadequate funding as well as partnership on sports programs at district level		Increase resources	Rehabilitation of sports facilities in all the schools and communities		
Shortage of standard sports equipment		To increase the number of standard sports equipment	Lobbying for sponsorship from development partners		
Inadequate competitions in sports		Increase the number of competitions	Procurement and distribution of standard sports equipment		
Traditional sport games ignored at community level		Increase awareness of indigenous sport games	Lobbying for sports equipment donations from partners		
			Organize sports competitions for all sports disciplines		
	Conduct awareness campaign and advocacy on the importance of sports competitions				
	Encourage the youth in communities to participate in indigenous games				
Development Issue 8: High mortality rate					
District Development objective: To reduce maternal mortality from 95/100,000 to 85/100,000 by 2022					
Sector: Health					
Cause	District Development Objective	Immediate objective	Strategies	Linkage to MGDS III	Linkage to SDGs

Haemorrhage (Antepartum and Post Partum)			Lobby for more ambulances & recruitment of drivers		
			Promote Basic Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care training (BEmONC) for nurses & clinicians		
Delays to seek health facility delivery because of cultural and traditional beliefs	To reduce maternal mortality from 95/100,000 to 85/100,000 by 2022	Improve referral systems	Women empowerment in decision making on safe motherhood	KPA 5: Health and population management	Goal 3: Good Health and well being
Lack of reinforcement of by-laws by traditional leaders across the district			Male involvement in Safe Motherhood		
			Promote revamping of by-laws across in all T/As		
Low contraceptive prevalence rate (CPR) of 58%	To increase CPR from 58% to 65% by 2022	Increase uptake of modern family planning methods	Promote use of family planning methods at both community and health facilities		
Asyphxia	To reduce neonatal mortality from 107/1000 to 100/1,000 by 2022	Reduce neonatal mortality	Promotion of supportive supervision of Nurse Midwives in labour wards	KPA 5: Health and population management	Goal 3: Good Health and well being
			Sourcing essential drugs like Dexamethaxone		
			Promote Helping Babies to Breathe (HBB)		
Low recruitment levels by both the council and central level	To increase number of nurses and drivers from 71% and 74% to 85% and 90% respectively by the year 2022	Increase in staffing level in cadres of nursing and drivers	Lobby for recruitment of nurses and drivers	KPA 5: Health and population management	Goal 3: Good Health and well being
Low bednet use	To reduce the incidence of malaria morbidity from 211 to 200 per 1,000 people by 2022	Increase bednet use by household members	Community sensitization		
Development Issue 9: High GBV incidences					
District Development objective: To reduce cases of all types of gender-based violence from 7,274 to 3,637 by 2022					
Sector: Social Welfare					
Causes	District Development Objective	Immediate objective	Strategies	Linkage to MGDS III	Linkage to SDGs
Bad cultural practices and traditional beliefs		Intensify Civic Education on Gender Based Violence	Civic Education		Goal 1: No poverty
High poverty levels		Reduce poverty levels	Economic empowerment activities		Goal 3: Good Health and well being
Gender stereotypes	To reduce cases of all types of gender-based violence from 7274 to 3637 by 2022	Eliminate Gender stereotypes	Civic Education	ODA on 7: Gender, Social Welfare and Youth Development	Goal 4: Quality Education
High illiteracy levels		Reduce Illiteracy rate	Back to school campaigns		Goal 5: Gender Equality
			Promotion of Economic empowerment activities		10: Reduce Inequality
Inadequate financial resources and positions		Capacity building on women empowerment	Carry out trainings on gender-based violence		
			Promote gender campaigns and advocacy activities		
Development Issue 10: Poor Settlement Conditions					
District Development objective: To improve settlements conditions in both urban and rural by 2022					
Sector: Planning					
Causes	District Development Objective	Immediate objective	Strategies	Linkage to MGDS III	Linkage to SDGs

Lack of planning and settlement policies to guide development in urban centres within the district	To improve settlements conditions in both urban and rural	To develop legal instruments to guide development in urban centres within the rural areas	To develop legal instruments to guide development	ODA 4: Human Settlement and Physical Planning	Goal 11. Sustainable Cities and Communities
High rate of population growth of the Boma and Trading centres		Conduct awareness to the masses of the negative impacts of high rate of rapid population growth	Intensify awareness to the masses of the negative impacts of high rate of rapid population growth		
Development Issue 11: High incidences of malnutrition					
District Development objective: To reduce stunting from 39% to less than 35% by 2022					
Sector: Health					
Cause	District Development Objective	Immediate objective	Strategies	Linkage to MGDS III	Linkage to SDGs
Inappropriate infant and young child feeding practices	To reduce stunting from 39% to less than 35% BY 2022	Improve early and exclusive breast-feeding practices	Promotion of appropriate breast-feeding practices through campaigns and care groups	ODA 7: Nutrition	Goal 2: Zero hunger
Poor maternal health and nutrition		Improve maternal health and nutrition before, during and after pregnancy	Promotion of health seeking behaviors among pregnant women and lactating mothers through campaigns and care groups		Goal 3: Good Health and well being
Poor food preparatory practices		Improve food preparatory practices	Promotion of appropriate cooking methods through demonstrations and care groups		
Development Issue 12: Low access to justice and high crime rate					
District Development objective: to increase access to justice and reduce crime rate					
Sector: Security					
Causes	District Development Objective	Immediate objective	Strategies	Linkage to MGDS III	Linkage to SDGs
Inadquate infrastructure for courts and police	To increase access to justice and reduce crime rate	To improve and increase number of court rooms	Renovate and construct court rooms, police offices and staff houses in all T/As	ODA 8: Peace and Security	Goal 16: Peace and Justice
		To improve and increase number of staff house in the courts			
		To improve and increase number of police offices			
		To improve and increase number of staff houses in the police service			
Inadequate personnel in courts and police service		To increase number of staff members in the courts	Lobby for recruitment and allocation of more staff members in the courts and police service		
		To increase number of staff members in the police service			
Harmful cultural and traditional norms		To reduce number of people involved in harmful cultural practices	Conduct community sensitization meetings		
Localised community corruption		To reduce number of people involved in corrupt practices	Conduct community sensitization meetings		
Development Issue 13: High Incidences of child labour					
District Development objective: To reduce cases of child labour by 50% by 2022					

Sector: Child Labour					
Causes	District Development Objective	Immediate objective	Strategies	Linkage to MGDS III	Linkage to SDGs
Cultural factors	To reduce cases of child labour by 50% by 2022	To eradicate harmful cultural practices	Formation and training of Community Child Labour Committees	KPA2: Education and Skills Development	Goal 1: No poverty
High demand for cheap labour		To promote utilization of minimum wage requirements by employers	Training of community leaders on the evils of child labour		
			Training of DCCLC and CCLC on child labour issues.		
Peer pressure among the children		To impart self esteem amongst rural children	Formulate and enforce bye laws		
		Career guidance and counselling.			
Development Issue 14: increased incidences of illegal mining					
District Development objective: To reduce incidences of illegal mining by 2022					
Sector: Mines/Environment					
Causes	District Development Objective	Immediate objective	Strategies	Linkage to MGDS III	Linkage to SDGs
Lack of knowledge on mining laws	To reduce incidences of illegal mining by 2022	To increase knowledge on mining laws	conduct community sensitizations on mining laws	KPA 3: energy, Industry and Tourism Development	Goal 9:Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
Inadquate policing by policy holders		To increase number of supervisions of mining practices	lobby for recruitment and allocation of more inspectors of mines		
Lack of capcity at council level		To improve capcity of mining issues at council level	Lobby for decentralisation of the Mines Depatarment		





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.